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WESTLAND
Observer

SUNDAY
February 17, 2008

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Plan aims to make Trails nature's classroom

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Sassafras Trails, a sprawling wooded area northeast of Palmer and Wildwood, could become nature's classroom for Wayne-Westland students

under a new plan unveiled Wednesday by a school district consultant.

With backing from Westland city officials, district leaders hope to secure a state grant to transform the unused, fenced-off, 52-acre nature area into a

place where students can learn about trees, flowers, birds and other wildlife.

Wayne-Westland consultant Jack Martin, who already has succeeded at securing other district-city grants, shared the latest vision Wednesday as

Westland parks and recreation leaders led a goal-setting workshop at the Bailey Center.

Nearly half of Sassafras Trails would remain intact as a protected wetlands area, Martin said, and the project also would safeguard wooded

areas. "Most of it is going to stay wooded areas," he said.

However, Martin envisioned nature trails with a few learning-based interpretive stations, an outdoor structure where students could observe wild-

life, a newly created pond and, eventually, a small classroom building that pupils and teachers could use year-round.

"We're trying to restore it as a nature center," Martin said

Please see **TRAILS, A2**

Students treat seniors to sounds of music

Maybe it was the venue, maybe it was the audience. Whatever it was, musicians at Wayne Memorial High School had one of their best showings in years at the District 12 Solo and Ensemble Festival after a group presented a mini concert at the Dyer Senior Center in Westland.

Music teacher Matt Diroff brought 15 students to the center for a short performance that rated a standing ovation from appreciative seniors.

"This is a great confidence builder for students to perform for you," he told the seniors who listened to violin and cello pieces as well as selections featuring wind instruments like the euphonium, saxophone, flute and alto flute.

Diroff brought mostly seniors for the mini performance, leaving freshman behind because they're "still getting use to playing."

"This might be too big of a crowd for them," he added.

Diroff also took time to explain to audience how the district festival works, pointing out that students practice in a room with 10-15 other students before performing before judges who award scores ranging from 1 to 5. Those with a first division rating move on to state competition.

He added that, "My goal is not to turn them into professional musicians but to foster a lifelong love of music."

As for the festival, more than 80 Wayne High instrumental music students performed solos, duets, trios, quartets and a chamber ensemble comprised of nine woodwind students. They participated in 76 events, with



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne Memorial High School junior Jory King (from left), senior Chris Carson, senior Cyndi Aslanian and sophomore Enrique Romulo perform for the seniors at the Dyer Senior Center.

33 performances receiving a first division rating and a blue medal and 34 earning second division rating and a red medal. Nine performances received third division ratings or performed for comments only, with no rating.

Students who received first division ratings now move on to the state festival at Chelsea High School on March 15.

"The performances resulted in the most number of state qualifying events in more than 10 years," Diroff said.

- By Sue Mason



An appreciative Bob Seaward (foreground) and Phil LaChance give the Wayne Memorial High School instrumental music students a round of applause after their performance.

5 candidates file in WW board race

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Voters in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will have a choice of five candidates to fill two seats on the Board of Education in the May 6 school election.

Filing nominating petitions were incumbent Cindy Schofield of Wayne and Shawna Walker of Westland. Paying the \$100 filing fee were Westland residents Jennifer Finley, Brian Mulligan and William Gabriel.

Missing from the list is Terrance McClain who announced Tuesday that he would not seek a second term on the school board.

Schofield, a residential property manager, is the current school board vice-president, a position she has held for six of her eight elective years. She has said that she decided to run again because "there are still things to be accomplished, especially at the secondary level."

Finley is a registered nurse and the mother of seven adopted children. She has been involved in programs at the Stottlemeyer

Early Childhood and Family Development Center and serves on its policy committee.

"I'm involved in the schools and education and what better way is there to make an impact on a community I've been a part of for 14 years," she said.

Gabriel is a consultant in airline management. He has served on the Westland Library Board and Local Officers Compensation Commission and currently is a member of the Westland Planning Commission.

"Education is probably the one most important thing to me," he said. "My experiences (on the Library Board) have reinforced my wanting to give back to the community. I also have more time to give and think I can do a good job."

Mulligan is making his second bid for a school board. He ran unsuccessfully in the 2007 election. A licensed electrician, he has said that he believes ordinary citizens need to take a more active role in their communities.

In campaigning last year, he stated that "all parents need to take responsibility

Please see **BOARD, A2**

Hearing postponed in sexual assault case

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A nervous, 12-year-old girl came to Westland 18th District Court ready to testify Thursday against a great-uncle accused of molesting her when she was only 6.

The girl didn't get called to the witness stand, however, because a defense attorney asked that a preliminary hearing for defendant Raymond Lawrence Perkins, 55, be delayed to give the lawyer more time to review potential evidence.

Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli granted the request

by defense attorney Richard Dwyer, but she ordered him to notify prosecutors if Perkins decides to waive his preliminary hearing, now set for Feb. 28. Cicirelli wants to spare the girl the worry of returning to a public courtroom — if her testimony isn't needed.

"We want to have as less stress as possible on that young girl," Cicirelli said Thursday from the bench.

Cicirelli's remarks came after Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Lora Weingarden indicated in court that the alleged victim would have "less anxiety" if she doesn't have to return to court to

testify against Perkins, who is charged with two counts of second-degree criminal sexual conduct.

The girl came forward in December and told police that she awoke during a 2001 incident to find her great-uncle fondling her, Westland police Sgt. Debra Mathews said during Perkins' Feb. 5 arraignment.

Perkins already served over three years in prison for sexually assaulting an 8-year-old nephew. He was released in June 1991. The nephew and his mother have been living with Perkins, telling authorities that they had forgiven Perkins,

Mathews said.

Perkins, in a recent confession, admitted he molested two other nieces and another nephew — revelations that Mathews said won't bring additional criminal charges because the statute of limitations has expired.

As Perkins awaits his preliminary hearing, he is jailed in lieu of a \$1 million cash bond set by Cicirelli. A not-guilty plea has been entered for him.

The charges against him carry a possible 15-year prison term upon conviction, but any sentence could potentially be lengthier because he is considered a repeat offender.

moms

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- Kristen Jordan Shamus is editor of MotorCityMoms.com. She can be reached at (313) 222-5997 or kshamus@MotorCityMoms.com.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Tribute Show

The Bova VFW Post 9885 will host a Tribute Show Saturday, March 8, featuring Dan Spencer as Toby Keith, Maria Kajat as Stevie Nicks, Lou Richards as Elvis, Dave Knight as Trace Adkins, Brien Grob as Buddy Holly and Tyrone Hamilton as Ray Charles. The tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Amy Tessanne at (734) 634-4058 or at atessanne@w3creations.com. The Bova VFW Post is at 6440 Hix, between Ford and Warren Road, Westland.

Used book sale

Today (Feb. 17) is the last day to stock up on great reads for a nominal fee at the Friends of the Library used book sale noon to 4 p.m. at the William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway between Ford and Warren Road. For more information about the book sale or the Friends of the Library, call the library at (734) 326-6123.

Comedy fund-raiser

The Westland Historical Society will present a fund-raiser, Comedy for a Cause, at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, at Joey's Comedy Club, 36071 Plymouth Road, in Livonia. Tickets are \$15 each and available at the Bailey Recreation Center, behind City Hall on Ford Road. For more information, call (734) 729-6683. The Westland Historic Village Park is open for visits 1-4 p.m. Saturdays

ON THE WEB

For expanded versions of Around Westland, visit our online edition at www.hometownlife.com and click on Westland.

on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

Relay for Life

The American Cancer Society (ACS) Relay for Life of Westland kick-off is set for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, at the AMVETS Hall at 1217 Merriman north of Palmer in Westland. ACS is calling all who wish to join them in their effort to "celebrate the lives of those who battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against cancer, a disease that takes too much from too many." For more information or to reserve a spot, call Holly Soranno at (248) 663-3452.

Bowling fund-raiser

A bowling fund-raiser to benefit the Motor Bulldogs Baseball Association will be held at 8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22, at Super Bowl, 45100 Ford, Canton. Check-in time is 8 p.m., bowling starts at 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person and includes a raffle ticket to win a 36-inch TV, three games of bowling and pizza. There will also be 50/50 drawings, mystery games and raffles. For tickets or more information, call Dennis Montie at (734) 306-2706.

The Motor Bulldogs Baseball Association a travel baseball

league made up of children age 8-13 and under from Garden City, Westland, Redford, Livonia and other surrounding communities.

Scrapbooking

You can spend a whole day or a half day scrapbooking at a scrapbooking workshop being offered 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23, at Ss. Simon and Jude Parish, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. Light breakfast, lunch and dinner, snacks and beverages are included in the cost of \$35 for a full day and \$20 for a half day. Space is limited, so call Sandy Kopcak at (734) 721-4867 or Karen Kopcak at (734) 634-3934 to reserve a spot.

Z-PAC dinner

The Wayne Memorial High School Parent Advisory Committee will host its third annual fund-raiser dinner, "Spring Festival of Taste," 7 p.m. Friday, March 14, at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center on Marquette in Westland.

The dinner will be by the award-winning culinary arts staff and students. Entertainment will be by magician William Heine. There also will be a silent auction, featuring student artwork and selected items. Tickets cost \$30 each and are available at Wayne Memorial High School or by calling Wayne Memorial Principal John Albrecht at (734) 419-2200.

Proceeds will benefit the Wayne High Class of 2008.

Man gets probation in road rage incident

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A driver who had no criminal history prior to a road rage incident in Westland has been placed on probation for six months for wielding a baseball bat against another motorist.

Beotry McGlockin, a 49-year-old Canton man, was sentenced in Wayne County Circuit Court in January for a Dec. 8 incident that was halted at gunpoint by an off-duty sheriff deputy who reacted quickly when he saw what was happening.

On Friday, Westland Police Chief James Ridener offered tips to motorists who find themselves involved in road rage incidents.

If possible, he said, use a cell phone to call 9-1-1 and let police know what is unfolding — and where. Motorists who are near police stations also should consider driving there or trying to flag down a

nearby officer, if one is spotted, Ridener said.

The worst response, he said, is to become involved in an exchange that can lead to an accident or to drivers pulling off the road and fighting.

"You don't know what little slight will make the other driver irate to the point where they become violent," Ridener said. "Every little transgression out there doesn't need a reaction."

The chief also advised road rage victims to try to get information, such as a license plate number and the make of a vehicle, that can be given to police.

McGlockin and the other driver pulled off the road in the Wayne-Warren area, and McGlockin was charged with attempted felonious assault after police said he got a baseball bat out of the trunk of his Toyota Echo. An off-duty Wayne County sheriff deputy saw the situation, pulled off the road, drew his gun and halted

the incident.

McGlockin told police that a driver in a Jeep Cherokee was tailing him too closely in his small car, causing a potentially dangerous situation, police Sgt. Chris Benson has said. The Jeep driver blamed McGlockin for speeding up and slowing down while driving in front of him.

The Jeep hit the rear of the Toyota when McGlockin braked to pull off the road at a Warren Road strip mall, Benson said.

According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, McGlockin will remain on probation until July 3. He has been ordered not to violate any laws; not to leave the state without permission; to report monthly for probation appointments; to notify authorities of any change of address; to maintain employment; and to pay certain court costs and other fees.

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Wayne High accepts alumni nominations

This year's commencement will continue the tradition of awarding a "Distinguished Alumni" medal to a former graduate of Wayne Memorial High School.

"We have had many outstanding people graduate from Wayne Memorial," said Wayne Memorial Principal John Albrecht. "Many have contributed significantly to the betterment of society on a local, state, national or international level. The Distinguished Alumni Award is our way of honoring an outstanding graduate on an annual basis."

The award has become a part of the annual commencement ceremony of Wayne Memorial High School. Each winner is awarded a medal inscribed with the official school seal.

"This is an opportunity for our current graduating class, to hear first hand from a former alumnus who has made his/her mark on society," Albrecht said.

The most difficult task is to locate the many alumni who have distinguished themselves since their graduation. For that reason, Wayne Memorial is asking the community to help

in its search by nominating a Wayne Memorial graduate. Contact Mary Huber, secretary to the principal, at Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 Fourth St., Wayne, MI 48184, or call her at (734) 419-2206.

A "Distinguished Alumni" committee has been established at Wayne Memorial to decide on the recipient for 2008. An announcement of the winner will be made in mid-May, and the recipient will then be honored at commencement on June 7.

Nominations must be submitted by Friday, Feb. 29.

TRAILS

FROM PAGE A1

during Wednesday's workshop.

Once considered for housing development, Sassafras Trails was saved as a nature area years ago after school officials bowed to a citizens-led rescue effort. District leaders hope to use the area as a learning tool.

Martin indicated that the district and city will seek a nearly \$500,000 state grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the project.

In other suggestions during Wednesday's parks meeting,

Westland volunteer and businessman Gary Bulson suggested the city pursue a disc golf course, which he loosely described as "Frisbee golf." He said the city could seek to build an 18-hole or a nine-hole course, possibly in Jaycee Park at Wildwood and Cowan.

"I think Jaycee Park would be a great place for it," he said. Other residents didn't oppose Bulson's idea but said a disc golf course should be installed in a place where it wouldn't interfere with other park activities, such as walking.

"I think it's an excellent idea because a lot of people play disc golf," Parks and Recreation Director Robert

Kosowski said.

Another resident, Mark Rodriguez, continued to push for a vast recreation complex that he and Citizens for Frontier Park want to see built west of Central City Park. Supporters have said the project would include basketball courts, soccer fields, hockey/ice skating facilities, baseball fields, a special needs play area and other amenities.

City officials have lauded the Frontier Park group's enthusiasm, but they have said the city likely couldn't afford it without a tax increase.

In other recreation projects, Kosowski said the city will continue to pursue a new soccer complex at Curtis Woods Park, on Palmer between Wayne and Newburgh, and new baseball amenities at Voss Park, at Palmer and Henry Ruff.

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WESTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction on February 19, 2008 at 11:15 AM. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI. 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

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Publish: February 17, 2008

Schools, three candidates have filed for two four-year terms on the school board.

Incumbents Tom Bailey and Greg Oke are running for reelection. And Patrice Mang, who ran unsuccessfully for a one-year seat last year, will try again this year.

Bailey, a technical specialist with BASF, was elected in 2004. Prior to that he held leadership positions with the PTA at local, regional and state levels.

Bailey was the only trustee to vote against the Legacy Initiative school closings and reconfigurations. As such, he did not face recall in 2006.

Oke, assistant principal at Wolfe Middle School in Center Line, was elected last May to a one-year position.

Mang is a high school special education teacher in Allen Park.

Staff writer Rebecca Jones contributed to this story.

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Wayne-Westland Community Schools
Westland, Michigan 48185

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for Wayne-Westland Community Schools' Bid Package #24 Rebid of the John Glenn Partial Roof Replacement

Consisting of: Rebid of the John Glenn High School Partial Roof Replacement

will be received until **1:30 P.M. local time on Thursday, February 28, 2008** 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

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, Friday February 15th, 2008, 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 February 20th 2008 at the John Glenn High School. Interested bidders are to meet around back near the new athletic entrance. (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.

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Top LPS seniors thank their influential teachers

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

In fifth-grade at Hayes Elementary, Michael Krcatovich knew his teacher, John Santi, was always going to be one of his favorites.

He was the kind of teacher that "if you have him, that's great. If you don't, then you call the principal and complain," said Krcatovich, who's now one of Franklin High School's top seniors. He got a chance to say thanks on Wednesday at the 54th annual Livonia PTSA Founders' Day Celebration.

For each of the 15 outstanding seniors, at least three teachers played a significant role.

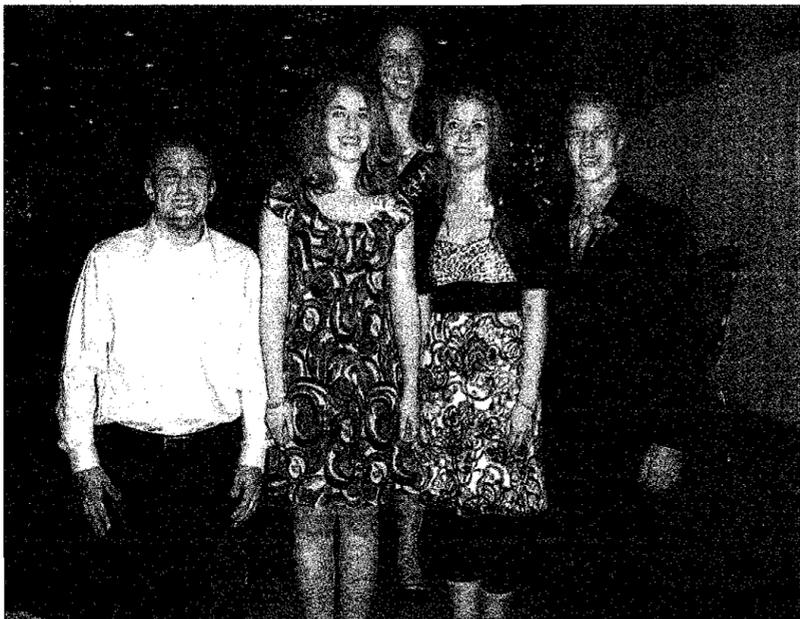
Churchill senior Meghan Murray honored Mary Buda, who retired last year. "She taught me so much more than that a day without math is like a day without sunshine."

Catherine Kent was fond of her middle school English and social studies teacher, Michael Vasich, (students just called him V) who had students march like Civil War soldiers.

Maybe Kathy Ladd's superb drawing skills cancel out the "handouts from hell." Four Stevenson seniors honored the English teacher, calling her funny and enthusiastic.

Over the years, some teachers were like second moms, the students said. Franklin senior Allen Sponenburgh credits one teacher for helping clean up his potty mouth, and said another is the kind of woman he would want to marry someday.

Two of the honored seniors (Churchill's Brian Ziemba and Franklin's Daniel Woodall) arrived late, after participating



Churchill's Founders' Day honorees are Brian Ziemba (left), Laura Tomassi, Meghan Murray, Sarah LaBerge and Ryan Whittum.

in a wrestling match — against each other. All of the students thanked their parents as well.

CHURCHILL HIGH SCHOOL

■ Sarah LaBerge, daughter of Mark and Brenda LaBerge, honored Judy Polce from Kennedy Elementary; and Keith McDonald and Heidi Richardson, both from Churchill.

■ Meghan Murray, daughter of Dennis and Denise Murray, honored Sister Carolyn Rutkowski from St. Michael School; and Mary Buda (retired) and Kelly Granowicz, both from Churchill.

■ Laura Tomassi, daughter of Bob and Patricia Tomassi, honored Leah Bisel, from Randolph Elementary; and Jennifer Hardy-Francis and Ron Zapalski, both from Churchill.

■ Ryan Whittum, son of Kenneth and Cheryl Whittum, honored Chad Jenkins, Rachel Rodriguez and John Filiatraut, all from Churchill.

■ Brian Ziemba, son of David and Ann Ziemba, honored Debbie Comb from Randolph Elementary; Brad Dennis, from Frost Middle School; and Ronald Zapalski, from Churchill.

FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

■ Catherine Kent, daughter of Richard and Marie Kent, honored Michael Vasich from Frost; and Molly Evans and Terri Bennett, both from Franklin.

■ Michael Krcatovich, son of Rocky and Patty Krcatovich, honored John Santi from Hayes; and Walt Reasor and David Bjorklund, both from Franklin.

■ Christopher Noffze, son of Elaine and the late Robert Noffze, honored Ron Wilson, formerly of Emerson Middle School; and Lynn Massucci and the late Jack Kalousek,



Franklin Founders' Day honorees are Daniel Woodall (left), Michael Krcatovich, Catherine Kent, Allen Sponenburgh and Christopher Noffze.

both from Franklin.

■ Allen Sponenburgh, son of Mark Sponenburgh and Anna Sponenburgh, honored Laura Springer, from Dearborn Montessori; Joan Okins, from United Christian School; and Julie Smith, from Franklin.

■ Daniel Woodall, son of Robert and Linda Woodall, honored David Chiola, David Bjorklund and Molly Evans, all from Franklin.

STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL

■ Kelsey Arsenault, daughter of Chris and Hellen Arsenault, honored Craig Barker, Kathy Ladd and Denise Makuch, all from Stevenson.

■ Mark Ingram, son of Ronald and Mary Ann Ingram, honored Ryan Krueger, from

Marshall Elementary; David Mitchell from Holmes Middle School; and Lt. Col. Louis Kuratko, from Churchill.

■ Kathryn La Belle, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth La Belle, honored Theresa Macek, from Webster Elementary; Joyce Butler from Frost; and Kathy Ladd, from Stevenson.

■ Katelyn Roberts, daughter of Mark and Lisa Roberts, honored Craig Barker, Kathy Ladd and Sean Horgan, all from Stevenson.

■ Julia Schroeder, daughter of David Schroeder and Margery Gudes, honored Sue Fraehlich from Webster; and Kathy Ladd and Marilyn Snabb, both from Stevenson.

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City Council considers compromise on citizen comments

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland City Council committee has proposed a compromise for balancing citizens' comments and conducting business during its twice-monthly meetings.

"We think it's a fair compromise, and we think it will work really well," Councilman Michael Kehrer said Friday.

Kehrer and council colleagues Bill Johnson and Dewey Reeves have fine-tuned the latest proposal, which the full council will discuss during a public session scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday — before

the 7 p.m. business meeting — at City Hall on Ford Road.

Although business meetings typically are held on the first and third Monday of each month, this week's session will be on Tuesday because of the Presidents Day holiday.

Under the newly proposed rules, citizens will be allowed to speak twice during meetings — each time for up to five minutes. The committee has dropped plans to reduce speaking time to four minutes, in what represents a compromise with council watchers.

Near the beginning of the meeting, citizens may address specific items on the council

agenda simply by raising their hands and seeking recognition. However, if they want to make general comments on issues not on the agenda, they will be allowed to do so during a segment closer to the end of the meeting.

"The same person could talk twice during the meeting," Kehrer said, once to address specific agenda items and once to voice general concerns or comments.

The council will eliminate general citizens comments from the beginning of the business meetings, but they will hear from all people who want to speak during the lat-

ter portion of the meetings. "All citizens must be heard at the meeting according to the Open Meetings Act," Kehrer said, adding later, "They're still going to have their say."

Some council watchers have criticized attempts to change the way meetings are conducted, but some council members have indicated they want to streamline meetings and make them more business-like.

At no time will anyone have

to fill out a slip of paper to speak; they will only have to raise a hand at the appropriate times, Kehrer said.

The committee looked at meeting rules from other communities, and Kehrer said Westland's rules will continue to be more liberal than those of most cities with populations over 50,000.

One resident, Shaunna Jaynes, had suggested that general citizens comments be allowed near the end of the meeting, rather than the

beginning, if a choice had to be made. She said that would remove some of the early "negativity" viewed by business people who come to City Hall to conduct business.

Other residents, such as Judy McKinney and Elenor Swistak, had implored the council to leave the rules as they were, allowing for general comments at the beginning and again at the end of the meetings.

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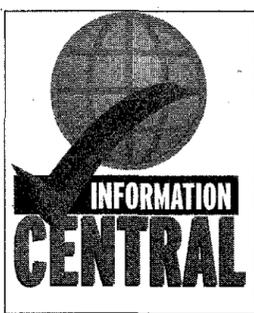
Just use your library card to receive a Museum Adventure Pass sponsored by Macy's, and get free admission for two or four, depending on the location. There are 26 participating arts and cultural institutes. Some of the most popular destinations are the DIA, the Ford Rouge Factory Tour, the Henry Ford Estate at Fair Lane and the Detroit Children's Museum.

How does the museum pass work? William P. Faust Public Library users with a valid library card can check out a Museum Adventure Pass at the library and receive a museum admission pass for the organization they plan to visit. The museum pass is handed in at the box office of the participating organization for free admission for two or four people.

Each museum adventure pass expires within one week of the check-out date. For more information, visit or call the library at (734) 326-6123, visit our Web site at www.westland.lib.mi.us, or go online to www.detroitadventure-pass.org.

Expand your horizons even further by checking out one of our many books about museums: "The Detroit Institute of Arts," "Treasures from the Art Institute of Chicago," "Toledo Treasures," "Masterpieces of the Metropolitan Museum of Art," "The Museum of Modern Art, New York, American Smithsonian" or "America's Art Museums: A Traveler's Guide to Great Collections Large and Small." You also will find books about the Louvre in Paris and the Hermitage in St. Petersburg, along with many other notable museums throughout the world.

Almost as good as being there, view one of our many videos and DVDs about museums. "The Great Museums" TV series contains more than 26 DVDs. "Louvre 200" contains three videos, and "Hermitage Masterpieces" includes nine videos, featuring 18 programs. It may be cold and snowy outside, but you don't have far to go for a little culture. Whether a close to home visit to a local museum or an evening in



front of the television viewing paintings in St. Petersburg, the time to do it is now.

Highlighted Activities

Adult Book Discussion Group: 7 p.m. Feb. 19.

Join us as we discuss Philip Roth's "The Plot Against America." Please read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

Financial Seminar - Capital Market Outlook, Fourth Quarter Market Review: 7 p.m. Feb. 19.

Get a rundown on the market. Let Andrew Gagne, associate financial advisor, provide context for the importance of a diversified portfolio. Question and answer session to follow. Stop by the library or call (734) 326-6123 to reserve your seat.

Independent Movie Night: 7 p.m. Feb. 20.

Come join us for a viewing of "Jesus Camp." This riveting Oscar-nominated documentary offers an unfiltered look at a revivalist subculture. All are welcome (children age 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult). No registration is required.

Computer Classes: Internet 101 2 p.m. Feb. 18, Introduction to Resumes 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Feb. 20, Computer Basics 2 p.m. Feb. 20, and Introduction to E-mail 2 p.m. Feb. 23.

All computer classes are hands-on. Space is limited. Register in advance at the Reference Desk or call (734) 734-326-6123.

Information Central is compiled by reference librarian Janet Sowards. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Kindergarten Roundup

St. Dunstan Catholic School is having a Kindergarten Roundup at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, at the school. Parents and children are invited to visit St. Dunstan and meet the principal and kindergarten teacher and tour the classroom and school. Learn about the curriculum taught in kindergarten. For more information, the school office at (734) 425-4380. St. Dunstan School is at 1615 Belton, Garden City.

Play Sessions

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County's Lekotek Program offers unique play sessions, toy loans and a play library of nearly 2000 toys for children with developmental disabilities. Children ages 0-12 years can enjoy play activities led by a certified Lekotek play leader who will introduce toys and play ideas to the child while encouraging him or her to take charge of their play and interact with others. Play sessions are always centered on the child with a developmental disability and focus on the child's play abilities while keeping the child's enjoyment as the primary goal. Parents, siblings, caregivers and friends are invited and encouraged to join in the fun! For more information, please contact Lana Richardson, Lekotek Play Leader/Special Projects Assistant, at (313) 532-8524 or go online to www.thearcnw.org.

Baseball registrations

The Wayne Ford Civic League will hold baseball registrations for children ages 4-10 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays at the leagues hall at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Registration fees are \$65 for T-Ball and Coach Pitch leagues and \$80 for Mustang League. Registrations

will continue each Saturday until all the teams are full. For additional information, call the hall at (734) 728-5010 or by e-mail at vbarra@comcast.net.

Love of Lace XV

The Great Lakes Lace Group Inc. will present Love of Lace XV 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 3, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington, in Livonia. The event is a day of lace making, with demonstrations, try-it tables, vendors and displays. Admission is free, public is welcome. For more information, go online to www.GLLGI.org.

Spring craft show

Space is available for vendors and crafters for the Westland Jaycees' spring craft show at the senior Friendship Center on Newburgh south of Ford 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8. Admission will be \$1 or two dry good items. Children age 12 and under will be admitted free. For more information, call the Jaycee hotline at (734) 226-0400, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Suesanna Towne, 622 N. Brandon, Westland, MI 48185 or visit the Jaycees Web page at www.westlandjaycees.org.

Wrestling Club

Westland Bottle Rockets is a wrestling club for ages 5-14. The club meets on Monday and Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in Gym 4 of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, Westland, Michigan. The club runs from November through March and costs \$20. For questions or more information, contact Judy at judyawl122@yahoo.com or calling (734) 634-4595.

Higher Rock Cafe

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. Doors open at 8 p.m. Check it out on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

Fish Dial-A-Ride

A new volunteer organization, F.I.S.H. Dial-A-Ride, provides assistance for Westland residents in need of rides

to locations beyond the Westland's local Nankin Transit service area. Free rides to medical and social service appointments are available to both seniors and disabled Westland residents by calling (888) 660-2007. The free transportation is available Monday through Friday, except holidays. Those interested in volunteering may call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101.

Free workshops

Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician, wellness consultant and clinical nutritionist, will present "How Hormones Effect Weight Loss" 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, also at the Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Learn how hormones control food cravings, body temperature and the ability to gain or lose weight. Discover how the pancreas, thyroid and adrenals influence the size and shape of the body. Seating is limited to 30 guests. Reservations required for the workshop, call (734) 756-6904 or go online to www.TLCHolisticWellness.com.

FOR SENIORS

Friendship Center

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

Dyer Center

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

Senior fitness

Seniors can get in shape through some programs offered at the Maplewood Center. The Senior Fitness Room is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Annual membership is \$50 per year

or \$1 for a daily pass. Aerobic classes are held 8:45-9:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

Advocacy group

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

Substance abuse support

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

Menopause & More

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

Fibromyalgia

The Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and CFS Association Support Group meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There are guest speakers and discussion on a variety of topics. There is no membership fee, however a small donation is greatly appreciated. For additional information, call Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768.

Counterpoint

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

Toughlove

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

HURON VALLEY HONOR ROLL

Named to the honor roll for the first semester at Huron Valley Lutheran High School in Westland were:

Ninth Grade

Highest Honors - David Joseph Adlof of Plymouth and Leah Marie Miller of Chelsea.

High Honors - Ivan Christopher Bell of Livonia, Meghan Shelby Brennan of Livonia, Shane Robert Bunde of Westland and Matthew Robert St. John of Livonia.

Honors - Rebecca Lynn Lovell of Plymouth, Lindsay Lou Nocella of Monroe, Ashley Kristina Samuel of Livonia and Shawn William Schaffer of Westland

10th Grade

Highest Honors - Hannah Ruth Good of Plymouth, Sarah Elise Helwig of Livonia and Matthew Lester Kemppainen of Livonia.

High Honors - Michael John Cyr II of Westland, Bryan Thomas Gruenewald of Livonia, Kimberlee

Faith King of Plymouth and Michaela Danielle Van Patten of Howell.

Honors - Katherine Marie Cromwell of Livonia, Kelly Anne Kubinski of Westland, Rachel Marie Purdue of Westland, Mark Patrick St. John of Livonia and Claire Elizabeth Wood of Westland.

11th Grade

Highest Honors - Samantha Jane Barber of Westland and Kayla Ann Stockdale of Westland.

High Honors - Abby Rose Hoff of Livonia.

Honors - Lindsay Michelle Bushong of Redford, Chad Allen Fielek of Livonia, Crystina Maria Gutierrez of Livonia, Lauren Ashley Lovell of

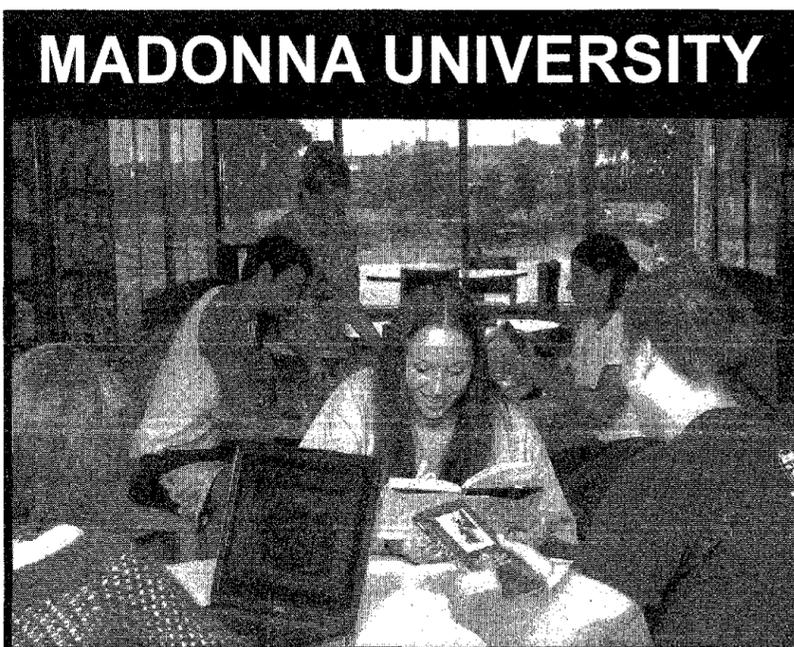
Plymouth, Katie Jane Markham of Westland, Eric James Schaffer of Westland and Kyle Ronald Tacia of Plymouth.

12th Grade

Highest Honors - Lauren Elizabeth Adlof of Plymouth, Colin John Beerbower of Livonia, Emily Ruth Heiwig of Livonia, Katie Marie Kipfmiller of Flat Rock and Catherine Elizabeth St. John of

High Honors - Lorna Renee Sweet of Livonia.

Honors - Ryan Matthew Jones of Westland, Brandy Lynne Nocella of Monroe and Robert Andrew Allan Russ of Westland.



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Business views vary on stimulus money impact

Retailers hope you'll come shopping with checks

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Local retailers have their eye on the rebate checks due to taxpayers this spring, although not all think they'll make a big difference.

Kate Rosevear, owner of Carlson Wagonlit Travel in Plymouth, didn't expect a big rush the day after the president's signature came through.

"In truth, my business is doing fine," Rosevear said. "I had a good year last year. A lot of my colleagues had a good year."

She gets a lot of baby boomers whose kids are now through college, meaning they have some disposable income. "They're young enough to travel," she said.

Buyouts from local employers have also boosted the

travel business for Rosevear and others.

Talk of the rebates — expected by May and to range from \$300 to \$1,200 — came up Thursday morning at Laurel Park Place in Livonia among mall walkers.

"I'm going to buy a brand new TV if it's made in the United States," said Mel Karfis of Livonia, a retired construction ironworker. His wife noted few such TVs are now.

Jack Morrison of Plymouth Township, retired from brick sales, had no immediate purchases in mind. "Probably just put it in the bank, I guess," said Morrison, adding he doesn't know how much he'll get. "I think maybe I'll pay my income tax."

Over at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia, sales manager Mike Schrieber was pleased.

"Business is pretty good," Schrieber said. "Any money that's put in the hands of people that live in this area is good for the economy in general."

He thinks customers mulling a car purchase but cautious about a down payment or making payments "will now have that little extra to work with." Those concerned about property values will buy American, the sales manager added.

"It allows them to make some of those purchases they've been dreaming about," Schrieber said.

Westland Floor Covering owner Richard Strausbaugh said this is their normal slower season, with January normal and February thus far slower. "We're hoping the final figures aren't too bad" for February, he said.

"I sure hope so," Strausbaugh said when asked if the rebates will boost business. He plans to offer 110 percent to customers who come in to spend rebate checks. "We're

definitely going to help the economy, personally," he said of his family, noting a TV purchase is in the works.

"I would imagine there's a pent-up demand for goods," Strausbaugh said. "I would hope it would help our business." Westland Floor Covering will mark its 48th anniversary this year.

Tracey Pawlowski owns Back Home Bakery in Canton. "I know personally ours is going in the bank," she said of the family's check, citing the volatile economy. "That money is our padding" in case her husband loses his job.

Pawlowski would like to take a vacation, but isn't rushing to make plans. "The beauty is everybody has a birthday, thank God," she said of business at Back Home Bakery.

Pawlowski, who grew up in Garden City, was a "jumper" with her sister for UPS this past holiday season, helping deliver packages. The women saw a lot of vacant, foreclosed homes, and an eviction. That was hard for her to

watch, and Pawlowski said even losing a business wouldn't be as bad. She hopes people hang on to their money, "just to help themselves."

Laura Van Vliet, owner of Eva's Bridal & Fashions in Garden City, is pleased with what she views as "a windfall" for customers.

"We were just discussing that. It certainly couldn't hurt us," said Van Vliet, who wouldn't want people to ignore mortgage payments but is hoping for increased business. Her store has moderate prices, which she said will help.

"Right now, we're into

proms." Eva's Bridal & Fashions also has bridal and mother of the bride dresses, said the owner, who's a member of the National Federation of Independent Businesses. That group anticipates help from the stimulus money.

"It will be a little extra cash," said Van Vliet. "I would think they would" spend.

"I really feel that people are going to hang onto the money for emergencies," said Mary Jo Mullen, executive director for the Redford Township Chamber of Commerce. "I don't think they're going to go out and buy."

Excelsior Energy Fund still a good investment after management change

Dear Rick: I received notice that Excelsior Funds has become Columbia Funds. I know you recommend Excelsior. I am curious about your thoughts now that it is Columbia.

I have liked the Excelsior Energy & Natural Resources Fund (UMESX). A number of years ago, I did some research and I confirmed

that a natural resource fund does belong in a portfolio. This allows an investor to further diversify and also to provide some hedge against rising energy prices.

The Excelsior Energy & Natural Resources Fund has been managed for more than 10 years by Mike Hoover. Members of the Investment Committee at my firm had the opportunity to discuss the changes happening with the company with representatives from Excelsior. They have been assured there will be no fundamental changes to

the fund and that Hoover will continue to manage the portfolio.

The Excelsior Energy & Natural Resources Fund has been very good and for current investors, I recommend they stay put. Despite having a difficult year so far, if you look at the fund's long-term track record, it has been very productive.

The Columbia Funds are managed by Columbia Management, which is the investment management division of Bank of America. Columbia Management, for the last number of years, has been aggressive in acquiring different mutual fund companies. In some cases, it has merged and consolidated funds. It has also acquired a fund company and left some of the funds as is.

Although I continue to like the Excelsior Energy & Natural Resources Fund, I will judge it like I do all other funds, based on performance over the long term. If other things occur such as defections from the portfolio management team, I will reconsider my opinion. That being said, my present recommendation is to keep the fund.

Dear Rick: I've always done my own tax return. I am getting to the point where it's getting too difficult to do on my own. Should I buy a software package or should I hire a professional?

I agree that tax returns have become more complex. If you are going to attempt to do your tax return on your own, use a software package such as Turbo Tax or Tax Cut. It makes preparing your return much easier and eliminates mathematical errors. If you file a return with mathematical errors, the IRS will take closer scrutiny of your tax return and that is something none of us want.

For filers who do not want to do their own tax return or have a complicated situation — such as they own a business or they have income in more than one state — it makes sense to hire a professional.

Just because someone knows how to prepare tax returns does not make him or her a professional. If you are having your return professionally prepared, spend a few extra dollars and make sure you are dealing with a professional

— someone who is dedicated to keeping current on the tax law changes and who is available to assist you on any issues throughout the year with regard to your tax return.

As a taxpayer, you are responsible for your return — whether you prepare it, use a software package or hire a professional.

As I have mentioned in previous columns, there is a program where you can obtain free software and do your return for free.

The IRS has partnered with many software companies to offer this service. To see if you qualify, visit the IRS Web site, www.irs.gov and click on "free file."

It is important to remember that tax returns, like everything in our society, have become more complex. So don't be stubborn. If you need help, hire a professional.

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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Hospital adds free Wi-Fi to services Hospital programs focus on wellness

At Garden City Hospital, patients recovering from illness and injury, together with their visitors, now have fewer "ailments" to contend with.

The addition of free hospital-wide Wi-Fi and a 24-hour, state-of-the-art deli and convenience store alleviate monotony and the munchies, turning downtime into productive time and offering a nutritious boost—even in the middle of the night.

"We want our patients and their visitors to feel comfortable and relaxed during their time with us," said Gary Ley, Garden City Hospital president and CEO. "By offering Wi-Fi for anyone who enters the hospital, we know family members, and often patients themselves, can keep in touch with loved ones through e-mail. New fathers can send birth announcements and photos immediately after the baby is born, and patients who are feeling up to it can use the Internet and stay connected with family, friends, and even work."

Because the munchies can strike any time, Garden City Hospital took the initiative to become the first hospital in the nation to utilize Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology in the high-tech Past Track convenience store. Meals, snacks and beverages can be purchased instantly. "Visitors, patients, and of



Patients - and their visitors - can stay connected to friends and family through free Wi-Fi now available at Garden City Hospital.

course, hospital staff, can purchase fresh salads, sandwiches, microwaveable meals and snacks 24 hours a day, seven days a week," said Julie Carrigan, director of food and nutrition services. "What makes the Past Track store unique is that it is completely unmanned."

Merchandise is automatically detected at checkout through a computer chip found on every item. Scanning takes only seconds to complete, and customers can use cash, credit, debit, their driver's license and even a thumbprint to complete purchases. Security systems guard against loss, which has proven to be a minor concern.

"We know it's sometimes difficult to leave a loved one's bedside. Visitors are relieved to know they can purchase a sandwich, that was made today,

and return to their loved one," confirmed Carrigan. "For us, Fast Track just makes sense in a hospital environment."

While delivering high-quality medical care is Garden City Hospital's focus, the comfort of patients, visitors and guests is important, too.

"We listened to our customers and recognized that while time in the hospital is sometimes essential for good health, that time also needs to be comfortable and convenient," said Ley.

Located on Inkster Road north of Ford in Garden City, Garden City Hospital provides comprehensive health care services, osteopathic medical education, and health care related programs to the community at large. For more information about Garden City Hospital, call (734) 458-3300 or visit its Web site at www.gchosp.org.

Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, offers a weekly schedule of health and wellness programs for residents. The lineup this week includes:

Monday, Feb. 18

Power Hour at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. An intense exercise class designed to take you to the next level in fitness. Every class will be different, but we guarantee that each one will be challenging and fun, with a variety of aerobic exercises to experience. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Childbirth Education (fifth of six classes) at 6 p.m. This six-week course prepares the expectant mother and coach for labor and delivery. Class runtime is 2½ hours and there is a \$60 fee. Medicaid is accepted. A refresher course also is available. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information or to register.

Tuesday, Feb. 19

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Diabetes Self-Management Education (first of four classes) at 9:30 a.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program

is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

Strength and Stretch at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. This is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help you strengthen and define your muscles, as well as increase your flexibility. Each class will combine a variety of equipment, including free weights, medicine balls, balance balls, and Therabands in order to isolate and tone each of the major muscle groups. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Power Hour at 3 and 5 p.m. An intense exercise class designed to take you to the next level in fitness. Every class will be different, but we guarantee that each one will be challenging and fun, with a variety of aerobic exercises to experience. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Yoga (third of four classes) at 4 p.m. Learn how to relax, stretch and breathe while creating balance, strength and flexibility for both the body and mind. This four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden City Hospital's Cardiac Rehab. Call (734) 458-3242 for details and to register.

Cerebral Aneurysm and Stroke Club at 7:30 p.m. Support is offered to those who have had an aneurysm or stroke as well as to their family and friends. The club meets every third Tuesday of the month to listen to various presentations and to promote interaction between people who have something in common. This free group is held in Garden City Hospital's Rehabilitation Unit dining room. For more information, please call (734) 458-4392.

Wednesday, Feb. 20

Power Hour at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. An intense exercise class designed to take you to the next level in fitness. Every class will be different, but we guarantee that each one will be challenging and fun, with a variety of aerobic exercises to experience. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Free blood pressure testing for senior citizens at 10:30 a.m. The staff of Garden City Hospital's Community Services offers blood pressure testing free of charge every other Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Maplewood Community Center on Maplewood just west of Merriman. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

CPAP and BIPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. Attention, CPAP and BIPAP users: Did you know that most insurances cover new supplies every year? Have you been wanting to try a new style of mask, but don't know how to get one? Garden City Hospital's Sleep Disorders Center can help. Visit the Sleep Disorders Center in Room 329 at Garden City Hospital, 5-6 p.m. any Wednesday for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed. Call (734) 458-3330 with any questions or for more information.

CPR -Adult at 6 p.m. Approved by the American Heart Association, the class provides hands-on CPR training to adults. Participants are prepared to respond to breathing and cardiac emergencies in victims, age 8 and above. This class is offered at Garden City Hospital's Health & Education Center, 6701 Harrison, just north of Maplewood. There is a \$40 fee.

Participants will receive certification upon successful completion. Call Community Education at (734) 458-4330 for more information.

Eating Disorders Support Group at 7 p.m. This support group is for those individuals with anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive and binge eating disorders. Both males and females are invited to attend. This meeting is held in the Garden City Hospital Auditorium. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

Thursday, Feb. 21

Strength and Stretch at 11 a.m. This is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help you strengthen and define your muscles, as well as increase your flexibility. Each class will combine a variety of equipment, including free weights, medicine balls, balance balls, and Therabands in order to isolate and tone each of the major muscle groups. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Get Up and Move at 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Diabetes Self-Management Education (first of four classes) at 6:30 p.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

Yoga (third of four classes) at 6:30 p.m. Learn how to relax, stretch and breathe while creating balance, strength and flexibility for both the body and mind. This four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden City Hospital's Cardiac Rehab. Call (734) 458-3242 for details and to register.

Friday, Feb. 22

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Power Hour at 10 a.m. and 1, 3 and 5 p.m. An intense exercise class designed to take you to the next level in fitness. Every class will be different, but we guarantee that each one will be challenging and fun, with a variety of aerobic exercises to experience. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Strength and Stretch at 2 p.m. This is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help you strengthen and define your muscles, as well as increase your flexibility. Each class will combine a variety of equipment, including free weights, medicine balls, balance balls, and Therabands in order to isolate and tone each of the major muscle groups. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

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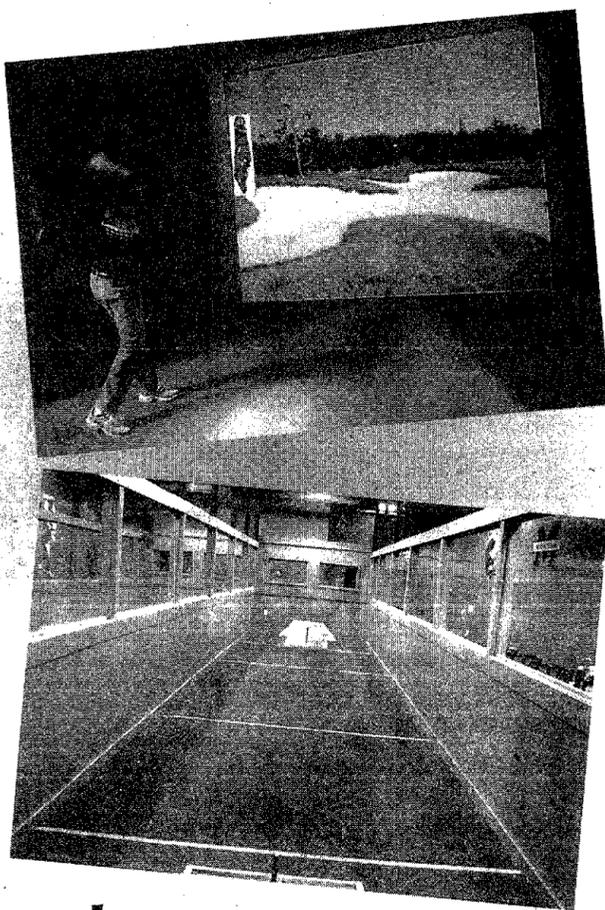
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Westland man gets caught by CUPID

A 45-year-old Westland man was struck by CUPID's arrow, but instead of a Valentine, he ended up being arrested for felony non-payment of child support.

Bradley Bingham was arrested as a part of Operation CUPID (Children Unsupported by Parents Intervention Detail) on felony warrants related to their failure to pay significant amounts of child support.

The three-day sweep during Valentine's Day week nabbed 80 individuals on felony warrants related to their failure to pay significant amounts of child support. Currently, there is an estimated \$3.5 billion in unpaid back child support owed to Wayne County children and their custodial parents. Bingham



Bingham

owes \$82,000 in child support for his two sons, according to the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans and Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy developed and coordinated the intensified effort, which is an extension of the work their offices do through their Felony Non-Support units to hold non-custodial parents. Some 40 sheriff's deputies were involved in the three-day sweep that ended Valentine's Day.

"Failing to financially support your own children when you have

the ability to pay is a crime, both legally and morally speaking," Evans said. "Every dollar that is collected as a result of this effort can be used to by custodial parents to purchase their kids the new clothes, school supplies - or even food - they need to thrive."

For this operation, Worthy's office identified 400 individuals who owe a collective \$14 million and have been charged with felony child non-support, have not-in-custody warrants issued for their arrest, have violated the terms of their probation on prior child support related convictions and have failed to appear in court on a prior case involving their failure to pay child support.

"The money we collect makes a tremendous impact and enhance

es the quality of life for so many children," Worthy said. "Without these funds some children are forced to go with out the basic necessities of life."

In addition to Bradley, Operation CUPID also arrested Michael Fryer, 47, of Detroit, who owes \$120,000 in child support for three sons, and John Head, 48, of Dearborn, who owes \$100,000 in support for a daughter and son.

All of those arrested have been charged with four-year felonies, but can have the charges dropped, if they begin making regular payments, Worthy said.

"It is important to note that we did not target anyone who may be just a couple of months behind or who have no income to make payments," Evans said. "These are the most egregious and recalcitrant deadbeat parents in Wayne County who have failed, often multiple times, to comply with court orders to pay."

Evans and Worthy both pointed out that their ultimate goal is not to put people in jail or prison, which would affect their ability to pay child support, but to use the possibility of a felony conviction as an incentive for noncustodial parents to own up to their legal obligations to their children.

Legislative proposals focus on encouraging energy efficiencies

A local state senator is co-sponsoring a bipartisan package of bills that will help create a market for renewable energy in Michigan. This legislation provides various tax incentives to encourage the production and purchase of renewable energy as well as providing financial incentives for people to increase the energy efficiency of their homes.

"These measures, along with a strong Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) like the ones passed in 20 other states and efficiency standards, will help make Michigan a leader in the field of renewable energy," said State Sen. Glenn S. Anderson, D-Westland. "This package will help people save money, limit our dependence on foreign oil, and preserve our precious natural resources."

Last year, Anderson co-sponsored Senate Bill 385, which would establish an aggressive RPS for Michigan. The bill would mandate that 20 percent of electricity used in Michigan come from renewable resources such as wind, biomass from

agriculture, hydro, or solar power by 2020.

Highlights of the new renewable energy package include bills that would:

- Require the Department of Management and Budget to enter into contracts with electrical energy providers to purchase increasing amounts of electricity from renewable sources.
- Require energy companies to offer "green energy" programs to their customers.
- Provide an income tax credit for the purchase of renewable energy.
- Provide a sales tax exemption for equipment used to construct a renewable energy facility or to rehabilitate an existing facility to enhance its renewable capacity.
- Provide residents with a tax credit to purchase energy efficient products.
- Create 20 additional renaissance zones for renewable energy facilities.
- Create a Renewable Energy Commission to promote renewable energy research.

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OUR VIEWS

Diversity of candidates shows how far we've come

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness."
— Declaration of Independence

With Presidents Day being observed on Monday, we couldn't help but think about the current presidential race and reflect on how far we have come as a country.

Never before in U.S. history has a more diverse group of candidates been seriously considered by voters for the highest office in the land.

The candidates, including Mitt Romney, a Mormon who recently dropped out of the race, have varied in age, religion, race and gender.

The Nov. 4, 2008, election may see America electing its first woman president or its first black president since its founding more than 232 years ago.

Even voters who don't agree with Hillary Rodham Clinton's or Barack Obama's political platforms must admit we've come a long way in recent decades toward truly believing one of our core founding truths: That all men (people) are created equal.

It wasn't until 1920 that women won the right to vote.

And it was even later, in 1964, that the Civil Rights Act was passed outlawing discrimination based on race, color and religion.

Now a woman and a black, who even has support from Southern states, are the top two contenders for the Democratic nomination.

Of course, one area remains where the playing field is not yet equal. It takes money — millions — to run for president. The diverse group of candidates does not include one pauper.

But Presidents Day is a good time to celebrate how far we have come — and it's been a long way, baby.

LETTERS

The bottom line is jobs

"Jobs" are the bottom line during this era of economic turmoil in Michigan. It is encouraging to see that Speaker Dillon has done his part to secure jobs for this district. The tax abatements he secured for local businesses like Steel Pro and Detroit Diesel led directly to the creation of 200 jobs in our district.

Social issues and programs are nice where and when they're warranted, but without jobs, no one will be around to enjoy them. Speaker Dillon understands that. Andy, I am proud to have you serving this community.

Amy Hichez
Redford

Disturbing situation

The TV ad campaign that Blue Cross is running to promote a bill in the Michigan Legislature is very disturbing to me.

I am disturbed by two of the three reasons the ads speak of. First it would "cap insurance company profits." Who would cap them and what gives that person or committee the financial, business, economic, accounting and moral wisdom to know what should be the limit? Is 8% all right, but 8.1% too much?

Likewise the next statement in the ad is that the bill would "stop unfair premium hikes." Unfair by whose standard? To one policyholder a hike of \$5 per month is "unfair," yet another wouldn't blink at a \$30 a month hike. Yet others would consider any premium hike at all as "unfair."

What if a health insurance company started to lose money and needed a premium hike to avoid bankruptcy and closure, yet to stay in business might require an "unfair premium hike." Of course, if the present company went out of business those with pre-existing medical

conditions might not be able to replace their health insurance even at the rates they might have paid with those "unfair premium hikes."

As almost always, government actions have unintended consequences. I guarantee that if this bill passes with those provisions it will further mess up health care in Michigan. The sadder thing is that the majority of Michigan residents are almost totally ignorant of economics and will think this bill is a great idea.

(Disclosure: I am not a stockholder or employee of any insurance company nor involved in the sale of insurance. I also have not read the bill in question, but then I doubt most members of the Legislature have or will read it either.)

Lee Zendei
Rochester Hills

'Supers' disfranchise vote

As a reasonably intelligent senior — my academic credentials are somewhere between a G.E.D. and a Ph.D. — and having passed Civics 101 during the building of the Great Pyramid, and just when I was beginning to fathom the RNC/DNC-controlled gobbledygook of the Electoral Kindergarten, a new and further bastardization of the system envisioned by the founders has ratched up my political quandary. As the King said: "It's a puzzlement!"

Now we're told that if the Clinton-Obama race becomes inconclusive, another anomalous, mind-boggling, quixotic political obfuscation called super delegates will decide the nominee. Who are these supers? Ostensibly they're a coven of 800 super wise, contemplative Merlins, i.e., party big shots and a smorgasbord of unknown political lackeys, who will tell us who our choice is. Gawd! And to think we used to make jokes about the Soviets' one-candidate system!

If anyone still believes the "Your vote counts"

mantra, I have \$1 each shares in Dubai's man-made island paradise. Given P.T. Barnum's famous prognostication, I expect a tsunami-level sales bonanza.

William Carruth
Royal Oak

Disgraceful Democrats

Has Hillary pulled another scam?

First, her faked crying.

Second, more crying at Yale.

Third, has she faked the writing of her personal check of \$5 million to her campaign in order to make her followers feel bad so they would send the \$6 million she received after the announcement from her staff that they were not being paid?

Of course the Clintons have the plan to have the super delegates to vote her in instead of being elected by the people and will do so if Obama is the choice. Just look at the super delegates she trusts — Gore, Berger, Carter, Dean, Reno, and the list goes on and on. The entire group has lots of baggage and carries no credibility in the Washington political scheme.

Haven't we experienced enough untruths with the Clintons since coming out of Whitewater and the other disgraces the president and the first lady did while they reduced our national security with all their cuts in military spending, the opening of several gate scams and the expense of the impeachment process?

Every voter should be made aware of all the scams we in the Detroit area have seen with our own elected governor and mayor's election — it will be the same no matter which Democrat is the final candidate. Either Democrat will disgrace the USA by pulling our troops out of Iraq before we win this war.

Don Wharff
Rochester Hills

GOVERNMENT CONNECTION

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm
Send correspondence to P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909, or call Constituent Services at (517) 335-7858. The fax number is (517) 335-6863.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson
Contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI, 48933; by phone at (517) 373-1707; or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

State Rep. Andy Dillon
Send e-mails to andydillon@house.mi.gov and written correspondence to his attention at 166 Capitol Building, P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514 or by fax at (517) 373-5976. His Lansing phone number is (517) 373-0857. He also has a Web site, house.mi.gov/adillon.

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc
Send e-mails to richardleblanc@house.mi.gov and written correspondence to his attention at N0697 House Office Building, P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514 or by fax at (517) 373-5962. His Lansing phone number is (517) 373-2576 and he has his own Web site, house.mi.gov/rleblanc.

State Rep. Bob Constan
Send e-mails to bobconstan@house.mi.gov and written correspondence to his attention at N0695 House Office Building, P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514 or by fax at (517) 373-5967. His Lansing phone number is (517) 373-0849. He also has a Web site, house.mi.gov/bconstan.

U.S. Sen. Carl Levin
His Washington, D.C. mailing address is 269 Russell Office Building, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-2202. Call him at (202) 224-6221. The fax number is (202) 224-1388. He also has offices in Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Ave., Room 1860, in Detroit. The local phone number is (313) 226-6020, TTY (800) 851-0030 and fax at (313) 226-6948. He also has a Web site, levin.senate.gov.

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow
In Washington, D.C., the address is 133 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Call her there at (202) 224-4822, TTY (202) 224-2066, or e-mail her at senator@stabenow.senate.gov. In Detroit, her office is at 243 W. Congress, Suite 550. Call (313) 961-4330. She also has a Web site, stabenow.senate.gov.

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter
His Washington, D.C., mailing address is 1632 Longworth House Office Building, Washington D.C. 20515. Call him at (202) 225-8171 or send a fax by dialing (202) 225-2667. His district office is at 17197 N. Laurel Park Dr., Suite 161, Livonia, MI 48152. Call him at (734) 632-0314 or send a fax at (734) 632-0373. He also has a Web site, mccotter.house.gov.

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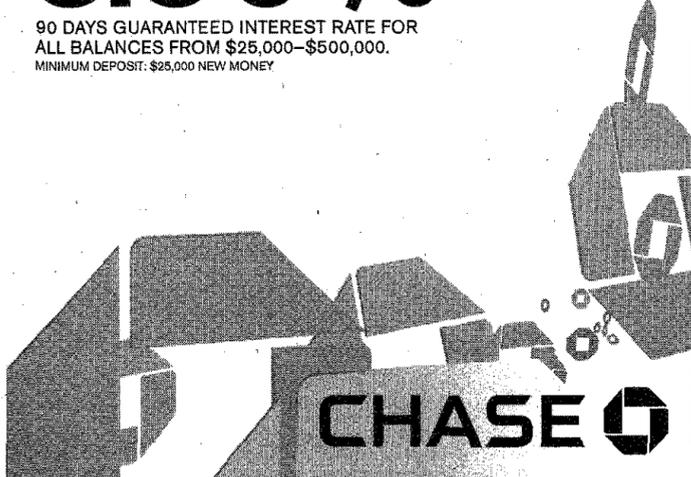
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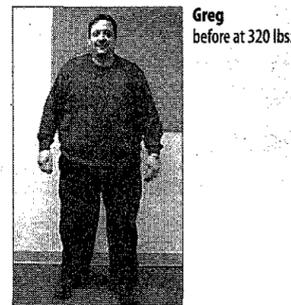
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'Pursuit of Happyness' author speaks at Music Hall Feb. 28

Christopher Gardner, who inspired the movie *The Pursuit of Happyness* comes to Detroit to share his inspirational "rags-to-riches" story 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, at Detroit's Music Hall Center. Gardner will discuss his struggles of being homeless and his incredible journey to becoming the CEO and owner of Christopher Gardner International Holdings.

Unfortunate circumstances left Gardner and his toddler son homeless on the streets of San Francisco in the early 1980s. A man driving a red Ferrari became the major turning point in Gardner's life. He realized what he wanted for his and his son's future and what it would take to get there. As a father first, and a businessman second, Gardner's story is one of overcoming obstacles, facing the daunting task of balancing life's responsibilities, and ultimately succeeding.

Despite not possessing any connections or a college degree, Gardner, who wanted to be a stockbroker, managed to earn a place in the Dean Witter Reynolds' training program and was offered a position there in 1981. Gardner spent time at Bear



Christopher Gardner, who's story inspired the movie "The Pursuit of Happyness."

Stearns & Co. from 1983 to 1987, eventually becoming the top earner in San Francisco and later in New York. Gardner left in 1987 to establish Gardner Rich & Company, Inc., which has since expanded into Christopher Gardner International Holdings. Gardner's bestselling autobiography, *The Pursuit of Happyness*, recalls this remarkable journey and is also the inspiration behind the movie

starring Will Smith.

African American Family Magazine's Distinguished Speakers Series presents America's most intellectual, inspirational and informative speakers who engage broad-based audiences by addressing issues such as history, race, literature, economics and education. The series has had notable, such as the late Coretta Scott King, author and poet Maya Angelou, Nobel Laureate and Pulitzer Prize recipient Toni Morrison, Sheila Johnson, the world's first black female billionaire and, most recently, former President Bill Clinton.

"The Pursuit of Happyness: Meet the Real Christopher Gardner" is produced by African American Family Magazine. This event is also sponsored by DTE Energy Foundation, Fifth Third Bank, Central Michigan University, McDonald's, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Metro Parent Magazine, International Black Expo, Inc., WMXD 92.3 and Warner, Norcross and Judd. Partial proceeds from this event will benefit The Yes Foundation, a local 501c3 nonprofit organization that works to promote literacy in Detroit.

High school students: Film a PSA video, win

The *Observer & Eccentric* and *Mirror Newspapers* are teaming up with Buddy's Pizza to sponsor a public service announcement video contest for high school students.

The winning team will receive \$1,000 to be divided among the participating students.

Schools throughout the tri-county area are invited to produce a 30-second PSA video focusing on teen issues.

"The contest will give high school students an opportunity to send a powerful message that impacts their peers and the community on topics including, but not limited, to the dangers of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, bullying, cyber-bullying and violence," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's.

Completed student PSA videos are due by midnight Tuesday, April 1. They will stay on the Buddy's Web site throughout April for the public to view and vote for their favorite video. Detroit media professionals will select the winner from the top 10 public favorites.

Student teams interested in participating should e-mail or fax their school name, student project manager and name of high school adviser with address, telephone and e-mail contact to Buddy's Pizza, Attn: Michelle at (248) 855-6329 or mlawton@buddyspizza.com by 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25.

CONTEST RULES

Each video must include some representation of Buddy's Pizza and the *Observer & Eccentric* or *Mirror Newspapers* (i.e.: filmed at a Buddy's Pizza location,

Buddy's logo in video, *Observer & Eccentric* and/or *Mirror Newspaper* visible at some point in video). Also included must be the tagline "Sometimes you just need some Buddy's... Seriously!"

Entries received after deadline will be disqualified.

A school team (one per high school) entering the contest must have a school staff member to supervise the project. No copyrighted audio or video materials will be allowed. Only public domain and royalty free music is allowed. No obscenities, vulgarity or lurid material will be permitted and disqualification will be at the discretion of the judges.

All entries become the legal property of Buddy's Pizza to utilize at their sole discretion and will not be returned. Entry in the contest constitutes permission to use winner's video without additional compensation.

Each school can submit only one video for judging.

Release forms must be filled out and signed by all participants, on-air and voice-over talent used in the video.

For more information on uploading submitted videos to YouTube and a complete list of rules, contact Michelle Lawton at (248) 855-6222, Ext. 212, or via e-mail at mlawton@buddyspizza.com or Brontman at (248) 626-0250 or visit Buddy's on the Web at www.buddyspizza.com.

Student teams must save their original video. The top 10 selected by viewers from the online poll must submit a high quality version for final judging. Winners will be contacted for further instructions.

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SPORTS

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Sunday, February 17, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Brad Emons, editor (734) 953-2123. bemons@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

Chargers stun Spartans to ice Lakes title

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

There's an old adage that says, roughly, if you don't learn from history you're bound to repeat it. Apparently, history was a good lesson for Churchill's hockey team. Third-ranked Churchill, just two weeks after a 5-1 pasting at the hands of top-ranked Stevenson on Jan. 31, turned the tables on the Spartans, handing them their first loss of the season, 6-2, and claiming the Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division title. The Chargers depended heavily on their top line — Garrett Miencier, Nathan Milam and Keith Yackley — to advance

to Friday's WLAA title game against Northville, 6 p.m. at the Eddie Edgar Arena. "I think the first game (Jan. 31) we got too excited and made it bigger than what it was," said Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni. "They jumped out to an early lead, their special teams were better than ours. (Wednesday) was just the opposite. Our special teams got us a couple goals and we got the early lead." Miencier (two goals), Milam (two goals) and Yackley (goal) did most of the damage for Churchill (19-4), helping the Chargers score six times on 30 shots. Goalkeeper Greg Wirick made sure the barrage stood up, stopping 14 of 16 shots to get the victory.

"(Wirick) played a good game, played well enough to keep us out of trouble," Mazzoni said. "(Miencier-Milam-Yackley) have been our go-to line all year, and they came to play (Wednesday). "I thought we did a pretty good job of limiting (Stevenson's) second chances," Mazzoni added, "and we were much more disciplined with our forecheck." Stevenson got goals from Sean Lerg (with assists from John Vella and Mike Voran) and Cole Rochowiak (assists coming from Mark Bekkala and R.J. Kierdorf), but it wasn't enough. "Churchill is a quality hockey team," Stevenson coach Dave Mitchell said. "You know if you

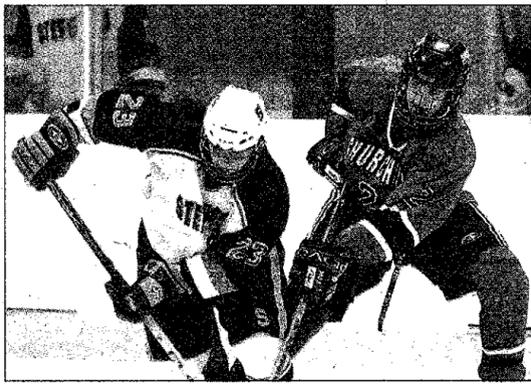


PHOTO BY DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

Stevenson senior Michael Jahn and Churchill senior Nicklaus Harakas do battle during the Chargers' 6-2 upset of top-ranked and previously unbeaten Stevenson Wednesday.

Please see **CHARGERS, B2**

Signlines

CHS Hall of Fame

The sixth annual Livonia Churchill Athletic Patrons Hall of Fame induction dinner will be Thursday, March 13 at the Italian-American Hall in Livonia.

Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar begin at 6 p.m. followed by welcome and introductions and dinner at 6:45 p.m. The program follows from 7:30-9 p.m.

This year's honorees include former football and baseball coach Herb Osterland, football standout Mike Brooks (1991) and the 1985 and 1995 boys golf teams coached by Roger Strong and Kirk Osler.

Tickets are \$35 per person (prior to March 1); or \$40 (after March 1).

Checks should be made payable to the Churchill Athletic Patrons (CAP) and sent to: Kathy Varilone, CAP Treasurer, 14384 Hix Road, Livonia, MI 48154.

Livonia ice show

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage its 21st bi-annual ice show "On the Radio" at 7 p.m. Friday, March 14 and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 15 at Edgar Ice Arena, 33841 Lyndon (north of I-96 between Stark and Farmington roads).

Tickets go on sale beginning Monday, Feb. 25 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road). Tickets are \$4.75 (children 12-and-under); \$7 (seniors 55-and-up); and \$8 (adults).

For more information, call (734) 466-2900.

Baseball camp

Livonia Franklin will stage its second annual Future Stars Spring Baseball Camp for boys and girls in grades 4-6 on Saturday, March 1 at the high school field-house.

Session 1, consisting of hitting and base running skills, will be from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. followed by Session 2 focusing on pitching, infield and outfield defense will be from 12:30-3 p.m.

Each camper will bring their own sack lunch, which break between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The cost is \$25 per session or \$45 for both. Campers should bring a glove, bat and athletic shoes.

Checks should be made payable to Franklin High School and sent to: Matt Fournier, Franklin Baseball Camp, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia, MI 48150.

For more information, call Fournier at (734) 968-0499; or e-mail him at mfournie2@livonia.k12.mi.us.

Wayne, Glenn reach WLAA hoop final

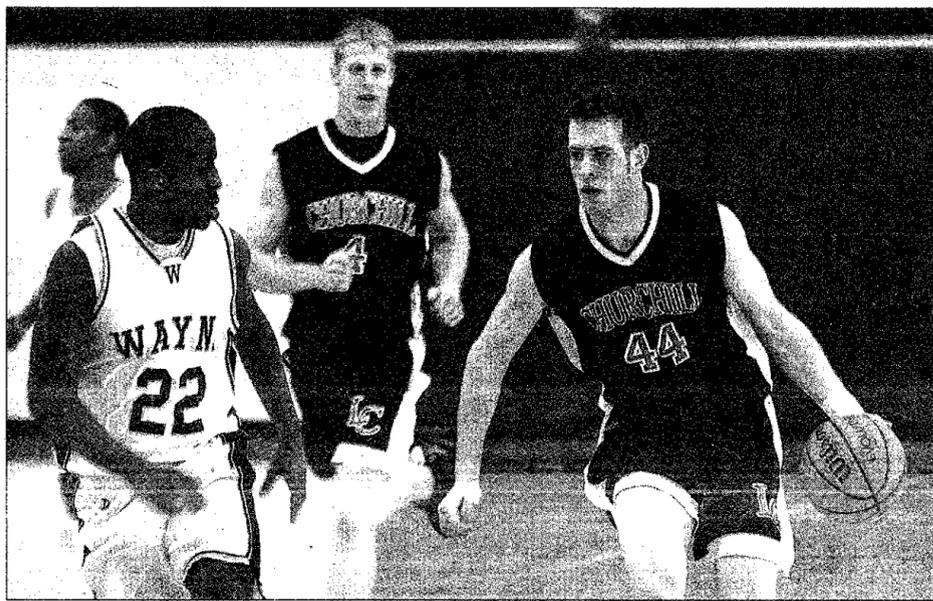


PHOTO BY DOUG BARGERSTOCK

Livonia Churchill's Ryan Rosenick (right) tries to drive past Matt Lewis of Wayne Memorial in a WLAA semifinal game Friday. Wayne Memorial won, 75-50.

Rockets fizzle in mat district final

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

The last two years, Belleville wrestling coach Mike Sherman has watched the Westland John Glenn Rockets end the prep wrestling season for his Tigers.

So it was a case of sweet revenge for Sherman when Belleville went into Glenn Thursday and turned the tables on the Rockets, beating them 45-22 in a Division I team wrestling district final.

After dropping the first match at 130 pounds, Belleville reeled off victories in eight straight weight classes, including three pins and four major decisions, to post a victory that wasn't as close as even the final score might indicate. "They ended our season two years in a row when we thought we had pretty good teams," Sherman said. "It was nice to come in here and return the favor."

Glenn's Jared Stephens got the Rockets started with a 19-11 major decision over Belleville's Tim Coak at 130 pounds. The Rockets didn't win again, however, until 285-pounder Dustin Gajowiak beat Emmanuel Fields on a disqualification.

Including Gajowiak's win, Glenn won three of the final five matches to close the gap a little. Anthony Pavlich (103 pounds) pinned Brendan Papin in just 28 seconds — the fastest pin of the night — and unbeaten Jeremiah Austin pinned Tyler Schneider in 5:56 at 125 pounds.

"I knew that kind of score was possible," said Glenn coach Bill Polk, who admitted his lineup was missing a couple of starters. "If we had wrestled well, it could have gone the other way, but we didn't."

"We lost a couple of key matchups, but there are no excuses," Polk added. "We didn't wrestle well, and they did."

The win propels Belleville into a regional semifinal matchup Wednesday with host Temperance Bedford, which won the Southgate district. The loss leaves John Glenn focusing on the individual postseason tournaments.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Glenn's Jeremiah Austin tries to turn Wayne's Jalen Jones in the first period in their district semifinal match Thursday evening.

Zebras run away from Chargers in WLAA semifinal

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

When host Wayne Memorial took a 34-29 halftime lead over Livonia Churchill Friday night, the hundred or so fans scattered throughout the stands hunkered down for a tight Western Lakes Activities Association semi-final prep basketball battle.

But they didn't get one. The Zebras (17-2) scored the first six points of the third quarter, then opened the final period with a 10-0 burst and ran away for a 75-50 win over the Chargers to land a spot in Thursday's WLAA championship game.

Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said his kids took a couple of questionable shots in the first half, a fact

of which he reminded them during the break.

"I told them at halftime I never put reins on them (as far as shooting) but there is a difference between good shots and bad shots," Woodard said. "We had a couple of guys hit some shots (in the second half), and we just caught fire."

Please see **HOOP, B2**

Rockets rebound well in win over Mustangs

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

When John Glenn beat Northville, 56-55, last Thursday, the Rockets had to hold their collective breath while the Mustangs missed a last-second chance to win.

There was no such breath-holding necessary in the rematch Friday.

Using tight defense and a punishing rebounding effort, the Rockets (18-1) pounded Northville, 55-39, in a Western Lakes Activities Association semi-final matchup that earned Glenn a spot in Thursday's league final against Wayne Memorial.

The Zebras hammered Livonia

Churchill, 75-50, in the other Friday semifinal. The Rockets grabbed 27 offensive rebounds and dished out more than 20 assists in a team effort that won them the game.

"We just really defended, we rebounded the ball and we shared the ball," Glenn coach Dan Young said. "It was a tough game, they were guarding, too, but we didn't give them anything easy."

It was a far cry from last week's game, when Glenn gave up a 16-point lead they led with a minute left in the third quarter, then had to hang on for the victory. On Friday, the Rockets built a 10-point halftime lead and never looked back.

In last week's game, Northville's Dan Kirkpatrick scored 20 points. Friday

night, Glenn's Stefan Marken held Kirkpatrick to just nine points, while scoring 11 himself.

Earl Hardison led the Rockets with 16 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, while Austin Anderson scored 10 points and dished out 11 assists.

Junior Derrick Crosby scored only two points, but he had 13 rebounds, and 6-8 center Jordan Manier had 18 rebounds, including eight on the offensive glass.

"They are a physically strong, well-coached team, so this was huge for us," Young said. "To hold those guys to 39 points ... was obviously playoff-type basketball."

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MU SPORTS INFORMATION

As a freshman, outfielder Rikco Rhoades provided an offensive and defensive boost to the Crusaders. He is one of several excellent fly-catchers in the fold for 2008.

Madonna eyes top of baseball standings

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

It's just mid-February. But, believe it or not, the Madonna Crusaders' baseball team plays games that will count in the standings this weekend in Jackson, Tenn.

The Crusaders get to work at Lambuth University for a three-game set before embarking on a 13-game

spring trip in Arizona. But head coach Greg Haeger is excited about the 2008 squad, with a blend of power, speed and outstanding pitching that could make it one of the best in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

There are eight top-notch pitchers, including holdover right-hander Will Kennedy (Westland John Glenn, 1.15 ERA in 2007), vying for a six-man starting rotation.

"This is the best team we've had here," said Haeger, following yet another indoor workout at the Madonna Activities Center. "We have so many components."

Madonna went 34-20 overall and 15-9 in the conference in 2007, bowing out to Spring Arbor in the NAIA Region VIII regional championship.

Please see **MADONNA, B2**

Clarenceville pulls away in Metro semifinal

Lonnie Fairfax scored 19 points and Craig VonNostrand added 14 and Livonia Clarenceville used a 21-6 second-quarter edge to pull away for a 67-47 Metro Conference semi-final victory over Grosse Pointe University Liggett Friday.

Liggett kept the game close for eight minutes, trailing just 15-13, but the Trojans pulled away in the second period and never looked back.

BOYS HOOPS

Clarenceville (17-1, 10-0 Metro) took advantage of free throw opportunities, hitting 15-of-19 from the line to just 5-of-8 for Liggett.

Mark Ghafari led Liggett with 18.

ROCHESTER HILLS LUTHERAN NORTHWEST 46, LUTHERAN WESTLAND 32: Northwest won the fifth-place game in the Metro Conference tournament in Rochester Hills Friday, going

up 27-13 at the half and never looking back. The Crusaders outscored the Warriors 27-18 in the second half. Steve Miskovich and Steve Sadler scored 11 apiece and Matt Rolf and Steve Schrupp had 10 points apiece for Northwest (8-9, 5-5). Josh Kruger scored nine for Westland (2-8 conference play).

BAPTIST PARK 52, HURON VALLEY 31: Aaron Howell scored 13 points to lead Huron Valley, which shot 10-of-23 from the free throw line. Caleb Thompson led Baptist with 17.

CHARGERS

FROM PAGE B1

don't bring your 'A' game, they have a potent offense and they can score some goals."

If the teams continue at their current pace, Wednesday's game shouldn't be the last meeting between two of the state's top teams. Waiting

on the horizon: A potential date in the second game of the pre-regional in two weeks at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

"I think there's a good chance we'll see each other in two weeks," Mazzoni said. "We both have to obviously win some games to get there, but it's a good possibility."

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MADONNA

FROM PAGE B1

Just like last season, Haeger said the 2008 Crusaders have the right stuff to contend in the WHAC and make noise in the postseason tournaments.

"We're very confident about what we can do," he emphasized. "We feel like teams are going to have a difficult time playing us."

Two big reasons for his excitement are the return of a healthy David Herrick (Westland/Livonia Churchill) and junior transferee Zach McMillin, a fast, defensive whiz who could become the leadoff batter and starting center-fielder.

"He's kind of like our Energizer Bunny," said Haeger about McMillin, who played at Lansing Community College last year. "He's a high-output kind of kid who is hard-working and a great team guy."

Herrick, a senior slugger, tore an anterior cruciate ligament early last year, ending a promising season that began with 17 hits in his 34 at bats (.500).

Following is a closer look at how the team stacks up:

CATCHER

Apparently healthy, Herrick will divide time between designated hitter, first base and catcher — which is the only position Haeger doesn't have a lot of experience at.

For certain, Haeger knows Herrick will be a big thumper in the middle of the lineup, regardless of where he plays.

"He'll be a very big part of our offense," the coach said. "We'll bat him in the middle of the lineup, he's a difficult out. He was having a great offensive year last year before he got hurt."

Haeger and his coaching staff, including Mike George (who is taking on more of a role to work with the catchers) decided to work Herrick into consideration at the position.

"As a staff we've been looking to make sure we have a little bit of age behind the plate," Haeger said. "So David's been getting some increased reps."

Freshmen catcher Tarik Khasawneh (Canton, redshirted in 2007) likely will see a good amount of action, too, at least until hard-hitting sophomore Zack Flavin returns from injury.

"Tarik has really improved this year, he'll have an opportunity to start a game down there (in Tennessee)," Haeger said. "Tarik's made great strides."

Other first-year receivers looking to earn a spot include Drew Adamiec (Walled Lake Central) and Matt Kondziolka.

"He'll be a very big part of our offense. We'll bat him in the middle of the lineup, he's a difficult out. He was having a great offensive year last year before he got hurt."

INFIELD

Slick defense and plenty of extra-base power will be other plentiful traits of the 2008 Crusaders, at least if the players transfer their talent to the field.

Starting at third base will be senior transferee Pat Kenny (Saginaw Valley), backed up by freshman and Livonia Stevenson alum Nick Plinka.

"Defensively, he (Kenny) has great hands and very good arm strength," Haeger said. "And he has good gap-type power at the plate."

Kenny has such a great arm that he is being seriously considered to be the team's closer.

As for Plinka, he has garnered notice for his hard work in the training room, where he added about 10 pounds of muscle to his frame.

"Nick is getting stronger, he's got some offensive pop in his bat," Haeger said. "He has things to work on, as many freshmen do when they come to college. Right now, he's a bench player at this point."

Over at shortstop, the Crusaders will open with another transfer player — senior Levi Cheshire (Troy/Austin Peay

PLAY BALL!

What: Madonna baseball team opens 2008 season with weekend set against Lambuth University at Jackson, Tenn. Games include a Saturday doubleheader and a nine-inning game today at 11 a.m.

Staff: Head coach Greg Haeger begins his 12th season at the helm. He has a staff including Mike George, who actually helmed the first MU team in 1993, as well as Stu Rose, Ted Falkner and Kyle Fedorka.

Locals: The Crusaders feature a number of Observerland players. They include pitcher Will Kennedy (Westland John Glenn), DH-C-1B David Herrick (Westland/Livonia Churchill), pitcher Carl McDevitt (Canton), pitcher Richard Hammer (Garden City) and first baseman Kevin Zerbo (Farmington).

Crop of 2008: Promising freshmen include infielder Nick Plinka (Livonia Stevenson), pitcher Sean Sciba (Westland/Livonia Franklin), outfielder Shawn Little (Canton), catcher Tarik Khasawneh (Canton), and pitcher Andy Omilian (Plymouth).

Home opener: The Crusaders won't play at Ilitch Ballpark in Livonia until 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 26 against Indiana Tech.

University). Cheshire takes over the role vacated by the graduations of Kyle Fedorka and Matt Humenay, but he appears capable of doing just that.

"Levi's just got outstanding defensive skills, he's a very good baseball player," Haeger said. "He's got all the ingredients."

Promising freshmen shortstops with big-time potential are Northville's Dominic Benavides and Rochester's Mike Gansser.

Haeger expects both to chip in as utility players in 2008, but both are destined to start — somewhere in the infield — in 2009.

"As a staff, we're tickled pink with these two kids that they can play middle infield positions," Haeger said. "We're trying to figure out where they're going to suit this program best — not this year, but next year."

Returning to nail down the second-base job is junior Ryan Morrow (.344), who led Madonna in hitting much of last year and also provides "excellent defense with great speed."

When Herrick isn't playing first base, Farmington's Kevin Zerbo will.

The powerful Zerbo (6-2, 240) sparked as a Madonna freshman in 2005 with a .340 average and six home runs before leaving the program and playing at Henry Ford Community College.

"He's bigger and stronger than he was back then," Haeger said. "Between Kevin and David, you're looking at our first basemen or DHs."

Another backup infielder will be sophomore Drew Fry, who is continuing to improve. "Drew has been a very good baseball player for us," Haeger said.

OUTFIELD

Probably the areas where Madonna has the most competition will be outfield and on the mound.

McMillin has an early jump on playing center, a position nailed down in 2007 by then-freshman Rikco Rhoades (.260).

This time around, Rhoades could start anywhere in the outfield or not at all — that's how outstanding the top candidates are, especially at flagging down anything hit their way.

"Rikco's a very good defensive outfielder already," Haeger said. "But he came on a lot offensively during the season and is another kid who is probably 15 pounds stronger than he was last year. He has impressed the staff with the bat."

West Bloomfield product Mike Cauzillo, a senior, is another dependable outfielder who is working to bounce back from a disappointing season at the plate (.212).

"But he (Cauzillo) had a good fall and he's had a real good winter, so we're hoping he can get some confidence," Haeger said.

Others pushing the top three are junior Scott Boyer (.313, three homers and 15 RBI in 32 at-bats) and Canton's Shawn Little — a second-year freshman who was redshirted in 2007.

Boyer already has the attention of the always-dedicated coaching staff, which includes hitting coach Stu Rose, Ted Falkner, George (who started the MU baseball program in 1993) and Fedorka (as a graduate assistant coach).

But it is Little who could really amp up the discussion, after he recovers from a hamstring injury that will keep him from traveling to Tennessee.

"He (Little) is a very dynamic player," Haeger said. "He has great speed, great power and is a very strong kid."

The sixth outfielder on the depth chart is promising Adam Bailey.

PITCHING

Will Kennedy (5-1 last year) probably is the ace of what could be an outstanding, championship-type starting rotation. Eight juniors and seniors are in the mix for the six-man rotation.

"Will had a fantastic year, the third best ERA in the country at 1.15," Haeger said. "Going into his senior year he's only had three losses in his college career. He's been a great pitcher for us. We expect another great year out of him."

Lefthander Eric Wendling, a senior who went 6-3 with a 3.25 ERA in 2007, shared the top role a season ago with Kennedy. "He didn't have a single soft start. Those two will lead our charge, I guess you'd say."

But Haeger also could slot any of six others into the 1-2 spots of his rotation, without any concern.

Newcomer Richard Lindquist (a senior righty from Mott Community College) throws in the low-90s. "Richard's got a great, powerful arm and great stuff."

Oxford junior southpaw Sean Maher, another addition to the squad, throws in the upper 80s and "has a great breaking ball."

Then there's Lansing Community College transfer Jeff Sonnenberg (a junior right-hander who was 8-2 last season), returning senior righty Ryan Bardoni, sophomore righty Keegan Beaton (a Crusader in 2006) and Northville freshman Bret Spencer (a right-hander who was player of the year in his conference in 2007).

"They're so even across the board," Haeger said. "It's a very competitive place to be."

Senior side-arming righties John McCracken and Carl McDevitt will be called upon to help close out ballgames. "We like both of them," Haeger said.

If Kenny shows he is able to throw strikes, he could be the closer — taking a short walk from third base late in contests.

"He'll stand on the mound and throw the ball in the low 90s," Haeger said. "We're teaching him how to pitch, but he has great arm strength and he's done a pretty good job in here (gym). We'll see if he's going to materialize into a shut-down closer" or not.

Garden City junior Richard Hammer, a right-hander who was redshirted last year, could help chew up some innings with a solid curveball.

"Richard has a good curveball, he's done a good job (during the winter)," he said. "Richard's had a lot of success here in these (indoor) cages."

Surgery will sideline Ryan Brodowsky (Farmington), and freshmen Andy Omilian (Plymouth/Detroit Catholic Central) and Sean Sciba (Westland/Livonia Churchill) likely will be redshirted if it is decided there won't be enough work for them this season.



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MU defeats Siena Heights

Bouncing back from Saturday's disappointing loss to Cornerstone, the Madonna University men's basketball team defeated host Siena Heights on Wednesday, 77-67.

Leading the Crusaders with 24 points was Cedric Sims (Canton), while Jon Battle chipped in with 17 points.

Tallying 14 points and 14 rebounds was D.J. Bridges (Canton), with Mike Rashad tallying 10 points and seven boards. Both Sims and Battle contributed eight rebounds.

Madonna (16-12 overall, 8-4 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference) built a 39-28 halftime lead against Siena Heights (9-18, 3-8) and pretty much maintained that edge over the final 20 minutes.

Curtis Stephens and Brian Champine scored 25 and 16 points, respectively, for Siena Heights.

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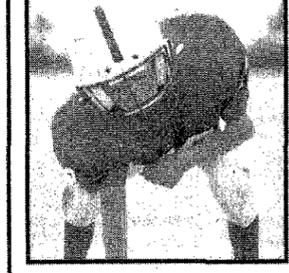
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HOOP

FROM PAGE B1

While scoring the first six points of the second half, Wayne converted missed Churchill opportunities into points. Robert Woodson scored on a fast-break layup on Wayne's first possession, and Mike Lee drained a 3-pointer from the corner, off a nice kick-out from 6-10 center Jeremy Lovelady (who had 11 rebounds).

In both instances, Churchill players had gotten to the hoop

but were unable to convert.

"We actually made some plays, and if we had finished it's a whole different game," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "If you leave a team like that an open door, they're going to hurt you."

Martez Abney keyed the 10-0 fourth-quarter spurt, hitting a 3-pointer from well beyond the arc and scoring a fast-break layup, a basket that extended Wayne's lead to 64-42.

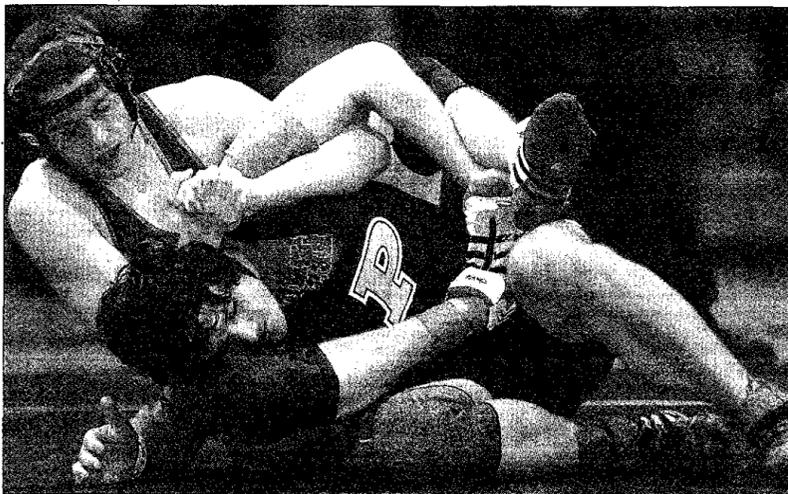
Ryan Rosenick stopped the bleeding for the Chargers (11-

8) with an offensive rebound, but Wayne scored the next seven points and both coaches emptied their benches with 3:47 left in the game.

Abney led all scorers with 22 points, while Woodson and Lee each scored 12. Andrew Vagnetti led Churchill with 15 points; Rosenick and Shauntez Thomason each scored nine. Nick Seger chipped in with eight points and a blocked shot.

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia Franklin's Dan Woodall, here turning Plymouth's Vince Daroffi in the Observerland tournament, helped the Patriots win their third straight district title Wednesday.

Pats claim 3rd straight mat district

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

When Livonia Franklin wrestled Churchill a couple of weeks ago, the Patriots rested the vast majority of their varsity lineup and took a beating from the Chargers.

In a Division I team district final Wednesday night, Franklin returned the favor.

The Patriots (21-4) won nine of the first 10 matches and cruised to a 43-12 victory at Franklin. The win, which followed a 68-10 rout of Redford Union in the district semi-final, sends Franklin into the Novi regional against the Salem district winner Thursday.

"Overall I thought we wrestled pretty good, not the best I've seen all year, but good enough to win," Franklin

coach Dave Chiola said. "We knew there would be a lot of close matches because when we saw them at the city meet there were a lot of close matches. The meet was much closer than the final score indicated."

Franklin's Grant Phillips (125 pounds) got the party started with an 11-0 shutout of Brian Fortney.

After Churchill's Andrew Miller beat Ryan Haarala when Haarala withdrew with an injury, the Patriots reeled off eight straight wins, five of them by three points or fewer.

Matt Hintz (135) beat Adam Roe 9-2; Brandon Smith (140) edged JonPaul Gaffke, 3-2; Brandon Billiau (145) pinned Josh Gustitus in 5:32; Elvin Ferreira (152) beat Dan Smalls 7-3; Don Stratz beat Grant Morgan 9-6; Garrett Hay (171)

nipped Curtis Castlebery 4-3; Dan Woodall (189) beat Brian Ziemba 1-0; and Cody Hay (215) beat Jon Sneckall 9-7.

Churchill heavyweight Mark Parrish shut out Franklin's Mike Modes 3-0 to stop the string, but Franklin ran off wins in the final three matches - Steve Tuyu (103) beat Jacob Meadows 11-6, Jared Pieknik (112) pinned Kane Kanouse in 2:27 and Justin Jacobsen (119) pinned Keith Roberts in 3:24 - to close out the win.

The win gave Franklin its third straight district title, but Chiola said the wrestling has to improve if the Patriots want to go farther.

"If we want to advance from here we'll have to turn it up a notch," Chiola said

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Help Wanted-Dental 5040

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Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

RECEPTIONIST Part time needed for small accounting firm. Should be computer literate. \$8.00/hour to start. Please email resume to MRASConnie@aol.com.

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AUTO BODY TECH For busy collision shop in Farmington Hills. Hourly plus benefits. Call Joe or Andy: 248-471-5352

AUTO DETAIL PERSON Up to \$11/hr. Must have some experience. Northville Car Wash. (248) 990-3327

COLLECTORS Now hiring Bill Collectors. Exp. preferred, but not req'd in collections, medical billing or call center. P/T/FT. Hry. pay + commission. Fax or email resume. Fax: 248-281-0176 email: walt@accrolethehealth.com

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CONSTRUCTION MANAGER To aid in scheduling and coordinating daily jobs. Must be an effective communicator and able to trouble shoot on the job. Needs experience using AutoCAD. Computer literacy a must and foundation wall experience or an engineering background a bonus. Needs to be willing to aid in day to day administrative duties as well. Full-time pay is negotiable. Email resume to: joblisting@hotmail.com

CONTROLLER Wanted for privately owned manufacturing co. located in Brighton. Qualifications must include: Bachelor's degree in Accounting, minimum 7 years progressive experience, prior inventory and manufacturing experience, knowledge of financial accounting procedures, budgeting and general ledger functions, experience with automated computerized accounting systems, MAS 90 experience a plus. Responsibilities include but are not limited to: performing all accounts payables functions, performing and review of all month end close procedures, overseeing accounts receivables functions, perform account and cost analysis to resolve discrepancies, prepare internal monthly financial statements and annual financial budgets, complete inventory costing and analysis with related key inventory metrics. Offering competitive wage and benefit package. Fax resume to: 248-486-4040.

DRIVER, PT with CDL Must have good driving record. Some heavy lifting may be required. Send resume to: TSI, 37107 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

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PLUMBER Must be licensed Journeyman w/ good driving record. Full time. Interview today, start tomorrow! (866) 832-7580

POSTAL POSITIONS 2008 \$14.80-\$36.00/hr. Federal hire/full benefits. No experience, closed Sun. 1-800-370-0146 x243

PREPRESS Experienced in imposition, printing, wide format and graphics programs. Email resume to: graphicsjob@comcast.net

Retail

BRIDAL BUYER/ SALES ASSOCIATES Are you interested in a CAREER as a Bridal Buyer & Sales Consultant? Dynamic bridal salon searching for talented associates. Brief (paid) training period. Flexible full and part time positions. Candidates re-entering the workplace are welcome. Label resume "NEW HIRE" and email to: ldtbridal@yahoo.com

RETAIL: ALL POSITIONS Including Restaurant. Premium Pay for Overnight & Exp. Apply in store: 37175 Grand River, Farmington or online at: www.kmart.com/careers

ROUTE MERCHANDISERS Needed to deliver Free Publications Monday and Friday to retail outlets starting at 8:00 AM. Routes available in Southfield, Waterford and Madison Hts. Must have insured Van, Truck with cap or S.U.V. Dominion Distribution 248-868-9880

ROUTE DRIVERS No experience necessary. Apply: TruGreen 48932 Wixom Tech Dr. Wixom. 248-960-1215 or Fax: 248-960-1489 EOE/M/F/D/V/A/A

SALES ASSOCIATE Exp'd for retail mattress store. Salary + bonuses. No commission, health ins., 401k & vacation. Call Tony 517-404-3449

TREASURER/ COMPTROLLER City of Grosse Pointe Woods. City of Grosse Pointe Woods, MI. Population 17,060. Full-time, at-will position appointed by and responsible to City Council, and works with the City Administrator. MA degree in Finance, Business Administration, Public Administration or equivalent field; Experience in managing government finance, budget, taxation, investments, financial and debt management, internal auditing, insurance/bonding & government reporting. Supervises accounting, payroll, tax billing/collection & water/sewer accounting. Acts as the Treasurer, Administrator of Pension Fund. Excellent computer skills and leadership experience in implementation and use of financial software systems desirable. Starting salary low-high \$80's, negotiable, dependent on qualifications. Excellent benefits.

Qualified applicants send resume, salary history to: Lisa Hathaway, City Clerk City of Grosse Pointe Woods 20025 Mack Plaza Grosse Pointe Woods MI 48238 fax: 313-343-5667 Email: lhathaway@gpwmv.com Closing date 03/31/08 Further information at: www.gpwmv.com

Warehouse Supervisor Office Depot, the world's #1 office products retailer, has an opening for a Warehouse Supervisor at our Plymouth facility.

You will oversee a functional area within our warehouse. Requires a Bachelor's degree and 3+ years supervisory experience managing within a distribution center environment. Strong knowledge of warehouse procedures, a commitment to customer service, and excellent leadership, team building and communication skills also required.

We offer competitive salaries, excellent benefits, potential career growth and so much more! For immediate consideration, please apply online at: www.officedepot.jobs and drop to job opening ID #1090437 or Fax 734-207-7040 EOE, M/F/D/V, A smoke/drug free environment.

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PKD: A life-threatening disease

Genetic disorder topic of educational seminar

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Alexis Alati looks like any 3-year-old ballerina except for her distended belly. The protrusion is the only clue the Troy girl is suffering with PKD, a life-threatening genetic disorder that causes fluid-filled cysts to grow on the kidneys.

While there is no cure for polycystic kidney disease and dialysis or transplant are the only treatments available for 50 percent of patients who eventually develop renal failure, research is ongoing. Once a year, Alexis and mother Melony travel to the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., to participate in a study. As of now Alexis' kidneys are fully functioning, but she has developed cysts on her liver as well.

"Her belly is distended because organs are twice their size," said Melony Alati. "Very early on we kept thinking something was wrong because her belly was so big. As a baby she would teeter on her belly."

Alexis' distended belly wasn't the only symptom when she was diagnosed at 9 months old. Her blood pres-

sure zoomed to 160/130, and she was anemic and fussy. At the time Alati and her husband, Rob, knew nothing about the disease until calling the PKD Foundation which provides funding for research and patient education.

SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

On Saturday, March 8, four University of Michigan experts discuss PKD and the latest findings at a seminar presented by the Detroit Chapter of the PKD Foundation at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. According to the Foundation, PKD is one of the most common, life-threatening diseases affecting more people than Down syndrome, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy, and sickle cell anemia combined. About 600,000 American children and adults live with the disease, 12.5 million people worldwide.

Rick Covault's been tested twice for PKD although to date has developed none of the symptoms which include constant or intermittent pain in the back or blood in the urine. Covault's mother died in September from complications of the disease at age 71. Patricia Covault was

45 when first diagnosed, a year older than Covault is now. After developing renal failure 10 years ago she was on dialysis five years before receiving a kidney transplant at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor.

'A CHALLENGE'

"It's a challenge that every family member has to deal with if you have a history of PKD," said Covault of Canton. "What's interesting about PKD is there are two versions, adult ADPKD (autosomal dominant), children ARPKD (autosomal recessive). With the adult version you typically don't find out you have the disease until later in the life. With the children's version, babies are born at birth with cysts on the kidney that restrict the ability for the kidney to filter the blood."

Dr. Ben Margolis is convinced scientists are close to finding a treatment. Margolis is one of the speakers at the March 8 seminar along with Drs. Diane Cibrik, Silas Norman and Crystal Gadegbeku.

"We know the genes for the two types. I'm optimistic about treatment as we understand more about it.

PKD EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

What: Learn about polycystic kidney disease from University of Michigan experts

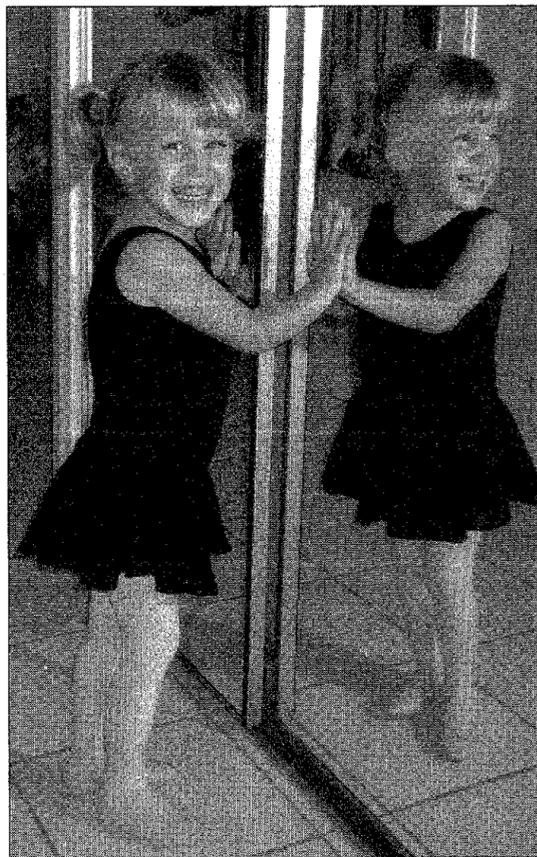
When: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 8

Where: Administration Building first floor auditorium, Beaumont Hospital, 3601 W. 13 Mile, Royal Oak

RSVP: Call (248) 761-9944 or send e-mail to Kathryn.Glynn@cambridge-na.com. No charge and open to the public.

There are drugs in trials on the PKD Web site," said Margolis, a scientist and professor of internal medicine and biological chemistry at the University of Michigan where he is "looking at the structure in the cell cilia (a hair-like sensory antennae) that seem to be defective and cause the cell to divide too much" creating the cysts. He serves on the national PKD Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board.

"PKD was first described in 1757 when people first realized people could die. For many years we didn't understand much and had theories about what was going on. We were studying a lot of mice and figuring



Alexis Alati of Troy is suffering with PKD, a life-threatening kidney disease. The only outward clue is her distended belly.

out what genes were wrong. Today there are many new treatments being tested and we're hopeful one of these will be effective in slowing this disease, not a cure but

something to slow the progression."

For more information, visit www.pkdcure.org.

lchomin@hometownlife.com

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

FEBRUARY

Childbirth education classes

Let's Get Ready To Have a Baby 7-9 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 18 to March 17, or Wednesdays, Feb. 20 to March 19, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Please use south entrance, off of Levan Road. There is a fee. Registration required. Call (734) 655-1162. Learn what to expect during pregnancy, labor and delivery. Classes are based on the Lamaze Method and include exercise, relaxation, breathing techniques and comfort measures to assist moms through labor. Classes include information on anesthesia options, medication, nutrition, family adjustment.

Intervention workshop

A free presentation by internationally-known intervention specialists Jeff and Debra Jay 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. For more details, call Dawn Farm at (734) 485-8725 or visit www.dawnfarm.org. The Jays describe their effective model for intervention with addicted loved ones. Learn how "Love First" is the way to help people find recovery.

Say goodnight to insomnia

Deadline for registration is Feb. 21 for class 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 26 and March 4, at Farmington Community School, 30415 Shiawassee. Cost is \$45. To register, call (248) 489-3333. If you have difficulty falling asleep, staying asleep, or waking refreshed, join health coach Sandy Baumann to analyze your daily routines to uncover common sleep robbers and implement simple ways to create a sleep-promoting bedroom. Discover 20 sleep-enhancing strategies to try at home and learn about 8 natural sleep supplements.

Asperger's lecture series

Nick Dubin, a national speaker and author who was diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome in 2004, conducts workshops on topics related to Asperger's syndrome 2-5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21 (Teaching to the Asperger's Spectrum: One Size Does Not Fit All) at the Judson Center, 4410 W. 13 Mile and Greenfield, Royal Oak. Each workshop costs \$39. This program is approved by the Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Collaborative for Continuing Education Clock Hours. For information, visit www.judson-center.org or call (248) 837-2047.

Heart smart cooking clinics

In recognition of National Heart Month and the launch of

its trans fat-free menu, Entrée Vous of Canton, Northville and Troy are raising money for the local American Heart Association throughout February. The locations are hosting Heart Smart Cooking Clinics and dark chocolate tastings 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21 (includes a couple's date night and costs \$48) and 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 22, at Entrée Vous of Troy, 1969 W. Maple, Cambridge Crossings Shops. For \$30, each participant receives chocolate sampling and a lunch or dinner, your choice of one entrée (\$25 value) to assemble and take home and a demonstration of low-fat cooking ingredients and recipes. The AHA's presenting information, activity kits and checking blood pressure. Donations to the AHA can be made in the local kitchen or online at <http://donor.americanheart.org/goto/entreevous-cares>. To register for clinic, contact Entrée Vous location.

Tai Chi for Arthritis

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is offering fitness classes in Tai Chi, an ancient Chinese discipline combining agile steps, joint-friendly movement, relaxed breathing, and mental challenge to promote mobility and well-being 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 25 to March 31, (classes also available on Fridays) in the hospital's Classroom 10 on the 4th Floor of the Marian Professional Building at 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Please use Five Mile entrance. Registration required, call (734) 655-8950. Enrollment limited. A registration fee payable to St. Mary Mercy Hospital is required prior to first class.

Divorce support group

Gaining financial control of your divorce and how to plan for your future with Jacqueline Gold-Rosesler 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26 in the Women's Resource Center (room 225) of the McDowell Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443.

Families in Action program

Presented by the National Alliance on Mental Illness the 10 week educational program is designed specifically for any individual with a loved one that has been diagnosed with a mental illness. The two hour weekly sessions cover topics relative to mental illness, facilitated by family members trained by NAMI-Michigan. Sessions begin 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, at St. Regis School Campus, 3695 Lincoln Rd. (1/4 1/2 Mile and Lahser), Bloomfield Hills. Cost \$20 per person, \$30 a couple. Call Mary Ellen, (248) 348-7196, or send e-mail to mejudd@comcast.net.

Health fair to offer free heart screenings for women

Each year, nearly twice as many women die of cardiovascular disease than from all forms of cancer combined. The good news is that in most cases, heart disease can be prevented by making simple lifestyle changes.

"The bad news is that heart disease kills one out of three American women," said Dr. Jennifer Jones, interventional cardiologist at the Detroit Medical Center's Harper University Hospital. "The good news is that women can lower their risk of heart disease by up to 82 percent by eating smarter, exercising and not smoking. Providing heart health screenings so that women can learn about their personal risk factors and how to reduce them is a key step in prevention and treatment."

Women in the metro Detroit area can get screened to learn about their heart disease risk factors and to receive a plan on how to reduce them when the Sister to Sister Foundation, a national non-profit based in Washington D.C., presents its National Women's Heart Health Fair 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29, at the General

Motors Wintergarden in the Detroit Renaissance Center.

The fair kicks off with the Strides for Sisters Walk led by Peter Nielsen in the GM Wintergarden and features free heart health screenings with on-the-spot results and counseling from Detroit Medical Center experts. Women will learn about their cholesterol, triglycerides, blood glucose levels, blood pressure, Body Mass Index, waist circumference, and family health history from the screenings. The Health Fair also features presentations by medical experts including a keynote by Jones as well as demonstrations by experts on nutrition, fitness, stress reduction, and smoking cessation, all of which are designed to help women adopt a heart-healthy lifestyle. The Fair includes heart-healthy cooking demonstrations by Seldom Blues, Andiamo and Creative Gourmet, and fitness demonstrations by Curves, Tom Spring of Cardiovascular Training Specialists, and the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan.

The Fair also features a wide

range of exhibitors as well as prizes and giveaways. The first 1,000 women screened at the fair will receive a certificate for a free bracelet from Miner's Den jewelers. To pre-register and for a schedule, visit www.sisterstosister.org/fairs/detroit.php or call Donna Darrow at (877) 628-4257.

In 2007, Sister to Sister Heart Health Fairs throughout the United States screened almost 10,000 women, of which more than 40-percent found out they had two or more risk factors for heart disease. A significant number of these women were not aware that they were at risk for heart disease prior to the screening.

The Sister to Sister Heart Health Fairs occur annually across the nation. The Sister to Sister Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing heart disease among women through free cardiac screenings. In addition, Sister to Sister provides women with resources to increase awareness about heart disease, to encourage healthy lifestyles, and to reduce risk factors for heart disease.

Reducing child's risk: Health of heart boosted by breast-feeding

Melissa from Sylvan Lake is pregnant and debating whether or not to breast-feed. She is wondering how good it is for her baby.

Melissa, studies have shown breast-feeding can reduce your child's risk of ear, stomach or intestinal infections, allergies and high blood pressure. Now a brand new study says breast-feeding may actually be good for your baby's heart too. A study of almost 1,000 people found those who were breast-fed were 55 percent less likely to develop high cholesterol and had a lower BMI (body mass index). Those two factors can significantly reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke. That being said, breast-feeding is a personal choice that each



Peter's Principles

Peter Nielsen

turmeric that gives curry its flavor, can suppress tumors. Experts even believe curry may help people become less prone to cancer. The problem is that curcumin loses its anti-cancer attributes quickly when ingested.

new mother must make for herself. Tammy from Walled Lake e-mails that she heard some spices could help fight cancer. Is this true?

Studies have suggested curcumin, the yellowish component in

Now scientists have developed two new synthetic versions of the curry ingredient to hopefully help fight cancer. They tested it already in mice with colorectal cancer and found it worked! In fact, it enhanced cancer-fighting abilities by up to 30 times greater than natural curcumin. They are now testing how it will work fighting other cancers.

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, e-mail Peter through his Web site www.peternielsen.com. Contact him Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.

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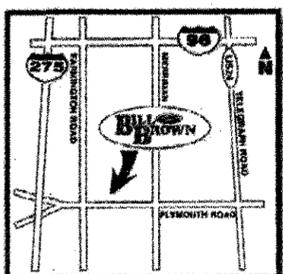
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Finding happiness in turbulent times

Times are tough in our neighborhood, in neighboring neighborhoods, and in neighborhoods across the country. Locally, news of Big Three employee buyouts has become so commonplace that it seldom commands headline status anymore. GM's latest attrition effort extends to



Donna Rockwell

46,000 workers; or rather, 46,000 families feeling betrayed, despondent, displaced, and desperately in search of alternative employment. Metro-Detroiter's hearts and minds are numb with job loss overload. Of course, this is also a national problem: the U.S. economy lost

17,000 jobs in January, the worst in over four years. Atlanta-based Home Depot recently announced a layoff of 500 of its 5,000 corporate employees, blaming current belt-tightening trends in customer spending. Starbucks, for goodness' sake, says it is dumping plans to open hundreds of stores, and even closing some.

From penny stocks to blue chips, companies are reporting earnings below expectations, and businesses across the board are reassessing projections downward; many businesses, small and large, are falling victim to the overwhelming undertow of this turbulent economic tide. As the word "recession" grows from a murmur to a roar, many Americans are finding themselves in need of fiscal and emotional life preservers.

On a personal level, it is depressing driving past empty storefronts, "For Sale" signs, and banners promising future developments, only to realize that years have passed and no buildings have yet risen on that spot. Evidence lies all around us: our area is in an economic funk. On grey days, a turnaround can seem improbable. But, on those beautiful, cold, crisp Michigan days, when the snow glistens in the bright yellow sun, you dare to believe in a comeback.

In State House offices, and planning committees across the state, leaders are exploring ways to engage new industries in innovative ways in order to lure capital back to our state. A thriving local economy is necessary to support our family-oriented, quintessential Middle American lifestyle, something surely worth fighting for. And there is reason to be optimistic that somewhere on the horizon a recovery awaits. Meanwhile, though, how can we get through this difficult time and still live happy, fulfilling lives? If we give in to a pervasive sense of melancholy, in the end, what good will that do?

It has become a cliché: the only constant is change. Though we know it, we still try and hold onto what we want to be true, rather than acknowledging what is true. Human beings are very resistant to change. That is why the fear of job loss is so deeply felt; it is beyond our control. While situations like retraining or relocation seem burdensome, they do, at least, allow us a hand in our own destiny, so important for self-esteem. By examining the link between reality and what we wish were true, we discover, in the intersection of these two points, how to stay grounded in this ever-changing world.

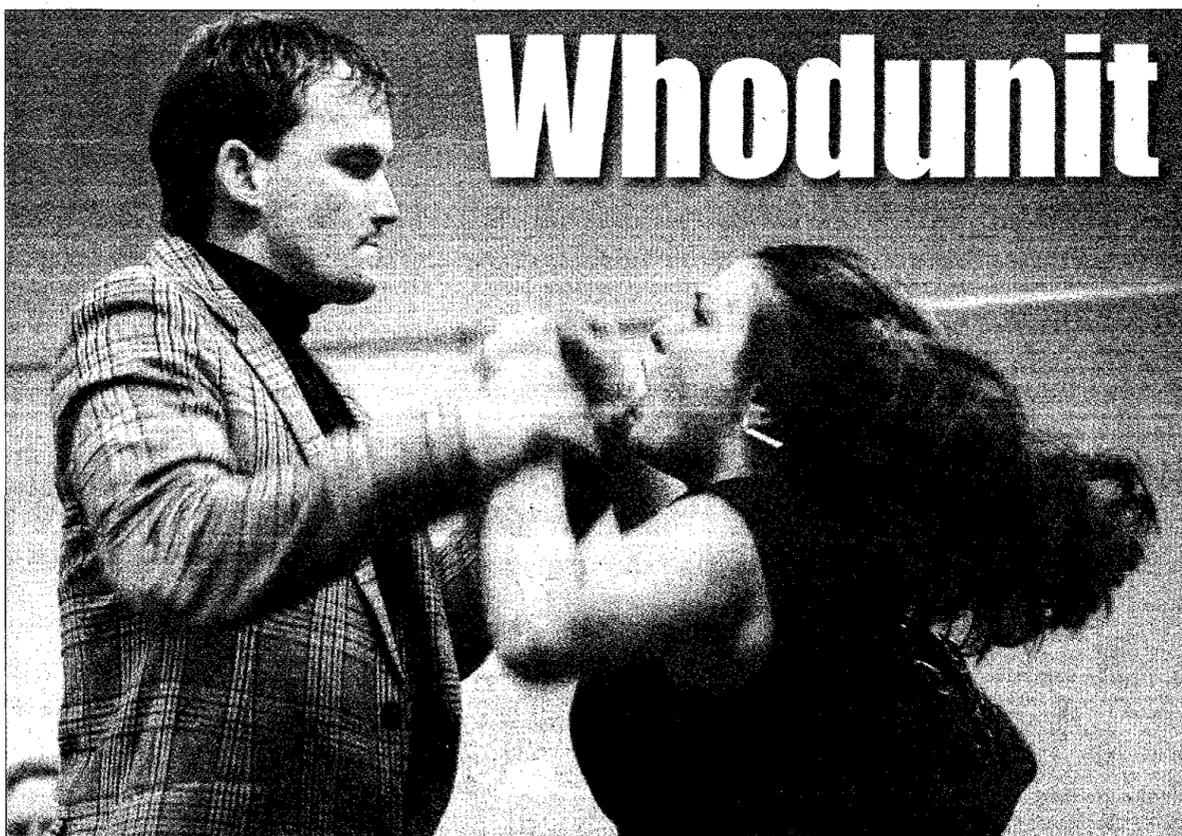
No matter how much fear we generate, it will not help us escape from the places in which we find ourselves: out of work, looking for work, or contemplating moving to find work. After spending a certain period thinking "what if," and "how did this happen," it might be time to make a plan.

Start by looking realistically at the way things are. Decide what you need to do to take care of yourself and your family. Hold to no limits or parameters; simply imagine the best-case scenario for your life and your family members' lives. With no restraints, envision how, together as a family, you could make this life-view come true. Chart out the small, manageable steps you could take to bring this plan to fruition. Think outside the box. By taking tiny steps, one day at a time, and not taking "no" for an answer — from others or yourself — life becomes a creative process as you build a new future. By making a plan and taking the steps to realize that plan, we reclaim ownership of our lives from a corporate conglomerate that may have held us under its spell, dependent and afraid.

Belief-in-self is the best way to break this spell. It is a cure for the affliction of fear, and a way to stay personally and professionally motivated. The Declaration of Independence proclaims as self-evident, "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

For information on ways to cope with job loss, and emotional, physical, financial, and career suggestions during work transition, go to the Michigan School of Professional Psychology Web site: www.mispp.edu and search: resource folder.

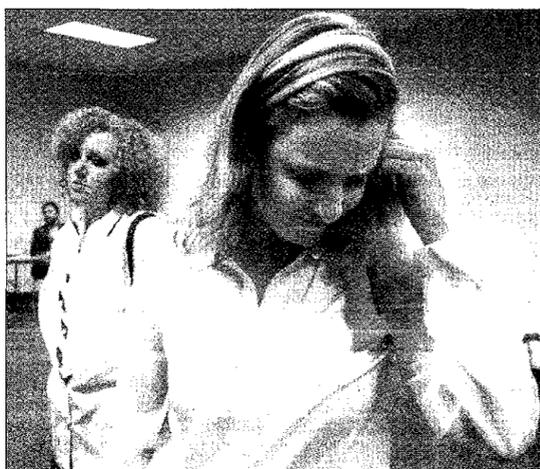
Donna Rockwell, Psy.D., is a professor and the Community Outreach Public Relations Liaison at the Michigan School of Professional Psychology in Farmington Hills.



Whodunit

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

David Matthews' (Drew Martin) plans to seduce Monica Welles (Kori Bielaniec) fail and their argument turns violent.



The playwright's young assistant Sally Bean (played by Wendy Ascione) turns away after a cold greeting from Karen Daniels (Meg daPonte).

Playwright Alex Dennison (played by Steve Sedore) introduces his new play to Karen Daniels (Meg daPonte), Lloyd Andrews (Joe Cone), Leo Gibbs (Richard Holland), and David Matthews (Drew Martin).



Director Mike Cuba watches intently as the actors run through their lines.

Spotlight Players invite audience to solve crime

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

The dialogue comes on like rapid fire once Steve Sedore pulls the revolver out of his briefcase at the beginning of the play. This is only a run-through, but the actors already have their lines down pat three weeks before Spotlight Players open *Rehearsal for Murder* Feb. 22, at The Village Theater of Cherry Hill in Canton.

Director Mike Cuba says the mystery will keep the audience guessing as to who murdered the fiancée of the lead character played by Sedore. Playwright Alex Dennison has gathered the producer, director and actors from his show that flopped one year ago. It is the anniversary of Monica Welles' death which was ruled a suicide. Dennison is determined to

Please see **WHODUNIT, C3**

REHEARSAL FOR MURDER

What: A murder mystery
When: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 22-23, Feb. 29 and March 1, March 7-8, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 2 and 9
Where: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill at Ridge, Canton
Tickets: \$18 adult, \$16 youth/seniors age 60 plus, and \$15 for groups of 15 or more, and available at (734) 394-5460, www.spotlightplayers.net, and the box office one hour before performance.

Meet the First Ladies at Presidential Tea

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Sarah Polk was her husband James' biggest adviser long before Hillary Clinton proposed a national health care program during her husband's administration. In this election year, Linda Wiacek thought it would be interesting to hear more about the wives from the wives so she invited the Petticoat Ladies to don their Victorian dress for a Presidential Tea Saturday, Feb. 23, at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia.

Jackie Zopff of Plymouth performs as Polk, Debbie Eleson as Mary Todd Lincoln, Gini Miles as Julia Grant, and Gail Smalley as Ida McKinley. A total of nine women form the Petticoat Ladies who began giving presentations at Victorian Teas in 2003 as members of Garden City Presbyterian Church. Any donations they receive go back to the church. In addition to Presidential wives, they portray Women of the Old West, Vaudeville, and Mothers of Invention as well as Cranks and Charmers through history. Polk was First Lady in the mid 1800s when she came up with the idea of playing Hail to the Chief whenever the president walked into the room.

"Each researches our own history through books, the Internet," said Gail Smalley of Garden City. "There



Denise Salo (left front), Jackie Zopff, Wanda Jarvis, Louise Salvatore, and Debbie Eleson (back row), Gail Smalley, Vera Siefers, Rita Gibbs, and Gini Miles perform around town as the Petticoat Ladies. On Saturday, Feb. 23, Zopff, Eleson, Miles, and Smalley take on the roles of former First Ladies for the Presidential Tea at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia.

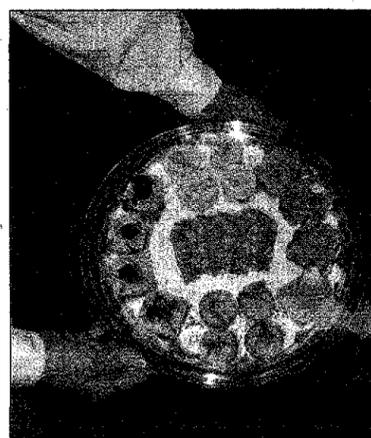
are a lot of behind the scene things we found out. Ida McKinley was an epileptic. It's something they didn't talk about back then. She lost both her children, was practically an invalid and her and her husband became the center of each other's lives."

In addition to listening to the former First Ladies and enjoying crab bisque, tea sandwiches and scones, guests will be treated to favorite cookies of the presidents. Afterwards guests receive a booklet with the recipes including one for Abraham

Lincoln's fruit cookies made with currants, raisins and walnuts.

"We'll have George Washington's Jumbals made with butter, sugar, salt and orange rind, a recipe from over 200 years ago when they didn't have all the ingredients we have today," said Linda Wiacek, Greenmead's recreation supervisor. "George W. Bush's Cowboy Cookies is more of a modern cookie and like a chocolate chip dough with oatmeal and pecans."

Please see **TEA, C3**



Finger sandwiches are some of the delights on the menu at the Presidential Tea.

PRESIDENTIAL TEA

When: 3-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23
Where: Alexander Blue House at Greenmead Historical Park, 20501 Newburgh, south of Eight Mile, Livonia
Tickets: \$25, advance sales only. All proceeds used to preserve and restore Greenmead.
For reservations, call (248) 477-7375

Concert shows off music faculty's talents

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Barbara Wiltsie agrees with Linette Popoff-Parks that in order to have a successful music program Madonna University faculty need to strut their stuff. On Friday Feb. 22, voice, piano, harp, flute, and guitar teachers take to the stage in Kresge Hall for their annual Faculty Allegro Series concert.

Popoff-Parks accompanies Wiltsie, one of Sopranos Three! along with Kimberley Dolanski and Karin White. As part of the voice faculty, Wiltsie directs The Lyric Theatre, a performance group composed of students and community members. They are currently rehearsing the updated version of *Godspell*

FACULTY ALLEGRO SERIES

When: Concert begins 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22
Where: Kresge Hall, Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan, Livonia
Tickets: \$10 general admission, \$5 faculty, student and staff. For information, call (734) 432-5709

for April 12-13 performances.

"We need as active performers to show our students what they need to strive for and how to handle themselves in a performance situation," said Barbara Wiltsie who recently performed at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton in November with Act II, a Broadway quartet. Wiltsie formerly toured with Michigan Opera Theatre.

Sopranos Three! is part of the Michigan Arts & Humanity directory performers booked throughout the state. They have selected to sing a trio from *Der Rosenkavalier* by Strauss, *Three Little Maids from School* (The Mikado), and *Bosom Buddies* (Mame).

"We're all trained in classical music as well as some Broadway. We mix operatic solos, duets, trios from opera to Broadway," said Wiltsie of Royal Oak. "We're giving them a little flavor of the three styles we do."

Popoff-Parks is proud of the diverse backgrounds of the faculty in the music department of which she is chairwoman. In addition to three piano teachers including Popoff-Parks, the faculty

provides instruction in voice, flute, classical guitar, clarinet, trumpet, violin, cello, and harp. Dave Wagner, WRCJ radio's early morning classical music host, teaches organ.

"We also offer a music management major. As part of the program students do internships. This semester we have students working with Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and WRCJ radio station. They get experience and learn to serve the community which an important component of our music program," said Popoff-Parks of Plymouth. "Music is really a service career. Performers are providing an opportunity for people to enjoy music whether they're church majors, in education or management,



Kimberley Dolanski, Barbara Wiltsie, Karin White, and Linette Popoff-Parks enjoy a few laughs while rehearsing for the Madonna University faculty concert.

or preparing to work in arts organizations which also provide services to communities.

"I think the faculty concert is a good service for students and community. Music is an art to be communicated. You

don't just do it in a vacuum, you share. Music is only alive when it's being performed live."

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Have you seen anyone wearing a monocle lately? Chances are you have not. The monocle became obsolete long ago when we recognized the advantages of balanced vision and began to provide binocular sight corrections. Similarly, hearing help for both ears produces equally advantageous results for those with hearing impairment. Scientific results confirm that most people with a hearing loss in both ears would benefit from having two hearing instruments, even if the hearing loss is mild.

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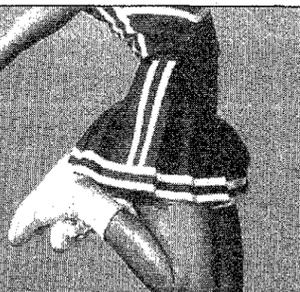


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DOING NOTHING

Most of the time, this column discusses the diagnosis and treatment of bone and joint conditions. By repeatedly discussing medications and options of care, I may create a wrong expectation: That for every condition there is a treatment.

However, in arthritis that rule doesn't hold. Instances occur when you will see a doctor and he will decide to wait and watch. That can happen when you had an injection and you are not responding as both you and the doctor have expected. Waiting is reasonable when you are under treatment for polymyalgia, and you still ache. The doctor may feel it is in order to give the present therapy a further chance rather than change you to an even higher prednisone dose.

Waiting may be reasonable when you continue to ache and the diagnosis is uncertain, but the doctor has determined that delay will bring on impairment. However, watching what happens may reveal, in time, a feature that explains the problem.

Remember every treatment brings side effects and risks. And keep in mind that the body has a wide array of responses to fight an invasion of its integrity. Doctors learn to respect that aspect of medical practice.

When a physician examines and talks with you, and does not prescribe or change a medication nor order laboratory tests or x-rays, do not feel disappointed. That appointment was important.

Using restraint is just as valuable as forging forward, observing rather than intervening remains good medicine.

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Deanna received crowns and bridges and used Dream Dentistry to alleviate her fears. "Parkside was the miracle I had been waiting for," she says. "I felt no pain and I was never afraid!"

Since her treatment, Deanna says her self-esteem has skyrocketed. "I no longer cover my mouth when I smile and I love being photographed! I haven't felt this good in 40 years!"

Deanna recommended Parkside Dental Team to all her family and friends and advises, "If you're suffering from dental pain, don't wait another minute. Give Parkside Dental Team a chance!"



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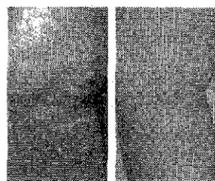


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WHODUNIT

FROM PAGE C1

prove it's murder. He has written a new play, *Killing Jessica*, which reveals motives for each of the characters who, one by one, read their lines.

The work originally won writers Richard Levinson and William Link an Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America in 1983.

Cuba originally saw the teleplay starring Robert Preston, Lynn Redgrave and Jeff Goldblum in 1982. He's following in the footsteps of his mother Kelly who directed the play when she was a high school teacher in Missouri. Cuba is a retired high school chemistry teacher who's just getting his feet wet as a director. This is his second production in that role, but he's served as an assistant to directors twice before. As a Spotlight Players' board member, he proposed the mystery for the 2007-2008 season.

"Rehearsal is basically a whodunit," said Mike Cuba of the play. "The play is actually written about Monica not a fictional character. Three of five have alibis except for a former husband and wife. At the end of evening you're going to know who killed Monica Welles. Every piece of information is presented to you well before you have to sit down and figure out who did it."

Jon Milan's music adds to the mystery. The Westland resident writes especially for the Spotlight Players' production in the style of Bernard Hermann, the composer whose music set the mood for films including *Taxi Driver* and the Alfred Hitchcock thrillers *Psycho* and *The Birds*. A CD of Milan's score will be available at the performances.

"It's all minor key," said Cuba of Livonia. It provides a somber note. It's very haunting music."

Kori Bielaniec is especially spooky since she comes to life as Monica Welles in a flashback focused on her plummet from a 10-story building. Even though the 19-year-old Livonia resident studies theater at University of Detroit-Mercy, she had to take a lesson on how to fall from Julie Evans at Guardian Marshal Arts in Garden City.

"My death scene is a challenge," said Bielaniec. "My knees are pretty bruised. I had to learn how to fall without hurting myself."

Sedore called on his years of studying German for his taxing role as the playwright who appears in all but two scenes. Sedore grew up in Canton but didn't start acting until a student at Albion College. He's done four plays with Spotlight Players including *Dial M for Murder*.

"I spent some time in Germany in a work study program so it's not as difficult for me because to speak German you first have to memorize all the words," said Sedore, a

Plymouth resident and German teacher at Edsel Ford High School in Dearborn.

Joe Cone says Sedore isn't alone when it comes to being on stage for much of the play. Cone of Canton plays the director. From 1999 to 2003 he worked in theater in England.

"It's a small enough cast where every actor has a major role. Each actor is important to the story," said Cone, a Spotlight Players board member. "It grabs you right away from the minute Alex pulls the gun out of his briefcase and puts it in his pants."

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TEA

FROM PAGE C1

Eating off of presidential china is sure to make the afternoon memorable as well. Greenmead owns reproductions of china used by 14 different commanders-in-chief.

"I think it's the most elaborate tea we do," said Wiacek. "We'll have a cockade, a ribbon

that's sewn into a floweret with streamers that's been around from Revolutionary War times to World War I. People wore them to show support to the troops. Soldiers wore them on their hats. Both North and South used them during the Civil War. The women would pin them onto their clothing like a brooch."

An exhibit highlighting Teddy Roosevelt carries through the

red, white and blue theme of the tea.

"The food is generous. The atmosphere is wonderful. We have a lot of things going on," said Wiacek. "We're looking for it to be fun and patriotic all at the same time. We welcome democrats, republicans and independents but there will be no campaigning of any kind."

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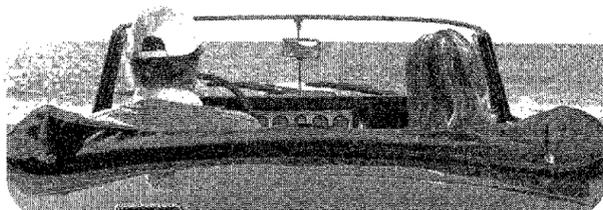
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BETTY M. BROOKS

Age 85, formerly of Birmingham, MI, died on Thursday, February 14, 2008 in John's Creek, GA. She was preceded in death by her first husband John Musto, and her second husband Wayne Brooks. She is survived by her three sons, J.N. Musto, HI, Ronald G. Musto, GA, and Richard B. Musto, CA; grandchildren Katie, Steve, Jennifer, Alison, and Lindsay Musto. Mrs. Brooks was a founding member of the Congregational Church of Birmingham and the Beverly Hills Garden Club. Memorial Services will be at a later date at the Congregational Church of Birmingham. Donations may be made to the Michigan Heart Association in her memory. Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and Crematory, Rosewell, GA was entrusted with arrangements.
www.northsidechapel.com
 770-645-1414



CLARK D., JR. "MATT" MATTHEWS

February 14, 2008 Age 63. Beloved husband of Kirsten M. (nee Schmidt). Dear father of Jason C. and Andrew C. Matthews. Brother of Marjory Jill Whelan (the late Buff), Linda Leonard (late Dwight), Melissa D. Matthews, and Hannah M. Terhune (Joseph). Uncle of Amy, Amanda, Kerry, Marny, Lindsey, Megan, Shayla, Matt and Marya. Former husband of Sandra and Doreen. Services were held Saturday, Feb 16, 2008. In lieu of flowers family suggests memorial tributes to Beaumont Hospice, 3601 W. Thirteen Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

DONALD A. PORTMAN

Age 71, of Indian River, formerly Livonia, passed away Thursday, February 14, at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey. Visitation will be held Friday, February 15, from 6pm-8pm, at the Lintz Funeral Home in Indian River. Visitation will continue on Saturday, February 16, from 10am until the time of the Funeral Mass at 12 noon, at the Cross in the Woods Catholic Church in Indian River.

FRANCIS A. BUTTLER

February 13, 2008, age 80. Beloved husband of Jewell. Memorial Tributes to Friends of the Troy Public Library, 510 West Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48064-5254. A. J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

HAROLD KERMIT COUNTS SR.

Age 86, passed away peacefully in Alpena, MI on Feb. 13, 2008. A resident of Livonia, MI for 42 years and Alpena for three years, he loved his time here. Born December 9th, 1921 on Neely Ridge in Dickenson County, VA. He was the second of four children of Lawrence and Maxie Counts. His beloved wife Mayme Lee preceded him in death, as did his brother Lawrence, Jr., his sister Mabel Anderson (Doc) and his son (Lawrence Gregory). He is the dear brother of Fern Taylor (Herb) and the loving father of H. Kermit Counts Jr. (Karen), Karen Lea Foust (David) and Suzanne Adams (Steve). He has nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He was a member of Alpha Baptist Church in Livonia, MI for 44 years. Harold was awarded the Silver Star for heroism during combat while in the 6th Armored Division during WWII. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. A Loving father and devoted husband, he was a gift for all of us from our Savior. The family would like to express their sincere thanks to the 2nd floor and ICU staff at the Alpena Regional Medical Center. Everyone was so kind and caring. Thank you to the E-wing staff at the Alpena Tendercare on Long Rapids Rd. in Alpena for your kindness and compassion during this difficult time. Services: Fred Wood Funeral Home, 36100 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, MI. Visitation will be Sunday, 2-17-2008 from 1:30 to 4:30pm. Services are at 4:30pm.

IRENE E. ADAMS

Age 80, of Plymouth, MI passed away February 9, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

A. JOAN SHAW

Of Fenton, formerly of Livonia, age 74, died Friday, February 15, 2008 at Genesys Regional Medical Center. Per Joan's wishes cremation has taken place and there will be no visitation or service at this time. Those desiring may make contributions to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Joan was born in Petoskey, Michigan on March 28, 1933, the daughter of the late Herman and Nettie Laubrich. Joan was a member of the Women's Pilot Organization the "99ers". She enjoyed traveling and spending time at the casinos. Surviving are son, Steven of Fenton; grandson, Justin Shaw of Livonia; twin sister, Mary Jean Tikik of Lambertville, MI; several nieces and nephews. Joan was preceded in death by her husband Thomas, eldest son, Charles; 2 brothers, Col. Allen and William Laubrich. Your condolences may be shared with the family at: swartzfuneralhomeinc.com

FRANK ROBBINS CHAPMAN JR.

Died February 1, 2008 at Maine Veterans Home, Bangor, ME. On October 23, 1923 Frank was born in Harper Hospital, Detroit, Michigan to Frank Robbins Chapman and Lou Blackwood Chapman, his father, an architect, and mother, Frank, known within and without the family as "Bob", lived near the corner of Collingwood and 14th Streets in Detroit in early life and subsequently removed with the family to Chicago Blvd. in Detroit where he attended Doty School. In 1935 his father build a new house in the countryside north of Rochester, Michigan on Mead Road, Oakland county where Frank attended the Rochester schools through grade seven. He finished secondary level training at Cranbrook School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan graduating in 1942 Yale University was the site for three degrees in architecture and city planning, BA '47, March '49, and MCP '54. He had also been accepted at Dartmouth, his father's institution, and the U.S. Navy Academy. His town planning theses was a design for the St. Lawrence Seaway and a new town within it. Mr. Chapman was three years in the U.S. Navy during WW2. Following graduation Frank boarded a revamped C4 troop carrier in 1947 for Europe. He was accepted and completed a year's study of architecture and urban planning at Kungliga Tekniska Hogskolan in Stockholm, Sweden. Frank subsequently spend eleven years working in Sweden where he became a member of the Swedish Architects' Association (SAR) and the Royal Bachelor's Club of Gothenburg. He was employed also three years in Copenhagen, Denmark as an architect. He worked in Canada, Brazil, and in Botswana where he served as chief planner for the Ministry of Surveys and Lands and as an adjunct for the UNDP. There he married his Swedish fiancée, Barbro Haller of Gothenburg, Sweden, in the year 1970. The pair returned to Sweden driving their short wheelbase Land Rover 14,000 miles through Africa and Europe. Crossing the Atlantic the pair took up residence in Hilton Head Island, SC working there, residing seven years on their 30 foot sloop. Suffering the "oil crisis" of 1975 the pair accepted another UN post in Saudi Arabia where they remained until 1981. Frank first served first as a councilman on the Hilton Head Town Council and eventually was elected Mayor in 1993 and served a single term. As mayor her resisted further commercialization of Hilton Head Island. In 1999 Frank and Barbro sold the house they had built upon return from Saudi Arabia and moved to Deer Isle, Maine constructing there yet another house located on ocean frontage. He is survived by his wife Barbro; sisters, Mary Lou Ingwersen and Doris C. Hinds, as well as six nieces and four nephews. Memorial contributions in Frank's memory may be made to Island Heritage Trust, 420 Sunset Road, P.O. box 42, Deer Isle, ME 04627. Arrangements by Jordan-Fernald, 141 South St. Blue Hill, ME 04614. Condolences may be expressed online at: www.jordanfernalld.com.

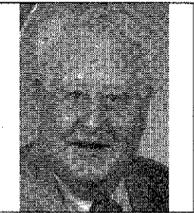
MARIE E. HAKALA

Age 89, of Dearborn, MI passed away February 8, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI.



RICHARD D. (Richie) CRANE

Age 61, of Cape Coral, FL, passed away Wednesday, February 6, 2008 at his home surrounded by his family. Richie was the beloved husband of Deborah Crane and the dear father of Richard and Kelly. Ritchie was a life member of the VFW of America and a member of BOVA Engineers Post #9885. He will truly be missed and will live in our hearts forever. A Memorial Celebration of his life was held Saturday, February 9, 2008 in Florida An additional memorial will be held Saturday, March 1, 2008 between 1-4pm at the VFW BOVA Post #9885, 6440 Hix Rd., Westland, MI. In lieu of flowers the family request contributions be sent to the National Coalition for the Homeless Veterans, 333 1/2 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20031-1148 in memory of Richard Crane.



WILLIAM JAMES COATSWORTH

Age 91 of Beverly Hills, died February 14, 2008, after a short illness. Bill grew up in Clawson and Royal Oak and attended St. Mary's of Royal Oak. After high school, Bill attended the University of Detroit and graduated in 1943 from Lawrence Technological Institute with a bachelors degree in mechanical engineering. He was a WWII veteran having served in the United States Navy and a member of the American Legion Post 253, Frank Wendland, Royal Oak. Bill retired from General Motors Truck and Coach in 1982. Bill is survived by his children, Greg, Sandy (Michael) Burke and Mary Sue Coatsworth and grandchildren, Brittany and Chris. He is preceded in death by his wife, Mary Stewart Coatsworth and son, William "Skip" Coatsworth. Funeral at Transfiguration Catholic Church, Ten Mile Road (Between Lahser and Telegraph) Monday 10am. Friends may visit at church beginning at 9:30am. Visitation at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 1368 N. Crooks Road (Between 14-15 Mile Rds.) Sunday 2-8pm. Prayers Sunday 4pm. Interment in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Memorials appreciated to Transfiguration Catholic Church, 25225 Code Road, Southfield, Michigan 48034 or Rochester Lions Club, P.O. Box 80393, Rochester, Michigan 48308.



JOHN B. THOMPSON

Age 61 of Knoxville, TN passed away suddenly Thursday afternoon, February 14, 2008 as a result of an automobile accident. John was born April 1st, 1946 in Escabana ("In the UP"), MI. He was a graduate of Western Michigan University and served as a pilot in the U.S. Navy. John was preceded in death by his father Walter J. Thompson. He is survived by mother, Blanche B. Thompson and mother-in-law, Dora Jo Byrnside, both of Marysville, TN; wife, Eilajo Byrnside Thompson, of Knoxville, TN; sister Yvonne and husband Brian Clark, of Sitka, AK; son, John Jr. and wife Nancy of Farmington Hills, MI; daughter Jennifer and husband Ron Abner, of Howell, MI; stepdaughter, Joelle and husband Harvey Mitchell, of Bowling Green, KY; stepson, Byron and wife Shannon Walker of Keller, TX; stepdaughter Juliane and husband Jeremy Burdette of Helena, AL. "Papa John" was especially dedicated to his seven grandchildren Olivia, Caitlin, Marina, Emma, Quinn, Merrick, and Amelia. He was the founder and the former owner of Future Pak Ltd., a pharmaceutical packaging company of Farmington Hills, MI and President of Southern Yankee Restoration. During his career John received several patents for packaging innovations. In retirement, John became an avid boater and fisherman who loved spending quality time on the water with family and friends. He was particularly proud of his ongoing research in the fields of horticulture and poultry. John will be remembered by those who loved him for his wit, sarcasm and unwavering resolve to help anyone in need. In lieu of flowers, the family requests all donations be made to Loudon County Habitat for Humanity, 298 Village Square Drive, #115 Loudon, TN 37774. Click Funeral Home Farragut Chapel is serving the Thompson family.
www.clickfuneralhome.com

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Happy 100!

Edna Cannizzaro (seated in blue) recently celebrated her 100th birthday with children Frank Cannizzaro (left), Mary Capoferi, Yolanda Fenech, Sylvia Ebens, and Joe Cannizzaro at Corsi's in Livonia. She has 20 grandchildren, 43 great grandchildren and 14 great great grandchildren. She also has two living brothers and a sister who are younger than her. She came to the U.S. from Sicily through Ellis Island when she was 5 years old. She has lived in Livonia more than 43 years.

WEDDING



Ouillette-Clayton
 Tonya Ouillette and Nic Clayton of Gladwin were married June 16, 2007, in an outdoor ceremony along the Cedar River performed by Minister Don Wray at the Riverwalk Place in Gladwin.

The bride is the daughter of Robert and Robin Ouillette of Gladwin and granddaughter of Roy and Mary Lou Carter and Audrey and the late Ervin (Red) Ouillette of Garden City, and is employed at Kirtland Community College. She is a 2001 graduate of Clinton High School, and a 2003 graduate of Kirtland Community College. Her matron of honor was Laura (Noack) Baker of Tecumseh, friend of the bride; and her bridesmaids were Teri (Ouillette) Bailey of Brooklyn, sister of the bride; and Samantha Clayton of Clinton, sister of the groom. Flower girl was Kristie Wenk of Saline, friend of the bride. Ring bearer was Kyle Wenk of Saline, friend of the bride.

The groom is the son of Ted and Teresa Clayton of Clinton. He is a 2001 graduate of Clinton High School. He is employed as a heavy equipment operator in Harrison. His best man was Nathan Young of West Branch, friend of the groom; and his groomsmen were Christopher Lenton of Clinton, cousin of the groom; and Kevin Molesky of Westland, cousin of the bride. The couple honeymooned in Cave City, Kentucky.

ANNIVERSARY



Fouls celebrate 50th
 Bruce and Judy (Shafer) Foulk of Wayne are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

The Fouls were married Jan. 30, 1958, at First Christian Church in Meadville, Pa. They have lived in this area for 47 years.

The Fouls have two children, Cindy (David) Schofield of Wayne and Jeff (Ronna) Foulk of Naperville, Ill. They have six grandchildren. Bruce is retired from Ford Motor Co. and presently owns and operates Norplex Associates, a residential management company. Judy is a homemaker.

The couple are members of Livonia Church of Christ where Bruce is a deacon and Judy is co-leader of the women's ministry. Bruce is involved in civic affairs and both enjoy traveling and spending time with family. A celebration was recently held hosted by their children.

ENGAGEMENTS



Sarkisian-Bell
 Dr. Edward and Anna Sarkisian of Northville announce the engagement of their daughter, Sara, to Morgan Bell of St. Charles, Ill. A July 2008 wedding is planned at St. John Armenian Church in Southfield, Michigan.

Sara graduated from Northville High School in 2001. She received her bachelor's degree in the history of art and Armenian studies from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 2005 and is currently completing her master of architecture at the U-M.

Morgan, son of Reagan and Linda Bell of St. Charles, Ill., is a graduate of St. Charles High School and received his

bachelor of education from Aurora University in 2000. He is currently completing his master of education in reading at St. Francis University and is a fifth grade teacher in Plainfield, Ill. Sara and Morgan met while staff members at the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan family camp, Michiganiana, near Boyne City, MI. They will reside in the Chicago area.

Riley-Rzetelny

William and Laura Riley of Romulus announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Ann of Livonia, to Randy Joseph Rzetelny Jr. of Livonia, son of Randy and Kim Rzetelny of South Lyon. The bride-to-be is a graduate of the International Academy of Design and Technology of Troy. She is employed at Outback Steak House.

The future groom is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School. He is employed by



Formen Brothers Trucking. A Sept. 6, 2008, wedding is planned at Crystal Gardens in Southgate.

Pytlak-Horn

Richard and Patricia Pytlak of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Katherine, to Patrick Horn, son of John and Kathy Watson of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and UM-Dearborn. She is employed with a major insurance company.

The future groom is a graduate of Redford Union High School. He is employed with Waste Management.



A September, 2009, wedding is planned.

Mion-Meddaugh

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Mion of Tecumseh, formerly of Westland, announce the engagement of their daughter, Stefanie Lorna, to Christopher Daniel Meddaugh.

Stefanie attended John Glenn High School and after graduating in 2002 from Spanish River High School (in Boca Raton, Fla.), she joined the U.S. Navy from 2002 to 2006 and is now attending college to become a paralegal in San Diego, CA, while working at Paul Hastings Law Firm.

After graduating in 1999 from Maple Valley High School in Maple Valley, Wash., Christopher decided to join the U.S. Navy, which he served from 2001 to 2005. Chris



recently graduated with honors earning an associates of science degree and now works for Hamilton Sundstrand. The two plan marry in July of 2009.

Kulczycki-Rickens

Ronald and Joyce Kulczycki of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristen M. Kulczycki to Aaron W. Rickens, son of Walter of Mary Ann Rickens of White Lake.

The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 2006 graduate of Grand Valley State University. She is certified personal trainer in Wisconsin.

The future groom is a 2001 graduate of Lakeland High School and a 2007 graduate of Grand Valley State University. He is a physical education instructor.

A June 2008 wedding is



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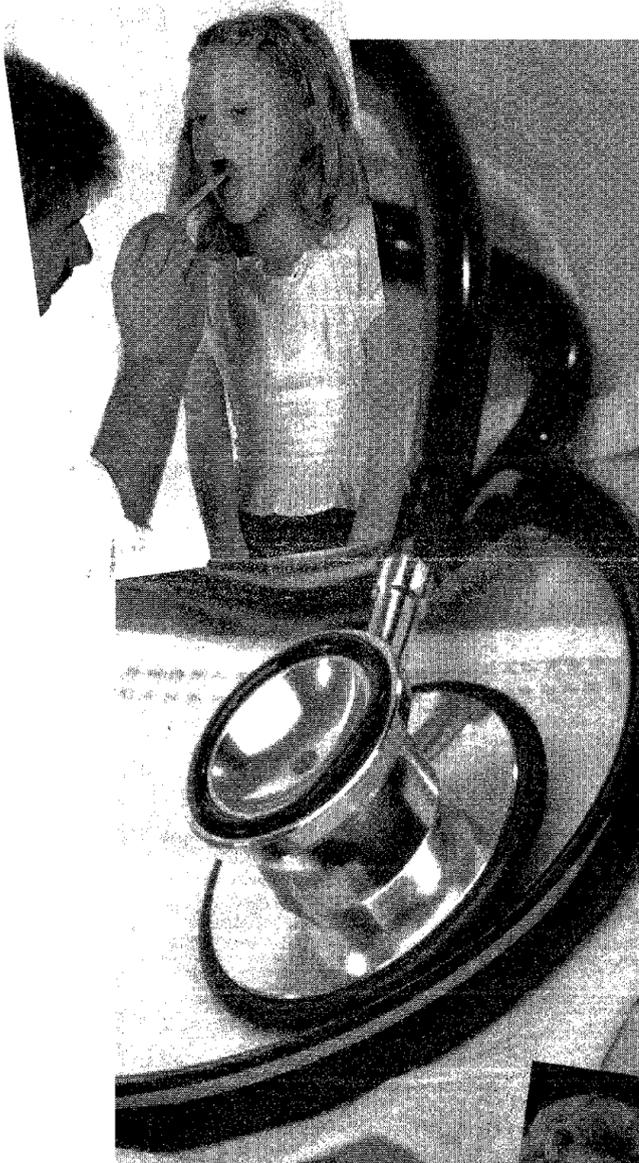
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DO TELECOMMUTERS ANNOY OFFICE CO-WORKERS?



WORKWISE
by
Mildred L. Culp

Most telecommuters praise their work arrangement. How do their non-commuting co-workers feel? Timothy Golden, assistant professor of Management at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

than in-person conversations; - poor relationships; and - diminished productivity.

The office of Isabel Barrera, director of IT Recruiting at AT Recruiters International Inc. (AT Recruiters), in Corpus Christi, Tex., has five workers and two telecommuters. She's been thriving with telecommuting co-workers since July. "We see things very differently," she says, "offering a more balanced approach to recruiting. One of our telecommuters, Bob, specializes in engineering, about an hour away. I'm very technology-focused, recruiting by Internet and e-mail. He's very phone-oriented. He's really taught me how important it is to pick up the phone and contact people, as well as e-mail."

Kim Hare, researcher and administrative assistant at The Daniel Group, a strategic planning, research and training company in Charlotte, N.C., manages the office, including bookkeeping and payroll. Her office has three employees total, plus 21 who telecommute. After three years of working with telecommuters, she states that the arrangement "doesn't affect my work."

CONTRADICTION
How can the contradiction with the academic research be resolved? Perhaps some employers are doing a better job of recruiting so that employees, telecommuters and not, are finding ways to work comfortably together. Consider what Barrera says. She

doesn't feel under siege because of overlapping responsibilities. "The telecommuters have very specific jobs different from mine," she notes, "and communicate with each other via the Internet and by phone. They work very well independently. We have the same goal... and are equally responsible and accountable." She further mentions that she fills the printer with paper and suspects that Bob does, too: "I don't think it's unbalanced at all."

At The Daniel Group, monthly meetings with telecommuters alternate between in-person and teleconferencing. "That seems to solve that issue (of overlapping responsibilities)," Hare comments.

What about the problem of building and maintaining relationships? Hare remarks that there is a foundation of familiarity as early as in interviews, because prospective employees come by word-of-mouth. Barrera observes that relationships are a concern in all organizations. She says that her boss has created a culture in which people "kind of shoot from the hip, because that's the kind of individual our boss is. She appreciates the honesty."

SMART EMPLOYEES
These two employees don't feel put out by any of Golden's criteria. Furthermore, they don't envy their telecommuting co-workers. Barrera concedes that it can be difficult to catch them by telephone or e-mail, but she expects that when people are busy or have to



Isabel Barrera, who directs IT Recruiting in Corpus Christi's AT Recruiters International Inc., enjoy having telecommuting co-workers, in part because she learns from them. Her experience indicates that good recruiting by a manager makes the difference.

Credit: Tiffanie Clarkson of Annette McPherson Photography

in Troy, N.Y., tackles this question in Human Relations, a professional journal. He finds that telecommuting co-workers negatively impact the job satisfaction of co-workers who don't telecommute. How does that play in your company?

Golden based his conclusions on research involving 240 professionals with an average age of 37 and solid work histories. Technical work isn't foreign to these subjects. Results indicate that office workers left behind felt burdened by:

- lesser job autonomy and greater workload because of work telecommuters should be doing but can't because they're off-site;
- decreased flexibility for having to adjust to telecommuting schedules;
- increased reliance upon secondary forms of communication, such as telephone and e-mail, rather

take time out for a doctor's appointment. If she's jealous about anything, it's the gas her co-workers save and the lunches they don't have to buy. However, "it's not enough to make me seethe for Bob." She believes that the office increases her professionalism, that working at home would be too distracting.

Hare doesn't envy her co-workers either. "One of the really nice things about someone who has a job like this - working from home - is the tremendous amount of flexibility. That's the key thing for keeping good people (giving them what they want). I like the coming-in-to-work."

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)

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AUTO DETAILER

Full time. Good pay & benefits. Apply in person BIL BROWN FORD COLLISION CENTER, 30400 Plymouth Rd. (btwn Middlebelt & Merriman), Livonia.

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Must be experience honest and thorough. Electric and scan tool knowledge a must. Benefits, pay commensurate with exp. Email resume affordableauto.net @sbcglobal.net

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Must have I-car & state certs. Apply:
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31850 Ford Rd.
Garden City MI 48135

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Experienced heavy frame and body tech for import dealer, and FT porter positions available. Apply: Ralph Taylor Body Shop 34501 Plymouth Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 744-2187

BOOKKEEPER, FULL CHARGE

Full-time position. QuickBooks knowledge helpful. Westland based company. Send resume: Attn: Sandy, 41800 W 11 Mile, Ste. 101, Novi, MI 48275

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COLLECTORS

New hiring Bill Collectors. Exp. preferred, but not req'd in collections, medical billing or call center. P/T/F. Hrly. pay + commission. Fax or email resume. Fax: 248-281-0175 cwatts@accrivelhealth.com

CONTROLLER

Wanted for privately owned manufacturing co. located in Brighton. Qualifications must include: Bachelor's degree in Accounting, minimum 7 years progressive experience, prior inventory and manufacturing experience, knowledge of financial accounting, budgets, budgeting and general ledger functions, experience with automated computerized accounting systems, MAS 90 experience a plus. Responsibilities include but are not limited to: performing all accounts payables functions, performing and review of all month end close procedures, overseeing accounts receivable functions, perform account and cost analysis to resolve discrepancies, prepare internal monthly financial statements and annual financial budgets, complete inventory costing and analysis with related key inventory metrics. Offering competitive wage and benefit package. Fax resume to: 248-486-4040.

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE

With computer exp. Canton area storage facility. 20-30 hours per week incl some weekends. Fax Resume: 734-459-5755

DENTAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR/RECEPTIONIST

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Join the team with assisting special population adults. We will train. \$7.50 total plus good benefits. Livonia 248-474-0283, 734-953-8911 734-425-8334

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\$8.20 wages & benefits. Must be trained/valid license. 313-255-6295

DRIVER, PT with CDL

Must have good driving record. Some heavy lifting maybe required. Send resume to: TSI, 37107 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

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Avg. paid to truck all miles Late Model Equipment Blue Cross Insurance Flatbed Regional Runs Available PRIMEtrucking.com 877-491-1102

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EOE M/F/D/V

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Exp. necessary. Must have good driving record. Great opportunity for clean cut ambitious. Incentives for good performance. Dave 248-478-4429

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Part time Leasing Consultant wanted for our Novi / Westland property. Please fax resume to: (734)459-1719

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IHA has an excellent opportunity at our Dominos Farms Corporate office for a full time accountant to oversee general ledger maintenance, monthly close, and financial reporting. Position reports directly to the CFO and coordinates work with other staff members to maintain all support and subsidiary ledgers. Additional responsibilities include management of internal control systems, coordination of annual audit, ongoing process improvement for accounting functions, oversight of annual budget preparation process, and management of professional accounting staff of 2. The ability to work in a team environment, manage a complex general ledger including multiple affiliate companies with strong attention to detail, and meet deadlines are a must. Five years minimum experience required. CPA licensure is preferred. If you are an experienced professional looking for a position with a great working environment and benefits, please submit your resume via email to employment@ihacares.com Fax: 866-282-8067 or apply on-line at www.ihacares.com

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Universal Gas & Electric North America's fastest growing energy company has opened 2 offices in Michigan. Immediate openings for Asst Mgrs, Mgrs, Training, Customer Service Reps, Marketing and Office needed immediately. No experience necessary. Must be reliable, hard worker & possess a great attitude. For a personal interview, call Mike 1-866-943-9947

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For Garden Center. Some exp. nec. Machine operation, B & B of plants, plant ID. Knowledge of plants & design helpful. Great opportunity for clean-cut ambitious workers. Incentives for good performance. Call Dave 248-478-4429

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President's Day Sale!

2004 FUSION SE
2.3L 14 eng, 5-speed auto trans, P205/60R16 all season tires, air, speed/tilt wheel, pwr W/L, perimeter anti-theft system, 1st & 2nd row air curtains, fog lamps, 6-way power seat. Stock #81740. Was \$20,295

24 Month Lease

NOW \$16,818* **\$145**** Per Mo.
\$2500 due at signing

EARLY BIRD
Early Lease Termination Extended • See us for Details

2008 EXPLORER XLT
4.0L SOHC 5-speed auto OD trans, conven. group, cast alum whls, auto lamp headlights, and much, much more. Stock #81285. Was \$26,740

24 Month Lease

NOW \$20,707* **\$196**** Per Mo.
\$2500 due at signing

2007 FOCUS 4 DR. SE
Auto, air, aluminum wheels, power windows & locks, 15" alum wheels, remote keyless, message center. Stock #81433. Was \$16,870

24 Month Lease

NOW \$13,599* **\$129**** Per Mo.
\$2500 due at signing

2008 EDGE SE
17" aluminum wheels, power windows & locks, privacy glass, speed control, tilt, front & side impact air bags. Stock #81751.

Was \$26,035

24 Month Lease

NOW \$22,245* **\$222**** Per Mo.
\$2500 due at signing

2008 F150 S. CAB XLT 4x4
5.4 V8, lim. slip axle, 7700 GVW, 1-tow & go, 17" alum wheels & much more. Stock #80640. Was \$35,725

24 Month Lease

NOW \$26,945* **\$232**** Per Mo.
\$2500 due at signing

2008 ESCAPE XLT
Privacy glass, power windows & locks, power seat, fog lamps, auto headlights, tilt, speed control, AM/FM CD, moonroof, sat. radio, more. Stock #81310. Was \$22,575

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2008 TAURUS LIMITED
Leather, 16" aluminum wheels, heated dual power seats, 6-disc CD, auto temp control air, anti theft, auto headlights, power windows and locks, power mirrors and more. Stock #80820. Was \$27,595

24 Month Lease

NOW \$22,810* **\$204**** Per Mo.
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8100... Recreational Vehicles	8510... GMC
8110... Snowmobiles	8520... Honda
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diesel. Red All leather, 4 door, electric/heated seats, 35K Mi., tow pkg., super cab. \$19,000/best. 734-728-5774.

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reg cab, clean, must see! \$4,995
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FORD F150 SUPERCAB XLT
2003 4x2, \$6,995 w/warranty. Good credit, bad credit, no credit OK
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CHRYSLER PACIFICA 2007 Touring, leather, 3rd row, 8/60, \$17,888.
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FORD FREESTYLE LIMITED 2005, AWD, \$15,998.
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GMC ACADIA LT 2007, low miles, loaded, leather, heads up Bose, really nice, only \$31,695.
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GMC DENALI XL 2005, Nav, DVD, power, 29K, \$26,995.
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GMC ENVOY SLT 2002, one owner, leather, only \$11,995.
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GMC ENVOY SLT 2003, loaded, leather, black, chrome, \$12,995.
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GMC ENVOY XL 2003, one owner, sunroof, leather, burgundy, only \$10,995.
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GMC YUKON XL SLT 2002 4x4, sunroof, leather, special, \$13,995.
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GMC YUKON XL SLT 2003, white, leather, power moon, 45K, \$19,995.
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LINCOLN AVIATOR, 2003, AWD, \$13,998.
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LINCOLN NAVIGATOR 2004, loaded, leather, moon, entertainment sys, power hatch, power reclining seats, \$23,900.
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MAZDA CX-7 SPORT 2007, \$20,998
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MERCURY MARINER 2006 Hybrid, 11K, \$25,998.
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MERCURY MARINER 2006 Premier, white, 27K one owner, V-6, AWD, leather, moon, leather, moon, sale \$17,400.
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\$233* Per Mo.
Power package, OnStar safe & sound, power windows & locks, tilt, cruise, stereo CD, locking diff., auto overdrive, 5.3 V8 active fuel mgmt. Stock #3907.
30 mos/32,000 mile lease. GM Employee: \$0 down, \$233 1st payment. Total due \$233 with lease loyalty. Non-Employee: \$1150 down, \$233 1st payment. Total due \$1383 with lease loyalty.

2008 IMPALA
P/wind, P/locks, P/seat, V6 3.35, air, stereo CD, auto trans, rear defog. Stock #9362
30 mos/32,000 mile lease. GM Emp: \$0 down, \$249 1st payment. Total due \$249 with lease loyalty. Non-Employee: \$945 down, \$249 1st payment. Total due \$1194 with lease loyalty.

2008 COBALT COUPE
Air, auto, spoiler, CD, protection package. Stock #9173.
30 mos/32,000 mile lease. GM Emp: \$0 down, \$235 1st payment. Total due \$235 with lease loyalty. Non-Employee: \$650 down, \$235 1st payment. Total due \$650 with lease loyalty.

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2008 MERCURY MILAN

5 speed auto transmission, 2.3L 14 engine, P205/60R16 all season tires, interior trim metal auto pkg, 16" aluminum wheels, Sirius sat. radio. Stock #80548

24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease	Sign & Drive
\$2500 Down	\$1000 Down	
\$149** Per Mo.	\$192** Per Mo.	\$222** Per Mo.

2 Year Pre-Pay Lease \$5408

2008 MERCURY SABLE

6 speed automatic transmission, 3.5L V6 Duratec engine, P215/60R17 BSW tires, Sirius satellite radio and much more. Stock #80325

24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease	Sign & Drive
\$2500 Down	\$1000 Down	
\$190** Per Mo.	\$255** Per Mo.	\$299** Per Mo.

2 Year Pre-Pay Lease \$6740

2008 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER

P245/65R17 BSW A/T tires, sync system, 3rd row seats, aux. climate control, illum visors 17" mach alum wheels, auto lamp headlamps, keyless entry w/keypad, 4.0L SOHC V6, 5-spd auto O/D, 6180 lb. GVW, adjus pedals, reverse sensing. Stock #81290

24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease	Sign & Drive
\$2500 Down	\$1000 Down	
\$220** Per Mo.	\$286** Per Mo.	\$330** Per Mo.

2 Year Pre-Pay Lease \$7422

2008 LINCOLN MKZ

3.5L V6 Duratec eng, 6 speed automatic transmission, fog lamps, message center, side air curtain, wood trim, leather, SYNC media and more. Stock #81034

36 Month Lease	36 Month Lease	Sign & Drive
\$2500 Down	\$1000 Down	
\$280** Per Mo.	\$323** Per Mo.	\$352** Per Mo.

2 Year Pre-Pay Lease \$6769

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- '07 MKZs, from 5 to choose **\$26,513***
- '07 Mark LTs, from 2 to choose **\$33,573***
- '07 MKXs, from 4 to choose **\$31,552***

2008 LINCOLN MKX

3.5L V6 engine, auto trans, 18" alum mach wheels, power liftgate, reverse sensing system, SYNC voice activated system, auto temp control, more. Stock #81281

24 Month Lease	24 Month Lease	Sign & Drive
\$2500 Down	\$1000 Down	
\$319** Per Mo.	\$385** Per Mo.	\$428** Per Mo.

2 Year Pre-Pay Lease \$9646

2007 FORD TAURUS

Certified/Loaded/100K Warranty

Starting from **\$11,380**

6 to Choose From
Ask for Kevin

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2005 FREESTAR LIMITED

Leather/CD/Loaded/Low Miles

\$15,280

#P4286
Ask for Pat

2007 LINCOLN MKZ

Leather/CD/13k miles

\$24,480

#P4266
Ask for Pat

2006 MILAN PREMIER

V6/Leather/Low Miles

Starting from **\$14,880**

4 to Choose From
Ask for Marty

'04 CHEVY CAVALIER Auto/AC/CD/Power \$8,880 2 to choose from. Ask for Kevin	'07 ESSO XLT 12 PASS. VAN AC/Full Power/Low Miles \$17,880 2 to choose from. Ask for Marty	'97 GRAND MARQUIS Only 51K original miles/Won't last \$5,295 #80564A. Ask for Kevin	'03 TOWN CAR CARTIER Leather/Moonroof/Only 50k miles \$14,880 #P4246. Ask for Kevin	'07 DODGE CARAVAN SXT Leather/CD/Fully Loaded \$17,480 #P4281. Ask for Pat	'06 MONTEGO CD/Fully Loaded/20K Miles \$13,840 #P4287. Ask for Marty
'07 TOWN CAR Loaded/Low Miles/Like New Starting from \$22,880 6 to choose from. Ask for Pat	'06 MARINER HYBRID Navigation/Moonroof/Leather \$21,880 #81185A. Ask for Pat	'05 TOWN CAR SIGNATURE LIMITED \$19,990 #P4277. Ask for Marty	'04 EXPLORER SPORT TRAC Moonroof/Leather/CD/4WD \$17,480 #80023A. Ask for Marty	'03 BMW 3251 Moonroof/Leather/Low Miles \$15,880 #80378A. Ask for Kevin	'01 JAGUAR S-TYPE 4.0. leather, moon, low mi \$11,880

✓ Check Out These Service Specials

\$19.95 MOTORCRAFT® PREMIUM WEAR INDICATOR WIPER BLADES

WITH WEAR INDICATOR THAT SIGNALS WHEN TO REPLACE!
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

Motorcraft® wiper blades with Wear Indicator, per pair, installed. Taxes extra. See Service Advisor for vehicle applications and details. Expires 3-15-08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

FREE FRONT END AND BRAKE INSPECTION

Front, rear & all wheel-drive vehicles. Check CV drive axle boots for tears, splits and cracks. Road test vehicle to check for clicking noises, shudder or vibration. Inspect brake friction material, caliper operation, rotors, drums, hoses and connections. Taxes extra. See Service Advisor for details. Expires 3-15-08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

\$44.95 TWO-WHEEL ALIGNMENT

Check and adjust camber and toe. Additional parts and labor may be required on some vehicles. Taxes extra. See Service Advisor for details. Expires 3-15-08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

\$29.95 THE WORKS

LET OUR FACTORY-TRAINED TECHNICIANS PERFORM A THOROUGH INSPECTION OF YOUR VEHICLE AND MORE.

- ✓ Genuine Motorcraft® Oil and Filter Change (up to 5 quarts)
- ✓ Rotate and Inspect Four Tires
- ✓ Inspect Brake System
- ✓ Test Battery
- ✓ Check Air and Cabin Air Filters
- ✓ Check Belts and Hoses
- ✓ Top Off All Fluids

Valid only at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury. Must present coupon when order is written. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Diesels extra. Synthetic oils extra. Expires 3-15-08.

\$69.95 FOUR-WHEEL ALIGNMENT

Check and adjust camber and toe. Additional parts and labor may be required on some vehicles. Taxes extra. See Service Advisor for details. Expires 3-15-08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

\$99.95 COOLING SYSTEM FLUSH AND RENEW

Flush cooling system and replace with up to two gallons of Motorcraft® antifreeze. Taxes extra. See Service Advisor for details. Expires 3-15-08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

\$129.95 AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION FLUID FLUSH

Flush transmission and replace automatic transmission/transaxle fluid. Inspect and lubricate linkage and controls (where applicable). Road test. Taxes and diesel vehicles extra. Disposal fees not included in some locations. See Service Advisor for details. Expires 3-15-08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

10% OFF PARTS AND SERVICE

DURING OUR WINTER SALES EVENT!

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