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# WESTLAND Observer



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### Royal tradition

Wayne Memorial High School students Jackie Guajardo (from left), Chelsea O'Mara, Heather Henning, Naja Tatum and Nastassia Goines will find out Friday evening who will be the 2007 Homecoming queen. The student body will make the selection and the winner will be announced during tomorrow evening's Homecoming game which has Wayne Memorial facing off against Walled Lake Western.

## Police link teen to 3 car fires

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Westland police have turned a 16-year-old boy over to juvenile authorities amid allegations he set fire to three vehicles in the Newburgh-Palmer area, on the city's southwest side.

Police took the teen into custody this week after he confessed while being questioned by police Sgt. Ed Price, who suspected the boy due to some earlier arson incidents, Lt. Daniel Karrick said.

The teen is suspected of setting fire to at least three vehicles either parked in driveways or on the street. Two of the incidents happened last Thursday and Saturday; an earlier fire was set Aug. 31.

**The teen is suspected of setting fire to at least three vehicles either parked in driveways or on the street. Two of the incidents happened last Thursday and Saturday; an earlier fire was set Aug. 31.**

opened last Thursday and Saturday; an earlier fire was set Aug. 31, Karrick confirmed.

All of the fires were set at night, and they occurred in residential neighborhoods on South Globe and Gilchrist, Karrick said. "No homes had any damage," he said.

Westland Fire Marshal Chris Szpara said two of the vehicles were substantially damaged, but firefighters contained the flames before they could spread to any structures.

"We had the potential for it being a pretty bad situation," Szpara said.

Police and fire officials hope the teen's arrest will help residents rest easier in the area where the fires had occurred.

It will be up to juvenile authorities to decide what the youth's punishment should be.

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

## DeHart: Job's reward is helping residents

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Campaigning for a second four-year term, City Clerk Eileen DeHart cited her "experience, knowledge and professionalism" as reasons why Westland voters should keep her in office.

DeHart became the city's first elected clerk after voters approved a ballot measure and wrested control of the position, formerly filled by the Westland City Council.

"I've served four years, and I think I've done a good job in those four years," DeHart, 59, said during an interview.

DeHart will face certified public accountant Bruce Paige, 45, in the Nov. 6 election. The job pays \$89,816 a year.

DeHart cited numerous accomplishments she has made:

■ She has earned her ranking as a certified municipal clerk from the

International Institute of Municipal Clerks, keeping a promise she made to voters when she sought her first term.

■ She has routinely returned money to the city's general fund that had been budgeted for her office. During last fiscal year alone, she gave back \$12,000 that was allocated for department furniture.

Given tough economic times, she said, "it wasn't the right time" to make the purchase.

■ DeHart's office oversaw 10 elections during her first term, and four elections are looming next year.

■ She helped lead the transition to electronic informational packets for the council, saving the city \$8,000 in the first year alone.

■ She studied for her certification through Michigan State University and Central Michigan University, and she

Please see DEHART, A3

### CITY CLERK

Voters will choose between incumbent Eileen DeHart and challenger Bruce Paige for city clerk in the Nov. 6 general election. The city clerk serves for four years. The position currently has an annual salary of \$89,816.



## Paige: My business skills good for city

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

As a Westland city clerk candidate, certified public accountant Bruce Paige pledged to bring a strong business background and solid analytical skills to the job.

Paige also vowed to put residents first and to avoid the political trappings that he said can lead to "non-sense in government."

"The residents will be my employers — not the government," Paige, 45, said during an interview.

Paige, a political newcomer, is challenging incumbent Clerk Eileen DeHart, 59, in the Nov. 6 election. The winner will earn a four-year term that pays \$89,816 a year.

Paige earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from Wayne State University. He has been a certified public accountant for 17

years, and he operates his business out of his home.

"I've always been interested in (elected) office," Paige said.

He thought about running against DeHart four years ago, when she became Westland's first elected clerk.

"I knew she would be tough to beat," he said, and he conceded that, even now, he faces an uphill battle to unseat the incumbent.

To that end, his campaign includes knocking on doors and trying to convince voters to support him.

Paige touted a business knowledge that he said began to grow when he completed his first tax return at age 14, when he was a student of a teacher who thought youngsters should learn such skills.

His campaign literature indicates that he would serve as clerk "with

Please see PAIGE, A3

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# Couple tracks down cousin's military history

BY DAVE VARGA  
STAFF WRITER

Those messages that you can read on the public access channel may not seem like they'd be very inspiring to a lot of people.

But it was just such a message, offering instructions on tracking down military service records, that led Shirley and Gerald Lentz of Redford to begin tracking down service details about Shirley's cousin, George Dewey Mitter Jr., who was a Marine corporal.

The Lentzes say they're grateful for the governmental access channel that shared the veterans information that started them on their search.

They knew that Mitter had been born in Highland Park on May 20, 1924, grew up in Redford and Detroit, enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1942 when he was 17 and then died in a airplane crash during the World War II.

However, they didn't know where he served or fought during the war.

"Over the years," Shirley Lentz said, "I often thought about George. I was six years younger than him."

She explained that her mother and father each had siblings who also married, and George was their son. Their families were close growing up. "We liked to call ourselves double cousins," she said.

Looking back, Shirley remembers that the letters her cousin mailed to family were heavily censored back then, but they picked up some clues from



This was what George Dewey Mitter Jr. looked like at age 17, when he enlisted in the Marines.

both the letters and pictures. "He was always bare to the waist so we knew it was really hot for them. But we never could fill in the gaps of what he

did, where he was stationed," she said.

Now that all of her cousin's immediate family has passed away, Shirley wanted to fill in

those gaps.

Gerald said, with the computer help of his son, they contacted the National Personnel Record Center in St. Louis, filled out a form and sent it in. The information returned wasn't totally complete. "Some of the stuff is vague and some of it is blocked out," Gerald Lentz explained.

They were able to find out that cousin George got his basic training in San Diego, was shipped out Aug. 30, 1942, aboard the USS President Monroe and participated in the heavy fighting for Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, spending some four and a half months there. The battle was significant as Americans eventually turned back the Japanese expansion.

The reports showed Mitter left there March 29, 1943, and that, despite surviving the intense battles there, he later died of injuries he received in a plane crash on the southern tip of Talina Islands, in the eastern part of Russell Islands, Solomon Islands. He was just 19. He was buried there, then moved to Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit.

"We must never forget our service men and women. God bless them all," Shirley said.

Veterans or next-of-kin looking for information about a military service record can go online to [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov), click on the link that says Military Service Records, and follow the instructions.

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## AROUND WESTLAND

### Golf benefit

Enjoy a day on the links with the Westland Lion's Club Saturday, Sept. 29, at the Gateway Golf Club, 33290 Gateway Dr., Van Buren at Venoy. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with a shot gun start at 8:30 a.m. The cost of \$85 per person and includes golf cart, coffee and donuts in the morning, hot dog, chips, and pop at the turn, and a steak dinner with all the trimmings at the end.

The event also includes prizes, raffle, trophies for the longest drive and closest to pin, and more. For more information and hole sponsor opportunities, call (734) 722-5653.

### Rummage sale

St. John's Episcopal Church of Westland is having a rummage sale to benefit its outreach program. Sale to take place 3-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 5-6. There will be a \$5 Bag Sale on Saturday 2-5 p.m. Saturday. Concessions will also be available.

The church is at 555 S. Wayne Road, one block south of Cherry Hill. For more information, call the church office at (734) 721-5023.

### Euchre tournament

St. Mary Church of Wayne is hosting a euchre tournament, beginning at 7 p.m., Saturday Sept. 29. It costs \$20 to play. Non-perishable food items will be collected at the door at the door and those donating food will be entered in a special raffle.

Food and beer will be for sale and there will be raffles throughout the evening. The proceeds will benefit the St. Mary Community Outreach Center, John Bolde Memorial Food Depot.

For more information, call (734) 721-8745.

### Candidate forum

Southeast Westland Homeowner Association and the Westland Democratic Club will present a Westland Candidate Forum at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, at the Dorsey Center, 32715 Dorsey, between Palmer and Michigan Glenwood and east of Venoy.

### Free class

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is offering a free 60-minute infant massage class 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 13.

Parents are invited to bring their babies, from birth to 9 months old, to learn the art of infant massage. Certified infant massage therapist Carol O'Brien will lead the class and share how infant massage can relieve baby's discomforts and

strengthen bonding. Discover how infant massage nurtures a child's mental, spiritual and physical development.

Register at the Children's Desk or by calling (734) 326-6123. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford, Westland.

### Pasta dinners

The Wayne-Westland Corps of the Salvation Army is holding all-you-can-eat pasta dinners 5-8 p.m. Sundays, now through Oct. 28, at its facility at 2300 Venoy, between Palmer and Glenwood. The meals includes pasta, bread and salad. There also will be a bake sale. The suggested donation is \$8 for those 12 years and older and \$5 for children ages 4-11 and seniors 60 years and older.

Proceeds will benefit the corps' outreach programs. For more information, call (734) 722-3660.

### Plant exchange

The Westland Garden Club will host Harvest Thyme, a plant and seed exchange 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at the Westland Historical Museum, 857 Wayne Road, north of Cherry Hill.

In addition to the exchange, participants will have an opportunity to make potpourri, tour the museum, have their questions answered by master gardeners and have plants identified at the mystery plant table. Organic produce also will be for sale.

For more information, call Jo Johnson at (734) 522-3918 or Kim Peterson at (734) 591-6506.

### Office hours

The staff of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will hold office hours in Livonia, Redford and Garden City next month. The time has been set aside so for citizens served by the congressman to speak with a staff member one-on-one regarding any federal issue that they might have.

The staff will be at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, Farmington and Five Mile, 9-10 a.m., the Redford Community Center, 10:30-11:30 a.m., all on Tuesday, Oct. 2, and at the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman in Garden City, 1-2 p.m., all on Tuesday, Oct. 2, and the Northville Senior Center, 11 a.m. to noon Thursday, Oct. 4.

McCotter has two offices in the district to serve his constituents. The Livonia office can be reached by calling (734) 632-0314 or the Milford office is available at (248) 685-9495.



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## Old time baseball

A city team will take on the Greenfield Village La-De-Dahs in an old-time baseball game at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30, at Jaycee Park at Wildwood and Hunter. All proceeds will benefit the Westland Historic Village Park. Admission is free, but there will be various activities to raise money. For more information, call (734) 722-7620. The game will be played by 1867 rules. Pitchers will throw underhand, and costumed historians will help interpret the game for the audience. The city team has dubbed itself the Zip-a-Dee-Doo-Dahs.



## PAIGE

FROM PAGE A1

professionalism" and lead by example. He also vows to be a positive influence in the community and to protect residents from unnecessary costs.

"I just want to be able to help the residents any way possible," he said.

One of his priorities as clerk would be to implement new carts to make it easier for election workers to deliver ballots from polling places to City Hall.

Paige didn't speak critically of DeHart, and he conceded that her office staff members seem to know their jobs.

"I guess the bottom line is I just want her job," he said, saying at another point that "we can always continue to improve services."

If elected, Paige promised to keep current employees who work in the clerk's office. He said he would work cooperatively with them.

"I believe in teamwork," he said. "That's how things get done."

Paige said he has been a supporter of such local programs as Westland Youth Assistance and the Goodfellows, which helps needy families at Christmas time.

He said he has been mostly well-received when he knocks on doors and talks with local voters.

"I basically introduce myself and pledge to work hard for them," he said, adding later, "I'm getting my name out there as much as possible right now."

## DEHART

FROM PAGE A1

also serves as vice president of the Association of Wayne County Clerks.

■ DeHart is continuing efforts to bring more services online to make it easier for residents to do business with the city. Her newest goals include providing online forms for voter registration and dog licenses, and applications for police and fire department jobs.

■ She assumed greater oversight of local school elections, including results for the portion of the Livonia district that is in Westland. Her office also handles results of Wayne-Westland school elections in the Westland, Canton, Inkster and Dearborn Heights areas of the district.

■ Her office offers passports for U.S. citizens — a move she said has brought in about \$10,000 a year in revenues.

Before she became clerk, DeHart served six years in the state House and a nearly one-year stint on the Westland City Council, but she said her job as clerk has been the most challenging.

She had to learn the job quickly after becoming the first elected clerk. She credited her staff and former Clerk Diane Fritz, who assisted with elections in the first year, with helping to ease the transition.

"This is the toughest job I've ever had," she said, but added that it has been highly rewarding because she gets to help city residents.

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## Bottle, can drive to benefit Turn Around Scholarship

The Wayne Memorial High School Parent Advisory Council (Zebra-PAC) is raising funds for a student scholarship this year.

Called the Turn Around Scholarship, it will be awarded to a senior student who after struggling their first year or two of high school turned them themselves around and now plans to go to college.

To raise funds for the scholarship Zebra-PAC is holding a bottle and can drive at the home Varsity football games on Friday, Sept. 28 and Oct. 19. Football fans can bring their donations to a collection station set up outside the stadium entrance 6:45-7:30 p.m. A collection station will also be available inside the stadium near the concession stands.

People who don't have the time to drop off a donation or would like them picked up, can call Chris Sephar at (734) 895-9013 evenings or e-mail Zebra-PAC at Zebra-PAC@hotmail.com. A member of the group will pick the donations from any home or business.

## Board approves tenure charge against teacher

BY SUE MASON

STAFF WRITER

A Wayne-Westland middle school teacher will appeal a school board decision to proceed with tenure charges related to what the school district deems inappropriate behavior.

Attorney Bill Young said an appeal will be filed with the Tenure Commission within 20 days, challenging the proposed 90-day suspension without pay.

"My client claims it didn't happen," said Young who is representing longtime teacher James Zoltowski on behalf of the Wayne-Westland Education Association. "He will challenge the charges and say they didn't happen."

The board took the action Monday evening, following a brief private hearing that had been requested by Zoltowski. He received written notification Tuesday, Deputy Supt. Charlotte Sherman said.

"We are asking the commission to approve the suspension, we are not asking that he be fired," Sherman said. "We can't suspend a teacher without going to the commission."

The district, in filing the complaint, contends that the teacher has received numerous verbal warnings for "unprofessional and unethical" behavior and communication with staff, parents and students, dating back to 2004-05.

Under the Teacher Tenure Act, Zoltowski has 20 days from receipt of the school board's decision to appeal. If he does appeal, as Young has said, the hearing must be conducted and concluded

60-90 days after the filing.

"I wouldn't expect a decision until next spring," Young said, adding that Zoltowski will ask for a private hearing to keep the allegations under wraps. "He wants to keep from damaging his good name, especially if he is successful in his challenge."

The board resolution also indicated the direction the district will take, if Zoltowski appeals. According to the resolution, the administration "has the authority to reassign him as a visiting teacher with no reduction in compensation pending a decision by an administrative law judge."

If Zoltowski doesn't appeal the decision, the suspension would go forward, Sherman said.

Zoltowski has been with the district for 38 years. He was hired in 1969 and taught at Wayne Memorial High School until 1989 before moving to John Glenn High School for one year.

A physical education teacher for most of his career, he also taught at Adams Middle School for six years.

Since 2006-07, he has divided his time between Marshall and Stevenson middle schools teaching technology education.

"To go to the Tenure Commission is a rigorous process," Sherman said. "Because of that, we generally try to handle teacher discipline at the district level. If it persists or if it is of a severe enough level, we go to the Tenure Commission."

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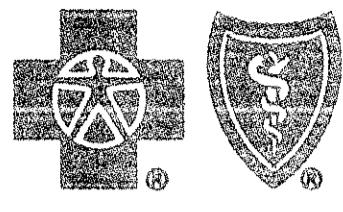
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Blue Care Network of Michigan is a nonprofit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

## Westland man joins dry-cleaning network

Westland resident Mark Shippe has been named operations manager for the Certified Restoration Drycleaning Network (CRDN), an international organization of textile restoration specialists serving the insurance industry.



institution in the Midwest.

Shippe, who has a bachelor's degree in management from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, is enrolled in Wayne State University's master of business administration degree program.

He also mentors an honor student enrolled at the University of Michigan School of Management.

## Recycle that old computer, other equipment on Sept. 29

The Wayne County Department of the Environment and Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit will offer a chance for people to recycle their old computers and similar equipment from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at the east lot of Livonia City Hall.

The county and Goodwill Industries, through Dell Computer's RECONNECT Michigan initiative, will refurbish the equipment to help create opportunities for individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment.

The idea is to keep the dangerous items in computer equip-

ment from landfills.

Items that will be accepted include CPUs, monitors, fax/scanners, cell phones, keyboards, copiers, printers and all related peripherals. Boxes, manuals or software are not accepted.

Livonia City Hall is at 33000 Civic Center Drive, south of Five Mile and east of Farmington Road.

For more information, call 734-326-3936. To arrange for large quantities, call 313-964-3900, ext. 401.

The next recycling event will be on May 12 at the Canton Township DPW in Canton Township.

Operation ABLE of Michigan is searching for the area's top older workers to honor at the 18th Annual Ability is Ageless Award Luncheon. The awards will be presented noon Wednesday, Oct. 24, at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn.

"We are looking for outstanding older workers aged 50 and older who make everyone's day better through their hard work and dedication," said Mary McDougall, president of Operation ABLE of Michigan, the area's leading provider of job training and employment assistance for mid-career and older workers. "We encourage employers to give these dynamic staff members some well-deserved recognition."

It is easier than ever to nominate outstanding older workers for the Operation ABLE Ability is Ageless Award.

Operation ABLE of Michigan has placed the nomination form on its Web site ([www.OperationABLE.org](http://www.OperationABLE.org)) so employers can fill out and submit the form all on a computer.

Forms for making luncheon reservations and signing up as a sponsor of this unique event can also be downloaded from the Web site.

The nomination deadline is Oct. 2. In addition to obtaining the forms on ABLE's Web site, companies and organizations can also obtain them by calling Operation ABLE at (313) 832-0922.

Since 1989 Operation ABLE has hosted the Ability is Ageless Award Luncheon to call attention to the valuable role of mature workers.

Employers from many different sectors use the luncheon to recognize and thank their outstanding mid-career and older workers for their achievements both on the job and in the community. Each year approximately 100 mature workers are honored and 500 guests attend the award luncheon, an indication of the value of the celebration.

Each person nominated by his or her employer will be featured in the luncheon's slide presentation and program

book and receive a Certificate of Distinguished Service. A committee of human resource professionals and workforce development specialists will select nine honorees to receive the Most ABLE Award.

These honors will be presented by Carmen Harlan, WDIV-TV news senior anchor.

To be eligible, a nominee must live or work in Michigan, be 50 years of age or older or have 25 years of service to a company by Oct. 24, 2007, and currently employed.

Retirees are not eligible for the award.

There is no limit to the number of employees a business or organization can nominate. Reservations for the award luncheon are \$65 per person.

The work of Operation ABLE of Michigan is made possible in part through the support of the Michigan Department of Community Health Office of Services to the Aging, the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, the Detroit Workforce Development Department,

AT&T, Kelly Services, Henry Ford Health System, Charter One Foundation, WDIV-TV Local 4 and WWJ Newsradio 950.

Operation ABLE of Michigan, a Michigan Works! affiliate, is the premier provider of computer and job training to the mature worker (aged 40 and older) in southeastern Michigan. The organization offers a full range of computer and career development classes and has a Career Resilience Center at its Detroit office.

Each year Operation ABLE assists more than 500 people from a variety of work experience and demographic backgrounds.

Funding is provided by public agencies, foundations, corporations, and individual donors.

Operation ABLE of Michigan is an Equal Opportunity Program/Employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TTY users: call the Michigan Relay Center at 711.

## Senior workers sought for honors

Operation ABLE of Michigan is searching for the area's top older workers to honor at the 18th Annual Ability is Ageless Award Luncheon. The awards will be presented noon Wednesday, Oct. 24, at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn.

"We are looking for outstanding older workers aged 50 and older who make everyone's day better through their hard work and dedication," said Mary McDougall, president of Operation ABLE of Michigan, the area's leading provider of job training and employment assistance for mid-career and older workers. "We encourage employers to give these dynamic staff members some well-deserved recognition."

It is easier than ever to nominate outstanding older workers for the Operation ABLE Ability is Ageless Award.

Operation ABLE of Michigan has placed the nomination form on its Web site ([www.OperationABLE.org](http://www.OperationABLE.org)) so employers can fill out and submit the form all on a computer.

Forms for making luncheon reservations and signing up as a sponsor of this unique event can also be downloaded from the Web site.

The nomination deadline is Oct. 2. In addition to obtaining the forms on ABLE's Web site, companies and organizations can also obtain them by calling Operation ABLE at (313) 832-0922.

Since 1989 Operation ABLE has hosted the Ability is Ageless Award Luncheon to call attention to the valuable role of mature workers.

Employers from many different sectors use the luncheon to recognize and thank their outstanding mid-career and older workers for their achievements both on the job and in the community. Each year approximately 100 mature workers are honored and 500 guests attend the award luncheon, an indication of the value of the celebration.

Each person nominated by his or her employer will be featured in the luncheon's slide presentation and program

book and receive a Certificate of Distinguished Service. A committee of human resource professionals and workforce development specialists will select nine honorees to receive the Most ABLE Award.

These honors will be presented by Carmen Harlan, WDIV-TV news senior anchor.

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AUBURN HILLS	810-629-2733	248-853-0550	Heritage Village
Great Lakes Crossing Mall	FT. GRatiOT	ROYAL OAK	WESTLAND
249-253-1799	4129 24th Ave.	31921 Woodward Ave.	35105 Warren Rd.
BRIGHTON	810-395-1231	(at Normandy)	(southwest corner of Warren & Wayne Rds.)
8159 Challis, Ste. C	LAKE ORION	248-549-4177	734-722-7330
(off Grand River, in front of Target)	2531 S. Lapeer Rd.	ST. CLAIR SHORES	
810-225-4789	(Orion Mall 2 miles north of the Palace)	26401 Harper Ave.	
CANTON	248-393-6800	(at 10 1/2 Mile)	
42447 Ford Rd.	MONROE	586-777-4010	SOUTHFIELD
(corner of Ford & Lilley Rds., Canton Corners)	2161 Mall Rd.	2817 Telegraph Rd.	2817 Telegraph Rd.
734-844-0481	(In front of Kohl's)	(south of 12 Mile Rd.)	(south of 12 Mile Rd.)
DEARBORN	734-241-4099	248-358-3700	
24417 Ford Rd.	NORTHLAKE	STERLING HEIGHTS	
(just west of Telegraph)	Three Generations Plaza	45111 Park Ave.	
313-278-4491	734-779-0148	(M-59 & M-53, Utica Park Plaza)	
Fairlane Mall	NOW	588-997-6500	
(3rd floor next to Sears)	43025 12 Mile Rd.	Lakeside Mall	
313-441-0168	(Twelve Oaks)	(lower level, Sears Ct.)	
DETROIT	Service Dr., north of Sears)	TAYLOR	
14246 Woodward (Model T Plaza)	248-305-6600	23495 Eureka Rd.	
313-869-7392	Twelve Oaks Mall (lower level play area)	(across from Southland Mall)	
COMING SOON!	454 Telegraph Rd.	734-287-1770	
300 Renaissance Center	(across from Summit Place Mall)	Southland Mall	
FARMINGTON HILLS	248-335-9900	23000 Eureka Rd.	
31011 Orchard Lake Rd.		(In the JP Penney wing)	
(southeast corner of Orchard Lake Rd. & 14 Mile Rd.)		TROY	
248-538-9900		1913 E. Big Beaver Rd.	
		(Troy Sports Center)	
		248-526-0040	
		Oakland Mall	
		(inside Main Entrance, next to food court)	

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SOUTH LYNN 24

# Strikers got mostly positive reaction from motorists

BY ALEX LUNDBERG  
STAFF WRITER

The strike between General Motors and the United Auto Workers is over, allowing the corporation, its workers and the thousands of smaller businesses who depend on the smooth operation between the two to breath easy again.

But for two days, the men and women who carried the signs in front of GM facilities around the country were prepared to work the picket line as solidly as they worked the production line.

At the Livonia GM Powertrain plant, 12200 Middlebelt, a group of 20 autoworkers were trudging up and down the street Tuesday morning, carrying signs and waving to passing motorists as the strike was still going on.

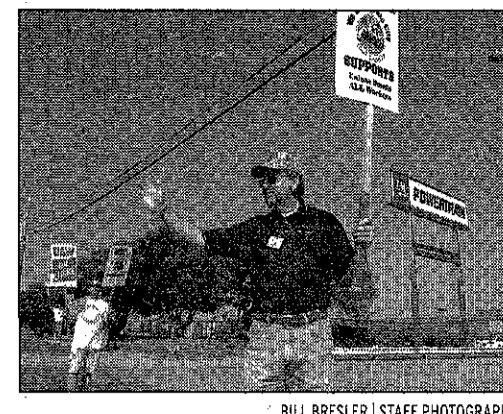
Herb Nettles, the safety representative for the plant, has worked there for 39 years. The Oak Park resident said this was his third strike.

"We'll go on until we get an agreement," he said. "We'll be out here until the union president calls us and tells us to go back."

Paul Holdinski, a 34-year employee, was driving to work from his home in Hartland Monday when he got the call to break out the strike signs and inform the union brothers and sisters. It was about four hours notice but also no real surprise.

"We knew it was going to be a rough contract year," he said. "We're all up for helping the corporation but it's got to go both ways. We could be out here for months."

He said he's been socking a little money away here and there in anticipation of lean times



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

UAW member Terry Baber waves to people honking their horns as they drive by the Livonia G.M. Powertrain plant on Middlebelt north of Plymouth Road Monday afternoon. At left is Ron Marz, carrying two picket signs.

during the strike. The people who are single and GM is their only form of income would have it worst, he said.

Michael Crouch of Detroit has 37 years at the Livonia plant and has maintained a lifestyle that insulates him against strikes. People driving past the line on Middlebelt were supportive.

"It's been very positive, more from the senior citizens driving by because their health care could be directly affected," he said. "There have been a couple of people giving the finger, yelling insults."

A veteran of more than one strike, he said unions are responsible for building America and he predicted the UAW prevailing over the corporation in short order.

"We'll have this wrapped up in a week," Crouch said, prophetically. "If the strike goes on longer, it'll drag the economy down and no one can afford that."

Holdinski wanted to give special thanks to the local Ford Motor Co. employees who sent over food, water and pop for the members out walking the strike lines at the plant. He also wanted to thank the people at Looney Baker for sending food over.

alundberg@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2109

# Fear, greed can lead to bad investment decisions

**G**reed and fear are harmful to investors.

Fear leads to bad decisions which can cost investors substantial amounts of money. One example is what has happened over the last few months. Back in mid-July the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the S&P 500 Index reached record highs.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average broke through the 14,000 mark for the first time and almost immediately thereafter the market began to retreat. Just a month after breaking through the 14,000 mark, the Dow fell below the 13,000 mark.

At that time, the topic du jour was the subprime crisis along with the slowing U.S. economy and, unfortunately, many investors began to bail out of the market. Too many of them let fear dictate their decision as they focused on the day-to-day volatilities of the market as opposed to long-term goals and objectives.

Please Note: The bidding will start at the towing and storage charges.

## GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT 6000 MIDDLEBELT GARDEN CITY, MI 48135

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction on Tuesday, October 2, 2007 at 9:00 A.M. The auction is to be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185.

**Please Note:** The bidding will start at the towing and storage charges.

YEAR & MAKE	STYLE	VIN#
1986 JEEP	PU	1JTWL6516GT114159
1994 CHEVY VAN	SW	1GNDM15Z6RB153753
1998 FORD TAURUS	4 DR	1FAFP53SXWG262193
1995 FORD ESCORT	2 DR	1FASF11J0SW260230
1994 FORD T-BIRD	2 DR	1FALP6244RH169759
1985 PONTIAC	2 DR	2G2GP37H1F2239902
1993 PONTIAC SUNBIRD	4 DR	1G2JC54H5P7559218

Publish: September 27, 2007

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A little over a month from the low point and since that time the market has rallied. In fact, the Dow is up 1,000 points. Investors who rushed out of the market missed the recovery and a substantial amount of money.

No one, including me, likes to see their investments go down. However, that's the reality of the stock market. Successful investors recognize that volatility is part of the process. A well-balanced, diversified portfolio can somewhat reduce the impact of short-term volatility. Don't focus on the day-to-day volatilities of the stock market, but rather on the overall portfolio strategy.

Make sure your investments match your goals and objectives and that your portfolio is diversified and balanced.

As we are entering the last quarter of the year, there are some strategies that investors may wish to consider. The first is whether to convert a traditional IRA or a portion of it into a Roth IRA.

The transaction must be completed before Dec. 31. Many brokerage houses and mutual fund companies require at least a few weeks to complete the transaction. If you are considering conversion, don't wait.

I am a fan of converting to Roth IRAs because it allows the individual investor to turn tax-deferred money into tax-free money.

The longer you have until you need your money from your IRA, the greater the benefit of converting.

In order to convert, you must have an adjustable gross income of \$100,000 or less. If you meet this criterion you are eligible. If you are over 70½, you cannot convert your required minimum distribution, however, you can convert anything above and beyond that amount.

My general rules are: 1) you have the money to pay the tax created by the conversion, without touching the money converted; 2) converting the money will not throw you into a higher tax bracket; 3) you can let the money grow within the Roth IRA for generally at least five to seven years.

Yes, you are incurring a tax liability by converting. However, the long-term benefits of a Roth IRA are substantial. The money you are converting would always have been subject to tax. By converting, you're just paying that tax earlier.

It's also time for year-end tax planning. Whether it's selling investments to recognize tax losses or accelerating deductions into 2007, the goal is to focus on your increasing net worth. Don't do anything for tax reasons alone. Do tax planning that will result in you having more money in your pocket — exactly where it belongs.

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit Rick's Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). You can hear Rick noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK 1400 AM.

## NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Please take Notice that the Special/General Election in the City of Westland will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2007.

The last day on which persons may register in order to be eligible to vote at the City of Westland Special/General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2007, is Monday, October 9, 2007. Persons registering after 4:00 in the evening on Tuesday, October 9, 2007 are not eligible to vote at the Special/General Election.

You may register at the Westland City Clerk's office or at any Secretary of State Office.

EILEEN DeHART  
Westland City Clerk

Publish: September 27, 2007

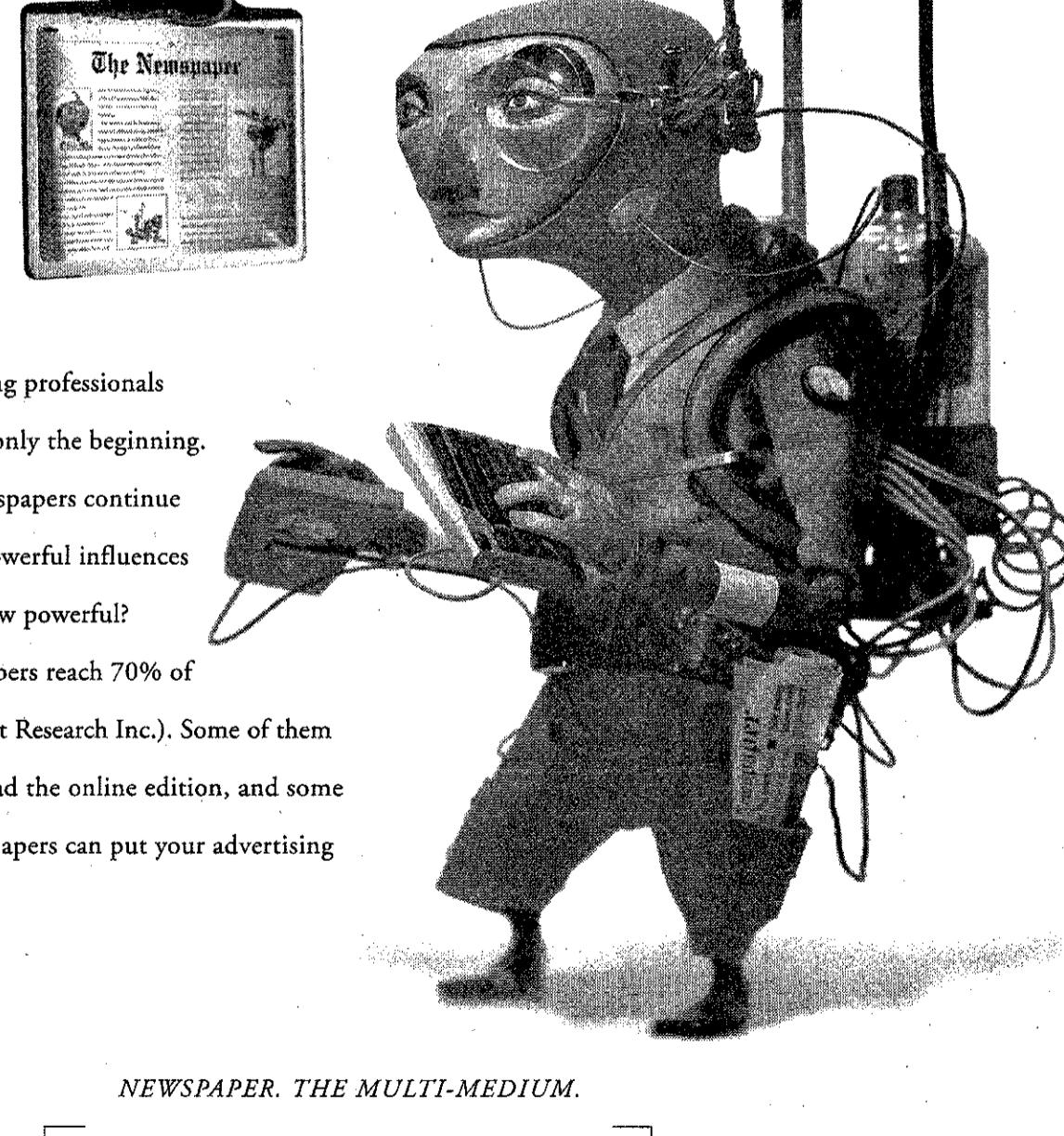
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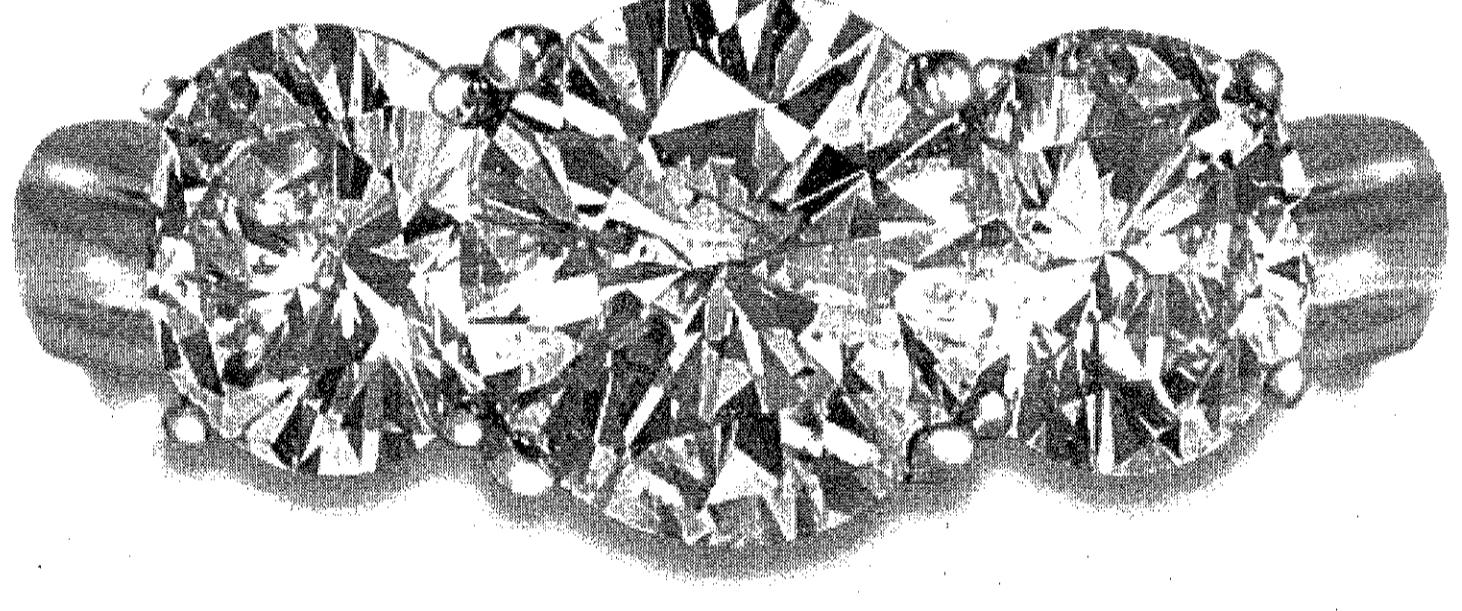
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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

www.hometownlife.com

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or faxed to her attention at fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2112.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

## Rummage sale

St. John's Episcopal Church of Westland is having a rummage sale to benefit its outreach program. Sale to take place 3-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 5-6. There will be a \$5 Bag Sale on Saturday 2-5 p.m. Saturday. Concessions will also be available. The church is at 555 S. Wayne Road, one block south of Cherry Hill. For more information, call the church office at (734) 721-5023.

## Casino fund-raiser

Enjoy an afternoon at the Greektown Casino on Sunday, Nov. 18, to benefit St. Damian Youth Group. Tickets are \$25 and include charter bus transportation to and from the casino and a \$15 coin voucher to use at the casino. The bus departs from St. Damian, 30055 Joy Road in Westland at 1 p.m., and will return back to the church at 7 p.m. Get tickets by calling (734) 421-6130.

## Wine tasting, auction

Community Opportunity Center will hold its first Wine Tasting and Auction Benefit, co-sponsored by The Fine Wine Source of Livonia, from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, at the St. Mary Cultural and Banquet Center, 18100 Merriman. The charge of \$65 includes tastings of more than 100 wines, an elaborate array of hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auctions. Proceeds benefit Community Opportunity Center, a non-profit housing corporation serving adults with developmental disabilities in Wayne County. For reservations call Pat at 734-422-1020. Major credit cards accepted.

## 'Festival of Fashion'

The Redford Suburban League will host its 34th celebrity fashion show, the 2007 Fall Festival of Fashion starting with a luncheon served at noon Wednesday, Oct. 17, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Road. The show is a benefit for the Burger School for Students with Autism. Tickets are \$45 per person. For more information and tickets, contact the league at (734) 981-6003.

## On the big screen

At 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, little Carol Anne and her family are back on the big screen in a special presentation, celebrating the 25th anniversary of "Poltergeist" at Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty, north of Seven Mile, Livonia. The 1982 Steven Spielberg cult classic that incited a generation of movie fans to turn off their TVs and throw away their clown dolls has been digitally remastered in High-Definition and will include a never-before-seen 15-minute featurette on paranormal activity. Tickets for this special one-time-only event can be purchased for \$10 at the Livonia 20 box and online at www.FathomEvents.com.

## Fund-raiser

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool will present THE READ CARPET annual dinner auction 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, at the Livonia Marriott at the Laurel Park Mall. Enjoy cocktails and a gourmet strolling dinner, catered by Sweet Lorraine's Chef, while pursuing the silent auction tables. Stay late for live entertainment and dancing. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Michigan Dyslexia Institute. For more information, call (734) 261-540, by e-mail at candsdad@earthlink.net or on the Web at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com.

## Casino fund-raiser

St. Damian, 30055 Joy Road, Westland, is hosting a Greektown Casino Fundraiser on Sunday, Nov. 18. Charter bus transportation with Bianco Tours departs at 1 p.m. from St. Damian and returns back at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 which includes a \$15 coin voucher. Call 734-421-6130 for tickets.

## Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit welcomes girls ages 5-17 to discover fun and friendship, while enjoying opportunities to develop leadership skills. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit also is looking for volunteers who want to make a difference in girls' lives. To learn more, call (313) 972-GIRL (4475) or visit www.gsofmd.org.

## Explore Girl Scouting

Girls ages 5-17 can discover how much Girl Scouts has to offer all. Scouting isn't just about camping and cookies anymore. Girls learn a lot about themselves and the world around them, form lasting friendships, become more confident, independent, helpful and resourceful. Through Girl Scouting, girls learn the importance of community service and challenge themselves and develop value systems they use the rest of their lives. Call the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council at (800) 49-SCOUT (497-2688).

## CRAFT SHOWS

## Knights of Columbus

Crafters are needed for a craft show 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Garden City Knights of Columbus Hall, 30759 Ford. For information, call Linda at (734) 422-0373.

## St. Theodore

Tables are available for the fall craft show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, at St. Theodore Church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Table rental is \$25. For more information, call Mary at (734) 425-4421 or Eunice at (734) 591-7737.

## St. Simon and Jude

Crafters are needed for a fall arts and crafts show 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at St. Simon and Jude Parish, On Palmer east of Venoy, Westland. Rentals are \$25 for an 8-foot table and \$40 for two 8-foot tables by Aug. 31, and \$30 and \$50 respectively after that date. Electricity also is available on a first come-first served basis. For applications or more information, call (734) 516-7520 or (734) 721-4867.

## St. Damian

Annual arts and craft show at 30055 Joy Road in Westland 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 20. Admission is \$1. Table space rental is \$25-\$40. Call (734) 421-6130 weekdays or (734) 721-4758 after 5:00 p.m. or weekends for more information. Proceeds benefit the youth group.

## Sts. Peter &amp; Paul

Crafters are needed for the 19th annual arts and crafts show that will be held Saturday, Nov. 17, in the hall of Sts. Peter & Paul Church, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Deb at (248) 946-0173 or Virginia L (734) 522-9653.

## Franklin High

Those who make hand-made crafts or fine art are invited to participate in the juried Franklin High School Craft Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17. Money raised goes to the athletic department at FHS. For information, contact Julie Culp, (734) 522-0039.

## St. Michael's

The Women's Guild of St. Michael Catholic Church, on Hubbard at Plymouth in Livonia, invites all area crafters to participate in their annual Craft Fair and Bake Sale from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, in the cafeteria of St. Michael's School. Tables are available for rent at \$25 per each 8-foot tables (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

## St. Edith

Crafters are needed for the St. Edith Fall Craft Show, set for Saturday, Nov. 10, at the St. Edith School. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To apply, call Dawn at (734) 420-6959 or Michelle at (734) 591-7737.

## CC Mothers Club

The Mother's Club at Catholic Central High School in Novi is sponsoring a Holiday Craft Show and Marketplace 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3, at the school on Wixom Road in Novi. The show is open to artists, craftspeople and businesses which sell items suitable for holiday gift giving. For more information, call (810) 231-3235 or (248) 705-9519.

## FOR YOUR HEALTH

## 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. Call (734) 362-8825.

## Substance abuse support

A SAFE PLACE meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City. A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program. For more information, call Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995.

## Menopause &amp; 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. Call (734) 655-1100.

## Fibromyalgia

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. For additional information, call Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768.

## Counterpoint

Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families. For more information, call (734) 563-5005.

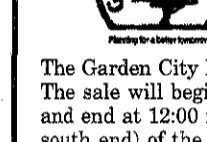
## Toughlove

A Toughlove support group meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington roads. Newcomers welcome. Call (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748.

## VOLUNTEERS

## Karmanos Institute

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute needs volunteers to take cancer patients to mammogram and doctor appointments in metro Detroit. Drivers are needed for Macomb and Oakland counties, Dearborn and Detroit. Volunteers must be at least 18. Mileage reimbursement provided. Call (800) KARMANOS to volunteer.



## CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The Garden City Police Department will conduct a sale of bicycles. The sale will begin on Saturday, September 29, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. and end at 12:00 noon. The sale will be held at the garage (at the south end) of the Garden City Police Department, located at 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, MI 48135. Please park in the northeast parking lot (behind City Hall).

All items are sold in "as is" condition.

Publish: September 23 & 27, 2007

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## CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, October 4, 2007, various items of the City Westland Police Department will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock	Year	Make	Model	VIN
3821657	1995	PONTIAC	SUNFIRE	1G2JB1247S7510381
3337539	1991	CADILLAC	DEVILLE	1G6CD53B5M4303539

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition.

Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: September 27, 2007

OEO8559182 - 2x2

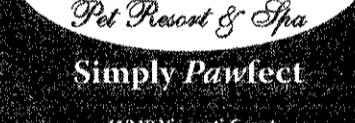
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FAVORITE PASTIME: Begging for treats

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# Rep. McCotter gets airtime on BBC broadcast

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

As a congressman, Thaddeus McCotter is accustomed to answering reporters' questions. Things were a bit different this past week, however, when the Republican from Livonia was interviewed by the British Broadcasting Corp. on Fred Thompson's run for the presidency and other GOP hopefuls.

The BBC story, heard by local listeners on satellite radio, focused on the presidential hopefuls who were in Michigan for the Republican Mackinac Leadership Conference. McCotter introduced Thompson, a former U.S. senator.

"I'm supporting Fred Thompson," the congressman said Tuesday. "I think he's a proven, common sense conservative. When you've got all the

presidential candidates hanging around, you never know who's going to pop up," he added of the BBC reporter.

McCotter has been interviewed by the BBC in the past on the Iraq situation. He noted his Irish grandfather would have laughed "the BBC talking to me."

The congressman listens to radio broadcasts on his iPod, but hasn't heard a lot about the BBC story. "I don't know

what people listen to. There are so many options out there. You can find out anything you want if you look hard enough."

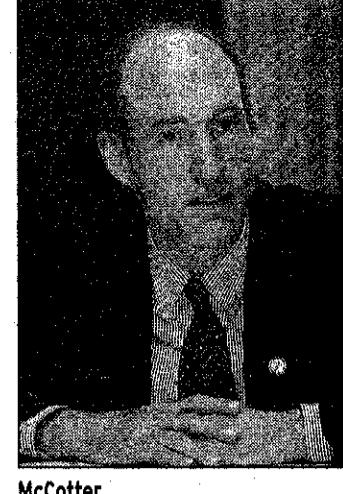
McCotter noted of the BBC: "It's government-run. It's like the CBC." Questions have been raised in the United Kingdom about the BBC's objectivity, he said, but "not being British, I don't have an opinion on it."

He was approached by the BBC after introducing Thompson, who also has an

acting background. "I don't think I was their first choice," McCotter said.

He's interested in how British people view our politics and vice versa, noting our government is based on Britain's going all the way back to the Magna Carta in 1215.

"We're traditional allies," he said. "We like to keep an eye on the British. The War of 1812 isn't that far away."



McCotter

## Archer will speak at WSU

Dickinson Wright Chairman Dennis W. Archer will be a keynote speaker at E2detroit, an entrepreneurial and excellence symposium at Wayne State University Oct. 1 and 2.

E2detroit provides resources to entrepreneurs and small business owners by bringing together the southeast Michigan regional leaders and business community to share ideas about the tools and relationships necessary to launch and grow a successful business. E2detroit also assists entrepreneurs in locating funding sources, qualified management and facilities for company operations. Dickinson Wright is a sponsor of the event.

Archer will speak on small business growth, public office, law firms, and bringing the economy in Michigan and Detroit to great heights.

Archer was Mayor of Detroit from 1994 - 2001. He was the first African American attorney to be elected to the position of president of the American Bar Association and was an associate justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. Recognitions in the past several years include being named among the "100 Most Influential Black Americans," by Ebony magazine; one of the "25 Most Dynamic Mayors in America" by Newsweek magazine; the "Most Respected Judge in Michigan" by Michigan Lawyers Weekly, among the "100 Most Powerful Attorneys in the United States" by the National Law Journal, and "Public Official of the Year" by Governing magazine.

E2detroit is hosted by the Wayne State University Venture Development Office, which works with faculty, staff, students, and alumni to leverage Wayne State innovations and create early-stage technology companies. Its objective is to provide tools and foster relationships necessary for entrepreneurs to launch successful businesses.

Registration for E2detroit is \$195 for business professionals and \$25 for students. For more information, visit [www.e2detroit.com](http://www.e2detroit.com) or call (248) 275-1130.

## County gets grant to control pollution

The Wayne County Department of Environment's Water Quality Division has been awarded more than \$200,000 from Michigan's Clean Water Fund grant to control polluted water discharges into the Rouge River.

When leveraged with existing federal grants, the total amount to be spent by Wayne County on this effort will be more than \$405,000.

"These funds will allow us to expand our ongoing mission to identify and stop illegal discharges into the Rouge River," said County Executive Robert A. Ficano. These discharges can come from sewage pipes improperly connected to the river, building drains that empty into the river, and runoff from failed septic systems.

"The Department of Environment has done a great job in securing a substantial grant in difficult economic times," said Ficano, "and by leveraging these grants with existing federal dollars, we are providing added value for our residents."

For more information on the program, call (313) 224-3631.

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# OPINION

## OUR VIEWS

### Retain DeHart as city clerk

In 2003, Eileen DeHart told voters she was the best candidate for Westland city clerk because of her strong work ethic and her experience in public office. They agreed, and she became the city's first elected clerk.

Now, four years later, she's telling voters she has the experience, the knowledge and the professionalism to remain city clerk.

On Nov. 6, Westland voters will choose between DeHart and newcomer Bruce Paige in the city clerk's race. The winner will receive a four-year term, and we believe that person should be Eileen DeHart.

Paige brings a strong background in business to the election. A certified public accountant, he believes his business background and analytical skills are what's needed in the clerk's office. He also says he would continue to improve services as well as streamline the department to save money.

DeHart, however, has the edge. From her previous work in Lansing as an aide and state lawmaker to managing 10 elections as clerk, she has the ability to do the job and do it well.

DeHart did not have an easy job of it when she took over as clerk four years ago, but proved herself a quick study and with credit to her staff, she was able to master a job she says is the toughest one she's ever had.

During her tenure, she has overseen the transition to new voting machines and the assumed management of school elections for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and the Westland portion of the Livonia Public Schools.

She has transitioned the City Council to an electronic meeting packet and worked on beefing up the clerk's Web site. She is looking to add voter registration and dog license forms, to name a few, to the site to accommodate residents.

We also like that she has taken the time to get her municipal clerk certification from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, completing the program in just three years' time.

That said, we believe Eileen DeHart is the best choice and urge voters to re-elect her Westland city clerk in the November general election.

### Short jabs help state in economic slugfest

Michigan's been hit with a one-two punch with the pull-out of area corporate headquarters, like Volkswagen of America in Auburn Hills and Comerica. The state may be bloodied; however, it's not down for the count.

In fact, what is less known are the many success stories in the area of economic development in southeastern Michigan. That's an important story that not only needs telling but promoting.

Success, as the saying goes, breeds success. Just as some out of state companies may be reluctant to locate here, hearing about the growing number of firms making a move to Michigan ought to tell CEOs that Michigan has a lot going for it.

How the state's economic image is portrayed needs to be revised to target a new audience. Forget the corporate office buildings; what's happening here is the growth of smaller, sometimes high tech businesses.

And the Michigan Economic Development Corporation has played a key role in this upswing.

Recently, the MEDC announced nine new projects that received state help to create nearly 3,000 jobs. There's more. Also included in the projects is roughly \$52.3 million in new capital investment in communities, including three tech companies in the Ann Arbor.

Clearly the emphasis is on technology here, with firms planning to develop portable fuel cells and clinical diagnostic testing products.

In a separate announcement, a British company has said it is establishing three firms in Troy to deal with different segments of the amphibious vehicle market. One of the firms is expected to bring 1,500 jobs to the area.

As good as all this is, what may be equally important is the determination seen at Oakland County's Automation Alley, also in Troy, to fight back.

Six companies are joining Automation Alley's trade mission to India Oct. 10-20. While many companies are outsourcing work to India and elsewhere, those on the trade mission expect that country's growth to produce a demand for products and services that Michigan can supply.

Automation Alley isn't just seeing stars with that goal. A Warren company reportedly got a \$100,000 manufacturing contract on a pre-mission trip to India.

The important message here is that the state hasn't suffered a knock-out punch. It's ready for the next round.

But if Michigan is going to win this economic matchup, businesses and officials will both have to jump in the ring.



**"He says small businesses are going to save the state's economy.  
I just wish he weren't our CEO."**

## LETTERS

### Vote for incumbents

I would like to know why Christine Cicirelli Bryant was not required to go in front of the UAW screening committee? Could it be because of name recognition? As far as I know all other candidates have to go in front of the screening committee and answer the questions they are asked.

I wonder if it was because of her mother! If it was, then it was wrong. Every person should have the same opportunity. Favoritism should not be shown because of the family you are born into.

What has this woman ever done for our city? I had never heard of her except knowing she was a daughter of our former mayor. What qualifies her for this job?

Please when you go to the polls, ask yourself if the council has done a good job so far. If so, vote for the incumbents. Don't vote because of a person's family or gender.

Longtime voter and resident,  
**Modena Kirby**  
Westland

### LeBlanc deserves thanks

Those of us who care about Eastern Michigan University and higher education in general owe a debt of thanks to local lawmaker Richard LeBlanc. Rep. LeBlanc along with several of his colleagues held firm recently against a divisive and elitist proposal that would give three universities their own budget bill separate from the other 12 state universities. If enacted, this plan is expected to result in more funding being driven toward those three institutions and, as a consequence, less resources remaining for EMU and the other 11 public universities.

The University of Michigan, Michigan State and Wayne State already receive more state funding than the other 12 public universities combined! To create an even larger chasm in higher education funding in Michigan would only serve to further divide our state's student population between the "haves" and the "have nots." Rep. LeBlanc correctly maintains that the goal should be to secure more resources for all 15 of Michigan's public universities, not acquire more resources for one group of students at the expense of another.

At a time in our state's history when there is a great deal of debate on how our tax dollars should be spent, I can't think of a better investment than in higher education. Especially when you consider that nearly 80 percent of all the students who attend one of the other 12 state-funded universities come from a local Michigan community and more than 85 percent of the graduates return to their Michigan communities and support their local economy.

Western Wayne County is fortunate to have such a thoughtful leader representing them in the state legislature and all of us at Eastern Michigan University would like to publicly thank him for continuing his strong, principled stand for fairness and equity.

**Freman Hendrix**  
chief government relations officer  
Eastern Michigan University

### Exception to editorial

I take exception to the recent editorial ("Leadership lags on state budget," *Observer*, Sept. 20) that questioned my motive for keeping my vote "off the board" while negotiations on Michigan's budget crisis continued.

Blindly voting along party lines doesn't show leadership and it doesn't take political courage — in fact, it's the easy way out. Voting along party lines to gain a political advantage when Michigan faces an unprecedented fiscal crisis is cowardly.

I was sent to Lansing to speak on behalf of the people I represent. I've gotten hundreds of e-mails regarding Michigan's budget crisis. Many demand that I vote against a tax increase; many demand the exact opposite. The one common thread is that they all demand that I do what's right to move Michigan forward.

I firmly believe that we need a comprehensive solution to solve Michigan's budget crisis. The plan that was presented to me was a partial solution. It did not go far enough to rein in state spending. Michigan's economy is struggling. Our working families, already struggling to make ends meet, have told me they cannot afford a tax increase. Before I can ask working families to sacrifice more, I have to be confident that we have completed the necessary reforms and cut the fat out of the state budget.

I also firmly believe that any plan to resolve this budget crisis must be bipartisan. I began this job by promising that I would reach across the aisle to build relationships and consensus. Threats of a recall, or the loss of this job, will not stop me from keeping this promise. Without bipartisan support I am convinced that we would be back to the negotiating table in just a few months. Without bipartisan support any plan that passes the House would die in the Senate, sending the Legislature back into finger-pointing and political squabbling. These problems are why I, and some of my colleagues, held back our votes. This lack of support eventually forced both sides back to the negotiating table.

I will continue fighting to ensure that we use our residents' tax dollars efficiently, that we have a leaner, more responsible state government, and that a bipartisan solution will be forged to move Michigan forward.

**Marc Corriveau**  
state representative  
House District 20

Corriveau was one of six Democrats to vote Friday against raising the state income tax to 4.6 percent.

### Unions are the problem

Read your article ("This is a day to reflect on tales of tough laboring," Sept. 2) and have to say that unions are (and were) a major problem with American industry and have been for the last 30 years.

Were they necessary? Yes, they were back in the '20s, '30s and '40s, but they got out of control and they are coming

close to destroying American industry along with the "good ol'" boy network of CEOs who sit on each others' boards of directors at public corporations and give one and other these asinine compensation packages.

We must keep value added manufacturing in this country, for this is how wealth is created. Whether it's from farming or industry, we must keep the ability to produce products instead of depending on the "service economy," which will just turn us into a debtor nation.

So while Gettlefinger and the rest of the labor leaders tell everyone what a great guy Walter Reuther was (gag me, I have no respect for communists) while they continue to blame management for all problems in industry, I have one question for them:

When will the UAW, or any other union, buy Delphi or any of the companies on the brink and show us all how to run a manufacturing operation with the contracts they negotiated in place and make a profit? Their combined silence on this subject speaks volumes to those of us who know what is really going on in this country's industries.

**Jeffrey Scott**

president/owner, Allan Tool & Machine

### Not in the give-up mode

The reporting on the surge in Iraq has been scant. *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* have followed the policy that good news is no news. The move by Petraeus and our forces surprised the Jihadists and assorted miscreants in that the enemy evidently thought that the wail and cry by the leftists and assorted Democrats in the United States would mean the certain early retreat, Iraq left to the poachers, Iranian interlopers, all kinds and sorts of Koran rapists and killers.

The murdering Muslims had determined that the leftists in America would steer our country to give-up mode, quit the attempt to preserve freedom, and high-tail home, opening the door to a more complete takeover and domination of the social and economic affairs of all nations in the immediate East.

The liberal press continues to be of little help.

**Nell Goodbred**

Livonia

### SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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### QUOTEABLE

**"I started pulling off the boards and cleaning up, and pretty soon everybody was saying, 'OK, we'll help.' I had a notion that if we could get people to volunteer their specialties, we could get this done."**

- Bill Tremper, vice president of the Westland Historical Commission about the restoration of the Octagon House

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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.

# Prison reform, worker benefits key parts of budget woes

**A**fter another week of watching the same endless shenanigans going on in Lansing, I can only repeat: "Michigan's political, policy and finance systems are broken. Ten million Michigan citizens have been held hostage to the partisan agendas of both political parties and their members who now hold office, not to mention the interest groups that fund their campaigns."

We are in trouble. We're facing the greatest crisis since the Great Depression, and desperately need leaders with a vision for Michigan that will get us through our present turmoil and lay the foundation for a radical transformation of our state.

We're not going to get that by habitual partisan finger pointing or by absurd, face-saving compromises that claim to "solve" the \$1.8 billion state budget deficit. Without a new vision, no matter what they do, a similar deficit will be staring us in the face next year.

Even if we buy into that vision, it won't become reality unless we have state government that is effective, efficient and accountable.

Republican lawmakers say the way to do that is by cutting something like \$1 billion from state spending. But you when ask exactly what they'd cut, mostly what you get back is mumbles about "government waste, inefficiency and bloat." That's not a responsible recipe for crafting a budget. Especially when they've known the dimensions of the problem we're facing for a year.

But if they are serious about cutting spending, here are two big, obvious, long-overdue ways to cut nearly \$800 million, as suggested in The Center for Michigan's most recent newsletter:

■ First, enact \$500 million worth of prison reforms. Michigan's incarceration rate is 40 percent higher than our neighboring states, while our crime rate is just about the same. One-third of our enormous state prison population is there for drug-related or nonviolent crimes. Nearly another third are being held beyond their earliest possible release date. And our prisons cost Michigan tax-payers around \$5,000 more per inmate each year more than neighboring states pay to keep theirs locked up.

Ending expensive jail time for nonviolent offenders and releasing inmates unlikely to be dangerous to society will save hundreds of millions. Gradually bringing pay for Michigan prison guards in line with neighboring states would help. Privatizing some operations like food service could save even more.

People from all over the political spectrum — business conservatives, social liberals, academics and the state's financial advisers — have for years urged cost-conscious prison reform.

Any concrete results? Nah. In part, Republicans fear being accused of being "soft on crime."

■ Second: Bring Michigan state worker benefit costs in line with the national average. How big? Around \$275 million. Both the Small Business

Association and The Center for Michigan reached that conclusion in separate studies earlier this year.

Republicans are going to have a harder time swallowing the first of these two suggestions; Democrats, the second — but both are vitally necessary. For a while earlier this summer, both Gov. Jennifer Granholm and Democratic lawmakers talked a good game about reforms in pay and benefits for state employees earlier. But not recently. The story in Lansing is that public employee labor leaders are holding court in the capital, holding the line against reforms among the troops who want labor campaign contributions later on.

*Detroit News* columnist Daniel Howes, in a stinging column last Saturday, asked of labor leaders: "Tell us how you explain to recently retired autoworkers fearing for their pension and health benefits that they have to pay higher taxes so their pals in the public sector won't be asked to do the same?" Answer: You can't, and sooner or later they'll wake up to the rank hypocrisy and fight back."

And although much of the debate on the revenue side of the budget argument has had to do with the income tax, here's a quick, simple and fair way to bring in an added \$300 million each year:

Tax beverages.

States like Texas and California raise more than \$100 million each year by taxing unhealthy, sugar-saturated soft drinks; they're classified as "food" in Michigan and therefore not taxed.

Our tax on beer was last adjusted 41 years ago ... when it was cut to just under two cents per beer. Two cents in 1966, adjusted for inflation, would be about 14 cents a bottle today.

All lawmakers would have to do to raise \$225 million would be to raise beer taxes to keep up with inflation. But they haven't. Why not? Because the beer and wine lobby is among the most powerful in Lansing. And lots of legislators are scared they'd anger off blue collar beer drinkers.

There you have it; three simple ideas to make our government more efficient and less costly. There are lots of others: Benchmarking public employee pension and health care benefits against public employees elsewhere or (gasp!) private sector workers. Find ways vastly to increase collaboration and service sharing among Michigan's thousands of local government units and school districts.

So how do we get people talking about making common sense the centerpiece of our political discussions? That will be the subject of community conversations taking place throughout Michigan next month as part of the Michigan's Defining Moment campaign.

To learn more or reserve a seat at a conversation near you, go to [www.thecenterformichigan.net](http://www.thecenterformichigan.net).

Phil Power is founder and president of The Center for Michigan, a centrist think tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed here are his own and do not represent the official views of The Center. Power welcomes comments at [ppower@thecenterformichigan.net](mailto:ppower@thecenterformichigan.net).

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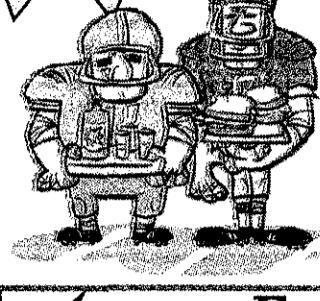
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Sheriff Warren C. Evans (right) is joined by rider Burt Farbman, a supporter of the Wayne County Sheriff's Mounted Unit.

## Sheriff hosts Mounted Unit benefit

Sheriff Warren C. Evans is planning a benefit.

On Saturday, Oct. 6, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Evans will host his third annual Mounted Unit benefit fund-raiser at Nankin Mills in Hines Park. Tickets are \$25 for horse owners

who wish to participate in a trail ride with the sheriff's team and \$10 for members of the general public. Children ages 12 and younger can attend for free. Refreshments and various displays and activities will be provided. For ticket information, please call (313) 967-6300.

## Metroparks plan autumn hayrides for young and old alike

Autumn's reds, yellows and golds will soon be coloring the trees at the Metroparks. A schedule of hayrides is being planned at the parks.

**Pick Your Pumpkin**  
Hayrides will be held October weekends from noon to 4 p.m. Kensington Metropark Farm Learning Center, near Milford/Brighton. Visitors will take a horse-drawn hayride to and from the farm's pumpkin patch where they can pick their favorite Jack-O-Lantern pumpkin. Hayride fees are adults \$3, children and seniors \$2, children 2 and under are free. Pumpkins are priced according to size. Registration is not required. For more information, contact the park office at (800)477-3178 or locally (248)685-1561.

Group hayrides are Wednesdays and Thursdays in October from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kensington Metropark Farm Learning Center. The cost is \$35 per group for a half hour hayride. Tractor-drawn hayrides are available weekends and other selected days after 4 p.m. at \$100 per hour. Hayrides are for groups up to 25 persons per ride. Groups must register at least 10 days in advance for these daytime hayrides by calling the park office at (800)477-3178.

Cider & Doughnut Wagon Rides will be held Sundays, Sept. 23 and 30 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Farm Learning Center at Wolcott Mill Metropark in Ray Township. Fee is \$4 per person. For additional information, call the

Farm at (586) 752-5932. **Pumpkin & Wagon Rides** are Saturdays and Sundays, Oct. 6, 7, 13, 14 and 21 from noon to 3 p.m. at Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Learning Center in Ray Township. Fee is \$4 per person. Pumpkins are priced according to size. For more information, call Wolcott Mill Farm Learning Center at (586)752-5932.

**Moonlight and Hayrides** are Fridays, Oct. 5, 12 and 19, 7:30-9 p.m. at Stony Creek Metropark Nature Center near Rochester. Fee is \$6 per person by appointment. Call the Nature Center at (586)781-9113 to reserve a time.

A Metropark vehicle entry permit is required.

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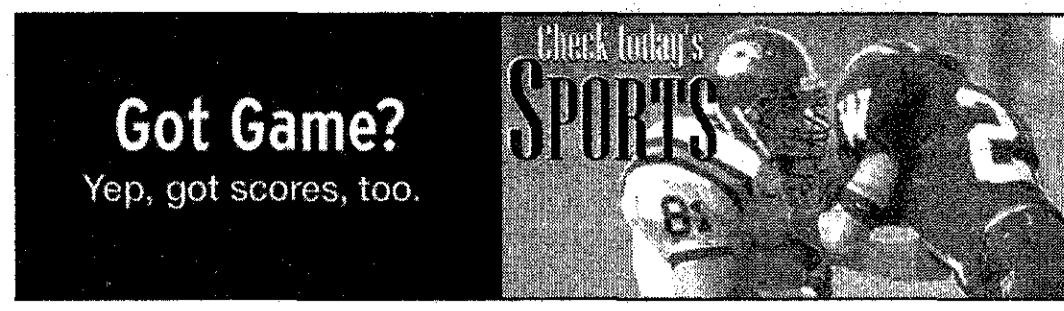
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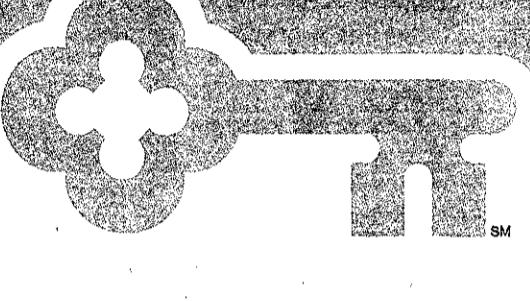
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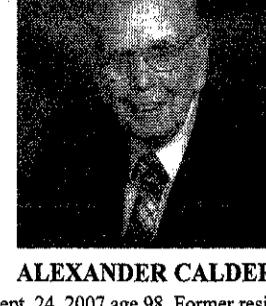


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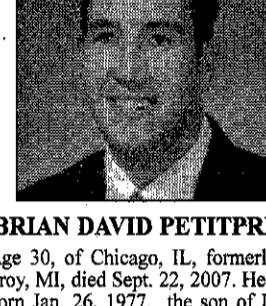


**ALEXANDER CALDER**

Sept. 24, 2007 age 98. Former resident of Livonia for 54 years. Beloved husband of Janette for 74 years. Dear Father of George, Neil (Michele), Gary (Debra) & Kenneth. Loving Grandfather of five & Great-Grandfather of two. Brother of Anna Duthie of CA. Also survived by many nieces & nephews. Visitation Fred Wood Funeral Home (Rice Chapel) 36100 5 Mile, 1 mile W. of Farmington Rd. Sunday 2:00 - 7:00 pm. In State St. Matthew's United Methodist Church Monday 10:00 am until time of service 11:00 am. Memorials to Angela Hospice or St. Matthew's United Methodist Church preferred.

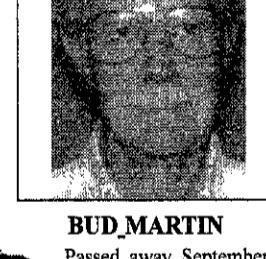
**BEATRICE JANET GREAVES**

Age 79 died Sept. 24, 2007. Funeral 9-28-07 at 10am. Uht Funeral Home



**BRIAN DAVID PETTITPREN**

Age 30, of Chicago, IL, formerly of Troy, MI, died Sept. 22, 2007. He was born Jan. 26, 1977, the son of Lynn (England) Pettitpren, of Troy, MI & John Pettitpren (Sheridan), of Chesterfield Twp., MI. Brian was a graduate of Troy Athens High School in 1995, a graduate of Michigan State University 1999. He loved boating, skiing & traveling. He was currently employed by Met Life in Chicago, IL. He is survived by his parents, sister Ms. Jamie Pettitpren, Royal Oak, MI; aunt, Janice (Mark) Tucker of Birmingham & one uncle, Michael Pettitpren of Harrison Twp., MI and his maternal grandmother, Martha England of Troy, MI and paternal grandmother, Mildred Pettitpren of Harrison Twp., MI. Visitation will be held Thursday, 3-8pm at Price Funeral Home, 3725 Rochester Rd., Troy, MI. Funeral service will be held at the funeral home Friday, 12noon with Pastor Clifford Mayes officiating Interment White Chapel Memorial Cemetery, Troy, MI. Memorials may be made to Karmanos Cancer Institute. Share memories with online register book at [www.pricefuneralhome.net](http://www.pricefuneralhome.net)



**BUD MARTIN**

Passed away September 22, 2007 at the age of 84. He was born in Plymouth and lived here his entire life. He is the beloved husband of Dee. Dear father of David (Cindy) Martin and Scott Martin. Also survived by two sisters Marlene Walton and Marilyn (Hudson) Scheifele and numerous nieces and nephews. Mr. Martin retired from Ford Motor Company in 1985. He was a supervisor at the Livonia Transmission Plant. He was a member of the Plymouth Lions Club, Past president of PTA at both Junior High East and Smith School in Plymouth. Mr. Martin was the Mayor of Plymouth in 1980-1981 and served as a commissioner for 10 years. He also served on the Fall Festival Committee. Mr. Martin served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He was also very artistic, making bird houses, pottery and paintings. Remarkably he jumped out of an airplane from 13,000 feet at the age of 80 years. Funeral services were held at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth, Thursday, September 27, 2007, 11am. Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice.

**IN MEMORY OF  
ALLISON MAY NEWMAN**

May 7, 2004 - Sept. 22, 2006

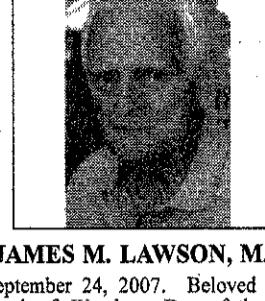
You touched so many lives in such a short time. We are hurting as much today, as we were a year ago when we first learned of the tragic news of how your life was taken away from you - by the hands of another. Our hearts are broken. We pray for justice, not only for your sweet spirit, but also for other children who have also lost their lives in a similar way. Love Always and forever, Daddy, Grandma & Papa Newman, sister Chrissy, Aunt Becca, Uncle Bob, cousins Hannah, Zachary, and Great-Granny.

**WINIFRED ELY**

Age 92, of Westland, MI, died Sept. 23, 2007. Uht Funeral Home.

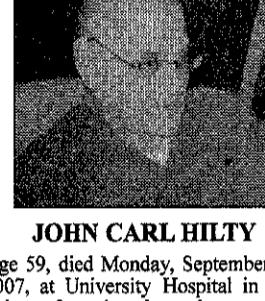
**DONALD J. ADAMS**

Age 58, of South Lyon, died September 23, 2007. He was born July 12, 1949 in Detroit, MI, to Richard and Ferne (McIntosh) Adams. Donald was united in marriage to Maureen Murphy on December 18, 2004. A longtime resident of the area, he was the owner of Country Line Contractors, Inc. based in South Lyon. Donald was a very hard worker, who raised buffalo on his farm. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle and liked to travel. Survivors include his loving wife Maureen; his sons, Donald K. (Anna Marie) Adams and Thomas G. (Holly) Adams; his stepsons, Michael Ryan, Jason Ryan and Christopher Ryan; his sisters, Pat (John) Tongiusi and Pam Adams; and his grandchildren, Triston, Christopher, Sebastian, Bailey and Preston. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother. Visitation will be held today, Sept. 27, from 1-8pm. A Funeral Service will be held Friday, Sept. 28, 11am at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc., 59255 10 Mile Rd., South Lyon. Pastor James N. McGuire will officiate the service. Mr. Adams will be laid to rest at Washenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Paws for a Cause, 4646 S. Division, Wayland, MI 49348.



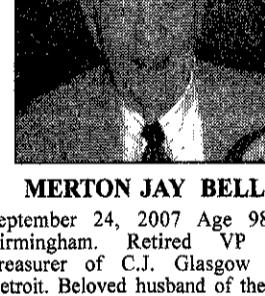
**JAMES M. LAWSON, M.D.**

September 24, 2007. Beloved husband of Wendy. Dear father of Stephanie Maitland, Frances, Henry, Melanie, Devin and Steven Lawson. Private services have been held. Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery. Memorial Tributes ARC of Oakland County, 1641 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy, MI 48084. A. J. Desmond & Sons 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)



**JOHN CARL HILTY**

Age 59, died Monday, September 17, 2007, at University Hospital in Ann Arbor, after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer. John had many talents and interests. He was an outdoorsman and spent many hours hunting and fishing at a cottage on the Pine River. He was a gourmet chef and caterer, and a lover and caregiver of animals. John was a beloved family man and is survived by his mother, Dorothy Hiltz; sister, Susan Hiltz; his nephews, Carol and Daniel Zimring, and numerous uncles, aunts and cousins. Preceded in death by his father John Carl Hiltz. Inurnment was held at White Chapel Cemetery. Memorial Tributes U of M Cancer Center Lymphoma Program or Michigan Humane Society. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)



**DONALD J. PENNELL**

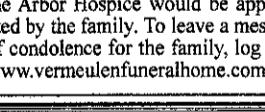
Age 83, of Bloomfield Hills, died September 19th under the care of Hospice at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital. He was born in Pleasant Ridge to Otto and Lillian (Grundy) Pennell, in 1923. He is survived by his loving wife, Jean (McKendrick) whom he married April 1, 1944. Don was a graduate of Redford High School and received his B.A. from the Detroit Institute of Technology. He worked for Michigan Bell, AT&T, and Ameritech in Detroit and New York City for a total of 36 years. He was a proud Veteran of World War II, having served in the Army Air Corps. Don was active in many organizations including the Sons of The American Revolution, where he held state and national offices. He was also active in the Paul Bunyan Sportsman Club, Society of Colonial Wars, and Society of the War of 1812. A noted genealogist, he had published several books of family genealogy. Don was a Free and Accepted Mason of Birmingham Lodge #44, and a member of the Birmingham Men's Club. He is also survived by his son George (Nancy) Pennell of Marquette, Michigan; daughter Christina (John) Bots of San Antonio, Texas; five grandchildren; Jennifer (Shane) Salmi, Adam (Janis) Pennell, Kimberly Bots, John Bots II, Jeffrey Bots and two great-grandchildren Savannah and Grant Salmi. The funeral was held September 24, 2007 at the Birmingham First United Methodist Church where he attended, and burial took place at Oakview Cemetery in Royal Oak. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials may be sent to the Salvation Army or the Redford Cemetery Association c/o Mary Jane Major, 31270 Franklin Rd., Franklin, MI 48025.

**MERTON JAY BELL**

September 24, 2007 Age 98 of Birmingham. Retired VP and Treasurer of C.J. Glasgow Co., Detroit. Beloved husband of the late Gladys M. for 50 years. Dear father of Cynthia I. Buckles (Robert), Lawrence D. Bell and Donna S. Zimmer (David). Grandfather of Amy Suzanne Zimmer, Kristen Bell Zimmer, Julie Ann Zimmer and Jennifer Lynn Zimmer Pavlov. Great grandfather of Alexander Pavlov. Loving companion of the late Katherine Healey. Memorial service, Thursday 11am at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial tributes to FAR Conservatory of Therapeutic and Performing Arts, 1669 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham, MI 48090. A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500. View obituary and share memories at: [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)

**PAUL THOMAS**

Age 73, of Westland, Sept. 21, 2007. Beloved husband of the late Geraldine Thomas. Loving father of Judith (Bruce) Austin. Dear grandfather of Kevin (Marybeth) Naegel. Also leaves five great-grandchildren, Christopher, Nichole, Connor, Cameron and Zachary; four sisters and many nieces and nephews. Funeral service was held Tuesday at Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland. Interment Cadillac Memorial Gardens, West. Memorial donations to the Arbor Hospice would be appreciated by the family. To leave a message of condolence for the family, log onto [www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com](http://www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com).



**DONNA J. GREEN**

Age 63, Prudenville, MI, formerly of Garden City, MI, passed September 21, 2007. Donna was born August 12, 1944 in Saginaw, Michigan, the daughter of Milford and Lillian (Arndt) Finner. She married Jerry A. Green August 21, 1963 and he survives. She is also survived by five sons, Ty of Manchester, Nick, Jesse, Loui, Tommy, all of Prudenville, MI; five daughters, Kim (Scott McDonagh) Green of Northville, Kathy (Bob) Williams, Shelly Green and Cammi Green, all of Ypsilanti; Theresa (Kevin Miller) Green of Prudenville; sister Katie (Gary) Yackel of Saginaw; brother Jerry (Betty) Finner of Saginaw; seven grandchildren, Devon, Cody, Kendell, Bailey, Robert & Whitney. She was preceded in death by one son, Jonathan Green in February 2007. Funeral service will be held Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2007, 11 am at the Christler Funeral Home, Prudenville, MI with Rev. Lawrence & Lonnie Cook officiating. Burial will follow in Denton Township Cemetery, Prudenville, MI.

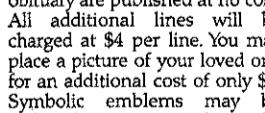
**EVELYN C. STAATS**

Age 77, September 23, 2007. Beloved wife of the late Vernon Dearest mother of John (Cheryl). Dear grandmother of Chad and Chelsea. Beloved sister of Elsie Emala. Funeral service was held at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31531 Ford Rd., Garden City on Wednesday, September 26, 2007 at 1:00pm. Please sign Evelyn's online guestbook at [www.rgrharris.com](http://www.rgrharris.com)

**HARRY LOWELL DEEM**

Age 90, passed away in Dearborn on September 21, 2007. Married for 60 years to the late Christine Valerie Deem, he is the father of Susan Andringa (AZ) and Judy Duers (CA). He had three grandsons, Dirk Andringa (MN), Mark Andringa (VA) and Brad Duers (CA). He also had three great-grandchildren, Peter, Tyler and Emily Andringa. Mr. Deem was retired from 42 years with GM and was a resident of Bloomfield Hills, then Henry Ford Village. Arrangements by Querfeld Funeral Home, Dearborn, MI [www.querfeldfh.com](http://www.querfeldfh.com)

**OBITUARY POLICY**



**Deadlines:**

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday

Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to: [ceobits@hometownlife.com](mailto:ceobits@hometownlife.com)

or fax to: (248) 953-2232

Attn: Obit c/o Charlotte Wilson

734-953-2070

734-953-2067

or toll free

866-818-7653

ask for Char or Liz

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OBITUARY POLICY

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Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

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## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A14

### Healing service

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville, will be hosting a Service of Healing and Wholeness 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, in their Sanctuary. The service affirms God's presence in our lives and is designed to comfort those who desire a healing of body, mind, relationships or other areas. Communion served. No child care provided. Information available Monday-Friday at (248) 374-7400.

### Celebration of the arts

The annual juried art show, Sharing the Gift Within, opens Saturday, Oct. 6, at the historic First Presbyterian Church in downtown Northville. The art gallery is open each day and evening through Oct. 12. Guests can enjoy the displayed artwork, much of which is for sale. The celebration continues with a

concert 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, by pianist Paul Sullivan. Tickets are \$15 adult, \$10 senior, \$5 student and can be purchased in advance or at the door. For more information, call Darlene Kuperus at (248) 349-0911, Ext. 206, or visit [www.firstpresnville.org](http://www.firstpresnville.org).

### Celebration of life Mass

In honor of Respect Life Sunday, St. Aidan's Parish will host a Celebration of Life Mass with Monsignor John Kasza as celebrant and the church's contemporary choir will perform (and a signer will be provided) 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at St. Aidan's, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Light refreshments and fellowship to follow. For more information, call (734) 425-5950.

### Faith in film series

An Al Gore movie being shown at a church? That's not likely to happen often, but that's exactly what's happening 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Redford. As part of its Faith-in-Film

series, An Inconvenient Truth will be shown, a discussion follows on the applications of faith, theology, spirituality and religion in the movie.

Future Faith-in-Film movies include Sicko, The Nativity Story, and Amazing Grace. The Faith-in-Film series is free and open to anyone who would like to respectfully share their views. For information about attending this event, call (313) 538-2660.

### Grief recovery

Living with the loss of a spouse series dealing with grief and coping with loneliness and other issues, facilitated by members of Widowed Friends, a peer support group, at St. Columban Parish Center, 1775 Melton, north of 14 Mile between Woodward and Coolidge, Birmingham. Six-week series begins 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, call Dorothy at (248) 540-9848 or Gerry at (586) 795-0477 to register by Oct. 1, four week series

begins 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, call Pat at (248) 549-1220 or Carol at (248) 853-2268 to register by Oct. 1.

### CROP walk

To raise awareness and funds for international relief and developments as well as for the Plymouth Salvation Army 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, beginning at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth Township. There will be two-mile and four-mile routes. For CROP Walker envelopes and information, call Bill Brave at (734) 414-9867.

### Animal blessing

Blessing of the Animals Service 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, Livonia. All pets are welcome. Treats will be provided. For more information, call (734) 591-0211 or visit [www.holyspirit-livonia.org](http://www.holyspirit-livonia.org)

### World Communion Day

Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road,

Farmington Hills celebrates World Communion Day Oct. 7. Everyone is invited to join in celebrating at 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. For more information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit [www.orchardumc.org](http://www.orchardumc.org).

### Concert

Woodward Corridor Musicians present Pathetique: a Chamber Music Concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, at Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Rd. at Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults; free to students K-12. A reception follows the concert. For more information, visit [www.WoodwardCM.org](http://www.WoodwardCM.org) or call (248) 546-5818.

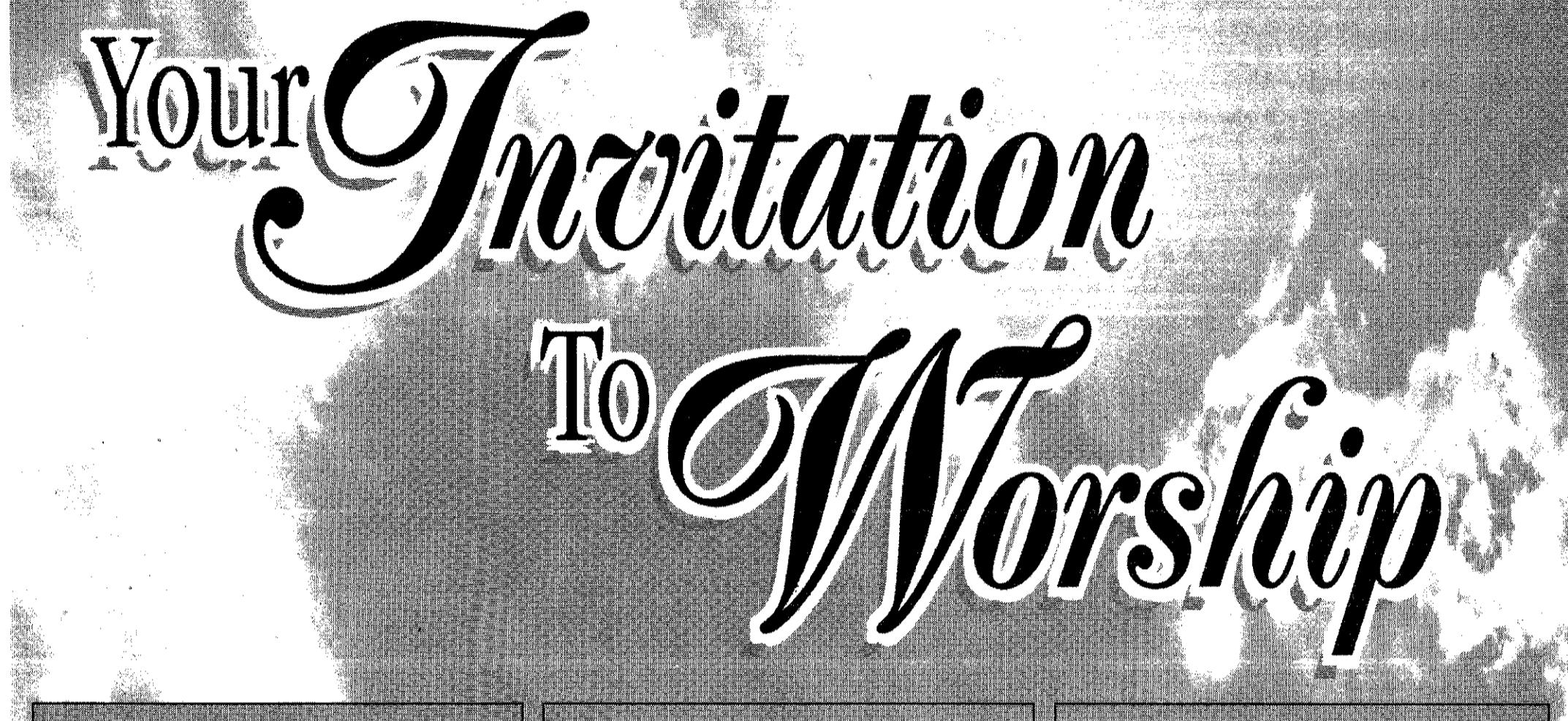
### Immigration issues

The social justice committee at St. Thomas a Becket Church has invited a speaker to explore the issues of immigration in the United States 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9 at the church, south of the corner of Lilley and Cherry Hill, Canton. The speaker is Bishop Daniel Flores,

Detroit's newest bishop, who is a third-generation Hispanic and was born and raised in Texas. All are welcome.

### Interfaith dialogue

The Detroit West District Peace Center at Hope United Methodist Church will present an Interfaith Dialogue with the Rev. Dr. Carlyle F. Stewart, III, senior pastor, Hope United Methodist Church, Southfield, and Rabbi Joshua Bennett, Temple Israel, West Bloomfield to discuss differences and similarities of Christian and Judaic Religions. They will speak from the same text with different perspectives and engage in dialogue with audience questions and answers, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at Hope United Methodist Church, 26275 Northwestern, near Lasher, Southfield. The event is free and open to the public. For information, call Barbara Talley at (248) 356-1020, Ext. 137.



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Sunday School and/or New Members Orientation: 9:00 am  
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Worship Service 9:30 AM  
Sunday School 11:00 AM  
Nursery Provided

### Redford Aldersgate

United Methodist  
2 blocks South of Plymouth  
10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170  
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.  
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship  
[www.redfordaldersgate.org](http://www.redfordaldersgate.org)

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[www.pfumc.org](http://www.pfumc.org)

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14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills  
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### Sunday Worship and Children's Church

**9:15 a.m. Contemporary**

**11:00 a.m. Traditional**

Child Care provided for all services

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Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening 6:00 P.M.

Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.

Reading Room located at church

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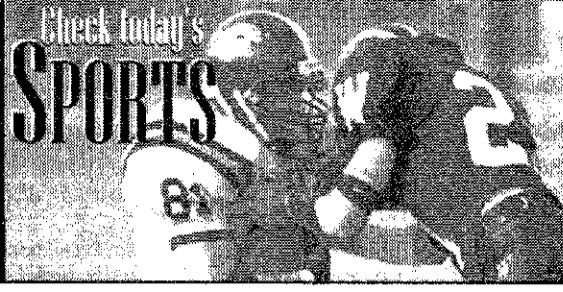
Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Lewis & Schools

Nursery provided

Visit our website at: [www.Fellowship-Church.net](http://www.Fellowship-Church.net)

WEWOOD/SUO

**Got Game?**  
Yep, got scores, too.



## Grace Baptist Church

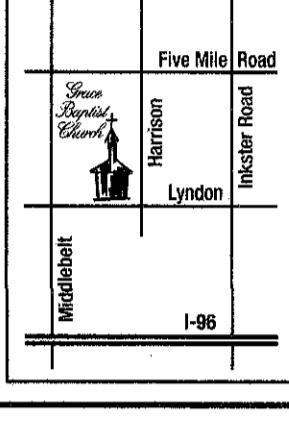
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Our Desire is to Inspire and Instruct People from God's Holy Word.

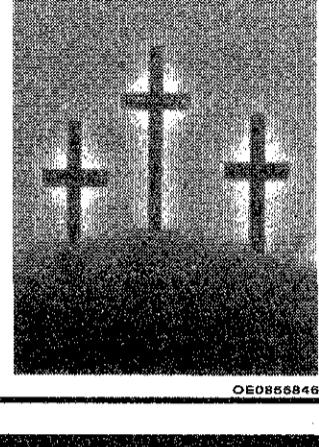
734-425-6215 28440 Lyndon ~ Livonia, MI 48154 www.GBCofLivonia.org  
(Just North of I-96, Between Middlebelt & Inkster Roads)



Sunday Services:  
Discipleship.....9:45 a.m.  
Worship.....10:45 a.m.  
Evening Service.....6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Services:  
Bible Explorers.....7:00 p.m.  
Teens ~ 4 ~ Truth.....7:00 p.m.  
Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.  
Bible Study.....7:30 p.m.

Nursery Provided for All Services  
Transportation Available



## Schoolcraft hosts College Night Wednesday on Livonia campus

Area high school students and their families can investigate the programs of more than 80 colleges and universities during Schoolcraft College's annual College Night on Wednesday, Oct. 3. The event is free and open to the community.

The schools, primarily from Michigan and the Midwest, will be on hand to answer questions and provide information on degrees, fields of study, admission requirements, cost and extracurricular activities.

A sample of in-state schools attending include Michigan State University, University of Michigan, Grand Valley

State University, Wayne State University, University of Detroit Mercy, Michigan Technological University, Eastern, Central and Northern Michigan universities, College of Creative Studies, Adrian College and Hillsdale College. Out-of-state institutions attending include Bowling Green State University, Penn State University, Ohio State University, Syracuse University, University of Notre Dame and Valparaiso University, to name a few.

College Night will be held in the Physical Education Building of Schoolcraft College's Livonia Campus

on Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile Roads. Typically College Night draws about 3,500 people. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. and continues until 8:30 p.m. The colleges are arranged fair-order and in alphabetical order in both gyms so guests can visit as many tables and in the order they wish.

For more information, call the Schoolcraft College Office of Admissions at (734) 462-4426. Schoolcraft College is a public two-year college, offering classes at the Livonia campus, the Radcliff Center in Garden City and online at schoolcraft.edu.

## Wayne County Senior Day Oct. 12

The 13th annual Western Wayne County Senior Celebration Day will be held Friday, Oct. 12, announced state Rep. John R. Pastor, R-Livonia.

"Our area is home to a great number of seniors, and this fun-filled event is just one way to give back to them and to our community," said Pastor, R-Livonia. The event takes place

at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia, and runs from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tickets went on sale Sept. 4 and can be purchased at the Livonia senior center.

The event is organized by Pastor and Senior Citizen Achievement Needs, a local nonprofit organization for seniors. This year its major sponsor is Angela Hospice

of Livonia. Tickets are \$5 and include a hot meal, door prizes, games, health screenings, exhibitor booths featuring samples, novelties and other information, and a free cloth bag to carry away all the goodies. The event is limited to 600 people and has sold out in the past. For information, call Pastor's office at (517) 373-3920.

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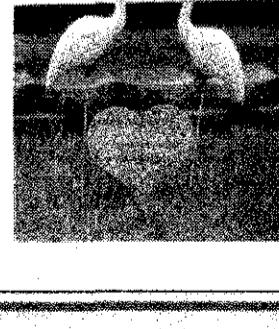
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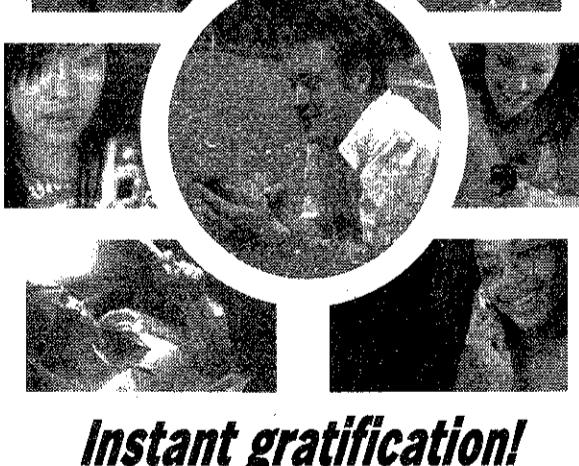
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### SEARCHING FOR A MAN...

45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 45-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. **2962317**

### BUSY GIRL

Very cute SWPF, 48, looks 35 on a bad day, 5'115 lbs, brown, wavy long hair, looking for someone to spice up my life, take a chance and leave message. **2913719**

### FRIENDS FIRST

WIWF, 66, 5'8", 145lbs, healthy, honest, happy, likes comedy films, country cooking. Looking for cut-throat, active men affectionate and warm-hearted, to share the good things in life. **2913719**

### WANTED:TALL, CLASSY MALE

I am in my early 60's, 5'2", brown/brown, I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel. Seeking a companion, 60-70, and maybe a relationship. Please call. **2918620**

### SEEKING FRIEND

DWCF, 50, 5'2", looks much younger, N/S, ND, brown/brown, very easy to get along with, seeks SWM, 58-75, who loves sports, drives and holding hands. **2956284**

### FUN SIMPLE

SBF, 19, dark complexion, artsy, easygoing, passionate about music and art. Looking for creative, fun SM, to chill with and just get to know. **2922396**

### YOUR SOULMATE IS WAITING

SBF, 27, 5'4", chocolate complexion, pretty brown eyes, dimpled smile, thick blonde hair, looking for SBM, 28-60, for friendship, possibly more. **2922392**

### LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

Attractive SWF, 50s, 5'7", 125lbs, loves all life, animals, arts, family, nature, spirituality. Masters helping professional. Seeking big-hearted, financially/emotionally secure, intelligent SWP, 48-68, for friendship, depth, etc. **2962242**

### HIT THERE

SWF, 46, blonde/blue, 5'5", slim, enjoys outdoor activities, sports. Nascer, cooking, reading and animals. Seeks a companion who wants to share tankards, quiet times, dining, travel, and more. **2921646**

### HIDDEN TREASURE

I'm the needle in the haystack, and there you will find true love. Seeking SWM, 65+. **2912700**

### PERSOANBLE & SPECIAL

SWF, retired, talented, fun-loving, attractive, 132lbs, 5'5", blonde, seeks well-groomed gentleman, 60+, to share life and enjoy each other's company. **2981247**

### IN THIS BOX U CAN FIND...

a 42-year-old SWF, ISO SWM, 58-45, for friendship and possibly more. I'm a 50+ woman, 5'115 lbs, 120lbs, long dark curly hair, N/S, ND-free, never married, no children. Interested? Call **2924748**

### HELLO GENTLEMEN

SBF, 42, 5'3", 138lbs, medium complexion, easy on the eyes, curvaceous, intelligent, classy and educated, with a nice smile, seeking compatible man to share my life. **2918006**

### LET'S TALK SOMETIME

SBCF, 38, 5'6", 120lbs, smoker, loves jazz. Seeking BF, 30-45, smoker, for dining out and movies, for friendship, possible romance. **2920739**

### ITALIAN/SICILIAN MAN...

wanted. 40+nd SBF, 5'8" looking for handsome, fun, older Italian or Sicilian Man, 40-55 years old. I like shopping, movies, and cooking. **2916623**

### BUSY GIRL

Very cute 48-year-old SWF, could easily pass for 35, 5', 115lbs, long brown wavy hair, looking for someone to spice up my life. **2923016**

### HIT THERE

SBF, 53, 4'11", likes romantic walks, dining and more, seeking a tall, caring SBF, 54-59, honest, respectful, who enjoys the same, for friendship. maybe more. **2910972**

### HOW ARE YOU?

SBF, mom of 2, N/S, fun-loving, caring, compassionate. Likes cooking, talking, walking, eating, family times, quiet times, sharing interests, best for life, to share a little happiness. **2920770**

### GET TO KNOW ME

Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive guy's music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. **2936376**

### LET'S MEET

SBF, curly, short, pretty, outgoing, self-employed seeking a busy SWB, 48-60, who likes concerts/traveling, dining. Let's get together and talk. **2927239**

### OUTGOING AND OUTSPKEN

SBF, 42, 5'6", pretty smile, enjoys weekend getaways, seeking a SM, 37-48, N/S, to share interests and common goals. **2924333**

### CASPY AND ATTRACTIVE

SBF, 40, currently seeking a SBF, 30-40, masculine, who likes walks, movies and having fun. No need for games. **2917813**

### DO YOU USE LTR?

SBF, 48, 5'7", attractive, slender, athletic, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks SWP, 55-62, N/S, college degree, healthy, SOH, possibly LTR. **2993381**

### LOTS OF LOVE TO GIVE

SBF, 68, 5'8", blonde, ISO good sense of humor, enjoys life, looking for a loving SWM, to share talk, good times, shopping, dancing, laughter and more. **2920713**

### OLD SCHOOL GIRL...

looking for old school guy, SBF, 41, has a good sense of humor. N/S, seeks nice guy, for dating and possibly more. **29186572**

### LIFE IS SHORT

SBF, 41, 5'7", outgoing, enjoys all sports, the outdoors and warm climates. seeking a caring, romantic, fun, handsome SM, 35-70, with similar interests, companionship, romance and more. **2918912**

### GOOD TIMES

Hard-working, honest, respectful, ambitious, attractive, SBF, 38, educated, D/D-free. In search of SBF, with same qualities, for friendship and casual fun. **2915938**

### WILD AND SOPHISTICATED

Ebony woman desires shared love relationship for mental, emotional, physical, spiritual and financial uplifting. 40+, 5'8", 145lbs. **2920726**

### ARE YOU THERE?

Employed, easygoing SBF, 48, mom, pretty smile, golden complexion, brown/brown, attractive, independent, warm-hearted, loves R&B, soul, classic car/or shows, concerts. Seeking warm-hearted, independent SBF, intelligent and good-humored for companionship/happiness. **2909296**

### READY FOR A FRESH START?

DWFM, 47, 5'5", 120lbs, long blonde/blue, well-proportioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWB, 45-57, 220lbs+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, maybe gentleman. **2962549**

### CLASSY LADY

SBF, 36, 5'3", N/S, seeking a SBF, 35-49, who enjoys sports, dining, traveling and movies, for friendship first, maybe more. **2919205**

### SEEKING FRIENDSHIP

SBF, young, 60s, w/good morals, caring, nice-looking, 5'3", 156lbs, N/S, ND/drugs, clean, honest living, partly retired, enjoys art, card playing, casinos, etc. Seeking a caring, honest man 50-60, race open. **29134425**

### A GOOD WOMAN 4 U

Laid-back, nice SBF, 42, N/S, loves music, movies, bowling, relaxing by the water, quiet times home. Seeking like-minded lady, feminine and fun-loving, to share friendship and possibly more. **2920905**

### SINCERE ONLY

SBF, 38, feminine, beautiful, sexy, seeks confident, similar lady to share nights on the town, good talks and simple fun. What is it? You're Friendship first, possibly more. **2910970**

### HELLO CLEMENTINE

SBF, 56, 5'2", 135lbs, looking for SWPM, to hang with, get to know and just have some fun. Interested? **2913418**

### ARE YOU SEEKING?

DWFM, 56, 5'2", Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet N/S WM, 55-70, financially secure, easygoing, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, for friendship, fun. **2923368**

### UNAFRAID OF A LITTLE LOVE

strangers. Quiet, calm, compassionate SF, 27, mother with 11 month old who is not. loves reading, friends, animals, and exploring life. Seeking someone compassionate to share a same. Friendship, fun, LTR. **2923516**

### LIFE DOESN'T END AT 60...

It starts! SWM, 62, enjoys meeting new people, trying new things, laughter and living life to the fullest. Seeking active, happy lady who feels the same. Friendship, fun, LTR. **2928516**

### A SPECIAL GUY

DWFM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest S/D/W. w/seas of humor, who enjoys life, likes S/D, good talk, etc. **2914495**

### COULD IT BE YOU?

DWFM, 56, 5'2", brown complexion, wavy hair, mustache/goatee, employed, mature, intelligent, hard-working, enjoys soulfood, good company, romance. ISO very attractive, intelligent, down-to-earth and independent lady, for life and love. **2918723**

### SEEKING A SPECIAL LADY

SBM, 56, 5'2", caring, likes quiet evenings, romantic walks, movies and picnics, seeking a BF/H, 24-46, good friend, good communication, sharing thoughts, long walks, and days on the lake. **2920687**

### GOD LOOKING...

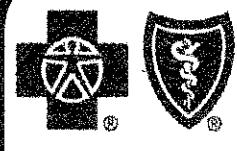
SBM, 36, 5'9", average, construction by trade, likes movies, night clubs and more, seeking a SF, 25-45, independent, caring, honest, to spend quality time with. **2912696**

### READY FOR ME?

SBM, 36, 5'9", average, construction by trade, likes movies, night clubs and more, seeking a SF, 25-45, independent, caring, honest, to spend quality time with. **2912696**

### WANT TO JOIN ME?

SBM, 36, 5'9", average, construction by trade, likes movies, night clubs and more, seeking a SF, 25-45, independent, caring, honest, to spend quality time with. **2912696**

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# SPORTS

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Thursday, September 27, 2007

The Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers

[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)Brad Emmons, editor (734) 953-2123 [demons@hometownlife.com](mailto:demons@hometownlife.com)

## Chargers fall in finals rematch, rebound vs. Rocks

BY BRAD EMMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Defending Class A volleyball state champion Livonia Churchill learned some valuable lessons in Saturday's Kalamazoo Central Midseason Classic.

The No. 5-ranked Chargers reached the quarterfinals of the prestigious 32-team tournament, only to fall to North Branch in a replay of last year's state finals, 25-21, 25-15.

North Branch went on to take the tournament title with a 25-15, 25-18 semifinal victory over No. 8-ranked Flushing followed

### PREP VOLLEYBALL

by a 25-21, 25-22 triumph over Farmington Hills Mercy in the finals. (Mercy upset Catholic League rival Birmingham Marian in the other semifinal.)

It was No. 2-ranked North Branch's fifth tournament title of the season as the Broncos improved to 38-0 overall.

"It was good competition, an intense match," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said. "Most of the mistakes were our fault. We had 11 errors hitting and 15 service errors. If we shore that up, we'll be fine. They (North Branch)

served us off the court. They took revenge. It was a big learning day for our young kids."

Churchill captured its pool with splits against Class C-ranked Blissfield (22-25, 25-22) and Kalamazoo Loy Norrix (24-26, 25-17), along with a win over Temperance Bedford (25-18, 25-19).

The Chargers, seeded eighth in the elimination round, opened with a 25-19, 26-24 win over North Muskegon.

For the day, All-State middle hitter Kyndra Abron finished with 60 kills and five solo blocks. Kristen Nalecz added 33 kills, while Brianne Schmansky

finished with 12.

Lindsey Graciak added 32 total digs and six ace serves, while Shannon Warner contributed 20 digs. Grenier also singled out the all-around play of Kelly Buhler.

On Monday, Churchill opened WLAA Lakes Division play with a 20-25, 25-18, 25-12, 25-20 win at Salem as the 6-foot-2 Abron finished with 26 kills, four blocks and five aces.

Setter Kristy DeClercq added 41 assist-to-kills and 10 digs, while Graciak (16 digs), Jordan Kerr (13 digs) and Warner (10 digs) anchored the defense.

"That trio did a great job of

passing and using ball control," Grenier said.

Jessica Stroud chipped in three kills and two blocks, while Katie Matz had 10 assists, five digs and served at 100 percent.

Churchill is 15-2-3 overall and 1-0 in the Lakes, while Salem, led by Jansan Falcusian (32 assists, six digs, three blocks), falls to 10-7-3 and 0-1.

"The kids overall played with a lot of energy," Grenier said. "The kids responded well after not-so-great Saturday."

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SideLines

### Blazers win, 1-0

Kristen Selasky's goal from Briana Boyce in the second half proved to be the difference Tuesday as Livonia Ladywood earned a 1-0 Michigan High School Girls Field Hockey League triumph over the visiting Washtenaw Whippets.

Ladywood goalie Sara Burnskey made six saves en route to the shutout as the Blazers improved to 4-3-2 overall and 1-2-2 in Division II of the MHSGFHL.

The loss drops Washtenaw to 2-2-2 overall and 0-1-1 in Division II.

### WHAC honorees

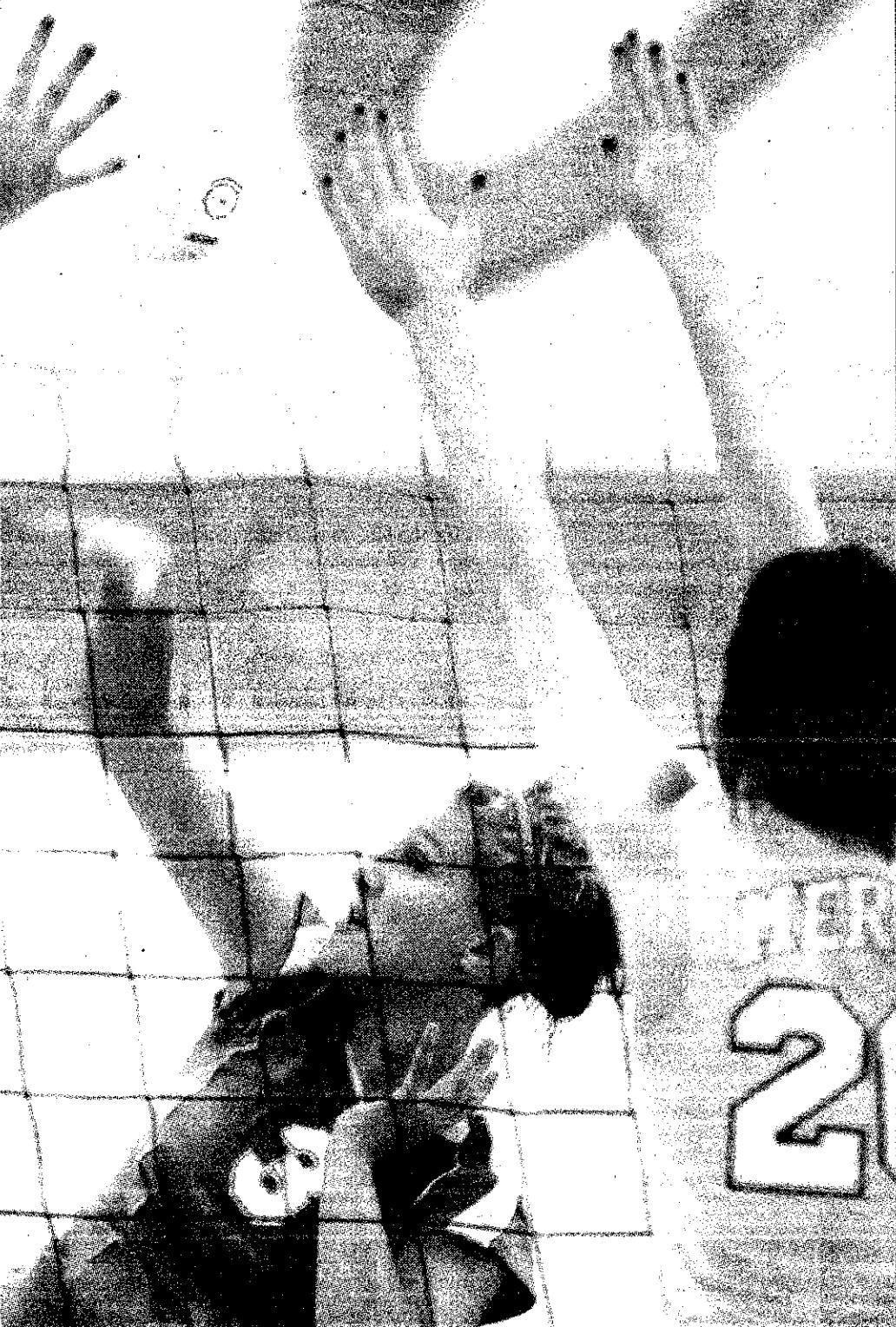
■ Taking Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference honors in men's soccer were Madonna University senior midfielder Darrel Quinn and senior goalkeeper Kristofer Lyons, named the week's top offensive and defensive players, respectively.

Quinn recorded the game-winning goal Saturday against Siena Heights with a penalty kick and earlier in the week he assisted on MU's game-winner Sept. 18 at Indiana Tech. He also assisted on a goal Saturday.

Lyons made seven saves in two Madonna victories, allowing only one goal (Saturday against Siena Heights). It was his second Defensive Player of the Week award this season.

■ Livonia native Lauren Hess (Ladywood) garnered WHAC Offensive Player of the Week honors for Sept. 17-23 in women's soccer after posting two goals and an assist over a two-game stretch.

The sophomore midfielder from notched the game-winning goal on Sept. 19 at Indiana Tech and went on to score the clincher Saturday against Siena Heights, also contributing an assist.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ladywood's Ashley Hines sends a shot over past Mercy's Kelsey Doyle during Tuesday night's Catholic League Central Division match.



Grid Picks

Tim Smith

## There's a reason for my unorthodox picks

Let me explain the method to my "grid picks" madness.

Boy, did I take it in the gut for recently picking Garden City and Redford Union to win games two weeks ago against Mega Conference dynamos Highland Park and Dearborn Fordson. Even one of my colleagues, Livonia-Westland Sports Editor Brad

Emons, couldn't resist chirping — in person and in print — about how ridiculous people said those picks were.

Apparently, the masses were ready with their white coats to come and get me.

But to quote Jim Leyland, it is what it is. Yeah, I messed up with those picks, as both the Cougars

and Panthers (two teams I cover as Redford-Garden City sports editor) were summarily trounced, tackled and torn to bits, 50-6 and 36-8, respectively. I dutifully swallowed my medicine.

By the way, I didn't follow up with a superior week, going 7-4 in Week 5 to drop in the Observer standings. Pass the medicine again,

please.

But I have always had a soft spot for the underdog. My favorite Beatle is "dark horse" George Harrison. I like Canada and love hockey. Athletes who others give short shrift, generally ignored because they aren't the flavor of the

Please see PICKS, C2

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## PICKS FROM PAGE CI

week, are those I pull for to make it.

And so I decided to fly in the face of conventional football wisdom and give Garden City and Redford Union a vote of confidence against teams a cut or more above.

That's because those programs do the best they can with what they have, with whomever walks through their doors. Those are not school-of-choice destinations for hot-shot running backs and linebackers from outside district boundaries who are recruited by public high school coaches or booster groups.

Garden City, RU and Redford Thurston simply are not in the business of turning prep athletics into an extension of pro and college, as seems to be the case elsewhere.

If that means they get pounded, so be it. If I get calls for making my picks, oh well. Sometimes sticking to principles is the right pick of the week for any sports writer.

Unfortunately, my principles have me looking up in the grid picks standings to Emons, entering this week's slate of games on a major roll. He went 11-0 last week to improve to 41-15 and take a commanding lead over Plymouth-Canton Sports Editor Ed Wright (9-2 last week) and yours truly, both tied at 36-20.

Now, here is a peek into the crystal ball for Week 6:

### FRIDAY'S GAMES

(ALL AT 7 P.M., UNLESS NOTED)

**GARDEN CITY (1-4, 1-3) AT EDSLE FORD (3-2, 2-2), 4 P.M.:** I won't make a "sentimental" pick this week, however. The Cougars are struggling mightily and have managed just 26 points in five games. Their defense hasn't been holding up in recent weeks, and it will be tested by the steamrolling Thunderbirds' attack, which sparked a 44-18 triumph over Romulus last week. PICKS: Smith (Edsel Ford); Emons (Edsel Ford); Wright (Edsel Ford).

**LIV. CLARENCEVILLE (0-5, 0-5) AT HAMTRAMCK (0-5, 0-4), 4:30 P.M.:** If ever there was a chance for the Trojans to bust into the victory column, this is it. Clarenceville hung in there against Metro Conference co-leader Macomb Lutheran North last week before losing 21-0, while the Cosmos were trounced 37-0 by Lutheran Westland. Hamtramck has managed just 12 points while giving up 200 this season. PICKS: Smith (Clarenceville); Emons (Clarenceville); Wright (Clarenceville).

**LIV. STEVENSON (5-0, 3-0) AT LIV. CHURCHILL (5-0, 3-0):** This has to be the Game of the Week in Observerland. Both WLAA teams enter this Lakes Division showdown looking to squeeze into the driver's seat. Both also are coming off lopsided victories and should be firing on all cylinders. It should be interesting who wins the battle of the trenches. Although the Spartans have scored more points this season than the Chargers, the home team is stinger overall on defense. This is almost too close to call. PICKS: Smith (Churchill); Emons (Stevenson); Wright (Stevenson).

**CANTON (2-3, 1-2) AT LIV. FRANKLIN (2-3, 2-1):**

These WLAA Western Division rivals will hook up in a game that features teams possibly headed in opposite directions. The 2006 Division 1 state semifinalist Chiefs lost a 24-23 heartbreaker to Walled Lake Western and must win out merely to qualify for the state playoffs. The Patriots defeated Plymouth last week, and would like to stay on the heels of the division-leading Warriors. PICKS: Smith (Canton); Emons (Franklin); Wright (Canton).

**WL. WESTERN (4-1, 3-0) AT WAYNE (3-2, 2-1):**

The Zebras will enter this WLAA Western contest with some momentum following a 23-14 victory over winless Northville. But the first-place Warriors provide a much tougher test, as proven by last week's one-point triumph over Canton. PICKS: Smith (Western); Emons (Wayne); Wright (Western).

**WESTLAND GLENN (2-3, 1-2) AT WL. CENTRAL (2-3, 2-1):**

After losing Friday to unbeaten Livonia Churchill, all that lies ahead for the Rockets is a WLAA Lakes matchup against a team that dismantled Plymouth Salem, 40-0. PICKS: Smith (Central); Emons (Central); Wright (Central).

**TRENTON (2-3, 1-2) AT REDFORD UNION (2-3, 1-2):**

Could the Trojans spoil homecoming night for the Panthers and their fans? It's possible, given that both of these Mega White squads have scored and allowed virtually the same number of points. This game could go either way, but the energy of Kraft Field could provide enough of an edge for outstanding RU senior halfback Youre Wilson, who scored four TDs and rushed for 179 yards last week. PICKS: Smith (RU); Emons (RU); Wright (Trenton).

**RED. THURSTON (1-4, 1-2) AT YPSILANTI (4-1, 3-0):**

Eagles head coach Bob Snell correctly said his team has a "brutal schedule" and any good feelings gained by Friday's 21-0 win over Garden City should get wiped out by the Mega Blue rival Braves, a team that has it figured out in all areas. PICKS: Smith (Ypsilanti); Emons (Ypsilanti); Wright (Ypsilanti).

**YONKERS (0-5, 0-3) AT YLM (3-2, 1-2):**

The Wildcats can garner steam toward a playoff spot with a victory. As long as the home team doesn't get too complacent, that should happen against the Mustangs, still without a win. PICKS: Smith (Plymouth); Emons (Plymouth); Wright (Plymouth).

### SATURDAY'S GAMES

(ALL AT 1 P.M., UNLESS NOTED)

**RED. COVENANT (4-1, 3-0) VS. SFLO. CHRISTIAN (2-3, 1-2) AT BIRMINGHAM GROVES, NOON:** The Spartans, who sit atop the Southern Michigan Football Conference standings with Parkway Christian, will look to keep building momentum toward what could be their first-ever playoff spot. If the chemistry between Covenant quarterback Tony Harrison and wide receiver Anthony Davis (three TD catches last week) stays strong, it could be a long day for the Eagles. PICKS: Smith (Covenant); Emons (Covenant); Wright (Covenant).

**CLAWSON (2-3, 2-1) AT LUTHERAN WESTLAND (3-2, 2-1):**

These Metro Conference teams are looking to build on Week 5 victories, with the Warriors coming off a 37-0 blitzing of Hamtramck while the Trojans defeated Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest. PICKS: Smith (Lutheran Westland); Emons (Clawson); Wright (Lutheran Westland).

**WL. NORTHERN (0-5, 0-3) AT SALEM (0-5, 0-3):**

There will be some smiling faces, guaranteed, as one of these struggling teams will finally get into the win column. The Rocks are looking to score their first point in WLAA Lakes play. PICKS: Smith (Salem); Emons (Northern); Wright (Salem).

**WL. CHURCHILL (0-4, 1-3) AT LIV. FRANKLIN (2-3, 2-1):**

These Metro Conference teams are looking to build on Week 5 victories, with the Warriors coming off a 37-0 blitzing of Hamtramck while the Trojans defeated Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest. PICKS: Smith (Lutheran Westland); Emons (Clawson); Wright (Lutheran Westland).

**WL. NORTHERN (0-5, 0-3) AT SALEM (0-5, 0-3):**

There will be some smiling faces, guaranteed, as one of these struggling teams will finally get into the win column. The Rocks are looking to score their first point in WLAA Lakes play. PICKS: Smith (Salem); Emons (Northern); Wright (Salem).

## PREP CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

### MONROE-JEFFERSON INVITATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

Sept. 22 at Sterling State Park  
**BOYS TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Livonia Churchill, 29 points; 2. Monroe, 55; 3. Livonia Franklin, 65; 4. Wyandotte Roosevelt, 59; 5. Southgate Anderson, 132; 6. Ypsilanti Lincoln, 170; 7. Canton, 184; 8. Farmington Hills, 185; 9. Southgate Anderson, 186; 10. Livonia Churchill, 192; 11. Wayne Memorial, 200; 12. Detroit Mumford and Taylor Kennedy, no team score.

**Individual winner:** Justin Heck (Monroe), 15 minutes, .56 seconds (5,000 meters).

**Churchill finishers:** 2. Joe Varlone, 16:55; 2. Mark Waterbury, 3:17:08; 7. Paul Folk, 17:36; 8. Nathan Wiles, 17:38; 9. Brandon Grisko, 17:40; 24. Michael Schmidt, 18:41; 34. Mark Freyberg, 19:31.

**Franklin finishers:** 6. Evan Sirena, 17:30; 10. Mike Kratovich, 17:44; 13. Dylan Taylor, 18:03; 15. Pete Walday, 18:12; 21. Doug Coles, 18:32; 26. Robert Freed, 18:51.

**Wayne finishers:** 14. Jacob Schotfeld, 18:05; 28. Abraham Mendez, 18:47; 47. Patrick McKinzie, 21:38.

**CANTON (2-3, 1-2) AT LIV. FRANKLIN (2-3, 2-1):**

12; 7. Livonia Stevenson, 164 (12 schools). Individual winner: Alex Toloff (CC), 16 minutes, 22 seconds (5,000 meters).

**Stevenson finishers:** 16. Mike Gibbons, 17:32; 22. Shawn Howe, 17:45; 27. Kevin Reschke, 17:56; 49. Tom Kahan, 18:48; 50. Jordan Burger, 18:48; 53. Alex Hoelzel, 18:51; 60. Eric Piluso, 19:08.

**GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS (Division I):** 1. Rochester Adams, 35; 2. Northville (A), 36; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 66; 4. Grosse Pointe South, 135; 5. Northville (B), 147 (nine schools).

**Individual winner:** Callie Macamben, 18:58.

**Stevenson finishers:** 2. Courtney Calka, 19:13;

11. Julia Schroeder, 21:01; 16. Victoria Saferian, 21:16; 18. Sam Kay, 21:25; 19. Denae Meier, 21:30; 23. Christina Joss, 21:34; 29. Molly Serpe, 22:03.

**BOYS TEAM STANDINGS (Division II):** 1. Whitmore Lake, 59; 2. Dearborn Divine Child, 53; 3. Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep, 15; 4. Farmington Hills, 18:52; 5. Dearborn Heights, 23:26; 7. Luth. Westland, 170; 8. Salem (B), 205; 9. Ypsilanti Lincoln, 243; 10. Detroit Mumford, 296; 11. Wayne Memorial, 314; 12. Taylor Kennedy, no team score.

**Individual winner:** Lindsey Gakenheimer, 19 minutes, .08 seconds (5,000 meters).

**Churchill finishers:** 13. Michelle Verellen, 21:30; 31. Melinda Westrick, 22:32; 32. Emily Clairmont, 22:44; 37. Sarah Bauman, 22:39; 39. Lauren Dylka, 22:46; 41. Linda McMullen, 22:56; 54. Keiley Rothermel, 23:53.

**Franklin finishers:** 26. Brittan Diley, 22:09; 28. Megan McPherson, 22:14; 29. Mallory Church, 22:19; 35. Victoria Church, 22:32; 42. Tiffany Van Orden, 22:58; 49. Kelly Wahlby, 23:23; 55. Kelsey Kaplan, 24:02.

**Wayne finishers:** 50. Melissa Smith, 23:26; 60. Claire Moreta, 25:30; 62. Esmeralda Rivera, 25:59; 70. Merisa Gilbert, 27:28; 72. Laila Hayes, 32:37; 73. Hayley Hayes, 33:20.

**JACKSON INVITATIONAL**

Sept. 22 at Ella Sharp Park

**GIrls TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Saline, 69 points; 2. Livonia Churchill, 78; 3. Grand Blanc, 18; 4. Pinckney, 129; 5. East Kentwood, 145 (19 schools).

**Individual winner:** Gabrielle Anzalone (Grand Blanc), 18 minutes, 10 seconds (5,000 meters).

**Churchill finishers:** 5. Rachel McFarlane, 18:54; 7. Alyssa Mira, 19:05; 14. Sara Kroll, 19:31; 22. Amanda Southwell, 19:56; 30. Hannah Otto, 20:20; 41. Katie Rash, 20:52; 66. Kim Verellen, 21:30.

**DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL INVITATIONAL**

Sept. 22 at Cass Benton Park

**BOYS TEAM STANDINGS (Division I):**

Northville, 50 points; 2. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 58; 3. Dearborn Fordson, 100; 4. Grosse Pointe South, 119; 5. Birmingham Brother Rice,

12; 7. Livonia Stevenson, 164 (12 schools). Individual winner: Alex Toloff (CC), 16 minutes, 22 seconds (5,000 meters).

**Stevenson finishers:** 16. Mike Gibbons, 17:32; 22. Shawn Howe, 17:45; 27. Kevin Reschke, 17:56; 49. Tom Kahan, 18:48; 50. Jordan Burger, 18:48; 53. Alex Hoelzel, 18:51; 60. Eric Piluso, 19:08.

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**BOYS TEAM STANDINGS (Division II):** 1. Whitmore Lake, 59; 2. Dearborn Divine Child, 53; 3. Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep, 15; 4. Farmington Hills, 18:52; 5. Dearborn Heights, 23:26; 7. Luth. Westland, 170; 8. Salem (B), 205; 9. Ypsilanti Lincoln, 243; 10. Detroit Mumford, 296; 11. Wayne Memorial, 314; 12. Taylor Kennedy, no team score.

**Individual winner:** Lindsey Gakenheimer, 19 minutes, .08 seconds (5,000 meters).

**Churchill finishers:** 13. Michelle Verellen, 21:30; 31. Melinda Westrick, 22:32; 32. Emily Clairmont, 22:44; 37. Sarah Bauman, 22:39; 39. Lauren Dylka, 22:46; 41. Linda McMullen, 22:56; 54. Keiley Rothermel, 23:53.

**Franklin finishers:** 26. Brittan Diley, 22:09; 28. Megan McPherson, 22:14; 29. Mallory Church, 22:19; 35. Victoria Church, 22:32; 42. Tiffany Van Orden, 22:58; 49. Kelly Wahlby, 23:23; 55. Kelsey Kaplan, 24:02.

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**JACKSON INVITATIONAL**

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**GIrls TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Saline, 69 points; 2. Livonia Churchill, 78; 3. Grand Blanc, 18; 4. Pinckney, 129; 5. East Kentwood, 145 (19 schools).

**Individual winner:** Gabrielle Anzalone (Grand Blanc), 18 minutes, 10 seconds (5,000 meters).

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**DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL INVITATIONAL**

Sept. 22 at Cass Benton Park

**BOYS TEAM STANDINGS (Division I):**

# Stevenson secures Lakes title with victory over Vikings, 1-0

Livonia Stevenson has already booked Oct. 10 to play for the Western Lakes Activities Association boys soccer championship.

The 11-0 Spartans recorded their ninth shutout of the year with a hard-earned 1-0 victory Monday night at Walled Lake Central.

The state-ranked Spartans will represent the Lakes Division and host the title matchup against the Western Division champion, either Canton or Northville.

Dylan Green's goal midway through the first half from Mike Debolski stood up as the Spartans, who clinched the Lakes outright with an 8-0 record, defeated Central (7-7, 3-4) for the second time this year.

"The last time we beat them (Sept. 10) it was 2-0, both good, competitive games," Stevenson coach Lars Richters said.

Defense has been a staple

## BOYS SOCCER

for the Spartans, who once again split the goalkeeper duties between Justin Collins (first half) and Conner Burton (second half). The pair have combined to do an ample job replacing All-State keeper Mitch Hildebrandt (now at Oakland University).

"For two guys with no varsity experience they've done a good job of being mistake free although they haven't seen a ton of action," Richters said. "The general theme is not to be Mitch, but do what the position calls you to do, which is not forcing things and making solid plays."

Richters also credits his backline, led by center-backs Kendall Snow and Green, along with outside defenders Brady Thom, Tyler Vines, Joey Dedomenico and Kyle Kopitz.

"We've done a fairly good job as far as team defense,"

Richters said.

Central goalie Dennis Rau made 16 saves and was "excellent in net for us," according to Vikings coach Joel Sharpe, who added senior Michael Clark played very well in back.

"It was a hard-fought game; we played well," Sharpe said. "They're an outstanding team. They controlled most of the game. We put a little pressure on them at the end, but we did a good job of defending and kept it close the entire time."

**CHURCHILL 8, JOHN GLENN 0:** Jacob Robison's goal from Kyle Schwarz with 21 minutes remaining Monday gave host Livonia Churchill (7-5-1, 4-3-1) the WLAA-Lakes Division mercy-rule triumph over visiting Westland John Glenn (2-10-1, 0-8).

Junior Matt Regan led the Chargers, who led 5-0 at halftime, with a pair of goals. Chris DeNapoli added a goal and assist, while Schwarz finished with two assists.

Ben Merritt, Drew Sieber, Etienne Lussiez and Max Washko also tallied goals for Churchill.

Goalkeepers Adrian Motta and Derik Peterman combined for the

shutout.

**FRANKLIN 7, WAYNE 1:** Junior Zain Qureshi unloaded for three goals Monday as host Livonia Franklin (3-9, 2-6) rolled to a WLAA-Western Division victory over Wayne Memorial (0-11-2, 0-8).

"Back-to-front it was a well-played game," Franklin coach Vic Rodopoulos said. "We utilized our outside defenders a lot. We played quick balls, we played simple. Guys supported each other and things went smoothly."

Joe Michnewicz tallied his first goal of the year, while Steve Trapp (direct free kick), Mike Dobson and Chad Dorton also scored for the Patriots, who led 4-0 at halftime.

Wayne's Juan Zavala spoiled Franklin goalkeeper Jordan McKindles' shutout bid with only eight seconds remaining in the match.

**LUTH. WESTLAND 6, CLAWSON 0:** Junior Josh Kruger's hat trick propelled Lutheran High Westland (8-3-2, 4-3-2) to the Metro Conference triumph Tuesday against the host Trojans.

Senior Adam Zeher contributed two goals, while sophomore Gage Flanery had a goal and assist. Other assists went to Ben Crandall, Austin

Baglow, Tom Cipolla, Ryan Baglow and freshman Kent Krzyske.

Goalkeeper Micah Hausch recorded his sixth shutout of the year.

**LUTH. NORTH 1, CLARENCEVILLE 0:** Livonia Clarenceville (3-9, 2-5) was denied the upset bid Tuesday as Jordan Holmes scored the game-winner midway through the first half for host Macomb Lutheran North (6-5-2, 4-1-2).

"This is the first game we've played as a team this year," Clarenceville coach Trevor Johnson said.

Junior Phil Heidler, filling in for starting goalkeeper Garrett Gregg, who was out sick, made 10 saves. "He (Heidler) was pretty impressive giving him a shot," Johnson said.

The Trojans' defense was paced by senior sweeper Matt Parent. The Trojans lost starter Dustin Csokasy to injury with 12 minutes remaining.

**AGAPE 7, HURON VALLEY 0:** Seven different players scored Tuesday as MIAC-Red Division leader Canton Agape Christian (11-1, 6-0) rolled past host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (0-12, 0-6).

Goal scorers for the Wolverines, who led 5-0 at halftime, included Daniel Walker, Brandon Pierson, Robi Knight, Keith Reith, Billy Martin and Daniel Mullett.

Goalkeepers Joel Ruffin (first half) and Daniel Walker (second half) combined on the shutout.

Andy Faulk was in goal for the Hawks.

Aaron Howell led HVL with five shots on goal, while Austin Tranchida and Eric Schaffer added two each.

**LUTH. WESTLAND 1, SHRINE 0:** In a non-conference match Saturday, host Lutheran High Westland (7-3-2) and Royal Oak Shrine (5-4-2) battled to a draw.

Sophomore Laith Francis scored for the Warriors, while senior John McCullough found the net for Shrine.

**FERNDALE 5, WAYNE 2:** On Friday, John Ndeh-Zama's three goals and one assist carried the host Eagles (5-2-3) to a non-league win over Wayne Memorial (0-10-2).

Dennis Burgess added a goal and assist in the win, while Michael Baugh tallied the other Ferndale goal. Jeff Traynor contributed two assists.

## S'craft road trip successful

### MEN'S SOCCER

(Plymouth) combined to pitch another 2-0 shutout. Lovelace came in for the final five minutes in relief of Riley (three saves).

On Friday, the Ocelots blanked host Heartland (Ill.), 2-0.

The Ocelots got off to a quick 1-0 lead in the non-conference tilt and that proved to be the deciding goal, with freshman midfielder Michael Iyoha finishing up a three-man passing play just four minutes into the match. Assisting were sophomore forwards Brandon Horvath and Plymouth High School alum Ali Youssef.

Assistant coach Eric Scott said Iyoha scored on a "great shot" from the top of the 18-yard box.

That's how the contest remained until a late goal by Horvath, on a "tremendous free kick after (sophomore defender) Brad Spencer drew a foul near the box," Scott noted.

Making five saves for the shutout was freshman goalkeeper Chris Riley.

Saturday at Ancilla (Ind.), Riley and freshman goalie Bob Lovelace

opened up the scoring for

Madonna was sophomore midfielder Emilio Giorgi, with a beautiful unassisted goal. Giorgi beat the Siena Heights defense with a number of nifty moves inside the 18-yard box.

Siena Heights dropped to 5-5 and 3-2.

## Lady Ocelots win

### Soyad's goal beats Cincinnati State, 3-2

#### WOMEN'S SOCCER

that if converted would have opened up the game a bit more for us."

He did praise the "strong, consistent" work of freshmen midfielders Ally King (Livonia Stevenson) and Adrianna Guerreo, as well as Soyad and Baptist up front who "worked relentlessly to create scoring opportunities."

Baptist scored Schoolcraft's second goal to give the Lady Ocelots a 2-1 advantage midway through the second half, only to have Cincinnati State deadlock matters a few minutes later.

Schoolcraft's first goal was scored in the first half by sophomore forward Jessica Austin (Livonia Franklin).

Drawing other assists for

the Lady Ocelots were Guerreo and sophomore forward Nicole Polite.

**FERRIS STATE 4, MADONNA 2:** Kristie Smilanic scored twice and added two assists Tuesday as host Ferris State downed Madonna University in a non-conference women's soccer match, 4-2, in Big Rapids.

The Bulldogs, who improved to 2-6 overall, also got a goal and assist from Tammy Unsworth. Heather O'Keefe added her eighth of the season in the opening half.

Smilanic's game-winner came in the 70th minute, while Unsworth added an insurance goal in the 77th minute.

Kati Germane (unassisted) and Lauren Hess (from Lia Melasi) scored for the Crusaders, who fall to 6-3-1 overall.

**MADONNA 3, SIENA HEIGHTS 2:** In the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference match Saturday, first-

half goals by sophomore forwards Kati Germane (from Salem alum Ashley Stoychoff) and Kaila Moore provided enough cushion to withstand a late rally from the Saints (5-4-0, 3-2-0) and lift the Crusaders (6-2-1, 5-1) to the win at Livonia's Greenmead Field.

Assisting on Moore's goal were junior midfielder Stoychoff and sophomore midfielder Lauren Hess (Livonia Ladywood).

Stoychoff made a nice lead pass to Hess, whose shot was blocked by Saints goalkeeper Haley Mancini. But Moore was there to find the mark on the rebound.

Siena Heights cut the lead to 2-1 early in the second half before Hess booted a shot from outside the 18-yard mark under the crossbar. The goal was unassisted.

Kim Stoumban finished the scoring with just 44 seconds left, knocking the ball past MU senior goalkeeper Traci Anderson (two saves) off a scrum in the box.

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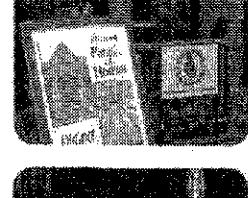
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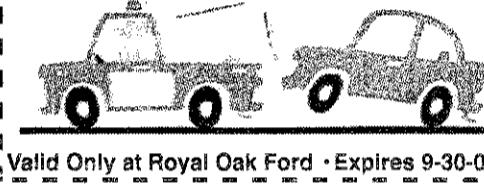
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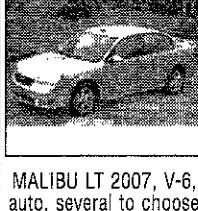
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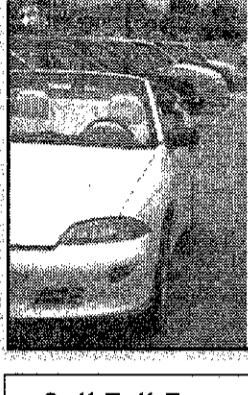
# Automotive

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## VOLVO HAS A 'HOT HATCH' IN NEW C30

Advertising Feature

### CAReport



By Dale Buss

With high gasoline prices now firmly established as a fact of life, automakers are devoting more attention and resources to small cars. As a result, they're finally bringing some meaningful diversity to a category that was stuck in a bland homogeneity for many years.

Volvo's brand-new C30 sporty compact is in the very vanguard of this development. Aiming to appeal to young urbanites and compete with established lookers including the Volkswagen GTI and the Mini Cooper, Volvo has launched the C30 this year behind hot styling, peppy performance, and just enough amenities to make it a credible entry in the high-end small-car derby - what some wag has taken to calling the "hot hatch" segment.

Aiming the car mainly at the narrow streets and tight parking of the European market, Volvo also has graced the United States with the C30, a sporty hatchback that closely follows the design of a concept vehicle from a few years ago. Starting retail prices are around \$22,700, but fully loaded, C30 can set you back around \$30,000.

For that kind of lucre, you want something that impresses - and C30 delivers. Start with looks: C30 boasts a tongue-wagger of a design, both in the overall and in some intriguing details. Not known until lately for its design prowess, Volvo really has pulled out all the stops with the C30. Its dramatic wedge shape and short-clipped rear end suggests a vehicle back on its haunches, ready to rocket.

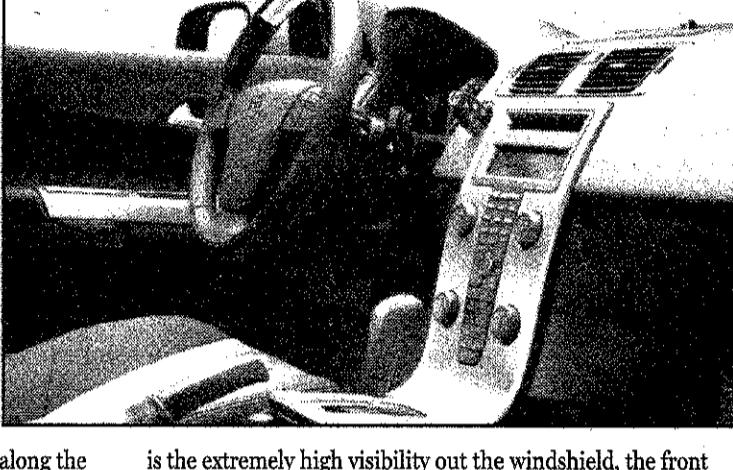
The chopped-off front grille is a blunt statement by this two-door coupe. So are the huge-looking 18-inch wheels on the Version 2.0 that I drove. Dramatic flares run along the bottom of the C30 from the front to the rear wheels. Parallel to them, the car's shoulders rise and its roof quickly descends to form smart-looking wedge shapes.

And yet, it isn't until you get to the rear end where Volvo really makes a design statement with the C30: The hatchback is nearly entirely comprised of a huge, squarish back window that extends well below where a traditional design would have it end, creating a dramatic effect. The chrome-tipped dual exhausts help as well.

In the case of the C30 I drove, Volvo also adds to the appeal with a dramatically fresh color scheme. The body color of the vehicle was an extremely light mossy green,



Interior of the C30 features sensible climate control and a "waterfall" center console.



almost a bare tint of a hue, while the trim pieces along the bottom were a very deep mocha. Interesting combination with an esthetically pleasing result.

The only down side to this entire design picture is a strange pair of taillights, in which the brake-light strip extending vertically on the sides of the hatch - reminiscent of Volvo's design in other vehicles - are actually adjacent to the arc of the main taillights, producing weird effects. Of course, all of that is only annoying to the drivers behind you.

For the driver who's actually behind the seat of the C30, it's a big treat. Powered by a turbocharged, 2.5-liter five-cylinder engine, C30 generates 227 horsepower and 236 pound-feet of torque. As a result, toting around a vehicle this small, C30 is able to accomplish remarkable acceleration - about 6.5 seconds zero-to-60 - as well as determined quick moves whatever the driving demands.

Shifting up through the five-speed automatic I drove is extremely smooth as well. At an estimated 19 mpg in the city and 28 mpg on the highway, fuel economy is about where it must be to take advantage of the small dimensions of the car.

Inside, C30 is mostly a treat. The first thing you notice

is the extremely high visibility out the windshield, the front side windows and, especially, the huge hatch, all of which is a real treat. However, C30 displays the same blind-spot problems for the driver that are generic to many coupes. And if you're a rear passenger, the seats are so deep and the windows so shallow that the effect is a bit like sitting in a jail cell looking up at a scant chink of a space to the outside.

The interior design is sleek, highlighted by a signature, thin, "floating" or "waterfall" center console that Volvo first incorporated into the S40 and V50. Not only is the visual effect stunning, but there's a handy compartment behind the waterfall stack where you can stash keys, cell phones and other objects safely without having them clutter up the important space right next to the driver's seat.

And, of course, Volvo has used its uniquely sensible approach to climate controls in the C30 as in its other vehicles. An icon of a human shows you exactly where the air stream will be pointing, and all the necessary climate switches and dials are clustered within a few inches of each other.

And obviously, climate-switch design isn't the only thing that competitors could learn from the C30.

OEO855995

### ADVERTISEMENT

## Used car prices take hard tumble New car incentives push used car marketplace to record low

by J.L. Sims *Independent ad features*

Livonia, MI - A Livonia dealer is selling 2007 vehicles for about one-half of the original manufacturer's list price. And they're offering many other models far below normal market values. The low financing offered by GM, Ford, and Daimler-Chrysler mesmerized so many buyers that far fewer shoppers even bothered looking at pre-owned 2007 models.

How does 0% financing on a new model do in a heads-up comparison to a pre-owned 2007 model? In the instance of the Buick LaCrosse, financing \$21,960 plus tax vs. \$9995 plus tax, the payments on the new car at 0% interest would be \$392 monthly for 60 months, but only \$269 monthly at 5.9% for 60 months on the program model. With the prime at a record low, today's interest rates are very competitive. Many credit unions charge under 6% for auto loans if the applicant has a good credit rating. And when purchasing the used 2007, don't forget that you'll be saving about an additional \$1,000 in sales tax and licensing fees. (Taxes estimated at an average of 6%).

John Rogin Buick sold over 150 Buick LaCrosse & Pontiac Grand Prix's in the first 30 days of their sale.

A "program" car is a vehicle that has been leased by a premium rental company through a special "program" from the manufacturer. Strict maintenance is required, and all vehicles are carefully inspected upon return. In many cases, these program units receive better maintenance than vehicles owned by private owners.

John Rogin Buick-Livonia has long been known as Michigan's "bargain hunting" dealer. Currently, they're selling more 2007 Pontiac Grand Prix's than any

other dealer in the nation. (Over 150 Pontiacs & Buicks were sold during the first 30 days of their sale.) Last year, they sold the most pre-owned 2006 Impalas and Pontiac Grand AMs in the nation from their single location. And the year before they set the sales record selling the most off-lease GMC Yukons and pick-ups.

Today's real bargain can be found at John Rogin in the pre-owned 2007 vehicles. The low financing on new 2007's has left the used models unnoticed and overlooked. So, with far fewer dealers purchasing these units, the prices have dropped to record lows.

So, once again, John Rogin has gone shopping for the vehicles with a huge cart. They have just made a multi-million dollar purchase of these units from General Motors, bringing in truckload after truckload from

across the country. In addition to filling their giant used car facility to the brim, John Rogin had to lease additional storage lots to accommodate their massive acquisition of vehicles. And they currently stock the largest

inventory of 2007 program cars in Michigan with a 100,000 mile warranty.

The purpose of 0% financing is

to clear out the remaining new 2007's. In another week or two, these vehicles will all be gone, along with the incentives. In the meantime, the 2007 program vehicles are truly today's "sleeping" bargain... But they'll soon disappear as smart shoppers begin to "wake up" and recognize the real deals.

John Rogin Buick is located at 30500 Plymouth Road, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. Their used car superstar may be contacted directly at (734) 525-0900 Monday - Friday during normal business hours.

Bargains abound in pre-owned 2007 program vehicles all with 100,000 mile warranty.

for a salesperson to explain how to operate "all the buttons," because this LaCrosse will greet you like an old friend, or a comfortable pair of slippers. The cabin is exceedingly driver friendly, with all controls neatly laid out before you like an elegant table setting. And everything just seems to "fit."

The Buick LaCrosse still retains all the traditional value you've come to expect from Buick. From its luxurious well-appointed interior to the clean, flowing exterior design, LaCrosse makes a stylish impression.

The standard features provide evidence that the Buick still remains just one step down from the Cadillac in GM's lineup. Dual (driver and passenger side) heat and air conditioning controls, six-

position tilt steering wheel, cruise control, power windows, locks, and seats, remote key fobs operating doors and trunk, rear window defroster, plus a stereo system that will blow you away.

Children aren't forgotten with the rear seat upper and lower latch system for compatible child safety seats and rear door child security locks.

Four-wheel independent suspension provides for solid handling and the ride of a magic carpet.

Best of all, the new LaCrosse requires just a little more maintenance than a rock garden. 100,000 miles between spark plug changes. 100,000 mile transmission service intervals under normal driving conditions.

"WOW".

It's no wonder that John Rogin Buick-Livonia considers the pre-owned 2007 LaCrosse to be the most car they've ever been able to offer for the money. And for the past several weeks, they've silently amassed hundreds of these wonderful units from

throughout the country and brought them to Livonia. Best of all, today you can purchase a pre-owned 2007 LaCrosse from John Rogin for nearly half its original value of \$24,000 list price new. While they last.

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OEO8558103

## A Beautiful Buick

The 2001-2007 Buicks were

the highest ranked Premium

Midsize Car in J.D. Powers and

Associates Initial Quality Study.

This study was based on a total

of over 64,900 consumer

responses indicating owner

reported problems during the

first 90 days of ownership. Of those

surveyed, Buick owners reported

the fewest problems - An

outstanding mark of excellence

for superb workmanship and a

prelude to the satisfaction yet to

be experienced during the

coming years.

Equipped with a powerful 175-

horsepower V-6 boasting 20 mpg

city and 29 mpg highway fuel

economy, the Buick LaCrosse

will capture your heart from the

moment you slip behind the

wheel. There won't be any need

for a salesperson to explain how to operate "all the buttons," because this LaCrosse will greet you like an old friend, or a comfortable pair of slippers. The cabin is exceedingly driver friendly, with all controls neatly laid out before you like an elegant table setting. And everything just seems to "fit."

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