

All-Area Girls
Swimming - B5



Big films
for the
holidays
filter

Dear Readers,

Please accept our apologies on the late delivery of your Sunday Observer throughout the last month. The heavy volume of preprint inserts and mechanical problems with inserting equipment have caused severe delays. The late delivery is not the fault of your carrier, but rather he/she has remained very patient during the delays. We are working with our printer to resolve these production problems.

Thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

Mark Warren

Circulation Director

THURSDAY
December 13, 2007

WESTLAND Observer

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High-speed chase ends with suspect's arrest

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Redford man is charged with driving a stolen vehicle and leading officers from four police agencies on a chase that started in Westland and topped 100 mph before it

ended in Detroit, where the suspect was captured.

Hosea Moore, 44, also is accused of dragging a Westland police officer and running over his foot just before the chase started around 5:30 a.m. Sunday. The incident ended when he

rammed into a Michigan State Police car and tried to flee on foot, police Sgt. Chris Benson said.

Moore, arraigned on multiple felony charges Tuesday in Westland 18th District Court, is accused of stealing a 2006 Chevy Trailblazer

in Livonia before going to a Westland group home where his girlfriend works, on Ann Arbor Trail west of Middlebelt, Benson said.

The pair had been having problems, and the girlfriend called police amid allegations Moore went to her job and

started harassing her. Officers already had been watching for a stolen Trailblazer.

Officers went to the group home and searched Moore for weapons before a struggle erupted, prompting Moore to flee on foot to a vehicle he had parked a short distance away,

Benson said.

Officer Ron Merrill chased the suspect and tried to pull him out of the vehicle, but Moore was accused of starting the Trailblazer, dragging Merrill a short distance, run-

Please see **ARREST, A3**



A crowd gathered in Kellogg Park to honor the memory of children who have died.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shining the light

Candlelight vigil remembers children lost too soon

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of people braved dropping temperatures and a sleeted drizzle Sunday to attend the annual Compassionate Friends Candlelight Vigil in Plymouth's Kellogg Park, all with the same goal in mind.

Paying tribute to the children they've lost too soon.

The event, sponsored by The Compassionate Friends-Western Wayne County (Livonia) Chapter, included the dedication of a tree decorated with ornaments with the children's names, the candlelight vigil, a reading of the children's names, poetry and songs.

This year, nearly 400 names were read.

"If that's not the most we've ever read, it's close," said Gail Lafferty, a Compassionate Friends member who co-chairs the vigil. "They just seem to keep coming."

Dave and Kim Blackwell of Westland were there Sunday

to remember Amy Louise Blackwell, Dave's sister, who died in an apartment fire seven years ago. Seven years later, the pain is still evident.

"She was my best friend," Dave said of Amy. "We have to come (to the vigil)."

Claudia Schmitt isn't among those who have lost children, but she felt compelled to be at the vigil anyway, to support a friend who had lost a brother. The weather apparently kept the friend away, but Schmitt was touched by the ceremony just the same.

"I wanted to be here for her," she said of her friend. "I'm going to take a candle to her."

Compassionate Friend Pat O'Donnell, who lost his son, reminded the audience what they already knew.

"We loved our children yesterday, we loved them today and we'll love them tomorrow," O'Donnell said. "Death can't kill that which lasts forever."

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Kim and Dave Blackwell of Westland honor the memory of Dave's sister, Amy Louise Blackwell.

Area high schools fail to make AYP

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

The state's switch to a more rigorous high school curriculum and standardized test that includes the ACT college entrance exam has taken a toll on Wayne-Westland's two high schools.

Based on test scores, John Glenn and Wayne Memorial high schools failed to make Adequate Yearly Progress as required by the federal No Child Left Behind law. They also received an Education YES! letter grade of D.

"This is the first year that both high schools didn't make AYP, but we believe we will pull it out and show progress

next year," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. "As we get the first year under our belts, the students will start taking the test more seriously."

The two high schools, which failed to make progress in two subgroups — ethnicity and economically disadvantaged — were the only Wayne-Westland schools to not make AYP. The letter grade they received reflects the drop in test scores, Baracy said.

In all, 16 of the district's 21 elementary and middle schools received Education YES! letter grades of A or B. Five received C's. "We as district made AYP, it was only the high schools

Please see **AYP, A3**

Salvation Army needs help meeting goal

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army goal for Christmas fund-raising is \$135,000 this year. As of Dec. 8, about \$71,000 had been raised.

That includes \$56,850.20 from the familiar red kettles outside local stores around town. Some \$13,231 has been raised in mail appeals, corps commander Capt. Matt O'Neil said. Mini-kettles at restaurants, a new undertaking this year, have generated an additional \$1,500 or so.

"I think we're actually a little down from last year," he said Monday. "We're hoping things pick up."

Bell ringers started work before Thanksgiving and took to the streets by Westland Shopping Center, at Wayne and Warren roads, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. That on-street effort will be repeated the Saturday before Christmas, Dec. 22. The local corps uses a combination of volunteer and paid bell ringers and welcomes volunteers.

"The need has increased and donations are a little lower," said O'Neil, corps commander with wife Capt. Mindie O'Neil.

There's an Angel Tree at Westland Center (court by

Macy's) where people can adopt an individual child for Christmas. To adopt a family, call Salvation Army social worker Margaret Gaster at (734) 722-3660.

There is a Saturday, Dec. 15, deadline for family adoptions. Staff and volunteers will begin distributing clothing, toys and other gifts at the corps facility on Venoy the week of Dec. 17.

About 600 families will be helped this year, O'Neil said.

"We pray regularly, things will work out in God's timing," O'Neil said. He appreciates challenge participants like the local restaurants, to be recognized at an upcoming Westland City Council meeting. Grocery stores also have accepted the challenge to help needy local people.

"I could really say this is the best community I've lived in as a pastor," he said, adding it's also his first. "It is a very supportive community."

He noted volunteer opportunities for bell ringing and passing out gifts at the corps building on Venoy south of Palmer in Westland. Checks payable to the Salvation Army can be sent to the Wayne-Westland Corps, 2300 Venoy, Westland, MI 48186.

"God bless everybody who gave so far," O'Neil added.

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Coming Sunday in Health

Reduce your stress
during the holidays



Volunteers build ramp for 6-year-old in wheelchair

BY LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER

Getting around has gotten a lot easier for 6-year-old Luke Stacho thanks to a group of volunteers who funded and constructed a handicap ramp from his home.

"I'm still overwhelmed. Each time I get up in the morning and open the curtains to see the ramp, it takes my breath away," said his mother Kelli Stacho.

A student at Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary School in Wayne, Luke has hydrocephalus, a condition in which cerebro-spinal fluid accumulates causing his brain to swell, and is unable to walk. Luke uses a wheelchair and until the ramp was constructed, his mother had to lift him and his wheelchair separately so that he could get in and out of their home on Farmington Road.

"He's always been a big boy — my husband is a big guy. Luke weighs nearly 65 pounds and the wheelchair weighs about the same amount," said Stacho, who is married to Al



Garden City resident Kelli Stacho and her son Luke posed with volunteers who constructed a wheelchair ramp from their home. Among those working on the project were Matthew Ryan (left), Jimmy Foley, Patrick Ryan, police Officer Randy Lorenzetti, Fire Lt. Corey Chandler, Fire Engineer Dan Neault, firefighters Randy Keen, Eric Tews and Darren Candela and Fire Capt. Ray Wlosinski.

and has a daughter Allison, 10. Anticipating problems as her son continues to grow and when winter weather arrived,

Stacho said last spring she began trying to get some help with a ramp to their home. "I was given a lot of num-

bers, but I didn't have any luck. There are a lot of people in need," Stacho said. Stacho's luck changed after a

Garden City Schools employee contacted Patrick Ryan of Ryan Home Improvements of Garden City. Ryan got in touch with Dan Neault, an engineer with the Garden City Fire Department, and the ramp project started coming together.

"After the lady got ahold of Patrick, I mentioned it at work," Neault said.

Garden City firefighters have a charity fund, money raised largely at their annual golf outing, which was used to fund the new ramp with Ryan, Neault and other volunteers providing the labor.

When word of the project reached members of the Garden City Police Department, the Police Officers Association of Michigan and Command Officers Association of Michigan each made contributions to help cover materials costs. Garden City POAM President Randy Lorenzetti, a patrol officer, also helped with the construction.

Material costs for the project were about \$1,900 as the ramp was constructed with Trex, a

composite decking and fence material made of reclaimed wood and plastic.

"He (Luke) is young, so he'll use the ramp for many years. That's why we went with a higher end material. It will last longer — it doesn't rot and won't have to be treated in a few years. We wanted something that would last," Neault said.

Garden City Rental provided free use of a post hole digger for the project. Among those providing labor for the ramp construction were Ryan, Neault, Lorenzetti, Fire Capt. Ray Wlosinski, Fire Lt. Corey Chandler, firefighters Randy Keen, Eric Tews and Darren Candela, Matthew Ryan, Jimmy Foley and Mike Gerzych.

"It's been wonderful having the ramp. I'm so gratified. It makes it easier to get in and out of the house," Stacho said. "It's especially nice at Christmas. Luke really loves to go for a walk in his wagon during the summer, so that will be nice."

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Residents savor best of city's cuisine

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

To hear Georgia Becker describe her first time at Westland's Holiday Taste Fest, it sounds more like she went to Hershey, Pa., or Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory.

She savored the chocolate-dipped strawberries and chocolate-covered marshmallows on a stick served by the William D. Ford Career-Technical Center's culinary arts program. She raved about the amaretto chocolate cake prepared by Back Home Bakery of Canton. "That was almost decadent," Becker said.

To be fair, she also sampled

the cuisine from restaurants like Marvaso's Italian Grille — one of 17 places that brought food and drinks Tuesday, Dec. 4, to the ninth annual Taste Fest, a holiday affair dished out at the Hellenic Cultural Center by the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

"Marvaso's is one of my favorite restaurants anyway, but all the food was good," Becker said.

That could explain why 520 people eagerly paid the \$20 tab — or just over \$1 per eatery — to attend.

"Everybody seemed to have a really good time," said Brookellen Swope, the chamber's executive assistant.

"Everybody was in the holiday spirit."

Restaurants brought sample-size portions of their signature dishes, in hopes of convincing Taste Fest connoisseurs to stop by their various locations for a meal.

This year's participants included Back Home Bakery, Dario's Italian Eatery of Garden City and the following Westland establishments: the Hellenic Cultural Center's kitchen, Hickory BBQ & Grill, Lakeshore Grill at Macy's, Leo's Coney Island, LongHorn Steakhouse, Malarkey's Irish Pub, Marvaso's, Qdoba Mexican Grill, Red Robin, Starbucks Coffee Co., Texas

Roadhouse, The Enchilada Hut, Ashley's (former Uno Chicago Grill) and the William D. Ford culinary arts program. O&W Inc. served beer.

Dario's was judged as the winner for the culinary arts award; the Ford center won the creativity award. A local business, Miss Helen's Dance, provided entertainment.

Chamber officials often find that first-time Taste Fest participants are surprised by how much the event has to offer.

"It was my first time to attend," Becker said, "and I really enjoyed it."

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Teenager charged with attempted robbery

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A 19-year-old Westland man was charged Tuesday with an attempted robbery on the city's northeast side, and he was under investigation for other robberies and larcenies in Westland and Livonia, a police sergeant said.

Ian Kilgian was arraigned in Westland 18th District Court on a charge of assault



Kilgian

Middlebelt, police Sgt. Steve Borisch said.

Kilgian is accused of demanding money from a 17-

year-old female worker after brandishing a drywall saw that resembled a knife, Borisch said.

"She acted like she couldn't open the cash register, and he ended up leaving," the detective said.

Kilgian is accused of fleeing to London Townhouses, a complex where he lives northeast of Ann Arbor Trail and Middlebelt. Meanwhile, the Dunkin' Donuts worker, with help from a friend, identified the perpetrator as someone they had known from school.

Officers went to Kilgian's residence, but Borisch said the defendant was hiding elsewhere in the townhouses complex before he fled across Middlebelt into a residential neighborhood and hid under a swimming pool deck on Fremont.

Officer Grant Allen brought

in police dog Drago, who led authorities to the suspect, Borisch said.

In court Tuesday, 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos ordered Kilgian jailed in lieu of a \$250,000 cash bond as he awaits a Dec. 20 preliminary hearing that will determine whether he should stand trial.

A not-guilty plea was entered for the defendant, who, if convicted, could face penalties ranging up to life in prison, Borisch said.

Police searched Kilgian's residence and found a coat that he was accused of wearing during the attempted robbery, Borisch said. Police also arrested the defendant's girlfriend and a friend of hers on allegations that they had drugs in the home.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Christmas dinner

St. Dunstan Catholic Church is hosting their annual Christmas Day Dinner for anyone who would otherwise be alone on the holiday. The doors open at 1 p.m. and dinner is served at 1:30 p.m. The dinner is free but advance reservations are required by calling (734) 595-3049.

New Year's Eve

Ring in the New Year at a party, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Monday, Dec. 31, at the Wayne Ford Civic League, 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. The festivities include live performances by Neil Diamond, Rod Stewart and Blues Brothers impersonators. Tickets are \$50 per person, \$85 per couple, or reserve a table of eight for just \$320. The ticket package includes an all-you-can-eat buffet dinner, open bar with a champagne toast at midnight while watch the ball drop at Times Square in New York City. Designated Drivers will be available to ensure a safe beginning to the New Year. For tickets or more information, contact Laurie at (734) 637-5553 or by e-mail at lbarra@comcast.net or the hall staff at by calling (734) 728-5010 or by e-mail to vbarra@comcast.net.

■ A New Year's Eve party will be held Monday, Dec. 31, at AMVETS Post 171 Hall, 1217 Merriman, Westland. Tickets are \$25 each and include dinner, open bar and dancing. For tickets, call (734) 721-9440.

Skate with Santa

Join Santa at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at Westland's Mike Modano ice arena for "Skate with Santa." Admission is free with donation of an unwrapped toy to benefit Toys for Tots. The event will be followed by a figure-skating exhibition 3-4:50 p.m. featuring performers of all ages who will march and double jump their way through *Little Drummer Boy*, *Jingle Bells*, and other holiday favorites. This performance will assist another non-profit

organization — the Westland Goodfellows.

The \$10 fee each participant paid to skate will be donated to the organization. The Mike Modano Ice Arena is located at 6210 N. Wildwood, just north of Ford Road. For more information, call (734) 729-4560.

White Christmas

Regardless of Mother Nature's plans, one lucky Westland resident will be gifted with snow for Christmas. A truckload of snow will be delivered to the front lawn of the winner of the city's *We Promise You a White Christmas Poster Contest* on Dec. 21, if snow isn't already on the ground.

Eligible participants must be kindergarten through fifth-grade students who live in Westland. Posters must depict what their home would look like covered in snow on Christmas Day and must include name, age, address, home phone number, as well as the name of their school and grade.

Entries can be dropped off or mailed to the Westland Parks and Recreation Department and must be received by 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14. The Westland Parks and Recreation Department is located in the Bailey Recreation Center at 36651 Ford Road.

If snow is present on Dec. 21, another prize will be given. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Bowl with Santa

Grange No. 389 and Westland parks will sponsor Bowl With Santa 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at Town 'n' Country Lanes, 1100 S. Wayne Road at Avondale. Children and adults are invited. Cost is \$7 per person and includes a game of bowling, shoes, hot dog, drink, a visit with Santa, and more.

Pre-registration is necessary. For more information, call Jeff Goodfellow at (734) 722-8324.

The event will help raise money for the third-grade dictionary program for Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

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Two Westland teens win Junior Miss honors

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Raven Rickard is used to seeing teens at her mother's dance studio participate in the Wayne-Westland Junior Miss Program. There's been three winners, including two that went on to be Michigan Junior Miss.

But now there are four with her selection as the 2008 Wayne-Westland Junior Miss.

"I was shocked; I wasn't expecting it," the Westland resident said. "I was a little overwhelmed, but I was happy."

The daughter of Kelly and Jennifer Rickard, she now advances to the state Junior Miss Program, which will be held March 29 in Ann Arbor. Joining her will be first runner-up and 2008 Westland Junior Miss Rachel Mlynar, the daughter of Ken and Tamara Mlynar.

According to Rickard, the Junior Miss program has been a part of her life since she was a toddler. She and her mother Jennifer have watched dancers from the Encore Dance Academy compete and win. She even went to Mobile, Ala., to watch Ashley Baracy compete in the America's Junior Miss Program.

"My mom was very happy I won. I think she was excited inside because her daughter finally won," she said.

Twenty-four high school senior girls competed in the



Rachel Mlynar (left) and Raven Rickard are head to the Michigan Junior Miss Program as the top two contestants in the local program.

scholarship program. Judging was based on academics, physical fitness, a judge's interview, self-expression and talent. Rickard did a tap dance to a remix of *Let's Get Loud* for the talent competition.

Rickard is a senior at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills, where she has a 3.6 grade-point average out of a possible 4.0 and is president of the Green Club, an environmental organization. She also dances four days a week at the studio.

She won almost \$2,000 in the scholarship program that will come in handy. While she's undecided as to where she'll go to college, Rickard is certain what she wants to be.

"I want to be an obstetrician. I'll have to go to medical school, and that's going to need a lot of money," she said.

Mlynar also was shocked when she was announced as the first runner-up.

"I've never been one to win, so this attention is kind of new to me," Mlynar said. "I expected to be in the top five, but I didn't anticipate being runner-up. I was on the platform, hoping I'd win one scholarship. I knew I tried my best, but I didn't think I'd win."

Like Rickard, Mlynar has been watching Junior Miss programs since she was a child. She also had several friends enter the program and they "had only good things to say about it." She decided to give it a try, in large part because of the chance to get scholarship money.

"The scholarship money was my main target, but I didn't think I'd win so much," said Mlynar, a senior at John Glenn High School.

As first runner-up, she received more than \$1,300 in scholarship money, which will help pay for college. She plans to study dental hygiene

and has applied at Brigham Young University in Utah, BYU in Idaho and Michigan State University. She has a 3.97 grade-point average, no easy task when her day starts with a 5:55 a.m. church class and ends in the late evening because of her job.

Mlynar found the preparation tedious and strenuous, but admitted the Sunday evening practices were "hilarious."

"It was so much fun, so entertaining," she said. "I knew a lot of the girls in the program — a lot go to Glenn — but a lot I didn't know so well. I made a lot of new friends."

She also enjoyed taking voice lessons for three months to get ready for the talent portion of the competition. She sang *Melody Within* from the movie *Rigoletto*, to a piano accompaniment made by Song Garden Studios in Ypsilanti.

Both girls plan to relax over the Christmas holidays and then begin preparations for the state program. Mlynar also plans to use the downtime to get caught up on current events.

As for the results of the local program, Mlynar said it was obvious who would win.

"We all knew Raven would," she said. "She has a natural grace and is so confident. She deserved it, she worked so hard."

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Off-duty deputy stops roadside fight

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland traffic altercation led to a Canton man facing allegations of wielding a baseball bat against another motorist after the two men pulled off the road Saturday evening near Warren and Wayne roads, a police sergeant said.

The situation was defused when an alert, off-duty Wayne County sheriff deputy, Brian Keating, saw what was unfolding and stopped to help, Westland police Sgt. Chris Benson said.

"He saw that there was going to be a problem, so he intervened by getting out of his car and drawing his firearm," Benson said. "He identified himself, and the defendant got on the ground. Then he took the baseball bat."

The incident started just before 6:30 p.m. Saturday during rush-hour, holiday-season traffic near Westland Shopping Center. The Canton man, identified as 48-year-old Beotry McGlocklin, told police that a driver in a Jeep Cherokee was tailing him too closely in his small car, a Toyota Echo.

The Jeep driver, however,

told police that the Toyota driver kept speeding up and slowing down while driving in front of him. Ultimately, the Jeep hit the rear of McGlocklin's Toyota when McGlocklin braked to pull off the road at a Warren Road strip mall, Benson said.

The two men got out of their vehicles, and McGlocklin is accused of getting a baseball bat from the trunk of his car. He is accused of "taking a batter's stance" as Keating pulled off the road, drew his gun, identified himself as a sheriff deputy and warned the defendant, who got on the ground, Benson said.

McGlocklin was arraigned Monday in front of Westland 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos on a charge of attempted felonious assault. If convicted, he could face penalties ranging up to two years in prison.

The defendant, who doesn't have a history of criminal activity, was released on a personal bond as he awaits a Dec. 20 preliminary hearing that will determine whether he should stand trial. A not-guilty plea was entered for him in court.

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ARREST

FROM PAGE A1

ning over his foot and speeding away — east on Ann Arbor Trail and then north on Middlebelt, Benson said.

"He almost hit a car at Ann Arbor Trail and Middlebelt," the detective said.

Merrill, later treated and released for minor injuries, radioed other officers for help.

With officers from Westland, Garden City,

Livonia and Michigan State Police involved, Moore is charged with fleeing north on Middlebelt and then east on I-96 before exiting at Davison and then Livernois, Benson said. The defendant is accused of circling his mother's neighborhood in Detroit before ramming into a state police car. He jumped out and fled on foot before he was captured, and officers had to Taser him, Benson said.

In court Tuesday, Moore was arraigned by Judge C. Charles Bokos on charges of

third-degree fleeing and eluding, driving a stolen vehicle, assaulting an officer, causing malicious destruction of the state police car, resisting and obstructing his own arrest, being involved in a domestic violence incident and being a fourth-degree habitual offender.

Bokos placed a not-guilty plea on record for Moore, ordered him jailed in lieu of a \$500,000 cash bond and scheduled him for a Dec. 20 preliminary hearing that will determine whether he should

stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

If convicted, Moore could face penalties ranging up to life in prison, Benson said, adding that the defendant has an extensive criminal history.

According to a state corrections Web site, Moore previously served time in prison for selling cocaine, fleeing from police, receiving stolen property and carrying a short-barrel shotgun.

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AYP

FROM PAGE A1

that didn't," said Baracy. "This was much more rigorous. The MME included the ACT which many of our students wouldn't have taken or intended to take."

The two Wayne-Westland high schools are not alone in not making AYP. According to state reports, 489 high schools around the state missed the mark. Locally, Plymouth-Canton's Canton and Salem High Schools, Livonia's Churchill and Stevenson high schools and Garden City High School did not make AYP.

"This isn't unexpected," said Mike Flanagan, state superintendent of public instruction. "We knew that as we begin to

ratchet up expectations of our schools so all of our students can be successful, we would see a few years of lower results. We are seeing a momentary lag as we prepare for greater success down the road. The reforms we've put into place need time to work."

The state-mandated changes include new high school graduation requirements and the Michigan Merit Exam, which requires all Michigan high school students to take the ACT college entrance exam for the first time. This year's ninth-graders are the first to be required to take the more rigorous coursework in order to graduate.

Flanagan said the high school graduation requirements were changed "because we knew we needed higher standards to prepare our kids

for the demands of college and the work world."

"These results just remind us how critical that change was," he said.

Baracy said the district is looking at what can be done to accommodate the high school curriculum and boost test scores, including moving to a trimester system, extending the school day and offering ancillary services.

"The new curriculum is tough and we have students struggling, especially with math," he said. "The problem is one size doesn't fit all students. We're looking at alternatives to meet the rigorous requirements, different ways to demonstrate improvement in all core areas."

Baracy added the results should serve as a "wake-up call" for students, staff and

parents.

"This is a high stakes test and everyone, including the students, has to take it seriously," he said.

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Foreclosure help doesn't lessen the responsibility of borrowers

The residential real estate market is going through a difficult period in southeast Michigan and throughout the country. The number of

foreclosures has skyrocketed. There are a variety of reasons for the high foreclosure rate. The news media has extensively covered stories

about adjustable-rate mortgages resetting interest rates and thus causing the problem. Although this is part of the problem, it is not the entire

problem. Part of the problem also is people who were fiscally irresponsible when they purchased homes they could not afford. There also are individuals who are losing their houses through no fault of their own, but rather a change in their economic situation such as losing their job. There is a new program that has just been announced that will help a limited number of people.

President Bush and the mortgage industry have reached an agreement to provide some relief. It is limited and applies only to some homeowners with adjustable-rate mortgages. For those who qualify, the interest rate on their home mortgage will freeze for the next five years. It is important to understand this is not a government bailout. The government is funding this program. This is merely the government and the mortgage industry reaching an understanding with regards to interest rates on the mortgage.

Many believe they will qualify for this relief, however, the devil is in the details. In order to qualify, you have to meet the following requirements:

1. You must be up to date on mortgage payments.
2. The mortgage must be



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

an adjustable-rate, sub-prime loan and originated between January 2005 and July 31, 2007.

3. The first adjustment on the adjustable-rate mortgage cannot come until Jan. 1, 2008.

4. You must be unable to afford your new monthly payments.

5. You cannot have more than 3 percent equity in your home and your FICO score must be below 660.

The issue that still needs to be addressed is even with temporary relief, can you still afford the home? Many people, even without their mortgage interest rate adjusted upward, still cannot afford their home. A good number of the foreclosures to date are people who couldn't even afford the first mortgage payment. So do we deal with the problem now or delay it into the future?

I believe for people who are struggling to make their house payments and who are constantly robbing Peter to pay Paul, the most prudent and fiscally responsible plan is to bite the bullet now. Don't wait, resolve the issue now.

For those in desperate financial situation — whether you qualify for this program or not — contact your lender and discuss your options. Mortgage companies know that in many cases they took advantage of individuals and they are more willing to work out a solution than in the past. One solution is a deed in lieu of foreclosure, where you're basically turning the house back to the mortgage company. Another solution can be a short sale, where the proceeds of the sale of the house extinguish the mortgage. Both these solutions will result in you losing your home and potentially hurting your credit, however, there is a great benefit to gain by getting your financial house in order.

The bottom line is if you are having financial difficulty with your home, you must take the initiative. Burying your head in the sand and hoping the problem goes away will not solve the problem. It will make a solution more difficult.

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

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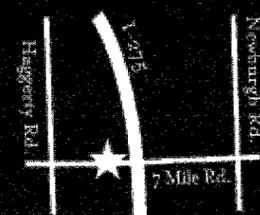
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Dining winner, Florine Mark 'party' at Buddy's Pizza

Anna Reseigh of Rochester Hills and Florine Mark of Weight Watchers ate healthy, talked, danced and got the recent lunch crowd at Buddy's in Farmington Hills in a party mood.

Reseigh was the November winner of *The Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror Newspapers* "Dining With the Stars." Reseigh was treated to a limo ride, courtesy of All Class Transportation, make-over by Utopia Salon & Spa on Main Street in Northville (hair by Sebastian and make-up by ILSE), a \$100 gift certificate to the Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and a dance exhibition courtesy of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

"Florine Mark is a remark-

able woman and I would be deeply honored to dine with her," wrote Reseigh in her e-mail entry. "She has shared her life with us, with its ups and downs, so that we may meet the challenges we face and be the best that we can be. Her strength and positive attitude is an inspiration to me and many women. I would be thrilled to meet her."

Reseigh got her wish. "Lunch was great. The winner, Anna Reseigh of Rochester Hills is a beautiful very thin woman. She had a wonderful time with Florine," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's who organized the "Dining With the Stars" program.

"Both Florine and Anna danced. Florine danced with

Leonid Sidoranko (the male dancer who took part in the exhibition) and Anna danced with Evan Mountain, owner of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills. Florine can dance," said Brontman. "The other customers at Buddy's got into the fun as well."

Reseigh said she had a great time and "loved her make-over."

Robert Jacobs, owner of Buddy's presented Mark with a \$500 check for the ALS Association, the charity of her choice. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is a motor neuron disease, Lou Gehrig first brought national and international attention to the disease in 1939 when he abruptly retired from baseball after being diagnosed with



TOM HOFFMEYER - TAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

November Dining with the Stars winner Anna Reseigh of Rochester Hills catches up with Florine Mark of Weight Watchers before having lunch at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills.

ALS. Reseigh was among six finalists in the November competition. Mark is known throughout metro Detroit as a successful businesswoman and philanthropist.

Mark has a "healthy" pizza named after her on the Buddy's menu. It's "The Florine Mark Pizza" with brick/fat-free cheese blend, spinach, mushrooms, diced tomatoes, garlic and black

olives. Buddy's Pizza reviews all entries for "Dining With the Stars" and selects the top four to five "fan" letters. The stars featured for the month make the final selection.

ACHIEVERS

Westland resident **Alan Spohn** is among six graduates from Kettering University who will receive top honors at the university's Dec. 15 commencement exercises.

Alan Spohn will receive the President's Medal, given to graduating seniors who excel in scholarship, in professionalism on the job, in their academic pursuits, involvement

in the Kettering community and in their home community. Students are nominated by employer partners, faculty and staff, and are selected by a committee appointed by the president of the university.

Spohn also has been named a Sobey Scholar. Students received the distinction by earning election to membership in both Tau Beta Pi and

Robots as an engineering majors or into membership of Sigma Alpha Chi and Robots as management students.

Keith Gotshaw of Garden City and **Cheryl Tate** of Westland were among students graduating from Spring Arbor University in October.

Gotshaw received a bachelor's degree in family life edu-

cation. Tate received a master of arts degree in organizational management.

Wayne Memorial High School students **Heather Gendron**, **Dakota Butler** and **Joshua Bradley** qualified as finalists in the 51st annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition. The trio finished among the top 1,000 students

from among 10,000 students in Part I of the competition.

As finalists, the took Part II on Dec. 5. That exam consisted of five challenging problems to which the students had to provide written explanations for their claims and mathematical proofs of their results.

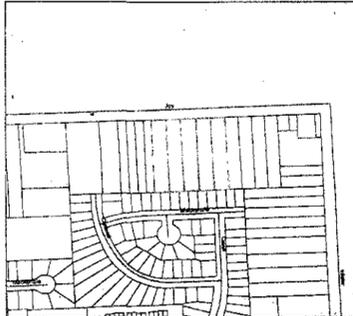
The students with the top 100 scores on the two parts

will be invited to an Awards Day program next February at Oakland University. The top 50 will be presented with scholarships ranging from \$250 to \$2,600 for the first-place winner who will be designated the Ford Scholar in recognition of the donation of the award by Ford Motor Co.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

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

Case #1082F, Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Verizon Wireless 120' Monopole and Telecommunications Facility 27875 Joy Road, Parcels #001-99-0038-000 and -0039-000, South Side of Joy Road, West of Inkster Road, Leland Calloway (Robert J. Nicholas).



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

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

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Published: December 13, 2007

OE08674703

2008 FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING DATES

NOTICE OF SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE WESTLAND FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION TO BE HELD DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 9, 2008 AND ENDING DECEMBER 10, 2008:

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE MEETINGS OF THE WESTLAND FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE WESTLAND FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND, 36601 FORD ROAD, WESTLAND, MICHIGAN, (734) 467-3190, WILL HOLD REGULAR MEETINGS AT THE FOLLOWING DATES, TIMES AND PLACES DURING THE 2008 YEAR, COMMENCING JANUARY 9, 2008 AND ENDING DECEMBER 10, 2008:

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
01/09/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
02/06/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
03/12/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
04/09/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
05/14/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
06/11/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
07/09/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
08/13/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
09/10/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
10/08/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
11/12/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road
12/10/08	9:00 A.M.	Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road

PROPOSED MINUTES OF EACH OF THE MEETINGS LISTED ABOVE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS AT WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36601 FORD ROAD, WESTLAND, MICHIGAN, NOT MORE THAN EIGHT BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SAID MEETING, AND APPROVED MINUTES OF EACH MEETING WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, AT THE SAME LOCATION, NOT MORE THAN FIVE BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE MEETING AT WHICH THE MINUTES ARE APPROVED.

THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN IN COMPLIANCE WITH ACT NO. 267 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF MICHIGAN, 1976.

EILEEN DeHART
WESTLAND CITY CLERK

Published: December 13, 2007

OE0871481-2673

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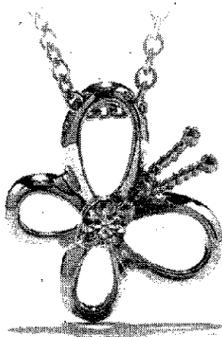
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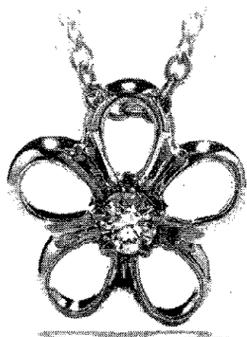


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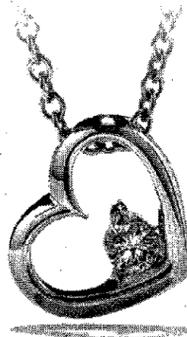
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Granholtz tours Comcast facility, lauds job growth

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

In the current Michigan economy where more jobs are leaving the state than are being created, Gov. Jennifer Granholm recently toured Comcast's broadband services and call center facility in Plymouth Township, where new technology and jobs are on the rise.

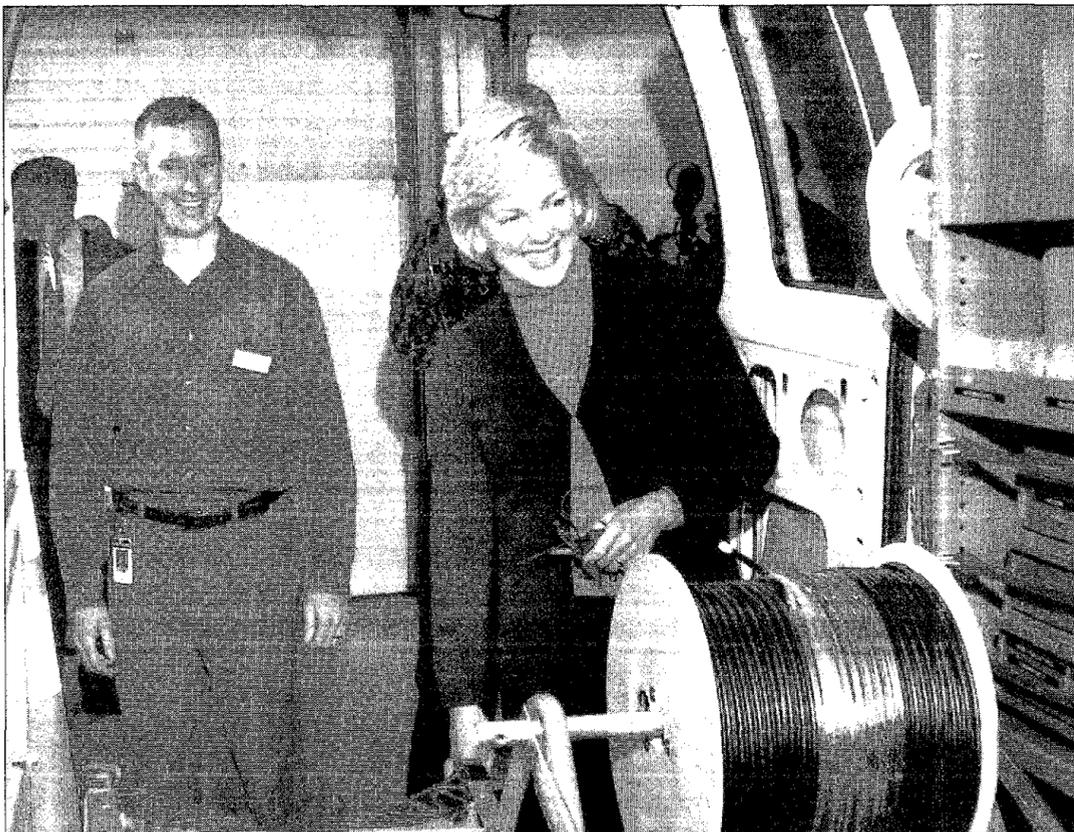
Dave Buhl, Comcast's regional senior vice president for Michigan, announced the company is hiring about 250 technicians and call-center employees for its facilities in Plymouth Township, Ann Arbor and Sterling Heights, each which already have about 800 workers.

"We're building jobs in Michigan and hiring in Michigan, and we wanted her to see some companies are growing in this economy," said Buhl. "We brought jobs from Canada to close down an outsourcing arrangement, and long-term we think there is a very strong message: Michigan people understand they need to support Michigan companies that hire

Michigan people. You want to know that who you are calling is from here, and the guy who comes to your door lives down the street."

After touring the 103,000-square-foot Plymouth Township center built in 2004 — visiting for about an hour with call center employees, technicians and administrative staff — Granholm praised Comcast's efforts to bring more jobs to Michigan.

"We know there has been a massive global shift in manufacturing jobs, and that means we have had to focus, as a state, on the new economy, on diversifying our economic portfolio," Granholm told employees. "At a time when people are investing in call centers in India and elsewhere, it's a statement about the company and workforce here that the decision has been made to invest and grow in Michigan. Other than your products that are on-demand, you haven't demanded anything (tax breaks) but access to our workforce. We want to use this as an example for other businesses as to how we can grow and succeed in Michigan."



Gov. Jennifer Granholm takes a look at Comcast's Plymouth Township facility with Jeffrey Wack, Comcast's senior director of technical operations.

Independent Carpet accepts Toys for Tots

Independent Carpet One Floor and Home in Westland is again teaming up with the Marine Toys For Tots Foundation this holiday season by donating children's books to local children and acting as a Toys For Tots drop-off location.

The company has long been an advocate for children's literacy, donating more than 350,000 books to children through community relations programs like the Magic Carpet Time Tour and Toys For Tots.

"Partnering with Toys For Tots allows us to do something that will have a direct positive impact on our community," said Cathy Buchanan of Independent Carpet One Floor & Home. "The children in our community should have the chance to learn and enjoy reading."

"We are dedicated to making a difference for children in our community this holiday

season."

It has become a tradition for Independent Carpet One Floor and Home to partner with the local Toys For Tots Foundation every holiday season by donating books and toys and becoming a drop-off site. Its Toys for Tots program provides books to children who otherwise may never have the opportunity to own a book or discover how much fun reading can be.

Founded in 1947, the mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during November and December each year, and distribute those toys as holiday gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

"The objective of the Toys for Tots program is to help needy children throughout the United States," said retired Marine Corps Major Bill Grein,

vice-president of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation. "Partnerships with companies like Carpet One Floor and Home help us improve the lives and future of children and their communities."

According to a study conducted by the U.S. Department of Education, communities ranking high in achievement tests have an abundance of books in public libraries, easy access to books in the community at large, and a large number of text books per pupil.

Still, the U.S. Department of Education found that two-thirds of U.S. classrooms have fewer than 50 children's books.

Independent Carpet One Floor and Home will be accepting donations of unwrapped toys during regular business hours at its store at 1400 N. Wayne Road, just south of Ford. For more information, call (734) 729-6200.

Starfish collects food to help needy families

Starfish Family Services is holding an agency-wide food drive this month in order to assemble food boxes for needy families in the community over the holiday season.

Items can be dropped off at several locations, including the Macy's at Westland Shopping Center. A collection bin at its customer pick-up entrance for people to donate items. Donations also can be dropped off at Starfish Family Services in Inkster, Conrad Insurance Agency in Canton, Hermann's Olde Town Grille in Plymouth, Averill Tax

and Accounting in Novi, Lifespan Clinical Services in Livonia, Hollywood Video in Garden City and the Redford Community Center in Redford.

Supplies needed include non-perishable food items, such as soup, canned fruits and vegetables, boxed dinners, boxed side dishes, peanut butter and pancake mix.

"This is the time of year that many families struggle to put food on the table," said Ann Kalass, Starfish Family Services CEO. "We want to help alleviate some of the

stress for parents and caregivers so that families can enjoy a brighter holiday season."

Starfish Family Services is the largest private, non-profit human service agency in Western Wayne County. The organization offers 12 specialized programs to help educate and empower at-risk families and children in southeastern Michigan and has served more than 8,300 children and their families at its 18 services sites over the last year.

More information can be found at the Starfish Web site at www.starfishonline.org.



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MADD message: Make the yuletide safe

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Brenda Pendleton remembers vividly the day she was in a drunken driving crash. Pendleton's sister died in the crash, and she spent eight months in the hospital.

"I had to learn to think, talk, use the bathroom, everything we take for granted," she told those at Wayne County MADD's "Tie One on for Safety" program Friday, Dec. 7. Her sister, 24, left behind a 3-year-old son for the family to raise.

Pendleton needed 26 operations, and spent three years in a wheelchair. "I'm here today and able to walk and talk, basically do everything," said the mother of two daughters who became active with Mothers Against Drunk Driving after the crash.

"Think about other people's lives before you get behind the wheel and drive," Pendleton urged. "Drinking and driving is 100 percent preventable. Just think about your loved ones and kiss them every day."

She was among speak-

Award-winning drinks offer tasty alternative

Here are the three prize-winning recipes for "mocktails" as chosen for "Tie One on for Safety" Dec. 7 at Westland Shopping Center. Recipes are shown in first-, second-, and third-place winning order.

GRAPE CHEER

1 canister of sugar-sweetened grape Kool-aid
1 can of 100% pineapple juice
1 bottle of club soda
1 small bottle of lemon juice
Substitute pineapple juice for water. Follow the directions on the Kool-aid canister substituting pineapple juice for water. Once mixed, add about 1/4

the total amount made of the club soda. You want to add enough club soda to get just a hint of the carbonated feel of a "pop," and add enough to even out the sweetness of the mixture. Be careful not to dilute mixture with the club soda. Add a few splashes of lemon juice. Give one last stir and serve cold.

Submitted by Jacquelynn Cunningham

PACIFIC SUNSET

3/4 cup pineapple juice, chilled
1/3 cup orange juice, chilled
1 Tablespoon grenadine
ice cubes
lime wedge, for garnish

Combine juices in a tall glass over ice; slowly add the grenadine over the top, and garnish. Serves one.

Submitted by Angel James

BERRY PINK LEMONADE

3/4 cup sugar
1 cup lemon juice
1 cup raspberries, fresh or frozen
ice cubes
thin lemon slices
Mix sugar, lemon juice and 6 cups of cold water. Mix well until sugar dissolves. Puree raspberries and then mix with other liquids, chill until desired temperature. Add ice and lemon slices if desired.

Submitted by Latanya Isom

ers at the MADD program at Westland Shopping Center, held to boost awareness of safe driving during the holidays. The day's "a pledge to everyone to drive safe and sober during the holiday season," said Ne'chole McClendon, executive director for MADD of Wayne County. "I think it's getting better,"

she said of public awareness. "We still have a long way to go." MADD is involved in state legislation to put ignition locks on the cars of first-time drunken driving offenders. "We're pushing legislation to make that happen," she said.

The Dec. 7 session at the mall included a lively musical performance by Detroit School of the Arts vocalists, the Achievers Ladies Ensemble under the direction of Sheila Sipes. "Youth is the prevention of underage drink-

ing," said McClendon, who involves young people every year. "We want to start with the young people because they're our most precious resource."

The day also included voting on favorite "mocktail" recipes, to show that tasty drinks can be served that don't include alcohol. The top three winners were recognized. Red ribbons and ribbon decals were given out for display on vehicles.

Representing Wayne County Executive Robert Pizzano, Tad Sturdivant talked about his days with the Michigan State Police and losing a trooper colleague who was hit and killed by a hit and run driver. That driver was convicted of drunken driving, said Sturdivant, deputy director of children and family services for the county.

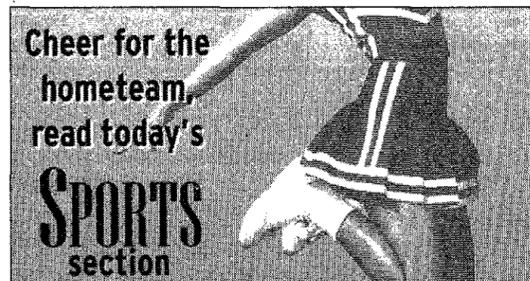
"What punishment is appro-

priate and necessary to eradicate this plague?" he asked. Australia publishes convicted drunken drivers' names in the newspaper, Sturdivant said, while El Salvador has the ultimate punishment — execution by firing squad for a first offense.

Undersheriff Dan Pfannes said, "MADD has done a great job over the years in getting the message out not to drink and drive." He described extra patrols planned for the holidays and progress made: "However, we can't let up."

Two deaths were of drunken pedestrians who stepped in the path of a sober motorist, Pfannes noted.

"We must also be equally mindful of taking responsibility," added Westland Mayor William Wild, noting a ride home for a drunken friend can be a life saver.



CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, December 27, 2007, various items of the City Westland DPW 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
3576662	1995 Ford	Taurus	1FALP52U8SG261284
3576773	1994 GMC	Vandura	1GTGG35KORF518867
3576704	2002 Ford	Crown Victoria	2EAFP71W52X114605
3578708	1994 GMC	Sierra	1GTDC14Z8RZ535738

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition.

The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be viewed by prospective buyers on Wednesday, December 26, 2007, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Published: December 13, 2007

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Wayne-Westland Community Schools Westland, Michigan 48185

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for Wayne-Westland Community Schools' Bid Package #24,

Consisting of: John Glenn H.S. Pool Filter System Replacement and Partial Roof Replacement

will be received until **1:30 P.M.** local time on **Thursday, December 20, 2007** at which time they will be opened and read publicly at Wayne-Westland Community School Board of Education Office, located at 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan 48185. Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

This Bid Package will consist of a separate sealed bid for the following Bid Divisions:

109	Roofing
114	Aluminum Glass & Glazing
133	Pool Equipment
142	HVAC
142A	Mechanical Insulation (Alternate)
143	Electrical

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Associates, Inc.** will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; and the Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit.

Bidders may obtain one (1) set of bidding documents, beginning at 1:00 PM, Wednesday, December 5, 2007, by contacting the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, at (248) 427-8400. Additional plans may be ordered and purchased directly from Dunn Blue Reprographics Technology, (248) 489-1999. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.** The bid division(s) being bid is/are to be identified on the outside of the envelope.

There will be a pre-bid meeting at 10:00 am on Wednesday, December 12, 2007 at the John Glenn High School construction trailer located in the back of the school. (36105 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185) The purpose of the meeting will be to review the project sites and to answer any questions that bidders may have. **Bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.**

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include this statement. This statement is on the proposal execution form.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Wayne-Westland Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Wayne-Westland Community Schools reserve the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

Published: December 9 & 13, 2007

0E087478-2 x 3.5

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

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

Case #178A, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Commercial Center, Parcel #047-99-0001-001, Northeast Corner of Cherry Hill Road and Newburgh Road, Marwan Taleb.

Case #1163A, Special Land Use Approval for Proposed New Mexico Restaurant Expansion, 35851 Ford Road, Parcel #045-02-0301-000, South Side of Ford Road, West of Wayne Road, Alfredo Vivar (Giocondo Rotellini).

Case #1416B, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Industrial Building, Parcel #052-01-0232-000, South Side of Florence Avenue, East of Abruzzi Drive, Anthony Calo.

Case #2163, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Commercial Center, Parcels #042-01-0020-000 through -0023-000, South Side of Ford Road, East of Wayne Road, Marwan Taleb.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

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

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Published: December 13, 2007

0E08574705

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 36001 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185-6591 (734)729-7095 on 12/28/07 at 10:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
2060 - Terry Dorothy - Big Screen TV, 2 Tables, Couch
4118 - Sheila Walker - Bed mattress, Microwave, 5 Totes
4148 - James Tuttle Jr. - Bed Mattress, 4 TV's, Misc Items
4158 - Adrienne Kirkwood - Couch, Loveseat, Kids Toys
5120 - Jeremy R Semeniuk - Washer, Dryer, Microwave
Publish: December 13 and 20, 2007

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CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 23 12/3/07

Presiding: President Pickering
Present: Godbout, Graunstadt, Johnson, Kehrer, Reeves, Stottlemeyer

278-Approved minutes of 11/19/07.
-Approved Bid for repair of Helen C. Brown Museum Found. from D&B House Movers, amt. 12,550.
-Approved contract with MHS to exp. 6/30/08, amt. \$9,105.70
-Approved amend. & consent letter for Enhancement of the Antenna Facilities Site/T-Mobile for tower at WLPD.
-Approved req. to extend winter taxes to 2/29/2008.
279-Approved req. for Closed Study Session re. Patane vs. City of Westland.
280-Approved req. for Closed Study Session re. Nogle vs. City.
281-Approved Checklist Activity: \$1,391,048.52 & Prepaid: \$2,609,686.82.
Meeting adjourned 8:22 p.m.
Minutes available at the Clerk's office.

Charles W. Pickering
Council President

Eileen DeHart
City Clerk

Published: December 13, 2007

0E0874902-2x3.5

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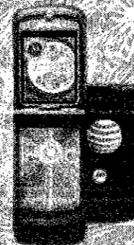


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Limited-time offer. Other restrictions apply. New 2-year agreement. Pricing after mail-in rebate; must be activated on rate plan of \$59.99 or higher. Certain features must be added in order to receive rebate. See contract and rate brochure for details. Up to \$36 activation fee applies. Early termination fee none if cancelled in first 30 days, thereafter \$175. Some agents impose additional fees.

0E08679981

FREE RAZR!



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- Speakerphone & voice recorder
- Camera & video phone
- Bluetooth capable
- Phone book stores up to 1000 entries
- Voice command and much more

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Plus...FREE DVR!
When you sign up with AT&T U-verse
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AT&T U-verse combines home television with XFINITY high speed internet bringing you the best quality with crystal clear channels.

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OUR VIEWS

Jaycees, Rotary deserve praise

What can you say about the early Christmas present that was delivered to city officials last week?

Wow! Gadzooks! Holy cow!

They all sound pretty good, but the best one is thank you.

Thank you, Westland Jaycees and Westland Rotarians, for all you do for the city and thank you for that five-figure donation that will benefit residents in so many different ways.

Both organizations are well-known for their philanthropic efforts. In fact, philanthropy may be another name for the two clubs.

In addition to the current donation which goes toward a walking path at Rotary Park, the Westland Rotary has been a corporate sponsor for the Westland Relay for Life, provided winter coats, backpacks and school supplies for needy Westland school children, helped in the purchase of a defibrillator at the William P. Faust Library, and helped the Salvation Army with its after-school and summer camp programs. It's also a major sponsor of the annual Turn Off the Violence Night, a family event it originated 13 years ago.

The same is true of the Jaycees. Community service is a part and parcel of what the group is about. The group has been fund-raising to help buy a thermal imager for use by the fire department. It also helps sponsors activities like the Parks and Recreation Department's annual Nursery School Olympics as well as candidate forums and an annual Easter egg hunts. It recently hosted a celebrity impersonators' show to raise money for the Goodfellows' No Child Without a Christmas program.

The Goodfellows were only one of several beneficiaries of the Jaycees' efforts. The Westland Historic Village Park, the fire department's child safety program, the police department's motorcycle unit also are on the receiving end of the Jaycees' generosity.

What these clubs have done for the city cannot be overlooked. They are made up of people who live or work in Westland, people who give freely of their time and energy to make the Westland a better place. The city is lucky to have these two clubs.

We join city officials in offering a thank you to the Westland Jaycees and Westland Rotary. Your commitment to Westland is extraordinary and because of that, Westland is an all-American city.

Legislators can do better at reaching compromise

Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, and Rep. Paul Condino, D-Southfield, were the guest speakers Dec. 7 at the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* annual Journalist of the Year program.

They discussed the long, contentious battle over completing the 2007-08 budget. The wrangling has been blamed by some on the inexperience of legislators because of term limits. Others are demanding that Michigan move to a part-time Legislature. Still others suggest that the stalled action is part of a national partisan polarization that makes it difficult if not impossible for legislators to move beyond narrow partisan positions.

Bishop and Condino both acknowledged the process was ugly and neither is particularly happy with the final outcome. Condino, however,

The truth is, both sides can read the same statistics and come to equally valid and opposite points of view. But good legislators understand the fine art of compromising through give and take and respect for the core values of their opponents.

was upbeat about the cooperation between the legislators of both parties who crafted the Michigan Business Tax that replaced the Single Business Tax.

"We did a good job of coming together in creating the new business tax," he said.

But for Bishop, compromise on the Republican no tax mantra was clearly a failure.

"It felt like I was at the Alamo, but I wasn't willing to give in to the pressure of going

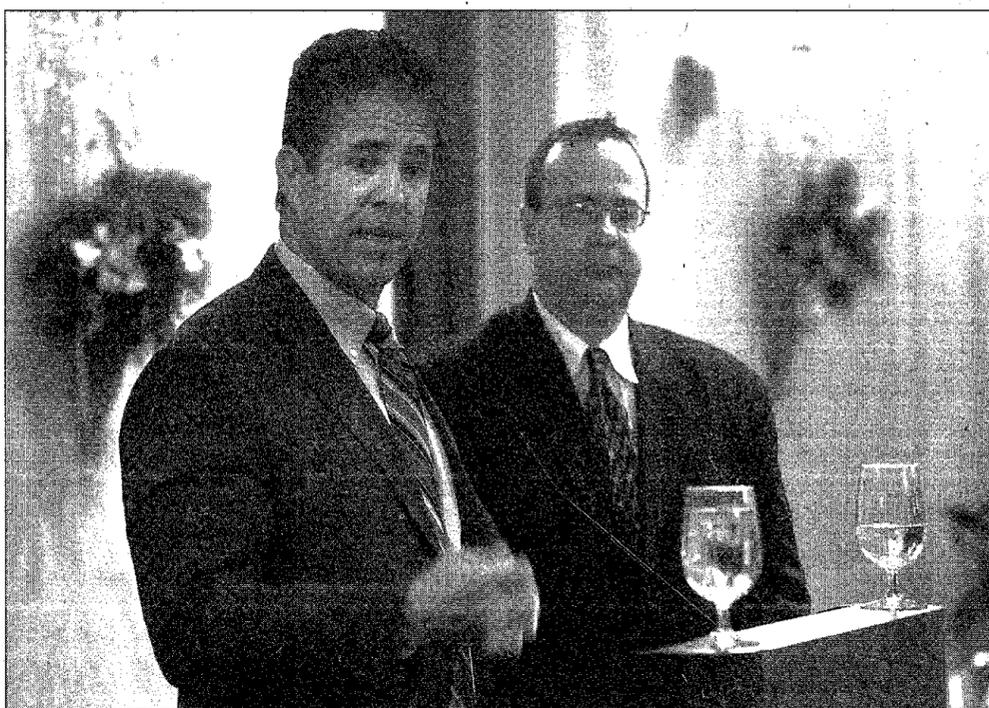
with the easy solution," he said.

Bishop acknowledged that those on the other side were also fighting for what they believed to be right.

The truth is, both sides can read the same statistics and come to equally valid and opposite points of view. But good legislators understand the fine art of compromising through give and take and respect for the core values of their opponents.

We don't think "no taxes ever" or "tax and spend" are core values. We believe both parties can find a way toward more efficient, cost-effective government that serves the needs of all residents, whether business leaders or those who are economically and socially vulnerable.

We hope for better in the future.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A rough year

State Rep. Paul Condino, D-Southfield, (right) and Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, spoke at the *Observer & Eccentric's* annual Journalist of the Year program. They discussed the often contentious partisan disagreements during the Legislature's prolonged budget negotiations.

Our day in infamy

Dec. 7, 1941, was a day that will live in infamy. Pearl Harbor — we salute all of our heroes. We will never forget. God bless them all.

Now I would like to talk about OUR day of infamy at John Glenn football. On Dec 7, 2007, Todd DeLuca, the head football coach, was fired. This man has lived Rocket football for 28 years as a coach.

He was a former player. I was lucky enough to have played football with Todd at both Stevenson Junior High School and at John Glenn. I was very fortunate to have coached with Todd. I have known Todd since 1971. I don't think I have ever seen a coach like him anywhere, the way he works with kids, the way he runs the program. He is Rocket football.

This firing is ridiculous. How could the school and school board do this? What is the motive?

I can guarantee the former players and current players are upset, his friends are upset. Todd and his family are devastated.

I can also promise you that you have not heard the last of it. I know for a fact that Chuck Gordon is very upset. I am certain when Lloyd Carr finds out he will be also. Both Todd and I played football for Lloyd and Chuck, they were great coaches, and quite frankly, so is Todd DeLuca.

You may have taken his job, but one thing you can never take away is his title of coach. He will remain Coach DeLuca until the day he dies. There is no greater feeling, having a former player come up to you years later and say, "Hi, coach," and introduce his family to you. I know to this very day this happens for me, and I feel so honored.

Todd's father Dino was a coach for Wayne-Westland for more than 20 years. I still call him coach every time I see him, which was usually at John Glenn football games. I am certainly going to miss that. He also is a great man. He helped me through some tough times when I was a kid, and I know Todd has done the same for many former players. He will truly be missed. I hope that something can be done to bring him back.

I am letting the Wayne-Westland school board know, I will be at the next meeting. I am going to fight this with all I have. I am certain that I will not be the only one there over this. I can promise this. I have not talked to Todd at the time of this writing. I hope he does not mind that I am going to do this. After all the DeLuca family has done for this school district, what has happened is unforgivable.

Thank you Todd for 28 years of service to your football program. John Glenn football thanks you. No way you deserve this.

Bud Somerville
Westland

Stop consolidation

This country was founded on the principle of a free press. Consolidating media, as proposed by FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin abrogates this principle. I urge passage of SB 2332 to stop further corpo-

rate and conglomerate media control.

Janice Messer
Westland

Fact or fiction?

I have been hearing a lot of chatter regarding a ID card/passport that will be issued to Americans so they can travel abroad and in the U.S. Also, I've been hearing a great deal about this North American Trade Alliance between Canada, the U.S. and Mexico, that we will become one nation and that the cats that are making these plans have every intention of building a road from Manitoba in Canada to Mexico in the name of good trade. How about security issues, loss of jobs and low wages that will be created because of this deal and hurt a lot of "Americans."

I hear that in these new ID cards will be a "chip" that can locate anyone — anytime, anywhere. Then after these cards are distributed to all Americans, the "Big Brother" theory will become active. Anyone that will not accept this card or chip, can not do business in the world. If by chance you are a radical and don't like the idea of "Big Brother" watching your every move, all "they" have to do is turn off your chip and you can't by food, clothing or conduct any kind of business in the world. You're screwed!

Also, I would like to know if there is any merit to the rumor that all past presidents and other heads of state meet once a year in California to dress up in costumes and discuss plans of power and control of the world!

I know this is national news, but could someone please enlighten me if any of this is true or not. I trust the people that I have sent this to and would appreciate the truth in return. There is a lot of this stuff floating around YouTube. I was taught that usually where there is smoke, here is fire.

Could our journalists please contact the news media at the White House and get some answers for the little guy. I know many guys that fought for this country and the freedom we enjoy and I don't think they would appreciate anyone infringing on their rights. Remember the militia that was used during the revolution to give birth to a nation where all men are created equal? I would hate to see history repeat itself.

Could you please advise if any of this stuff is fact or fiction?

Vince Berna
Veterans Haven Inc.

Poor people?

There was a comment in an article on the Opinion page of the *Observer & Eccentric* newspaper which opened with the following statement, "It is a disgrace that the U.S. is the only capitalist democracy in the world that does not guarantee health care to its citizens. The uninsured are unable to pay hospital costs."

I found this comment alarming in its assertions, for several reasons: It suggests that just because you are a citizen of America you are owed anything other

than what is stated in the U.S. Declaration of Independence. A guarantee of health care is not stated! The Declaration of Independence does guarantee "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." If, as I do, you believe your family should have health care to sustain "life" and to financially protect your "pursuit of happiness" in the case of illness, then we pay the monthly health insurance premium. The presumption of entitlement suggests that parenting and the K-12 schooling process fails to instill in people that when they are adults, they are responsible for themselves and their children's life-situation.

In America, if you are uninsured and go for emergency treatment, by law, you cannot be refused treatment. This is a form of health care! It may not be the best preventative health care process, but it is a choice. When you received emergency treatment in this form, you are reaching into the pockets of insured people and taking the money to pay for it! For those of you who still believe that poor people in the U.S. should be guaranteed health care, read "Executive Summary: How Poor Are America's Poor? Examining the 'Plague' of Poverty in America" (Aug. 27, 2007) at <http://www.heritage.org/Research/Welfare/bg2064es.cfm>, the highlights for poor households are:

- 43 percent own their homes.
- 80 percent have AC.
- Typical poor Americans have more living space than the average home in Paris, London, Vienna, Athens and other cities throughout Europe.
- 74-plus percent own a car.
- 97 percent have color television(s), 78 percent have a VCR/DVD player; 62 have cable/satellite.
- 89 percent own microwave ovens, 50-plus percent have a stereo, 33 percent have an automatic dishwasher.

Conclusion, poor people can afford health insurance, but choose not to.

When we ask the government to guarantee benefits we need to remember the "Tax Freedom Day" was July 11. We worked 192 days (two more than last year) or gave the government 53 percent of our wages for existing guarantees.

Lynn McLean
Troy

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.

Mail:
Letters to the editor
Westland Observer
36251 Schoolcraft
Livonia, MI 48150

Fax:
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E-mail:
smason@hometownlife.com

QUOTABLE

"Adrian was always looking for roads to travel and at what he should do next. He made use of the opportunities in front of him."

- School psychologist William Gray about Army Capt. Adrian Massey who has written a book of poetry, titled "A Soldier's Poetic Response: A Slice of His Life."

WESTLAND
Observer

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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.

Building bridges – from the Great Lakes to the Great Wall

If the current and two former Michigan governors, and top governmental, business, political, labor and educational leaders told you to pay attention, that what you are about to hear and see is going to impact our state, our communities, families and your children and grandchildren – would you? Well, you'd better.

At 11 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, WWJ-TV will premiere a three-part series that examines Michigan's economy and future and their potential connections with China in *Building Bridges: From the Great Lakes to the Great Wall*. (Part two airs 6-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18. The series wraps up 6-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19.) This show, in which I assisted as a consultant for WWJ-TV, is a wake-up call to everyone in Michigan. It tells us that the world we once

had is now gone. There are 1.3 billion new consumers/capitalists that are going to challenge and engage us at every turn – in business, education, innovation and creativity.

This TV special, *Building Bridges*, is shot in stunning high-definition and hosted by Carol Cain, community affairs and editorial director of WWJ-TV. It leads us on a journey to see how the Chinese have built one of the most explosive economies on the planet and how the economic growth in China could help position Michigan for future growth.

Rick Wagoner, CEO of General Motors, said it this way: "Twenty years from now, the only markets that will really matter will be the U.S. and China." If it were not for the profits being made in China, GM would be in much tougher financial shape than it is today. While the U.S. auto market is stagnant, the growth of sales in China is growing by leaps and bounds. This should not surprise anyone who understands that the ability to own a private car is a phenomenon that is less than 20 years old in this country that is home to one-fifth of the world's humanity!

Cain interviewed a number of experts to offer the most comprehensive, eye-opening report on those who are building bridges and attempting to develop opportunities for Michigan residents. She and WWJ-TV award-winning videographer Paul Pytlowany captured the sights and sounds of China from the majestic city of Shanghai teeming with its 20 million residents, to the sunrise over the Great Wall of China and the scenic beauty of the habitat of perhaps one of the most beloved animals in the world, the Giant Panda.

Building Bridges features exclusive interviews with virtually every local business leader and decision-maker who will play a part in Michigan's economic expansion. From government officials to business CEOs, automotive executives to union leaders, Cain leads a very balanced discussion on this important topic.

A number of experts were tapped to offer the most comprehensive, eye-opening report to date on this issue. Cain traveled extensively throughout China and Michigan to see firsthand

how bold pioneers in business and education are laying the groundwork for future prosperity in Michigan. A partial list of her guests includes: Jennifer Granholm, governor of Michigan; John Engler and Jim Blanchard, former governors of Michigan; Phil Spender, Ford China COO; Audie Wong, Amway China; Zhou Wenzhong, Chinese ambassador to the United States; Mary Sue Coleman, University of Michigan president; Kenneth Lieberthal, University of Michigan China expert; C. Peter Theut, partner, Butzel Long, Global Business Advisory Council; Karolo Chen, CEO of Motown Travel; Mark Brewer, Michigan Democratic Party chairman; Mark Gaffney, Michigan AFL-CIO president; Lou Dobbs, CNN anchor; and two students from a local high school who are traveling in China.

Jim Epolito, president and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, gives this advice: "There is a need to change the mindset of all Michigan companies, regardless of size. In today's economy, where goods and services move across time zones and international borders seamlessly, ALL business is global, regardless if you want it to be or not."

Building solid relationships, or "guanxi," is critical to long-term success in China. Two local political leaders, L. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County executive, and Robert Ficano, Wayne County executive, are working overtime to build the relationships that will pay dividends back here in the Southeast Michigan region. Both of them and their staffs have made numerous, grueling transcontinental flights in an effort to develop the guanxi and "bring home the bacon" or in this case the jobs, for their constituents.

Patterson has both long and short term strategies to help prepare his county for the transformational global wave that has been heading our way for some time. He understands that our children will not be competing against the children in the school district or state next door – they will be competing against the children of the world. He has called for, and the Oakland schools have embraced, the teaching of Mandarin Chinese (the most spoken language on the planet) in all schools in Oakland County. His call has been heard in China by educators and business leaders alike as a visionary educational effort and one that will make Oakland County and all of Southeast Michigan an economic magnet for Chinese investment.

Clearly, the 21st century will be driven by leadership, innovation, talent, creativity, knowledge, change and China. Watch this special, *Building Bridges: From the Great Lakes to the Great Wall*, with your entire family – it will help you understand that change and China are coming our way.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools for the state of Michigan from 2001-05 and as president and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Fla., 1996 to 2001. He has a long-standing interest in China and has traveled there many times. Read his internationally recognized report (now translated into Chinese): *The New Education (R)evolution* at www.nacol.org. He can be reached at tdw@tkins@aol.com.

Michigan Colleges Foundation leader's retirement offers a time to reflect

At the end of this month, Madonna University will bid farewell to a great friend and advocate. After 16 years as president of the Michigan Colleges Foundation (MCF), Bill Liebold has decided to retire. He leaves a lasting legacy of successful service to independent higher education in Michigan.

MCF is a not-for-profit organization that serves as a vital link between Madonna University and Michigan's corporate and foundation communities. Its mission is to provide students the opportunity for a values-based, high quality education at its 14 member four-year, liberal arts colleges by securing financial resources from the private sector. Madonna University has been a member of MCF since 1952, and due to Bill's hard work and innovative thinking, we are a beneficiary of its success, receiving almost \$4 million in financial support over 50 years.

What has Bill taught us about the importance of Michigan's independent colleges like Madonna University?

First, the state's independent colleges and universities strengthen Michigan by preserving student choice and supplying a talented, diverse and well-educated workforce. Michigan businesses, corporations and foundations appreciate the quality, independence and tradition of private higher education and the graduates it produces. The fact that more than 96 percent of the alumni from MCF's member institutions currently are employed demonstrates how highly Michigan employers value the preparation provided by a liberal arts education.

Second, students benefit from the individualized attention they receive at MCF schools. The educational experience focuses on critical thinking, problem solving, communication, community service and personal values, such as integrity and a strong work ethic; qualities also highly valued by Michigan employers.

Finally, our state benefits from the significant economic impact of Michigan's independent colleges and universities, valued at \$6.1 billion annually. MCF institutions are responsible for approximately one-third of this impressive figure.

Under Bill's leadership and as a result of his vision, we have strategically and aggressively marketed minority scholarships to companies prevented by Proposal 2 from using this tool. This means that our state's employers still can meet their corporate diversity initiatives and goals by providing minority scholarships to students attending MCF member institutions and by recruiting successful graduates for employment. Under Bill's tenure as president,

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MCF has awarded more than 4,500 named scholarships to students.

Most recently, Bill launched the Detroit Bridge Program, an innovative pre-college program to boost urban high school graduation rates and help MCF's member institutions enhance diversity in enrollment. The program engages first-generation, low-income, Detroit area students in mapping a pathway to college through year-round academic enrichment as well as college preparation and leadership development programs hosted on MCF campuses. A similar initiative, to be launched in 2008, is being planned by business leaders in West Michigan.

Originally conceived solely as a joint fundraising organization, under Bill's leadership MCF has developed collaborative projects among its member institutions, and Bill has inspired Madonna University to be a proud participant. Since its inception in 2003, the Collaborative Ventures Initiative has saved MCF's member institutions in excess of \$5 million. The spirit of cooperation developed under Bill's leadership is directly responsible for these projects that reduce costs, improve quality and increase resources for students.

We will honor Bill's legacy by continuing to pool the resources of our member colleges to address the academic and economic issues of concern to corporations and other funders. We will further honor his legacy by continuing to offer students an independent higher education option, and by empowering them with a quality academic foundation, an appropriate set of values, leadership skills and lifelong desire for learning. Finally, we honor Bill by establishing the William H. Liebold, II Scholarship, to which I am a proud contributor.

We salute Bill Liebold and all that he has done for our students, for our independent colleges and universities and for our state. We wish him all the best in the future.

Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, C.S.S.F., Ph.D., is the president of Madonna University.

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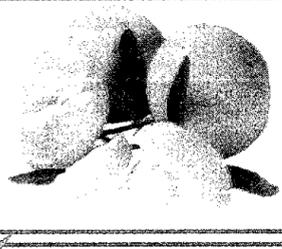
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DeLuca sacked as John Glenn football coach

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

When Westland John Glenn football coach Todd DeLuca set up an appointment last Friday to meet with the school's athletic director Brian Swinehart about ordering new squat racks for the weight room, little did he know his four-year varsity stint would come to an abrupt end.

"He closed the door behind and before I could talk and he said: 'Joan (Sedik, the Glenn principal) and I are not renewing your contract,'" DeLuca recalled. "And then I asked: 'Why?' He (Swinehart) gave me what I thought were some ridiculous reasons."

The former Glenn quarterback (1973-75) who played under Lloyd Carr and coached a total of 28 seasons with the Rockets, including the last four as varsity coach, was out after posting a 17-20 overall record including one state playoff appearance (2004). This fall,



DeLuca

Glenn finished 5-4 overall after defeating rival Wayne Memorial in the final regular season game, 49-38.

"He's not going to be retained as football coach," Swinehart said. "I'm thankful for the time he was able to give to John Glenn High School. Todd played here and coached here for 28 years. It's hard to say goodbye because it's been such a big part of his life. Todd's a good person and a good man. I want to respect what he's done over the last 30 years. He impacted a lot of lives, but right now we want to move in another direction."

Following Friday's meeting with Swinehart, DeLuca said he was "devastated," but added on Monday, "I'm more angry right now."

DeLuca, who met Tuesday

again with Swinehart for another meeting, said he plans to contact Wayne-Westland Schools teachers union president Nancy Strachan.

"I'm going to fight this," DeLuca said. "I do not know what I can do, but I'm not going quietly. Whatever the allegations are, I'm going to fight for my name and reputation."

Swinehart said the vacant varsity position will be posted within the week. He declined to discuss or elaborate on the reasons for letting DeLuca go.

DeLuca said he had a "brief conversation" late in the school day Friday with Sedik, but he was told by the Glenn principal: "I stand by Brian's decision."

Following a 3-6 season in 2006, DeLuca said Swinehart gave him an evaluation and "stated things that I need to do a better job of, and then we'd go over those things after the season. But that meeting never took place."

"He (Swinehart) said I did

not turn in some paperwork on time and I didn't let him know that we called 9-1-1 about a player's concussion," DeLuca said of the Friday meeting. "And that I did not let him in on a situation with a parent who called — not quickly enough."

During the Tuesday meeting, according to DeLuca, Swinehart gave him additional reasons for his dismissal.

"He said the program had gone downhill since I've been here, the discipline was not good enough and I didn't have a good handle on grades," said DeLuca, who is a faculty member at Glenn. "And from what I understand what he told other employees at school were completely different reasons from what I heard from him."

DeLuca began his coaching career at Glenn in 1979 and served as a longtime assistant under Chuck Gordon, the school's winningest coach who posted a 211-64 record (includ-

ing 15 state playoff appearances) from 1997 to 2003 before retiring to his hometown in Central Lake (where he has served the past two seasons as an assistant coach).

DeLuca's son Vinnie, now playing at Gannon University (Pa.), was an All-Observer quarterback who helped the Rockets to a 6-4 record and playoff berth in 2003. DeLuca's other son, Andrew, is a member of the Glenn varsity baseball team and his wife, Cheryl, is the school's sideline cheerleading coach.

"Why would you fire a guy after 28 years and not give me the opportunity first to resign?" DeLuca asked.

DeLuca, however, said he wouldn't rule out coaching again.

"I still think I have something to offer kids," he said. "To say I would never be coaching again wouldn't be a true statement."

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Sidelines

Blazer icers split

Livonia Ladywood unloaded for 40 shots Saturday en route to a 3-0 Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League victory over visiting Harper Woods Regina at Plymouth's Arctic Pond.

The Blazers, now 3-4-1 overall and 3-2 in league play, tallied a goal in each period against the Saddlelites, who fell to 1-4 in the league.

Elsie Sawarski's unassisted goal in the first period proved to be the game-winner. Abby Kienbaum scored from Ashley Ballarin in the second period and Heather Sartorius notched an unassisted goal in the final period.

Ladywood goaltender Michelle Wyniemo had to make just seven saves in posting the shutout, while Regina's Meghan Smerecki stopped 37-of-40 shots.

On Dec. 6, Rachel Lentz tallied a hat trick as host Grosse Pointe South (3-0-1) blanked the Blazers, 3-0, in a league matchup.

Wyniemo made 30 saves in the loss, while South's C.J. Jarboe faced just 10 shots in posting the shutout.

MU signs Austin

Madonna University women's soccer coach Paul Thomas added to his recruiting class for the 2008 season with the signing of Schoolcraft College's Jessica Austin to a letter of intent on Monday.

Austin will study Special Education and be a junior next fall at MU.

Austin, who prepped at Livonia Franklin under former Crusader Jen Barker, comes into the MU program after scoring 14 goals and adding 13 assists in 15 games this season for the NJCAA National Tournament qualifiers.

Austin, whose older brother Chris is a goalie on the Michigan State men's team, is the second signee for Thomas this winter, joining Woodhaven standout Nicole Rodriguez.

Ryans' song

Whittum, Rosenick lift Chargers by Pats

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

If Ryan Whittum wasn't enough, it was Ryan Rosenick following suit Monday night in Livonia Churchill's 76-68 boys basketball victory over rival Livonia Franklin.

Whittum, a 6-foot-2 senior guard, poured in 26 points, including 14 in the first half. He also made four straight free throws during the final 34 seconds to secure the victory.

Rosenick, a 6-3 senior forward, played despite a sore left shooting wrist and finished with 13 second-half points, including seven straight in the decisive fourth quarter, to go along with 11 rebounds as the Chargers improved to 3-1 overall.

"I didn't know if I could even play Ryan (Rosenick) tonight. I held him out of practice yesterday because I wasn't sure," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "He got hurt Friday (against Redford Union). I can't say enough about the effort he gave tonight."

"And Whittum is getting better. He's been able to solve some of his problems shooting the ball, and he was able to provide a big start for us."

Franklin 6-2 junior guard Jeffery

Poole finished with a team-high 21 points, including 14 in the second half. His basket with 7:41 left in the final quarter gave the Patriots a 51-50 advantage.

Franklin guard Cole Kelly (12 points) scored with 4:22 left to make it 59-59, but the Patriots couldn't get over the hump as Rosenick capped a seven-point run of his own by catching a full-court pass and laying it in for a 63-60 Churchill lead with 3:28 to go.

Senior guard Daran Carey then scored five straight points during a stretch from 2:30 to 51.9 seconds remaining to fend off the Patriots.

Churchill shot 28-of-53 from the floor (52 percent) and was 18-of-27 from the line (66 percent). The Chargers committed 16 turnovers.

"It was a tough game to watch for a while, especially at the beginning," Solak said. "But it was a good city basketball game. Both teams played hard."

Israel Woolfork, a 6-4 senior forward who got into second-half foul trouble, added 16 points and eight rebounds in the loss.

The Patriots hit 26-of-62 shots from the floor (41 percent) and were 12-of-19

Please see **CHARGERS, B2**



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Finger-tip control

Lutheran Westland Josh Kruger goes up for the layup in Tuesday's 53-45 non-conference setback against New Boston Huron. See a roundup of boys games on page B3.

Walled Lake Northern deals Franklin first loss

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Walled Lake Northern remained unbeaten in girls basketball and gave visiting Livonia Franklin its first defeat Tuesday, 51-43.

The 3-0 Knights trailed at halftime, 24-19, but they outscored the Patriots in the third quarter, 16-9, and the second half, 32-19.

Britany Gibson scored 12 points, Carissa McKenna 10 and Charli Coram eight for Northern, which made 17-of-32 free throws.

"They (Northern) hit some threes, they beat us outside,"

said Franklin first-year coach Dave McCall, whose team made just 3-of-11 free throws.

The Patriots (4-1), who played without starting center Ashley Price (tailbone injury) had three players score in double figures: Briana Taylor (15), Samantha Floyd (12) and Brittany Taylor (10).

CANTON 42, STEVENSON 35: On Tuesday, the host Chiefs (1-3) picked up their first victory by rallying from a third-quarter deficit to beat Livonia Stevenson (3-2) in a WLLA crossover.

Senior Baylee Hollowell recorded her fourth double-double of the season with 10 points and 12 rebounds. Sophomore guard Kaylie Martin added nine points.

Freshman guard Sarah Smith had 10 points, while Tasia Newton added eight for the Spartans.

"It was an outstanding effort defensively," Stevenson coach Pat Cannon said. "I thought Kaylee McGrath stepped up defensively and held Hollowell to three field goals was stellar. I also thought Rebecca Bartek and Rachel Stevens really helped out our defensive effort."

W.L. WESTERN 50, JOHN GLENN 39: Melanie Wilkerson's 13 points lifted Walled Lake Western (4-1) to a WLLA crossover victory Tuesday at home over

Westland John Glenn (2-3).

Brittany Holbrook's 14 points and 14 rebounds paced the Rockets, who couldn't overcome a 23-11 first-quarter deficit as the Warriors made three triples.

Glenn, 15-of-25 from the foul line, lost starter Brittany Brown to a jammed thumb four minutes into the game and another starter, Chanel Payne, to calf cramp in the third period. They were replaced by Linda Barrett and Joye Clenney.

PLYMOUTH 53, CHURCHILL 39: Kelsi Robinson hit four 3-pointers in the first quarter and finished with a game-high 18 points Tuesday as the Wildcats (2-3) downed host Livonia Churchill (1-3) in a WLLA crossover. Shaakira Haywood, a junior cen-

ter, added 17 for Plymouth, which led 30-20 at intermission. She was 5-of-5 for the foul line and the Wildcats were 15-of-22 overall.

Junior forward Shannon Getchen paced Churchill with 13 points.

W.L. CENTRAL 59, WAYNE 40: Brooke Gustafson and Kelly Costello each scored 16 points to spark Walled Lake Central (3-2) to a Western Lakes crossover victory Tuesday over visiting Wayne Memorial (2-3).

Wayne, which couldn't overcome 25 turnovers, got 22 points from senior guard Trenia Barbee. Wende Foster added seven rebounds and scored four points for the Zebras, who got outscored 34-16 in the second half after trailing by only three at halftime, 25-24.

Family

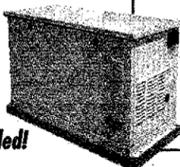
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PREP BOWLING OUTLOOK

BOYS PREVIEWS
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: Pam Jones, fourth year.
League affiliation: Wayne-Oakland Bowling Conference.

team All-Area, 200 ave. league; 207 ave. tournaments; Eric Robertson, Sr. (first-team All-Area); 190 league ave.; 201 ave. tournaments; Cory Harden, Sr.; Mike Solarz, Sr. Promising newcomers: Lonnie Lawrence, Sr.; Josh Wojtkowski, Jr.; Tommy Pattenaude, Sr.; Nate Mosley, Sr.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Jacquie Norton, second year.
League affiliation: WOB.
Last year's overall record: 8-5.

GIRLS PREVIEWS
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: Pam Jones, fourth year.
League affiliation: Wayne-Oakland Bowling Conference.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Jacquie Norton, second year.
League affiliation: WOB.
Last year's overall record: 8-5.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Ron Brusseau, second year.
League affiliation: WOB.
Last year's overall record: 10-3.

LIVONIA LADYWOOD
Head coach: Judy Jaeger, fourth year.
League affiliation: WOB and Catholic League.

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Bob Jawor, second year.
League affiliation: WOB.
Last year's record: 8-2.

Warriors survive in overtime

The Lutheran High Westland girls basketball team proved to be resilient Tuesday night, holding off Macomb Lutheran North in overtime, 63-62, in a Metro Conference game.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Junior guard Allyson Yankee paced the Warriors with 22 points, 10 rebounds and six assists. Junior Rebecca Refenes, a 6-foot-2 center, added 19 points and 16 boards.

Senior guard Amanda Moody chipped in with 12, while sophomore guard Ashley Devon added 10 for the Trojans, who bolted to a 22-8 first-quarter advantage.

Clarenceville had problems at the foul line, making only 5-of-20, including 4-of-18 in the final period. Keyra Morris and Sarah Deramo tallied 13 and 11, respectively, for Harper Woods.

Huron Valley 42, Mt. Carmel 41; Nicole Schaffer's driving layup with 32 seconds to go proved to be the difference Tuesday as Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (3-3) pulled out the non-conference win at Wyandotte Mount Carmel (3-2).

The Hawks, who rallied with a 16-10 fourth-period run, were led by Katie Kipfmiller and Lauren Adlof, each scoring 15 points. Adlof also grabbed 11 rebounds, while teammate Nicole Smith pulled down nine.

Jessica Halasy's 14 points paced the Comets, who rallied with an 18-11 third-period run.

"We only trailed twice, but our girls never gave up and it was a good win for us," said Warriors coach Kevin Wade, whose team improved to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in the Metro.

After North took a 53-52 advantage with only five seconds left in regulation, Lutheran Westland's Katey Ramthun was fouled on a put-back at the buzzer and split a pair of free throws to sent it to OT.

Lutheran Westland then outscored the Mustangs 10-9 in the four-minute extra session.

Madonna men Battle-tested in win

It was close all the way Saturday night in Chicago, but Madonna University's men's basketball team prevailed, 84-81, against host St. Xavier (Ill.) University in a nonconference tilt.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

(Canton), who contributed 18 points and six rebounds. Point guard Charlie Henry (Agape Christian) chipped in with 10 points and seven assists.

Goshen nips MU women

On Saturday, host Goshen (Ind.) College bested Madonna University, 67-60, in a non-conference women's basketball game.

Senior guard Jon Battle continued with the hot hand for MU, hitting on 10-of-14 from the field (including 2-for-2 in the trey department) to finish with a game-high 26 points, along with six rebounds.

Scoring 23 points for St. Xavier (7-3) was Adam Gregoriou.

Madonna took a 46-45 lead into halftime and held on in the final 20 minutes, hitting 13-of-24 field-goal tries (54 percent).

Senior guard Caryn Inman scored 19 points and collected nine rebounds for MU (1-5), with Cali Crawford and Christie Carrico each tallying 16.

Goshen's Katie Sowers scored 15 points to lead the victorious Maples (5-5).

Also solid for the Crusaders (6-6) was center D.J. Bridges

Franklin Second-places went to Don Stratz (152) and Dan Woodall (189), while Cody Hay (215) and Mike Modes (285) added fourths. Brandon Billiau (145) and Garrett Hay (160) contributed fifths.

Senior guard Caryn Inman scored 19 points and collected nine rebounds for MU (1-5), with Cali Crawford and Christie Carrico each tallying 16.

Anchor Bay captured the team title, while Lincoln Park placed third.

Franklin coach Dave Chiola said, "We still have a few guys that we need to get moving in the right direction, and who knows what we'll be capable of."

Senior guard Caryn Inman scored 19 points and collected nine rebounds for MU (1-5), with Cali Crawford and Christie Carrico each tallying 16.

Individual winners for the Patriots included Jared Pieknik (112), Matt Hintz (135 pounds) and Brandon Smith (140).

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"Smith is finally looking like the wrestler he knew he could be when he was a freshman," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said.

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Patriot grapplers runners-up at Berkley

Team runner-up Livonia Franklin earned three individual titles in Saturday's 17-school Berkley Invitational wrestling tournament.

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Senior guard Caryn Inman scored 19 points and collected nine rebounds for MU (1-5), with Cali Crawford and Christie Carrico each tallying 16.

Individual winners for the Patriots included Jared Pieknik (112), Matt Hintz (135 pounds) and Brandon Smith (140).

Franklin Second-places went to Don Stratz (152) and Dan Woodall (189), while Cody Hay (215) and Mike Modes (285) added fourths. Brandon Billiau (145) and Garrett Hay (160) contributed fifths.

Senior guard Caryn Inman scored 19 points and collected nine rebounds for MU (1-5), with Cali Crawford and Christie Carrico each tallying 16.

"Smith is finally looking like the wrestler he knew he could be when he was a freshman," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said.

Franklin Second-places went to Don Stratz (152) and Dan Woodall (189), while Cody Hay (215) and Mike Modes (285) added fourths. Brandon Billiau (145) and Garrett Hay (160) contributed fifths.

Senior guard Caryn Inman scored 19 points and collected nine rebounds for MU (1-5), with Cali Crawford and Christie Carrico each tallying 16.

PREP BOWLING RESULTS

BOYS RESULTS
WAYNE MEMORIAL 17, DIVINE CHILD 13
Dec. 6 at Novi Bowl
Wayne individual scores: Zac Kyle, 179-183-364; Cory Harden, 236-230-466; Mike Solarz, 214-226-440; Eric Robertson (first game) and Josh Wojtkowski (second game), 182-139-321; Lonnie Lawrence, 202-242-444.

CHARGERS

FROM PAGE B1
from the free-throw line (63 percent). They had nine second-half turnovers after committing just five in the opening half while trailing by only two, 32-30. "We did some better things tonight," said Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault, whose team was coming off a 62-58 season-opening defeat Friday against Livonia Stevenson. "We moved the ball better, but we got outrebounded. Every game early in the season gives us something to work on as we build. "We're learning to understand time and score. And giving up 60 is not what we want to be about. From this game, we'll learn about defense and rebounding."

Ryan Woods scored eight and Nick Seger added seven for the Chargers, but in the end, it was too much Whittum and Rosenick. "He (Rosenick) has great awareness of where the ball is going to be, he's a terrific player," Rheault said. "And when they kicked it out to (Whittum), he knocked down shots. We tried to take that away from him the second half. "We hung in there, but we're still learning how to defend as a team while watching our kids grow."

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WORTHY TIME
LOOKING FOR ME?
ANOTHER STATE OF MIND
LET'S GET GOING!
WORTH A SHOT



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran Westland Micah Hausch drives to the bucket past New Boston Huron's Dan Lyson in Tuesday's non-conference encounter won by the visiting Chiefs, 53-45.

Glenn, Wayne secure cage wins

Westland John Glenn roared back during the second half Tuesday to earn a 62-45 boys basketball victory over visiting Novi.

The 2-0 Rockets, who overcame a 26-25 halftime deficit, were led by senior guard Keshawn Martin's 17 points.

Senior guard Earl Hardison chipped in with 14 points, five rebounds and four steals, while senior forward Stefan Marken added 12 points before fouling out. Jordan Manier, a 6-foot-8 senior, came off the bench to grab eight rebounds and block four shots.

Caleb Dean and Chris Bellamy scored 16 and 14, respectively, for the Wildcats (1-2).

Glenn was 15-of-23 from the foul line, including 11-of-15 in the decisive fourth quarter. Novi was 13-of-16 from the foul stripe.

WAYNE 73, FERNDALE 60: Mike Lee tied a season and career-high with 32 points Tuesday as Wayne Memorial (2-1) earned a non-league victory over the host Eagles (1-2).

Wayne, which led by as many as 22 points in the second half, also got eight points and seven assists from Robert Woodson. Jeremy Lovelady, a 6-foot-10 senior center, contributed eight points, while Daniel Hill finished with six points and nine rebounds.

Sedrick Dunbar and Jermaine Conaway each tallied 10 points for Ferndale.

FARMINGTON 53, STEVENSON 44: Evan Blackwell scored a game-high 19 points and Matt Sanders added 12

Tuesday to propel the host Falcons (2-1) past host Livonia Stevenson (2-1).

Farmington led 21-20 at halftime and 36-34 after three quarters before outscoring the Spartans 17-10 in the final period.

Brian Rowe led Stevenson with 12 points.

N.B. HURON 53, LUTH. WESTLAND 45: Guards Zach Richardson and Mike Clark combined for 36 points Tuesday as New Boston Huron (1-2) downed host Lutheran High Westland (1-2) in a non-conference encounter.

Richardson scored a game-high 20, while Clark added 16.

Junior guard Josh Kruger led the Warriors with 17 points, while junior forward Sam Ahlersmeyer added 10.

"We came out flat the third quarter, they scored off our turnovers," said Lutheran Westland coach Brandon Bekius, whose team was outscored 16-5 after leading 24-20 at halftime. "They got quite a few offensive rebounds, second-chance opportunities."

HURON VALLEY 44, MT. CARMEL 26: Ryan Jones, Mark St. John and Chad Fielek each tallied seven points to lead Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (1-3) to a win Tuesday at Wyandotte Mt. Carmel (1-2).

John Wharflied scored nine for the Comets, who trailed 23-11 at the half.

In last weekend's St. Joseph Michigan Lutheran Tournament, Lutheran Westland fell on Friday to the host Titans (2-0) by a 77-27 count as Ryan Ross led the winners with 27 points.

On Saturday, Travis Jones scored 19 points to pace Howardsville Christian (1-2) past the Hawks in the consolation game, 76-60.

On an even Kiel

Livonia bowler captures Alro Steel title

There is competition at several levels for the youth bowlers as the Michigan High School Athletic Association's boys and girls bowling season got underway on Dec. 1.

Bowling is now the fastest growing high school sport in the USA.

If you get the chance to go over to the lanes during the competition, you would be amazed at the enthusiasm and true school spirit on display.

The late Dan Ottman organized the Michigan Junior Masters Association (MJMA) over 20 years ago to provide top-level youth scratch bowling competition on a monthly basis at different sites around the state.

It's a training ground for the best youth bowlers to gain knowledge through expert training and have the opportunity to earn substantial scholarship money as well.

Alro Steel Corp. of Jackson has been the main sponsor for several years of this event, which attracts many outstanding boys and girls from all over Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania, as well as Canada.

The newest champion is Livonia's Michael Kiel, who captured the 18th annual Alro Steel Classic last month at Airport Lanes in Jackson.

Kiel had the high game of the tournament with a 279 as he defeated Brian McMahon of Saginaw, 214-196 in the championship match, earning \$400 in scholarship money.

Kiel became one of the two Gold qualifiers, meaning he will represent The MJMA this July in Detroit during the National U.S. Bowling Congress Youth tournament.

On the girls side, Megan Warner of Grandville defeated Sarah Lokker of New Baltimore, 199-187, to win the title and \$250 in scholarship money.

All bowling fans are invited to come out and watch the MJMA bowlers because it's quite a show.

For more information on Alro/MJMA, e-mail Jerry Tarabek at jt2830@yahoo.com; or call (616) 780-2095.



Ten Pin Alley

Al Harrison

The last few weeks have been a busy time for tournament play in our area as the 77th Annual Old Timers Tournament got underway Nov. 24 at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park.

There were over 600 paid entries, an amazing feat for a one-day event.

Thanks to the organizational skills of John Chmelko Sr., along with John Jr., the event was a huge success.

The following age-group winners earned a commemorative wristwatch including:

Under-50: Tom Roberts, 44, of Melvindale (729 series); 50-59: Doug Roberts, 59, of Melvindale (740); 60-64: Douglas Balint, 60, of Flat Rock (740); 65-69: Anthony McCauley, 67, of Detroit (710); 70-74: Tony Loiacano, 73, of Warren (707); 75-79: defending champion, Scotty Laughland, 77, of Windsor, Ontario (694); 80-and-over: Milton Patten, 80, of River Rouge (725).

The overall champion for 2007 was 54-year-old Gary Hanba of Hartland, who finished with a series of 741 on games of 257-205-279.

Meanwhile, Westland's Garrett Nagle took third in the under-50 group with a 714.

Ted Kress of Redford videotaped the highlights and it might be run on some local access TV stations soon. American Bowling Congress Hall-of-Famers on hand to bowl included Tony Lindemann and Jimmy Schroeder. Three bowlers came from San Diego, Calif., with one each from Idaho, Buffalo, N.Y. and Minneapolis, Minn., along with five from Canada.

Over 200 competitors stayed afterwards for a nice buffet dinner.

Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia and a member of the Bowling Writers Association of America. He can be contacted by e-mail at tenpinalley@sbcglobal.net.

BOYS SWIMMING RESULTS

BERKLEY 100 LIVONIA CHURCHILL 78
Dec. 11 at Churchill

200-yard medley relay: 1. Berkley (Patrick Cooney, Peter Dolnick, Jeremy Raiky, Jacob Donnelly), 1:53.39; 3. Churchill, 2:04.62.

200 freestyle: 1. Detry Newton (B), 2:00.49; 3. Greg Van Gorp (LC), 2:07.32.

200 individual medley: 1. Raiky (B), 2:15.61; 3. Steve Jones (LC), 2:24.98.

50 freestyle: 1. Benjamin Duchan (B), 24.49.

1-meter diving: 1. Matt Hope (LC), 177.80 points; 3. Travis Holt (LC), 157.40.

100 butterfly: 1. Newton (B), 1:00.56; 3. Matt Castelli (LC), 1:17.1.

100 freestyle: 1. George Yanin (B), 53.96.

500 freestyle: 1. Raiky (B), 5:38.61; 2. Van Gorp (LC), 6:02.2.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Berkley (Newton, Donnelly, Duchan, Yanin), 1:37.99; 3. Churchill, 1:47.08.

100 backstroke: 1. Steve Jones (LC), 1:07.4; 2. Ricky Scully (LC), 1:14.94; 3. Jacob Rimatzki (LC), 1:16.26.

100 breaststroke: 1. John Yurgil (LC), 1:22.24; 2. Nathan Larsen (LC), 1:26.11; 3. Lance Kortesoja (LC), 1:30.52.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Churchill (Larsen, Scully, Jeff Stevens, Yurgil), 4:36.98; 2. Churchill, 4:50.77; 3. Churchill, 5:35.09.

Churchill's dual meet record: 0-1 overall.

GARDEN CITY 90.5 WAYNE MEMORIAL 72.5
Dec. 11 at Wayne

200-yard medley relay: 1. Wayne (Jacob Barnes, Steven Ogg, Jordan Holland, Kevin Erdmann), 1:58.11; 2. Garden City, 2:04.35; 3. Garden City, 2:20.23.

200 freestyle: 1. Andrew Rice (GC), 2:07.41; 2. Barnes (WM), 2:13.94; 3. Austin Day (GC), 2:20.36.

200 individual medley: 1. Ogg (WM), 2:19.89; 2. Scott Hinken (GC), 2:36.99; 3. Jon Hurt (GC), 2:27.35.

50 freestyle: 1. Holland (WM), 25.16; 2. Jeremy Watkins (GC), 25.26; 3. Erdmann (WM), 25.92.

100 butterfly: 1. Ogg (WM), 1:05.59; 2. Hurt (GC), 1:13.93; 3. Hinken (GC), 1:16.89.

100 freestyle: 1. Holland (WM), 56.5; 2. Watkins

(GC), 56.96; 3. Erdmann (WM), 1:00.15.

500 freestyle: 1. Barnes (WM), 5:44.29; 2. Rice (GC), 5:45.57; 3. Rob Snyder (GC), 6:33.45.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Garden City (Gordie Dial, Kyle Schwartz, Watkins, Ben Vera-Burgos), 1:47.05; 2. Wayne, 1:52.02; 3. Garden City, 2:04.61.

100 backstroke: 1. Zach Griwicki (GC), 1:18.19; 2. Joe Clor (GC), 1:21.56; 3. Jacob Schofield (WM), 1:21.56.

100 breaststroke: 1. Vera-Burgos (GC), 1:19.33; 2. Aaron Nicholas (GC), 1:23.22; 3. Adam Karson (WM), 1:25.07.

400 freestyle: 1. Wayne (Erdmann, Barnes, Ogg, Holland), 3:49.41; 2. Garden City, 3:49.62; 3. Garden City, 4:21.9.

Dual meet records: Garden City, 2-0 overall; Wayne, 0-1 overall.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 100 LINCOLN PARK 65
Dec. 11 at John Glenn

200-yard medley: 1. Lincoln Park (New, Socull, Russell, Wendel), 2:11.52; 2. John Glenn, 2:20.7.

200 freestyle: 1. John Burgess (WJG), 2:18.9.

200 individual medley: 1. Wendel (LP), 2:39.59; 3. Justin Groves (WJG), 3:08.52.

50 freestyle: 1. Billy Lyons (WJG), 24.92; 3. Ryan Moody (WJG), 30.1.

1-meter diving: 1. Conner Monroe (WJG), 120.30 points.

100 butterfly: 1. Russell (LP), 1:12.6; 3. Jon Lara (WJG), 1:34.3.

100 freestyle: 1. Lyons (WJG), 59.12; 2. Moody (WJG), 1:10.4; 3. Ryan Boes (WJG), 1:16.8.

500 freestyle: 1. Burgess (WJG), 6:40.2.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Lincoln Park (New, Russell, Wendel, Socull), 1:53.62; 2. John Glenn, 1:54.79; 3. John Glenn, 2:23.26.

100 backstroke: 1. Lara (WJG), 1:23.53; 2. Ian Dalton (WJG), 1:38.34; 3. Aaron Snyder (WJG), 1:41.53.

100 breaststroke: 1. Groves (WJG), 1:17.23; 3. Pat Kemp (WJG), 1:32.1.

400 freestyle relay: 1. John Glenn (Lyons, Boes, Moody, Burgess), 4:47.08; 2. John Glenn, 5:28.63.

Dual meet records: Glenn, 1-0 overall; Lincoln Park, 0-1 overall.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Friday, Dec. 14

Old Redford at Clarencville, 7 p.m.

Luth. Westland at A.P. Inter-City, 7 p.m.

Brighton at Wayne, 7 p.m.

Stevenson at A.A. Gab. Richard, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday, Dec. 13

Huron Valley at Lutheran South, 6 p.m.

Churchill at Garden City, 7 p.m.

Northville at John Glenn, 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 14

Franklin at Churchill, 7 p.m.

Wayne at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

Clarencville at Lutheran N'west, 7 p.m.

Luth. Westland at Harper Woods, 7 p.m.

Ladywood at Divine Child, 7:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Thursday, Dec. 13

Stevenson at Lake Orion, 6 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 14

Franklin vs. Stevenson at Edgar, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Ladywood vs. G.P.W. Univ-Liggett at Plymouth's Arctic Pond, 6 p.m.

Churchill vs. W.L. Western at Lakeland Ice Arena, 8 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING

Thursday, Dec. 13

Luth. Westland at A.P. Inter-City, 5 p.m.

Clarencville at Clawson, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Patriot Invitational at Franklin, 9 a.m.

Canton Invitational, 9 a.m.

Woodhaven Invitational, 9 a.m.

BOYS SWIMMING

Saturday, Dec. 15

WLA Relays at Salem, noon.

PREP BOWLING

Thursday, Dec. 13

Wayne vs. U-D Jesuit,

John Glenn vs. Farmington at Drakeshire Lanes, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 14

John Glenn vs. Harrison at Drakeshire Lanes, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Farmington Tourney at Novi Lanes, 3:30 p.m.

Drakeshire Invitational, TBA.

COMPETITIVE CHEER

Saturday, Dec. 15

CCCAM Invitational at Stoney Creek, TBA.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Friday, Dec. 14

(Crusader Classic at Madonna)

Marygrove vs. Albion College, 6 p.m.

N'western Ohio vs. Madonna, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Crusader Classic at Madonna, 1 & 3 p.m.

Cincinnati State at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Friday, Dec. 14

(WHAC-MCC Challenge at Bethel, Ind.)

Madonna vs. Bethel College, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

(WHAC-MCC Challenge at Bethel, Ind.)

Madonna vs. Indiana Wesleyan, 1 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Thursday, Dec. 13

Whalers at Peterborough Petes, 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 14

Whalers at Oshawa Generals, 7:35 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Whalers at Owen Sound Attack, 7:30 p.m.

MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE

Friday, Dec. 14

Detroit Ignition at Orlando Sharks, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Detroit Ignition vs. La Raza de Monterrey at Compuware Arena, 7:35 p.m.

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FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUAL
ALLISON SCHMITT, SR., CANTON (200-YARD FREE-STYLE): The two-time All-State performer etched a place in Michigan high school swimming history with a career that was lined with a pool-full of records and state championships. This season she won Division 1 state titles in the 200-yard freestyle (1:46.25) and 500 freestyle (4:47.46), setting pool and state records at the same time. She also placed first in the 50 freestyle (24.16) and 100 freestyle (51.49 — meet and pool record) at the Western Lakes Activities Association meet in November.

"Allison has been a tremendous asset to our team, both in and out of the water," said Canton assistant coach Ed Weber. "Her positive attitude and never-give-up personality define who she is. I do not see any limit for this great athlete. I wish her the best as she prepares for this summer's Olympic Trials, and continues her swimming at the University of Georgia."

ASHLEY GORDON, SOPH., LIV. STEVENSON (200 IM): The sophomore placed fourth in the 100 backstroke (1:00.63) and 11th in the 200 IM (2:12.99 during the prelims) at the Division 1 state meet.

She also was co-champion in the 100 backstroke runner-up in the 200 IM at the WLA meet.

"Ashley is a very hard worker and did a very good job this year qualifying for 'state' in five individual events," Stevenson coach Greg Phill said.

KATIE GORMAN, SR., SALEM (50 FREESTYLE): The senior captain posted the area's third best clocking (26.28 during the prelims) en route to a sixth-place finish at the WLA meet.

Gorman also added a seventh in the 100 butterfly.

She is a four-time All-WLAA and All-Area pick, along with a four-time state qualifier.

"Katie has had an outstanding high school career and has the talent to compete in any stroke or distance, and do what is expected by her teammates," Salem coach Chuck Olson said of the Coaches Award winner.

CARLA MCNAMARA, SOPH., LIV. STEVENSON (DIVING): The sophomore earned a 10th-place finish at the state meet with an 11-dive total of 335.45 points.

McNamara captured the Western Lakes title with a total of 342.70.

"Carla just missed qualifying for 'state' as a freshman and came back to take fourth at the regionals," Phill said.

ASHLEY SELLS, JR., WESTLAND GLENN (100 BUTTERFLY): The junior placed fifth in the state meet (58.71), won the WLA and broke her own school record in the 100 butterfly.

Sells also added 12th in the 200 IM (2:14.13) at the state meet and was fourth in the WLA.

"Ashley is the hardest worker on our team, she has become a great leader in that regard," Glenn coach Randy Ferguson said of the three-time All-Area pick and captain elect for 2008. "If I can get more swimmers to step up and keep up with her in practice, we'll have a much better team next year."

LAURA TIMSON, SR., LIV. STEVENSON (100 FREESTYLE): The senior captain and four-year performer placed fifth in the 500 freestyle (5:08.21) and eighth in the 200 IM (2:09.58 in the prelims) at the state meet. In the Western Lakes meet, Timson won the 200 IM and 500 freestyle.

"Basically Laura swam wherever we needed her and qualified for the state meet in every individual event," Phill said.

SAVANNAH HATT, FR., LIV. STEVENSON (500 FREESTYLE): The first-year performer made quite an impact with a sixth in the 500 freestyle along with an 11th in the 200 freestyle at the state finals.

Hatt was runner-up in the 200 freestyle (season-best 1:57.83) and 500 freestyle (season-best 5:08.66) at the Western Lakes meet.

"She did an outstanding job for the team this year," Phill said. "I really look forward to the next three years. They should be terrific."

WHITNEY AUMILLER, JR., SALEM (100 BACKSTROKE): The junior earned a third-place finish at the Division 1 state finals with a time of 1:00.35.

At the WLA meet, Aumiller took third in the 100 freestyle (57.04) and sixth in the 200 freestyle (1:59.71 in the prelims).

She has been selected Salem's MVP and captain for 2008.

"Whitney has had a great three years at Salem and has shown improvement in all her times," Olson said. "Whitney has a determination of always doing her best — everyday in practice or in competition."

BRYNN MARECKI, SR., LIV. STEVENSON (100 BREST-STROKE): The senior captain and four-year swimmer capped off stellar career with Division 1 state titles in the 100 breaststroke (1:05.13) and 200 IM (lifetime

2007 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING TEAM INDIVIDUAL EVENTS
200 freestyle: 1. Allison Schmitt, Sr., Canton; 2. Monica Blaesser, Sr., Canton
200 individual medley: 1. Ashley Gordon, Soph., Livonia Stevenson; 2. Maggie Carlson, Soph., Canton
50 freestyle: 1. Katie Gorman, Sr., Salem; Alyssa Liakos, Sr., Plymouth
1-meter diving: 1. Carla McNamara, Soph., Stevenson; 2. Katie Koetting, Jr., Salem
100 butterfly: 1. Ashley Sells, Jr., Westland John Glenn; 2. Megan Holycross, Sr., Stevenson
100 freestyle: 1. Laura Timson, Sr., Stevenson; 2. Jordan Burgess, Jr., John Glenn
500 freestyle: 1. Savannah Hatt, Fr., Stevenson; 2. Kaylee Dolinski, Fr., Stevenson
100 backstroke: 1. Whitney Aumiller, Jr., Salem; 2. Kayla Douglas, Fr., Livonia Franklin
100 breaststroke: 1. Brynn Marecki, Sr., Stevenson; 2. Elle Palczynski, Jr., Plymouth
RELAY EVENTS
200 medley: 1. Stevenson (Ashley Gordon, Soph.; Megan Holycross, Sr.; Brynn Marecki, Sr.; Laura Timson, Sr.); 2. John Glenn (Jordan Burgess, Jr.; Khiry Sparks, Fr.; Ashley Sells, Jr.; Casey Peterson, Soph.)
200 freestyle: 1. Canton (Monica Blaesser, Sr.; Maggie Carlson, Soph.; Kari Schmitt, Fr.; Allison Schmitt, Sr.); 2. Stevenson (Blake Holtz, Sr.; Kaylee Dolinski, Fr.; Savannah Hatt, Fr.; Laura Timson, Sr.)
400 freestyle: 1. Stevenson (Laura Timson, Sr.; Ashley Gordon, Soph.; Savannah Hatt, Fr.; Brynn Marecki, Sr.); 2. Canton (Monica Blaesser, Sr.; Maggie Carlson, Soph.; Kari Schmitt, Fr.; Allison Schmitt, Sr.)
COACH OF THE YEAR
 Greg Phill, Livonia Stevenson

best of 2:06.09). In the WLA meet, Marecki captured the 200 freestyle (1:55.35) and 100 breaststroke. She was also MISCA champion in the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke.

Marecki, three-time MVP for the Spartans, broke three pool records at Stevenson. She recently signed with the University of Buffalo.

FIRST-TEAM RELAYS
200 MEDLEY - STEVENSON (ASHLEY GORDON, SOPH.; MEGAN HOLYCROSS, SOPH.; BRYNN MARECKI, SR.; LAURA TIMSON, SR.): The Division 1 state runners-up went 1:49.54 during the prelims.

"This relay swam together for the first time at the state meet," Phill said. "The girls had two great swims to finish second in the state and earn All-American honors."

200 FREESTYLE - CANTON (MONICA BLAESSER, SR.; MAGGIE CARLSON, SOPH.; KARI SCHMITT, FR.; ALLISON SCHMITT, SR.): This foursome set a school record in the event and earned All-State honors at the Division 1 state meet at Eastern Michigan University by placing seventh in 1:40.62.

400 FREESTYLE - STEVENSON (LAURA TIMSON, SR.; ASHLEY GORDON, SOPH.; SAVANNAH HATT, FR.; BRYNN MARECKI, SR.): The Spartans took fourth in the Division 1 state meet with a season-best 3:37.05.

"These four girls really came together when it counted and had two great swims at the state meet," Phill said.

SECOND-TEAM INDIVIDUAL
MONICA BLAESSER, SR., CANTON (200 FREESTYLE): The senior qualified for the Division 1 state meet three straight years and is a pivotal member of two of the school's record-setting relay teams.

"Monica is a natural leader and hard worker," said Weber. "We'll miss her dedication to the team and boundless energy at practice. I want to wish her the best next year as she plans to swim in college."

MAGGIE CARLSON, SOPH., CANTON (200 IM): The sophomore qualified for the Division 1 state meet in both the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke for two consecutive seasons. She's a member of two of the Chiefs' school-record relay teams.

"Maggie is an energetic individual who demonstrates her love for the sport every time she enters the water. Canton is lucky to have her on its side, and I look forward to her accomplishments in the seasons to come."

ALYSSA LIAKOS, SR., PLYMOUTH (50 FREESTYLE): The senior posted the fifth-best time (26.46) in Observerland this fall in the 50-yard freestyle. She was a valuable member of the Wildcats' swimming-and-diving team for the past four seasons, providing both in-the-water skills and out-of-the-pool leadership qualities.

KATIE KOETTING, JR., SALEM (DIVING): The junior was runner-up in the WLA meet (337.00 points) and is a two-time Division 1 state qualifier.

The three-time All-WLAA honoree will be a captain next season for the Rockets.

"Katie has shown she is one of the best divers in the conference, area and state," Olson said. "Katie is an athlete that enjoys practice almost as much as the competition."



Allison Schmitt Canton



Monica Blaesser Canton



Ashley Gordon Stevenson



Maggie Carlson Canton



Katie Gorman Salem



Alyssa Liakos Plymouth



Katie Koetting Salem



Ashley Sells John Glenn



Megan Holycross Stevenson



Laura Timson Stevenson



Jordan Burgess John Glenn



Savannah Hatt Stevenson



Kaylee Dolinski Stevenson



Whitney Aumiller Salem



Kayla Douglas Franklin



Brynn Marecki Stevenson



Ellen Palczynski Plymouth



Khiry Sparks John Glenn



Casey Peterson John Glenn



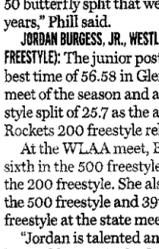
Kari Schmitt Canton



Blake Holtz Stevenson



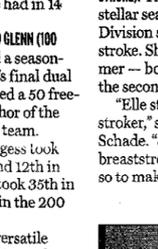
Carla McNamara Stevenson



Elie Palczynski, Jr., Plymouth (100 BREST-STROKE):

The junior captain enjoyed a stellar season, earning a berth at the Division state meet in the 100 breaststroke. She's the first Plymouth swimmer — boys and girls — to advance to the second day of the state meet.

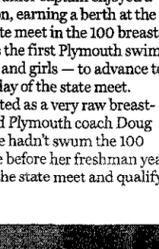
"Elle started as a very raw breast-stroker," said Plymouth coach Doug Schade. "She hadn't swum the 100 breaststroke before her freshman year, so to make the state meet and qualify



Jordan Burgess, Jr., Westland Glenn (100 FREESTYLE):

The junior posted a season-best time of 56.58 in Glenn's final dual meet of the season and added a 50 freestyle split of 25.7 as the anchor of the Rockets 200 freestyle relay team.

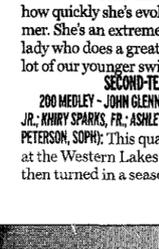
At the WLA meet, Burgess took sixth in the 500 freestyle and 12th in the 200 freestyle. She also took 35th in the 500 freestyle and 39th in the 200 freestyle at the state meet.



Kaylee Dolinski, Fr., Liv. Stevenson (500 FREESTYLE):

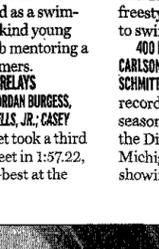
The first-year swimmer wound up 15th overall in the Division 1 state finals (5:15.20 in the prelims) and placed third in the Western Lakes meet.

She also added a fourth in the WLA meet in the 200 freestyle. Her best time in the 200 free was 1:58.87. "Kaylee is another first-year freshman that has been a privilege to coach," Phill said. "And again, being a freshman that scored at the state meet, the next three years will be a lot of fun."



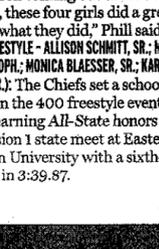
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:00.35

Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 1:00.37
 Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:00.61
 Ashley Gordon (Salem) 1:00.63
 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:02.53
 Emily Nelson (Salem) 1:03.42
 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:03.47
 Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:03.52
 Natalie Cote (Franklin) 1:05.25
 Charlotte Buckley (Stevenson) 1:05.57



Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:15.01

Khiry Sparks (John Glenn) 1:15.56
400 FREESTYLE RELAY
 Livonia Stevenson 3:37.05
 Canton 3:39.87
 Salem 3:48.32
 Westland John Glenn 3:53.25
 Livonia Franklin 3:54.97



Savannah Hatt (Stevenson) 1:56.25

With all four girls returning next season, look for the Rockets to improve on their 19th-place state meet finish. **200 FREESTYLE - STEVENSON (BLAKE HOLTZ, SR.; KAYLEE DOLINSKI, FR.; SAVANNAH HATT, FR.; LAURA TIMSON, SR.):** This foursome earned a third-place finish at the WLA meet with a season-best clocking of 1:44.09.

"With only one real sprinter among the four, and with Dolinski, Hatt and Timson coming out of the 500 freestyle, these four girls did a great job to swim what they did," Phill said.

400 FREESTYLE - ALLISON SCHMITT, SR.; MAGGIE CARLSON, SOPH.; MONICA BLAESSER, SR.; KARI SCHMITT, FR.): The Chiefs set a school record in the 400 freestyle event this season, earning All-State honors at the Division 1 state meet at Eastern Michigan University with a sixth-place showing in 3:39.87.

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2007 OBSERVERLAND GIRLS BEST SWIM TIMES

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY Livonia Stevenson 1:48.93 Westland John Glenn 1:56.25 Salem 1:58.36 Canton 1:58.53 Livonia Ladywood 2:00.61 200 FREESTYLE Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:46.25 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 1:55.35 Savannah Hatt (Stevenson) 1:57.83 Kaylee Dolinski (Stevenson) 1:58.87 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:58.94 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:59.71 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:01.29 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 2:01.90 Natalie Cote (Franklin) 2:02.60 Maggie Carlson (Canton) 2:04.58 200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 2:06.09 Allison Schmitt (Canton) 2:07.77 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 2:09.58 Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 2:12.99 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 2:14.13 Maggie Carlson (Canton) 2:14.74 Emily Nelson (Salem) 2:18.00 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 2:20.83 Catherine Irwin (Canton) 2:21.29 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:21.74 50 FREESTYLE Allison Schmitt (Canton) 24.16 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 25.25 Katie Gorman (Salem) 26.28 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 25.56 Alyssa Liakos (Plymouth) 26.46 Blake Holtz (Stevenson) 26.48 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 26.57 Khiry Sparks (Stevenson) 26.57 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 26.62 Natalie Cote (Franklin) 26.75	1-METER DIVING (11 DIVES) Carla McNamara (Stevenson) 337.00 Katie Koetting (Salem) 357.00 Katrina St. Pierre (Churchill) 293.70 Desiree Clenney (John Glenn) 282.80 Robyn Piowar (Canton) 255.40 Kailea Stancer (Churchill) 242.45 Allison Spitzley (Ladywood) 310.85 Jennie Humbach (John Glenn) 222.50 Katy Harris (John Glenn) 221.10 Tara Mlynarek (Churchill) 209.70 100 BUTTERFLY Allison Schmitt (Canton) 57.28 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 58.71 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:01.69 Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:03.04 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 1:03.45 Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 1:04.35 Catherine Irwin (Canton) 1:05.19 Katie Gorman (Salem) 1:05.47 Khiry Sparks (John Glenn) 1:06.15 Emily Bair (Salem) 1:06.27 100 FREESTYLE Allison Schmitt (Canton) 50.46 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 53.67 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 53.92 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 56.58 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 57.04 Michelle Chang (Plymouth) 57.16 Kari Schmitt (Canton) 57.29 Blake Holtz (Stevenson) 57.48 Katie Gorman (Salem) 57.46 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 57.56 500 FREESTYLE Allison Schmitt (Canton) 4:47.46 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 5:08.21 Savannah Hatt (Stevenson) 5:08.66 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 5:11.13 Kaylee Dolinski (Stevenson) 5:15.20	Monica Blaesser (Canton) 5:25.49 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 5:26.08 Silja Hio (Plymouth) 5:27.46 Natalie Cote (Franklin) 5:27.89 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 5:28.16 200 FREESTYLE RELAY Canton 1:40.62 Livonia Stevenson 1:44.09 Salem 1:45.53 Plymouth 1:45.79 Livonia Franklin 1:46.67 100 BACKSTROKE Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:00.35 Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 1:00.37 Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:00.61 Ashley Gordon (Salem) 1:00.63 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:02.53 Emily Nelson (Salem) 1:03.42 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:03.47 Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:03.52 Natalie Cote (Franklin) 1:05.25 Charlotte Buckley (Stevenson) 1:05.57 100 BRESTSTROKE Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 1:05.13 Elle Palczynski (Plymouth) 1:09.52 Maggie Carlson (Canton) 1:10.50 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:11.56 Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:11.73 Casey Peterson (John Glenn) 1:13.81 Kayla Perchall (Stevenson) 1:14.16 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:14.37 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 1:15.01 Khiry Sparks (John Glenn) 1:15.56 400 FREESTYLE RELAY Livonia Stevenson 3:37.05 Canton 3:39.87 Salem 3:48.32 Westland John Glenn 3:53.25 Livonia Franklin 3:54.97
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Holiday Extravaganza!

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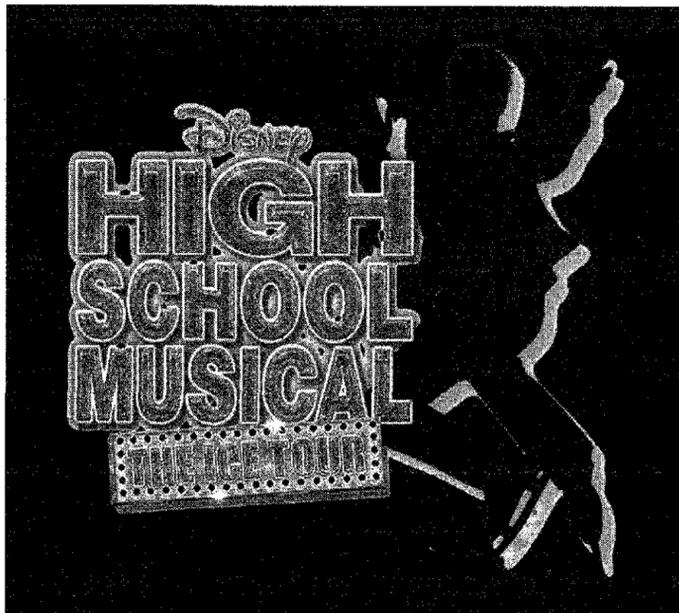
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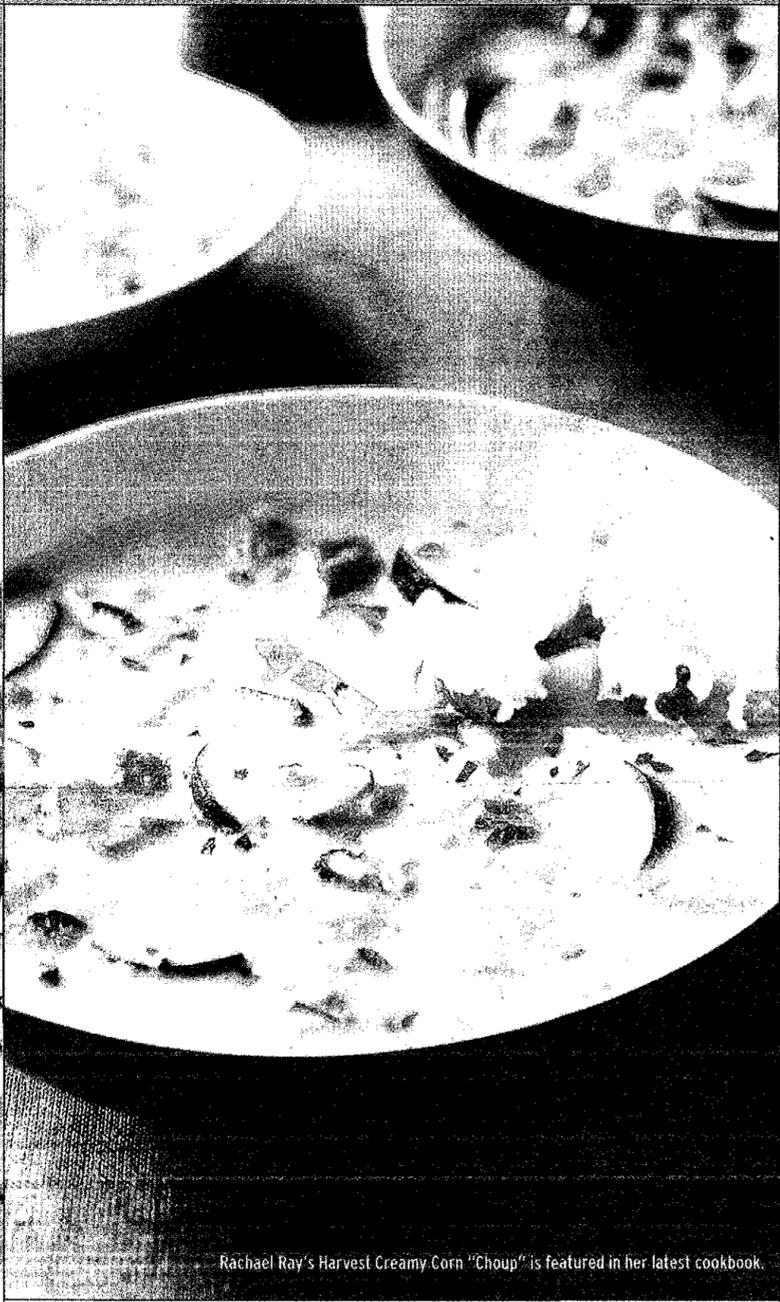
Rachael Ray's cookbook comes 'Just in Time' for holidays



Rachael Ray will sign copies of her new book next Thursday at Borders Birmingham.



Rachael Ray's Harvest Creamy Corn "Choup" is featured in her latest cookbook.



MEET RACHAEL RAY
What: Meet Emmy-award winning TV personality and author Rachael Ray, host of her own talk show and the Food Network series "30 Minute Meals" and "Rachael Ray's Tasty Travels." She'll autograph her latest book, "Just in Time."
When: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20.
Where: Borders Books & Music, 34300 Woodward Ave., Birmingham
More information: To secure a place in line be sure to get a wristband from a Borders staff member. They will begin handing wristbands out at 8 a.m. on Dec. 20. Call (248) 203-0005.

Try Rachael's Greek Mixed Grill Kebabs, featured in "Just in Time."

Rachael Ray earned her stripes in the kitchen and became a household name showing off her culinary skills on such Food Network favorites as *30 Minute Meals* and *\$40 a Day*.

The Emmy-award winner now hosts her own syndicated talk show, *Rachael Ray*, and has successfully launched the magazine *Every Day with Rachael Ray*. She continues to host two Food Network series, the aforementioned *30 Minute Meals* and *Rachael Ray's Tasty Travels*.

Over the years Ray has written a series of cookbooks based on her well-honed 30 Minute concept for people on the go. Her latest book marks a slight departure from that idea.

Just in Time offers super-simple recipes for those who have even a little time to cook, as well as some double duty dishes for days when it's possible to spend more time in the kitchen. Fans will notice plenty of Rachael-isms in *Just in Time*. From healthy doses of her must-have ingredient EVOO (extra virgin olive oil), to soups so thick and hearty she calls them "choup."

We've included a few of the more mouth-watering moments from the book in anticipation of Ray's Birmingham book signing, and just in time for the holidays.

By Stephanie A. Casola

Fifteen minutes

GNOCCHI WITH SPINACH AND GORGONZOLA

- 2 (10-ounce) boxes frozen chopped spinach
- Salt
- 2 (14- to 16-ounce) packages fresh gnocchi
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/4 cup EVOO (extra-virgin olive oil), 4 times around the pan
- 3 to 4 garlic cloves, grated or finely chopped
- Black pepper
- 1 cup chicken stock
- 8 ounces Gorgonzola cheese, crumbled

To defrost the spinach, place it on a plate and microwave on high for 5 minutes. Wring it dry in a clean kitchen towel and set aside.

Bring a large pot of water to a boil for the gnocchi and season it liberally with salt. Cut open the gnocchi packages and set aside. Place the walnuts in a small skillet and toss over medium-low heat for 3 to 4 minutes until toasted and fragrant.

In a deep skillet, heat the EVOO over medium heat. Add the garlic to the warm oil, then add the spinach, separating the clumps as you add it to the garlic oil. Season the spinach with salt and pepper, add the stock, and bring to a bubble over medium heat. Add the Gorgonzola to the spinach and stir until it melts.

While the spinach heats, cook the gnocchi in the boiling water for 2 to 3 minutes, or until they float to the surface. Drain, then add to the spinach and toss for 1 minute to coat, then adjust the seasonings. Serve the gnocchi topped with the toasted walnuts.

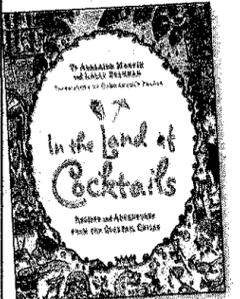
Thirty minute meals

GREEK MIXED GRILL KEBABS AND PINE NUT ORZO SALAD

- Salt
- 1/2 pound orzo pasta
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 fresh oregano sprigs, leaves stripped and finely chopped
- 6 fresh rosemary sprigs, leaves stripped and finely chopped
- 1/2 cup green olive tapenade
- 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- zest and juice of 2 lemons
- 1/2 cup plus 1/4 cup of extra virgin olive oil (EVOO)
- 1/2 pound firm white-fleshed fish, like halibut or

Please see **RECIPES, D4**

ACCENTS



AN EGGNOG TO REMEMBER

Need ideas for your cocktail lineup this holiday season? Check out Ti Adelaide Martin and Lally Brennan's "In the Land of Cocktails," an amusing collection of recipes and stories from the family that gave us New Orleans' famous Commander's Palace restaurant.

This eggnog recipe packs serious punch; you might start with 1/4 cup of Southern Comfort, then add more according to your taste.

EGGNOG COUPE DE MILIEU

Start to finish: 2 hours (10 minutes active) Serves 6-8.

- 2 medium eggs
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 cup sugar
- Pinch ground cinnamon
- 1/2 cup Southern Comfort
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Grated nutmeg, for garnish

Bring about an inch of water to a simmer in the bottom half of a double boiler.

While the water heats, in the top half of the boiler combine the eggs, heavy cream, sugar and cinnamon. Place the top half over the simmering water and whisk until thick and frothy, about 6 to 8 minutes.

Pour the mixture through a mesh strained into a bowl. Refrigerate until chilled like custard, about 2 hours. When cold, whisk in the Southern Comfort and vanilla. Divide among chilled shot glasses and garnish with freshly grated nutmeg.

Compiled by AP Food Writer J.M. Hirsch; Recipe from Ti Adelaide Martin and Lally Brennan's "In the Land of Cocktails," William Morrow, 2007, \$19.95.

Three more gadgets to end 2007 on a happy note

Still can't find the perfect gift for the gadget lover in your life? Perhaps you've got some gift cards burning a hole in your pocket. Whatever the case, check out this final batch of 2007 hardware from my happy holiday closet. Wow, there's some good stuff in there.



Tech Savvy
Rick Broida

THE \$99 VIDEO PHONE

Okay, not really a video phone, but rather a webcam, which can accomplish more or less the same thing.

Specifically, webcams allow you make Jetsonian video phone calls to faraway friends and relatives. The camera mounts atop your desk or monitor; software connects you to the other party (who will also need a webcam, of course, along with a broadband Internet connection).

I recently tested webcams from five different manufacturers, including Creative and Microsoft. They all worked reasonably well, but there was definitely a stand-out: the Logitech QuickCam Pro 9000.

Though priced on the high side at \$99, it produced far and away the highest-quality video of the five webcams. I also found it admirably easy to use, with smartly designed software and some fun video effects.

It comes with a built-in microphone, of course, so you really can have two-way video chats with your loved ones. I highly recommend using SightSpeed (sightspeed.com), a free program that makes video calling grandma-friendly.

THE \$150 MP3 PLAYER

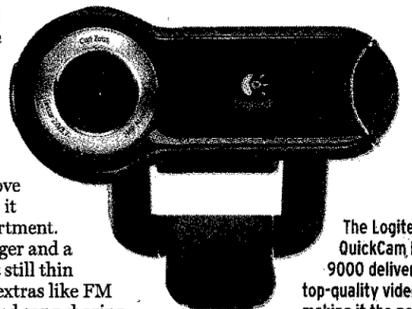
Okay, so you've got \$150 to spend on a new MP3 player. Three choices: the Apple iPod Nano (\$149), Creative Zen (\$129.99), or Microsoft Zune (\$149.99).

They're all great players, all equipped with 4GB of storage space (enough to hold about 1,000 songs) and bright color screens. You really can't go wrong with any of them.

That said, I have a favorite. It's not the Nano: Much as I love its elegant, wafer-thin design, it falls short in the feature department.

Microsoft's new Zune is longer and a bit thicker than the Nano, but still thin and pretty, and stocked with extras like FM radio and Wi-Fi for syncing and song sharing.

Unfortunately, Microsoft still doesn't offer TV shows or movies, so the beautiful screen goes largely to



The Logitech QuickCam Pro 9000 delivers top-quality video, making it the perfect webcam for video chats with far-flung friends and relatives.

Please see **BROIDA, D4**



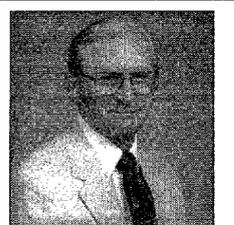
Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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BETTY JANE FELKER
Age 85, formerly of Farmington, MI. Passed December 7, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

DANIEL C. MCKENZIE
Age 68, formerly of Detroit, MI. Passed December 8, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



DONAT RENE LECLAIR

"Don", beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend, died peacefully at home on Saturday, December 8, 2007 with his family, at the age of 88. He was a resident of Fairfield Glade, TN and an active member of the St Francis of Assisi parish community. Donat was preceded in death by his parents, Donat and Marie (Gelinas) Leclair and nine siblings, all from New Bedford, MA, where Don lived as a child. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Barbara (Mealiff), originally of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, their two sons, Donat Jr (fiancee Barbara) of Plymouth, MI and Stephen (Genji) of Chicago, IL, and their three daughters, Jeanne Lappin (Robert) of Gaithersburg, MD, Christine Corriveau (Thomas) of Orlando Park, IL and Elizabeth Leclair of Marlton, New Jersey. Mr. Leclair will also be missed by his eighteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren that he leaves behind. Don was a veteran of World War II serving in the US Army Air Corp as a Lt and navigator; his plane was shot down and he became a POW in Roumania. Later, after returning home from the war, he attended and graduated from Georgetown University, Washington, D. C. A former resident of Plymouth, MI, Mr. Leclair retired from the Ford Motor Company in 1980. A mass of the Resurrection will be held at St. Francis on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 10 a.m. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Hospice of Cumberland County, 30 E. Adams St., Crossville 38555.

FREDERICK CHARLES, (FRITZ) GRAUNSTADT

Of Westland, December 10, 2007. Age 76. Beloved husband of 55 years to Delores. Devoted father of Ron (Cheryl), Michael (Julie) and Linda (Richard) Blaszczyk. Loving Papa to Andrea, Tracy and Erica Graunstadt, Emily (Joe) Viger and Laura Graunstadt, Audrey, Joey and Lucas Blaszczyk. Dearest great-grandfather to Michael Joseph Viger. Survived by one sister, Mae Ristau, several brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law and many nieces and nephews. Visitation at L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Rd., Westland, MI Wednesday, Family hour 4pm and general visitation from 5 - 9pm. Thursday, Visitation noon - to 9pm. Friday, Funeral Service 11am in L.J. Griffin Chapel. Private interment at White Chapel Cemetery.



JAMES M. KENDALL

Of Birmingham age 84 December 7, 2007. Beloved husband of Dorothy "Dottie". Devoted father of Laurie Kendall, James II (Leslie), Amy (Mark) Flanagan and Beth Kendall. Cherished grandfather of James III "Mac", Jacqueline, Jennifer, Isabelle and Erinn. Brother of Jeanne Cartwright. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Memorial Service at North Congregational Church, 36520 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Saturday 11am. Visitation at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 1368 N. Crooks Rd. (between 14-15 Mile Rds) Thursday 2-9pm. Memorials appreciated to North Congregational Church or Cambridge North Nursing Home, 535 N. Main Street, Clawson, MI 48017.

Obituary and condolences at lynchfuneraldirectors.com



JOHN KAPANOWSKI
1947-2002

It's been five years since you left us. We still love & miss you every day!
Judy, daughter Shannon & grandson Josh & Nick



MARY ANN DuBAY

of Troy, Michigan, passed away on December 7, 2007. Beloved wife of Dennis. Dear and proud mother of Michael (Sarah), Karen Holt (Brian), and Anne Healy (Thomas). Loving grandmother of Brendan, Lauren and Daniel Holt; Catherine and Charlotte DuBay and Thomas Healy. Dear sister of Robert Sweeney (Joyce), Susan Steele (Art), Frank Sweeney (Carol), Kathleen Bulger (Michael), Maureen MacGillivray and Margaret Fellingner (Jamie). Dear sister-in-law of Terry DuBay (Sue), Mark DuBay (Margie), Candy DuBay, Connie Peterson (Jim), and Philip DuBay (Sue). Mary Ann is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews and her many dear friends. Mary Ann always shared her joyous enthusiasm for life with all who knew her. Her exuberance, sparkling personality and warm sense of humor will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. Mary Ann was born to Robert and Marie Sweeney on June 14, 1946 in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. After graduating from Sacred Heart Academy, she attended Aquinas College from which she graduated with honors in 1968. She married Dennis on August 10, 1968 and taught at St. Francis in Ann Arbor for three years before moving to Troy in 1972. Mary Ann was active in many volunteer organizations and served as President of the Troy Junior Women and the Marian Mothers' Club. Mary Ann was an avid tennis player and especially enjoyed golf. Mary Ann coached girls' soccer in the Troy Youth Soccer League for many years and her travel teams won three Michigan State Cup Championships. She loved to travel and especially enjoyed her trips to Greece and Ireland. Mary Ann cherished being with her family and friends and enjoyed being at the family cottage, playing the piano, singing and dancing. A Funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, December 11 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Troy. Memorials may be sent to The Mary Ann DuBay Scholarship Fund at Marian High School, 7225 Lahser Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48301 or to The Karmanos Cancer Institute, Development Office, 4100 John R, Detroit, Michigan 48201. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

KARIN E. CLANCY

Age 83, of Northville Twp. MI. Passed December 7, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



MARILYN B. JOHNSON

December 9, 2007. Loving wife of Paul H. Loving mother of Colleen (Drew) Wolford, Kevin and Karen (Scott) Melby. Sister of Virginia (Frank) Leedy. Also survived by 14 grandchildren. Marilyn was an active member of the Highland Park Baptist Church of Southfield, where she served the Lord in many volunteer capacities, including as the church librarian for many years. She was a dedicated genealogist. She and her husband made over 20 trips to England, tracing her ancestry to the year 1065. She is a descendant of King Henry II. She was also an active member of the Birmingham chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She will be remembered as a gourmet cook and gracious hostess. Her entire life has been one of service, first to the Lord, then to her husband, children and grandchildren. A Funeral Service was held on Wednesday at Highland Park Baptist Church. Visitation was at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home in Royal Oak with R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be directed to Moody Bible Institute, 820 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, IL 60610. Please sign the online guestbook at www.rgrharris.com. For further information please call 734-422-6720.



ROBERT A. VAN DYKE, JR.

TRAVERSE CITY - Robert A. "Rob" VanDyke, Jr., 47, of Traverse City, formerly of Livonia, died unexpectedly December 10, 2007. Rob is survived by his wife Ann (Dreves); his sons, Scott and Paul; his mother, Joan VanDyke; sisters, Lea (Gary) Wood and Gair Van Dyke; his mother and father in law, Carl and Lorraine Dreves and the entire Dreves family, along with many nieces and nephews. Visitation will take place from 6 until 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13 at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, Traverse City. Services will be held Friday, Dec. 14 at 11 a.m. at Immanuel Baptist Church, 1027 McRea Hill Road, Traverse City. Rather than flowers, the family would ask that a more lasting memorial would be The VanDyke Children College Fund, c/o Members Credit Union, 3745 N. US 31 South, Traverse City, Michigan 49684.



TODD R. SUMMERS

Of Howell, formerly of Redford passed suddenly, December 8, 2007, age 45. Survived by Michael, Kate, ex-wife Amy, and his parents: Beloved son of Janice (of Redford) and Robert (of Howell), and much-loved brother of Cyndi (Rick Neilson) and Jim. Born June 27, 1962, Todd was a warm and witty man who worked hard to build a business and provide for his family, whom he loved deeply. Also survived by many good friends. Funeral services were held at MacDonald's Funeral Home, 315 North Michigan Ave., Howell, 48843. Donations to the family in lieu of flowers.

RUTH M. "DOLLY" RUDNIK

Age 97, December 7, 2007. Wife of the late Stanley. Mother of Barbara (Don) Harp. Grandmother of Laura (Dean) Fordham, Susan (Dr. Robert) Anderson and Janis (Robert) Evans. Great grandmother of Ryan (Karen) Fordham, Staci Fordham, Nicole and Ben Russell. Great great grandmother of Marisa Fordham. Memorials may be made in Dolly's honor to the charity of the donor's choice.



OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 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 oeobits@hometownlife.com

or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232

For more information call: Charolette Wilson 734-953-2070

or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067

or toll free 866-818-7653

ask for Char or Liz

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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

DECEMBER

Single Place

Make It, Bake It, Fix It, Sew It Holiday Silent Auction Thursday, Dec. 13, proceeds go to Single Place Ministry at First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Bring in items between 6-6:30 p.m. for auction at 7 p.m. Items may include crafts, artwork, woodworking projects, baked good, or donations such as handyman or home-making skills or home cooked meals. No admission. Questions, call Nancy at (734) 459-7235.

Activities continue Dec. 20 with dinner, caroling and Afterglow beginning with dinner 6 p.m. in the St. Mary Mercy Hospital cafeteria in Livonia. Meet in a room off the cafeteria to practice at 6:45 p.m. To sign up, call (248) 349-0911 or at Single Place at the church. Old Fashioned Hootenanny concert with Bob Allwine Thursday, Dec. 27. Single Place meets Thursdays at the church, 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program. Cost is \$5 per person.

Reformed Protestant services
The doctrines and teachings of Reformed Protestantism will be preached 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at a worship service of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing) at the Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. Rev. Sean Humby of Ohio will preach. For more information, call Margaret Waldecker at (313) 530-6170 or Humby at (937) 252-1156, or visit www.westminsterconfession.org. Weekly Sunday services will begin on Jan. 6.

Cookie walk and bake sale
10 a.m. till sold out Saturday, Dec. 15, at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Christmas cookies of all varieties will be available for sale by the pound along with various bake sale items.

Boar's Head Festival of Music
Ancient processional celebrating Epiphany presented by Cherry Hills Presbyterian Church with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra and Dearborn High School's Choral Group 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, and 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at the church, 24110 Cherry Hill at Telegraph, Dearborn. Tickets are free but a free will offering will be accepted. Advance tickets are recommended. Call (313) 563-4800. The interdenominational experience features the Christmas story, the Yule procession and trimming of the hall.

Stranger in the Manger
The Jesus Jammers choir performs a Dr. Seuss style musical about the birth of Jesus 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722.

Advent services
6 p.m. Sunday evenings in December at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org

Worship
Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship Service with nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for tots through high school and Adult Faith Forum at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Visitors welcome.

Caroling
Join us 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, to go to Heartland University for caroling. We will then meet back at the church for a Hot Soup Buffet and more caroling at the church, Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, north of I-96, Livonia. For information, call (734) 522-3570.

Messiah
A special presentation of Messiah by G.F. Handel under the direction of Tim Schoenherr, 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills. Concert features The Orchard United Methodist Church Chancel Choir accompanied by local musicians in a full Baroque orchestra and solo vocalists from the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance. The presentation includes favorite choruses from the Christmas portion, such as "And the Glory of the Lord" and "For Unto Us A Child is Born", and concludes with "Hallelujah," a gospel version of the Hallelujah Chorus. For more information, call (248) 626-3620. Everyone is invited to join in this celebration.

Christmas concert
Sing Out is scheduled for 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, on Warren Rd. in Canton. The concert features selections by two parish chorales as well as skits performed by St. John Neumann volunteers (the SJN Players). There will also be sing-alongs for the audience.

Mystery of the Manger
Victory Voices Choir performs Christmas musical 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722.

Choir cantata
Mt. Vernon Baptist Church presents a Christmas choir cantata, One Small Child, 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at the church,

8828 Wormer, Redford. Everyone is welcome. Call (313) 537-7480.

A Christmas flourish

A celebration of the season featuring a concert by the Birmingham Concert band and the choir of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, in the sanctuary of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple, Birmingham. No charge but donations to the Band's Music Scholarship Fund are appreciated.

New schedule

9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Christmas Eve services

4:30 p.m. Family Service Candlelight, and 7:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. Candlelight Service Monday, Dec. 24, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Christmas Eve service

The Anglican Church of Livonia will hold a Christmas Eve service 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, at the Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive.

Christmas Eve worship

5 p.m. Children/Family service, 7 p.m. Lessons & Carols and Candlelight, and 11 p.m. Festival Worship and Candlelight Monday, Dec. 24, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 422-0149.

Candlelight service

A special service of singing and worship 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, at Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, north of I-96, Livonia. For information, call (734) 522-3570.

Christmas Eve service

7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722.

Day of service

Beginning in January, a Day of Service and Spirituality will be made available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center. The purpose of the day is to serve, to meet, and to have one's faith grow. The day allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dine with guests at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. A tour of the Earth Works urban garden, which provides six tons of produce each season, will also be made available. The day concludes with a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is 7th grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For more information, send e-mail to ccrane@thecapuchins.org.

To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit.org.

MOPS meetings

The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall at a new time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Laverne, Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information, call (248) 470-5202 or send e-mail to nikki.tiernan@gmail.com.

Bible studies

Regular Bible Study program continues at 7 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month, focus is on St. Paul's Letters to the Romans, at St. Michael's Catholic Church on the corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

MOPS groups

Mothers of Preschoolers meets on the first and third Friday mornings or first and third Wednesday evenings at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. For information, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com.

LOGOS Youth Club

Calling all youth grades 4-12 to join the LOGOS Youth Club at Northville First United Methodist Church. Recreation, dinner, Bible study and music Wednesdays, 5:15-8:15 p.m. began Wednesday, Sept. 26. For information or registration, visit www.fumcnorthville.org or call (248) 349-1144.

HeartCry

The support group provides hope and help for mothers of prodigals at 7 p.m. on the second, fourth and fifth Wednesdays of each month, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. The group is using the book, The Hope of a Homecoming, by O'Rourke and Sauer (\$12). For information or to register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4.

Women of the word

Bible study meets 9:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Tuesdays, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. Choose from Covenant, a Precept Upon Precept class, or The Truth Project (new from Focus on the Family). To register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4 or visit www.vchurches.com/cbcwomen.

Bible study

Get a new life, study Scripture 9:10-10:30 a.m. Saturdays at Blessed Sacrament Monastery on the north-west corner of 13 Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Focus of study is Romans. Come once or more often. Call (248) 626-8253 for more information.

Fellowship Dinners

6 p.m. Thursdays. Dinner catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro. \$6. At St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Thrift Shop

9:30-11:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. It is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Loving and caring programs are offered for toddler, preschool, pre-K, and child care. Call (734) 513-8413.

Morning prayers

7:30 a.m. Tuesday-Friday, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware, corner of Puritan, Redford. Please join in as participants start day with prayer. Call (313) 255-6330.

Regular church service

10 a.m. Sundays with Communion and Nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and Faith

Forum, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. All visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Sunday worship

11 a.m. Sunday worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Rd. at Hunter, Westland. For information, call (734) 721-0800.

Worship services

10 a.m. Sundays Divine Liturgy followed by a fellowship/coffee time, at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, between Newburgh and Wayne roads, Livonia. Church school for children and adults begins at 9 a.m. Sunday. Vespers are celebrated 5 p.m. Saturdays. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call (248) 476-3432 (church), (248) 477-4712 (rectory) or Web site at www.orthodoxlivonia.org.

Singers wanted

Riverside Park Church of God is looking for voices to join their choir. For more information, call (734) 464-0990.

Pancake breakfasts

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continue their 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts on the third Sunday of each month from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The breakfasts are served in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road. Adults, \$5; children ages 4-11, \$3; children under age 3, free; and family (2 adults and all children), \$15. Everyone is welcome.

Men's breakfast

Ham & eggs, hash browns, pancakes, and more when you come to the Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at The Senate Restaurant, located off Haggerty Road between Five Mile and Six Mile in Northville. All men are invited for fellowship and food. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

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The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall at a new time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Laverne, Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information, call (248) 470-5202 or send e-mail to nikki.tiernan@gmail.com.

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Morning prayers

RELIGION

FROM PAGE D2

J.O.Y. meeting
The J.O.Y. Builders (Just Older Youth, ages 50 plus) meet 11:30 a.m. the third Thursday of the month for lunch, fellowship and fun, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth roads, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. All are welcome to join in. There is no charge, although organizers ask that you bring a luncheon dish to share.

Higher Rock Cafe
Second and fourth Friday of the month, doors open at 7:30 p.m., live bands begin at 8 p.m., presented by Salvation Army of Wayne/Westland, 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Avenue and Palmer. For information, call (734) 722-3660 or visit www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com.

Uplifting church services
Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service. An open discus-

sion 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Classes available for all ages, child to adult. Riverside Park Church of God is at 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

Worship service
10 a.m. Sundays, at The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. Sunday School for children. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Youth wanted
Twins and teens age 12 and up are invited to join in various youth activities held at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Come to one of the regular classes on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. or Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For details, call (734) 464-0990.

A healthy you
Join with others as you discover ways to keep minds and bodies healthy through a four-week class that is open to the public and free of charge at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Day and night classes available. To register, call (734) 464-0990.

Sunday worship

10 a.m. at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Sunday services
Pastor Dan Strength leads services at Living Water Church (Pentecostal Church of God), 11663 Arcoia, one block west of Inkster Road on Plymouth Road. Sunday School is 10 a.m. followed by worship at 11 a.m. Bible study 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Call (734) 425-6360.

Farmington Women Aglow
Meets the second Monday of each month 7-9:30 p.m. at the Longacre House on Farmington road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call Vikki for more information at (248) 497-7755. Farmington Aglow is a Christian women's groups.

Worship services
Sunday worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For more information, call (734) 637-8160. Sunday school and Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study series: Heaven Can't Wait.

Worship services
Praise and worship 10 a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 Wayne Road and Hunter, Westland. Contemporary music and casual dress. Children church and nursery. Call (734) 254-0093. Doughnuts and coffee served.

Celebrate Recovery
Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from their hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday evening for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate.

Sunday service
All are welcome to attend wor-

ship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Worship service
At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from I Peter. Call (313) 255-6330.

Adult literacy classes
Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those wishing to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to adults age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening. For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

Personal ministry
Due Season Christian Church is a nondenominational, multicultural,

full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

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

TOPS
Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight and keep it off. Call Margaret at (734) 838-0322.

Learner's Bible study
At 7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST

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11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
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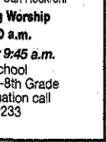
Pastor: Dr. John Grenfell III
Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road)
(734) 453-5280
www.pfumc.org

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The WMU2 Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org

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Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0880
Pastor: **Eddie Petreca**
Meetings on Saturdays for:
Early Morning Bible & Health Class-8 a.m.
Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m.
Sabbath School (all ages)-11:00 a.m.
Worship Service-Hispanic-12:30 p.m.
Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting-7 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0970
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
734-453-0970

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website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org

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St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
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MASS: Tues. 7 p. Wed., Thurs. 9 a. Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a

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Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
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Livonia • 427-2290
Jill Hegdal, Pastor
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For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.

To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

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RECIPES

FROM PAGE D1

swordfish cut into 12 2-inch chunks
2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breast cut into 12 2-inch chunks
Black pepper
1 small red onion, finely chopped
1/2 cup fresh flat-leafed parsley, finely chopped
1 cup feta cheese crumbles
1/2 cup kalamata olives, chopped
2 tomatoes, diced
1/2 seedless cucumber, diced
1/2 cup pine nuts, lightly toasted in dry skillet 3 to 4 minutes

Preheat grill pan or outdoor grill to medium high. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Salt the water. Add orzo and cook al dente.

While pasta works, combine the garlic, oregano, rosemary, tapenade, red pepper flakes, 1 tablespoon lemon zest and the juice of one lemon with 1/2 cup EVOO in a small bowl. Place the fish and chicken in separate shallow dishes or bowls and season with salt and pepper. Divide the dressing between the bowls and turn the fish and chicken to coat evenly. Skewer the fish and chicken on metal skewers. Grill the fish for 6 to 8 minutes and the chicken for 10 to 12 minutes or until firm and juices run clear, turning the kebabs frequently. Drain the orzo and combine in a mixing bowl with the onions, parsley, feta, olives, tomatoes, cucumbers, pine nuts, the juice of 1 lemon, 1/2 cup EVOO, and the salt and pepper. Serve the orzo salad with three pieces each of chicken and fish alongside. Garnish each plate with a couple of hot peppers.

HARVEST CREAMY CORN "CHOU"

2 tablespoons EVOO
4 bacon slices, chopped
1 onion, chopped
4 to 5 large ears of corn, cut off the cob or 1 10-ounce box frozen corn
1 medium or 2 small zucchini, chopped
1 pound small potatoes, chopped
1/2 red bell pepper, seeded and chopped
1 bay leaf
5 to 6 fresh thyme sprigs
1 teaspoon paprika
Salt and black pepper
3 tablespoons all purpose flour
1 quart chicken stock
1 cup milk
1 cup heavy cream
1/2 cup fresh flat-leaf parsley, a couple of generous handfuls chopped
a few dashes of hot sauce, to taste
Oyster crackers or white cheddar popcorn to pass at the table

Heat the EVOO in a medium soup pot over medium high heat. Add the bacon to the hot oil and

cook until crisp at the edges, 2 to 3 minutes. Add the onions, corn, zucchini, potatoes, and bell pepper as you get them chopped. Add the bay leaf, thyme sprigs, paprika, and salt and pepper to taste. Cook for 7 to 8 minutes until the vegetables begin to soften. Sprinkle flour around the pot and stir and cook for 1 minute. Then stir in the stock and bring it up to a bubble. When it thickens up a bit, stir in the cream, milk and parsley and simmer for 5 minutes. Turn off the heat and discard the bay leaf. Season the choup with salt, pepper, and hot sauce to taste and serve with crackers or popcorn to float on top.

Sixty minutes

OVEN-ROASTED CIOPPINO

4 celery ribs, sliced on a long angle
1 large fennel bulb, cored and thinly sliced, 1/4 cup fennel fronds reserved
2 medium onions, thinly sliced
4 large garlic cloves, chopped
1 teaspoon red pepper flakes
1 cup fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves
Salt and black pepper
1/2 cup EVOO (extra-virgin olive oil)
1 cup dry white wine
1 cup seafood stock or chicken stock
1 (28-ounce) can crushed tomatoes
2 pounds fresh cod, cut into 2-inch chunks
12 jumbo sea scallops
12 jumbo shrimp, peeled or not, as you prefer
1 loaf crusty bread
Zest of 1 orange

Preheat the oven to 425°F.

In a large roaster or casserole combine the celery, fennel, onions, garlic, red pepper flakes, and a couple of handfuls of the parsley. Dress the vegetables with salt and pepper and about 1/4 cup of the EVOO. Add the wine, stock, and crushed tomatoes. Season the seafood with salt and pepper; nestle the fish, scallops, and shrimp among the vegetables; and pour the remaining 1/4 cup of EVOO over the top. Roast uncovered until the cod is cooked through, 40 to 45 minutes. At the midway point, ladle some of the liquids over the seafood to keep the top moist.

Cut or tear the bread into large chunks. Place them on a baking sheet and toast in the oven until lightly charred, 8 minutes or so.

While the bread is toasting, chop the remaining parsley together with the orange zest and reserved fennel fronds to create a gremolata garnish.

Serve the cioppino in large bowls topped with the gremolata, with the charred bread chunks for dunking.

Recipes from "Just in Time" are courtesy of The Crown Publishing Group; Random House, Inc.

BROIDA

FROM PAGE D1

waste. The clear winner here is the Zen, which includes the largest screen of the three (2.5 inches), an SD slot for adding more storage, an FM tuner, support for TV and movie downloads, and compatibility with several music-subscription services. All this for \$20 less than the competition. No contest.

THE \$1,199 HOME THEATER

What's better than a 50-inch plasma? How about a screen that spans 10 feet? The Epson MovieMate 72 turns just about any room of the house into a giant-screen home theater.

It's an HD projector with a built-in DVD player and speakers. Plug it in, point it at an empty wall, and pop some popcorn. Sorry if I sound like a marketing brochure; it's only because this thing is such a delight to have in the house.

The MovieMate can churn out 720p video when connected to a high-definition source (like your cable box). Alas, its DVD player doesn't support Blu-ray or HD-DVD discs, but it does "upconvert" standard DVDs. In other words, it makes your old movies look much better than they would if you watched them on an ordinary DVD player.

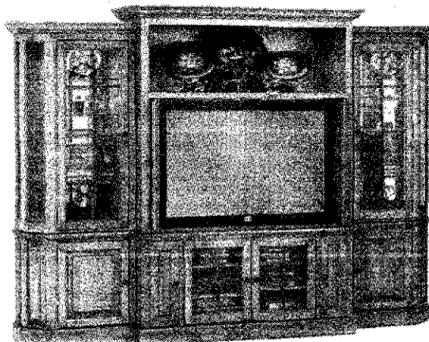
The projector features an HDMI interface for connecting a cable box, TiVo HD, Xbox 360, or just about any other high-end video source. It also has analog inputs for other sources, like older TiVos and Xboxes.

Videogames, movies, TV shows—everything looks phenomenal. I can't wait to use the projector this summer for backyard "drive-in" movies.

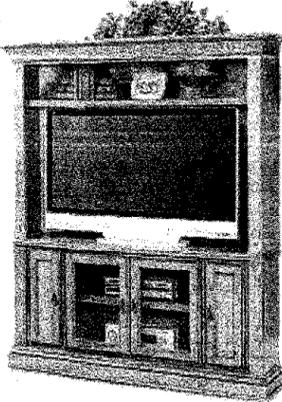
Epson's MovieMate 72 home-theater projector features four built-in speakers and a slot-loading DVD player. It also displays high-definition video.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device, Sixth Edition. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

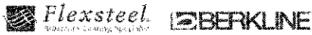
Home Theater • Corner Units • Consoles



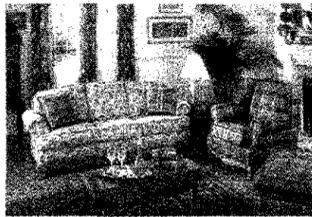
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Bruno Paillard - the man and his Champagne

Champagne Bruno Paillard is the youngest producer in the Champagne region.

In 1981, at the age of 27, Paillard began to raise the capital to begin his new company. This is amazing since there had not been a new



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

Champagne producer in 100 years! The Champagne growing area has a defined size that, by law, cannot be enlarged, although some attempts to do this are being considered. So how does a new producer source grapes when it would seem that all available fruit is already under contract? We posed this question to Alice Paillard, Bruno's 25-year-old daughter.

As it turns out, Bruno is not exactly new to the Champagne region. His family has been growing grapes and brokering Champagne since 1704 -- over 300 years. Obviously, the Paillard family knows everyone in the region. In

1975, Bruno also became a broker and six years later decided to start his own Champagne House.

SMALL BUT PRESTIGIOUS

By 1988, Bruno Paillard Champagnes had met with great success and Hugh Johnson, the noted English wine journalist, complimented the wines of the "small but prestigious young Champagne house." By 1990, Paillard needed a larger production facility and built a modern glass and stainless steel building with a cellar temperature controlled at 51 degrees F and low light intensity, perfect for aging champagne during the second fermentation in the bottle.

Paillard acquired his first seven-acre vineyard in 1994, which has gradually expanded to 62 acres, of which half are located in Grand Crus villages. These vineyards satisfy about one third of his needs, the remainder of the fruit is purchased from independent growers in more than 30 different villages. Today, Paillard produces 45,000 cases of wine, 70 percent of which is exported to other European countries, Asia and North America.

With so many different champagnes available, why would you seek out the wines of Bruno Paillard?

Paillard champagnes are produced exclusively from first pressed juice. The harder the press, the lower the quality and delicacy of the juice. This might also be termed "free run" juice that requires minimal pressure to extract. Grapes from each cru (village) are fermented separately to permit better selection when blended.

Blends contain from 20 to 50 percent reserve wines in order to maintain consistent quality and capture the elegance in each bottling.

The second fermentation in the bottle is two to three times longer than required. The wines are always made in a Brut (dry) style. After disgorging, the wines are further aged for three to four months before release.

High on our list of reasons is the fact that Paillard puts the month and year of disgorging (this is not a sell-by date) on every bottle.

Current released wines were disgorged June 2005.

Alice explains that "disgorging

is like a second birth for the wine. It begins a new aging process that gradually changes aromas from fruit and flowers to spice. It deepens the color to golden and the taste becomes more complex."

WHAT TO BUY

Bruno Paillard Brut Premiere Cuvee Champagne \$50 comes across fresh and crisp with notes of toast, apples and cherries. The wine is made from all three allowed grape varieties: 22 percent pinot meunier, 33 percent chardonnay, and 45 percent pinot noir. Two thirds black grapes provide a creamy complexity and body while the chardonnay gives structure. Twenty five percent reserve wines add depth.

Bruno Paillard Blanc de Blancs Reserve Privee Champagne \$65. As the name implies, this wine is 100 percent chardonnay, grown on the famous Cotes des Blancs and Cote de Sezanne. Four years on the yeast lees results in a pleasant bread dough aroma with citrus notes and a very creamy palate impression.

Bruno Paillard Brut Rose Premiere Cuvee Champagne \$75 with a delicate peach skin color is

WINE PICKS

If you seek elegance and delicacy in a champagne, another house to consider in addition to Bruno Paillard is Champagne Henriot.

Henriot Brut Souverain Non-Vintage \$48. A large percentage of chardonnay gives this champagne both structure and finesse.

Henriot Blanc Souverain \$54. This cuvee is 100 percent chardonnay from the best sites in the Cotes des Blancs. Lively and subtle.

Henriot Rose \$60 has a delicate pink hue and an extended, most pleasant finish.

Great holiday gifts: Purely outside the bottle but giving you a peek inside is the best book yet on Michigan wineries and travel to Michigan wine regions. "From the Vine: Exploring Michigan Wineries" by Sharon Kegerreis and Lorri Hathaway, \$34.95, is available online through www.michiganwine.com.

The classy book explores the unique beauty of Michigan's wine regions with terrific photography and captures the passion of Michigan winners in words.

Spirits lovers will thank you if you gift them with a bottle of either The Macallan Sherry Oak 18 Years Old, a classic single malt Scotch \$130 or The Macallan Fine Oak 15 Years Old \$80 with its rich chocolate impression.

Cabernet lovers will praise your good taste when you give them a bottle of the seductive 2004 Joseph Phelps Insignia, Napa Valley \$200.

Ice wines from 2006 in 375ml. from Inniskillin on the Niagara Peninsula, Ontario, Canada: Riesling \$75; Vidal \$65; Cabernet Franc \$95 and a rare Sparkling \$75 -- all lush and lovely.

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor or order it direct from the winery if it's domestic.

full yet crisp with cherry and red berry flavors due to 85 percent pinot noir. It delivers great flavors through to its long, finesseful finish.

the internationally respected "Quarterly Review of Wines" and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the "Observer & Eccentric Newspapers." Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

The Healds are contributing editors for

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Advertising Correction Notice

The Lowe's tab in this week's newspaper contains an error. An incorrect image was displayed on the Front Cover for the SKIL 14.4-Volt Single Speed Cordless Drill/Driver Kit (#278341). The image displayed a 14.4-Volt SKIL drill with a Lithium Ion battery and the advertised Special Value is for a 14.4-Volt SKIL drill with a Nickel Cad battery.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this error may cause to you, our valued customer.

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35th Annual

Old Moravian Lovefeast

Metropolitan United Methodist Church invites you to an Old Moravian Love Feast. Bring the whole family to celebrate the birth of Christ through scripture, beautiful music, candlelight and a traditional simple meal of a Moravian bun and water.

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300 Renaissance Center
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LIVONIA
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(at Middlebelt)
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(in front of Kohl's)
734-241-4099

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Three Generations Plaza
20580 Haggerty Rd.
734-779-0148

NOVI
43025 12 Mile Rd.
(Twelve Oaks Service Dr. north of Sears)
248-305-6600

Twelve Oaks Mall
(lower level play area)

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COMMERCIAL
Cellular Source
248-360-9400

Wireless Tomorrow
248-669-1200

FARMINGTON HILLS
Cellular City
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FERRISDALE
Communications USA
248-542-5200

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Wireless Solutions
810-385-3400

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MONROE
Herkimer Radio
734-242-0806

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Authorized Cellular
586-468-7300

NORTHVILLE
Cellular Cellulations
248-349-8116

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Cellular Cellulations
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20/20 Communications
734-456-3200

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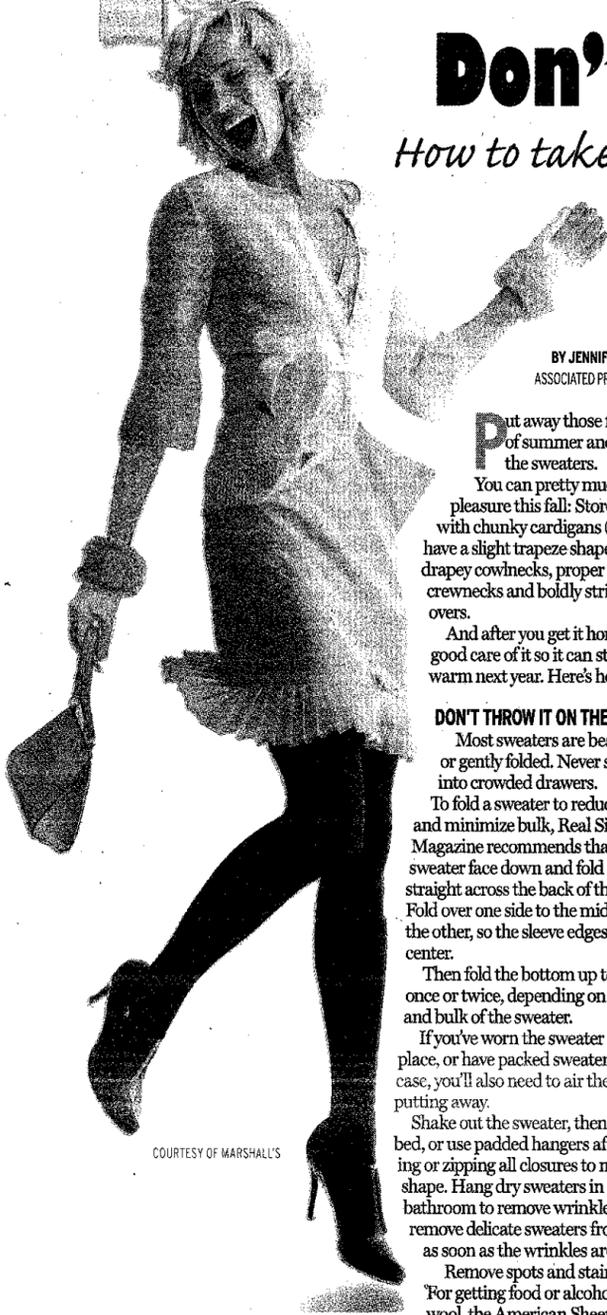
pink



WENSDY VON BUSKIRK · EDITOR · (734) 953-2019 · wvonb@hometownlife.com

Don't sweat it!

How to take care of your sweaters



COURTESY OF MARSHALL'S

BY JENNIFER FARRAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Put away those filmy blouses of summer and bring on the sweaters.

You can pretty much pick your pleasure this fall: Stores are filled with chunky cardigans (the freshest have a slight trapeze shape), loose-knit drapery cowlnecks, proper cashmere crewnecks and boldly striped pull-overs.

And after you get it home, take good care of it so it can still keep you warm next year. Here's how:

DON'T THROW IT ON THE FLOOR

Most sweaters are best stored flat or gently folded. Never stuff them into crowded drawers.

To fold a sweater to reduce wrinkles and minimize bulk, Real Simple Magazine recommends that you lay the sweater face down and fold each arm straight across the back of the garment. Fold over one side to the middle, then the other, so the sleeve edges meet in the center.

Then fold the bottom up to the top once or twice, depending on the length and bulk of the sweater.

If you've worn the sweater to a stinky place, or have packed sweaters in a suitcase, you'll also need to air them out before putting away.

Shake out the sweater, then lay flat on a bed, or use padded hangers after buttoning or zipping all closures to maintain the shape. Hang dry sweaters in a steamy bathroom to remove wrinkles, but remove delicate sweaters from hangers as soon as the wrinkles are out.

Remove spots and stains promptly. For getting food or alcohol out of wool, the American Sheep Industry

Association recommends placing a towel under the stain and gently rubbing it with carbonated water toward the center of the spot. For red wine, immerse it in cold water. For lipstick, rub the stain with white bread.

READ THE LABEL

It seems obvious, but many a sweater has been ruined by being tossed in the laundry bin and accidentally run through the spin cycle with socks and underwear.

Read the label and plan accordingly — keeping in mind that "Dry Clean Only" doesn't always mean what it says.

You can put a wool, cashmere or fine cotton garment in the washer with some precautions, according to Real Simple. Be sure to use a protective pillowcase or mesh bag, pick the delicate cycle, and wash with cold water only. You can even add a couple of capfuls of distilled white vinegar in the rinse cycle to make your sweater softer and fluffier.

Never put a sweater in the dryer, unless the manufacturer's label specifically indicates it is safe to do so. In that case, use a low dryer heat to avoid shrinkage. Otherwise, lay your sweater flat on a towel to dry.

HAND-WASHING HINTS

For best hand-washing results, you may want to use a dedicated plastic basin instead of your sink, which might have cleanser or toothpaste residue that could ruin your sweater.

Use a small amount of fine-washables detergent. Soak your sweater in cold water; use lukewarm only if the label specifies it, and never use hot water.

Do not wring or twist a sweater when washing it. Just gently squeeze the suds through the garment, or swirl it around in the water for a couple of minutes. Rinse thoroughly in cool water by refilling your basin a few times, as running water could stretch delicate fabrics.

Roll your sweater in a towel to absorb extra water, then dry flat, preferably on a towel laid over a drying rack for good air circulation. Avoid drying too near to a heat source. And you shouldn't over-wash your sweaters, according to clothing retailer Lands' End, because the fiber loosens a bit with each washing.

For more information on caring for sweaters visit Real Simple, www.realsimple.com; and the American Wool Council, www.sheepusa.org.

pink picks

Wear It!
The Jaw Coney zip up hoodie at Moosejaw

DON'T Wear It!
Chunky Snowpants

Kick It!
Sue London ballet flats at Martin + Osa

Tote It!
Reusable canvas totes from brownbagit.com (based in Farmington Hills)



See It!
Fred Claus



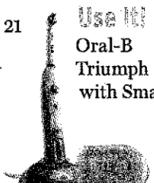
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Knocked Up

Accessorize It!
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Face It!

Arbonne Intelligence Personalizer at arbonne.com



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Oral-B Triumph with Smart Guide

Mane It!
Matrix Curl Life defining system



Live It!
ABC Family's 25 Days of Christmas



Hear It!
Kings of Leon Because of the Times

HOLIDAYlist

MAGIC OF BIRMINGHAM

From 6-8 p.m. tonight and next Thursday, Dec. 20, shoppers will be stopped at random to receive gifts as part of the first-ever "Magic of Birmingham" promotion. Merchants have donated gifts with a combined value of over \$20,000, including leather wallets, soaps, restaurant gift certificates and more. Top prizes include a piece of jewelry from Astrein's Creative Jewelers valued over \$1,000; and a weekend at the Townsend Hotel. Downtown Birmingham's Santa House also is open for business, while carolers and free horse drawn carriage rides add to the fun.

the Walter P. Chrysler Museum hosts "Cars, Trees & Traditions" through Dec. 30. The exhibit features evergreen trees accurately decorated in holiday fashion, paired with Chrysler vehicles of similar eras, nostalgic images and text. For details, visit www.chryslerheritage.com or call (888) 456-1924.

OLD FASHION HOLIDAY

Holiday Nights in Greenfield Village brings back traditions of Christmas past. The event includes live music, Model T and horse-drawn carriage rides, ice skating, visits with Santa and five reindeer, sing-alongs and fireworks. Historic Eagle Tavern offers dinner packages with an authentic holiday meals and live period music. Holiday Nights takes place Dec. 14-16 and 19-23. Tickets are \$12.75 for members, \$8.50 for children; \$15 for non-members; \$10 for children; four and under free. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.thehenryford.org.

AARH HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

The Arab American National Museum will host its 2nd annual International Holiday Marketplace & Fashion Show 6-9 p.m. tonight. The free event includes a variety of multicultural merchandise, complimentary refreshments, music and a live fashion show featuring culturally inspired apparel. Call (313) 624-0216 for details or to receive a registration form. Space is limited.

BBAC HOLIDAY SHOP

Shop for a cause the last weekend of BBAC Holiday Shop. On Dec. 13-14, 10 percent of sales proceeds will benefit Birmingham Public Schools arts programs and Lighthouse of Oakland County. Holiday Shop offers hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind pieces from a variety of artists. Holiday Shop is open through Dec. 16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, noon-4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. The BBAC is located at 1516 S. Cranbrook. Call (248) 644-0866 or visit www.BBACenter.org.

CARS, TREES & TRADITIONS

Take a look back at holiday celebrations from the early 1900s through the 1980s, as

Key to the season's luscious lips

BY AMANDA ABUKHADER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Fall's hottest makeup trends include sultry red lips and elegant liquid eyeliner. It's safe to say that it is the classiest modern day look around ... but not so easy to pull off. Finding the right shade of red? Forget it! Applying the perfect stroke in liquid liner? Not unless you're a professional. Thankfully, the editors of Marie Claire are here to help with their new ultimate guide to makeup. The Marie Claire Makeup book is filled with fabulous close-ups, high-gloss pages, and most importantly helpful tips to keep the modern day fashionista sane. Can the techniques stand up to close-ups of the polished models that grace each page? We say yes.

Just listen to what Marie Claire Makeup has to say about applying a perfect even coat of lipstick:

1. Like your skin, your mouth also needs to rid itself of dead cells from time to time. For silky lips choose a very soft facial exfoliate and gently clean away with a soft, supple toothbrush (reserved exclusively for this purpose).

2. Generously apply an ultra-rich, creamy lip balm (or even Vaseline) for several minutes to nourish your lips. Wipe away with a cotton swab when you're done.

3. Think of your lip liner as your lips' guardrails.

It should be the same color as your lipstick, but one shade lighter. Nude tones will suit paler complexions and will yield a



COURTESY OF MARIE CLAIRE MAKEUP

flattering effect of increased volume.

4. Coat both sides of the brush with lipstick and start applying from the inside of your lips, moving upward in small strokes until you reach the outer edges.

5. Lip gloss will help bring it all together: a single dollop in the middle of your

lips will create a three-dimensional effect. Of course you can also spread it across your whole lip for a full on shine.

— Source: Marie Claire Makeup, from the Editors of Marie Claire (Hearst, \$19.95)



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