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Try Zumba

Get some exercise and learn more about the Westland Youth Assistance Program Friday, March 23, at the Bailey Recreation Center.

Youth Assistance is sponsoring a free Zumba Fitness class 6-7 p.m. The class is taught by Youth Assistance Deputy Director Michele Bracy, who is a certified instructor of Zumba, a Latin-inspired calorie-burning dance fitness class.

"We want young ladies to have an opportunity to participate in a fun, healthy activity," said Westland Youth Assistance Director Paul Motz. "We opened it to the community members, as well, in hope of developing relationships and potentially increasing our mentor base."

Everyone is welcome to attend but participants are asked to reserve a spot by calling Youth Assistance at (734) 467-7904. Participants should wear comfortable clothes, athletic shoes, as well as bringing a water bottle and sweat towel.

Tax help

Need your taxes done? The Westland Friendship Center is accepting appointments for Westland residents who want to have their taxes prepared free of charge.

The site is an e-file site only, and appointments are necessary. There also is no age or income requirement.

Generally, the tax return service, offered through AARP, is for simple returns. Individuals with lengthy returns, with such things as several rental properties or investments, are encouraged to have an accountant or professional firm complete their returns.

The site manager decides what returns preparers will and are able to complete.

Taxes are done on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The tax preparers also are only on site during the day the center offers the service. Any question regarding a return will be taken by a staff person, and returned by a preparer at his or her convenience.

For more information, or to make an appointment, call (734) 722-7628.

Mild winter easy on city budget, hard on water mains

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

An uncharacteristically mild Michigan winter has been easy on drivers, but it has also been easy on Westland's municipal budget.

"The amount of overtime and

salt for snow plowing is definitely down; it is different from any winter I have encountered since I worked for Westland," said Westland Department of Public Services Director Kevin Buford.

Buford has been employed by the city nearly 20 years. Earlier in his career, he had direct experience with snow plowing and salting city streets.

With the first day of spring officially less than a week away, Westland has spent \$46,000 for road salt during the current fiscal year. That compares to \$63,000 spent for road salt for the entire 2010-11 fiscal year.

The drop in spending for road salt was even larger compared to the 2009-10 fiscal year but the \$117,000 price tag includes road salt purchased at the end of the fiscal year for a cheaper rate and stockpiled for the next year.

Please see MILD, A2

One box at a time



Louise Downs talks to St. Damian students about freedom and the purpose for the Miracle boxes during a packing party Monday.

St. Damian students pitch in to provide comfort for troops

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer



John Giangrande of Garden City and his buddy Alex Birch of Westland putting items in their Miracle Box.

Principal Mary Stempin likes to describe St. Damian School as a "very small school with a big heart."

And that was evident Monday as the 148 kindergartners through eighth-graders filled close to 100 boxes for U.S. troops serving in harm's way.

"It's exciting when you can do something like this and teach a child that there are people out there making sacrifices for them," said Stempin. "The whole concept behind this was to get them to think about other people, whether it's helping the soldiers or helping senior citizens."

The students took part in Louise Downs' March into Spring Campaign," a packing party aimed at filling Miracle Boxes for the troops. The founder of Desert Angels Inc., she was at the school to get help filling the boxes that will go to "Chinook Santa Two" for soldiers out Selfridge Air National Guard Base, now serving in Afghanistan.

It was the third packing party in as many days that Downs had held. Over the weekend, she was in Oxford and Utica and an enclosed trailer in the school parking lot was filled with boxes ready to be mailed at the Auburn Hills post office.

"The fun part is pack-

ing the boxes, the postage is always the challenge," said Downs who started the organization in 2001 when she asked the "young adults" from her church Walton Boulevard Church of God in Pontiac, to make goodies and write letters and cards to send to the troops.

Miracle boxes

Downs has named her care packages Miracle boxes in honor of Joseph A. Miracle of Ortonville, who died in action in 2007. According to Downs, she had been to the funeral home and was on her way home when "God spoke to

Please see ANGELS, A8

WOW taps teacher as C.L.A.S.S. winner

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

The longtime leader of a local cooperative preschool is the first recipient of a new award sponsored by the Women of Westland.

Carol Miles, who has worked at McKinley Cooperative Preschool since 1983, was presented with the C.L.A.S.S. Award at WOW's eighth annual Chocolate Fantasy Ball.

"I was surprised to be nominated and up for the award," said Miles. "I believe the moms had something to do with it, I think the moms nominated me. That's my name for the actively involved parents. We have actively involved grandparents, too."

C.L.A.S.S. is an acronym for the award which is presented to an individual, "who contributes to the Westland Community, demonstrates Leadership qualities, has Achieved success, is Selfless in their work and provides Service to people in need."

The C.L.A.S.S. Award recognizes an individual who has made an impact within the community of Westland by assisting individuals and their families who are in need.

The nomination cites Miles' significant impact at McKinley, a nonprofit preschool that allows West-

Please see AWARD, A2

Centenarian celebrates milestone with family and friends

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A person only turns 100 once, so it's natural that family and friends have been celebrating that milestone with Westland resident Margaret Clos.

"I've been partied to death," said Clos, who was born Feb. 24, 1912.

Clos has plenty of family for parties — she and her late husband had six children although son Tommy was killed in a Wayne Road traffic accident when he was 20. She now has 43 grandchildren and close to 100 great-grandchildren.

"My family is mostly up north in Gaylord and Kalkaska, they said they couldn't come for my birthday due to the (expected) snow. They had a party at Frankenmuth Brewery in December," she said.

The series of parties honoring Clos wrapped up Sunday with a gathering at Ss. Simon and Jude Catholic Church, where she had been active, including many years coordinating catechism classes.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Clos came to Detroit when she was young and



Margaret Clos of Westland just turned 100 years old. She was honored at a series of parties with her large family and friends at Ss. Simon and Jude Catholic Church.

attended high school where she met her future husband, George. Married in 1934, the couple eventually moved to a duplex in Norway in 1944 where Clos still lives.

"We moved here because of jobs," she said. "My husband had worked for the City of Detroit. He was supervisor for

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MILD

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"The weather has been uncharacteristic. The snow melted with the sun or it was a snow/rain mix," said Buford. "I've never seen snow dissipate so quickly."

As a result of the meager snowfall, Westland has spent \$35,000 on overtime for snow plowing. That's down from \$105,000 spent on overtime in the highway budget in 2010-11 and \$90,000 in the 2010-10 fiscal year.

For the city, there is a downside to a warmer winter with little snow — water main breaks. So, far DPS crews have

responded to 78 water main breaks this fiscal year.

"The lack of snow has caused some water main issues, the snow acts like a blanket or an insulator," said Buford. "We had a ton of water main breaks prior to January and quite a few since Jan. 1 as well. We have not had a hard freeze really."

Council approved a \$250,000 budget amendment to accommodate the water main breaks but also is budgeting for system upgrades in recently adopted water and sewer rates.

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Westland resident Margaret Clos recently turned 100 years old. She still lives on her own and has a drivers license.

100 YEARS

Continued from page A1

all the grounds (when the Norway war-time housing was being developed).

That included putting in all the grass around the developments — each duplex was provided with a lawn mower to share for ongoing maintenance.

Liked the space

"When we first moved here, I liked all the space after the grass was in," said Clos. "My parents and my brother moved to Algonac. There was I-94 but to visit, you had to go around and about — 94 was for war workers."

Because of her husband's job, Clos said their home was the only one with a telephone in the early years.

"I remember one lady who came in to wait for her husband to call," said Clos.

Once his government work was ended, George Clos worked as a sign painter and also had a printing operation he ran out of their home. The couple eventually owned both sides of the duplex. George Clos died at 72 from an aortic aneurysm.



Margaret Clos, who recently turned 100, in younger years.

"When we first moved here, I liked all the space after the grass was in."

MARGARET CLOS

taking camping trips. She wears hearing aids but gets around well and is still able to drive, mainly taking side streets to visit the Friendship Center.

Shares stories

Clos worked at the Marygrove College Library to earn her tuition and later worked at other libraries, then much later as a classroom paraprofessional at Jefferson Elementary School.

"She enjoys magazines — saving articles and sharing them with people," said Larry Clos, who does most of the driving for his mother. "That really comes from the library. She's such an outgoing person. She listens and is really interested in people."

"I don't take away anything that she can take care of herself. She's very cautious and takes her time. I've got to keep her active," he added.

Clos agreed that she has always loved clipping articles. She and her husband were

devoted followers of the 1930s *Detroit News* columnist Nancy Brown, whose readers originated the idea of the Peace Carillon on Belle Isle. Clos and her husband loaded up their children to attend the dedication of the carillon.

"We could hear it, Belle Isle was beautiful. My husband drew who he saw and it was in the paper the next day," said Clos.

The couple also responded when Brown called on readers to come to the Detroit Institute of Arts in 1930 but Clos said they arrived late and found no parking — an estimated 35,000 to 100,000 people showed up.

"I am the happiest person in the world the last 10 days, thinking about what I will do," said Clos. "I have my family and church. The thing that has been my happiest is simple — it's clipping."

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C.L.A.S.S. Award recipient Carol Miles (left) with Women of Westland President Mary Denning at the Chocolate Fantasy Ball.

AWARD

Continued from page A1

land residents to receive not only a quality and affordable education but also to become involved as parents in the education of their children.

Miles also was cited for encouraging and participating in fund-raising for St. Jude Children's Hospital. McKinley students learned about charity firsthand with the St. Jude Trike-a-Thon. Miles is described as a leader with integrity who never veers from her core values and is dedicated to the betterment of the school and children.

A Livonia resident, Miles is the only McKinley employee — parents run the school through the board and with their efforts in the classroom. The preschool started in 1975 at McKinley Elementary School in Livonia, then moved to Good

Shepherd Church on Wayne Road in Westland. Since the church closed last spring, the preschool is now housed in St. John Episcopal Church at Wayne Road and Bayview.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in education from Eastern Michigan University, Miles taught second grade in the Taylor Schools before spending several years as a stay-at-home mother for three children, now grown with five children themselves.

Miles's husband of 42 years retired as a Northville Public Schools custodian but at nearly 66, she has no plans to retire.

"If I can't jump from A to Z with the kids, it will be time to retire. I've got no plans," said Miles. "I enjoy my work. It keeps me young. I'm happy to stay."

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CORRECTION

An incorrect headline in the March 8 issue of the *Observer* misidentified the upcoming theater production at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare begins Friday, March 23.

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Celebrate St. Pat's Day at Maxwell's

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

They won't be serving green-colored beverages, but if you stop by Maxwell's Art and Treasures Saturday, you can enjoy popular St. Patrick's Day fare — corned beef and cabbage.

The meal, available beginning at 10 a.m., is part of a list of activities taking place morning, noon and night at Maxwell's, according to coordinator Stacy Karafots.

"Maxwell's did this last year, and it was a big success," said Karafots. "And with the price of corned beef, Laura George is shopping around for fresh corned beef to get the best price."

While ticket prices haven't been set yet, the meal includes corned beef and cabbage, potatoes and carrots. Coffee also is available and other beverages can be purchased.

The Irish dinner coincides with the monthly indoor flea market that's open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The market features "anything you can think of" — items for the garden to jewelry.

"It's a picker's paradise," said Karafots.

The market had been at the Straight Farmhouse. It's held on the third Saturday of the month at Maxwell's and will be there "at least until April and May. Vendors can rent a space for \$15 or two spaces for \$25. They have to bring their own table and chairs. Setup for Saturday's flea market is 3-6 p.m. Friday, March 16. To get a spot, call Maxwell's at (734) 427-5300, Ext. 7, or Diane at (734) 765-7999.

Open Mic Night

The dinner also is a prelude to Maxwell's popular open mic night from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. According to Karafots, the monthly event is becoming a popular stop for teen acts.

"They're getting into it along with a lot of the regular old guys," she said. "I sure hope



Melanie Bingham, Keith Turner, Carla Jo, Jimmy Turner and Kristin Turner are among youngsters who have taken advantage of Maxwell's Art Bar.



Michelle Kosal gets a hug from therapy dog Parker who helps patients and staff at Providence Park Hospital of Novi

we have some Irish musicians. We do have a very different array of people who show up."

Admission is \$5, with children age 16 and under free when accompanied by an adult.

Saturday's event are just a few of the activities going on at Maxwell's which has an art bar for children, open Thursday through Sunday, and every Wednesday is the Planet Art



Faye Johnson and her service dog Rita were among guests at a program about service animals that Maxwell's recently conducted. Sixty-five people attended the program.

Teen Club 6-8 p.m. for kids ages 13-19. It's billed as Facebook, only live, with a place for kids to hang out, create, make friends and have fun.

"Maxwell's is all about the community," said Karafots. "I honestly believes it's becoming the Garden City community

center. If kids have something they need to get done or do for school, they can come here."

Plenty of activities

Karafots has helped get Gardenville, a community garden and a pumpkin festival in the fall that had 150 youngsters show up to decorate pumpkins started at Maxwell's. She has an art show planned for Saturday, April 21, and is looking for artists to display their work.

"Kids, teens adults, if you make and it's art to you, it's art to us," she said.

Also on tap is an Extreme Coupon and Easy Recycling event planned for 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 29, and a March into Midnight Madness sale 10 a.m. to midnight Friday, March 30.

Maxwell's is currently open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. The hope is to have try to have extended hours during the summer.

"Our goal is to be open seven days a week," she said. "We have a lot of new stuff happening there. We have a lot of classes and have Brownies and Girl Scouts coming in working on stuff for their badges."

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Anderson voices support for autism bills

Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, voiced support for the action the Michigan Senate has taken to pass a package of legislation requiring insurance coverage for autism treatment.

The bipartisan legislation will allow Michigan families facing autism to have treatment covered just as it would be for other medical conditions.

"I was proud to co-sponsor this much needed legislation. Without adequate insurance coverage, parents of children with autism are forced to go without important treatments because they cannot afford them," said Anderson. "This bipartisan legislation will make treatment programs more affordable and accessible to parents and their children, and will allow those diagnosed with autism to live successful and happy lives while receiving the care and support they deserve."

The bipartisan legislation would make treatment programs more affordable and accessible to parents and their children early in their diagnosis. Early treatment helps improve an autistic child's chance at leading a successful life and, in turn, decreases the long-term costs to the state for their care which are estimated at nearly \$3 million.

Twenty-nine other states, including Wisconsin, Indiana and Illinois, have already enacted autism insurance reforms. The reforms come as the number of children diagnosed with autism continues to grow. One in every 110 children is now diagnosed with Autism, with the numbers for boys even higher at 1 in 70. In Michigan, 15,000 children have an autism diagnosis.

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Garden City teen finds \$270 missing from mug

Larceny

A 17-year-old resident in the 33000 block of Donnelly told police March 11 he and several friends were in his bedroom, which is located in the basement. He said that he keeps money in a clear mug which sits on top of his computer desk.

One of the friends told the resident that another guest was seen stuffing money into his pocket, then immediately left. The witness didn't see where the money originated.

The resident checked his mug and told police that \$270 was missing.

Larceny from a vehicle

On March 11, a Canton man told police he was parked outside a business at 28636 Ford when someone broke the driver's door lock on his 2012 Ford van. The hood of the vehicle, valued at \$500, was reported stolen.

Intimidation

A resident in the 28000 block of Beechwood told police that she was receiving threatening telephone calls and text messages from a Garden City woman who had provided childcare services. The resident said two

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

of her three children have handicaps and the messages made derogatory comments about the children.

The resident said there had been issues with the former child care provider regarding scheduling and inflation of the bill. The officer viewed the text messages and agreed they were demeaning towards the children. He also told the woman her comments in response were likely slanderous.

The officer contacted the former child care provider and recommended taking civil action to collect the disputed \$300 in fees. He also told her not to contact the resident again.

Break-in

Returning from an out-of-town trip March 10, a couple who lives in the 29000 block of Kathryn apparently interrupted a break-in. The couple found a window had been pried open, the electricity was off and the home had been ransacked.

Items in the freezer were still frozen and three televisions from the home were located sitting in the backyard.

Reported missing were women's underwear, cologne and a Juicy Couture charm bracelet valued at \$650.

The husband told police that he noticed two men walking southbound on the sidewalk near his home and thought it odd that they seemed to come from nowhere but that was prior to discovering the break-in.

Larceny from a vehicle

On March 8, a resident in the 28000 block of Kathryn told police that someone had stolen stereo from his Ford Explorer overnight. The stereo was valued at \$200. There was no sign of forced entry to the vehicle.

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 900 block of Venoy told police March 9 that someone had stolen a lap top computer, valued at \$400, from her vehicle which had been left unlocked.

Purse stolen

Just before 2 a.m. March 9, an Inkster woman told that she went to the Shell gas station, 120 Middlebelt, to buy a beverage. She said she

parked on the south side of the building and left her purse in the car while she was inside the store. When she returned, the woman said the car door was ajar and her purse was missing.

Suspended license

• Stopped after an officer saw him twice cross the center line, a Dearborn man was arrested for driving with two license suspensions March 8. He was also cited for having no proof of insurance.

• A Detroit woman was arrested for driving with eight license suspensions March 9 and cited for having an expired license plate.

• On March 10, a Detroit man was arrested for driving with four license suspensions after being stopped for making a prohibited right turn on red.

• On March 13, an Inkster man stopped for disregarding a flashing red signal was arrested for driving with 11 license suspensions. The officer noted the man had four prior suspensions/revocations. The man was also cited for running the flashing red light.

By LeAnne Rogers

Taylor man arrested for solicitation

Solicitation

A Taylor man, 76, was arrested for soliciting a prostitute March 12 outside the 7-Eleven store at Merriman and Palmer. Police had received a tip that man was planning to meet a prostitute at the that location, having arranged the rendezvous via a website.

The information provided police included a photo of the suspect, which had been sent to the prostitute's phone for identification purposes.

Officers set up surveillance of the store parking lot and just after 8:30 p.m. a vehicle driven by a lone male arrived. The man didn't get out of the vehicle. After several minutes, an officer approached the vehicle and recognized the driver as the man in the photograph.

The man told the officer that he was there to meet a girl and later confirmed that he was going to pay \$150 to have sex with a prostitute. The man added that he had brought extra cash for additional services.

The man was arrested and officers served him with paperwork for forfeiture of his cash and car.

Shoplifting

A Garden City woman, 48, was arrested March 11 for shoplifting a cart of groceries from Kmart, 165 S. Wayne Road. Police were called at about 12:45 p.m. about a female shoplifter who had walked away with a younger female, later identified as her daughter. Store employees had the woman's purse which had been left behind in the shopping cart.

When the officer arrived, he said the suspect was arguing with

WESTLAND COP CALLS

store staff demanding that her purse be returned. The daughter was no longer with her. The suspect denied stealing the \$614 worth of assorted household items in the shopping cart. She told the officer that her aunt had paid for items and left although she couldn't locate the receipt.

The suspect told the officer that her aunt had parked in the nearby Mr. Muffler parking lot so her vehicle could be serviced. The officer confirmed the business was actually closed on Sunday.

The suspect was arrested on two warrants. After she was arrested, two cans of Cheese Whiz were found in her purse along with a crack pipe. She was held for retail fraud and drug paraphernalia possession charges.

The officer also called the suspect's aunt and found that she had been home all day.

Home invasion

On March 10, a resident in the 6200 block of Hunters Pointe told police she returned home to find the front door had been forced open. She said that she forgot to set the alarm. Reported missing was a lap top computer valued at \$1,500.

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident of an apartment in the 6600 block of Yale told police March 13 that someone smashed a vehicle window, then removed a stereo valued at \$165.

By LeAnne Rogers

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'Your life changes in an instant'

Grieving family wants to help others after daughter's 'choking game' death

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

When Kassi Gilbert found the strange markings on her daughter's face — splotches that appeared with no apparent explanation — she did what any parent might do and got her to the emergency room.

Doctors at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti conducted a battery of tests and couldn't find a reason for the markings, either, although they ruled out anything blood-borne. They sent Kassi and her daughter home, with a recommendation to follow up with their pediatrician. That was Sept. 23, 2011.

Six days later, 14-year-old Abigail Giamporcuro was dead.

Abigail's young, promising life — the middle school student was a poet and a songwriter, a creative soul with an eye on a career as an interior designer — was snuffed out the way an increasing number of lives are being ended recently. Abigail died, alone in the closet of her own Canton bedroom, playing what is euphemistically called the "choking game," a relatively new way young people have begun using while chasing a "high" for which they don't need drugs.

Nearly six months later, her family is still reeling.

Thrill seeking?

"It's awful," Kassi Gilbert said of the pain inflicted by the loss. "It's every day. It just doesn't go away."

The game is played by fashioning a noose around the neck, pulling on it and



Dad Caleb Gilbert with Kimmy (left), Abigail and a very young Henry at the cider mill.

releasing just before loss of consciousness. Doctors say the idea is to get the same sort of "high" they might get, but without the danger of being caught with illegal drugs or alcohol.

"Thrill seeking is the major reason for participating in this game," said Dr. Michael Butkus, Assistant Professor/Psychologist, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences at the Wayne State University School of Medicine. "This game is played by all kinds of adolescents, some high-achieving, some not. It would be attractive to some adolescents who are bored, maybe even a little depressed because their lives may be empty of other sources of pleasure."

It is frequently done in crowds, but is often also done alone, which is how Abigail played it, at least the last time.

Her parents aren't really sure how long Abigail had been playing the game, although since her death they've discovered her best friend had known, and had done his best to get her to stop. Kassi and her husband, Caleb, also don't know where she learned it, although there are YouTube videos and websites dedicated to the practice.

Here's what they do know: On the day she died, Abigail had been planning to go to a friend's house, but had been asked by her working parents to help get preparations started for dinner. When Abby's 9-year-old sister, Kimberly, got home and couldn't find Abby, she called her mother. Gilbert told Kimberly to go through the house, while staying on the phone. Minutes later, the awful discovery had been made.

"She said, 'Mom, I found her in her closet, and she's freaking me out!'" Kass

si recalled. "She went outside and started screaming for help."

Caleb Gilbert won't ever forget those moments, either. Hurrying home from the east side and stuck in rush-hour expressway traffic, Caleb dialed his home phone and found a neighbor answering. The neighbor said, "You need to get home now." When he called back, a police officer answered. Caleb will never forget that conversation.

Chilling call

"He said, 'Sir, there's been an incident at your house ... They're working on your daughter,'" Caleb recalled.

Kassi got home first, followed by Caleb. By the time he got there, EMTs had already taken Abby to Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne. Doctors at the hospital

spoke the words no parent ever wants to hear.

"They told us there was nothing they could do," Caleb said. "Your life changes in an instant."

In the days following Abby's death, her best friend told police he'd learned Abby was taking part in the game — "If we hadn't found out what she'd been doing, we'd have thought she committed suicide," Kassi said — and tried to talk her out of it.

Not realizing the symptoms is the frustrating thing about what happened to Abby, according to Kassi. There are so many warning signs parents learn to look for in terms of drug use or more extreme behavior, such as cutting themselves.

"But with this, the symptoms are so vague," she said. "The one chance we had, the doctors didn't even know. How are we, as parents, supposed to know?"

Now that she's done some research, Kassi does know more about symptoms.

According to Dr. Butkus, the Wayne State University psychologist, "any significant change in behavior is generally a red flag." A happy child who turns irritable, headaches, unexplained behavior, etc., are all symptoms. And parents shouldn't just look at their own children.

"Since the choking game can be played in groups, youth's friends may have signs, too," Butkus said. "As a good rule of thumb, parents should always know what their children are doing and don't hesitate to ask questions

and probe in spite of the youth's protestations."

Experts say the numbers are so fuzzy when trying to determine not only how many kids are participating, but how many are dying from it. According to the Dangerous Behaviors Foundation, it's estimated that between 250 and 1,000 children die each year from the practice; however, hard statistics are difficult to come by, they said, since many coroners record such deaths as suicide.

Different intent

Kassi hates the idea of Abby's death being thought of as a suicide, because "it denotes a whole different angle, an intent to it."

"It makes it look like her whole reason (for playing the game) was she wanted to die," Kassi said. "I don't think that's true."

Preventing deaths is what Kassi and Caleb are now focused on accomplishing. Kassi has poured herself into research and now knows more about what she could have been looking for. She hopes to help other parents avoid the same pain she feels six months after her daughter's death.

"I want parents to know it's a possibility their kids are doing this ... I want them to talk to their kids about the way they do about safe sex or drugs," she said. "I think (the pain) gets harder after the initial shock. For me, the shock wore off about a month ago. (Now) there's no emotional buffer. It's awful."

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This show will feature a collection of carpenters, electricians, concrete specialists, roofers, landscape designers, and other home improvement experts.

A few booth spaces remain. For details, call the Livonia Chamber 734.427.2122 or visit www.Livonia.org.

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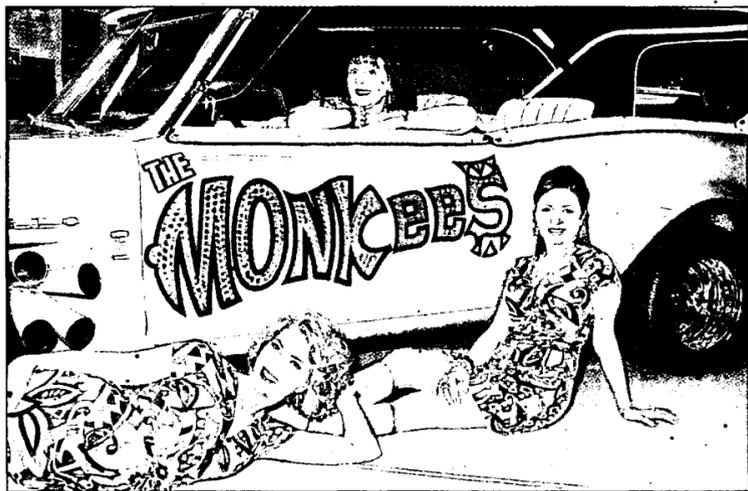
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Again, again

The WhatAbouts, a '60s singing group, will be back at Angelo Brothers Banquet Hall, 33550 Ford, Westland, on Friday, April 27, for a Doo Wop Dinner Show. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. followed by the show from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The dinner includes pizzas, salad, bread, soft drink and coffee. An open cash bar will be available. Tickets cost \$20 per person and are available in advance only. To order, call Kelly at (734) 377-1745.



Buying local boosts Winter Market

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

After Canton's new Winter Market season debuted by drawing a record-shattering, 700-plus visitors, organizers are ready for the next round of patrons looking to buy Michigan-made products sold inside the historic Cady-Boyer Barn.

The market returns 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 18, to Preservation Park, off Ridge Road north of Cherry Hill, as an estimated 20 vendors roll out produce, farm eggs, artisan cheese and bread, flavored butters, smoked fish, hand-crafted soaps and organic, antibiotic-free meats, among other items.

In its third year, Winter Market's seasonal debut Feb. 12 celebrated what market manager Tina Lloyd cited as a 40-percent spike over last year's average.

"More folks are seeing the benefits of buying local," she said, "and the winter markets provide the opportunity to support Michigan vendors."

Lloyd attributed the Winter Market's popularity to patrons who don't want to wait until the warm-weather Canton Farmers Market, which begins in May, to buy their favorite products from companies such as Zingerman's Creamery of Ann Arbor, Natural Local Food Express of Plymouth, Day Dream Cafe of Canton, JKM Soy Candles of Westland and Farmington Soap Works, among others.

Winter Market, on Canton's far west side, has become regional in scope,

drawing vendors such as Sweet Delights Bakery of Bay City, Sansonetti Sauces of Holly and Prochaska Farms of Tecumseh.

Last season, Wayne residents David and Christine Blinn brought their own shopping bag and filled it with winter squash, homemade mozzarella cheese and fresh-baked goods.

"This is lovely," Christine Blinn said, echoing the sentiments of many market-goers.

It's a market with a heart, too, as Daisy Girl Scout Troop No. 40726 in February collected 114 boxes of pasta and over \$100 in cash for Open Door Ministry, a Canton-based charity that distributes food every week to hundreds of needy families from across the area.

"We're very happy to support the Open Door Ministry, which is experiencing an increased need for food assistance in the community," Lloyd said.

Steve Darr, Open Door director, has said donations from the community have proved helpful amid growing demand for help. For the last four years, the pantry has far surpassed the one-million-pound mark for its food distribution.

The scout troop will again collect pasta and donations March 18 for Open Door Ministry. The girls also plan to sell boxes of pasta for \$1 to raise money.

Meanwhile, Lloyd said the last Winter Market of the year — technically in spring — is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 22.

dclem@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2238

GCH workshop preps coaches to handle injuries

Whether you're a coach, athlete, parent of an athlete, or just a weekend warrior, injuries are not part of your game plan. When they happen, and they will, are you prepared?

Do you have the latest information regarding concussions, dehydration, nutrition and more? Are you able to effectively recover, properly heal and get back in the game?

Attend Dr. Stan's Coaches Event and gain the competitive edge needed to win. "Dr. Stan"

Sczecienski, metro Detroit's leading physician of sports medicine, has assembled an elite panel of medical experts to speak on a variety of health issues affecting today's athlete in every sport.

The Coaches Event will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at the Westland Specialty Center, 35600 Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road, Westland.

The speakers include Dr. James M. Moriarity, Notre Dame University head physician, 10-11 a.m.; Dr. Paul Drouillard, on upper and

lower extremity injuries, 11-11:30 a.m.; Marie Sharp, registered dietician, on proper nutrition and hydration; Dr. Emmanuel Papasifakis, Sudden Cardiac Death Syndrome, 11:30 a.m.-noon; lunch noon-1 p.m., and a taping workshop 1-3 p.m.

To register or for additional information, contact Wendy Fairchild at (734) 458-4259 or by e-mail at wfairc@gchosp.org. Space is limited.

The event is sponsored by Garden City Hospital.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1690S, Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Dairy Queen Restaurant, 36520 Ford Road, Parcel #031-99-0013-706, Northwest Corner of Ford Road and Central City Parkway, Carole Campbell (Jeffrey E. Sobel)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 3, 2012.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission up until 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: March 15, 2012

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1390C, Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Body Art Studio, 8347 N Wayne Road, Woodcrest Plaza, West Side of Wayne Road, South of Joy Road, Parcel #014-99-0022-003, Mark & Christina Johnson (Frank Dabaja)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., April 3, 2012.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: March 15, 2012

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Becoming a landlord isn't for everyone

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

One question that keeps coming up at talks I give is whether buying homes and renting them out would be a good investment. The theory being that homes, particularly in southeast Michigan, have dropped dramatically in value and, at the same time, the rental market is relatively strong. And since home values are at or near their bottom, an investor could make money on renting the property while the home appreciates in value. In theory, it makes sense. However, there are some other issues to consider.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Unlike stocks or mutual funds, owning real estate is totally different. Whereas you can sometimes put a mutual fund or a stock on automatic pilot, not so with real estate.

I tell people that when you own real estate and you're a landlord, it's not an investment, it's a business. You are required to be much more proactive than you would be with a stock or a mutual fund.

Collecting rent

At a minimum, you have to make sure your tenants are paying every month. In addition, you have to be involved in the repair and maintenance of the property. You can hire a management company to do these things, however, they can be expensive, particularly if you only own a few properties.

Being a landlord is not easy and one of the most difficult aspects is dealing with tenants. Not only do you have to

screen your tenants, but you also have to be willing to evict them if they don't pay the rent.

This is one of the most difficult issues that potential landlords must address. If you can't honestly say that you would evict a tenant for non-payment of rent, then you can't be a landlord. Even if you do hire a management company, ultimately the decision whether to evict is yours.

If you've decided that you have what it takes to be a landlord, then you need to look at the economics. Even though this is a good rental market, you can't assume that the property will be rented 100 percent of the time. You must factor in some sort of vacancy rate.

In addition, you must also factor in the cost of repairs and maintenance.

Whether you do the repairs yourself or hire out, there's still a cost. Remember it is not just regular maintenance that you need to consider, but

also that you will need a new roof and other major items every so often.

Buying real estate for rental purposes is a business that people have done well with, but it's also a one in which others have failed miserably.

If you're thinking about buying real estate and becoming a landlord, I recommend you talk to someone who is a landlord. Also read some books about being a landlord.

Just like investing, if you do your homework ahead of time and go into it with realistic expectations, you'll have a much greater chance of success.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

Two students win art contest

Fourth-graders Joshua McCown and Andrea Santiago were selected as the Wayne-Westland Community Schools winner and runner-up, respectively, in a Black History Month Art Contest sponsored by State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland.

The topic of the art was to be "What Black History Month Means to Me" or "An Important Figure in Black History."

"I was impressed by the enthusiasm that both the art teachers and students showed in rising to the challenge of creating original artwork on this topic," said Anderson. "This contest offered an opportunity to combine both art and history, and the final products clearly indicate that the students learned about Black History in the process of creating their artwork."

In addition to Wayne-Westland, the Clarenceville School District and Redford Union School District participated in the contest. Anderson will provide a pizza party to classes of the winners, display the artwork of the winners and runners-up in his office, and also will be recognizing the winners and runner-ups with certificates.

"I want to congratulate the winners, and thank all of those who participated and made this first contest a success," said Anderson.

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 5 03/5/12

Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer, Reeves
44: Appr. req. from Prince of Peace Lutheran Church to hold "Crop Walk" 5/6/12.
- Bid for Thermal Imager to West Shore Fire; amt. \$8,869.00.
- Appr. disbursement of final pmt. to Bidigare for SWQIF Project; amt. \$29,051.83.
- Adopted K-9 Veteran's Day Resolution.
45: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 2/21/12.
46: Sets 4/16/12 as Public Hearing for CDBG XXXVIII, 7/1/12 thru 6/30/13.
47: Set 5/7/12 as Public Hearing for 2012-13 Budget.
48: Conf. appt. of S. Scott to DDA for 4 yr. term to exp. 2/23/16.
49: Appr. checklist: \$ 486,000.42 & Prepaid: \$ 3,201,480.47.
Mtg. adj. at 7:41 p.m.
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
Council President

Eileen DeHart
City Clerk, CMC

Publish: March 15, 2012

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #2183, Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Residential Wind Turbine, 2468, S Christine, Parcel #075-09-0017-000, NW Corner of Christine and Farragut, East of Wayne Road, North of Glenwood Road, Michael Bratcher (Charlotte Tarwacki)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 3, 2012.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission up until 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: March 15, 2012

0208770820-2x4

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1425C, Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Body Art Studio, 5848 N. Wayne Road, Parcel #035-99-0004-001, East Side of Wayne Road, North of Ford Road,

Randall Dickerson (Michael Capaldi).

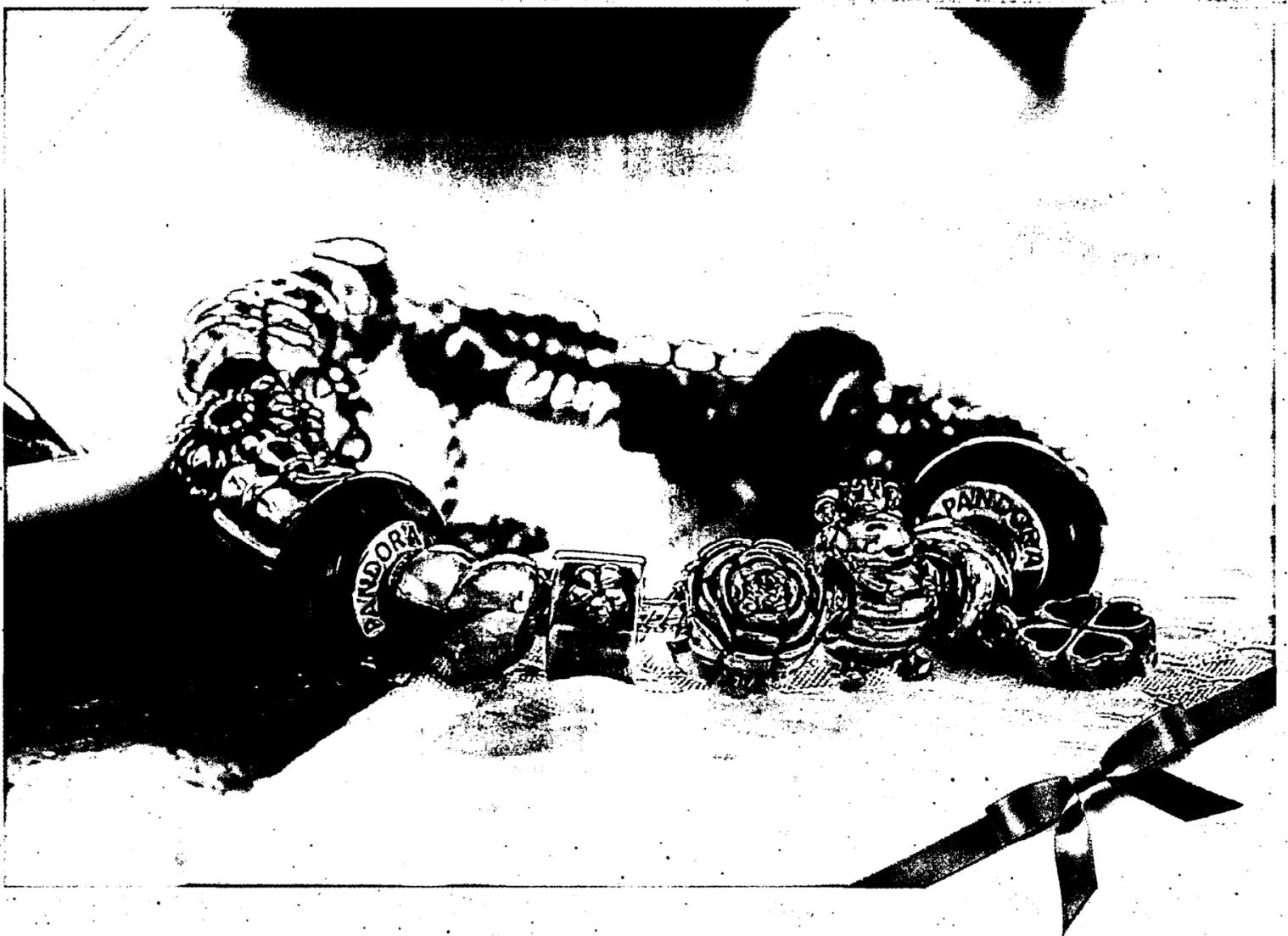
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., April 3, 2012.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: March 15, 2012

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St. Damian students help prepare boxes for troops

ANGELS

Continued from page A1

me and told me to call them Miracle boxes." Downs prep the children for their work, asking questions about freedom.

"Freedom isn't free, you have to fight for it," said third-grader Joey Beahon of Plymouth in response to her question.

The students also said the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lord's Prayer before lining up to get a box and then work their way along tables filled with food, hygiene products, snacks, books, CDs and videos, a rosary, American flag and a phone card. Much of the items were collected by students as a project during Catholic Schools Week or were donated by members of St. Damian Parish and its cluster parish, St. Theodore's.

Downs makes sure the contents are American-made, right down to the socks. She has her connections. Socks Man Ed, a sock distributor out of West Bloomfield, provides socks made in mills in Alabama. The Family Christian Bookstore provides Bibles bought by its patrons, a Girl Scout troop from Lone Pine Elementary in West Bloomfield the cookies, and the Everest Academy in Clarkston plastic drinking mugs to fill with hot chocolate and Crystal Light drink mixes.

Each of the boxes also included a phone card provided by Mikie's Minutes, a fund set up by the father of fallen soldier Sgt. Michael Ingram Jr. to ensure soldiers can make free phone calls home.

Special touches were cards and letters the students made for the troops as well as a letter from the school. There's also a group picture of the students letting the soldiers know who they are.

"I've ever done this," said Tamara Sabbagh of Westland. "It makes me feel good about myself because I'm helping the soldiers."

Logan Tarla of Redford and Colin Arban of Garden City were the first to fill a box. They had to admit by the time they got to Downs who taped it close it was heavy. While get a reduced rate for packages headed for the troops, a filled box can cost Downs around \$14.

"He held the box a little bit and then I took over, but we both go to pick the items," said Colin. "It was only fair. It feels nice to help out when you know they're defending our country."

Addison Fox of Westland is a veteran of doing care packages. In the past, she's done it for the homeless in Detroit. She worked with her buddy, Trenton Mielke of Plymouth.

"It's good to help our soldiers," she said.

"I think it's good we can give back to the soldiers because they do so much for us and we can remind them of home," added John Giagrande of Garden City. "I think the best part is the cards and letters from the kids. In my letter, I thanked them for serving and told them they were in my prayers."

During Catholic Schools week, each classroom adopted a homebound senior citizen from here and St. Theodore, said Stempin. They wrote letters, made cards and filled baskets with food.

"It was so touching to see the seniors, they were lonesome, but the students showed them they're not forgotten people," she said.

The Miracle boxes was such a success that Stempin plans to do it again next year so the students can continue to do community outreach.

"I'm really proud of them," said Stempin.



Louise Downs works on taping up the boxes the students filled.

ABOUT DESERT ANGELS

Desert Angels collect, pack and mail needed items to the troops, always including words of encouragement and hope and adding extra items to pass out to the native people of the countries where they are stationed. The boxes show the troops they are not forgotten in deeds, not just words.

Miracle Boxes are care packages for American troops serving overseas. They contain a variety of items, including socks, pocket foods, letters from home and "a whole lot of love." Also in each Miracle Box is a "Prayer Cloth" or "Pocket Flag" reminding the troops, we are praying for them. They are called "Miracle Boxes" in honor of Pfc. Joseph A. Miracle, a Michigan soldier who gave his life defending his unit.

Donations are always welcome, and supplies are always needed: breakfast bars, granola bars, instant breakfast Tang, dry Gator Aid, nuts, Life Savers, hard candy, cereal, oatmeal, coffee-flavored dry creamer, dried fruit, beef jerky, Rice Krispy Treats, gum, Pop Tarts, instant foods, tea, new socks, cards, letters of encouragement, fun stuff and blank cards they can send to their loved ones.

Monetary donations also are needed. Each box costs about \$15 to mail. And people can help by participating in a packing party or hosting a packing party.

Desert Angels Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Donations can be sent to Louise "Desert Angel" Downs, Desert Angels, Inc., P.O. Box 210455, Auburn Hills, MI 48321, or online at www.thedesertangel.org. For more information, call (248) 736-6403 or send an e-mail to office@thedesertangel.org.



Addison Fox of Westland thinks "it's good to help the troops."

Feels 'good'
"This is the first time

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(313) 222-6751



Allysha Potts of Redford selects a magazine to include in her box.



Landen Nabozny of Garden City and Brandon Lopez of Livonia carry their box over to get it sealed for shipment to the troops.



Aaron Taylor of Garden City checks out a Sports Illustrated magazine bound for U.S. troops serving in harm's way overseas.



Jeff James of Auburn Hills loads Miracle boxes into a covered trailer donated to Desert Angels by the American Trailer Co. in Waterford.

Oakwood doctor honored for compassionate care

In recognition of a career-long dedication to compassionate patient care, Oakwood dermatologist Dr. Thomas P. Waldinger has been chosen to receive the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award.

The national award, created to recognize physicians who demonstrate exceptional commitment to compassionate patient care, is given annually to one practicing dermatologist and is cosponsored with the Gold Foundation by The American Academy of Dermatology.

"The basis for treatment of a patient is medical science, but the fundamental core value of medicine is humanism," said Waldinger, adding that he is honored to receive the award. "The essence of humanism is compassion and kindness. I have always believed that a physician should take a personal interest in each patient. In the practice of medicine this will enrich and sustain both the patient and the physician."

Waldinger has written about the unique relationship between doctor and patient in two books: *The Wisdom of Life through My Patients* (PWM; University of Michigan Press, 2000)



Oakwood dermatologist Dr. Thomas P. Waldinger has been chosen to receive the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award.

and *Listen to the Whispers* (Dobson Powell Press, 2009), which illustrate the meaning of physician-patient relationships and the profound learning physicians can gain from the wisdom and life experiences of their patients.

"I wrote these books to honor my mentor, Dr. John L. Ulrich, and my grandfather," said Dr. Waldinger. "My patients' stories are a chorus of voices offering inspiration, wisdom, and hope. In the process of using our medical knowledge to help our patients, we still can learn from their courage in the face of formidable health challenges and also be enriched by their wisdom. These

are things that remain in your heart forever.

"In several stories my patients focused on experiences in their lives that they had never before shared with anyone - not even their spouse, a friend or relative," he added. "Although they hadn't intended to conceal these experiences, it was not until they began to examine and explain their philosophies of life that they understood the importance of these hidden memories. The conversations that arose from this process were an unexpected resource of warmth, love and knowledge."

Waldinger is a dermatologist who specializes in skin cancer and geriatric dermatology. A member of the medical staff at the Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center in Dearborn, his other honors include graduating Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Michigan and recognition in Best Doctors® (1996-2012).

He also is the author or co-author of 12 peer-reviewed publications in Dermatology journals. He lectures frequently in the community on skin health in mature adults, and on the lessons in life, faith, love and humor in his two books.

Are you ready to cut the cord?

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

A friend of mine recently cancelled his cable subscription after growing increasingly tired of expensive bills for programming he never watched. For a few months, the friend has gotten his entertainment



Tech Savvy

Jon Gunnells

fix for less than \$10 per month courtesy of Netflix. Canceling cable for digital subscriptions is called cord cutting and it's a trend that has grown as video streaming has become easier thanks to more sophisticated smart phones, game systems and even tablets.

Even if you are in love with cable or satellite television, cord-cutting may be worth consideration because of the financial savings and flexible programming options.

To determine if you are the type of person who could cancel a household mainstay like cable, you must first determine what programs you watch. Then compare costs between cable and digital streaming options.

For about the cost of a Starbucks coffee (\$8), Netflix will stream movies, and television shows directly to your smart-

phone, tablet, internet ready TV, PS3, Xbox or Wii. Old movies, new releases and television shows from America's Funniest Videos to Workaholics are available instantly with a Netflix subscription.

Hulu Plus

Hulu Plus also offers instant streaming of movies and television shows for \$7.99 with no commitments. Just like Netflix, there is no need for a cable box, new remote, or digital receiver. All you need is a supported portable device, computer or game system.

Amazon Prime is more of a newcomer to the digital streaming game, but they too offer an extensive library of instant streaming video.

But what if you don't have an Internet ready television or game system and don't feel like watching the newest action thriller on a tiny phone or tablet screen? Don't worry; a number of electronic visionaries have you covered.

Roku offers digital devices that connect wirelessly to any TV and stream content for as low as \$49 per month. Roku is compatible with your Netflix, Hulu and Amazon subscriptions and also offers 350 channels worth of programming including the 24 Wall Street Journal channel and other unique programming you can't get through a cable or satellite television provider.

Roku players

Roku players also have HD capabilities and connect seamlessly with applications you may have on your phone or computer such as Pandora, Spotify, Angry Birds or Facebook.

One of the drawbacks to cord cutting is the inability to watch sports at an economical price. Sure there are streaming services available to catch every NHL, NBA or NFL game. But those packages can cost as much as \$350 per season.

And while there are a number of sports channels including the SEC Network the Big Ten Network is not available to stream through any service at any cost.

If you aren't a big sports fan however, a combination of Netflix and a Roku player would cost about \$39-\$70 up front depending on your chosen device, followed by about \$8 per month. That's around \$150 per year, or about one and a half months of cable.

As you can see, cord cutting savings are astounding and the programming is vast and growing. If you are looking to save money or become less of a slave to your TV, consider cutting the cord yourself. The results may surprise you.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnShOw.

Be careful in choosing which records to keep

By Clarity Patton Newhouse
Guest Columnist

Recently I had the pleasure of touring the Allied Vaughn

media archives in Livonia where decades of photos, video and various materials are stored for car companies and other clients. Allied helps their clients select the right materials to archive, which prompted an interesting conversation about the importance for businesses and individuals of making wise decisions about what to keep and what to discard. From corporate records to family photos, be sure to:

Choose carefully.
A photo saved is a photo



Clarity Patton Newhouse

SUNNY NOTE

to lost if it's stored among so many others that it can't be feasibly located. For example, today's digital cameras make it easy to amass huge numbers of mediocre photos along with really great ones.

Whether on a personal hard drive or in a corporate archive, storing too much information can lead to problems just like storing not enough. So instead of keeping everything, the trick is to identify the materials that are worth saving and store them strategically for easy access. Everything else just needs to get out of the way.

Back at my house ... it's soon to be spring cleaning season and I'm going to keep these thoughts in mind as I free up storage space at home.

Remember that less can be more - and have a sunny day!

Clarity

P.S. "A little simplification would be the first step toward rational living." Eleanor Roosevelt

P.P.S. Join Sunny Notes at www.Facebook.com/SunnyNotes. You can also help spread the sunshine by forwarding Sunny Notes to others. New readers can visit this link to add their e-mail address to receive Sunny Notes.

Clarity Patton Newhouse is president of Sunny Media Group Inc., located at 39209 Six Mile, Suite 165, Livonia. She writes "A Sunny Note" to brighten the day with encouraging insights for business and life. "A Sunny Note" also is published online at ASunnyNote.com for readers across America and beyond. To reach her call (734) 855-4728 or find her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sunnynotes.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Happy birthday

BIGGBY Coffee is adding another candle on the cake this year as it celebrates its 17th birthday with those it loves the most: their customers.

Join in on the all-day birthday celebration at BIGGBY Coffee, 37644 Ford, west of Newburgh, Westland, today (March 15) and get your favorite tall, hot or iced, sweet and creamy latte for 99 cents!

Coupons for a 99 cent drink have been sent through e-wards, BIGGBY's free, weekly, e-mail couponing program. To sign up, visit www.e-wards.com

"We love celebrating our birthday by honoring our customers and thanking them for their loyalty and support over

the years," Bob Fish, CEO and co-founder said. "Some of them have been with us since the beginning and we want to say thank you, as well as welcome those who have just recently discovered BIGGBY."

And even if you don't have that e-mail coupon, stop by and say happy birthday.

Perfect touch

Glitter, the a one-stop shop for all your accessory needs, has opened a store in Westland Shopping Center at Warren and Wayne roads, Westland.

Glitter is great for putting the final touches on that perfect outfit or getting a gift for someone hard to buy for.

Glitter has \$1 jewel-

ry and hair accessories. It also sells purses for \$19.99 and up and shoes for \$14.99 and up. Glitter is a great place for the final touches for an outfit or for gifts/ party favors. Gift certificates are available.

New store

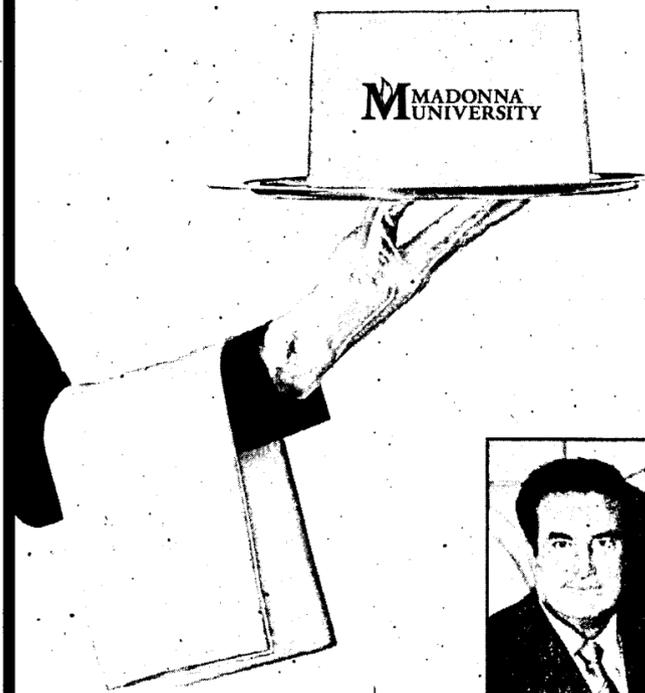
Mid-America Real Estate-Michigan, Inc. announces a 10,000-square foot lease in Wildwood Plaza at 34250 Ford Road in Westland.

Jack Uhazie of Mid-America Real Estate-Michigan, Inc. represented the tenant, Dollar Tree, with Adam Goodman of Mid-America Real Estate-Michigan, Inc. representing the landlord, Wildwood Properties, LLC in the transaction.

McManus

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OUR VIEWS

Rally for a cure

Sign up now for 11th annual Westland Relay for Life

Anyone who has been through cancer — either being diagnosed themselves or loving someone else who has — knows it is a difficult journey. It can destroy lives. It can rip apart families without regard to wealth or social status. Everyone is susceptible. Nobody is immune.

According to the American Cancer Society, more than a half million people died due to cancer last year — that's a total of more than 1,500 per day. Another million and a half people were diagnosed with some form of cancer in 2011.

The many thousands of people who annually get involved with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event certainly know how destructive cancer can be. Most of them have been personally impacted by cancer in one way or another. That's why they have been fighting back since 1986, the first year of Relay for Life.

The event has grown tremendously since the mid-1980s. This year communities around the nation and the globe will organize their own Relay events, including Westland.

Organizers are gearing up for the annual relay in Westland. This year's event is slated for May 12-13 at Jaycee Park — 57 days from now — but planning and fundraising for the 24-hour event are well under way.

There are already 16 teams signed up, and planners are hoping for several more to help raise money and awareness. Last year's event had 19 teams with 373 participants, including 66 cancer survivors. It raised \$62,125.

Relay for Life is designed to help find a cure for cancer and for programs to help people who are suffering from it. Those who have been a part of a Relay for Life can tell you what an emotional roller coaster it can be. Even though every event is different, there are traditions that take place during the 24 hours of every Relay.

Celebrate - The Survivors Lap: The Survivors Lap is an inspirational time when survivors are invited to circle the track together and help everyone celebrate the victories they've achieved over cancer. It is an emotional example of how Relay participants are creating a world with more birthdays like those of each individual on the track.

Remember - The Luminaria Ceremony: A time to honor people who have been touched by cancer and remember loved ones lost to the disease. Candles are lit inside bags filled with sand, each one bearing the name of a person touched by cancer, and participants often walk a lap in silence.

Fight Back - The Fight Back Ceremony: There is a Fight Back Ceremony where one makes a personal commitment to save lives by taking up the fight against cancer.

The American Cancer Society says in recent years real progress has been made with cancer research. The survival rate increased dramatically from what it was just a couple decades ago. They attribute a lot of that success to the overall awareness of cancer, and the fact so many people are getting on board with the fight. Perhaps this is the year you will join in.

Learn more by contacting event chair Rhonda Temple at red101666@yahoo.com or ACS Staff Partner Marie Matuszak at marie.matuszak@cancer.org or by visiting the Westland Relay for Life web page at www.acsevents.org to learn more about what takes place here to fight cancer.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What's your favorite thing to do on St. Patrick's Day?

We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"Hanging out with friends and going someplace with a lot of shamrocks because I don't drink."

Karen Carlsen
Westland



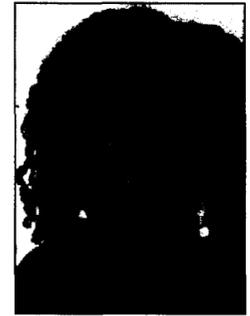
"I'm not Irish, but I do wear green - a little bit."

Marlene Preston
Westland



"Drinking with my husband."

Maria Thompson
Westland



"Be with my friends and family."

Alicia Parker
Westland

LETTERS

Water bill increase

In response to a letter to the editor in Thursday, March 1, edition of the *Observer* entitled "Numbers are Deceiving," Overall, the increase to the average resident's water bill is 12.1 percent. This percentage includes the cost of the fixed charge increasing from \$14.45 per bill to \$24.50 per bill; because the fixed fee represents a smaller portion of the total water bill, the overall effect on the fixed rate going up is 12.1 percent.

City Council was given a five-year water rate and analysis at their Jan. 9 study session. The analysis explained how the rate increase was determined. During this meeting, Plante & Moran auditors, Westland's independent public accounting firm, were in attendance to explain the analysis and answer questions by the City Council and the public. At this study session, we illustrated how the increase would affect the average homeowner and I have included that calculation below:

The average bill for a resident is 16.33 units of water every two months. The total bill for 16.33 units using the previous water, sewer and fixed rates would have resulted in a bill of \$145.28. Using new water, sewer and fixed cost rates for the same 16.33 units will result in a bill of \$162.82. This is a difference of \$17.54 per bill or a 12.1 percent increase.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Mail: Letters to the Editor, *Observer* Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: (313) 223-3318

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Until recently, neither the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department nor Wayne County invoiced Westland for fixed costs. Over the last several years, due to the economy and other factors, these entities have found that the amount of water they sell has declined considerably. In an effort to maintain a revenue stream necessary to operate and maintain the system, both have implemented fixed cost structures in the rates they assess their customers, such as the City of Westland. These fixed costs have increased significantly every year. The fixed costs

Westland, in turn, charges its water users are allocated toward paying those fixed costs charged by the City of Detroit and Wayne County.

The Water and Sewer fund is classified as an enterprise fund. Enterprise funds are established under the premise that fees are assessed such that the fund can meet its financial obligations for the services provided. In this matter, that is the cost to operate, maintain and effect capital improvements on the city's water and sewer infrastructure. Fees are charged to users of these systems to cover the costs imposed by the City of Detroit and Wayne County. The fees imposed are also to cover the debt service, capital outlay and personnel costs Westland incurs in its management and operation of the water and sewer systems. The increases in rates, while never welcome, were instituted to ensure the Water and Sewer Fund can support costs associated with these essential services.

I am available to answer any questions you or your readers may have about the City's Water and Sewer Department, the fees charged or any other concerns anyone may have about Westland finances.

Steven Smith
City of Westland Finance
Director

GUEST COLUMN

County Treasurer's Office: Dedicated staff 'here to serve'

By **Raymond J. Wojtowicz**
Guest Columnist

It is with tremendous regret the I read and hear repeatedly comments that all Wayne County officials are corrupt. As indictments have been filed against some former county



Ask the
Treasurer
Raymond
Wojtowicz

employees there is a growing perception that all who work for Wayne County are corrupt.

As Wayne County Treasurer, I am appalled. As with other offices throughout Wayne County, my office is filled with hard working, dedicated, public servants.

We are struggling to service the many distressed taxpayers in danger of losing homes to foreclosure.

With fewer resources due to budget cuts and unprecedented demand for services as a result of the challenging economy, I am proud of the effective and efficient services my staff provides.

Together with the staff, I have dedicated my life to public service. We all share a belief that we are here to do all we can ethically, morally and professionally for those we serve.

Regardless of the political turmoil that swirls around the coun-

ty, this office continues to serve the local governments, the county and the citizens to the best of our abilities.

In the past several years we have continued to innovate in the discharge of our duties. From assisting tens of thousands of taxpayers in avoiding foreclosure to moving to extremely productive online auctions to financing billions of dollars to fund essential government services, the staff continues exemplary service on behalf of the citizens we serve.

Following is brief summary of some recent accomplishments and innovations over the last two years:

- Successfully borrowed a quarter of a billion dollars to fund essential government services throughout the county and for communities.

- Initiated an online auction of tax foreclosed properties which last year generated \$32 million in sales.

- Now including "reverter" clauses in deeds to fight blight and the neglect of properties by auction purchasers addressing concerns about inappropriate speculators.

- Coordinated with Register of Deeds Bernard J. Youngblood to electronically record deeds saving time and resources.

- Working to institute electronic certification of deeds to speed the process for our citizens.

- Coordinating efforts with the

43 communities of the county to move to electronic filing of tax rolls to more efficiently track taxes and provide easy access to the voluminous information essential to administration.

- Provided \$15 million to Wayne County to balance the budget and provide needed financial stability.

- Assisted over 14,000 taxpayers in avoiding foreclosure, helping stabilize neighborhoods by preventing the blight that accompanies the abandonment of properties.

- Updating cashier stations to increase efficiency and accuracy by installing cash recyclers, credit card acceptance, and check scanners.

- Mindful of the distressed taxpayers feel, dedicated to treating all customers with honesty, dignity, and respect.

The public needs and deserves to know that there are those in public service who are here to serve. On behalf of the staff at the treasurer's office, I feel a need to address the misconception that all public servants in Wayne County are dirty based on the perception of the actions of a few. I am proud to work with the dedicated staff in this office.

It continues to be my pleasure to serve the good people of Wayne County.

Raymond J. Wojtowicz is the treasurer of Wayne County. For more information on the treasurer's office and services, go to www.treasurer.waynecounty.com.

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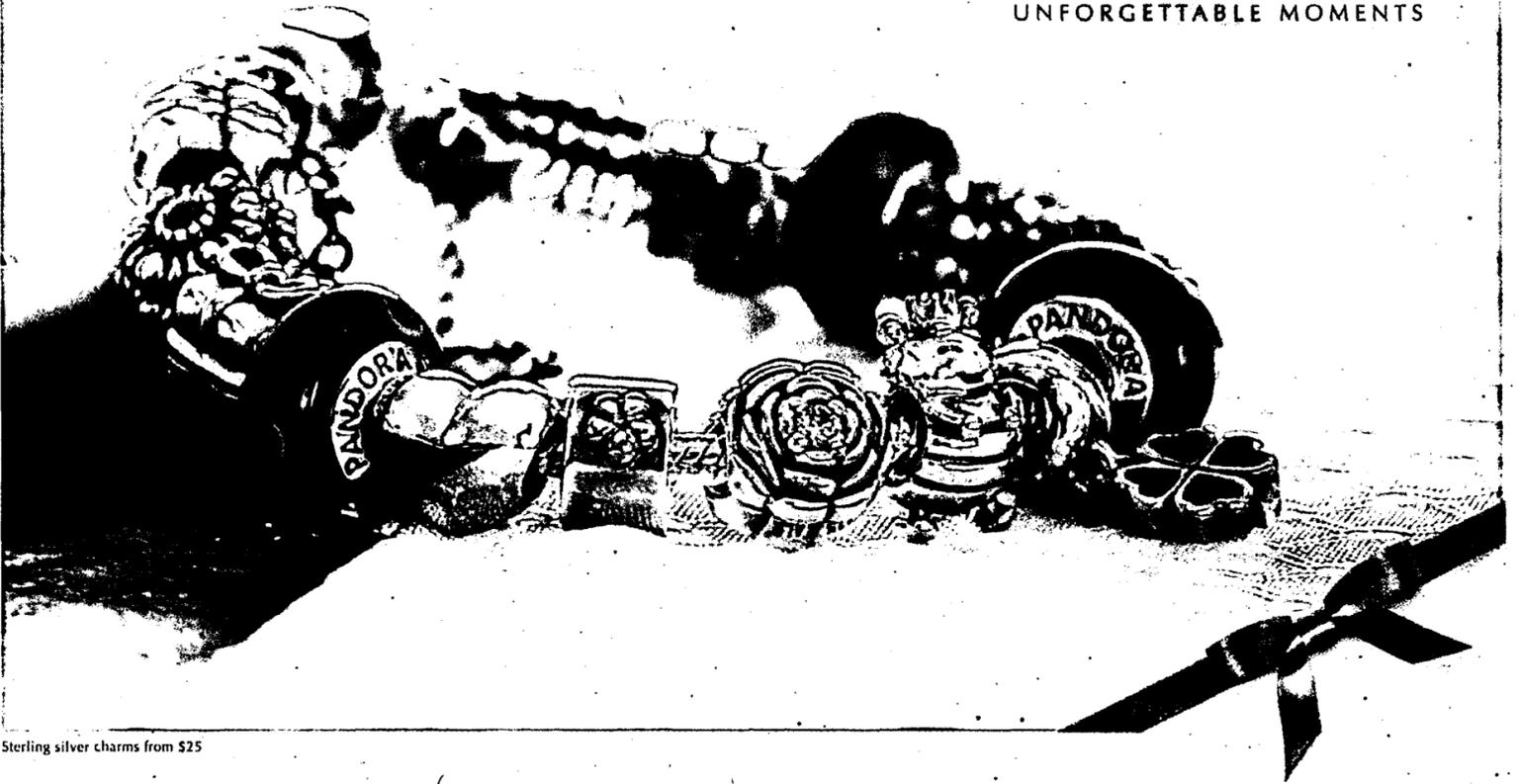
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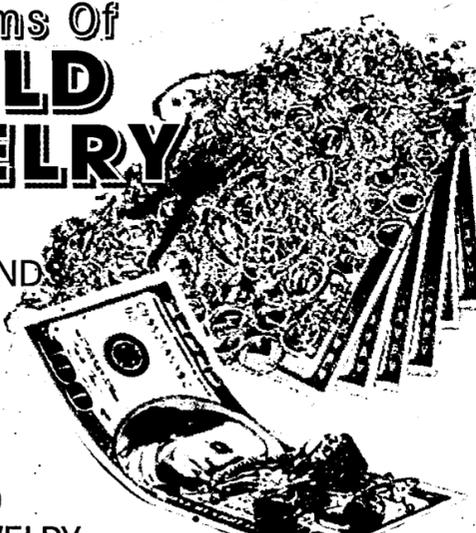
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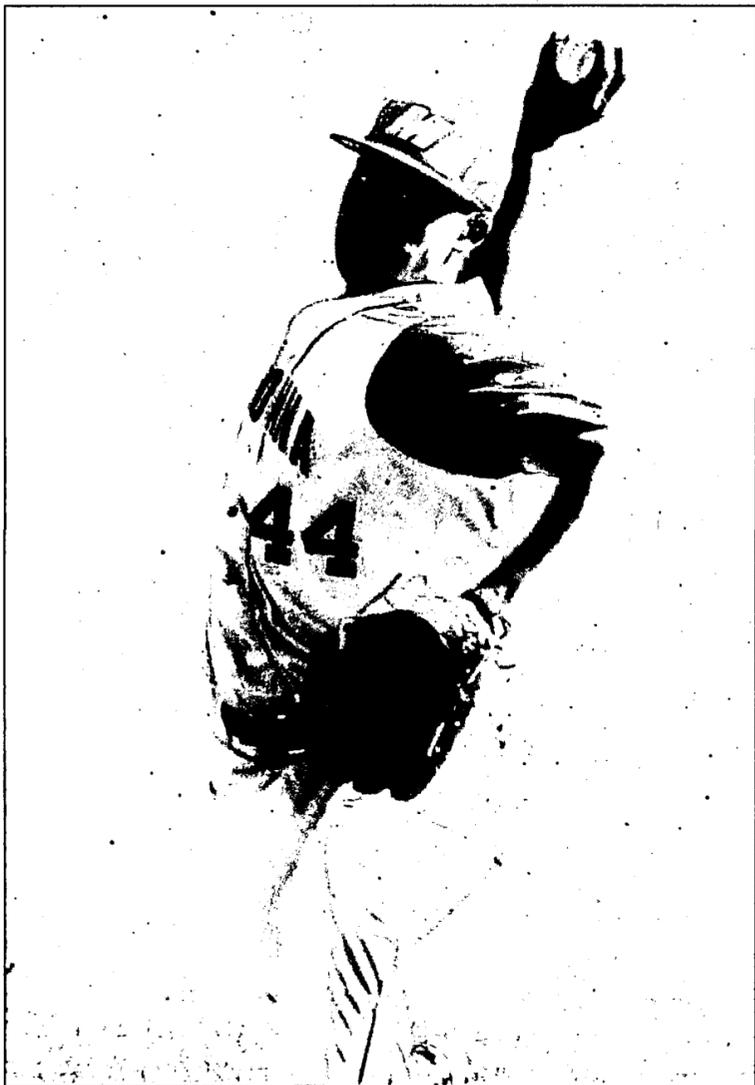
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MADONNA UNIVERSITY

Madonna University junior Matt Cook threw five shutout innings in the Crusaders' 6-3 road victory Tuesday over NCAA Division I foe Central Michigan University.

Crusaders take down CMU, 6-3

Cook stars at plate, mound

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

The Madonna University baseball team "Cook"-ed up a noteworthy road victory Tuesday afternoon in Mount Pleasant.

Led by junior Matt Cook, the Crusaders spoiled Central Michigan University's home opener by posting a 6-3 triumph at Theunissen Stadium.

Cook shined on the mound and at the plate, shutting out the Chipewas for five innings after relieving starter Jeremy Gooding in the bottom of the fifth — while reaching base five times in a hitter's role.

The Crusaders, who improved to 15-9, scored all of their runs with two outs. CMU slipped to 6-10.

"I'm very proud of our team today," Madonna head coach Greg Haeger said. "We played hard and were shorthanded, missing a few key starters.

Our pitchers did a good job keeping us in the game and we got some key two-out hits at the plate."

Sparked by Jordan Dean's solo home run, CMU chalked up a three-spot in the first inning off Gooding, who yielded three hits, two walks and one earned run while striking out two in four innings.

The Crusaders sliced their deficit to 3-1 in the third when Josh Deeg singled with two outs and scored on Dan Harder's double.

Madonna tied it at 3-1 in the top of the fifth. After the first two batters were retired, Deeg singled before Harder and Cook walked. Billy Hardin III then delivered a clutch two-run double.

The Crusaders scored three in the seventh to seize the lead for good. Harder singled with one

Please see CRUSADERS, B2

7 MU women All-Academic

Seven Madonna University women's players were among 162 across the country honored Monday to 2012 Daktronics NAIA Division II Scholar-Athlete team.

To be selected, a student-athlete must be nominated by her head coach, maintain a 3.5 grade point average or higher and have reached junior academic status to qualify for this honor.

The Crusaders selected including seniors Erin Bentley (Ida/pre-medicine), Katie Martin (River Gabriel Richard/pre-medicine) and Megan Murphy (Onaway/general science with a elementary education minor).

They are joined along with juniors Michelle Lindsey (Bloomfield Hills Marian/nursing), Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson/nursing), Kristie Porada (Gibraltar Carlson/pre-medicine) and Heather Pratt (Flushing/business administration).

Martin is a repeat selection from last season and all seven were chosen last month to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference all-academic team in February.

Stevenson tankers 11th

Backstroker Ferrara 3rd

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's string of three straight top 10 finishes in the MHSAA Division 1 Boys Swimming and Diving Championships was snapped Saturday at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

But there was no shame in the Spartans' 11th-place showing as Saline captured its third consecutive team title with 326.5 points with Rockford and Birmingham Brother Rice placing second and third with 223 and 176, respectively.

Stevenson finished with 68 points, 12 behind 10th-place finisher Saginaw Heritage after placing ninth in 2011, sixth in 2010 and fifth in 2009.

"It was a very fast meet overall ... one of the fastest I've seen," Stevenson coach Jeff Shoemaker said. "So an 11th-place finish is not that bad for the crop that I brought. We were all pretty happy with our swims. For sure, you always want to do better. With what I brought there I'm real happy with the outcome."

Stevenson posted a pair of all-state (top eight) finishes with junior John Ferrara figuring in both.

Ferrara teamed up with senior Jake McNamara, sophomore Bradley Bielicki and



JOHN HEIDER | NORTHVILLE RECORD

Stevenson's John Ferrara placed third in the 100-yard backstroke at the MHSAA Division 1 swim finals held Saturday at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

senior Brandon Bielicki for a sixth in the 200-yard medley relay posting a finals time of 1:33.87.

"It's a pretty good time, and in that kind of relay where we

Please see SWIM, B2

Ex-SC coach savors NCAA cage moment

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Carlos Briggs knows all about going to national tournaments.

The former Schoolcraft College coach took his teams to four National Junior College Athletic Association tourneys in nine seasons with the Ocelots.

Now the University of Detroit assistant will be part of "The Granddaddy of Them All" — the NCAA Tournament — as the 15th-seeded Titans (22-13) take on No. 2 seed Kansas (27-6) beginning at

9:57 p.m. Friday at the Century Link Center in Omaha, Neb.

(The game will aired on truTV with Marv Albert, Steve Kerr and Craig Sager as the broadcast team).

"This is the best one you can go to ... I feel very fortunate to be going and going with the University of Detroit," said Briggs, who built one of the nation's best JUCO programs at Schoolcraft (1997-2006) compiling a 249-39 record. "It's been a long road. It's been a long five years putting in recruiting and scouting, and things like that. It's paid off."

The Titans got into the Big Dance by winning the Horizon

Please see BRIGGS, B3

Taylor-made softball week

Not missing a beat after going straight from the hardwood to the diamond, Grand Valley State softball infielder Briana Taylor (Livonia Franklin) was named Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Softball Player of the Week.

Leading the 21st-ranked Lakers to an 11-1 record in the NTC Spring Games in Clermont, Fla., Taylor hit .514 with a .973 slugging percentage including four triples, three homers and 16 RBI.

Taylor was also a first-team All-GLIAC selection this season in basketball.



Minch earns WHAC honor

Madonna University senior Hallie Minch (Garden City) was named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Softball Pitcher of the Week for the period (ending March 11).

Minch went 5-2 with a save last week in the circle as MU posted an 8-3 mark overall at the University of Mobile (Ala.) Classic and the Gulf Coast Invitational.

The right-hander struck out 21 hitters and threw a two-hit shutout over No. 9 Shorter (Ga.) on Friday before coming back and not allowing a run until the seventh inning in a 7-2 win over No. 6-ranked Belhaven (Ala.).

Minch scattered 33 hits over 45 innings of work for a 2.02 earned run average as MU improved to 9-8 overall.

Please see SOFTBALL, B2

MU women impress in spring trip finale

After dropping the day's opener to No. 22-ranked and unbeaten University of Mobile (Ala.) by a final of 1-0, the Madonna University softball team bounced back to defeat Bryan College (Tenn.), 6-5, in nine innings before ending No. 6 Belhaven University (Ala.), 7-2, to close out the Crusaders' spring trip Saturday at the Gulf Coast Invitational in Gulf Shores.

MU, which now stands 9-8 overall, returns to action Fri-

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

day against St. Catharine College (Ky.) as part of the Campbellsville/Lindsey Wilson Classic (Ky.).

MU outhit host Mobile, 4-3, but it was the Rams who scored the game's only run in the bottom of the fourth using a double and a single to open the inning before a double play ball allowed a run to score.

The Crusaders threatened in both the sixth and seventh,

getting runners into scoring position in both innings, but could not push the tying run across.

Senior right-hander Hallie Minch (Garden City) gave up just three hits and no walks in six innings.

Winning pitcher Brittaney Kerr gave up just four hits, walked one and struck out three in seven innings as Mobile improved to 13-0 overall.

The Crusaders played their

first extra inning affair of the season in the day's second game, a 6-5 walk-off win over Bryan.

Minch threw the final three innings of the game to pick up her fourth win of the season.

She struck out two, walked one and allowed just one hit in relief of freshman starter Angela Pavilanis, who worked the first six innings, striking out four and not allowing

MU's Harder a hit in slugfest victory

Scoring in eight of the game's nine innings, the Madonna University baseball team tallied a season-high 20 runs and season-best 21 hits in a 20-11 victory Saturday over Grace College (Ind.) to close the team's spring trip at Chain of Lakes Park in Winter Haven, Fla.

Senior outfielder Dan Harder paced MU offensive attack, going 4-for-4 with two homers and six RBI as the Crusaders improved to 14-9 overall. Harder leads the team in hitting (.500) with five homers and 17 RBI.

Junior center fielder Alex Charles added four hits to go along with five runs scored, while senior Billy Hardin III (Livonia) went 3-for-4 with two RBI.

Junior Matthew Cook collected three hits and three RBI while earning the win in relief.

The Ontario native threw two scoreless innings, striking out a pair while allowing just one hit for this third win of the season.

MU took the lead in the first on Harder's first homer of the day, a two-run, opposite field shot to right that put the Crusaders on top 2-0.

The Crusaders added three runs in the second, another in the third and three more in the fourth to stake freshman starter Justin Hicks (to a 9-0 lead heading into the bottom of the inning).

Hicks was perfect through the first 3.1 innings, not allowing a single base runner.

But the rookie right-hander walked Dennis Kan before moving to second on a single and then moving to third on back-to-back singles before coming home with the first Grace run of the game.

MU tacked on four runs with two outs in the top of the fifth to take a commanding

COLLEGE BASEBALL

13-1 lead, but Grace answered with nine runs in the bottom of the frame, getting to Hicks for four runs on three hits.

The big blow to Hicks came on a bases-clearing error by the Crusaders that allowed three runs to score. Sophomore lefty Aaron Saarela then came in and walked the first batter he faced before hitting a batter and giving up a grand slam to Brent Easterday that made it 13-8.

A walk, three singles and a wild pitch later, Grace had scored two more times and climbed back into the game, trailing by just three, 13-10.

The Crusaders then roared back four runs in the top of the sixth to go back up 17-10.

Saarela sent the side down in order in the sixth before giving way to Cook in the seventh.

The 6-foot-4 Canadian retired the Lancers in order in the seventh and stranded a pair of runners in the eighth to keep MU comfortably in front heading into the ninth.

Junior righty Jeremy Gooding (Livonia) came in for the ninth and while giving up a run, closed the game.

Grace (1-2) had a total of 11 hits.

Hardin is second in hitting (.386) with a homer and 13 RBI; while Victor Barron (.338) is next with three homers and 15 RBI.

The Crusaders, who returned to action Tuesday with a 6-3 win at Central Michigan, are hitting .300 as a team with a 3.63 ERA.

MU opens its Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference play Saturday and Sunday at home against Aquinas College in a pair of double-headers. (Both twinbills start at 1 p.m.)

Kitz paces gymnasts at 'state'

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

This year's MHSAA Girls Gymnastics finals featured an all too familiar script.

On Friday, Grand Ledge captured the team title for the fifth consecutive year as the Comets scored 149.400 to edge Canton by 0.825 points, while host Grand Rapids Kenowa/Grandville finished third with 145.10.

On Saturday, the Comets also claimed the top three places in the Division 2 individual competition led by junior Sara Peltier, who was the all-around champion with a total of 37.275.

Lauren Clark (37.225) and sophomore Presley Allison (36.900) also placed second and third, respectively, for Grand Ledge.

Clark captured the balance beam with a 9.475, while Peltier won the bars with a 9.7.

Farmington senior Amanda Lumley improved on her 2010 Division 2 final record on floor exercise with a 9.625, while Canton sophomore Erica Lucas took the vault with a 9.55 after finishing fourth in 2011.

It marked the third season in the last five that Grand Ledge had the champion in both individual divisions.

Last year's Division 2 all-around champion, Christine Wilson, stepped up and seized the Division 1 title this time to become the first gymnast in MHSAA history to win both individual divisions. Wilson capped her



JOHN KEMSKI

Livonia Blue's Alex Kitz, a senior, was a Division 2 regional all-around champion this season and placed 14th overall in the MHSAA finals held last weekend in Grand Rapids.

high school career with a score of 38.400, including a first on the uneven parallel bars (9.7) and third places or better on all four apparatuses.

Livonia Blue senior

Alex Kitz capped her stellar career with a 14th place in the all-around (35.325) including a fifth on the uneven bars (8.975) and a tie for ninth on vault (9.225).

She also added a 21st on balance beam and a 37th on floor (8.475). "Alex came into the meet ready to go and she did great," Livonia Blue coach Lisa Broomfield said. "I am very proud of her and how much she has accomplished this season. She worked hard all season long and improve so much that she is on the high record board for floor with a 9.70."

Another Livonia Blue senior, Haley Olson, qualified for the individual finals on vault and placed 32nd with a score of 8.7.

"Haley did not have her best day, however, I am very proud of everything that she has accomplished this season," Broomfield said. "She worked hard the week before 'states' to improve her vault."

Livonia Red's Shannon Diaz, a sophomore, earned a top ten finish with a 10th on the uneven bars (8.9). Teammate Rose Prebola, also a senior, placed 21st on the balance beam (8.6).

"I am very optimistic about Shannon for the upcoming years," Livonia Red coach Kelly Grodzicki said. "She is extremely talented and works very hard at practice. I'm very proud of both Shannon and Rose."

Maggie McGowan, a junior from Churchill, was also honored with the sportsmanship medal for the Livonia Red squad.

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BOYS SWIM RESULTS

2012 MHSAA BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING STATE FINALS RESULTS
March 10-11 at EMU's Jones Natatorium

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Saline, 326.5 points; 2. Rockford, 233; 3. Birmingham Brother Rice, 176; 4. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 143; 5. Zeeland, 128.5; 6. Novi Detroit Catholic Central, 111; 7. Troy, 9.25; 8. South Lyon, 89; 9. Hudsonville, 86; 10. Saginaw Heritage, 80; 11. Livonia Stevenson, 68; 30. Westland John Glenn, 14.

AREA FINISHERS

200-yard medley relay: 1. Saline (Tom Walls, Josh Ehrman, David Boland, Michael Bundas, 1:33.87); 6. Stevenson (John Ferrara, Jake McNamara, Bradley Bielicki, Brandon Bielicki), 1:37.46.

200 freestyle: 1. Adam Whitener (Saline), 1:39.11.

200 individual medley: 1. Boland (Saline), 1:50.8; 11. Ferrara (Stevenson), 1:58.04; 30. J. McNamara (Stevenson), 2:02.1.

50 freestyle: 1. Eric Chisholm (Rockford), 20.76; 14. Brandon Bielicki (Stevenson), 22.07.

1-meter diving: 1. Dan Gironza (South Lyon), 315.15 points.

100 butterfly: 1. Boland (Saline), 49.62.

100 freestyle: 1. Whitener (Saline), 45.37; 18. Brandon Bielicki (Stevenson), 48.17.

500 freestyle: 1. Seiji Osawa (Pioneer), 4:32.22; 37. Grant McNamara (Stevenson), 5:00.42.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Rockford (Nick Dulak, Bryan Wasberg, Craig Wasberg and Chisholm), 1:24.34 (Division 1 meet record); 33. John Glenn (Cody Hodges, Dave Vader, Josh Wakeford, Joey Wakeford), 1:31.82.

100 backstroke: 1. Blake Howe (Lansing), 50.83; 3. Ferrara (Stevenson), 51.32; 5. Joey Wakeford (John Glenn), 53.66.

100 breaststroke: 1. Ehrman (Saline), 55.36 (Division 1 meet record); 10. J. McNamara (Stevenson), 59.77; 16. G. McNamara, 1:00.06 (disqualified in the B final).

400 freestyle relay: 1. Saline (Boland, Fisher, Ehrman, Whitener), 3:04.26 (Division 1 meet record); 12. Stevenson (Ferrara, G. McNamara, Alex Lee, Brandon Bielicki), 3:14.87.



JOHN HEIDER | NORTHVILLE RECORD

Stevenson's Jake McNamara finished 10th in the 100-yard breaststroke in the MHSAA Division 1 finals Saturday at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

SWIM

Continued from page B1

had struggled," Shoemaker said. "I was real happy with the outcome of sixth. Any time you get into the top eight seeds... it was a fast state meet from top to bottom."

In the 100 backstroke, Lansing's Blake Howe pulled off a mild surprise when he upended defending champion Victor Zhang of Canton with a time of 50.83. Howe came in seeded third after posting a prelims clocking of 52.55.

Zhang and Ferrara, meanwhile, placed second and third in the finals with times of 50.86 and 51.32, respectively.

"That kid (Howe) came from a Division 2 (school)," Shoemaker said. "He just wanted it more — put it that way. John (Ferrara) swam faster than he did last year. He just got tougher — kind of the way the state meet goes. That state title eludes you and you really have to go after it. This young man (Howe) went after it and he earned it."

Ferrara duplicated his

third-place finish of a year ago, while Westland John Glenn senior Joey Wakeford added fifth in 53.66 to score 14 points, improving upon his ninth-place showing in 2011.

"Once you get so fast that time drops aren't near as big," Shoemaker said. "It's harder to drop times the faster you are. When you get towards that top-end, state level, the hundreds of a second... it's difficult to drop those times."

Ferrara's future remains bright, according to the Stevenson coach.

"He (Ferrara) is the fastest returning backstroker in the state," Shoemaker said. "Now he's just has to fend off any newcomers, go faster and take a state title home."

Other Spartans scoring state meet points included Jake McNamara, 10th, 100 breaststroke (59.77); Ferrara, 11th, 200 individual medley (1:58.04); and Brandon Bielicki, 14th, 50 freestyle (22.07).

Grant McNamara also made it to the 100 breaststroke B Final, but was disqualified for a false start.

"He flinched and the

computer caught it," Shoemaker said. "Jake had a lifetime best and broke a minute in the breaststroke."

Stevenson's 400 freestyle relay team of Ferrara, Grant McNamara and Brandon Bielicki also added a 12th in 3:14.87.

Stevenson's biggest graduation losses will be Jake McNamara and Brandon Bielicki.

"We had a lot of young kids do some great time drops," Shoemaker said.

"They're on the cusp of being on a state level. We can do some damage next year if those boys train in the offseason. That's going to be the key to come back. The goal is to start the next season as fast as you left off this season. In order to do that you've got to be in shape and do some offseason training, especially at the state level of this sport you train in the offseason."

"We have some boys who can step up and be able to replace them — not easily — but they're replaceable."

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SOFTBALL

Continued from page B1

a walk.

Juniors Jackie Barley, Arielle Cox and sophomore Erin Mayes each collected two hits in the victory.

Cox delivered a walk-off double scoring Carlee Meek from second for the game-winning run in the bottom of the ninth. That came after freshman Casey Trierweiler knocked in Amber Rafko with the tying run in the eighth.

The loss dropped Bryan to 6-12 overall.

Caitlyn Keuvelaar went 2-for-5, including a homer and five RBI, while Barley and Minch each added two hits and one RBI in the upset win over Belhaven (12-6).

Minch (5-6) went all seven innings in the upset win over Belhaven as she allowed just five hits and three walks. She also helped her own cause going

2-for-4 with two runs scored.

On Friday, MU posted back-to-back 4-0 two-hitters in wins over Shorter (Ga.) and Thomas (Ga.) universities.

Pavilanis (3-2) struck out five and walked only two over seven innings over Thomas (9-13) to outduel Rachel Ivancic (3-7), who gave up two earned runs on nine hits.

Cox, Barley and Mayes each collected two hits and one RBI in the victory.

Solo homers by Mayes and Keuvelaar proved to be the difference as Minch posted the shut-out over No. 9 Shorter (15-3) as she walked three and struck out three.

Barley leads the team in hitting with a .483 average with a team-leading 14 RBI, while Cox is batting .379. Mayes is hitting .302.

Pavilanis has a team-leading 2.33 earned run average, while Minch is at 2.77.

but Cook worked out of the jam, striking out the final batter.

Harder continued his torrid hitting with three hits. Deeg was 2-for-5 with a pair of runs scored.

Madonna is idle until Saturday when it hosts Aquinas in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference double-header.

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CRUSADERS

Continued from page B1

out, but was picked off.

Cook and Hardin drew back-to-back walks before Spencer Sarel plated Cook with a single. Drew Adamec brought home a pair of insurance runs with a two-out single.

The first two CMU batters reached in the ninth,

BRIGGS

Continued from page B1

League Tournament by upending host Valparaiso in convincing fashion in the finals, 70-50.

Detroit started the season 3-8, but has gone 15-3 to finish out the regular season and conference tourney.

Quite a turnaround for a team that was struggling to overcome a key injury to starting forward Nick Minnerath, who underwent knee surgery and was lost for the season.

And to make matters worse, starting center Eli Holman was suspended for the first 10 games for an on-campus incident. He later became the Horizon League's Sixth Man of the Year.

"We started off pretty slow with some things that happened with a few players," Briggs said. "But I thought kids stayed together and the staff did a good job of scouting and putting up a good game plan for the stretch run."

The Titans went into the Horizon Tourney seeded third and caught fire with four straight wins and earn the NCAA automatic berth.

"Our goal was to always win the conference, but the main goal was to win conference tournament," Briggs said. "That was our focus and fortunately we did that."

Briggs played two seasons at Schoolcraft where he led the nation in scoring before moving on to Baylor.

He also spent time playing professionally overseas and coached high school basketball in Texas before moving back to Schoolcraft coach at his alma mater where he earned five-time State Coach of the Year honors.

He was hired by former U-D coach Perry Watson and was retained by current coach Ray McCallum after Watson retired.

"It means a lot," said Briggs, who once scored 60 points in a game as an Ocelot. "Being at School-

craft and coming here, one of my goals was to see U-D get back to the dance. And to do it in your fifth year of the program over here — where you've won 20 games in the last three seasons — it says a lot about the work that we have put in and just proud to be from Detroit and working at U-D."

Briggs, who got married during the middle of the season (Jan. 5), had numerous responsibilities this week leading up to the first-round game against the Jayhawks.

He has prepped the Titans hard to experience that CBS calls that "One Shining Moment."

"I do the defense here and working with the guards, and I'll find out just what Kansas runs offensively," Briggs said. "From there we'll try and come up with a game plan to slow them down defensively somewhat."

"I do the presses and the zone defense. I've always worked with the guards since I've been here. We do scouting and each (assistant) coach has several teams that they scout."

As the Titans watched the NCAA Selection Show Sunday night before a spirited gathering of the coaches, players and fans at Calihan Hall, Briggs reflected on how it all unfolded late in the season.

"You don't know whether it's going to happen or not," said the Detroit Benedictine High grad. "If you get hot at the right time like we did, and it happens ... it's a relief for the kids and us."

"Fortunately we won the (Horizon League) tournament and didn't have to sit there and wait to see if our number was going to be called. We didn't have to worry if we were going to be called, but where we were going to be called. That took a lot of pressure off us, the university and the City of Detroit."

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Thurston proves no match, 94-51

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

Its nickname — the Doughboys — suggests Detroit Pershing's boys basketball team is soft and cuddly.

Unfortunately for Pershing's opponents, these Doughboys have a little harder edge than the little fella from Pilsbury.

Fast, furious and fearless, Pershing had way too many weapons for Redford Thurston in Monday night's Class A regional semifinal game at Detroit Cass Tech, as it pulled away for a 94-51 victory.

The 20-3 Doughboys advanced to Wednesday's regional final against Detroit Martin Luther King, while Thurston's sterling season ended at 16-8.

Triggered by a suffocating trapping defense, the Doughboys' relentless fast-break resembled a herd of gazelles out for an afternoon run.

The Eagles hung tough early and trailed just 28-22 three minutes into the second quarter.

But Pershing started blending explosive dunks — junior Martez Walker threw down a rim-rattler early in the second quarter after taking just two steps — and a flurry of net-finding threes with a blanket defense.

BOYS HOOP

Pershing led 48-27 at the half before throwing a 35-9 knockout punch at the Eagles in the third quarter.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association mercy rule kicked in late in the third quarter after Pershing's lead grew to 40-plus. The rest of the game was played with a running clock.

"I thought we did a really nice job early, executing our press-breaker and executing our offense," Thurston head coach Brian Bates said. "I don't know if they were overlooking us or what early on, but they were unbelievable after the first quarter. That's a really, really good team."

"Once they get you to turn over the ball, they get into transition like a lightning strike. They're at the other end of the court before you know it."

Bates knew coming in it wasn't going to be easy.

"We saw film of them playing in the Public School League championship game," he said. "They lost that game (to King), but you could tell they were good."

Thurston received solid performances from junior Xzavier Bowen (15 points), sophomore Rayvlon Croon (14 points and a fourth-quarter dunk) and senior J'Sean Jones,

who capped his high school career with seven points and four rebounds. "I thought all three of those guys played well tonight," Bates said.

Pershing was paced by Sherron Dorsey Walker (24), Veyon Bentley (23) and Martez Walker, who added 15. Bentley found nylon on six of his seven 3-point shots.

With seven players 6-foot-4 or taller, Pershing dominated the rebounding department, 39-15.

Pershing drained 8-of-14 free throws. Thurston was 8-of-15 from the stripe.

Thurston committed 25 turnovers — many ending with negative results at the other end of the floor.

The Eagles connected on 15 of their 43 field-goal attempts. Pershing was 34-for-73 from the field.

The one-sided loss aside, Bates praised his team in the post-game locker room.

"Winning 16 games is a really good year," Bates said. "I really enjoyed working with this group and I told them that after the game. They got better every game. Once they started getting the hang of what we were doing, they really played well. We won seven of eight at one point."

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Cougars' Williamson steps away from boys hoop job

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

The final 32 minutes of Greg Williamson's long and illustrious high school basketball coaching career unfolded Friday night a lot like the past 20 years had: with the veteran Garden City mentor guiding a team of big-hearted, undersized players who battled to the final buzzer.

Not long after Williamson's Cougars' 53-51 down-to-the-wire setback to Redford Thurston in a Class A district final — with his players scrapping to the very end — the highly-respected coach officially announced his retirement from the profession, bringing the curtain down on 30 years of

positively shaping young men's lives.

Williamson's brother and longtime assistant coach Mike also stepped down.

"My brother and I weren't real sure if we were going to coach this year, but my fiancée (Carol Collins) encouraged me to come back for one more year," Williamson said Tuesday night, not long after his final team banquet had wrapped up. "I'm glad I came back."

Williamson said he kept his plans to retire from coaching "low profile" most of the season.

"But at our final home game (on March 2) against Southgate, they held a little ceremony for me, so the players found out then, if they didn't

know already," he said. "The thing I'll remember most about coaching here are all the players and people I've come to know. It always made me feel good when another team's coach would comment on how hard we played."

Williamson's teams captured back-to-back Class A district championships in 2000 and 2001.

"It always helps to get a 6-10 big guy who can play," Williamson said, smiling, referring to Justin Ockerman.

Williamson's steady leadership qualities and knowledge of the game will be missed, Garden City athletic director Rob Phillips emphasized.

"As a coach and as a person, Greg is near the top of the list when

it comes to people I respect," said Phillips. "Greg got everything he could get out of the players. And he treated everyone equally — whether you were the best player on the team or the 12th player on the team."

Williamson, who retired as a counselor at Garden City High School two years ago, said he and Collins plan to spend more time in Florida.

"Although I'll still be attending a lot of Garden City games," he said. "It's in my blood."

Prior to taking over at Garden City, Williamson coached at Detroit Catholic Central and Allen Park Cabrini.

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Silver medalist



Livonia's Nick Joseph (far left), an eighth-grader at St. Genevieve grade school, earned a podium finish after capturing three of four bouts en route to a silver medal in the Juvenile A 58-kilogram division at the 2012 USA Judo Scholastic National Championships held recently in Irving, Tex. The only loss for Joseph was in overtime against the eventual gold medalist from California (middle). It was the fourth national level medal in five years for Joseph, who plans to attend Novi Detroit Catholic Central High School next fall.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Pom Pon clinic

A clinic for the two-time state champion Livonia Middle School Pom team will be from 8:45 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24 at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Included in the \$25 cost is a pom clinic T-shirt.

Girls currently in grades 3-8 residing in the Livonia Public School district will learn pom basics, kick line and a full pom routine taught by the current Livonia Pom team members.

For more information, e-mail livoniapom@gmail.com.

WYAA baseball

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association baseball will be from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m.-noon Saturdays at the WYAA Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

The WYAA offers leagues for T-Ball (ages 4-6), Coach-Pitch (7-8), Mustang (9-10), Bronco (11-12), Pony (13-14), Colt (15-16) and Palomino (17-18).

Opening day is Saturday, May 12 with practices starting in early April for all teams except Colt and Palomino, which begins in June.

For Colt-Palomino information, call Keith DeMolay at (734) 722-1251.

For other information, call the WYAA (734) 421-0640.

Bowhunters

The Southeast Michigan Bowhunters Chapter Safari Club International will stage its 21st annual fund-raiser Saturday-Sunday, March 23-24, at Laurel Manor, Livonia.

The event will feature over 50 exhibitors.

For ticket information, call Richard DeLisle at (248) 345-1986; or visit www.scibowhunters.com.

For other information, call Mike Willis at (248) 709-1370; or e-mail mwilstroy@hotmail.com.

Youth baseball

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage late registration for its 2012 co-ed instructional T-ball (ages 5-6) and coach-

pitch (ages 7-8) baseball from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, March 31 at the LCRC (for Livonia and Clarenceville Public School district residents only).

Non-resident registration will begin at 9 a.m. Monday, April 1 at the LCRC's Parks and Recreation office and will run through April 30 on a first-come, first-serve basis (or until teams are filled).

Registration is open only to those residing in the Livonia or Clarenceville public school districts. Enrollment is limited to the first 640 participants in each division. Forms are available at area schools or can be picked up at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard.

The season runs from May through July with T-ball scrimmages Monday evenings and coach-pitch on Thursday evenings.

Open registration fees are \$40 (residents) and \$50 (non-residents). Late registration fees are \$50 (residents) and \$60 (non-residents).

For more information, call (734) 466-2410 (option No. 2).

Women's golf

The 10-week, 18-hole Livonia Women's Golf League will begin at 8 a.m. Thursdays starting June 21 at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

Non-residents are encouraged to join.

For more information, call Beth Nemes at (248) 473-9068; or e-mail tbw4boys@aol.com.

Stevenson pom

Tryouts for the Livonia Stevenson girls pom pon squad, open to all grades 8-11, will be from 5:30-8:30 p.m., Monday-Tuesday, April-May 30 (clinic to learn routines with kickline) and from 4:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 23, at the high school.

Please wear a plain white T-shirt, black pants and shorts, tennis shoes and bring water.

In order to try out, you must have a valid physical exam dated on or after April 15, 2011.

For more information, e-mail Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman at lhyman@livoniapublicschools.org.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

BELSLEY, LOIS

Passed away on March 10, 2012 at age 87. She was the beloved wife of the late Benjamin Belsley for 56 years. He predeceased her February 20, 2002. Loving mother of Larry (Elaine) Belsley, Linda (John) Reardon, Jeanie (Patrick) Allen, Steven (Patti) Belsley, and Sally (Ron) Blaszczyk. Dear grandmother and Great-grandmother of many adoring grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral service will be held today at the Apostolic Christian Church of Livonia Thursday March 15, 2012 at 11:00AM. Memorial donations may be made in her name to the Woodhaven Retirement Community, 29667 Wentworth, Livonia MI 48154.



ELLIS, KATHRYN JEAN

1924 - 2012. Jean would have been 88 years old on March 25. She was a sweet, caring woman who raised five children; a very kind and loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. She was the loving wife of more than 40 years of Russell W. Ellis, who predeceased her in 1986. She passed away peacefully on March 12, 2012, surrounded by family. Born in Detroit, Jean was the daughter of Allan and Mabel Hedley, who both had emigrated from Ontario, Canada. She graduated from Farmington High School in Michigan and attended nursing school in Barrie, Ontario. While there, she met Russ at Wasaga Beach, Ontario, as he was serving in the Canadian Army and based nearby. They married in Stayner, Ontario, in 1943. As the war ended, they lived for a short time in Windsor, Ontario, before moving to the Farmington area where they settled and raised their children. Jean was primarily a homemaker, though she worked for a short time as a nurse and later as a bookkeeper in Russ's real estate business. She was also a member of First United Methodist Church of Farmington since 1947. She loved spending time with family, grandchildren and friends, traveling, music and reading. She believed in the power of faith and positive thinking, as well as the value of tolerance. For more than 40 years, she enjoyed many happy and peaceful times at the family cottage at Belmont Lake, Ontario. Jean is survived by her children, Joan, Judith, William (Theresa), Robert (Lisa) and David (Eileen); sisters, Margaret Schlack and Patricia Eisenlord; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; six nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service will be held 11:00 a.m. Friday, March 16th, at the First United Methodist Church of Farmington, 33112 Grand River Ave., Farmington, MI 48336. The family will receive friends for visiting from 9:30 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. in the Markham Room of the church. In lieu of flowers, donations are suggested to First Step, firststepmi.org. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington. www.thayer-rock.com



GARRIS, GORDON G.

March 11, 2012. Age 85. Loving companion of Peggy Vella. Loving father of Gordy, Susan Irish, Gregory (Donna) Geylann, Nancy (Bill) Wilcox, Gebff (Ashley) and Gary (Charisse). Also survived by 14 grandchildren and 10 Great-grandchildren. He worked at Otis Elevator. Funeral Saturday 10 a.m. from the Chapel of L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Road, (at Ann Arbor Trail). Family will be receiving visitors Thursday 6-9 p.m. and Friday 12-9 p.m. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com



KLEKNER, MALVINA

Age 91 of Livonia. Beloved wife of the late Roland C. Loving mother of Roland S. (Olga), and Thomas. Dear grandmother of Carolyn, Christina, Danielle, and their mother Catherine. Preceded in death by her two brothers in Hungary. Malvina enjoyed friends, sewing, gardening, baking, world travel, and her cherished cat. Visitation will be held at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel 36100 5 Mile Rd. Livonia (E. of Levan) Thursday from 1-9PM with a 7PM Rosary. Funeral Friday at Holy Cross Hungarian Roman Catholic Church, Detroit, MI. In-State 10:00AM, Mass 10:30AM. Interment Holy Sepulchre Catholic Cemetery. Please share memories at Fredwoodfuneralhome.com

PERRY, ELIZABETH

Age 80, died March 9, 2012. Visitation was on March 12 at Phillips Funeral Home. Funeral March 13 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. www.phillipsfuneral.com

WRIGHT, PEARL R.

Age 89, of Hillsdale, passed away Sunday, March 11, 2012, at the McGuire Skilled Nursing Facility in Hillsdale. She was born on July 14, 1922 in Hillam, Tennessee to William & Ova (Dale) Bilyeu. She was married August 7, 1948 to Gerald L. Wright and he preceded her in death Nov. 11, 1993. Pearl retired in 1949 from the Ford Motor Company. She was a graduate of Dearborn High School. She was the wife of the original, "Rosie the Riveter's". In her younger years she enjoyed swimming, dancing and bowling with her sisters. In her later years Pearl enjoyed bingo, gardening, painting and talking politics. Surviving are three children, Pamela (Gregory) Podsiad of Osseo and Sandra (Michael) Gee of Livonia and Gerald (Glenna) Wright Jr. of Merkle, Texas; 13 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and 1 great great-grandchild also survive. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, a son James and a daughter Patricia Diane, 3 sisters and 2 brothers. Funeral services for Pearl Wright will be Wednesday, March 14, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., at the VanHorn-Eagle Funeral Home in Hillsdale with Dr. Daniel Pann, officiating. Interment will take place at South Lyon Cemetery in South Lyon, Michigan Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. The family will receive friends for visitation Tuesday evening from 6-8 p.m., at the funeral home. Memorial contributions are suggested to the American Cancer Society. www.eaglefuneralhomes.com.



TATUM, JOANNE MAE

March 10, 2012 age 81 of Canton. Loving wife of the late William Edward. Dear mother of Diane (Bill) Dowlin, Scott (Gail) and Randy (Tammy). Proud grandmother of Erin, Jordan and Erika. Funeral service Friday 1 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 West Ann Arbor Road (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Visitation Thursday 3-9 PM at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Arbor Hospice, American Cancer Society or The Michigan Humane Society. To share memories please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

STEINLAUF, EDWARD

79 of Bartow, FL passed away on Saturday, March 10, 2012. A native of Michigan he moved to Bartow in 1997 after retiring. Edward was a Army Korean War Veteran. He was preceded in death by his wife Margaret and he is survived by Debra Medland (Thomas) and Elaine Jennings (John). Three grandchildren Jason Claypoole (Jessica), Brian Jennings and Lindsay Jennings. The remains of Edward and his wife Margaret are being placed at rest at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whiddenmcleanfuneralhome.com



HOOVER, ADA ILENE "ADALENE"

Age 96, March 9, 2012. Beloved wife of the late William Hoover. Loving mother of Vickie (Sam) Smoker and Joyce (Doug) Wells. Dear grandmother of Jeremy (April), Joe (Nicole) and Daniel (Jennifer). Great-grandmother of Lucas, Ella and Zoe. Interment was held at Parkview Memorial Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will be held. Contact Joyce for details. Memorial donations may be directed to Samaritan's Purse International Relief. Please share a memory at www.rgrharris.com

JACOBS, BETTY J.

Of Wayne March 10, 2012 age 90. Beloved wife of the late George K. Loving mother of Doreen (the late William) Roe, John (Marilyn) and Deborah Gillette. Dearest grandmother of Stacy Gillette and Mark Thurber. Dear great-grandmother of Anabelle Davis. A memorial gathering will be held Saturday, March 17th from 1:00 until 3:00 at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood St. Westland. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhtfh.com.

In memory of



Happy 31st Birthday, Brian

March 16, 1981
We love and miss you very much.
Love, Your family



COLEMAN, Thomas M.

Age 67, of Westland, MI, passed away March 13th, son of Malcolm and Margaret Coleman. He married Paula Coleman (Taylor) Sept. 24th, 1967 and she survives. He is also survived by two sons, Donald Thomas (Michelle) Coleman and Sean Patrick (Angela) Coleman; his grandchildren: Kyle Thomas, Thomas Paul, Carrie Ann; one sister: Sharon (Orval) Flick, many nieces, nephews and his faithful dog Buba. He was preceded in death by his parents and one son Ronald. Arrangements at Purse Funeral Home, Adrian, MI. Viewing and funeral service will be held at St. Simon & Jude Catholic Church, Westland, MI. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

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<p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200</p> <p>Mass Schedule: First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m. Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills www.orchardumc.org 248-626-3620</p> <p>Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter</p>	<p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9801 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Meridian & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494</p> <p>Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am</p> <p>Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs</p>	<p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 www.christoursavior.org</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phnrp 734-513-8413</p> <p>Staffed Nursery Available</p> <p>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden 734-522-6830</p>
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<p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1625 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>	<p>WARD CHURCH 4000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48188 248-374-7400 www.wardchurch.org</p> <p>Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.</p> <p>The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p>	<p>St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School 17810 Farmington Road Livonia (734) 261-1360</p> <p>WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 8:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org</p>
<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</p>	<p>CONGREGATIONAL</p>	<p>OPEN ARMS CHURCH Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Children's Programs Available Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248.474.0001 Meet our New Pastor Grady Jensen & Assoc. Pastor Abe Fazzini 33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Meridian Across from Jack's Produce 248.471.5282</p>	<p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom - Fellowship Rev. Mary E. Biedron Senior Minister</p>

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Karen Marzolf at 313-222-2214 or e-mail: kmarzolf@hometownlife.com

Celebrate Irish culture with food, music, dance

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

More than 40 dancers and 20 musicians will keep toes tapping and hands clapping for nine hours at the 27th annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest in Westland.

"We've got five fiddlers; banjo, flutes, harp, piano, pipes. We've all played together for years. A lot of them are my former students. They're in college and are coming home to play," said Mick Gavin, musician, fiddle teacher and the Redford resident who founded the annual gathering.

"The whole thing has blossomed over the years into this production. We really don't have a set program. It's word of mouth — you're up in a half hour or you'll be on at 4:30 p.m. or the step dancers are coming, so we need a piano player and a couple of fiddlers on. It's not as complicated as one might think. We're all very familiar with each other. It's more comfortable there than in a crowded pub. There's a big dance floor, a big stage, and no drunks. It's totally different."

Gavin is proud of the family-friendly atmosphere at the event, which will start at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 17 at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, east of Newburgh, Westland.

"I wanted to have a cultural day for children and families. It's just a great family day. It's for the community."

A cash bar will be available, but plenty of food will be served, too. The menu includes Emer-



Holland Raper will be among the musicians at the 27th annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest in Westland.

27TH ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY IRISH FEST

What: A music, food and dance celebration of Irish culture

When: 3 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, March 17

Where: Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, east of Newburgh, Westland

Details: Irish traditional musicians, singers and dancers; cash bar and Irish food available for purchase

Admission: \$10 at the door; children 14 and under admitted free

ald Isle favorites such as corned beef sandwiches, dinners and Irish stew, along with hot dogs and pizza.

Dancers, fiddlers

Dancers from Ardan Academy of Irish Dance and O'Hare School of Irish Dance in Plymouth will perform. Siblings and dance champions,



Members of Crossroads Ceili perform last December at The Ark in Ann Arbor. They'll play traditional Irish songs this Saturday in Westland.

Brian and Megan McParland, who now also teach dance, will be on hand.

"Holland Raper," from the Berklee School in Boston (Mass.) will be there. Holland is one of my former students. Since she was 9, I went to her home and taught her for four hours every week in one sitting, which is unusual for a 9- or 10-year-old," Gavin said. "I would ask, 'Are you tired?' And she'd say no."

In addition to Raper and Gavin on fiddle, Gavin's son Michael will play fiddle and banjo and his wife, Colleen will play flute, whistle and Irish pipes. Other musi-

cians will include Kelsey Lutz on fiddle, Lance Wagner on fiddle, Balladeer Eddie McGlinchey with vocals, guitarist Column Paige, Ray Maguire with vocals and guitar, the Dolowy family of Plymouth with fiddle and dancing, Cape Breton pianist Tom MacNeil and his son, Callum on Highland pipes.

"They enjoy the camaraderie of being on the big stage," Gavin said, referring to the musicians.

Planning a party

For several years before he founded the annual St. Patrick's Day event, Gavin began

building an audience for Irish music by inviting musicians to play concerts locally.

"I used to get phone calls in November and December trying to book me for St. Patrick's Day. 'Could you come out and play some tunes?' I finally said, 'Listen, why not get a hall and get all these musicians together and have a St. Patrick's Day party?'"

"Twenty-seven years later we have St. Patrick's Day (Irish Fest)," Gavin said. "It's in a big hall that holds 1,000. The retirees come in around 3 p.m. to see the dancing and hear music. Families come in around 5-6 p.m.

They like to eat first and then let the kids dance around and watch the dancers."

Musicians will play from 3-4:30, followed by dance performances that are scheduled to end at approximately 9:30 p.m. Musicians will take the stage again and play until midnight.

Musicians will play traditional favorites, take requests and even sing *Happy Birthday* if anyone in the audience is celebrating.

A raffle also will be held to raise funds for Ardan Academy dancers who plan to compete in world competition this year.

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Art

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Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, through April 13; meet-the-artist reception, 6-9 p.m. Monday, March 19
 Location: In the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
 Details: Unique, edgy paper dress creations made of entirely recycled materials by artist Matt Richmond. Richmond's materials vary from plastic Kroger bags to Target holiday wrapping paper. The exhibit also features a wide array of fashion images by various photographers, starring Richmond's designs
 Contact: (248) 473-1856



Paper dresses by Matt Richmond are on display through April 13 in Farmington Hills.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays
 Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit
 Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission
 Exhibits: Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010, an exhibit of 50 photos through April 8; Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection of drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs through March 18
 Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org



Devil's Night Dames captain Yo-Yo, greets fans at Masonic Temple in Detroit. Her team will take on reigning champion roller derby team, the Detroit Pistoffs, Saturday, March 17.

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Through March 23
 Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
 Details: Call for entries for the 4th Annual West of Center All-Media Show. Applications with jpgs on CDs must be hand-delivered or shipped to the Northville Art House to arrive by March 23. Applications are available on the Art House website at www.northvillearts.org. The show will open June 1
 Current exhibit: Anarchy of the Line; Drawing Comes of Age features works by 14 artists, through March 24.
 Contact: (248) 344-0497 or e-mail to arthouseoffice@northvillearts.org

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, through May 20
 Location: University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State, Ann Arbor
 Details: "Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life," includes more than 100 works by major artists, such as Yoko Ono, Nam June Paik and George Maciunas; admission is free.
 Contact: (734) 764-0395

Benefit

LSO TEA

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, March 18
 Location: Livonia Marriott Inn, located between Newburgh and I-275 off Six Mile, Livonia
 Details: First annual tea event to celebrate the "wearing of the green" with great food, fun, prizes and Irish music. Tickets are \$30 and benefit the Livonia Symphony Orchestra. Reservations due Thursday, March 25
 Contact: www.livoniasymphony.org; (734) 522-1687

Hear pirate tunes at barbershop chorus show

Harmony Town Chorus will pillage and plunder its way in song across the seven seas, 3 p.m., Sunday, March 25 at Thurston High School, 26255 Schoolcraft, Redford.

The buccaneer-themed "A Pirate's Life," concert will feature a play set to music as the Chorus sings pirate songs, hunts for buried treasure and finds a safe harbor where they can end their journey.

Ebb 'N' Flow, the 2011 District Quartet champions, and Harmony Town's quartet, Impulse, also will perform.

Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door.

The price to "board" our Barbershop voyage are just 13 dollars advance, 15 dollars at the door. Buy online at wesingbarbershop.com or call (734) 743-1764.



Tony Pyrkosz (left), Paul Michalik, Frank Adams, and Don Bohnwagner get into the spirit of their upcoming concert, "A Pirate's Life," Sunday, March 25, in Redford.

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*Purchase 1 adult entree to get 1 FREE Kids meal (off kids menu)
1 coupon per visit • Can not be combined
*May get 1 free child's meal with each adult entree purchased
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• Homemade Soup Made Daily
St. Patrick's Day Special
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LENT SPECIAL
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Friday 11am - 11pm
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Fridays The Area's Best Karaoke 9:30 pm
Saturday, Mar. 17 Sounds of Motown with D-Tour 9:30 pm

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CITY BITES

Bon appétit

FARMINGTON HILLS — The staff and students of Oakland Community College's Culinary Studies Institute will prepare an "April in Paris" dinner Thursday, April 5, at OCC's Orchard Ridge Campus, located on Orchard Lake Road just south of I-696. The six-course meal highlights French foods and wine and will begin with passed hors d'oeuvres at 6 p.m. A cash bar also will be featured. Tickets are \$60 per person. The event will feature entertainment typical of a French bistro and the Culinary Studies Institute Bakery will be open, offering French pastries to take home, or enjoy on site. Participants may "dress to impress" (men in ties, and women in pearls) in their favorite French attire, including berets. Get a ticket order form at www.oaklandcc.edu/culinary, or by calling Maureen Gilbert at (248) 522-3700. Checks should be made out to Oakland Community College.

Vegan chef

WEST BLOOMFIELD — Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital will offer a vegan cooking class with Chef George Vutetakis, executive chef at Garden Fresh Gourmet, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, in the demonstration kitchen at the hospital, 6777 W. Maple. Registration will close 72 hours before the start of class. Cost is \$19. The class will feature recipes from Vutetakis' *Vegetarian Traditions: Favorite Recipes from My Years at the Legendary Inn Season Café* cookbook. Vutetakis, who learned to cook in his Greek grandmother's kitchen, doesn't try to imitate meat in his cooking but instead focuses on fruits, vegetables, whole grains, nuts and beans. He works with local organic farmers, whom he credits as the heroes behind the creation of his sustainable, healthy cuisine. To register or for more information call (248) 325-3890, or e-mail dk@hfhfs.org.

Wine tasting

LIVONIA — Learn to guess what's in the glass using all your senses at a wine tasting at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 29 at d.vine wines, 17386 Haggerty. You'll learn about terrier, grape varieties, growing regions, and how winemaking techniques can affect how the wine presents itself. Cost is \$15 per person; \$10 for Wine Club members. Call (734) 432-3800 for reservations; www.dvinefinewines.com.

Preaching the wonders of coffee

By Dan Dean
Staff Columnist

I am a believer. I once was lost, but now am saved from the lousy coffee syndrome that has taken a firm hold on the psyche of our fast-paced, have to have everything on the go, society.



Coffee Preacher

Dan Dean

I am here to preach the virtues of quality coffee. Maybe it's the fact that I am starting down at my 50th birthday and

I am tired of the push for more and more — whether in food portions or drink sizes. I would rather spend more money for real quality in smaller portions. And this is most evident in the coffee I choose to drink.

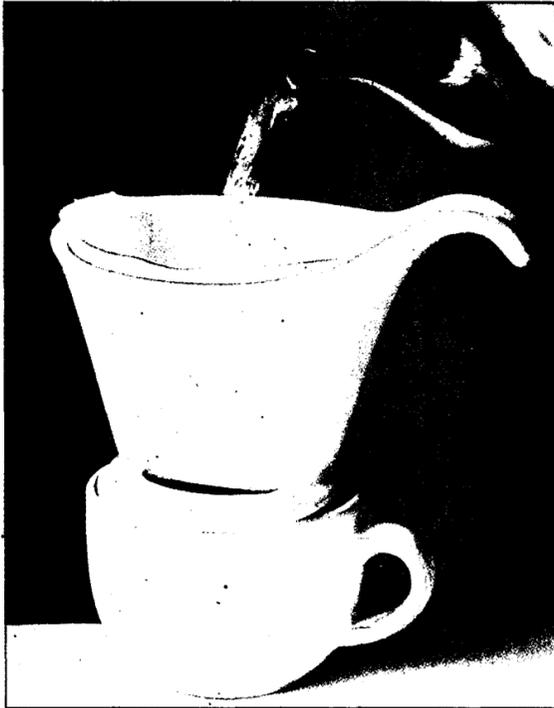
Like most people who make life-changing adjustments, I was near the bottom. Oh sure, those around me thought that I was in coffee heaven. I owned my own coffee shop and had access to all the coffee and espresso one could drink. And while on the outside I had a beautiful, supportive wife and three amazing kids — and one killer coffee shop — inside I had a stirring deep in my soul. I knew that there had to be better coffee.

Let the blind see

I had read about the comparisons of coffee to wine and on the surface it sounded plausible — both wine and coffee are made from an agricultural crop. And as I had read, the very nuances that give grapes their distinct flavor profiles that show up in wine — things like soil quality, altitude, climate and processing methods — all can be identified in coffee beans.

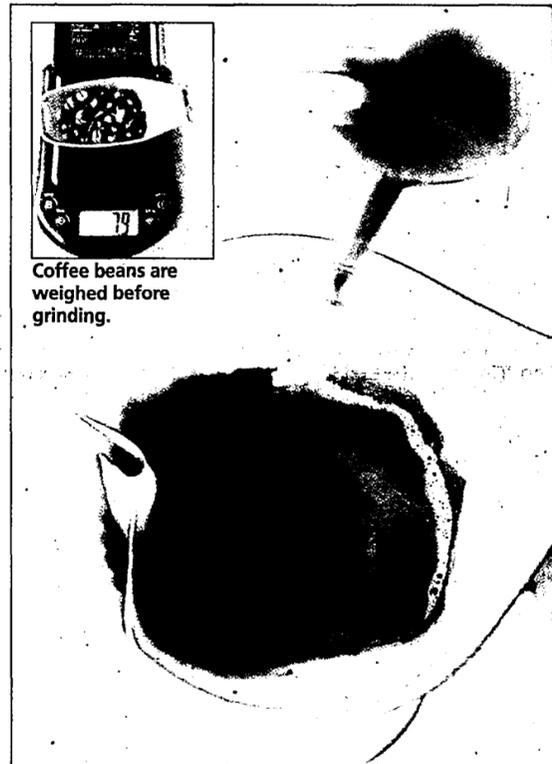
I was still a skeptic, until another recovering photojournalist/coffee guy sent me a pound of coffee that opened my eyes. With alleluias ringing in my head, I sipped the pure blissfulness that originated from a farm in Panama. That coffee from Jeff Taylor at PT's Coffee in Topeka, Kan., is the one that I now blame for occasional impulse purchases of \$25 and even up to \$50 for a half-pound of coffee.

The reality is — in the long run — to truly appreciate and savor coffee can



PHOTOS BY DAN DEAN

Using coffee from a local roaster less than a week old, a small 4-oz. cup, filtered water and a single brewing device like the Bee House ceramic dripper pictured above is a wonderful way to appreciate all coffee has to offer in flavor and aroma.



Coffee beans are weighed before grinding.

Crafting one small cup of coffee at a time using fresh roasted and fresh ground coffee, is a sensory overload well worth the few minutes it takes to brew.

be a cost savings, especially if you are accustomed to parting with \$4 or \$5 for a sugary 24-ounce concoction that has little resemblance to the agricultural product.

Walk the road less traveled

My journey started long ago, when I gave up the can for Eight O'clock whole

bean coffee from A&P ground at home in a \$10 grinder. But it was when I became aware of the care and hard work it takes to produce coffee that I truly started to walk the walk. The coffee we drink — except for the kind still sold as ground coffee in a can — is the seed of cherries grown at a high altitude, requiring the cherries to be picked and sorted by hand. There are different methods of removing the pulp to reveal the seed, which ultimately is the coffee bean, that is mostly a manual process as well, depending on the method used.

It is a labor of love and hard work for farmers trying to eke out a living for their families. But there are roasters like my friend Jeff Taylor who are working directly with farmers to produce better crops and hence a contract to pay a higher price for beans. These Direct Trade relationships are making a better life for the producers and a better cup for consumers.

There is something special that happens when the correct weight of beans — ground just right — is united with the correct weight of filtered 201.5-degree water. The combination produces a mouth-watering aroma from pungent steam resulting in a beautiful, creamy, sweet, slurry of goodness. It may take a leap of faith to start your walk along a path to appreciating a smaller quantity of quality coffee — but the payoff in the end is likely more money in your pocket and more money for coffee farmers.

Unravel the mystery

It is a miracle to behold and worth the leap of faith that will unlock your senses to a new way of thinking about coffee.

Next month: *Think I am crazy for spending \$50 on a bag of coffee? I am not the only one.*

Dan Dean, assistant managing editor of presentation for the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers, is a former independent coffee shop owner. He can be reached by e-mail at ddean@hometownlife.com.

Find a premium pour at the local watering hole

The cover story of the latest installment of *Draft Magazine* highlights the 100 Best Beer Bars in America. The Midwest district is well represented by Michigan establishments worthy of the coveted award. Many are located outside the distribution of this paper but still worth a visit for those seeking beer enlightenment further than the front porch. The Hop Cat in Grand Rapids comes highly recommended for those looking for premium pours with a casual vibe.

The premise behind Beer Tracker is to bring attention to what many consider the best beer in the world, and more importantly where these selections can be obtained locally. Piqued with enough interest, a visit to the local liquor store would be warranted by



Beer Tracker

Nate Parsons

the reader, then back home for a private tasting. Although enjoying a world class beverage in the comfort of home has benefits, venturing out to the local watering hole has its upside.

Navigating today's drinking landscape for those looking for a premium pour is a hit or miss proposition with no guarantees. While there is no silver bullet to satisfy all, there are those who make a conscious effort to cater to the beer enthusiast.

Hermann's Olde Town Grille - Plymouth

Hermann's is considered by most the quintessential neighborhood pub, the type of place that demonstrates the "social lubricity" a couple of good pints can facilitate. Someday it will become desirable and even fashionable for every town to have a local neighborhood pub. Until then, Hermann's will have to suffice. Not known for an extensive tap line, Franziskaner; a traditional German Hefe-Weisse brewed



by Spaten Brau always is present. Upon delivery the body is cloudy orange, as hints of lemon, honey, and clove scents drift from the glass. Taste is citrusy and refreshing, perfect for the summer but enjoyed year around.

Pizzeria Biga - Farmington Hills

The idea of beer and pizza starts the mouth watering like

punch at 9% ABV. The robust flavor yet silky delivery is an intoxicating tonic for those looking to graduate from a traditional Guinness.

Ashley's Pub - Westland

Boasting 101 beers, Ashley's is the place when looking for sheer quantity and quality. Truly a world class selection from local product to premium sippers from abroad. The draught line changes daily with rotating Belgium, US Craft, Michigan Craft, and Beer of the Month selections. Piraat, a Belgium IPA from Brouwerij Van Steenberge is a mainstay on tap. Served in the proper glassware Piraat shimmers smoky orange with a snowy white head. Layers of bready malts and citrus wash the mouth and exit with a crisp finish. A slice of heaven in our own backyard.

Just a few of my favorites! Tell me yours? Cheers!

Nate Parsons can be contacted at mdevin@yahoo.com

Home Expo pros see rebound in economy

By Julie Brown
O&E Staff Writer

Jason Benward of Canton is remodeling manager for Horton Plumbing & Remodeling of Plymouth, and among some 135 vendors at the 11th annual Canton Home Expo March 3-4. He and other business people were seeing plenty of potential customers those days at the Summit on the Park in Canton.

"The 'age in place,' we call it," said Benward, who cites taller toilets and step-in shower replacements for older people who wish to stay in their homes.

"And they're maintenance-free, which is nice," he said of the upgrades. "There's no grout or caulk."

Benward said sales are up, "especially in Canton. Canton right now is booming, which is great. We love serving Canton." His business dates back to 1985.

The annual expo, which draws some 5,000-6,000 over a Saturday and Sunday, is sponsored by Canton Township, the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

Lee Brees, general manager of Colonial Heating & Cooling in Plymouth, was also pleased with expo traffic for his first visit to the event.

"It's been very nice," said Livonia resident Brees, whose business started 13 years ago. "Traffic has been good."

He noted a lot of people still can't move from their homes easily, so they fix them up. Rebates and tax credits brought him past business.

"We are seeing a different kind of business coming up," said Brees, who agreed some people buy-



The Canton Home Expo draws a big crowd each year of those eager to learn about home improvement options.

ing bank-owned homes need work done on those.

Projects in mind

Jennifer and Allen Williams of Canton were first-time visitors to the Home Expo. The homeowners had just arrived.

"We have some ideas," said Allen Williams, who with his wife has two dogs and a cat. They've been in their home six years.

"We haven't done any major work, just general upkeep," he said. They may replace floors in the kitchen/dining areas, as well as updating the bath and the kitchen counters.

"Just checking it out right now," he said. "It's literally five minutes down the road."

Nearby was Shawn Brown of N.A. Mans



Canton Township staffers answer questions on building and inspections during the recent Home Expo.

Building Center of Canton and Trenton, family-owned since 1900. They

do the Canton show most years, the Downriver resident said.

"Things are picking up," Brown said. "People are anxious for spring, I think. They seem to be fixing up what they have."

When asked about the recession ending, Brown said, "I hope so, definitely hope so."

Jason Breneman of Troy was representing Everdry Waterproofing of Sterling Heights at the Summit. "People aren't buying new houses, they're fixing them up," Breneman said.

Those who buy fixers-uppers need work done as well, said Breneman, whose employer's been in business since 1977. He said the recession is "possibly" over.

'Coming back'

Todd Kroll of Birmingham owns Kroll Construc-

tion of Garden City, in business 51 years. "It's been excellent, it's been good," he said of business. "It's coming back. A lot of interest early in the year."

His customers are looking at bath remodeling, roofing, siding, "a little bit of everything. They're looking to fix up their homes."

Kroll credits a "phenomenal referral program" of word of mouth, supplemented with other promotional efforts, in the business' longevity.

"Our past customers keep us going," he said. "That's how my dad built the business."

John Weyer, Canton building official, was a busy man at the two-day expo. It started as a one-day event and grew, said Weyer, a Canton resident.

Some 135 vendors come, mostly from southeast Michigan. "We've even had them come from as far as Ohio," Weyer said.

Some vendors have attended yearly since the start. Customers have projects in mind and can get answers.

"They can come out and within a couple hours go through the show," he said. Free admission's also a draw, and vendors pay less than at other shows.

The Home Depot sponsors workshops for kids. The Detroit Carpenters Council was outside raffling off benches.

Weyer said the expo helps businesses, residents and township officials interested in code enforcement.

"So it's just a win-win. It's just very positive," he said. "We're happy to see the new housing starts," he added, noting many others wish to stay put and upgrade homes.

jcrown@hometownlife.com

HOMES SOLD-REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS/WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 28 to Dec. 2, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
1515 Aberdeen St	\$140,000
39474 Cherry Hill Rd	\$120,000
50221 Cherry Hill Rd	\$87,000
41569 Conner Creek Dr	\$201,000
624 Constitution St	\$158,000
1939 Echo Woods Dr	\$253,000
7198 Fox Woods Dr	\$232,000
50036 Grant St	\$220,000
2240 Hogan Way	\$169,000
42135 Hystone St	\$110,000
46510 Killarney Cir	\$175,000
45639 Morningside Dr	\$272,000

228 Patriot St	\$187,000
1952 Pebble Creek Dr	\$133,000
47575 Pembroke Dr	\$80,000
44555 Penny Ct	\$155,000
2458 River Woods Dr N	\$235,000
263 S Village Way	\$75,000
42237 Saratoga Cir	\$137,000
6165 Stonetree Dr	\$134,000
454 Sylvan Dr	\$405,000
6844 Woodmere Dr	\$220,000

GARDEN CITY	
31704 Bridge St	\$90,000
32601 Windsor St	\$83,000

LIVONIA	
33086 Allen St	\$110,000
9646 Arcola St	\$75,000
14637 Arden St	\$32,000
36218 Barkley St	\$123,000
16653 Fairway St	\$125,000
17960 Floral St	\$34,000
16472 Golfview St	\$230,000
9014 Hartel St	\$40,000

9331 Hix Rd	\$21,000
9794 Houghton St	\$58,000
29168 Jacquelyn Dr	\$70,000
33182 Martin St	\$145,000
15579 Oak Dr	\$160,000
15672 Oporto St	\$132,000
9434 Patton St	\$75,000
37877 Pickford Dr	\$195,000
18518 Queensbury Dr	\$297,000
14929 Richfield St	\$120,000
37319 Seabrook Dr	\$305,000
19487 Whitby Dr	\$183,000

NORTHVILLE	
16865 Carriage Way	\$112,000
417 Dubuar St	\$398,000
16587 Dundalk Ln	\$275,000
50635 Hawthorne Ct	\$345,000
41309 Lagoon Ct	\$99,000
17212 Lake View Cir	\$310,000
45529 Pebble Beach Ct	\$450,000
39830 Rockcrest Cir	\$104,000

PLYMOUTH

551 Adams St	\$207,000
761 Ann St	\$60,000
12488 Howland Park Dr	\$438,000
46850 N Territorial Rd	\$562,000
40514 Newport Dr	\$50,000
14319 Northville Rd	\$135,000
968 Penniman Ave	\$635,000
375 Roe St	\$220,000
1199 S Sheldon Rd	\$40,000
1348 Sheridan St	\$235,000
50495 Waterstone Ct	\$349,000
15054 Willowbrook Ln	\$214,000

REDFORD	
12822 Brady	\$58,000
14063 Breakfast Dr	\$129,000
9935 Hemingway	\$52,000
19149 Kinloch	\$44,000
26501 Lyndon	\$55,000
13520 Marion	\$43,000
14111 Mercedes	\$59,000
10029 Royal Grand	\$40,000

12841 Tecumseh	\$45,000
14371 Wormer	\$60,000

WESTLAND	
2047 Ackley Ave	\$12,000
31757 Arenac Ct	\$20,000
1637 Ashby St	\$50,000
37577 Barkridge Cir	\$35,000
32714 Benson Dr	\$82,000
32725 Birchwood St	\$36,000
30603 Burlington St	\$64,000
35920 Fernwood St	\$91,000
1554 Flynn St	\$19,000
29129 Joy Rd	\$10,000
815 Judith St	\$115,000
35191 Melton St	\$55,000
8305 Opal Dr	\$30,000
35535 Pheasant Ln	\$73,000
38048 Sherwood St	\$22,000
35123 Stacy St	\$25,000
27700 Trailbrooke Cir	\$34,000

HOMES SOLD-REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS/OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 21-25, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BIRMINGHAM	
212 Puritan Ave	\$550,000
411 S Old Woodward Ave Unit	

BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
4895 Franklin Rd	\$225,000
6702 Cathedral Dr	\$156,000
5507 Farmers Ln	\$265,000
1847 Golf Ridge Dr	\$390,000
2388 Klingensmith Rd	\$320,000
5495 Shadow Ln	\$22,000

COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
4700 Botany Gln	\$30,000
5618 Deerwood	\$241,000
3260 Melmoor St	\$73,000

FARMINGTON	
33615 Hillcrest Dr	\$55,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

37814 Blossom Ln	\$185,000
34645 Brittany Dr	\$248,000
33449 Colfax Dr	\$77,000
27654 E Echo Vly	\$40,000
34743 Huntington Ct	\$775,000
23040 Montclair St	\$57,000
28400 Rockcrest Rd	\$90,000
29760 Sierra Point Cir	\$125,000
29860 W 12 Mile Rd	\$31,000

FRANKLIN	
30500 Rosemond Dr	\$148,000

NOVI

45565 Bristol Cir	\$288,000
21403 Chase Dr	\$429,000
41691 Magnolia Ct	\$90,000
23310 Meadowbrook Rd	\$119,000
302 South Lake Dr	\$150,000

SOUTH LYON

23665 Country Club Dr	\$110,000
54901 Grenelefe Cir W	\$304,000
54907 Grenelefe Cir W	\$50,000

52528 Trailwood Dr	\$125,000
52528 Trailwood Dr	\$2,000

SOUTHFIELD

27100 Harvard Rd	\$63,000
28402 Idensbrook Ct	\$190,000
18455 Kesh St	\$48,000
17176 Melrose St	\$50,000
30058 Sparkleberry Dr	\$255,000

WHITE LAKE

8835 Cove Ct	\$175,000
9105 Steephollow Dr	\$185,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real Estate Career Seminar

A free Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 15, at Keller Williams Realty 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100 Plymouth. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mort-

gages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

New face

RE/MAX Classic welcomes aboard veteran Realtor Shangrila Seawright to the Can-



Shangrila Seawright

ton office. Seawright (Shay) joins the group of professional associates as an associate Realtor of the multi-office southeast Michigan real estate brokerage.

Seawright specializes in residential and commercial sales and brings with her a strong background in bank-owned and investment properties.

"Shangrila is a wealth of knowledge in residential investment properties in

Western Wayne and Oakland counties," said broker/owner Carol Boji. "Her high level of energy and enthusiasm is a welcome addition to our office and our firm. We are very happy to have her join us."

On Facebook

RE/MAX has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers for their real estate questions from RE/MAX experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKREMAX and get clear, expert answers in real time. Visit www.facebook.com/

ASKREMAX.

Finance Seminar

Learn how to finance your purchase and rehab projects in and around Detroit. Hear from an expert in the lending business, Trent Dalrymple, who has more than 25 years of experience. Real estate and investment professionals are welcome. Seating is limited so call (248) 547-3006, or sign up at www.metro-mi.com. These free one-hour seminars will be 6-7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month at Metro Mortgage Investments, 26711 Woodward Ave., Suite 301, Huntington Woods.

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Household Items
Cash/MC/VISA
Bank Debit Cards
No Checks
Doors Open 6pm
Joe Carli,
Professional
Auction Service
734.451.7444
jcauctions.com

Estate Sales

Another Bernard Davis Estate Sale 313-837-1993
March 16-17, 8:45am-4pm
19301 Burlington Dr. Detroit
48203 off of W. 7 Mile Rd.
btwn. Woodward & Livernois
Ave. go to estate.com for
more info. SEE YOU THERE!

Estate Sale Filming for HGTV's Cash & Cari

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Mason Sward & Furniture
23550 Wesley St.
Farmington MI 48335
Mar 16-17th, 10-5pm
<http://reporposstate.com>
248.719.8332

NORTHVILLE ESTATE SALE:

March 17, 10-5pm & March
18, 12-5pm. Sewing machine,
crown, rug hooking, knitting,
embroidery, etc. Christmas
decor & household items.
18157 Docksey, off 7 Mile.

NORTHVILLE ESTATE SALE:

1188 Concord Ct. Lexington
Commons, 8 Mile/Taft. Thurs-
Sat, March 15-17, 9-5pm.
Like new cond. furniture, lg
glass curio cabinet, entertain-
ment centers, floor lamps,
fishing equip, golf clubs, 2 HP
outboard motor, shelving &
storage units. Cash only!
248-449-6077

Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON: St. Thomas a Becket Church Mom to Mom Sale, Sat. Mar. 17, 9am-noon. Early Bird at 8:30am. Strollers welcome after 10am. Over 90 tables & large item room. 555 S. Lilley Rd. \$1-\$2 E.B.

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\$175. 248-444-8942

Electronics/Audio/Video

HITACHI 42" FLAT SCREEN PLASMA TV: Ultra vision digital, excellent condition, \$325. Call: 248-207-8846

Hay, Grain, Seed

HAY FOR SALE \$3-\$4/BALE
Delivery avail
734-776-0912; 734-572-9314

Lawn, Garden & Snow Equipment

Lawn Mower-Toro LX426 riding mower, 3 yrs old, 42" deck w/catcher. 20 hp. Exc cond. \$1100/best. 734-326-3717

Musical Instruments

PIANO
Kimball Console Piano - ca. 1974. Original owner. Excellent condition. \$450.00 248-613-4684

Tools

TOOLS- Lg selection of heavy & light duty tools. Too numerous to mention. Retired master mechanic. 248-437-0612

Wanted to Buy

WANTED - COLLECTIBLES:
Fire arms & knives.
Call Richard 248-767-1579

WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle & related items. Also old boat motors. Call Bill: (734) 890-1047

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CATS - FIXED
Need love.
Call: (248) 738-4901

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STANDARD POODLES - AKC
Parti colored, intelligent, mellow, ready to go!
248.636.5133

YORKIE PUPPIES - 2
3 beautiful miniatures - 2 females, 1 male, ready in 3 weeks. Call: (989) 965-5122

Farm Animals/Livestock

CHICK DAY MAY 2ND
GRAND RIVER FEED
TAKING ORDERS THRU
MARCH 31ST
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JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted-General

MEMBER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
Southfield, MI
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ASPHALT LABORER
Needed, exp. required.
Copeland Paving.
Call: (248)305-6020

TRUCK DRIVER-Experienced
CDL CLASS A. Asphalt experience preferred. Copeland Paving. 248-305-6020

HAIRSTYLIST NEEDED
Busy, Top 50 Fantastic Sams in the Country.
We bring in the guests.
Plymouth: 313-350-3138

Facilities Generalist/Technician

Livonia, MI
Must have at least one year experience in building maintenance with High School diploma or GED. Greater experience is a plus. Salary commensurate with experience. Reply to resumes@facilitieslisters.org Job# 2012-4

DIRECT CARE STAFF

FT, benefits, afternoons, midnights, \$8.50/hr. Exp. required. Novi area: (248) 636-2461

LEGAL SECRETARY

Oakland County Law Firm seeks Legal Secretary with a minimum of 5 years law office experience. Must be highly organized, detail-oriented, accurate with MS Office and able to work in a fast paced environment. Minimum 4 days per week. Legal and negotiable benefits available. Fax resume to Attn: Kelly at (248) 646-7747. Email: kelly@gaggoslawfirm.com

LICENSED LIFE AGENT

If your current life license is not earning you at least \$1200/week, you need to call Mary. More information on a dynamic opportunity. Call: (734) 216-9921

PLANT WORKER:

Able to lift 50 lb. Apply within: Guernsey Dairy Processing Plant, 21300 Novi Rd. Northville, MI 48167

STOCK GROCERIES

2 Full-Time Positions
BAKERY, 2 Part-Time
Positions and
CAKE DECORATOR
Position. Must have exp. Apply in person.
Holiday Market
520 S. Lilley Rd.
Canton, MI 48188-1104

LAWN & LANDSCAPE

Lawn, Landscape, Fertilizing (3A3B, 6), Irrigation, Crew Leader Westland area. No exp. req. Call: 734-404-6612 info@lawnlandscapesnow.com

DELIVERY

Valid Driver's License Req. Co. Vehicle Provided. \$600-\$800/Week
Call Mon-Fri, 10am-3pm
(248) 471-9444

Help Wanted-General

Commercial/Personal Lines Insurance Account Manager
This long established, fast-paced Livonia insurance agency is looking for an experienced personal lines account manager. You must be licensed in P&C, have 2+ yrs of personal lines insurance experience, and have a 4 year undergraduate degree or significant PL experience. Ideal candidates must be extremely organized; have excellent oral and written communication skills; pay prompt attention to all requests; have a superior working knowledge of TAM & MS Excel & Word; be a self-starter; have the ability to multi-task and pay attention to detail; and be able to communicate coverages to clients.
Qualified candidates please e-mail your resume to jobs@cambridge-pc.com

APPOINTMENT SETTER

Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkin@aol.com

TOOL MAKER PERSON

MAC VALVES, INC. WIXOM, MI.
MAC Valves, Inc., a leading worldwide manufacturer of pneumatic solenoid valves, has an immediate opening on second shift for an experienced tool maker (general purpose tool room work). We are a people oriented, technology based company. We operate our company in a group system environment, where people are given the opportunity to learn and advance. The tool maker person we are looking for must have 3 to 5 years machining experience in a tool room environment, operating Mills (Bridgeport), Lathes, and Grinders (surface). We offer a competitive salary and fringe benefit program, and a secure future (no layoffs in over 50 years). For consideration, please send resume with salary requirements to: jdattilio@summitcompany.net

RESIDENT CARE ASSOCIATES

For Beautiful Assisted Living Community in Westland. Non-Smoker preferred. Please fax resume: (248) 359-9083

PLUMBER

Lic or min 3 yrs exp. Own tools & transportation. Service & new construction. Physical & drug test. Call 248-474-8620. Or email: marc@mcplumbinginc.com

Lawn Technicians

Min. starting pay \$9/hr. Will train. Benefits & commission. Must have valid/good driving record. Livonia 734-793-5135 MI Property Maintenance

BUYER

Neapco Drivelines, Van Buren Twp, MI. Minimum 5 yrs. supply chain/purchasing exp. Bachelors Degree required. EEO. Email resume: HRMail@neapco.com

Help Wanted-General

HAIR STYLIST & NAIL TECH
Full-Time. Renters only. Novi Hair Salon. 248-207-7849

SEARS LIVONIA & WESTLAND

is now hiring for permanent help. Applications for all positions accepted. Apply on-line at Sears.com/careers. We will schedule applications matching our openings the week of 3-18-12.

TELEMARKETING

In Farmington Hills. 6-8pm. 2 days a week. \$10/hr + bonus equals average \$20 per hr. (248) 895-0999

Call Back/ Customer Support Specialist

Local Diabetes Supply Company hiring a full time Call Back/Customer Support Specialist. Must be detailed and team oriented. Responsible for contacting existing customer base for Re-Order of their diabetes testing supplies. Insurance and billing system knowledge a must. Please email resume to matt.gietzen@solarmedicalsupplies.com

Jr. Estimator/Coordinator

For small Livonia general contractor. Responsibilities: Requirements include: Sound character, mature & personable; good work ethic; proficient communicator; extensive computer skills; various duties related to position; possible work at jobsites. Experience: Min. 3 years building construction related experience preferred; Salary commensurate with construction abilities and experience. Email resume to: jdattilio@summitcompany.net

A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal, check the classifieds!

1-800-579-SELL

CNC MACHINIST

trutron CORPORATION
A Troy, MI based Aerospace parts manufacturer is in search of a qualified programmer/operator to add to our turning and vertical machining depts.
Requirements:
• Works well in a team environment of cross trained personnel
• 5 years minimum experience
• Program, Set up and run CNC turning centers utilizing CAD files and 2D drawings
• Skilled in CNC milling on HAAS controls is a plus
• Complete understanding of G & T.
Please submit resume to the HR department: Info@trutron.com or fax to: 248-583-4750

Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST

Are you dependable, personable, organized, and a good communicator with strong telephone and computer skills? If you also have dental experience, a high quality specialty office is waiting for you to call: (248) 357-3100

ADOPTION

ADOPT: 1st TIME MOM & DAD PROMISE YOUR BABY A LIFETIME OF LOVE. Expenses paid. Ann & Scott, 1-888-372-0068.

ADOPT: WE CAN GIVE YOUR BABY LOVE AND SECURITY, you can help make us a family. Expenses paid. Please call Denise and Howard at 877-816-1690.

ADOPTION: DEVOTED FAMILY PROMISES TO CHERISH YOUR CHILD UNCONDITIONALLY. Financially secure, expenses paid. Your child is already loved in our hearts! Susan/Patrick 1-877-265-9087. www.susanopatricks.com

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED: DIABETIC TEST STRIPS. Michigan company paying up to \$20.00 per 100 strips. Call Ann 888-943-9673 www.diabeticteststripwanted.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$3,997.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own band-saw. Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info DVD www.michiganmills.com 1-800-878-1343 Ext. 3008

PLACE YOUR STATE-WIDE AD HERE! \$299 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.8 million circulation and over 3.6 million readers. Contact mich-can@michiganpress.com.

Help Wanted-Medical

VETERINARIANS WANTED

to Diagnose and treat diseases and dysfunction of animals. Multiple openings, work location is Farmington Hills, MI. Resumes to Michigan Inc. 30394, DBA Angel Animal Hospital, Attn: Dr. Madharr, 24307 Haledon Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

PEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE PHYSICIAN

Wanted to provide medical care to patients at Royal Oak, MI Hospital. Send resume to: Michael Woolsey, Human Resources, Beaumont Health System, 3601 W. 13 Mile Rd Royal Oak, MI 48073 An Equal Opportunity Employer

FRONT DESK, Part-Time.

Exp'd. only apply. Farmington Hills. No weekends. Fax resume: 734-855-0190

MEDICAL BILLER

Full-Time for busy internal medicine practice. Exp in electronic medical records preferred. Exc pay & benefits. No weekends. Lisa: (313) 561-4540

GROOMER: Must be reliable,

skilled professional & have exc. people & animal skills. Fax resume: 734-326-3234

LIFE ENRICHMENT COORDINATOR

Senior Community in Wayne County looking for experienced individual to implement creative programs. Email resume: lmklloran@gmail.com or fax to: 248-735-1010

RN/LPN, Exp'd.

An established health care Co. in Western Wayne County is looking for an RN/LPN capable of overseeing seniors in an assisted living environment. Must have exceptional leadership & clinical skills. Fax resume: (248) 735-1010

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage

WAITSTAFF

Experienced, full-time. Bodes Corned Beef, Plymouth, Main St. at tracks. 734-453-1883

MANAGEMENT JOB FAIR

Thurs. Mar. 22, 10-5. The Comfort Suites, 18550 Northline Dr. Southgate. Competitive pay & flexible hrs. Good References. Fax 734-422-5778 Email: jgross@dakota-restaurants.com

Checkers
RESTAURANT OPPORTUNITY

LINE COOK: 1 year experience

preferred. FT. Apply within: Guernsey Restaurant, 21300 Novi Rd. Northville, MI 48167

Position Wanted

HOUSEHOLD ASST
I am avail to assist you with grocery shopping, meal prep & housekeeping. 734-716-4811

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A JOB IN PRIVATE DUTY HOMECARE
Over 15 yrs exp. My mission is to improve the quality of life and level of independence for every client and family receiving my services.
Shonda's Private Duty Homecare: (568) 329-0091

Attorneys/Legal Counseling

DIVORCE \$75.00
www.CSRdisability.com
CS&R 734-425-1074

Building Remodeling

BATH REPAIR

Caulking, Grout, Tile
From \$45, 734-469-0565

Carpentry

CARPENTRY - Fin. Bsmis.
Remodeling-Repairs-Decks
30 yrs. exp. Lic/Ins.
Call John: 734-716-7029

Chimney Cleaning/Building & Repair

BEST CHIMNEY & ROOFING CO. -New & repairs Sr. Citizen Discount. Lic & Ins. 248-557-5595, 313-292-7722

Drywall

COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
Plaster Repair. All jobs welcomed! Lic/Ins. Free Est. 30 yrs. exp. Mark: 313-363-6738

Electrical

FAMILY ELECTRICAL
City cert. Violations corrected. Service changes or any small job. Free est. 734-422-8080

ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL NEEDS
obeylelectric@hotmail.com
Mike: (734) 502-4271

Handyman/M/F

COMPLETE HOME IMPROVEMENT
Any Size Job. Licensed. Free Estimates. 734-259-9326

Hauling/Clean Up

A-1 HAULING
Move scrap metal, clean basements, garages, stores, etc. Lowest prices in town. Quick service. Free est. Wayne/Oakland. Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

Clean-up/Hauling Srv.
Cheap Rates! Garages, bsmis, attics. Free Est. 248-521-8818, 248-489-5955

Looking to buy a new car, but you have to sell the old one first - place an ad & let the classifieds sell it for you!

Call 800-579-7355

ESTATE AUCTION Sat., Mar. 17, 7pm

Cultural Center
525 Farmer
Plymouth MI
Furniture; Glassware
Collectibles & Antiques
Household Items
Cash/MC/VISA
Bank Debit Cards
No Checks
Doors Open 6pm
Joe Carli,
Professional
Auction Service
734.451.7444
jcauctions.com

Estate Sales

Another Bernard Davis Estate Sale 313-837-1993
March 16-17, 8:45am-4pm
19301 Burlington Dr. Detroit
48203 off of W. 7 Mile Rd.
btwn. Woodward & Livernois
Ave. go to estate.com for
more info. SEE YOU THERE!

Estate Sale Filming for HGTV's Cash & Cari

Season 3 GREAT FINDS Incl.
Porcelain Dolls,
Mason Sward & Furniture
23550 Wesley St.
Farmington MI 48335
Mar 16-17th, 10-5pm
<http://reporposstate.com>
248.719.8332

NORTHVILLE ESTATE SALE:

March 17, 10-5pm & March
18, 12-5pm. Sewing machine,
crown, rug hooking, knitting,
embroidery, etc. Christmas
decor & household items.
18157 Docksey, off 7 Mile.

NORTHVILLE ESTATE SALE:

1188 Concord Ct. Lexington
Commons, 8 Mile/Taft. Thurs-
Sat, March 15-17, 9-5pm.
Like new cond. furniture, lg
glass curio cabinet, entertain-
ment centers, floor lamps,
fishing equip, golf clubs, 2 HP
outboard motor, shelving &
storage units. Cash only!
248-449-6077

Garage/Moving Sales

CANTON: St. Thomas a Becket Church Mom to Mom Sale, Sat. Mar. 17, 9am-noon. Early Bird at 8:30am. Strollers welcome after 10am. Over 90 tables & large item room. 555 S. Lilley Rd. \$1-\$2 E.B.

Household Goods

DOORWALL-Thermo Sunaire, \$75. 3K3 bathroom window, 2 36" vanity cabinets & 1 30" \$25 each, all in excellent cond. Call: 248-887-9161

Appliances

GAS/PROPANE STOVE
White, about 2 yrs. old.
\$175. 248-444-8942

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Auto Dealer Body Shop

Bob Jeannotte Buick-GMC has an immediate opening for an experienced:
Auto Body & Frame Repair Technician
Must be State and/or I-CAR certified in frame and auto body repair. We are looking for a quality oriented, caring individual. We offer a great work environment with plenty of work. Please respond with resume and work history to set up an interview. service@jeannotte.com

Lawn & Landscape Maintenance

Callie Lawn & Landscape
has openings for Experienced Lawn & Landscape Maintenance crew members. This position requires the ability to use commercial rider/walk-behind mowers, weeding of flower/landscape beds, trimming of bushes & installing mulch. A Valid Chauffeur License & Medical Card to drive. Must have reliable transportation to/from work. Fax or email resume to: (734) 838-0205 or: info@callielawn.com No Phone calls.

DIRECT CARE:

Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, 08

AUTO PAINTERS HELPER

for Milford area shop. Some light body work. Up to \$850/wk to start based on exp. Valid driver's license, clean record. Drug free. EOE 313-995-2519

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Requirements:
• Works well in a team environment of cross trained personnel
• 5 years minimum experience
• Program, Set up and run CNC turning centers utilizing CAD files and 2D drawings
• Skilled in CNC milling on HAAS controls is a plus
• Complete understanding of G & T.
Please submit resume to the HR department: Info@trutron.com or fax to: 248-583-4750

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MISCELLANEOUS

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$3,997.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own band-saw. Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info DVD www.michiganmills.com 1-800-878-1343 Ext. 3008

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FRONT DESK, Part-Time.

Exp'd. only apply. Farmington Hills. No weekends. Fax resume: 734-855-0190

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Full-Time for busy internal medicine practice. Exp in electronic medical records preferred. Exc pay & benefits. No weekends. Lisa: (313) 561-4540

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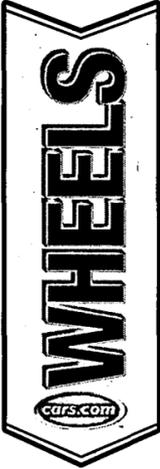
Help Wanted-Food/Beverage

WAITSTAFF

Experienced, full-time. Bodes Corned Beef, Plymouth, Main St. at tracks. 734-453-1883

MANAGEMENT JOB FAIR

Thurs. Mar. 22, 10-



WE PAY TOP DOLLAR For Clean USED CARS

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7500

Autos Wanted

CAR OR VAN 1998 OR NEWER Some repair okay. Up to \$2500. 734-223-5705

UNWANTED AUTOS LLC \$300 & up for cars \$400 & up for trucks/vans/flea models 248-467-0396

Trucks for Sale

FORD F-150 2008 XLT 72K 4X4 \$18,500 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA 2005 4X4, ext cab, gray. Runs great \$11,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA 2006 1500 Extended cab, 4x4, gray, 78K, \$17,949 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA EXT CAB 2007 Black, must see \$11,000 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

FORD F150 XL 1995-65,000 original miles, 4.9L, auto, 1 owner, very clean & solid. \$2500. SOLD

CHEVY COLORADO 2007 Victory Red, LT, 4WD, and 2711 Ready for adventure! Just \$15,995! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

CHEVY SILVERADO 2011 Summit White, LT, 2500HD, and 16K1 This truck is a beast! Just \$31,995! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

GMC CANYON 2005 Phantom Black, SLE, 4WD & crew cab! Intensity your adrenaline! Just \$15,995! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

GMC SIERRA 2009 White Heat, 43K, extended cab, and OnStar! Own the road! Just \$17,999! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

FORD F-250 2008 FX4 S/CAB red. Auto, full power, boss plow, 12K, certified \$27,988 DEALER 734-402-8774

Mini-Vans

HONDA ODYSSEY 2005 Touring, Only \$12,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY UPLANDER 2005 Tan Almond, LT, DVD, and remote start! Great family fun! Reduced to \$10,495! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

Mini-Vans

CHRYSLER TOWN AND COUNTRY 2008 Candy Apple Red, 31K, touring, and power options! Ready for an adventure! Just \$17,995! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

Vans

FORD E350 2011 15 passenger, 43K, \$20,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

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