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Schools serve healthier menu

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

It'll be the dawn of a new age in the cafeteria when Wayne-Westland students return to school Tuesday.

Fried foods are out and baked food is in. Healthy is the buzz word.

"Our cafeterias will strive to only have healthy items on the menu this year," said Linda Kempton, senior executive director of business and operations. "The Type A, the basic school lunch, will be all baked, nothing will be fried, and we're happy about that."

The school lunch makeover was developed by the district's wellness committee. It comes in response to a 2004 federal law requiring that districts receiving more than \$200,000 in federal aid commit to creating a healthy school environment.

Food normally fried will be baked. Gone are french fries; instead it's baked fries except for the a la carte line in the high schools, which will be cooked in soy oil to avoid trans fat.

Vending machines also will get a makeover.

At the middle school, there will be no sugary pop available. The machines will be stocked with water, 100 percent juice, sports drinks, no-calorie soft drinks, dairy-based beverages and low-calorie juice drinks.

At the high schools, no more than 50 percent of the beverages can be soft drinks.

The district will have juices and water available to students in the elementary. It also will pare down the serving size of a la carte snack food to contain 200 or fewer calories - with zero trans fat, no more than 35 percent of calories from fat, and no more than 10 percent from saturated fat.

Sugar will be 35 percent or less by weight.

"We've never had vending machines in the elementary schools, and we don't want to start," said Kempton. "Candy and sugary pop is out at the middle school. We only want things that meet the 200 calories or less and 31 percent or less sugar content."

PLEASE SEE MENU, A4



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kettering Elementary student fifth-grader David Crummey, 10, and his first-grade brother Derrick, 6, check out some of the healthier foods that Wayne-Westland schools will be serving this year. Looking on is Beth Sholler, assistant food service director for the school district.

Examples of 2005 - 2006 Choices (A la Carte Cafeteria)	Examples of 2006 - 2007 Healthier Choices (A la Carte Cafeteria)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% Juice 4 ounces Milk Sunny Delight Gatorade Water 12 ounces Pretzel Rod Fruit Fruit Snacks Little Debbie's Andy Capp Cheddar Fries Fruit Roll - Up Zoo Animal Crackers Dolphin & Friends Crackers M&M Cookies White Cheddar Popcorn Tiny Classic Pretzel Twists Sunchips Yogurt Cookies N Cream Kazaam Bar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% Juice 4 ounces Milk Gatorade Water 12 ounces Pretzel Rod Fruit Fruit Snacks Baked Chips Andy Capp Baked-Fries Zoo Animal Crackers Dolphin & Friends Crackers White Cheddar Popcorn Tiny Classic Pretzel Twists Sunchips Yogurt

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'Our cafeterias will strive to only have healthy items on the menu this year. The Type A, the basic school lunch, will be all baked, nothing will be fried, and we're happy about that.'

Linda Kempton
senior executive director of business and operations

Wake up! Tuesday is 1st day of school

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Set the alarm clock. In a sure sign that summer is winding down, Wayne-Westland students will return to school Tuesday.

Students will start with a full day of classes, and educators are ready, Supt. Greg Baracy said.

"We're ready for a smooth start," he said. "There may be a few hiccups with the bus schedule, but we'll get them worked out within the first couple of weeks."

Officials expect a slight dip in enrollment from last school year.

"We're hoping for a total enrollment of around 13,400 students," Baracy said. "That would be down 150 to 200 students."

Students will face a few changes this year.

Eleventh-graders will have to take either the Michigan Educational Assessment Program test or ACT college entrance exam - officials aren't yet sure which - before they can graduate.

Officials are expected to learn this fall which test will be required for graduation.

Moreover, eighth-graders will face new state-mandated standards that will apply to their graduation class of 2011, Baracy said.

He invited parents and students to learn more about graduation requirements, bus schedules and other issues by visiting the district's Web site at www.wwcsd.net.

District officials have had a busy summer overseeing construction projects and ordering classroom supplies, as schools gear up for the 2006-2007 year.

"We think we're in really good shape," Baracy said. "It's been a pretty smooth summer despite a very busy schedule. We're ready to open."

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

Pair of bandits robs pizzeria at gunpoint

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Using a short-barrel revolver, two bandits robbed a Westland pizzeria late Saturday after forcing two employees to the floor at gunpoint, police confirmed.

No shots were fired and no one was injured during the holdup, which happened just before 10:30 p.m. at Little Caesars on Wayne Road south of Avondale.

A 19-year-old female employee told police that two intruders walked in, jumped over the front counter and - with one brandishing a revolver - forced her and an 18-year-old female co-worker to the floor.

One suspect ordered the 19-year-old worker to open a safe, and she told police she complied as she cried and crawled on her hands and knees to the safe.

The employee told authorities that the robbers

also demanded money from the pizzeria's cash registers before they took the money and fled out the back door.

The workers then shut the door, locked it and called for help. Officers brought a police dog to the location but couldn't locate the suspects.

Anyone who has information about the robbery is urged to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600.

One suspect was described as a 6-foot-4 black male with a mustache. He wore a dark-colored baseball cap, a dark blue T-shirt and black pants. He was carrying the chrome, short-barrel revolver.

A second suspect was described as a 5-foot-10 black male wearing a black ski mask, a maroon T-shirt, black pants and black boots.

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Westland seniors win most Olympic medals at event

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland senior citizens rule. They came home with 84 medals - far more than any other community - from last week's Western Wayne County Senior Olympics.

"We were absolutely in first place," said Barbara Marcum, deputy director of Westland's senior Friendship Center.

It's true that Westland, with 70 participants, had the largest contingent among some 360 seniors vying for medals in events ranging from swimming to baking to golfing to euchre.

Still, local seniors won 23 more medals than the second-place finisher Northville/Northville Township, which hosted the second annual event that ended Friday.

"I am extremely proud of our senior athletes who participated in this great event," said Mayor Sandra Cicirelli, who led the

local team during the opening ceremony.

Westland won 45 gold medals, 26 silver and 13 bronze. Seniors from 16 communities, including Canton, Livonia, Garden City, Redford, Plymouth, Plymouth Township and others, competed for 313 medals.

Local senior Mel Tockstein, featured in a recent *Observer* article, won three gold medals in swimming and a bronze medal in the football toss, said his wife, Marge.

"I was very proud," she said. "I thought the whole event was really a lot of fun, and I hope it will be even better next year when Westland becomes the host city."

Several other Westland seniors also came home with multiple medals.

Sue Koivula, senior coordinator for host city Northville, called the event a tremendous success.

"It's pretty awesome to see a 90-year-old person out there golfing," she said.

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Coming Sunday in Health

New technology reduces time in the dentist's chair.



Fine feathered friends

Club's presentation educates kids and adults about birds

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Dottie Kennedy has made plans for 15-year-old Kirby if something happens to her. Making a will is something parents tend to do.

But Kirby isn't a child. Kirby is Kennedy's 15-year-old African Grey Parrot who, with a life expectancy of at least 80 years, will outlive her.

"You have to be sure the bird's taken care of," said the Livonia resident.

It's part of the message Kennedy and members of the Rainbow Feathers Bird Club deliver in educational programs they present at libraries, preschools, churches and vacation Bible schools in exchange for donations to fund the club's bird rescue program.

Thanks to a summer reading program theme of "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tails," club members have done 10 presentations, mostly at libraries, where youngsters hear about the birds, hear the birds talk and even touch them.

"It gets very noisy and they get very excited when the bird poops," Kennedy said. "We tell



Rainbow Feathers Bird Club member Tammy Carol of Garden City talks about her Green Wing macaw Max to the children attending the Garden City Library's summer reading club, Amazing Tales. Max can give hugs, roll over on his back and talk.

them that if they're very quiet, they'll hear the bird talk, but that doesn't always happen."

One of the talkers is Tammy Carol's green-winged macaw named Max who has been part of the road show for two years, but didn't start talking in front of the crowds until this year.

COOL STUFF

"I was talking about him and he told me to shut up," the Garden City resident said. "The kids think it's cool he can talk."

Kennedy said the club started doing the programs about five

years ago. The three Livonia libraries needed an inexpensive program, and the club came up with the idea of doing the presentation in exchange for donations to help fund its bird rescue.

"We've done it at the three Livonia libraries for several years. Now we'll go anywhere — senior citizens homes, schools, wherever anyone ask us," said Kennedy, who happens to be a children's librarian in Livonia.

One of the club's stops this summer was the Garden City Library, where their avian show



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brian Pettit, 7, of Garden City gets the chance to hold Sparky, an African Grey parrot owned by Steve Plafhan of Livonia.

helped close out the summer reading program, Amazing Tales. The program featured a Golden Headed Conure called Autumn Sweetie Pie, Max and an chatty African Grey Parrot named Sparky.

Sparky belongs to Livonia resident Steve Plafhan and is "a good talker and very intelligent." While his command of the English language includes saying "good morning" when the sun rises, Sparky also enjoys playing with the kids and hanging upside-down.

"African Gray is a misnomer," Kennedy said. "Sparky's more of a teddy bear with feathers."

Kennedy's African Grey may not be the character Sparky is, but his speaking abilities got her son in trouble for 1 1/2 years.

"Kirby's an excellent mimic," Kennedy said. "If my son asked to do something, Kirby would give him permission in my voice. He would make promises in my son's voice, and I couldn't understand why my son would never keep them. We didn't know he was doing that until we heard him do it one day."

MIMICS AROUND

According to Kennedy, not only do parrots know how to talk and think, they're excellent mimics. They can imitate the sound of a microwave when it's working and the sound of a phone ringing, then carry on a one-sided conversation.

"We tell people to watch what they say when they're excited, they pick up that language quicker than what you say in a normal voice," she said. "That kept my son from being a potty mouth when he was a teenager because the bird would get him in trouble."

The club was founded in 1997 and draws members from throughout southeastern Michigan. In addition to its educational programs and bird rescue — "We take in birds, we don't buy them," Kennedy said — it also raises money for scholarships for avian veterinary students at Michigan State

University and to support avian research projects.

It started its rescue/relocation program in 1998 and has taken in almost 100 birds. Carol and her husband, Dave, along with Kathy Tromblay coordinate the rescue program for the club.

According to Carol, the reasons for surrendering birds can range from allergy problems to the birds being too loud.

"People will buy the bird because they think it's cool or cute and don't realize how long it can live or the noise it makes," she said. "We try to help them keep their bird, but if they can't, we find a place for them."

Parakeets, depending on their health care, can live 10-20 years, cockatiels more than 25 years and Amazons up to 100 years.

"That's part of what we do at the libraries," she said. "We get the word out about the noise aspect and the age aspect. A lot of the birds in the program are young and they will outlive us."

Kennedy also points out another aspect.

"Living with a parrot is like living with a perpetual 2- to 5-year-old," she said.

The Rainbow Feathers Bird Club meets at 2 p.m. the fourth Sunday of the month at the First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman, south of Ford, in Garden City. Information about the educational programs is available by calling Dottie Kennedy at (734) 525-6833. For bird rescues, call Dave or Tammy Carol at (734) 422-5981 or Kathy Tromblay at (734) 941-1517.

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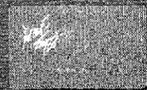
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CORRECTION

For the record, Southfield Christian's Brian Nimmo tallied the second goal in Tuesday, Aug. 22's, season-opening 3-1 boys soccer victory over visiting Lutheran High Westland.

The information was incorrect in the Thursday, Aug. 24, edition.

WESTLAND

Observer

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Wayne State professor takes a close look at office bullies

According to research by Wayne State University psychologist Loreleigh Keashly, "bullying" in the workplace can be substantially reduced by programs that encourage employees to talk openly with management.

She notes that underlying problems in an organizational culture, such as perceptions of favoritism and feelings of "not being heard" by management contribute to day-to-day forms of aggression in the workplace — verbal aggression, psychological aggression and emotional abuse.

"A team of outside experts can't just go into an office and tell a company how to reduce bullying. They need to work with organizational members to develop relevant, context-specific strategies" said Keashly, a social-organizational psychologist and associate professor of communication at Wayne State University.

In a four-year study of 11 healthcare and benefits facilities in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, for which Keashly was part of a team of researchers and organizational members, bullying and other aggressive behaviors were

'Workplace aggression and hostility are not uncommon in workplaces. This project highlights the need for more effective strategies in managing differences and addressing inappropriate behavior.'

Loreleigh Keashly
Wayne State University psychologist

reduced through a series of actions that empowered employees and gave them venues to address their frustrations.

In one site, the implementation of representative employee "action teams" and an analysis of incidents of disrespectful behavior led to the creation of "Flake Off Fridays," in which the facility's assistant director invited a group of randomly selected employees to meet and talk with him about questions and concerns on a weekly basis.

The result was a decrease in bullying and an increase in productivity.

"Not only was the intervention they designed having an impact," Keashly said, "but the way they were operating was catching on with other people throughout the facility."

Keashly said her Wayne State University students benefit from analyzing such real-life scenarios.

"Workplace aggression and hostility are not uncommon in workplaces. This project highlights the need for more effective strategies in managing differences and addressing inappropriate behavior. Discussing and examining this project with our Wayne State students helps provide them with real-life testing of our theories and insights on strategies which they can utilize to help other workplaces."

Keashly is currently academic director in Dispute Resolution in the Department of Communication, College of Fine, Performing, and Communication Arts. Her findings were recently highlighted in an article entitled, "Banishing Bullying," in the July/August 2006 issue of the *Monitor on Psychology* published by the American Psychological Association.

No brakes result in man being run over

BY LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER

A Westland man is hospitalized after being hit by an out-of-control truck in Garden City alley Saturday afternoon.

The incident began, police said, when an off-duty Garden City Police officer was driving east on Ford approaching Henry Ruff and saw a pick up truck hit another vehicle, then leave at a high rate of speed through a nearby business parking lot.

Assuming he'd witnessed a hit and run accident, the officer said he turned south onto Henry Ruff to get the license plate number.

Instead, the officer reported finding that Frank Grabowski,

69, of Westland had been struck by the truck which had come to a stop after hitting a tree.

The officer found that Grabowski, who had been in the alley fixing a fence that borders an apartment building he owns, wasn't breathing and administered mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Fire Rescue was called and continued treating Grabowski at the scene before he was transported to Garden City Hospital where he was hospitalized with multiple injuries.

It turned out that the driver, a 26-year old Canton man, wasn't attempting to flee the scene of an accident, police said.

The man told police he knew

the truck had brake problems and was attempting to take it to a repair shop.

The van which the man struck belonged to him and was being driven by his brother, an 18-year old Detroit, as part of their efforts to get to the repair shop.

The Canton man was cited for driving an unsafe motor vehicle while the brother was cited for not having a drivers license.

"It was certainly an unwise decision to wake up and realize you had no brakes, then make a conscious decision to drive to the mechanic," said Garden City Police Deputy Chief Robert Muery.

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Cooper Upper Elementary offers sneak peek

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

As students and staff across Livonia Public Schools prepare for the start of a new year, open houses and registration days this week offered a sneak peek at revamped buildings like Cooper Upper Elementary.

Staff members at Cooper, one of three new schools now meant solely for fifth- and sixth-graders, volunteer their time on Monday to assist with school tours and answer questions of students and their parents.

Right off the bat, sixth-grader Eddie Anderson said he was "very happy with the new basketball court."

He'll be coming to the school from Peace Lutheran, a private school. "We can't wait for the year to start," said Robert Anderson, his father and a Westland resident. "We wanted to try public school."

Musa Muffareh, also a sixth-grader, was also excited about the prospect of playing basketball at his new school. He did not have that opportunity while attending Hayes Elementary. With the reorganization, Musa will attend Cooper - just as his mother did. "That was my elementary school," said the Livonia resident. "It's exciting."

Musa said he'll ride a bus for the first time this year. He lived only three houses from Hayes. He's looking forward to meeting new teachers.

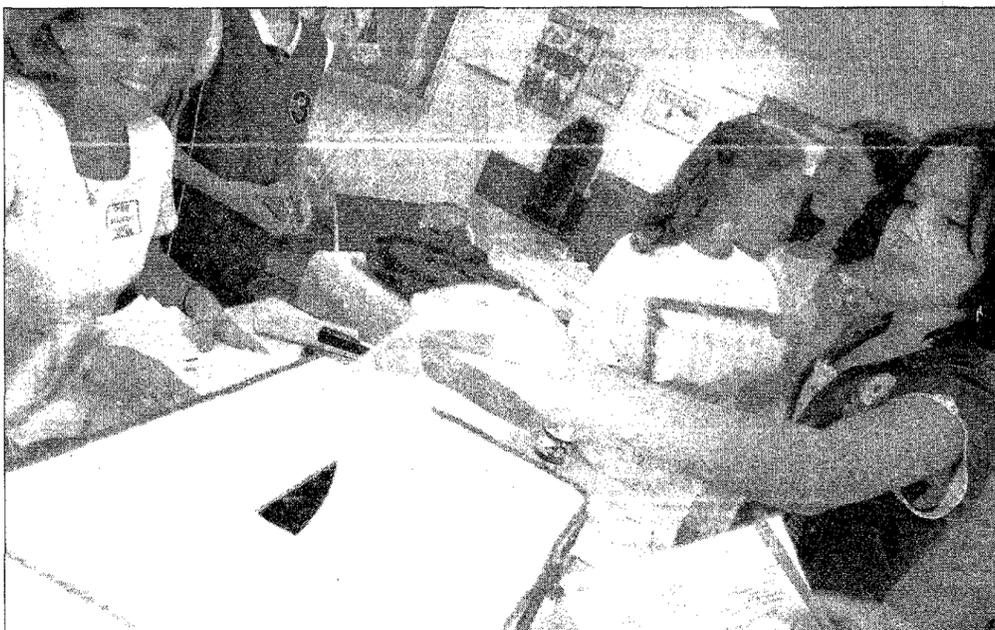
Katie (O'Connor) Dodge, a sixth-grade teacher, will be just as new to Cooper on the first day of school as some of her students. She previously taught at Hoover. Dodge said she was looking forward to the new year, meeting the teachers she'll work with, and discovering "the possibilities of a 5/6 school."

"Unlike most teachers at Cooper, Dodge teaches all subjects to her pupils. It's called a "self-contained classroom," she said. "I get to know them as a whole."

On Monday she met a few of her students-to-be at orientation. "Their eyes are just glowing," she said. "They're excited."

Co-principals Heidi Frazer and Terry Taylor looked equally as excited, welcoming new families into the school.

"They both praised the teaching staff, who came in voluntarily to assist with registration and Monday's open house. Bracelets and signs read "New beginnings at Cooper" and the school showed off a nautical theme welcoming "all aboard."



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cooper Upper Elementary sixth-grader Anna Gerathy casts her vote for the school mascot during open house activities Monday in Westland.

Frazer said staff and parents alike spent time working to ready the building for a new year. "It's been a really heart-warming experience for me," she said.

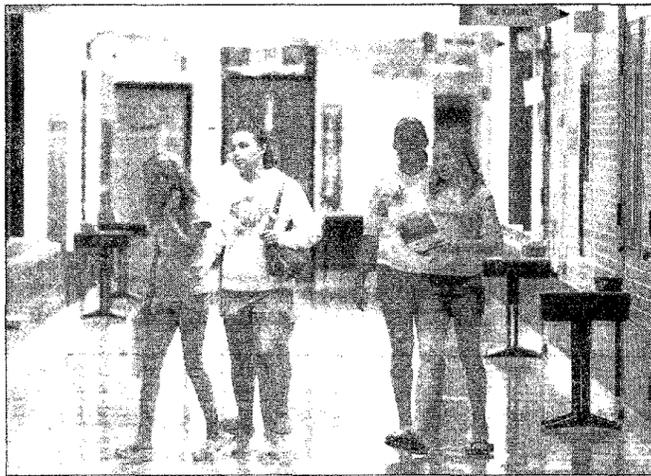
She said because her leadership style is so similar to Taylor's she is looking forward to serving as co-principal with him. Each principal will handle about half of the students, allowing them to connect with students, staff and families in both grades. This "two house" method also breaks the school into smaller networks for students.

Julie King, a language arts teacher at Emerson Middle School, stopped by to see the progress. Cooper students will move on to Emerson after two years. She said that the transition will be easier as the students move together. They will already be used to a larger school, and lockers, she added.

Taylor said students seemed to like the pencil-shaped signs that identify each classroom. And, he said, "the kids are all about the lockers."

The school itself has five new classrooms to accommodate the changes. All are equipped with new whiteboards and ready for students to fill the seats.

Kathy Martin, whose son Kyle will



Students and parents wander the hall during an orientation program and open house Monday at Cooper Upper Elementary School in the Livonia Public Schools portion of Westland.

enter fifth grade this year, commented on the building itself. "I think it's very well-kept," she said. "It's nice."

The building looked big to Kyle, formerly an Adams student.

"It's going to be an interesting year," said Martin.

School starts Wednesday, Sept. 6, across the district.

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MENU

FROM PAGE A1

Toni Makino, the district's director of food services, said companies providing food are working with the district to meet the new requirements. The companies knew if they didn't come on board, it would hurt their revenue, she said.

"It's been really exciting meeting with the (company representatives); they're coming in with a long list of healthy items," she said. "They really did their homework."

In addition to changes in what kind of food will be served, the district also will be implementing the swipe card system used in high schools into the elementaries during the first six weeks of classes.

Parents will be able to deposit money in an account for their children to be used to buy the hot lunches. Parents will be able to block purchases of specific foods and flag the accounts for things like food allergies.

"I think it also will be nice for kids who get reduced price lunches," Kempton said. "It won't be embarrassing for them."

The district also will be trying out several pilot programs in the schools.

In the elementaries, several schools will send their students out for recess before sending them to the cafeteria to eat.

"The industry shows that students will eat more and there will be less plate waste if students exercise before they eat," Makino said.

While it can't require it, the wellness committee also is promoting the idea of school parties that incorporate physical activities with healthy foods and healthy school fund-raisers. Instead of selling candy and the like, the committee has a list of 56 different fund-raising ideas that include healthier foods and activities.

Kempton said the changes in the what students eat in the cafeterias and get from vending machines is a "permanent fix."

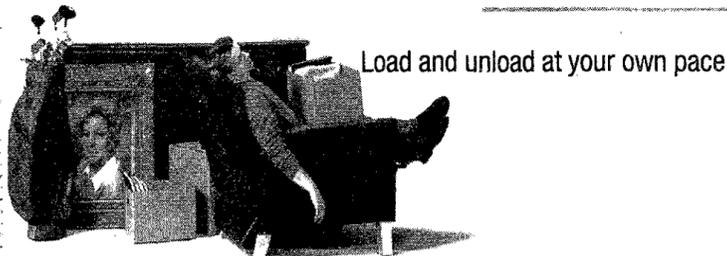
"After the 2006-2007 school year, the committee will meet again to see how we did and get more ideas on where we want to go," she said. "We're committed to creating a healthy school environment."

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PFCE080877

School board to put agendas, Q/A online

BY DAVE VARGA
STAFF WRITER

LIVONIA SCHOOLS

Members of the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education are making a push to try to improve access and responsiveness to the community.

Board members agreed last week to buy a computer program that puts meeting agendas and supporting documents on the district Web site for all to access. In addition, board members agreed to set up a process to share school administrators' answers to audience questions both at board meetings and on the Web site.

Putting agendas online will cost the district \$2,000 for the BoardBook program, but that will be offset by current annual costs of \$2,600 for paper and printing costs of 57 packets for each meeting and the pay for a technician, according to Suzanne Steffes, executive assistant to the superintendent and board.

Besides saving money, board President Lynda Scheel said, the new program gets information out quicker. It's also more complete, Steffes said.

Some paper copies of the agenda would still be available at the meetings, Supt. Randy Liepa said. Trustee Dan Lessard said he was impressed that agendas and backup documents could be searched online.

A mention that the district could buy board members wireless laptops to use at meetings brought no positive responses. In contrast, Trustee Cynthia Markarian was clear: "We don't need to spend money for wireless laptops at this time," she said.

School board members' informal, non-quorum "coffee and conversation" chats produced several ideas regarding audience communications at board meetings.

After talking over ideas, board members agreed to set up an opt-in box for audience members to check off on cards they fill out before they speak to the board.

Speakers who ask questions will continue to get answers sent directly to them within 10 days. However, those who check the box will also have those questions and answers read at the next board meeting, then put onto a frequently-asked-questions link on the Web site, www.livonia.k12.mi.us.

Board members also debated allowing officials to answer some questions of the public during board meetings. Trustee Kevin Whitehead stressed the need to get answers right, and the chance of causing confusion or disappointment by answering some and not other questions.

"You know the answer, give 'em an answer," said Trustee Steve King.

"We don't always engage in conversation from here," said Lessard, who added: "It may be my answer but it may not be the answer."

Trustee Robert Freeman suggested that Liepa address questions he was able to answer. Lessard said answering questions was "not the only thing on Dr. Liepa's plate."

dvarga@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2119



Cruisers of the Week

The Westside Rod and Custom Car Club's Cruiser of the Week for Aug. 16 was Joseph Lewis of Redford with his red 1965 Plymouth Valiant V-200 convertible. The car has power steering, power top and a push button transmission. Member of the Week is Pat Morski of Southfield. Morski has a 1969 Plymouth Road Runner with a 440 CID and six-pack (three barrel) carburetor. The Westside Rod and Custom Car Club's show is 5 p.m. to dusk Wednesdays at the Romanowski VFW Post on Joy Road east of Middlebelt in Westland.

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St. Damian events

The St. Damian festival featuring Christian rock bands Remedy Drive and Photo 7 will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, at the church, on Joy Road east of Merriman. Gates will open at 6:30 p.m. The concert is expected to run until 11 p.m. or so.

Also, from noon to 11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10, there will be inflatable rides, a casino tent, food, drinks, raffles and more.

A Texas Hold-Em tournament, with tickets \$35 in advance and \$45 at the door, will run 6-11 p.m. Saturday. A spaghetti dinner is scheduled 1-4 p.m. Sunday.

In other St. Damian news, school started Monday, and hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The school can be reached at (734) 427-1680.

Tiger time

Detroit Tigers pitcher Nate Robertson is scheduled to greet fans and sign autographs noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 2, at the Westland Art Van Furniture store on Wayne Road, south of Joy.

Only one autograph per person will be allowed. Player photos will also be given out, according to Art Van.

Yard-craft sale

Watch for the big, big tents on Sept. 16 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland.

The church will be holding a yard, craft, etc. sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring household items, miscellaneous items and specialties items like Avon, candles, tools, houseplants and crafts of all kinds. There also will be a \$1 a bag used clothing sale inside the church, a food court to get refreshments, and a special drawing for two elephants!

All money raised will be donated to area organizations to be used to help people in our community.

In the past, the church has made donations to the Salvation Army, Wayne County Family Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, World Hunger (Crop Walk), St. Mary's Outreach Center and John Bolde Food Depot and Trinity Lutheran Church, its mis-

sion partner, as well as provide Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to Adam Jr. High families.

Senior dinner-dances

The Wayne Ford Civic League will be holding a senior dinner and dance at noon Sunday, Sept. 10 and 24 at the hall at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. There will be a full buffet dinner, beer, wine, coffee, and pop and dancing to the live entertainers. Seniors must be at least 60 years old to attend. Tickets are \$8 for league members and \$10 for non-members. Memberships are on sale year-round and cost \$5 for seniors. Tickets are available at the door. Call (734) 728-5010.

Praise and worship

Westwood Community Church holds praise and worship services at 10 a.m. Sundays at 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter in Westland. The church also offers a children's church and nursery. For more information, call (734) 254-0093.

Mom 2 Mom sale

St. Damian School is hosting a Fall Mom 2 Mom Sale 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, 2006. New this year will be a Dad 2 Dad Sale which will take place at the same time at the school, 30055 Joy, between Middlebelt and Merriman. Table rental is \$20 table rental for the Mom 2 Mom Sale and \$15 outdoor space rental for the Dad 2 Dad Sale. For more information, call Dawn at (734) 983-0221.

Euchre returns

Friday Night Euchre/Pinochle Card Parties will be back at St. Bernardine Parish in Westland beginning Sept. 8.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and play starts at 7:30 p.m. No partner is needed. Admission is \$5 admission includes refreshments, snacks and cash prizes. A 50/50 raffle also is available.

The scheduled dates are Sept. 8, 15, 29, Oct. 6, 13, 27, Nov. 3, 17, Dec. 1, 15, Jan. 7, 5 12, 26 and Feb. 2, 9, 16.

St. Bernardine Parish is on the

southwest corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Merriman in Westland. For more information, call (734) 427-5150.

Wedding Cakes 101

Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe will offer Wedding Cakes 101, a two-hour everything you ever wanted to know about wedding cakes, but didn't know who to ask event, 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12 and Oct. 10.

The program for cake decorators, caterers or the bride and groom will look at the correct size cake for guests, different icings, how a mousse filling compares to cream filling, what fondant is and pricing wedding cake. Taste testing of a variety of cake flavors will be available. Cost is complimentary for those who register in advance and \$5 at the door. Space is limited.

The cake shoppe is at 8036 N. Wayne Road. For more information, or to register, call (734) 261-3680.

Poker tournament

Put on your best poker face because the Westland Civitan Club is hosting a Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford.

Check-in time is between 3 and 3:30 p.m., with the first round starting at 4 p.m. The entrance fee is \$60 and includes \$1,000 in chips. All registration fees of \$60 will be collected in advance, and registered players will be given a ticket to ensure a seat assignment. Tickets will be limited to the first 112 players. There will be open registration, if there are any tickets available. All ticket holders must be 19 years old of age and older.

The prize pool will be 50 percent of the entrance fees, and the cash prizes for the top finishers, which will be announced prior to the start of the gaming, will depend on the number of entries.

To register or to purchase tickets, call Pat Savage at (734) 595-6039, Dave or Donna Jensen (734) 729-8075 or Ron Falkner at (617) 546-8547 and leave your name and a phone number.

VFW Auxiliary events

The Ladies Auxiliary of Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323 has a variety of activities planned for September through November.

On tap will be a marathon bingo noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, and Nov. 4; Patriot Day Observance on Monday, Sept. 11 (call the post for details); deadlines for entries for its annual VFW Voice of Democracy contest for grades 9-11 and Patriot's Pen Essay for grades 6-8 on Wednesday, Nov. 1. Call Sandy Borio at (734) 728-5791 for information about the contest. VFW Post 3323 is at 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland.

Family Festival

First Baptist Church of Wayne is inviting the community to a free Family Festival Saturday, Sept. 9.

The festival will begin with a picnic at noon. There also will be a classic car show, live music, games, a moon walk, face painting, soap box derby cars, hayrides, ice cream novelties and much more.

Participants also will have an opportunity to meet First Baptist's new pastor, Phil DiLernia.

The church is at 36125 Glenwood, between Wayne Road and Newburgh in Wayne. For more information call (734) 721-7410.

Garage sale

Ss. Simon and Jude Church will have a garage sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, at the church, 32500 Palmer east of Venoy, Westland. There will be a \$2 a bag sale starting at 4 p.m. Large items will sell for \$2 at the bag sale.

Flea Markets

Vendors are needed for a flea market 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church at Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland. Space is available at \$20 per space. Applications are available by calling Ray or Jackie Gagnon at (734) 722-7225.

Space is available for a farmer's market/flea market Friday-Sunday, Sept. 8-10, at the Oddfellow Hall, 344 Elizabeth St. at Ann Arbor Trail.

The markets are being sponsored by the Westland/Plymouth Grange 389.

The 10-foot by 10-foot space (no electricity available) is \$20 for Friday or Sunday only, \$25 for Saturday only and \$60 for all three days, if registered by Aug. 18. Cost increases \$5 after that date.

Send name, address, phone number, items to be sold and days needed with a money order payable to Grange No. 839, to 5692 N. Globe, Westland, MI 48185. Call (734) 722-4857 after 7 p.m.

Craft show tables

Table rental is available at the cost of \$20 for the annual St. Theodore Confraternity of Christian Women Craft Show on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2006 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall at 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Call Mary at (734) 425-4421 (voice mail No. 10) to reserve a table. Table rental also is available at the cost of \$20 for the annual St. Theodore Confraternity of Christian Women craft show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21, in the Parish Social Hall at 8200 Wayne Road, Westland. Call Mary at (734) 425-4421 (voice mail #10) to reserve a table.

Pancake breakfast

The Westland senior Friendship Center holds an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast 8:30-11 a.m. the second Thursday of the month at the center on Newburgh south of Ford.

The cost \$4 per person for butter-milk or multi-grain pancakes, coffee, juice, low fat milk, sausage and bacon. Sugar free syrup will be available.

Adoption event

The Wonderland Samoyed Safe Haven is hosting an adoption event to raise funds and awareness for pet rescue and help find local, homeless Samoyeds a new home for life at the Petco, 35725 Warren Road, Westland, on Saturdays throughout July and August.

The event will take place from noon to 4 p.m. Sept. 9, Oct. 7 and Nov. 4.

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*Payments are for a 2006 Buick LaCrosse CX with aluminum wheels and an MSRP of \$22,840, 27 monthly payments total \$4,833, a 2007 Buick Rendezvous CX with an MSRP of \$25,710, 27 monthly payments total \$5,373, and a 2006 Buick Lucerne CX with an MSRP of \$25,990, 27 monthly payments total \$7,263. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. GMAC must approve lease. Take delivery by 9/5/06. Lessee pays for excess wear. Residency restrictions apply. Not available with other offers. Must show proof of current GMAC lease on Rendezvous.

**Length of contract limited. Take delivery by 9/5/06. See dealer for details.

†Take delivery by 9/5/06. See dealer for details.

†† Monthly payment is \$16.67 for every \$1,000 you finance. Example down payment: Lucerne, 29.7%. Not available with other offers. Take delivery by 9/5/06. See dealer for details.

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Father-daughter dentists tend to patients' smiling faces

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

In Livonia, the Himm family name might well be synonymous with dental care.

When 27-year-old Rebecca Himm completed her education in May, she became a third-generation dentist in her family. Her father, William Himm, has been practicing in Livonia since 1977 — the year he took over his father-in-law's practice which was located on Plymouth Road.

Paul Watson, Rebecca's late grandfather, began in the occupation in 1953. She even attended his alma mater, University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry.

"She was going to be a doctor," recalled William Himm. But instead Rebecca followed in her father's footsteps.

"I realized how much I loved the dental field," she said.

Earning her license in June, Rebecca Himm divides her time between two dental offices in Livonia. The Himm family operates one at 17248 Farmington Road and a new office at 30737 Seven Mile.

They will host an open house for the public at their new location from 2-5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 10.

Both Rebecca and her father were initially drawn into the profession as a way to help people look and feel better. Rebecca Himm noted the links of dental — or gingival — health to overall health.

William Himm said improving one's teeth can also be uplifting, and improve a person's confidence.

Rebecca, daughter of William and Carol Himm, isn't the only family member interested in dentistry. Brother Andrew, 24, is also studying at the University of Detroit

Mercy School of Dentistry. Meanwhile, their younger brother Daniel, 21, is attending Schoolcraft College with an interest in broadcasting.

For Rebecca Himm, working in her father's office has a familiar feel. She assisted him in the office beginning at age 15. Now, she sees her own patients.

The Himm family prides themselves on taking time with their patients.

"We give a lot of time," said Rebecca Himm. "We really do care about what's best for them. We're not a production line."

Sitting in that reclining dentist's chair can make patients feel vulnerable. William Himm noted that people tend to go back in time when they visit the dentist. They hear stories from adults who had a bad experience as a child, and that feeling sticks with them.

"People come in and they're instantly 5 again," he said.

Feelings may be the same, but the industry has changed over the years. People care more about the way their teeth look — as cosmetic dentistry is on the rise. Thanks to advancements in procedures like bond-



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Upon graduating from dental school, Rebecca Himm, joined her father William Himm in his Livonia practice. They've since opened a second location in the city.

ing, crowns and implants, William Himm said, dental work lasts longer and is more comfortable.

In his 29 years as a dentist, he said he's gotten to know a

lot of families, and cared for generations of them.

Rebecca Himm said, because patients come in every month, dentists can "build a relationship that's long-lasting. I love

that." For more information on the Himm's dental practices, call (734) 421-0121.

scasola@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2054

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE TO CUT NOXIOUS WEEDS

To the owner or occupant or any person or persons, firm or corporation having charge of any land in the City of Westland: (APPENDIX A)

| 2006 PRIVATE WEEDS PAR-NUM |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 001 99 0012 000 | 028 99 0010 000 | 045 01 0319 000 | 081 01 0319 303 |
| 001 99 0027 000 | 028 99 0012 701 | 045 99 0005 001 | 081 01 0320 303 |
| 001 99 0028 000 | 028 99 0012 701 | 045 99 0009 001 | 081 01 0322 303 |
| 001 99 0030 000 | 028 99 0014 000 | 045 99 0018 002 | 081 01 0323 303 |
| 001 99 0034 000 | 029 99 0008 718 | 045 99 0024 702 | 081 01 0325 303 |
| 003 03 0001 000 | 029 99 0014 701 | 047 99 0001 001 | 081 01 0326 303 |
| 004 01 0084 000 | 031 02 0011 000 | 047 99 0002 001 | 081 01 0328 303 |
| 004 01 0088 000 | 031 02 0013 000 | 048 01 0100 000 | 081 01 0329 303 |
| 005 01 1257 000 | 031 02 0014 000 | 048 01 0102 002 | 082 01 0166 008 |
| 005 01 1260 000 | 031 02 0015 000 | 048 01 0103 002 | 082 01 0171 002 |
| 005 02 0023 000 | 032 01 0003 000 | 048 01 0123 001 | 082 06 0000 000 |
| 005 02 0024 000 | 032 01 0045 000 | 048 99 0031 000 | 082 06 0000 000 |
| 005 02 0025 000 | 032 01 0081 000 | 049 03 0015 300 | 082 06 0000 000 |
| 005 02 0190 300 | 032 01 0222 000 | 049 03 0022 300 | 082 99 0009 000 |
| 005 02 0340 000 | 032 02 0562 300 | 049 03 0023 000 | 083 01 0243 303 |
| 005 99 0015 701 | 032 02 0568 000 | 050 01 0063 300 | 083 01 0244 303 |
| 005 99 0017 702 | 032 02 0571 000 | 051 99 0057 703 | 083 02 0011 000 |
| 006 01 0034 000 | 032 02 0575 000 | 051 99 0057 704 | 084 02 0066 000 |
| 006 04 0393 000 | 032 02 0581 000 | 051 99 0058 000 | 085 99 0001 011 |
| 007 01 0580 000 | 032 03 0735 000 | 051 99 0060 000 | 087 99 0020 003 |
| 007 01 0580 010 | 032 03 0743 000 | 052 01 0021 303 | 087 99 0022 002 |
| 007 01 0580 011 | 032 03 0769 000 | 052 05 0004 000 | 088 03 0113 001 |
| 007 01 0581 002 | 032 03 0810 000 | 052 99 0004 002 | 089 01 0332 000 |
| 007 01 0581 004 | 033 01 0029 300 | 052 99 0019 708 | 070 01 0021 001 |
| 007 01 0581 005 | 034 01 0015 000 | 052 99 0019 709 | 070 01 0022 001 |
| 007 01 0595 002 | 034 01 0016 000 | 053 99 0008 001 | 070 01 0023 001 |
| 007 01 0602 000 | 034 01 0082 000 | 053 99 0009 701 | 070 01 0026 001 |
| 008 99 0004 000 | 034 99 0021 001 | 054 99 0009 001 | 070 01 0027 001 |
| 010 01 0571 001 | 035 99 0002 000 | 054 99 0011 003 | 070 01 0028 001 |
| 011 02 0034 000 | 035 99 0016 000 | 054 99 0012 002 | 070 01 0029 001 |
| 013 01 0557 000 | 036 99 0001 002 | 058 01 0917 006 | 070 01 0030 302 |
| 013 01 0558 000 | 036 99 0008 000 | 056 02 0075 000 | 070 01 0031 001 |
| 014 99 0017 702 | 042 02 0326 305 | 057 03 0273 004 | 070 01 0036 005 |
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| 020 99 0007 007 | 042 98 0005 000 | 061 01 0119 303 | 071 02 0122 000 |
| 021 99 0001 710 | 043 01 0363 300 | 061 01 0123 303 | 071 02 0123 000 |
| 026 99 0029 002 | 043 01 0118 000 | 061 01 0125 303 | 071 02 0124 000 |
| 026 99 0030 700 | 043 02 0263 001 | 061 01 0280 303 | 071 02 0125 000 |
| 027 01 0005 000 | 043 03 0049 000 | 061 01 0281 303 | 071 02 0126 000 |
| 027 03 0027 306 | 045 01 0288 000 | 061 01 0283 303 | 071 02 0127 000 |
| 027 04 0016 304 | 045 01 0303 300 | 061 01 0284 303 | 071 02 0128 000 |
| 028 01 0012 304 | 045 01 0306 001 | 061 01 0286 303 | 071 02 0129 000 |
| 028 04 0037 002 | 045 01 0318 000 | 061 01 0287 303 | 071 02 0130 000 |

2006 PRIVATE WEEDS PAR-NUM	2006 PRIVATE WEEDS PAR-NUM	2006 PRIVATE WEEDS PAR-NUM
071 02 0131 000	076 03 0034 000	083 99 0028 000
071 02 0132 000	079 02 0003 000	084 01 0009 000
071 02 0133 000	079 02 0004 000	084 01 0011 000
071 02 0134 000	079 02 0010 000	084 01 0012 000
071 02 0135 000	079 02 0012 000	084 01 0013 000
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073 03 0343 000	083 02 0007 302	084 01 0134 000
073 03 0384 000	083 02 0021 300	084 01 0136 303
073 03 0385 000	083 02 0022 301	084 01 0140 301
073 03 0388 000	083 02 0030 000	084 02 0691 000
073 03 0390 000	083 02 0033 303	084 02 0712 000
073 03 0393 000	083 02 0057 303	084 02 0728 000
073 03 0394 000	083 02 0058 303	084 02 0730 000
073 03 0396 000	083 02 0060 303	084 02 0740 000
074 01 0753 000	083 02 0061 303	084 02 0741 000
074 01 0767 301	083 02 0066 301	COMMON AREA
074 06 1171 000	083 02 0068 000	COMMON AREA
074 06 1213 003	083 02 0071 000	COMMON AREA
075 01 0021 307	083 02 0092 000	COMMON AREA
075 02 0024 000	083 02 0093 301	COMMON AREA
075 02 0056 000	083 02 0097 000	DETENTION
075 05 0160 000	083 02 0109 000	POND
075 07 0007 001	083 02 0110 300	LOTS OWNED
075 07 0008 001	083 02 0112 000	BY
075 99 0007 002	083 02 0113 000	
075 99 0008 000	083 03 0149 000	
075 99 0009 700	083 03 0195 000	
076 03 0030 000	083 03 0199 000	
076 03 0031 000	083 03 0227 301	
076 03 0032 000	083 04 0259 000	
076 03 0033 000	083 05 0316 332	

Notice is hereby given that all noxious weeds growing on any land in the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan, must be destroyed on or before the 15th day throughout the months of May, June, July, August, September and October of 2006. Any person failing to comply with this notice on or before the dates mentioned shall be liable to the imposition of penalties set forth in Section 106-97 of the Westland Code of Ordinance and shall be liable for all expenses incurred by the City in destroying said noxious weeds, which expenses, if unpaid by the owner, occupant, or agent, shall be spread against the property on the next County and School tax roll or the next general City tax roll.

City of Westland
Commissioner of Noxious Weeds

Publish: August 31, 2006

0E08468105

17 named to National Honor Roll

Several Wayne and Westland residents have been named to the 2005-2006 National Honor Roll which recognizes high-achieving high school and middle school students. Only students with a B average or better are eligible to be listed on the honor roll.

Named to the list were:

Jordan Dottor of Westland — A student at Wayne Memorial High School, his honors include the Honor Roll and Academic Letter.

Jessica Erlings of Westland — A student at Ladywood High School in Livonia, her honors include High Honor Roll, National Honor Society, National Merit semifinalist and Timothy Award for Christian Service.

Chad Fielek of Westland — A student at Huron Valley Lutheran High School, his accolades include Honor Roll and Perfect Attendance.

Stephen Gearhart of Westland — A student at Wayne Memorial High School, his honors include Honor Roll and Outstanding Academic Achievement Award.

James Harris of Westland — A student at Wayne Memorial High School, his honors include Honor Roll, Outstanding Academic Achievement Award, Perfect Attendance and Student of the Month.

Alysa Henning of Westland — A student at Wayne Memorial High School, her honors include Honor Roll, Most Valuable Player, National Honor Society, Presidential Academic Fitness Award, *Who's Who Among American High School Students* and Outstanding Students of America Award.

Elizabeth Ford of Wayne — A student at Wayne Memorial High School, her honors include Honor Roll, *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, first place in Black History Month essay contest and second place Solo/Ensemble for two years.

Zakiyah Calvin of Westland — A student at Melvindale High School, his honors include class salutatorian.

Sarah Collins or Westland —

A student at John Glenn High School, her honors include Honor Roll, Most Valuable Player, National Honor Society, National Science Award, Perfect Attendance, U.S. Achievement Academy, *Who's Who Among American High School Students* and National Society of High School Scholars.

Chris Collingsworth of Wayne — A student at Wayne Memorial High School, his honors include Honor Roll.

Nikhil Kalothia of Westland — A student at John Glenn High School whose honors include Honor Roll, National Honor Society, Perfect Attendance, Student of the Month, *Who's Who Among American High School Students*, Principal's Award for Excellence and Academic Letter Award.

Samatha Paul of Westland — A student at Lutheran High School Westland, her honors include Honor Roll and National Honor Society.

Ilona Piernicka of Wayne — A student at Wayne Memorial High School whose honors include Honor Roll, *Who's Who Among American High*

School Students and second place in Skills USA Regionals.

Erin Sadek of Westland — A student at Divine Child High School in Dearborn, her honors include Honor Roll, Most Valuable Player, Outstanding Academic Achievement Award and *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.

Brittany Smith of Wayne — A student at Wayne Memorial High School, her honors include Citizenship Award, Foreign Language Honor Society, Honor Roll, National Merit Scholarship recipient, Perfect Attendance and National Hispanic Honor Society.

Jessica Tuggle of Westland — A student at Ladywood High School, her honors include Honor Roll, National Honor Society, National Leadership Service Award and All-State Honorable Mention for Field Hockey.

Taylor Tuttle of Westland — A student at Wayne Memorial High School whose honors include Citizenship Award, Honor Roll, Student of the Month and National Junior Honor Society.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING**

September 14, 2006

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, September 14, 2006 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the following proposed Re-zoning:

RZ 06-005, Proposed re-zoning of Lots 1660 through 1663, Parcel ID # 35-012-01-1660-001 (Inkster Road, N' of John Hawk) from R-1 Residential to C-2 Community Business.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

Paul C. Zelenak, Director
Community Development Department

Publish: August 31, 2006 0E08468553

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Mon.-Thurs., AUG. 21-24 and AUG. 28-31

COMPANY AUDITIONS for the 2006-2007 SEASON: 7 pm, Thurs., AUG. 24
(Required parent meeting at 5:30)

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Your dog already thinks that it's the star of the family...now let the world see it in print. Celebrate National Dog Week September 18-24, 2006! Place your dog's photo on a page designed just for them! This page will run in our papers on Sunday, September 17.

Salute "Man's Best Friend" for National Dog Week!

Fletcher the fetcher
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Trendy style meets thrifty budget at new H&M

AFFORDABLE, CHIC FASHIONS

On Sunday, Aug. 31, Twelve Oaks mall in Novi will welcome the addition of Swedish fashion retailer H&M, Hennes & Mauritz.

The opening marks the third Michigan location for H&M. Stores at Briarwood Mall in Ann Arbor and Lakeside Mall in Sterling Heights opened last spring. While the store may be new to the area, the H&M brand has been an established source for affordable, trendy clothing and

accessories for more than 50 years.

"The city of Detroit has strong roots in the music and automotive industries and these influences are woven into the fashion scene," said Sanna Lindberg, H&M's U.S. country manager. "We are thrilled to bring fashion and quality at the best price to the Twelve Oaks Mall, and offer our Novi customers a means to express their personality with H&M."

The single-story location measures approximately 6,000 square feet and

will focus on women's fashions. It also offers H&M's first lingerie department in Michigan.

Customers are expected to run out on opening day to purchase the track-suit H&M designed for Madonna this year. It will be available in black, white and purple - with separates starting at \$24.90. The retailer is also known for its collaborations with style icons like Stella McCartney and Karl Lagerfeld.

Twelve Oaks Mall marks the 105th

H&M to open in the U.S. To celebrate the opening, the retailer will offer the first 100 customers a complimentary shirt and a 20 percent discount.

Shopping hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday at Twelve Oaks Mall. H&M will open at 27474 Novi Road. For more information, call (248) 449-7053.



Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about new and changing businesses for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. E-mail tips on your new, favorite Wayne County shop to scasola@hometownlife.com or call (734) 953-2054.

Drivers need to be cautious, heed kids

As nearly 1.8 million Michigan students (pre-K-12) prepare to head back to school, AAA Michigan reminds motorists to slow down and watch out for pedestrians.

"Children get caught up in the excitement of the season and forget to look out for cars," said Jack Peet, AAA Michigan community safety services manager. "Many youngsters have trouble making accurate judgments about traffic speed and distance, so drivers have to be particularly aware."

One-fifth of all children 14 years or age and younger who die in motor vehicle crashes are pedestrians, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. These pedestrian fatalities are more likely to happen in the afternoon hours, when school is letting out.

Drivers should look out for children who may dart out into the street near school zones, playgrounds, bus stops and in neighborhoods.

AAA's School Open - Drive Carefully campaign encourages motorists to stay alert in areas where children are present, paying special attention during the morning and afternoon hours while children are coming to and from school.

Drivers should look out for children who may dart out into the street near school zones, playgrounds, bus stops and in neighborhoods. School-age children can be especially vulnerable in areas with heavy traffic volume, parked vehicles on the street, higher posted speed limits and few pedestrian-control devices.

As part of the School's Open - Drive Carefully campaign, AAA Michigan offers drivers tips to keep school children safe:

- Studies show that more than one-third of motorists in school zones or neighborhoods just "roll through" intersections with a stop sign. Slow down in or near school and residential areas, and be sure to come to a complete stop in all intersections.

- Drive with your headlights on - even during the day - so children and other drivers can see you.

- Look for clues such as AAA School Safety Patrol members, crossing guards, bicycles and playgrounds which indicates children could be in the area.

- Scan between parked cars and other objects for signs that children could dart into the road.

- Practice extra caution in adverse weather conditions.

- Pay particular attention near school during the morning and afternoon hours.

- Always stop for school buses that are loading and unloading students.

"Drivers should always be aware of their surroundings, but especially around children," said Peet. "Remember: school's open - drive carefully."

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All Varieties

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OUR VIEWS

Unions still matter during hard times

On Monday we celebrate Labor Day, a time to reflect on the important contributions of workers in the growth and prosperity of the United States and on the special place of organized labor in the country's political and economic history.

But these are hard times for America's unions. In 2005, only 12.5 percent of wage and salary workers were union members. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, that marked a decline from a high of 20.1 percent in 1983, the first year for which comparable union data was available. But figures from the Labor Research Association report union membership in 1954 at 32.3 percent of the workforce.

Locally, the decline in the auto industry is creating new concerns for the United Auto Workers. A proposal by Ford Motor Co. to offer buyouts to its 82,000 hourly workers in the U.S. could mark a sharp reduction in UAW membership, which was already reeling from similar buyouts by General Motors earlier this year.

Corporations have been quick to move operations to the union-resistant South and to undeveloped countries where unions have been unable to gain a foothold.

Unions have been forced to accept major concessions on wages, health care and pensions which many members see as a retreat from past victories against corporate unwillingness to share profits.

The ascendancy of a conservative Republican Congress and president have also cost key government support for union causes. It is a changing economic world and some would argue that America's unions have been slow to understand the changes and adapt.

Young workers have no memory of what conditions were like before unions and often regard union membership and union dues as an imposition.

These are hard times, indeed, for organized labor. But it is important to remember that, especially in southeast Michigan, unions lifted the majority of workers and their families into the middle class. They fought for and won the eight-hour day, affordable medical coverage, good wages, safer work conditions, a voice in company operations for workers, day care programs, wider acceptance of women and minorities in the workforce and much more.

Perhaps they have peaked, but unions will continue to be a voice in this region and nationally, even as they struggle to define what their role will be.

Later start won't alter education

All over the state, as summer begins its decline into autumn, children are starting to get antsy, just as their parents are growing ever more excited. Most schools in the state will begin classes Tuesday, meaning it's just about time for the kids to put down the video games and soccer balls and once again pick up the books.

Actually in years past, most children would already be in class, but a new state law is taking effect this year in more and more school districts across the state that prevents school from starting before the Labor Day holiday weekend. Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed the law, Public Act 144 of 2005, into law Sept. 29, 2005.

The only exceptions to the rule are districts that already had teacher contracts in place before the law was signed that specify the days teachers will work.

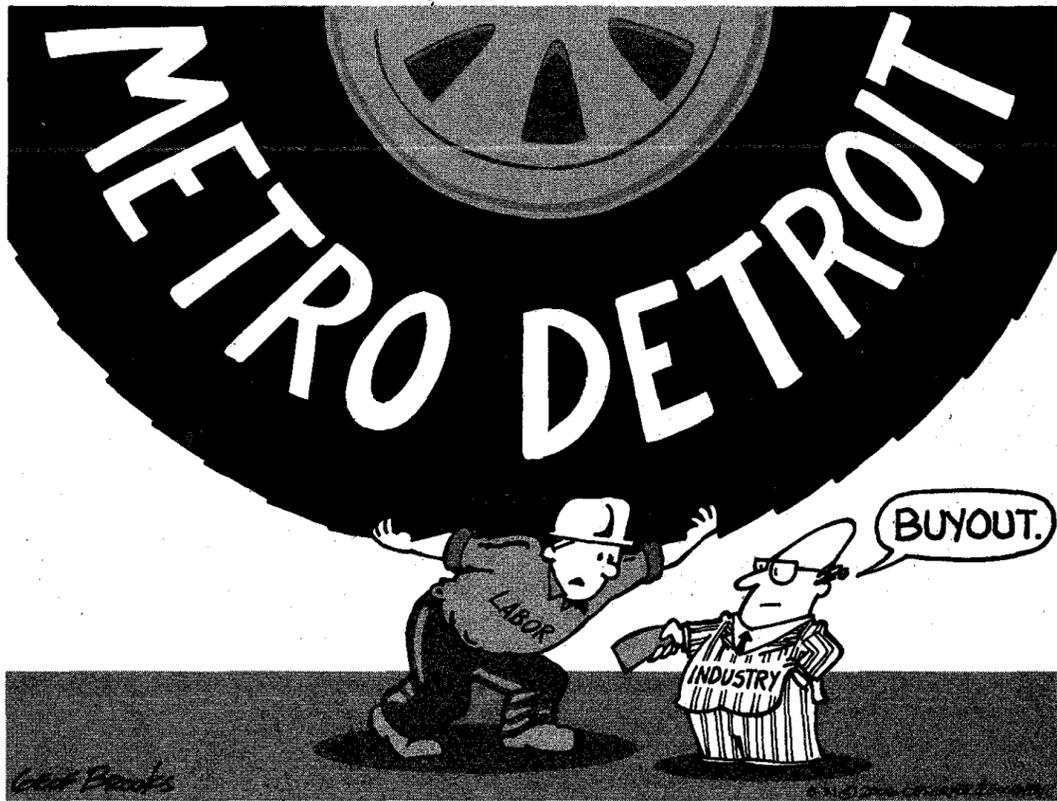
The point of the law is to give a boost to the state's tourism industry by letting families take advantage of the holiday weekend and go on vacations later into the summer. Some critics have said the law means the state is putting the economy ahead of the education of our children.

But the law really doesn't alter the amount of instruction students must have during the course of the school year. Schools are still required to provide nearly 1,100 hours of instruction. Districts just need to figure out how to squeeze those hours of instruction into the course of the school year. Some districts have chosen to end a week later in June, while others have eliminated the number of days they have off during the year.

The Tourism Industry Coalition of Michigan and other pro-business groups have advocated the change for years, believing it could mean an estimated 2,000 new jobs, more than \$100 million in economic activity and another \$10 million in added tourism-related tax revenue for the state that wouldn't have occurred if school started before Labor Day.

Perhaps those numbers are pie in the sky, but for small towns across the state that rely on summer tourism, the change could be significant. It will give them an extra week in which their cash registers will be ringing. That can only be a good thing for a state economy that hasn't exactly been humming along in recent years.

Plus, giving families some extra time to spend together shouldn't be frowned upon, despite the fact that some parents are ready for the school year to start (e.g., get the kids out of their hair). What's one more week?



LETTERS

Comments are cruel

Reading the (Aug. 17) article regarding the 90-year-old driver who killed an 82-year-old woman in the Meijer parking lot and injured another, who is surviving:

I was appalled by the statement made from the victim's daughter, Anita Gillman. She was so concerned that (the defendant's) license should be taken away, or why didn't his family do this. Well, her mother was 82 years young and driving. Should she have taken her license away?

You cannot fault the elderly wanting to be independent. Perhaps he has no family. Did she think about that before she made the statement. The only means we have of traveling is by bus, cab or automobile, in which case he may not be able to afford. There may not be a bus or cab that would take him at the time wished.

Perhaps, we need to start a program that would cater to our young elderly.

He could have been having a medical attack. You should not make a comment until you are aware of the whole situation.

I'm sorry for her loss, but she should not go around making cruel comments on the elderly. We will all soon be there, and then what? As for the elderly, we have teenagers and middle-age drivers that do not drive properly. It's so easy to blame others.

Diana Fox
Westland

Officer was very helpful

I would like to thank Officer Hochstein of the Westland Police Department for being such a helpful and courteous person.

My car broke down on Palmer and Wildwood on the evening of Aug. 20. He stayed there until I got a tow truck and a ride home. Thank you, Officer Hochstein, for all your help.

Lenore Edwards
Taylor

Responsible drinking

It would be troubling if the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning and state law enforcement are saying literally to citizens celebrating Labor Day: "You Drink & Drive. You Lose." This is simply not the case. It is legal in all 50 states (including Michigan) to drink responsibly prior to driving.

To put the issue in perspective, studies from *The New England Journal of Medicine*, the University of Utah, and elsewhere show that motorists who drive while talking on a hands-free cell phone are more "impaired" than people driving at the legal limit of .08 percent blood alcohol content. Responsible adults who have had a glass of wine with dinner or a beer at Labor Day cookouts are behaving safely and legally when driving themselves home.

John Doyle
executive director
The American Beverage Institute
Washington, D.C.

Everything isn't fine in Iraq

Recently, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution which basically stated to not set any timetables for withdrawals of the troops. Curiously,

my Rep. Thaddeus McCotter cast a present but not voting vote on this resolution. I say curious because McCotter has always publicly supported this invasion of Iraq.

When asked by a constituent at a town hall meeting why we were in Iraq, McCotter answered that this was to fight the ones who attacked us on 9/11. Now, if McCotter was half as smart as he thinks he is he would know that Iraq had absolutely nothing to do with the ones who attacked us on 9/11. He would know that the seeds for this invasion were planted by the neo-conservatives in the present administration in the early 1990s after George Bush's father failed to take out Saddam Hussein at that time and thereby take control of the rich oil fields in Iraq.

So, because of George Bush's Oedipian insecurities (they're not going to call me a wimp like they did my daddy), Dick Cheney's lust for oil, and Donald Rumsfeld's desire to show off how lean and mean his military could be (anyone remember shock and awe?), we are now bogged down in an unnecessary and unwinnable conflict in Iraq. This conflict at the present time has cost us over 2,600 American lives, thousands more wounded so badly they cannot return to combat, tens of thousands of Iraqi citizens slaughtered and hundreds losing their lives everyday with no end in sight. We have spent over \$400 billion on this war while school teachers have to buy their own school supplies and Congress is continually raising the debt ceiling to pay for this war. Iraq is in civil war but we are constantly told by this administration that everything is just fine. Call McCotter at (734) 632-0314 to ask him about this cowardly nonvote. Be forewarned however. Any conversation with the arrogant Mr. McCotter and you will very quickly come to the realization that not only should McCotter not be running for the House, he should not be let out of his own house.

Kenneth Hymes
Redford

Uninformed

During her recent meeting with local constituents, U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow revealed her complete ignorance of economics and history while condemning the oil industry.

She called Exxon Mobil's recent profits "outrageous." I wonder how she would characterize the fact that from 1977 to 2004, taxes on gasoline swelled state and federal treasuries by \$1.34 trillion while oil companies earned \$640 billion. If oil company profits are "outrageous," what should we call the government's take? "Criminal" is one word that comes to mind.

Her claim that the oil industry lacks competition is blatantly false. One would hope that senators offering "solutions" to high gasoline prices understand how energy markets work. Crude oil is bought and sold by thousands of oil traders in the world market. The prices they bid are based on factors such as supply, demand and speculation. Contrary to her attempts to vilify "Big Oil," five companies do not make up and control the oil industry.

Stabenow suggested that alternatives be developed to combat high fuel prices, but this isn't anything new. The federal government has given away billions of dollars over several decades to fund research into

alternative fuels. The results have not been promising. Ethanol has received subsidies for 30 years and only makes up 3 percent of the U.S. market. Without federal aid, the ethanol market would collapse. The big buzz today revolves around E85.

Unfortunately, this latest fad receives 51 cents per gallon in federal tax assistance, costs about the same as regular gas, and delivers fewer miles per gallon.

Certainly a successful alternative would be welcome. However, does anyone really believe Congress can come up with one? After all, we are talking about a group that promotes policies that have effectively eliminated competition in health care and education.

My suggestion to the busybodies in Congress is to let the free market reduce the price of gas. The best fix for high gas prices is high gas prices. Those "outrageous" profits attract two things - investments to expand production and refining capacity. This increases supply and lowers prices. Second, they attract entrepreneurs seeking riches. The people who develop a legitimate alternative to gasoline stand to make billions, perhaps trillions, of dollars. The chance for such a lucrative prize will drive the search for a successful alternative better than the misguided and politicized tax incentives promoted by Stabenow.

Steve Sutton
Farmington Hills

Politics, school vouchers

It was gratifying to read Hugh Gallagher's editorial on politics and school vouchers. Dick DeVos has cleverly distanced himself during this campaign from the failed attempt for school vouchers. In addition, he fails to mention Amway Corporation from which his fortune came or that his wife is the former state Republican chair. All the while claiming not to be a politician. Go figure!

The funds for public schools would most certainly be negatively affected by vouchers, one of Mr. DeVos's top priorities. As you pointed out, the public schools, which must accept and educate all children, are the backbone of the democracy and must be supported by the populace.

It is important for the state's electorate to realize the hidden agenda of his candidacy for governor. You have served this purpose well with your editorial.

Janet Muir
Farmington Hills

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QUOTABLE

"We admired his courage because you could tell he wasn't telling us everything so we wouldn't worry, but he knew he was going back to a dangerous situation."

- Doug Blake about his son, Joe, who was killed in a firefight in Afghanistan on Aug. 17.

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Labor Day should be more than parties and parades

Wheh, a holiday weekend is about to begin — hooray! Labor Day is here. I can smell the hot dogs cooking, hear splashing in the lake and swimming pools and the know the moans from the kids and cheers from the parents are ahead, realizing that summer is over and it is back to school!

Yet, Labor Day should take on a particular significance this year with Michigan's unemployment rate at 7 percent — nearly twice as high as the national average — and the fear that is caused by the constant drum beat of negative economic news pounding on both white- and blue-collar workers.

It does not seem to matter if you are living in affluent neighborhoods or working-class communities, few do not know the personal human tragedy that the loss of income and hope can cause.

Has a member of your immediate family lost a job recently? Or perhaps it's a neighbor who is out of work. You can see the financial and emotional strain of unemployment. It takes its toll on friends and family alike.

More than a hundred years ago, workers decided they deserved a day of celebration for their labor. The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated Tuesday, Sept. 5, 1882, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. It was dubbed the "workingman's" holiday! Peter McGuire, an Irish-American cabinet maker and pioneer unionist with the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, proposed a day dedicated to all who labor.

McGuire introduced his idea May 18, 1882, at a meeting of the Central Labor Union.

"Let us have a festive day during which a parade through the streets of the city would permit public tribute to American Industry," he said.

The holiday was born in New York City and it spread across the country as the rights of workers were demanded and won.

On June 28, 1894, long-time labor antagonist President Grover Cleveland, under pressure from the voters, signed a bill establishing the Labor Day holiday.

While the idea of a labor holiday originated in New York City, there is no place on earth as identified with the labor movement as Detroit.

The United Automobile Workers union not only fought for better wages and working conditions, but has a proud tradition of fighting for social justice for all Americans.

Clearly, this great country of ours was based on extraordinary vision, principles and ideals, but it was built by blood, sweat and tears of working men and women. We built a nation that has the highest standard of living for working people in the history of the world. Our workers are the most productive and have helped define our skylines, build interstate highway systems, connect peninsulas and islands with magnificent bridges, picked up our trash, educated our children and, with Rosie the Riveter, made Detroit the Arsenal of Democracy and helped us win two world wars.

Yet, as my teenagers like to say, "That was then — this is now."

Today, with the shrinkage of the domestic auto market bought about through technology and foreign competition, the "American Dream" is fading for many Michigan autoworkers who are slipping out of the middle class.

The blue-collar middle class in Michigan and America is clearly being eroded and many fear it will become extinct if something is not done soon.

For Michigan and America to remain strong, we cannot mortgage our workers' future, our basic principles of fairness and our way of life. The viability of our society, the strength of our economy, the quality of our lives and the vibrancy of our democracy depend on the strength of working men and women of this country.

We cannot expect to build a better world and spread democracy while we undermine and impoverish the American worker.

Yet sadly, much of the enthusiasm for working men and women to "celebrate" their day is melting away like an ice cream cone on a hot summer day.

So today, every American should get "mad as hell" and in the fine labor movement tradition demand that our government, at every level, do something, or as FDR said, "Do something and if that does not work, do something else, but for God's sake, do something!" to protect our way of life.

Here are some suggestions.

- Demand that President George W. Bush meet with the auto executives and work on policies and laws that benefit our auto industry.

- Protect our intellectual, innovative and creative property from foreign competitors that are stealing us blind.

- Develop a training and retraining program that will rival the Marshall Plan to provide the skills, training and education to every worker in need.

- Invest in education, especially math, science and the arts. Be bold, like President John F. Kennedy was when he called for putting a man on the moon within the decade. Propose big ideas and pledge to make America the creative, innovative brain bank of the world.

- Find ways to provide affordable, decent health insurance to the more than 43 million (and growing) people without it.

- Invest in research and development.

- Support global trade, but assure that it is fair and enforceable.

On this Labor Day, let the American people, with Michigan leading the way, put pressure on today's president and Congress to invest in America's working men and women.

Now that would be something to celebrate.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools 2001-05 and as president and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Fla., 1996-2001. Read his internationally recognized report: The New Education (R)evolution at www.nacol.org. He can be reached at tdwatkins@aol.com.



Tom Watkins

Producing fun environment at work helps with motivation

"Live and work but do not forget to play, to have fun in life and really enjoy it."

Eileen Caddy

If you were to walk through my workplace you may just think that the staff is loony. It is Friday at 4:15 p.m. and normally dressed in suits and dresses, the staff is instead donned in casual wear. Giggles from the women and the men are heard down the hall as beach balls hit them in the head and an impromptu game of volleyball takes place.

The sounds of "Do the Hustle" echo as the co-workers put their work aside to dance down the hall. And these people are professionals? Absolutely! And they love what they do and have fun doing it!

With stress and anxiety edging up the claims ladder for workers' compensation and the staggering numbers associated with employee turnover, employers are looking at ways to produce a fun environment, which also produces motivation.

Not as easy as it seems, though. There are many obstacles that have to be moved to be able to do this. How do you motivate employees? The answer is both simple and complex. You can't motivate employees. You can only create an environment where employees can remain or become motivated.

Managers who actually listen to their employees is the first main key to motivating them. If employees believe that their manager is willing to hear both good and bad news and actually do something with the suggestions made, then the employees will have a greater commitment to the job and a renewed interest in teamwork.

Once the manager is receptive to completing the steps and planting the seed, there is another obstacle — motivation comes from within each separate person. You cannot make someone motivated.

Does everyone participate where I work? Not always. There will always be employees who feel that it is a waste of time or just bad to have fun at work. Having supportive supervisors help and those that join in fertilize the environment.

One of the most famous places spurring a frenzy of fun is the world famous Pike Place Fish Market in Seattle. Working with stinky fish all day and ornery customers, the owner, John Yokoyama decided to make it fun. Being labeled a tyrant and feeling like he hadn't accomplished much, he instead

decided to implement a set of Essential Creative Principles with the determination to become "World Famous." The company believed that it was possible to impact lives.

The four principals of FISH! are play, make their day, be there and choose your attitude. By following these four principals, John and his company are committed to sharing this "fishy" way of life with other corporations. Word of the philosophy has soared and large companies, such as IBM, Marriott, Spring and Intel, have gone FISH! crazy.

The employees at Pike Place wear big rubber pants while they fling fish (play). With a smile on their faces, they joke with the customers or those just coming to watch the "show" (choose your attitude). Often times, they drag people off the street, or the "yogurt dudes" (business people who work down the street who come to watch the Pike Place employees work to get motivated) into the store and make them fling fish with them (make their day). Looking directly into their eyes and getting to know their customers, the people go away laughing and relaxed (be there).

Nobody needs to actually purchase anything; however, their sales have skyrocketed and not one penny has been spent on advertising. And when hit with the bad economy and John thought he would have to lay staff off, employees pulled together and came up with a plan making that month sales the highest they ever had. No, this is not a "fish story!"

You don't sell fish? Just thinking about the four principles with regards to the industry and this philosophy can be fit into all of them. But again, management and employees need to work together to come up with a plan — and nurture creativity.

I work in human resources where there always seems to be a large crowd of employees congregated around our desks in this department. As hosts, laughter is the appetizer offered. The cobwebs clear out of the mind with breaks and laughter melts the stress. Schools understand that children need recess breaks to eliminate boredom and routine, the same remains true for employees — and productive and happy employees make companies money.

No matter who you speak regarding motivation in the workplace, the bottom line stays true. You can create the atmosphere for motivation, but you cannot make someone motivated. That comes from within each individual person.

Kristy Schiller is a resident of Westland and works in the human resources field, but her favorite job of all remains mom to her two children.



Kristy Schiller

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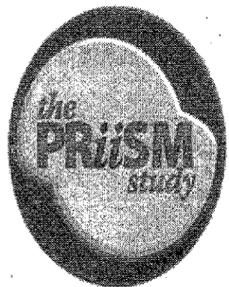
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First year of college critical to success

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER



Barefoot

It seems pretty obvious – to succeed at college you have to go to class. But according to a national expert on college students' first year, many students fail to grasp the idea.

"Where do students get the notion that they can choose not to go to school?" said Dr. Betsy Barefoot, co-director of the Policy Center on the First Year of College in North Carolina.

"In public school, we are particular about attendance with truant officers and such. In college, we turn the tables and it's really up to you. We turn control over to the student."

Barefoot is bringing her expertise to Schoolcraft College as part of the school's First Year Initiative. The Policy Center on the First Year of College began 1999 with a grant from the Pew Charitable Trust as an outgrowth of the University of South Carolina's National Center for the First-Year Experience. The non-profit independent center now operates out of Brevard, N.C.

"We work to help colleges and universities improve the first year and the way they bring students into the academic experience," Barefoot said.

Schoolcraft is one of 36 colleges involved in a yearlong analysis and improvement plan. Central Michigan University is the only other Michigan school involved. On Monday, Barefoot met

with Schoolcraft staff and faculty. She will be surveying staff, faculty and students.

"I will be a coach, reactor, critical friend. I will respond to everything they do," she said.

The first year is thought to be critical for the success of a college student.

"The first year is often a time period when students solidify whether to pursue higher education or not pursue higher education," Barefoot said. "It affects attitude – is this important, significant or a waste of time. Students decide to get a major or change a major. They get good grades or they dig a hole they have a hard time getting out of."

She said the A students will get down to business but what were once known as "gentleman C" students will have a hard time making their limited goal unless they adjust to such simple rules as going to class and reading their textbooks.

"As Woody Allen said, '90 percent of success is just showing up,'" she said.

Adjusting to college is even harder for students at a commuter college like Schoolcraft, where students are often trying to balance school, work and family. Barefoot said the college's small class sizes and strong student support system have been helpful.

"We suggest that institutions create a welcoming and friendly environment, where students are brought in as members of the academic community," Barefoot said.

She urges students to meet with faculty on an informal basis and interact with them as mentors and role models. She also suggests that students become involved with other students through campus activities.

"Students need to know what is expected of them, but we also think that colleges need to be explicit about what they expect but also need to know what students expect of them," she said.

Here are some other suggestions for first-year students:

■ Make friends with someone in class whom you don't know. If you already know classmates, this will bring new friends into your life. If you come into the class knowing no one, you now have a friend and that can be helpful if you need to borrow someone's notes or are confused about an assignment.

■ Be sure to attend orientation. Orientation is optional on most campuses, but Barefoot said it is important to learn all you can about the campus. "Not participating in orientation is like buying a car without having the operating manual," she said.

■ Become involved in a campus activity such as a club or as a volunteer. You will begin to feel more a part of the institution and find your niche.

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Bingo begins at 6:45 p.m. Fridays in St. Mel Church activities building, on Inkster Road north of Warren. Doors open at 4 p.m. Food is available.

Shamrock Bingo
Bingo begins at 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 35100 Van Born, east of Wayne Road in Wayne. Doors open at 9 a.m. Food is available. Proceeds go to charity. Call (734) 728-3020.

K of C Bingo
Pope John XXIII Assembly of the Knights of Columbus Council 1536 hosts bingo games at 6:45 p.m. Thursdays. The games are in the Livonia Elks Lodge, 3117 Plymouth Road, one block east of Merriman in Livonia. Call (734) 425-2246.

FOR SENIORS

Friendship Center
The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland, offers a variety of programs for older adults. The Web site www.ci.westland.mi.us offers more information. Call (734) 722-7632.

Senior dinners
The Wayne Ford Civic League hosts Senior Dinner Dances with live entertainment several times each month for couples and singles 50 years and older. The cost is \$8 donation for members of the league and \$10 donation for non-members. All dances start at noon and run until 3:30 p.m. Meals include beer, wine, and fountain pop. For information and schedules, call (734) 728-5010.

Crochet & Knit
A crochet and knit group meets 9:30 a.m. every Friday at the Friendship Center on Newburgh near Marquette. Beverly Kaminski is the instructor. Participants should bring a type "G" crochet hook. Those interested can sign up at the center's front desk or call (734) 722-7632.

Visually Impaired
The Visually Impaired Persons (VIPs) support group meets 12:30 p.m. every

Friday at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland. Participants share information and meet others. Those interested in joining can be scheduled on a bus route for transportation. For information, call (734) 722-7632.

Hearing checks
Every third Tuesday of each month, a representative from Personalized Hearing Care of Westland will check and clean hearing aids free, 2-3 p.m. by appointment only. Call (734) 722-7632 for more information.

Exercise
Simply Jazzercise is designed for exercisers older than 50. The program provides a low to moderate workout. The exercise improves strength, flexibility, balance, posture, coordination and cardiovascular endurance. It incorporates simple dance routines with walking or jogging patterns and resistance exercises. Wear loose-fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Light weights and an exercise mat are suggested. Classes are 10:15 a.m. Monday, 5 p.m. Wednesday, 10:15 a.m. Friday, at \$3 per person per class. Sign up at the front desk at the Westland Friendship Center or call (734) 722-7632.

Travel Group
The Friendship Travel Group meets 1 p.m. the second Friday of each month (unless a large event is scheduled) in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. Programs include celebration of birthdays, door prizes, description of new classes or programs, speakers from tour companies, overview of day/overnight trips and refreshments. Call (734) 722-7632.

Dyer Center
The Wayne-Westland school district's Dyer Senior Adult Center offers activities Monday-Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, kitchen band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.

ORGANIZATIONS

Toastmasters
The Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club can help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of people by teaching public speaking in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday evenings at Denny's Restaurant, 7725 Wayne Road at Cowan. For more information, call John Elbe at (734) 414-3401 or Curt Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445.

Vietnam Vets
The Plymouth-Canton Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 528,

meet at 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of every month at the Plymouth VFW Post 6695, on S. Mill Street, just north of Ann Arbor Road. If you served in the U.S. military between 1964 and 1975, even, if not, "in country" (combat zone) you are still eligible to become a member. Visit the Web site at www.mihometown.com/oe/Plymouth CantonVVA for more information.

Friends of library
The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library organization meets at 2 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Call (734) 326-6123. Meetings last about one hour and are open to the public. The group also holds a book sale during regular library hours at the library.

In Harmony
The Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society meets at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Gentlemen interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting can call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal.

Civil Air Patrol
Emergency service is just one of the congressionally mandated missions of the Civil Air Patrol, which includes ground and air search-and-rescue operations. The Civil Air Patrol, which is the official U.S. Air Force auxiliary, is made up of civilian volunteers. To learn more about CAP or training as an air crew or ground team member, contact the Willow Run Composite Squadron (MI-260), Call Capt. Dane Hansen, deputy commander/recruiter, at (734) 485-3021 or visit the Web site www.members.home.net/capliberators/.

Habitat help
The Western Wayne affiliate of Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help with building homes, office duties and fund-raising. No experience necessary. Training will be provided. For information, call (734) 459-7744.

Veteran's Haven
Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate-donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. For information, call (734) 728-0527. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays. The Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne. Any honorably discharged Veteran that is in need or homeless and wants a better quality of life can call (734) 728-0527.

Pet-A-Pet
The Pet-A-Pet animal visitation pro-

gram provides pet therapy with the help of volunteers. Pets should be friendly, well-behaved and must have current vaccinations. There is a \$5 membership fee. Volunteer opportunities are available at Hope Nursing Care Center, 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month (Marie Johnson, (734) 326-1200), and Marquette House, 10:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month (Lorna Johnson, (734) 425-1681). There are also openings at Garden City Hospital, 3 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (Stacy Suida, (734) 458-4392).

Zonta Club
The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County, a service club to advance the status of women, meets every month on the fourth Monday at the Holiday Inn, Livonia. For more information, call Pat Harris at (734) 420-2920.

Franklin PTSA
The Franklin High School PTSA is seeking members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and the community. Members need not have a student in the school. Price is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy, Livonia MI 48150.

Tutorial program
A tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program, 3:45-5:15 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, is for students 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Tyrone Peterson, (734) 722-3660. Tutors need to have at least a high school education.

M.O.M.S.
M.O.M.S. Club of Canton/ Westland is a nonprofit support group for stay-at-home mothers. There are weekly events, Mom's Night Out, age-oriented play groups and more. For information, call Wendy, (734) 398-6957.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

Eating Disorders
Get help, get real information and real expectations, at an eating disorder support group which meets 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday in the auditorium of Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. All meetings are closed - for people of all ages with eating disorders and are free of charge. Family and friends support is on the second Wednesday of the month while parents support is on the fourth Wednesday of the month. For more information, call Darlene at (734) 324-3089.

Advocacy group
The Wayne-Westland Alliance for the

Mentally Ill, a self-help and advocacy group, meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, at Bayview, Westland. For more information, call (734) 362-8825.

TOPS
TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every Wednesday at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Weigh-in is 6:30-7:15 p.m., with the meeting 7:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, call Rosalie at (734) 728-0299.

Menopause & More
A Menopause & More support group for women meets 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. No registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge. For more information, call (734) 655-1100.

Support group
A support group for people with chronic illness meets on Fridays every other week, at the Westside Mental Health Services, 32932 W. Warren, Suite 103, Westland. The support group is a service of Awareness Counseling Services. There is a \$10 for each meeting which will be facilitated by a professional. For more information, call (734) 513-8295 or (313) 562-2800.

AIM
Anxiety or panic attacks? AIM (Agoraphobics In Motion) meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. AIM is a support group for those working on recovery from anxiety disorder or phobias. Call (248) 547-0400.

Angela Hospice
As part of its service to the community, Angela Hospice offers a variety of grief support groups free-of-charge to community residents. The groups are held at the Angela Hospice Care Center at 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, and are led by bereavement professionals and trained volunteers who aim to provide useful coping strategies and tools to facilitate the healing process.

- General Grief Support Group - Open to all losses. Meets at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.
- Loss of a Spouse Support Group - Meets 6:30-8 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month, beginning in February.
- Women's Grief Support Group - Held each Spring and Fall. Call (734)953-6012 for dates and times.
- Heartstrings: Parents Who Have Lost a Child - Meets 6:30-8 p.m. the first Thursday of each month. Call to register at (734) 464-2683.
- Grief Support Quilter's Group - A new Grief Support Quilter's Group is

looking for community members interested in making a quilt in memory of a loved one. No quilting or sewing experience is necessary. Dates and times to be determined. Call (734) 953-6012. Groups by Appointment - Loss of an Adult Child, Men In Grief. Call (734) 953-6012 for more information. Programs for Children - Reservations required for all children's programs. Register by calling (734) 464-2683. ■ Children's Grief Support Group - For ages 6-8 and 9-12. Meets winter, spring and fall 5-6 p.m. Thursdays for eight consecutive (April 6-June 1, Sept. 14-Nov. 2).

■ Children's Spring Workshop - 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 4. Angela Hospice also provides one-on-one grief support. For more information about Angela Hospice's grief support services, or to register for a group, call Joan Lee at (734) 953-6012.

Childbirth classes
Garden City Hospital, on Inkster Road at Maplewood, is sponsoring classes for parents of newborns, weekend childbirth instruction, a refresher childbirth education course and a new support group for expectant teens. Call (734) 458-4330.

Childbirth Association
Classes for childbirth preparation are offered at several Wayne County locations. Morning and evening classes are available. Registering new classes every month. Newborn care classes and Cesarean birth preparation are also offered. Call (734) 459-7477.

Fibromyalgia
The Garden City area chapter of the Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and CFS Association Support Group meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There are guest speakers and discussion on a variety of topics. There is no membership fee, however a small donation is greatly appreciated. Call Tina Wing at (734) 338-2226 or Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768.

HISTORIC

Pioneer trek
The Nankin Township Pioneer Trek has been designed to introduce travelers to the history of the area. Travelers will visit sites that affected the development of Westland as a community. Those who complete the trek will receive an embroidered patch. To start the trek, first visit the Westland Historical Museum and pick up a packet. The museum is at 857 N. Wayne Road and is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays, except before a holiday. The trek is sponsored by the Westland Historical Commission and the Friends of the Westland Museum. Call (734) 326-1110.

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HEAD START ENROLLMENT

Wayne County is enrolling 3-to-5-year-olds from income-eligible families and children with certified or suspected disabilities in the program through the fall. Head Start provides a variety of educational activities and health services at no cost. Wayne County Head Start programs are located all around the county, excluding Detroit, which operates its own program. Children participate in educational activities and receive medical, dental and nutrition services at no cost. For information, call (866) 534-5437. Parents can also directly contact the Head Start programs in their areas:

- Downriver and Southwestern Wayne County - The Guidance Center at (734) 785-7702
- Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Redford and Garden City - YWCA of Western Wayne County at (313) 581-0222
- Canton, Inkster, Livonia, and Plymouth (including Crestwood School District) - Starfish Family Services at (888) 887-9980
- Harper Woods, Highland Park and Hamtramck - Wayne Metro CAA at (313) 957-3043
- Wayne and Westland - Stottlemeyer Early Childhood Center at (734) 419-2630

ERA supporters boost women's rights

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Jane Strand of Detroit tells her children and grandchildren of the importance of passing the Equal Rights Amendment.

"The Equal Rights Amendment needs to be ratified. Equity is still an issue," said Strand, who represented the state American Association of University Women at a Saturday tea celebrating Women's Equality Day. "Young women probably feel they don't need it. They haven't come through what we've come through."

Strand was also at the Livonia Civic Center Library Aug. 26 to represent One United Michigan, working for "no" votes on this November's civil rights initiative on the Michigan ballot. She noted that women in Michigan earn only 67 cents to a man's dollar, in 49th place among the states.

Laura Callow of Livonia was among speakers. She's chair of the sponsoring Michigan Coalition for Equal Rights Studies, the education

To date, 35 of the 38 states needed have ratified, including Michigan. There is no longer a time limit on ratification, Callow told the approximately 50 supporters.

arm of Michigan ERAmerica. "We are celebrating the 86th anniversary of women getting the right to vote," Callow said. "We still need a second constitutional amendment to guarantee all our rights."

She gave a legislative update on the ERA, which was introduced in 1923 by Alice Paul just a few years after women won the vote. The ERA passed both houses of Congress and became an amendment in 1972, going to states for ratification.

To date, 35 of the 38 states needed have ratified, including Michigan. There is no longer a time limit on ratifi-

cation, Callow told the approximately 50 supporters.

She cited Illinois, Missouri, Florida and Arkansas as states where legislative action will be under way in 2007.

"You have to keep reminding people," Callow said. "There's a whole new generation that needs to be educated."

She cited attacks against Title IX, which includes guarantees of equity for women and girls in school sports. Callow urged the women and men present to push for equity in sports scheduling.

"I'm happy to tell you the ERA has not gone away," Callow said, adding that women's rights have been threatened recently by the Bush administration.

Strand spoke briefly on the November ballot issue on affirmative action, noting it continues to give women and minorities a level playing field and opportunities they otherwise wouldn't have.

Mickey Edell of Canton, state AAUW president, was among those present. She noted that women have

power, and should observe "the importance of celebrating Women's Equality Day."

Three women who recently died - Betty Friedan, Coretta Scott King and Detroit Councilwoman Maryann Mahaffey - were remembered Saturday, with Faith Robinson reading a poem in their honor. Lynette Brown of Bloomfield Township re-enacted the story of 19th century suffragist Ernestine Rose, who was born in Poland, moved to America and worked for women's property rights.

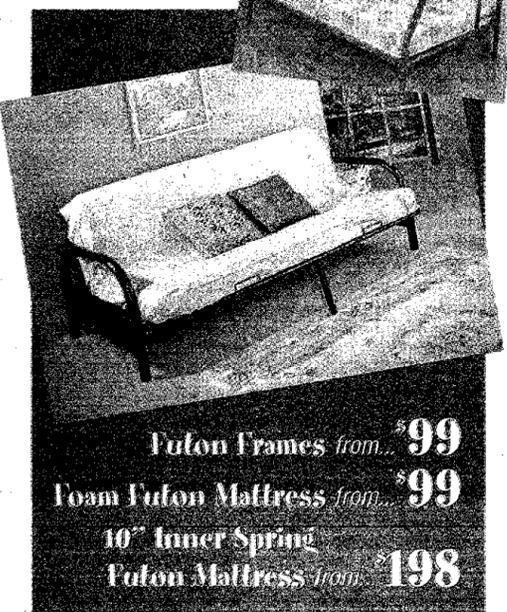
"Keep on working because good can happen," she told them in representing Rose.

Co-sponsors for the day were AAUW, the League of Women Voters of Michigan, Michigan Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom of Metropolitan Detroit.

Michigan ERAmerica can be contacted at MichERAmerica@cs.com, the ERA Campaign Network at www.ERACampaign.net.

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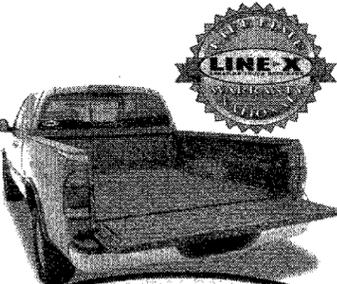
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RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

SEPTEMBER

Special worship

Services are planned to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. Victor Halboth 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 3, at Grace Lutheran Church, 25630 Grand River, Redford. Halboth has served at Grace Lutheran Church since 1957. His wife Blanche has been church secretary for 35 years. Leading the services will be their son, Rev. Timothy Halboth, senior pastor at Grace church. A reception follows each worship service in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, call (313) 532-2266.

Mackinac Bridge walk

Walk the bridge Labor Day morning, spend a day on Mackinac Island, enjoy an evening vesper cruise, have devotions in the shadow of the Mackinac Bridge Sunday morning, trip departs Saturday, Sept. 2 and return on Monday, Sept. 4. The price is \$299 (two per room) or \$230 (three-four per room) and includes two nights lodging at Baymont Hotel, bus transportation and ferry crossing to Mackinac Island. To be sensitive to the variety of Christian backgrounds in Single Point Ministries (age 30 and up), there will be no alcoholic beverages and no gambling. For more information, call (248) 374-5920.

Holiday picnic

Noon to 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 4, in Rotary Park on Six Mile, between Merriman and Newburgh, Livonia. Tickets \$5 adults, \$2 children under age 12, includes picnic foods grilled between noon and 2 p.m., and beverages. Please bring a dish to pass to complement the meal and join us for sun, food, games, fellowship and fun. To be sensitive to the wide variety of Christian backgrounds in Single Point Ministries (age 30 and up), there will be no alcoholic beverages or gambling. For information, call (248) 374-5920.

Catholic programs

You've been coming to Catholic liturgies for years with your spouse, but just haven't taken the plunge to become Catholic yourself. The opportunity has arrived at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington road, Livonia, Sept. 5th sees the start of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for those who would like to become Catholic. Call David Conrad, Director of Faith Formation, at (734) 425-5950 to discuss your conversion journey and begin formal entrance into the Catholic Church.

Fall program

Explore contemporary moral issues via sci-fi. Morality, conscience, human dignity - the Catholic Church's understanding of these topics shapes her understanding of today's hot topics: euthanasia, assisted suicide, the theory of just war, stem cell research, and more. Join us for an explanation and exploration of these and other topics using sci-fi episodes starting 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950.

Remarried workshop

7-8:15 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 6, to Dec. 13, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. This course is a must for any couples thinking about remarriage or already remarried. We can assist couples in blending families, parenting issues, communications, and finances. Call (248) 374-7400 for more information. No charge. Come for 1 session or all 13.

Prosperity program

Stretton Smith's 4 T Prosperity Program 8 p.m. Wednesdays Sept. 6 to Nov. 22, at unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Sign-up fee including book is \$35. Call (734) 421-1760.

Bible study

Explore the Gospel of Mark, chapters 8:22 to 16:8 Thursdays for eight weeks beginning Sept. 7, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950.

Divorce recovery program

Continues 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays to Sept. 28, and Oct. 19 to Dec. 4 (no workshop Thanksgiving Day), presented by Single Place Ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Northville. For information, call (248) 349-0911.

Laugh out loud

Guest comedian is Nazareth 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, in Knox Hall at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Tickets \$5. Free child care provided. Presented by Single Point (age 30 and older). Call (248) 374-5920.

Mom2Mom sale

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church and School in Redford. Admission \$1 per adult. Strollers welcome. If you are interested in renting a table at the sale, there are still some available. Call (313) 415-1977.

Bicycling group

10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, take I-275 south to Exit 1A (South Huron Road),

east on Huron to park entrance, south to Washago Pond. Single Point (age 30 and older) bike rides are geared to the tourist level rider but riders of all ability levels are welcome. All riders must wear a helmet. For more information, call Ward Presbyterian Church at (248) 374-5920.

Mom2Mom sale

Table renters wanted for sale 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at Garden City First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman at Maplewood. \$1 admission. Bake sale. Cost is \$25 for 6-ft. table, \$30 for 8-ft. table. Call Rhonda Harris for rental reservations or more information (734) 532-7818 or send e-mail to Harrisra@aol.com.

Family festival

Begins with a picnic at noon Saturday, Sept. 9, at First Baptist Church of Wayne, 36125 Glenwood, between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Highlights include a classic car show, live music, games, moonwalk, face painting, soap box derby cars, hayrides, ice cream novelties, and much more for all ages. Come meet the new pastor Phil DiLernia. The festival is free and all are invited. For more information, call (734) 721-7410.

Vendors wanted

For Yard and Craft Sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, at Denton Faith United Methodist Church, 6020 Denton, Belleville. Space available indoors and outdoors. Call (734) 941-2378 or (734) 495-0811.

GriefShare

A free recovery seminar and support group begins 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 10, and 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at Romulus Wesleyan Church, 37300 Goddard at Huron River Drive. Call (734) 941-1511 or (734) 941-1670. For more information, visit www.griefshare.org.

Remembrance service

Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Laverne, Redford, will hold a service of prayer, music, and scripture 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, marking the 5th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on our country. Please join us in worshipping our Lord and Savior as we commemorate/remember lives that were lost and place ourselves in God's hands. Any questions, call (313) 937-2415, or e-mail jmanor@nosannatabor.org.

Spirituality of aging

A look at our spirituality and our purpose in life now, at this age and time, with Sister Arlene Kosmatka, O.P., beginning 9:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 11, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950.

Ladies Bible studies

Begin Tuesday, Sept. 12, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville. Call (248) 348-7600.

Women of the Word offer the Life Change Study of the book of Genesis by NavPress 9:30-11:15 a.m. (\$15 registration fee includes interdenominational materials and free child care for ages through 5, and a study of the Patriarchs by Beth Moor 6:45-8:15 p.m. (\$20 fee and no child care.

Lay Caregiver program

Register by Sept. 13 for program with Dr. Paul Melrose, executive director of Samaritan Counseling Center, who discusses what is the safe and appropriate sense of space and distance between people 2:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. Eleven Mile, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$10. Call (248) 474-4701 or send e-mail to info@samaritancounselingmichigan.com.

Yard sale

Various tables of goodies including used household items, miscellaneous items and specialties like Avon, candles, tools, houseplants and crafts of all kinds 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. There will be a used clothing sale inside the church for \$1 a bag (plastic grocery), a good court, and a special drawing for two elephants. For information, call (734) 722-1735.

Monthly breakfast meeting

Bethany Suburban West meets Saturday, Sept. 16, at Leon's Family Dining, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City. Bethany Suburban West is a Catholic organization providing peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian denominations. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Call (734) 513-9479 for information.

Brunch praise and worship

Fall Into The Arms Of Jesus with speaker Robin Sullivan at Brunch, Praise & Worship, Fellowship 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at the Sheraton Hotel on Haggerty, Novi. \$18 per person by Sept. 8, \$22 at the door if available. Order at Robinsullivan.com or by phone at (248) 921-5453. Limited Seating.

Community picnic

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at New Beginning United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Join in the fellowship, fun, games, and food. For information, call (313) 255-6330.

Victorian tea

ROC International Church of Northville will again be sponsoring a Breakfast Tea to celebrate Northville's Victorian Festival 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville. A delicious breakfast, the

finest teas and an atmosphere of genteel friendship will set the tone for this year's inspirational message of faith. Beginning this season, the Tea introduces the series, A Victorian Romance. The Proposal will be the first of a three part journey of romance and love. Subsequent teas will highlight The Wedding (2007) and finally A New Life Together (2008). Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at Northville Candle Shop, Northville Chamber of Commerce, La Corsetiere or by calling (248) 982-7489. Victorian Dress is optional.

Rummage sale

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Sept. 18-19, at St. Mel's Church activity building, 7506 Inkster road, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call (734) 425-0732.

Re-marriage retreat

Remarried Ministries present a weekend getaway to Maranatha Retreat and Conference Center in Muskegon Sept. 22-24. Cost is \$299 per couple and includes two nights lodging, five meals, speakers Brent and Bonnie Keen, music by Bonnie Keen. Campfires, fun and fellowship. Remarried couples can call (248) 374-5912.

Religious education

Registration now being accepted for children's religious education on Sundays, sessions begin Sept. 24, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950. Attend 9:30 a.m. Mass as a family on Sunday followed by separate education sessions for children and adults that runs until noon.

Mom2Mom sale

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at Garden City First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman at Maplewood. \$1 admission. Bake sale. Call (734) 421-8628.

UPCOMING

50th celebration

St. John Bosco Church celebrates its 50th anniversary with a 11 a.m. Mass Sunday, Oct. 1, with Adam Cardinal Maida presiding, reception follows the Mass in Sheilreau Hall, 12100 Beech Daly, Redford. For more information, call (313) 937-9690.

Blood drive

The Red Cross will be holding a blood drive 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 8, in the Parish Hall at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins are welcome. Call (734) 464-1222, Ext. 309.

Parish mission

7 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Oct. 8-12, at St. John Bosco Church, 12100 Beech Daly, Redford. Refreshments follow in Social Hall. Rev. Richard Hart OFM Cap. presents Sharing the Good News. Sunday evenings topic is What is the Treasure We Share? Monday - Too Good a Secret to be Kept, Tuesday - Do You Love Me?, Wednesday - Are we a Forgiving Community? (reconciliation service), and Thursday - A Work that Cannot Fail. For more information, call (313) 937-9690.

Crafters needed

Riverside Park Church of God is sponsoring a craft bazaar Oct. 21 at the church, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. If you would like to purchase a table for this event, contact the church office to register at (734) 464-0990.

Crafters wanted

For the St. Thomas a' Becket Church Christmas Craft Show to be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at 555 S. Lilley, Canton. The church is now accepting applications for handmade crafts only. Call (734) 981-1333.

ONGOING

Personal ministry

Join us as we study the Word of God. Due Season Christian Church is a non-denominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

Farmington Women Aglow

Meets 5-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile. For more information, call Linda Boone at (248) 476-1053.

Bible and playtime

For moms and tots began 10-11 a.m. Wednesdays at Vineyard Church of Farmington Hills 29200 Shilwassee (by Middlebelt and Nine Mile). No charge. For information, call (248) 766-0143.

Scripture studies

7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

Fall registration

Spiritus Sanctus Academy is accepting registration for fall for its academies in Plymouth and Ann Arbor. The private, Catholic schools, grades K-8, are run by the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist at 10450 Joy, Plymouth, call (734) 414-8430, and 4101 E. Joy, Ann Arbor, call (734) 996-3855.

Worship schedule

New schedule continues to 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 3, summer worship, coffee hour follows in Fellowship Hall, Sunday school has been canceled for the summer, nursery is still available for infant through 2-years old, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038.

TOPS

Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, the group meets 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m. We are a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight sensibly and keep it off. For more information, call Mary at (734) 394-1328.

Learner's Bible study

7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six

Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Church service

Loving God by loving people, meets 10 a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 N. Wayne Rd. at Hunter, Westland. Doughnuts and coffee served. Call (734) 254-0093.

Bible study

Two classes meet 10 a.m. to noon the first and third Wednesdays, and 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursdays, at St. Michael's Catholic Church, on Plymouth at Hubbard, Livonia. The Wednesday group is studying Women of Courage in the Bible. The Thursday session is reading the Letters of St. Paul from prison. Based on Little Rock Scripture Series. Call (734) 261-1455.

School registration

Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran School is accepting applications for grades PK-8 for the 2006-07 school year, at 9600

Leverne, Redford. After school care 3-6 p.m. Call (734) 937-2233 for information.

Senior activities

Gathering for seniors 50 years and older 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of every month at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. Any questions, call (734) 464-0990. Put together a salad dish and come out and meet other seniors. Lunch is served followed by fellowship with some games and stories.

Church activities

St. James Presbyterian Church offers a Wednesday luncheon every other Wednesday at noon; Thursday dinner at 6 p.m. for \$4 followed by Bible study at 7 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 8 p.m. Thrift store is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday Church is at 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.



ANN

McMASTER SCOLLAY

Age 87, of Troy, MI died peacefully August 24, 2006. She didn't fully recover health and covered independence following hip surgery three years ago. Widow of George Scollay who died in 1980 after four decades of marriage. As a young secretary at Albert Kahn Associates, Ann moonlighted as an Oleg Cassini model. At mid-life, she started at Wayne State University and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. She traveled the world extensively. Skied at Otsego into her sixties. President of Bloomfield Republican Women's Club 1975-76. Ann was the last of Ireland-born Tom McMaster's five children born in Canada while he was a "Nickel Immigrant" daily taking the five cent ferry from Windsor across the Detroit River and back during and after WWI. He was a finish carpenter on such construction as the Michigan Theater Building in downtown Detroit. Graveside services for Ann were private at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery with Rev. Lana Russell. A Memorial Tea will be held at Kirk in the Hills at 3 pm on September 18, 2006. Memorials may be made in Ann's name to Kirk in the Hills, 13400 W. Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. Surviving are 12 nieces and nephews: Erin McMaster Paschke of Dearborn, Colleen (Ron) Noe of Dearborn Hgts., Tim McMaster of Bloomfield Hills, Bill (Diane) McMaster of Sterling Hgts., Linda (Dave) Mehney of Grand Rapids, Pam McMaster of Shelbyville, Sandy McMaster (Terry) Slayton of Rockford, Jean Riley of Sparks, NV., Robert (Carmen) Edmondson of Inkster, Tom (Cindy) Edmondson of Farmington Hills, Jean Edmondson of Warren, and Meg (Dr. Rick) Stouffer of Chapel Hill, NC. Aunt Ann's family is deeply appreciative of the dedicated care she received at Lourdes Nursing Home in Waterford.



BARBARA L. AUSSEM

(formerly Sterritt)

age 61, August 26, 2006, peacefully at home in Beverly Hills. Realtor for Max Brook Realtors. Beloved mother of John C. Sterritt, IV (h fiancée Sara). Dear sister of Richard L. Byer, Timothy A. Byer (Lynda), David B. Byer (Kristine) and Keith J. Byer (Barbara). Also survived by several nieces and nephews. Memorial service Thursday 2:00pm at First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. In lieu of flowers family suggests memorial tributes to The Village Club Foundation, 190 E. Long Lake Rd. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304. For information call A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

EVELYN L. PROKOP

Aug. 26, 2006. Age 86 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late Frank J., Dear mother of Frank (Mitzi) & the late Clark. Sister of Katherine Williams. Grandmother of Tanya (Eric) Seif, Laura (Paul) Norton, Melissa (Eric) Starnier, Christina (David) Critchell, Frank V. & Angela Prokop. Also survived by 8 great grandchildren and numerous nieces & nephews. Memorial service Tuesday 2 PM, August 29, 2006 at the UH Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland. Family requests memorials to the Westland Friendship Center or charity of choice. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhfuneralhome.com

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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EMILY (MILLIE) V.

SPAKOFF

Age 79, who loved to celebrate life with family and loved music, nature, and laughter, passed away at home, unexpectedly, on August 23, 2006. Services were held in her hometown of Harbor Beach, MI. She is survived by her dear husband, Alex Spakoff, with whom she shared 60 years of her life; her loving daughters, Sandy (Lynna) Spakoff of Hagerstown, Maryland, Debbie Swartz and her husband Mark of Perry, MI, and Shari Spakoff of Camano Island, Washington; her granddaughter Natalya (My Little Sweetheart) Swartz; and her sisters, Helen Wencley and Jane Helm. Predeceased by her brother, Walter Ways, and sister, Catherine Ways. Millie deeply loved her husband and children, and found renewed joy in her granddaughter, Natalya, whom she adored. We will miss her feisty, spunky, and ornery (but real and honest) spirit here on earth. Her family and friends deeply grieve her loss, but know that she is finally free of pain and suffering. May God bless her.

IRMA E. KELLEY

Age 83, passed away at Alexander Mercy Living Center in Royal Oak on August 29, 2006. Beloved wife of Alfred R. Kelley of Royal Oak. Dearest mother of Barbara L. (Terry W.) Glenister of Pittsburgh, Donald R. (Donna L.) Kelley of Berkley and Nancy J. (John L.) Daly of Chelsea. Loving grandmother of Julie & Shelley Glenister and James & Joseph Daly. She was preceded in death by 4 siblings. Friends may call on Friday from 3-9 PM at the Sawyer-Fuller Funeral Home, 2125 W. 12 Mile Rd., Berkley (2 bks. W. of Woodward). Funeral Service on Saturday at Franklin Community Church, 26425 Wellington, Franklin (W. off of Franklin Rd., S. of 14 Mile.) She will lie in state at 10:30 AM until the time of the funeral service at 11 AM. Rev. James Greer officiating. Interment Acacia Park Cemetery, Southfield. Those who wish may make contributions in memory of Mrs. Kelley to: Franklin Community Church and/or the American Cancer Society. Mrs. Kelley was born Irma Esther Papp on April 20, 1923 in Bucyrus, Ohio. She wed her husband of 63 years, Mr. Albert R. Kelley in Scranton, PA on Aug. 30, 1943. She was a homemaker who lived with her husband in Bloomfield Hills in the same house for 42 years. They were members of Franklin Community United Methodist Church, where she was quite active - especially involved with the rummage sales. Mrs. Kelley and her husband loved to play bridge and were world travelers. She enjoyed reading and played golf when she was well.



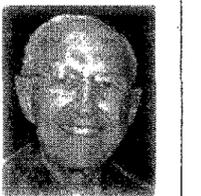
W. WILLIAM (Bill)

ELDRIDGE III

Of Hilton Head Island, SC, Washington DC and formerly of Bloomfield Hills, MI, died peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, August 6, 2006 at his Washington DC residence. He was preceded in death by his first wife Alice Marie Hadley Eldridge. Survivors include his sons W. William (Bill) Eldridge, IV (Anne) of White Lake, MI and Thomas Hadley Eldridge (Nancy) of Anchorage, AK; granddaughters Jillian and Kelly, his cousin Betty Ahrens of Florida and his wife Frances Ulmer. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery on September 29, 2006. A memorial will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2006 at the home of Anne and Bill Eldridge. Please contact the family for further details.

JOYCE L. ORR

age 88 of Northville Twp. died August 24, 2006. Beloved wife of James. Dear mother of Phyllis (David) Patton, James "Duke" (Carol), Kim (Jim) Gray, Cheryl (Dave) Hinkel. Grandmother of Drake, Kelley, Joanna, Richard, Christian and Jadelin. Great grandmother of Brooklin and Samantha. Sister of Barry (Kathy) McCabe. Visitation Manna-Ferguson Funeral Home 17000 Middlebelt (S. of 6 Mile) Thursday from 2 to 9 pm. In State Friday, 10:30 until time of Service at 11 am at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 West 6 Mile, Northville. Family suggests memorials to ALS. Share a memory at: www.mansfuneralhome.com



LOUIS JOSEPH GRAZIANO

Of Clarkston; formerly of Bloomfield Hills and Sarasota, FL; August 26, 2006; Age 81; beloved husband of Rose for almost 60 yrs; greatest & dearest father of Maria (Bob) Strom of Wixom, Linda (Warren) Hilderbrand of Clarkston, Tom (Sherry) of Grayling, Nancy (Mike) Weightman of Clarkston, Bob (Ginny) of South Africa, and Madeline (Dave) Yenchko of Farmington Hills; preceded in death by his son Louis, granddaughter Tara Graziano and grandson Bryan Weightman; precious papa of 16 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren; brother of Albert (Tisha) and Henry (Cathy), brother in law of Sara (the late Eugene all of IA. Louis served the US Army during WWII. He enjoyed bowling, tennis, golfing and table tennis. He retired as an executive at Ford Motor Company. Friends may visit at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston Monday 7-9pm and Tuesday 3-5 & 7-9pm with a scripture service Tuesday at 4:30pm. Funeral Mass Wednesday 10am at St. Daniel Catholic Church, Clarkston where friends may visit directly at the church from 9:30am until time of mass. Rite of Committal Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Society of the Little Flower or American Heart Association. Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com

OBITUARY

POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

Deadlines: Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday. Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

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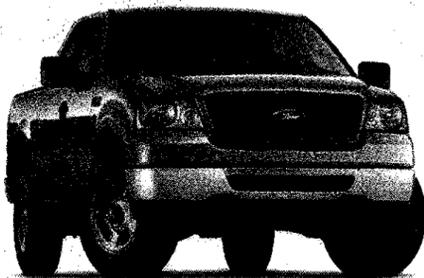
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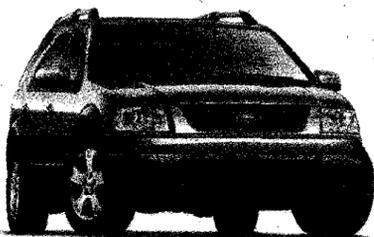


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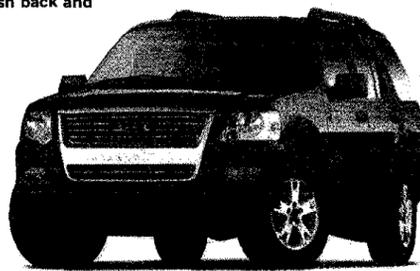


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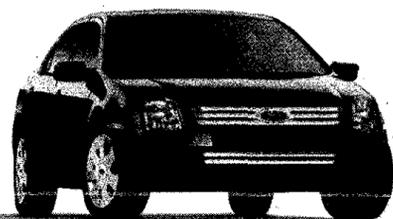


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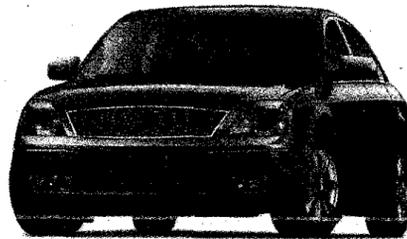


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