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WESTLAND Observer

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City officials to discuss recycling

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Petitioned by hundreds of people to start a curbside recycling program, Westland city leaders may be inching toward a plan.

"I would hope that by early summer, we could be moving forward," said Westland City Council President James Godbout, who led the city's recycling committee for years. "We've talked about it long enough. It's time to take action."

That came as welcome news to recycling proponents who last year circulated petitions and collected more than 600 signatures of residents who want a curbside program.

"It's about time," Margot McCormack, who led the petition drive, said. "The sooner the better, in my opinion. I'm still very much in favor of it."

Mayor William Wild and council members plan to discuss a citywide program during a public session scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25, on the second floor of City Hall, on Ford Road east of Newburgh. Currently, residents

Please see **RECYCLING, A3**

Judge admits statements in beheading case

While in custody in the aftermath of a murder police say he played a key role in planning, committing and covering up, Alexander Letkemann made at least three statements to police, including a videotaped confession to Canton police revealed at his preliminary hearing.



Letkemann

On Friday, Letkemann, 18, of Westland, was in court arguing he was sleep-deprived and intimidated into making those statements, and his lawyer was asking a circuit court judge to suppress those statements.

Letkemann and Jean Pierre Orlewicz, 17 of Plymouth Township, are accused of first-degree murder in the Nov. 7 killing 26-year-old Daniel Sorensen of River Rouge, burning his body and beheading him to mask his identity, disposing of the body in a Northville field and the head in the Rouge River.

Among claims Letkemann made in testimony in the Wayne County Circuit courtroom of Judge Annette Jurkiewicz-Berry: He didn't fully understand his rights, he was coerced into making the statements, and tricked into revealing the location of Sorensen's head.

In making her ruling, Berry said Letkemann was intelligent enough to understand his rights.

Letkemann's lawyer, Raymond Cassar of Farmington Hills, argued his client was sleep-deprived and intimidated during questioning that took place Nov. 9-11.

Letkemann initially told Northville police Sorensen's body was already wrapped in a tarp when he arrived at the Canton home of Orlewicz's grandfather, where the murder took place, and that he didn't know what was in it as he helped load it in a truck.

He told them in the videotape Orlewicz lured Sorensen into the garage and killed him by stabbing him from behind. He later wrote out an eight-page statement.

Berry said Friday police officers did nothing improper and that statements were obtained legally from Alexander Letkemann, who in the video admits to police he understands his rights.

She dismissed his attorneys' attempts to toss out the statements.

Letkemann and Orlewicz face an April 7 trial date in the case.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Women of Westland and First Step honored Sue Mason, editor of the Westland Observer, as the 2008 ATHENA Award recipient. Mason was nominated by St. Damian School teacher Kim Rourke.

ATHENA Award winner is 'well-rounded, thoughtful'

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Sue Mason, a Westland resident who has maintained close ties to her hometown during her 35-year career in community journalism, has won the prestigious ATHENA award.

Mason, community editor for the Westland and Garden City editions of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, received the award Saturday during the fourth annual Chocolate Fantasy Ball — a chocolate lover's dream at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland. The ATHENA award is given each year by Women of Westland and First Step, two organizations dedicated to improving women's lives.

"I still am in awe of receiving this award," Mason said. "I was honored beyond belief at just being

nominated."

Mason won the award with her husband Bob and their two children, Bobby, 13, and Carolee, 11, at her side. Their children attend Stevenson Middle School in Westland.

The ATHENA recipient is chosen for attaining and personifying the highest level of professional excellence, devoting time and energy to the community in a meaningful way, and opening the door of leadership opportunities for women.

"My inspiration was my parents," said Mason, a graduate of Westland John Glenn High School and Wayne State University, where she received a bachelor of arts degree in journalism. "They taught me to follow my dreams and to do my best."

"And my family has also played

a big part in what I do. I was glad to have them with me to share this award," she added. "I could not do what I do without their support. They're my anchor."

Mason was nominated by St. Damian School teacher Kim Rourke, who was impressed with Mason's coverage when NASA astronaut Sunni Williams visited the school.

"While her writing is derived from an objective eye, she makes a point to highlight and applaud both women and children who have either accomplished a significant goal or brought about a worthwhile change within the community," Rourke wrote in her nomination, adding later that Mason "is a well-rounded, thoughtful individual who is a

Please see **MASON, A3**

Last picture show

Showcase Cinema set to close in March

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Showcase Cinemas Westland will close its doors in early March, pulling the curtain on the city's last remaining movie theater unless local officials can win a reprieve from its owners.

Mayor William Wild announced Tuesday that National Amusements, the Dedham, Mass., company that operates the theater, plans to shutter the eight-screen movie house on March 2.

In a last-ditch effort to save the theater, Wild said he hoped during a teleconference Wednesday to convince corporate officials to change their minds.

Showcase Cinemas opened in Westland in 1989 on Wayne Road south of Warren, but it has faced increasing competition for movie goer dollars from newer places like Emagine Theaters in Canton and AMC Livonia 20.

National Amusements also owned the old Quo Vadis movie theater further north on Wayne Road. That theater closed in 2002 and is expected to be torn down this year to make room for a \$5 million fitness center.

Showcase Westland was in the spotlight last year when its operator sought an entertainment license to offer dinner and drinks with a movie. Councilman Charles Pickering voiced opposition to the plan, saying he feared the license could lead to adult entertainment such as "nude and topless activity."

Some officials worried that the controversy could cause National Amusements to pull out of Westland, but even Wild said Tuesday that, "I'm not sure if that played into their decision here."

Some other Showcase theaters in cities like Dearborn and Sterling Heights also have closed in recent years.

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What do you think about this issue?

Comment online at hometownlife.com or E-mail your responses to smason@hometownlife.com



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New Westland Office Coming in March! Watch our construction at the northwest corner of Warren and Central City Parkway.

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Coming Sunday in Health



It's time to get moving as a family

Inside the operating room

Teamwork, advances awe St. Mary Mercy visitors

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

For more images from the operating room, some of them graphic, visit www.hometownlife.com.

Caterers and legislator's aides, CEOs and correspondents got a firsthand look, and a very close one at that, at how a hospital operating room really runs Tuesday morning in the Healthcare Partnership Program at St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

Volunteers got to shadow doctors that morning, watching them perform various procedures, as part of a program designed to educate people about the inner workings of the most private of public buildings.

Jennifer Kennedy, marketing and public relations manager, said the program, launched in 2001, is there to inform.

"We want to educate the community about what we do," she said. "Not everyone gets to see so far inside the hospital. We're trying to encourage a dialog between the community and the hospital, to show off our resources."

In one of the hospital's operating rooms, Dr. Jeffrey

Mendelson discussed the generalities of joint replacement surgery while replacing a hip and a knee. The procedures are necessarily violent — even elderly bones are hard — but the conditions the procedures are designed to alleviate are no less brutal.

"Over time, cartilage erodes and bone starts rubbing against bone," he said. "It's painful."

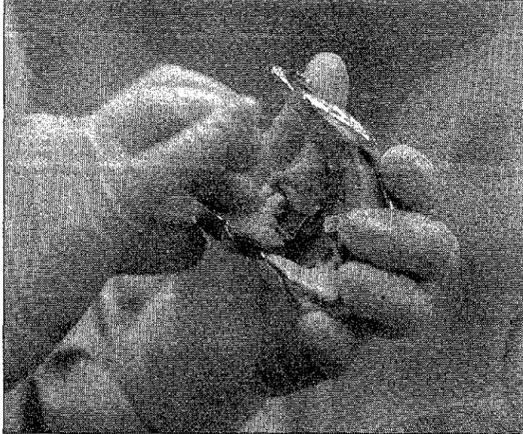
Osteoarthritis, the loss of cartilage due to wear, is something that virtually everyone will face given a long enough life. No one knows what causes it.

"All of the treatments are based on replacement," Mendelson said. "We don't know how to prevent it. Inflammatory arthritis, like rheumatoid or lupus, can be managed. It's a miracle, the alteration in those conditions. Those diseases are extremely well-controlled."

The process of removing a



Surgical technician June Mathews hands a drill to Dr. Jeffrey Mendelson, as he and physician's assistant Lisa Hypnar fit a knee replacement to the patient at St. Mary Mercy Hospital.



The knee replacement is cemented in place. Surgical technician June Mathews applies cement before handing the part to Dr. Mendelson.

natural joint and replacing it with a construction of titanium and plastic has become fairly routine, a near one-hour process. The plastics are new, the machining of the parts is extremely fine and the replace-

ment parts can be expected to last for the life of the patient.

What's amazing, given all of the work that is done with drills, saws and hammers, is that the patients were expected to be walking in the afternoon.



Dr. Jeffrey Mendelson and physician's assistant Lisa Hypnar work on a knee replacement.

Livonian Ron Reinke, a former parks superintendent with the city, also took part in the program and visited the hospital's cardiology department. He was floored by the abilities he saw on display.

"The skill the doctor possessed to run a wire from the patient's leg to view and eliminate a blockage was amazing," he said. "I was also impressed by the teamwork of the team the doctor had around him."

Chico Rodriguez saw a man's back being repaired.

"They were pouring cement into the vertebrae," he said. "It reminded me of people working construction, pouring concrete into a pillar. It was amazing, they were doing it by monitor."

Since the inception of the program in 2001, 110 participants have visited the hospital. The program is offered three times a year.

Couple enters pleas in faked robbery case

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A couple that faked a robbery at a Westland check-cashing business is facing a three-year probation sentence after pleading guilty to embezzling charges in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Ashleigh Nicole Adkins, 23, of Dearborn is expected to avoid prison time and be placed on probation when she is sentenced March 13, according to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. Her boyfriend, 34-year-old Jeremy Wagner, already received a three-year probation term on Feb. 14.

Adkins and Wagner pleaded guilty to embezzling about \$12,000 from Cashland, on Wayne Road south of Palmer. They are expected to be ordered by Wayne County Circuit Judge Thomas Jackson to split the cost of repaying the money, prosecutors confirmed.

Adkins lied when she told

police that a masked intruder robbed her and bound her with duct tape when she opened a back door to smoke a cigarette last July 19. Rather, the pair planned to have Wagner pose as the bandit, police Sgt. Steve Borisch said.

A store surveillance video captured Wagner going to the door before Adkins unlocked it and then returning after she did.

"He expected that door to be open," Borisch said.

Adkins and Wagner had been ordered to stand trial last October during court proceedings in Westland 18th District Court. Their decision to enter pleas averted a trial and a potential prison sentence.

Wagner already has served more than 10 years in prison for a 1992 incident in which he drove drunk and caused a death during an accident, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

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School district amends tenure complaint

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

A Wayne-Westland middle school teacher has been moved from visiting teacher status to suspended with pay as the district moves forward on amended tenure charges.

The school board voted unanimously to proceed with the amended tenure charges against longtime teacher James Zoltowski. The amended charges were filed Feb. 5 with the State Tenure Commission by Superintendent Greg Baracy.

"We have amended the

original charge and hope that it won't delay the process any longer than necessary," said Baracy. "We won't know until the commission looks at the filing."

Zoltowski has been assigned as a visiting teacher with no reduction in compensation since the first tenure charges were filed in September.

In its initial charges, the district contended that Zoltowski had received numerous verbal warnings for "unprofessional and unethical" behavior and communication with staff, parents and students, dating back to 2004-05. It had requested a

90-day suspension and moved Zoltowski to visiting teacher.

Those charges were amended in late November because of his performance as a visiting teacher and the requested suspension increased to 180 days.

Zoltowski has been with the school district for 38 years. He was hired in 1969 and taught at Wayne Memorial High School until 1989 when he moved to John Glenn High School for one year. He also taught at Adams Middle School, and since 2006-07 had divided his time between Marshall and Stevenson middle schools.

A physical education instruc-

tor for most of his career, he was teaching technology when he was moved to visiting teacher status.

The district has asked the commission to approve the suspension. Under the Tenure Act, Zoltowski has 20 days from receipt of the school board's decision to appeal which would necessitate a hearing before an administrative law judge.

In response to the first round of charges, his attorney, Bill Young, said that Zoltowski would appeal. Young is representing Zoltowski on behalf of the Wayne-Westland Education Association.

AROUND WESTLAND

Poker Run

The Westland Chamber of Commerce is celebrating Leap Year with Leap Year Poker Run Party 6-10:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29. Sponsored by the Electric Stick, Ford Road Bar and Grill, Malarkey's Irish Pub, Stryker's Bar and Grill and Vision Lanes, the poker run will award a grand prize of \$500 to the team with the best five cards still sealed in their envelopes at the end the night.

The poker run calls for teams of three-five people with a predetermined captain who will be responsible for getting a sealed playing card from the bartender or volunteer at each location. The evening will include drink specials, appetizers and raffles which will increase each par-

ON THE WEB

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

participant's chances of winning a prize. The cost is \$100 per team. For more information, call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at (734) 326-7222.

Open house

Business interested in support Cruisin' Michigan, a car cruise of Michigan Avenue, are invited to an open house 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, at the Wayne Chamber of Commerce, 34844 W. Michigan

Ave., Wayne.

Information will be available for businesses to get involved with advertising and to find out other ways that they can benefit from the cruise. There also will be coffee, donuts and bagels in the morning, pizza and subs after 11 a.m. and pasta and pizza from 4 p.m.

For more information, call Don Nicholson (734) 658-5296 or contact him by e-mail at don@donnicholson.net.

Art show

The Bailey Recreation Center will be the site of a Westland Jaycees Art Show and Silent Auction 4-8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23. The event will provide the opportunity to browse and collect an array of artistic items and renderings all while benefiting

the Michigan Dyslexia Institute. The Bailey Center is at 36651 Ford, west of Wayne Road. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

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.

Filter PURE ENTERTAINMENT! *Sweet Thursday*

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 2460 Gully Rd., Dearborn Hgts., MI, March 1, 2008 @ 1:10 PM.
#141 Davis W. Tully; #304 Sherrand Scott; #308 Marilynn Berry; #525 Mary H. Smith; #603 Ted Cardiff; #639 Isaias Quezada; #1211 William Gabrys.
Units contain misc. household items.
Publish: February 21 & 28, 2008

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Licenses must be obtained by Friday, February 29, 2008 for all animals age four (4) months or older. A statement of rabies vaccination must be presented upon applying for an animal license. Starting March 1, 2008, a \$2.00 penalty will be assessed. Licenses may be purchased at:
WESTLAND CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, 36601 Ford Road
OR
MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY, 37255 Marquette
EILEEN DeHART, CMC
WESTLAND CITY CLERK
Publish: February 7 & 21, 2008

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 36001 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185-6591 (734) 729-7095 on 2/29/08 at 10:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.
Personal property described below in the matter of:
1038 - Karen Viers-Eshbaugh - China Cabinet, 40 Boxes, 2 Fans
1088 - Kenneth Ellis - 10 Totes, Suitcase, 2 Tool Boxes
3010 - Richard Williams - 2 TV's, Loveseat, Misc Items
5016 - Thomas Jeter - TV, Entertainment Center, Mattress
5138 - Ederique Goudia - Book Shelf, Tote, 8 Boxes
Publish: February 14 & 21, 2008

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2 men get prison time for 7-Eleven holdups

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Two young men will spend time in prison following two robbery incidents last June at 7-Eleven stores in Westland.

Mark Allen Boyce, a 21-year-old Westland man, and Richard Martinelli, a 20-year-old Inkster man, will spend time behind bars after pleading to felony charges in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Boyce was sentenced to a two-year term in January after he pleaded to a felony firearms charge that comes with mandatory prison time. Martinelli already had

been sentenced to a lengthier term of three to 15 years after pleading to unarmed robbery and attempted armed robbery, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Their sentences capped a criminal investigation that led last year to charges stemming from two early-morning incidents last June 22 at the 7-Eleven stores at Wayne and Avondale and at Merriman and Palmer.

Police made arrests after an officer spotted two suspects outside an apartment complex near Merriman and Palmer. At that time, police Sgt.

Thad Nelson had credited an alert officer, Brian Mytych, with spotting the suspects as they tried to hide and holding them at gunpoint until other officers arrived to help him take the two men into custody.

Boyce and Martinelli had been ordered to stand trial last summer when they appeared on felony charges in Westland 18th District Court. The decisions to enter pleas averted a trial that, upon conviction, could have led to lengthier prison terms of up to life.

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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

How does it look?

Erika Williamson, 4, and her mother Cheryl of Livonia check on a winterland mobile that they made during winter activity time, one of several programs offered this week at the William P. Faust Public Library. Coming up is babysitting for children up to age 24 months and their caregiver at 10:30 a.m. Saturday. For more information, call the Library at (734) 326-6123.

RECYCLING

FROM PAGE A1

who recycle have to take their materials to a drop-off site on Marquette.

During the talks Monday, officials will weigh whether to hire a consultant to study curbside recycling options and provide a cost analysis. Godbout said the

council already has set aside about \$10,000 for such a study.

"Once we get those recommendations," he said, "we should be able to move forward."

The consultant will likely study whether it would be more feasible and cost-effective for the city to hire an outside company or try to implement its own curbside program using workers from the Westland Department of Public Service, Godbout said.

Officials concede the city will likely have to start a program using money from the sanitation fund, which draws its revenue from a garbage-disposal tax. However, their goal is to find a plan that ultimately could become self-supporting or even generate new income.

Moreover, officials have said that a successful program could reduce what the city spends to send its trash to a landfill.

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Friends present lecture on spiritual healing at church

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Sabine Goltz was disappointed when she found out there wasn't a Bruno Groening Circle of Friends in the area when she moved here from Germany so she gathered together a group of people who follow the teachings of the late spiritual leader.

At 7 p.m. Monday, March 31, Goltz and her group present a free lecture on spiritual healing based on the teachings of Bruno Groening by Franz Gringinger, M.D., of Austria and Lucia Colzoli, M.D., of Cleveland, at the Church of Today West, 32500 W. 13 Mile, Farmington Hills.

Gringinger and Colzoli are members of the Medical Scientific Group, an international forum of healing professionals who feel themselves in accord with the spirit of Groening. Colzoli has 27 years experience in the practice of adolescent, adult and geriatric psychiatry. Gringinger has been in private practice for 13



Lucia Colzoli, M.D.

years.

For more information, call Arsen Darnay at (313) 882-7946 or Goltz at (248) 593-9091. To learn about Groening, visit www.bruno-groening.org/english.

The Circle of Friends is a worldwide not-for-profit volunteer organization named after Groening (1906-1959).

"Bruno Groening had a certain mission, had the gift," said Goltz of Farmington Hills. "He would talk to people



Franz Gringinger, M.D.

and people would just regain their health. During his life he found out this was his mission. He said, it's not me who heals it's the spirit of the divine power. I am the transformer. Say thanks to the Lord. When I will die, the healings will go on."

Groening was not for a certain religion, said Goltz.

"It's a huge circle worldwide," she continued. "He left the teachings. He never took money for it (the healings)."

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

FEBRUARY

Lenten concert

Begin at 12:35 p.m. following Lenten Services of Holy Communion which begin at 12:10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, organist Kenneth Sweetman plays music by Buxtehude, Bach, Pepping and Howells, at Mariner's Church, 170 E. Jefferson, in Detroit's Civic Center at the entrance to the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. Free parking for services in the Ford Underground Garage with entrance on the median on Jefferson Ave. at Woodward. For more information, call (313) 259-2206.

Worship conference

Worship in Spirit and Truth conference Friday-Saturday, Feb. 22-23, Friday events begin at 7 p.m., Saturday at 9 a.m. and close with a worship service at 8 p.m., Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, between Beck and Sheldon, south of M-14. Topics include Who, Why and When We Worship along with many others. Registration, including lunch and dinner on Saturday, is \$25, \$10 per child for child care and meals. For information, call (734) 453-5280.

Fish fry

Our Lady of Loretto's Famous Fish Fry 4-7 p.m. all Fridays of Lent, in the family center, Six Mile and Beech Daly. Carry outs available.

Lenten fish dinners

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia invites everyone to it's All You Can Eat Lenten Fish Dinners, 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22, 29, and March 7 and 14, in the cafeteria of St. Michael School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd. Livonia. The dinners feature a choice of hand-dipped fried or baked cod along with a large assortment of side dishes and beverages. Cost is \$8 adults, \$4 for children ages 3-11, free for age 3 and under. Carry-out orders available at \$7 each. For information, call (734) 261-4555, Ext. 200.

Clothing bank

Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank is open 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 23, and the fourth Saturday of every month, at the church, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy, between Haggerty and Lilley. Free clothing for men, women and children. For more information, call (734) 404-2480 or visit www.CantonCF.org.

Lenten symposium

Saturday, Feb. 23, at St. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, 41233 Ryan, Sterling Heights. Featured speaker is the Rev. Monsignor Charles Mangan of the Vatican's Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. Cost is \$40 advance (\$45 at door), \$20 students, free for seminarians. All speakers also attend the youth symposium (cost \$15 for ages 12-17). Registration begins at 7 a.m., followed by Mass at 8 a.m. For more information, visit www.holy-trinityapostolate.com, send e-mail to barbaramm@sbcglobal.net or call Shirley at (313) 277-8905, Jerene (248) 625-2461 or Bonnie (586) 781-8523. Registration form must be received by Feb. 20.

The Jesus Prayer

A Lenten presentation by Byzantine Catholic Bishop Nicholas Samra 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24, at Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church Banquet Hall, 29125 W. Six Mile, east of Middlebelt, Livonia. \$10 donation at the door covers hall and refreshments. RSVP by Feb. 20. Call (734) 422-0278. Presented by Pascha Books & Gifts now located at the Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church. Learn how the words are based on scriptural texts.

Widowed Friends

Widowed men and women of all ages are invited to a 2:30 p.m. Mass Sunday, Feb. 24, followed by fellowship and refreshments at St. Columban Parish, 1775 Melton, north of 14 mile between Woodward and Coolidge. Enter the building door in back closest to rear parking lot. For information, call Marilyn at (586) 739-9406.

Reformed Protestant services

A new series of sermons on the Doctrines of Grace is being preached by Rev. Sean Humby 3:30 p.m. Sundays at the Detroit Preaching Station of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge Road, Canton. For more information, call Richard Waldecker at (734) 664-1815, visit www.westminsterconfession.org, or e-mail Humby at sean.humby@fuse.net.

Tai chi and strength classes

Orchard United Methodist Church is hosting a Tai Chi class 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Mac at the church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The cost per class is \$10 or \$40 prepaid for five classes. The strength class takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday. Cost is \$5 per class. Drops in welcome. For more information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Health lecture

Enjoy good sex, good sleep and remember it all through lifelong

health 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, at Adat Shalom Synagogue. Presented by the Greater Detroit Chapter of Hadassah. There is a fee. RSVP to (248) 683-5030.

Family night

Featuring children's author Ray Buckley 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27 in the sanctuary, Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills. An exciting evening of music and story telling with Buckley, a Native American author from Alaska. Event also includes music by the Chancel and Kids' Choirs. Everyone is welcome to join the fun and festivities of this family-friendly event. For more information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Lenten services

Continue at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel every Wednesday through March 13, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, (313) 534-7730. Maundy Thursday service will be 7:30 p.m. March 20, the Easter Worship Service at 10 a.m. March 23 in the sanctuary.

Prince of Peace Church

Recovery, Inc., meets at 10 a.m., every Wednesday at the church, Walnut Lake Road and Green, West Bloomfield. Recovery, Inc., is an international, non-profit, self-help community based service organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve their quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail her at marthapaul@sbcglobal.net.

Wednesday Lenten services

7 p.m. preceded by Lenten dinners 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Leverage, Redford. Call (313) 937-2424. Holy week services 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; 7 p.m. Good Friday, March 21, and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Resurrection Sunday, March 23. Holy Communion second, fourth and fifth Sundays of month. Regular worship services 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays, Bible study and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Lenten services

Mid-week Wednesday Lenten Services 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27, March 5 and 12, Holy week services 10 a.m. Palm Sunday, March 16; 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; Good Friday (March 21) Reflections on the Passion 12:30-2 p.m., Tenebrae Service at 7:30 p.m.; Easter Vigil 7:30-9 p.m. Saturday, March 22, and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 23, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. For information, call (734) 427-1414. Weekly worship services 10 a.m. Sundays with nursery, Adult Learning and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. No 6 p.m. Sunday services during Lent or Easter Sunday. All are welcome.

Lenten services

Noon and 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 27, and March 5 and 12, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. The Pulpit Theme is The Places of Passion, Holy Week Services 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday, March 16 with Confirmation; 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; noon and 7:30 p.m. Good Friday, March 21 and Easter Sunday, March 23.

Mid-week worship

Continues to March 12, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211. Evening begins with worship followed by a simple meal of bread and soup, and concludes with fellowship and mission projects.

Lenten concert

Begin at 12:35 p.m. following Lenten Services of Holy Communion which begin at 12:10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, organists Kevin Byisma and Kenneth Sweetman with members of the choir of Mariner's Church and trumpet player Kiri Tollaksen perform music by Bach, Handel, Regier, Hadley, Peeters, Leighton, and Casals, at Mariner's Church, 170 E. Jefferson, in Detroit's Civic Center at the entrance to the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. Free parking for services in the Ford Underground Garage with entrance on the median on Jefferson Ave. at Woodward. For more information, call (313) 259-2206.

Men's retreat

Feb. 29 to March 2, at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center, Outer Drive and I-96. Single rooms, own bath, all meals. Cost is approximately \$125. Call Ruben at (734) 261-5321 for appointment.

Divorce recovery

The winter/spring workshop meets 7-9:30 p.m. every Thursday until March 13, at Ward Church, Northville. Cost is \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door and includes materials and refreshments. Free childcare provided and financial help is available if needed. Deadline for registration for current session is Feb. 7, call (248) 374-5920.

World religions

Have you ever wondered why there are so many different religions? How should Christians view other religions? How is God at work in other religions? What is the fate of those who earnestly pursue God through other religions? Farmington First United Methodist Church offers a six-week, video-based study on Christianity and Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism. Classes began 6-

7:30 p.m. Thursday Feb. 7, and 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, at the church, 33112 Grand River, Farmington. Call (248) 474-6573 for details.

UPCOMING

Preschool registration

Little Lambs Christian Preschool will have open registration for fall classes at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 1, at 45000 N. Territorial, inside First Baptist Church of Plymouth. A kindergarten readiness program is offered for 3's, 4's and young 5's Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to noon. Five to 1 student/teacher ratio. Spanish and sign language, field trips, portfolio books, and conferences. Call Shari at (734) 414-7792.

Bethany Suburban West

Monthly dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, March 1, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inker Rd., Redford. Cost is \$10, refreshments included. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. DJ is Dick Gerathy. Call Diane for information (734) 261-5716.

VBS summer ministries

The International Christian Education Association presents its 42nd preview 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 1, at Ward Church, Six Mile and Haggerty, Northville. Get a head start on your church's summer program by viewing exhibits and demonstrations from national publishers, attend 4 of 20 workshops on organizing, planning and administering summer programs, also make and take puppetry and teaching techniques, morning refreshments and lunch included in registration fee. The event is non-denominational and open to the public. Call (248) 557-5526 or visit www.iceaonline.org.

A music ministry concert

I believe! 4 p.m. Sunday, March 2, at First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 E. Main. Concert showcasing the Children's, Youth and Chancel Choirs, TeDeum, Children's and Youth Handbell choirs along with the Northville Concert Choral. No tickets needed. Free will offering. For more information, call (248) 349-0911.

Lenten concert

Begin at 12:35 p.m. following Lenten Services of Holy Communion which begin at 12:10 p.m. Thursday, March 6, organist Kevin Byisma perform music by Bach, Pachelbel and Vienne, at Mariner's Church, 170 E. Jefferson, in Detroit's Civic Center at the entrance to the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. Free parking for services in the Ford Underground Garage with entrance on the median on Jefferson Ave. at Woodward. For more information, call (313) 259-2206.

Garage sale

Includes household items, tools, books, games, toys, electronic toys/games/equipment, clean, gently used children's clothing & baby items 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, March 7, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 8, Grab bag noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, at St. Aidan Activity Center, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Admission \$1 per person. Garage sale donations accepted before and after masses March 1-2 in parish garage. No furniture, adult clothing accepted. No strollers permitted during sale. For information, call Ruth McCarthy at (734) 464-5973.

Single Place Ministry

Upcoming activities include dinner and movie 5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at Grape Expectations Wine and Tapas Bar, Plymouth, call Bruce at (734) 459-7235. Single Place Ministry meets Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is \$5 per person.

Bethany Suburban West

Lenten Mass 9 a.m. Sunday, March 9, at Madonna Chapel, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. Please use the Newburgh entrance, breakfast to follow. Call Kathy for details, (734) 513-9479.

Game Night 7:30-10 p.m. Friday, March 14, at the St. Linus Activity Center at the school. Cost is \$5 or bring a snack or dessert for at least 10 people or a couple of large bottles of pop (regular and diet), and we will supply the paper products and coffee. Play cards or board games for the evening. There will be prizes. Call Kathy for details and directions (734) 513-9479 or Michele (313) 996-8644.

Daniel, Darius & DeLions

A musical drama by the Voices of Praise Chorus 9:30 a.m. Sunday, March 9, during the Sunday School hour at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. For information, call (734) 464-0211.

Special night of worship

With Men of Grace 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, one block east of Beck at McClimpha, Plymouth. For more information or a map visit www.risenchrist.info. This free event offers an evening of spirituals, hymns, traditional and contemporary, original music, and arrangements performed by Men of Grace from Grace Centers of Hope (Pontiac). Free will offering will be taken. They are a living example of how a life can be transformed from addiction, abuse and violence to one

Please see CALENDAR, A5



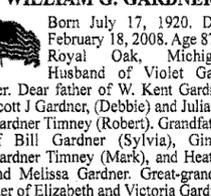
Passages

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 <p>WALTER E. COX Age 82, of Livonia, Michigan, passed away on February 16, 2008. He was born on March 29, 1925 in Goreville, Illinois, the son of John and Ida (Walker) Cox. Beloved husband of Helen (Larwinski) Cox, whom he married on July 21, 1956, in Livonia. Dear father of Michael (Karen) Cox of Indianapolis and Leanne (Randy) Czarnicki of Brighton, grandfather to Heather and Brittany Cox. He is survived by siblings, Mabel Taylor, Leonard Cox and Helen Mae Evans. He was preceded in death by brother, Paul Cox. Walter was a navy veteran of World War II, a member of the Livonia VFW post 3941, a retired ironworker in Local 25 and an avid woodworker. Papaw also instilled a love of fishing in his granddaughters. He was dearly loved and will be greatly missed. Per his wishes, a cremation will take place and there will not be a memorial service at this time.</p>	 <p>GEORGE HENRY GOBLE Age 92 of Rochester Hills, Michigan passed away peacefully Saturday, February 16, 2008. George was born December 5, 1915 in Coalmont, Indiana, the first child of Charles and Ressa Goble. He graduated from Indiana State University in 1936 with a B.S. degree in Science and Math-ematics, and taught high school in Dugger and Shelburn, Indiana. In 1942 he graduated from Purdue University with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and worked for 13 years for Radio Corporation of America in the fields of facsimile, television, and computers. During WWII, George was on special assignment to work on the development of sonar for RCA to detect submarines. In 1955 George joined the Chrysler Corporation with executive assignments in the Missiles, Space & Defense Divisions in both Detroit and New Orleans. While in New Orleans, his efforts contributed to the successful mission of sending men into space. In 1981 he was appointed Vice President of Defense Quality, Chrysler Defense Inc., reporting to John W. Day, President, there he worked on the development of the Abrams M-1 tank. Following the sale of the tank division to General Dynamics Corp. in 1982 George served as Vice President, Defense Quality, General Dynamics Land Systems Division reporting to the President O.C. Boileau, until his retirement in June, 1982. At the request of Mr. Boileau, George returned to General Dynamics in September 1982 as a consultant in the area of quality control. George was predeceased by his wife, Mary Eveline Thompson Goble. He is survived by his daughters, Sue Eveline Goble Allen (James), a special education teacher in Troy, Michigan, Diane Lee Goble (John Kieley) of San Jose, California, a retired marketing and sales and community volunteer, his grandchildren, David Goble Allen, a financial analyst in New York City, Steven Goble Allen, a student at the University of Michigan, Claire Goble Kieley, a student at Brown University and his siblings Norma Boykiw, Paul (Mary Jane) Goble, Bonnie Huff, and Anna Lee (Tom) Brock. He is also survived by his special companion Marge Puik of Rochester Hills. Inurnment will be at Mt. Avon Cemetery, Rochester. Suggested memorials to Mercy Bellbrook, for the Wish List of the Occupational and Physical Therapy Dept./Skilled Nursing Floor, 873 W. Avon Rd., Rochester Hills, Michigan 48307. A celebration in memory of George's life was attended by immediate family and close friends on February 18, 2008 at the Royal Park Hotel, Rochester. Arrangements were in the care of the Potere-Modetz Funeral Home, Rochester. Online guestbook www.modetzfuneralhomes.com</p>	 <p>HEIDI HUNTER Age 48, of DeWitt, formerly of Livonia, passed away February 14, 2008. Employee at Basell USA, Inc. Beloved wife of Dirk Frazier. Loving daughter of Catherine and Gordon Hunter. Loving sister of Judy (Jim Faulk) Hunter, Cindy (Rick Nieman) Hunter. Also survived by nieces and nephews. Private family services will be held. Arrangements by R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Livonia. Those wishing to make a memorial contribution in Heidi's name are asked to consider the Animal Placement Bureau, Lansing, MI.</p>
 <p>WILLIAM G. GARDNER Born July 17, 1920. Died February 18, 2008. Age 87 of Royal Oak, Michigan. Husband of Violet Gardner. Dear father of W. Kent Gardner, Scott J Gardner, (Debbie) and Julianne Gardner Timney (Robert). Grandfather of Bill Gardner (Sylvia), Ginger Gardner Timney (Mark), and Heather and Melissa Gardner. Great-grandfather of Elizabeth and Victoria Gardner. Proud veteran WWII, William enjoyed 22 years of retirement from a career as owner of the Will Gard Sales Company. Memorial service Saturday 2pm at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile). Memorial tributes to American Heart Association or the Michigan Humane Society. Visit obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com</p>	 <p>PATRICIA "MARM" MCDONALD Age 71, of Bloomfield Hills, died February 16, 2008, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. Mrs. McDonald was born April 8, 1936, in Long Island, New York. She received a Bachelors Degree from Adelphi College in New York. Mrs. McDonald was a resident of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills for 50 years and a former member of St. Regis Parish in Bloomfield Hills. Mrs. McDonald is survived by her children, Colleen (Nick) Bolick, Maureen (Jim) Watts and Matthew J. McDonald. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Dayton, Mac and Mallory Watts and brother, Jack Holian. Mrs. McDonald is preceded in death by her husband, James. Services have been held. Arrangements entrusted to Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors, 248-435-0660.</p>	
<p>RITA STROMOSKI February 16, 2008 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late Edward. Loving mother of Edwina (Dennis) Bostwick and MaryKaye (Edward) Novakovich. Sister of: Mildred, Eileen, Bernadine, Lucille, Beatrice and the late Leota. Grandmother of Sarah, Joe, Charles and Derek. Funeral Mass was held at SS Simon and Jude Catholic Church on Wed, Feb. 20. Arrangements were entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Wayne.</p>		

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:
Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday
Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

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

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A4

filled with meaning, hope and faith. The group has been honored to sing for President Bush, the Detroit Tigers, Governor Jennifer Granholm, and featured at hundreds of civic, corporate, church and school events. **Easter season worship** 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Palm Sunday, March 16; 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20, and 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 23, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia; noon Good Friday, March 21, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia and 7 p.m. Good Friday, at Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia (contemporary service), and 7 a.m. Easter Sunday at Greenmead Historical Park on Newburgh, north of Eight Mile, Livonia. For information, call (734) 422-0149.

Clothing bank

Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank is open 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 22, and the fourth Saturday of every month, at the church, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy, between Haggerty and Lilley. The Clothing Bank is open to everyone in the community who is in need of new or like-new clothing. Donations are also accepted. For more information, call (734) 404-2480 or visit www.CantonCF.org.

Bethany Suburban West

Monthly breakfast 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 22, at Leon's Family Dining 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's), Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call Kathy (734) 513-9479. Monthly dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, April 5, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster Rd., Redford. Cost is \$10, refreshments included. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. DJ is Dick Gerathy. Call Diane for information (734) 261-5716. Game Night 7:30-10 p.m. Friday, March 14, at the St. Linus Activity Center at

the school. Cost is \$5 or bring a snack or dessert for at least 10 people or a couple of large bottles of pop (regular and diet), and we will supply the paper products and coffee. Play cards or board games for the evening. There will be prizes. Call Kathy for details and directions (734) 513-9479 or Michele (313) 996-8644.

Spiritual healing

Free lecture on spiritual healing based on the teachings of Bruno Groening 7 p.m. Monday, March 31, at Church of Today West, 32500 W. 13 Mile, Farmington Hills. No charge. For information, call Arsen Darnay at (313) 882-7946 or Sabine Goltz at (248) 593-9091. To learn about Groening, visit www.bruno-groening.org/english.

Blended family workshop

7-8:15 p.m. Wednesdays through

April 2, at Ward Church, 40000 6 Mile Rd., Northville. Call (248) 374-5912. The Step-Family Doctor, Pastor Paul Clough, facilitates the group focusing on the issues pertaining to the blended family. Registration best but last minute walk-ins welcome.

Sisters in Christ

Women's conference 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, east of Beech Daly, Redford. Cost is \$40 pre-conference registration, \$50 at door. Call (313) 534-7730. This is an interdenominational conference to help women connect their Christian life to one another. Speakers are Brenda Josee who's been active in Christian publishing 25 years, and Nancy Moser who's published 17 inspirational novels.

ONGOING

Church offerings

Riverside Park Church of God, Sunday worship is at 10 a.m., Wednesday bible classes (child through adult) at 7 p.m. Youth outings held monthly.

The senior group (age 50 plus) has lunch together every month. The men get together for breakfast the first Saturday of the month plus we offer choir practice for all singers. All visitors welcome. The church is at 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth Road, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for details.

Church services

Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for information.

Thursday fellowship dinner

All are welcome, 6 p.m. dinners catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$6. Call (313) 534-7730.

Thrift store

Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Tai Chi class

Orchard United Methodist Church (30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills) is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is great for reducing stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes began 7-8:30 p.m. Jan. 14, and continue every Monday thereafter. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

Living Water series

Mark McGilvrey leads a 10-week video series called H2O starting 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. The group is open to men and women who would like to review the basic teachings of Jesus who claimed to be living water.

Your Invitation To Worship

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LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

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Virgil Humes, Pastor



Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Clarenceville United Methodist

20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
248-474-3444
Pastor Beth Librande
Worship Service 9:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided

Redford Aldersgate

2 blocks South of Plymouth
10000 Beech Daly
313-937-3170
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am
Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413

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Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

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www.pfumc.org

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Rev. Marsha M. Woolley
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Nursery Provided
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The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

9600 Levee • So. Redford • 313-937-2424
"Vacancy Pastor - Rev. Carl Rockrohr"
Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Education Hour 9:45 a.m.
Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade
For more information call 313-937-2233

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church

St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffres)
MASS: Tues. 7 p., Wed., Thurs. 9 a., Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church

32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(between Meridian & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a., Sat. 6 p., Sun 9a

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church

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

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Traditional Service 10:30 am
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WRDT-AM 530
The WMUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org

Risen Christ Lutheran

David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Mile W. of Sheldon)
(734) 453-5252
Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 am
Adult Bible Study 9:30 am
Nursery Care Available
Wednesday Lenten Worship Feb. 6 - March 12, 7:00 p.m.
www.risenchrist.info

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Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
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8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

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Fellowship Presbyterian Church

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor: **Dr. Jimmy McGuire**
Services held at: **Madonna University's Kresge Hall**
36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia
Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft • Nursery provided

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

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA

25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm
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Rev. Paul S. Bousquette

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Timothy Lutheran Church

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Jill Hegdal, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)

For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.

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



Mt. Pleasant author Chris Zimmerman will be featured at the Lutheran High School Westland's upcoming "Spring Celebration" arts and craft show.

Author featured at craft show

Mt. Pleasant author Chris Zimmerman will be the star attraction at the Lutheran High School Westland's annual "Spring Celebration" arts and crafts show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 1, at the school at 33740 Cowan, east of Wayne Road, Westland.

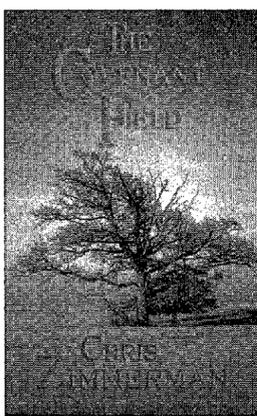
Zimmerman recently released his third novel, *The Covenant Field*, the story about the murder of a prominent southern Michigan judge, and her involvement in the PBB nightmare from the 1970s.

"As much as my first two novels had that familiar northern Michigan feel, *The Covenant Field* will capture the flavor that is home to so many Michiganders," said Zimmerman.

The *Des Moines Register* calls *The Covenant Field*, "a real page turner, a rich brew of Midwestern intrigue."

Zimmerman's outdoorsy roots aren't far from the story line, or his sense of humor.

"The lead character, journalist Derrick Twitchell, is as pathetically lovable as the Peter Sellers' in *The Pink Panther*,"



said Zimmerman, a frequent contributor to the *Lansing State Journal*, and former Mt. Pleasant *Morning Sun* columnist. "Twitchell finds a dead body on a pheasant hunting excursion, but forgets the prized family shotgun at the crime scene. The next morning he goes back to retrieve the gun but it is missing. So is the dead body, and Twitchell's chance to break the biggest story of his career."

Zimmerman's previous two titles *Intentional Acts* (2004) and *The Secret-Keeper* (2005) have grown notoriety from thousands of casual readers and at least one best-selling author, Sue Harrison, who describes Chris as "a fine, fine writer ... of a quality equal to and often surpassing the biggest names in the suspense field."

Zimmerman will sign all three novels at the arts and crafts show, one of the area's largest juried shows featuring handcrafted items only.

There will be hourly door prize drawings, a bake sale, special activities for kids and a lunch featuring the show's famous Maurice salad. Based on popular demand, the salads will now be available "to go."

Admission is \$2 for adults, children age 12 and under are free. All proceeds will benefit the Lutheran High Westland Boosters Association and will support student activities, athletics and academics.

For more information, call Lutheran High Westland at (734) 422-2090.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smanon@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

Crop for a Cure

An all day scrapbooking event, Crop for a Cure, will be held 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, March 29, in the gymnasium at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Merriman, Garden City. The cost is \$35 per person and includes lunch, dinner, beverages and snacks. Pay by March 20 and receive five free prize tickets for a raffle of scrapbooking and non-scrapbooking related merchandise. A Close to My Heart consultant will be on site with some cash-and-carry stock and limited supplies for purchase. Registration fee is non-refundable. First come, first serve. For more information, call Dawn Downer at (734) 502-4277 or contact her by e-mail at downt@comcast.net. All proceeds will benefit the 2008 Michigan 3-Day Breast Cancer Walk.

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 wres-

ting 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, is present several free workshops now through March 19. Reservations required for the workshop, call (734) 756-6904 or go online to www.TLCholisticWellness.com. The workshops include:

- "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 now the pancreas, thyroid and adrenals influence the size and shape of the body. Seating is limited to 30 guests.

- "Detox-Is It Right For You?" 7-9 p.m. Tuesday March 4, at the Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Learn about detoxification of the human body, what are toxins, where do they come from, what do they do to your body and how do you get rid of them. Seating is limited to 15 people.

- "Eat Your Way Thin" 7-9 p.m. Wednesday March 19, at the Civic Center Library. Take a natural approach to a healthier, new you. Learn why diets do not work, ways to avoid weight gain and how to lose weight with diet, nutrition and exercise. When to eat, what to eat and how to eat will be discussed. Seating limited to 15 guests.

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.

ACHIEVERS

Eastern Michigan University has released its Dean's list for fall 2007. Students must carry a minimum of 10 credit hours and maintain a 3.5 grade point average out of a possible 4.0.

Named to the list were Garden City residents Jeffrey Backus, Alan Bennett, Craig Burke, Emily Damerow, Steven Davis, Emily Dannunzio, Carl Dork, Kathleen Gibbons, Jennifer Gumina, Michelle Hackman, Jennifer Haffner, Catherine Howell, Stacy Kelsey, John Kraft, Marissa Priest, Kristy Renaud, Warren Riche, Lindsay Ritz, Jessica Roberts, Andrea Sabatini, Laura Snider, Timothy Varner, Casey Wahl, Adam Walentowicz, Meagan Wilhoite, Deborah Wilson and Kristi Zebrowski.

Westland residents named to the Dean's List were Rachel Anderson, John Ballarin V, Michael Benzinger, Stephanie Biglow, Sara Boczar, Melissa Braunstein, Jessica Brent, Christopher Camilleri, Jeanette Carrier, Stephanie Dickinson, Shawn Dillon, Yvonne El-

Badry, Jeffrey Elinski, Traci Elstone, Leah Enright, Rachel Estrada, Susan Fisher, Scott German, Alyssa Goodin, Neil Gounaris, Katherine Guenther, Shawn Harrelson, Jeffrey Hayton, Alysa Henning, Michelle Henning, Theresa Hintz, Nicholas Kangas, Scott Laurain, Marissa Madary, Kyle Maxwell, Keleigh Maylone, Richard McClain, Michelle McCulloch, Jill McEwen, Colleen Meyer, Matthew Miller, Lorraine Moore, Sharla Muir, Andy Najjar, Mae Najjar, Shannon Nalls, Ginette Nathan, Stacey Neece, Silvia Pavlova, Brian Peterson, Kathryn Price, Erin Rachwal, Kelly Rembisz, Natalie Reynolds, Melissa Richards, Jennifer Rickard, N - Westland, Michigan

Ritchie, Philip Robinson, Desiree Ross, David Rowell, Randeep Sanghe, Cara Sarten, Angela Shiemke, Robert Simpson, Devin Sioma, Christina St. Antoine, Edward St. Antoine, Andrey Stashko, Bethany Stawasz, Eric Stopa, Xin Tan, Allison Thompson, Jennifer Vanderklipp, Jamie Vernier, Kelly Waldschmidt, Sonja Wallace, Lyndsay Wietcha, Sarah Wilson, Shawn Woloszyn, Ryan Wooley, Kyle Zrenchik and Rebekah Zurenko.

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.

EDUCATION

St. Damian

St. Damian Catholic School at 29891 Joy, Westland, offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8. For more information or to schedule a tour, call (734) 427-1680 or check out the school's Web site at www.stdamian.com.

Academic Pathways

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool at 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia, has open enrollment for 2008-2009 school year. Openings for the 3- and 4-year-old programs are available. Potty training is not required. There is a certified teacher. The 4-year-old program runs Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. The 3-year-old program runs Tuesday and Thursday mornings. For more information, call (734) 459-6689 or visit the Web site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com.

YWCA preschool

The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2½ to 5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available. For more information on these programs, or to enroll your child, call the YWCA's Education Department at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

VOLUNTEERS

Karmanos Institute

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

First Step

First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223.

Drivers

Volunteer drivers are needed to transport area residents to meetings of the Western Wayne Parkinson's Disease Support Group. The meetings take place 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month in the Livonia Senior Center, Farmington Road south of Five Mile. Drivers may be offered a stipend. Parkinson's patients, caregivers and others may attend the meetings. Call (734) 459-0216 or (734) 421-4208.

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Reader Rewards

Big Irish party to raise funds for St. Patrick's Parade

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Mike Kelly promises the Sunday, Feb. 24, fund-raiser for the St. Patrick's Day Parade will not only showcase the best Irish entertainment but traditional fare such as corned beef and cabbage.

Kelly's family comes from County Cork so it comes as no surprise that he's been going to the parade since he was pushed in a stroller. He grew up celebrating the day at Mass at St. Mary's of Redford. Now he co-chairs the fund-raiser with his wife Maureen, a Collins with ancestors from County Clare.

"It's going to be a great Irish day for the family," said Kelly of Livonia. Kelly is also co-chairman of the 50th parade which takes place Sunday, March 16. "People can meet 2008 Grand Marshal Patrick O'Hara and the Maid of Erin and her Court, and the Court of St. Brigid. Irish entertainers donate their time to this great cause."

Brian Bonner has played the fund-raiser for the last 30 years. His band Arranmore is named after a part of Ireland that his family comes from in County Donegal. Bonner's parents came over from Ireland in the early 1920s. He'll be playing mostly Irish ballads including Home to Donegal, the title of a CD he made a couple of years ago. Joining him are Bob Paige, drums, and Mick Reid and Will Derry, guitar and vocals. Bonner plays accordion and sings.

"We have continuous entertainment going on in two locations in the building," said



Mike Kelly welcomed Maid of Erin Bridget Belvitch of Livonia and her Court (Megan Henahan, Royal Oak, and Molly Noyes, Bloomfield Hills) to last year's St. Patrick's Parade Fund-raiser.

PARADE FUND-RAISER

What: An afternoon of entertainment featuring Irish music, dance presented by the United Irish Societies

When: 1-7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24

Where: Monaghan Council K of C, 19801 Farmington Rd., south of Eight Mile, Livonia

Cost: Donations \$10 advance, \$15 at door. For information, call Mike Kelly at (313) 791-2600

Ticket locations: Murphy's Restaurant, 26009 Five Mile, Redford (313) 534-5809; Colleen's Gaelic Gifts, 15373 Farmington Rd., Livonia (734) 513-2107; International Minute Press, 44711 Five Mile, Plymouth (734) 414-6303; Celtic Shamrock, 13601 Nine Mile, South Lyon, (810) 360-7719, and Monaghan Council K of C

Brian Bonner, a former parade Grand Marshal. "Each group plays 45 minutes to an hour. The purpose is to make sure

we can put the parade on."

It costs about \$30,000 to run the parade so Gerard Smith is hoping "everybody

will come down and have a good time. His band, Bill Grogan's Goat, plays at 5 p.m. The five-piece Celtic rock band is named after an old folk song his granddad sang to him all the time. In addition to Smith who plays electric mandolin and guitar, concertina and Irish Bouzouki, the band is composed of Jude Closson, drums; Terry Murphy, vocals, guitar, banjo and tin whistle; Dean Western, bass, and Norman Rosenbaum, guitar. "We played at the fund-raiser last year," said Gerard Smith. "It's a big party where all the people in the Irish community haven't seen everybody since last fall see them again before the parade. It's a good day for the family."

Baby boomers won't cause market problems

One question I am frequently asked is as the baby boomer generation retires and withdraws money from the stock market, will it cause problems? Although I've heard people talk about this, it is not something investors should worry about.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

The first of the baby boomer generation has retired and has begun receiving Social Security. The baby boomer generation began after World War II in January 1946. So the first of this generation was eligible to begin collecting Social Security in January.

When the baby boomer generation was born, retirement was something totally different than it is today. In the past, when someone retired, he/she knew their best days were behind them. They were concerned about living a few years in retirement.

Fast forward to today and there is no doubt that the baby boomer generation is changing all the rules. They're looking as if their best years are ahead of them. The baby boomer generation recognizes they're going to be living decades into retirement.

In past generations, the theory was you could live on two-thirds of what you earned while working. The baby boomer generation is smart enough to realize they cannot live on fixed or shrinking incomes. They are going to need a rising income throughout their lifetime and so they need to continue to invest in the stock market to get long-term growth.

There is no doubt that as the baby boomer generation retires, they will restructure their portfolios to change from growth-based portfolios into more income-based portfolios. However, that does not mean they will totally rotate out of stocks.

I have been involved in the investment world for more than 20 years and during that time

period I have studied extensively on the issue of retirement. I have not seen retirees pull out of the stock market. There is no doubt they reduce their stock market exposure, however, it is rare to go from being a stock market investor to one who totally avoids the market.

The fear that the baby boomer generation will pull out of the stock market, and thus depress it, does not factor in the number of new investors that exists today. When the baby boomer generation was born, the great majority of Americans did not invest in the stock market. However, over the last number of years, there has been an explosion in the number of individuals who are now investing in the stock market.

In the old days, when people invested their money, they would buy a CD at a bank. However, in today's world where we do not have pensions, a substantial number of individuals are now investing in retirement plans such as 401(k) and 403(b). Many are investing in the stock market and they are picking up the slack from the baby boomers who may reduce their exposure to stocks.

Another group people tend to forget about is international investors.

I have never been a fan of doom and gloom talk. Generally, people who perpetuate the doom and gloom strategies are either trying to sell you something or generally are clueless. Either way, ignore it.

Just as the world is totally different today compared to when the baby boom generation was born, the strategies for retirement also are totally different.

I have no doubt that as time goes by, strategies will continue to evolve and change. Don't put your head in the sand and ignore change, but rather adapt and benefit from it.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:money matters@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).

Businesswoman honored for cancer awareness effort

A Westland businesswoman has been recognized for her exceptional commitment to community service during the past year at Carpet One Floor & Home's annual Winter Convention in Houston last month.

Catherine Buchanan of Independent Carpet One Floor & Home in Westland was honored for her participation in Carpet One Floor & Home's 2007 community relations campaigns and for going above and beyond the expectations to make a significant impact on their community.

Independent Carpet One Floor & Home, located in

Westland, was actively involved in the Carpet One Floor & Home Welcomes Your Support breast cancer welcome mat campaign, selling more 425 welcome mats and raising \$2,337.50, while advocating for the cause through e-mail and by contacting other local businesses.

Buchanan offered 25 percent off during the month of October to women who showed proof of a mammogram further illustrating her extraordinary enthusiasm for breast cancer awareness, research and education and her willingness to go above and beyond to make a differ-

ence in the local community. "Giving back to the community is important to me personally and I feel that it is the responsibility of a local retailer," Buchanan said. "The Welcomes Your Support campaign raises funds for a really wonderful cause and we are proud to be a part of it. I feel like we've made a difference in our community, and I truly look forward to continuing our support in the future."

"Cathy and her staff have proven that they are extremely committed to supporting their community and the causes that their consumers really care about," said Evan Hackel,

president of Carpet One Floor & Home. "I'm proud to be able to recognize their achievements and I'm excited to see what they will accomplish in the upcoming year."

Visit Independent Carpet One Floor & Home is at 1400 N. Wayne Road, south of Ford. For more information, call (734) 729-6200.

Report shows H.E.A.T. program works

H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Thefts) believes that 2006 statistics released by the Auto Theft Prevention Authority shows its efforts are paying off in the Detroit metropolitan area.

The ATPA report indicate a slight increase in the number of vehicles stolen in Michigan.

"Auto theft statistics are often related to economic conditions," said Terri Miller, director of H.E.A.T. "As the economy worsens, actual thefts increase, as well as insurance frauds disguised as theft as a way to dispose of vehicles that people can no longer afford. However, looking at the long term view, we deem the ATPA's 20-year statistics as a solid benchmark that proves our H.E.A.T. program is working."

According to Miller, the 2006 data does show higher incidences of theft in Detroit and in several other communities across the state.

"H.E.A.T.'s job is far from over," Miller said. "We will continue encouraging community members to utilize our 24/7 toll-free tip line as a safe, anonymous way to report criminal activity, recover stolen property and help keep insurance rates down."

H.E.A.T. is a partnership of Michigan's auto insurance companies, law enforcement, community groups and residents. The H.E.A.T. program encourages citizen action through its 24/7 toll-free tip line (1-800-242-HEAT) and Web site, www.1800242HEAT.com, which provide financial rewards to people who give confidential information leading to the arrest and prosecution of individuals for auto theft, auto-related identity theft, carjacking and chop shops.

In 2006, the Dodge Ram pickup truck was again deemed Michigan's most stolen vehicle. Thieves' top three favorite color choices for vehicles stolen in 2006 were black, white and blue.

The good news is that 2006 numbers reveal 20-year decrease in auto theft. From 1986 to 2006, Michigan auto thefts declined 31 percent, compared to a decrease in auto thefts nationally of only 2.6 percent. In 2006, auto thefts in Michigan were up slightly from 2005, 3.4 percent, according to the ATPA.

The report also shows that in 2006:

- 49,709 vehicles were reported stolen in Michigan, compared with 48,064 in 2005. Data for the 2007 calendar year is not available until February 2009.

- The City of Detroit saw auto thefts increase by 6.9 percent, from 21,439 in 2005 to 22,918 in 2006. This compares favorably to 1986, when more than 72,000 vehicles were stolen in the city.

Among Michigan's larger cities, declines in auto theft were seen in:

- Dearborn - from 1,082 in 2005 to 1,035 in 2006, a decrease of 4.3 percent.

- Southfield - 850 in 2005 to 707 in 2006, a decline of 16.8 percent.

- Flint - from 1,583 in 2005 to 1,521 in 2006, a decline of 3.9 percent.

- Jackson - 153 in 2005 to 118 in 2006, a decline of 22.9 percent.

- Muskegon - from 238 in 2005 to 170 in 2006, a decline of 28.6 percent.

Among Michigan's cities, increases in auto theft occurred in:

- Detroit - from 21,439 in

2005 to 22,918 in 2006, an increase of 6.9 percent.

- Warren - from 1,633 in 2005 to 1,805 in 2006, an increase of 10.5 percent.

- Pontiac - from 488 in 2005 to 565 in 2006, an increase of 15.8 percent.

- Lansing - from 412 in 2005 to 472 in 2006, an increase of 14.6 percent.

- Battle Creek - from 187 in 2005 to 218 in 2006, an increase of 16.6 percent

Since its inception in 1985, H.E.A.T. tips have led to the recovery of over \$47 million in stolen property and the arrests of more than 3,000 suspects involved in auto theft rings, chop shops, carjackings and fraudulent car thefts, among other auto-related crimes.

H.E.A.T. has paid more than \$3.2 million in tipster rewards over the last 23 years. Anyone with information on auto theft, carjacking, chop shops, auto theft-related identity theft and auto insurance fraud in Michigan is encouraged to call the H.E.A.T. 24/7 tip line and speak to a live operator at 1-800-242-HEAT, or log on to www.1800242HEAT.com to provide a confidential report.

Tipsters are awarded up to \$1,000, if the tip leads to the arrest and prosecution of a suspected car thief or a person suspected of auto theft-related insurance fraud. Rewards of up to \$10,000 are issued, if a tip results in the arrest and binding over for trial of a suspected theft ring or chop shop operators. H.E.A.T. rewards up to \$2,000 for information leading to the issuance of a warrant for a carjacking suspect.

The H.E.A.T. tip line is monitored by the Michigan State Police and funded by Michigan's auto insurance companies.

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OUR VIEWS

ATHENA winner deserves honor

The *Observer* is pleased to acknowledge that our own Sue Mason, editor of the Westland and Garden City editions, is the 2008 Westland ATHENA Award winner.

The award is presented to a man or woman who has excelled in their professional career or business, made significant contributions to the betterment of the community and helped women achieve their leadership potential.

Mason, a longtime Westland resident, has worked at the *Observer* for almost 23 years and has distinguished herself in reporting on community news. She is a dedicated professional who uses her gift of writing to inform and educate readers.

She brings a caring attitude to all that she does and a willingness to share her talents to help others. Along the way, she has helped a young woman in raising \$40,000 to get adult stem cell treatment in Thailand to repair her damaged heart. She recently won a national newspaper award for a story she wrote about the woman's treatment and journey.

She brought the plight of the family of a young Westland man who died in a shooting in Detroit to the attention of Norman Yatooma and his For the Children Foundation, which stepped in to help.

Mason worked as a general assignment reporter and features editor before stepping into the role of community editor at the *Observer*. Her duties include coverage of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and Garden City Public Schools, a beat that takes her from the classroom to the boardroom and beyond. No chair is too small and no topic too mundane when it comes to covering the school beat.

But her contribution goes beyond the byline in the newspaper. She has served in many volunteer positions, notably as a member of the Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Center Advisory Board. For more than a decade, she helped promote the center and raise scholarship money for displaced homemakers and women looking for skills to join the workforce. She now is involved with the Garden City Schools' Foundation for Education Excellence as a member of its events committee.

We congratulate Mason on her selection for the ATHENA Award. She is an asset to her community and to this newspaper. We are proud of her accomplishments. She is most deserving of this special honor.

State's economic future depends on strong schools

Education is the key.

Everyone agrees that Michigan's long-term economic future depends on a well-educated workforce, capable of filling jobs in a more complex and shifting economy.

We have not been keeping pace with the rest of the country.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has been working with Democratic and Republican legislators in this critical area that both parties agree is the state's primary obligation.

Granholm offered these proposals during her State of the State address:

- Increasing state funding for the 2008-09 school year by \$108 to \$216 per student to provide more funding and narrow the funding gap. This would make a minimum foundation allowance of \$7,420.
- Raising the dropout age from 16 to 18.
- Urging school districts to offer full-day kindergarten and increased funding for preschool programs.
- Creating a 21st Century Schools Fund to help school districts replace large high schools that have low academic achievement and high dropout rates with smaller high schools. The fund would provide \$300 million in grants to school districts over the next three years to create these schools.
- Increasing funding to community colleges and state universities by 3 percent.

All of these are good ideas. It is now up to the Legislature to study the funding proposals to see what the state can afford.

It's important to note that these are not immediate remedies for Michigan's vexing economic problems. Instead, they are the crucial element in guaranteeing that the state has a healthy economic future.

These proposals alone will not address the social and economic problems that have confounded our large urban school districts, particularly Detroit. But they show a need to create an educational system that reaches children at an early age; educates children in small, well-disciplined and relevant school environments; keeps students in school; and provides a well-funded mix of post-secondary educational opportunities.



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LETTERS

Charge online taxes

With the ongoing budget talks at all levels, including that of our State of Michigan, we want to raise a few questions: Do all residents know that if they made any purchase online or by mail order, and if they were not taxed the required 6 percent, that they are expected to pay that tax to the state of Michigan by answering the appropriate question on their income tax form?

Do most residents know that our state is losing millions of dollars annually just by not collecting the required 6 percent?

If we indeed are a nation of laws, then it seems absolutely absurd not to implement the legal 6 percent sales tax on all purchases. We were told there is legislation that does not require sales taxes for online or mail-order purchases. So even though there is one law on the books to collect the 6 percent sales tax, another law can negate that law.

Well then, it becomes incumbent on all of our federal and state legislators, including the governor, to do something about this and fast. How can we continue to bemoan the loss of money in other areas when we have millions of dollars of sale taxes going uncollected?

We do not accept any of the excuses that there are other laws that negate our sales taxes. Well then, change either law. Either tax all sales purchases or eliminate all sales taxes. This is yet another absurd situation that is allowed to continue unless someone does something about it.

We're asking you to contact all legislators and voice your outrage at the fact that millions of sales tax dollars go uncollected annually. This must be changed. Don't accept any response that it is not possible because everything is possible. We need to get all of the sales tax revenue that is, by law, rightfully ours. This has been going on far too long. How was this ever allowed?

Please contact Gov. Jennifer Granholm at (517) 373-3400, U.S. Sen. Carl Levin at (202) 224-6221 or (313) 226-6020 or e-mail at senator@levin.senate.org, U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow at (202) 224-4822 or (313) 961-4330 or by e-mail at senator@stabenow.senate.org, U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter at (202) 225-8171 or (734) 632-0314, state Sen. Glenn Anderson at (866) 262-7306 or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov, and state Rep. Richard LeBlanc at (888) 737-5325 or by e-mail at richardleblanc@house.mi.gov.

You need not wonder any longer how you can help our state budget. Please contact all of these legislators and push for a change in the laws regarding our rightful collection of all sales taxes. Our voices need to be heard.

Our lame state term-limits contribute to such lack of oversight because just as action is taken, our legislators are out of office. Nevertheless, while fixing one wrong, we hopefully can fix another.

Thank you for being a good steward of our state taxes. Stay on top of this. Flood their offices with calls. Follow up on a regular basis. Something really needs to be done. After all, it is our money that we're talking about. Together we can make a difference.

James and Mary Murphy
Westland

U.S. becoming theocracy

The United States continues its inexorable slide into a Christian theocracy with U.S. House Resolution 888 seeking to designate the first week in May as "American Religious History Week."

First, the word "religious" in the resolution is (deliberately) misleading, as the introductory statements make quite clear that the only religion under consideration is Christianity.

More importantly, this country used to guarantee not just freedom of religion, but freedom from religion. Now we see politicians falling over themselves to see which of them can suck up the most to the religious fundamentalists.

Not only do we have a semiviable presidential hopeful who regards a creation myth as fact, but not one of the apparently less benighted candidates dares to profess anything other than pious reverence for the Christian dogma.

Free speech is being eroded in this country to the extent that many people, myself included, have to think twice before expressing our opinions for fear of incurring the wrath of the religiously correct.

If our lawmakers can ride roughshod over the First Amendment, which of our rights will be the next to go?

Rachel McCormack
Canton

No to McCain

This is addressed to the conservative readers.

Eight years ago I got fooled by John McCain but not this time. I was also frustrated that we were treated as idiots by the Republican Party; some "good ole boys" got together in Texas and decided "W" was just what the country needed and I wanted to see a race, so I voted for McCain.

Two events have shaped my negative opinion.

First, no matter how hard the fight, both parties normally "kiss and make up" after an election. Everyone else did as Bush took the White House but McCain actively tried to sabotage everything he could those first years. That soured me on McCain, but the second event is a show-stopper.

Like a lot of Americans, I want to see an end to the illegal invasion from Mexico. I have three spouses to my children who are legal immigrants, and I even worked (with) one personally when my son was injured. When you know how tough and expensive it is — you have little patience for sneak-ins.

If you have not read the McCain/Kennedy sponsored Immigration Law you should — it will make you sick and then very mad. It would end any attempt to control our southern border, put illegals ahead of Hispanics trying to immigrate legally, give them perks citizens don't have, and that's just the start. They would open the doors to any woman or teenager in the world who felt threatened, and give special treatment to Poles!

The Poles coming to Detroit are well educated, they don't need any special treatment. The whole bill smells like two

old duffers sitting around a whiskey bottle trying to out-do each other in giveaways. The result is so putrid you can't stand the smell, nor the authors.

Think carefully who to support, we got fooled in the White House, too.

Vincent Robinson
Rochester Hills

We need health care

I recently attended a meeting of a local citizens' group, where we participated in an exercise in democracy. Seventeen people broke into three groups to discuss either health care or the war in Iraq. Each group was asked to reach a consensus on two main points for the issue they chose. Astonishingly, not only did all three groups choose to discuss health care over the war in Iraq, but the same two points rose to the forefront of each independent discussion.

First was that some level of universal care should be guaranteed to every American citizen, and to others who are in the country legally. Second was that a single-payer, government-administered plan (similar to Medicare, or Rep. Dingell's H.R. 676) would be the best way to minimize costs, both for individuals and businesses, and would provide a high level of care for all Americans.

A recent British study found that the United States ranked dead last out of 19 leading industrialized nations in our ability to prevent deaths due to treatable conditions. If we were able to perform at a level of the top three countries, more than 100,000 lives would be saved each year. The researchers specifically noted the high number of uninsured Americans — around 47 million — as a key factor in the rankings. Countries at the top of the survey had reduced preventable death rates by 16 percent over the last decade, vs. an improvement of only 4 percent here in America.

While many important details will have to be debated, and many real problems need to be solved, it is clear that the time is now for the people to demand that our elected representatives develop a national, single-payer, universal health care program for America.

Bob Moreo
Livonia

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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QUOTABLE

"This time of year, when we're not picking up compost, our overall volume is down. And based on the (ailing) economy, people aren't buying as much, so they're not generating as much trash."

- Mayor William Wild about lower trash volume helping ailing the city's ailing trash hauler, Midwest Sanitation

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

Dems shouldn't accept results of state primary

The Democratic Party seems ready to block its own march into the White House by tainting the election process with back-room politics and the kind of wheeling and dealing that many Americans find disgusting and disheartening.

The Michigan delegation to the Democratic National Convention must not be seated based on the results of January's dubious primary. If those results are accepted and play any role in tipping the nomination to Sen. Hillary Clinton, or if super-delegates decide for Clinton against the results on the party caucuses and primaries, the party will find that millions of voters will sit out this election or cast their votes for John McCain in protest to the arrogance of the Democratic Party.

This is not about the relative merits of Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama. They are both qualified to be president. Both have detailed positions on the major issues — just go to their Web sites. Obama is more charismatic, an eloquent and forceful speaker. Clinton has more years in Washington and, on balance, more support among party leaders.

If either were to win the presidency, it would be a long overdue historic moment.

Despite Obama's current momentum, the nomination is still up for grabs. Clinton may well post strong wins in Texas, Ohio and Pennsylvania and make the issue moot.

But if Obama maintains his momentum and goes into the convention with more delegates and a larger vote count, the final decision should not hang on the votes from Michigan and Florida or the calculations of party bosses.

Michigan's Democratic leaders had legitimate concerns about the peculiar weight given to Iowa and New Hampshire in the quadrennial election. Those states are small, predominantly rural and white. They represent a portion of the electorate, but do not represent the majority of the country.

But the national party thought otherwise and asked other states to schedule their primaries or caucuses for February and after, with the exceptions of Nevada and South Carolina to give voice to Hispanics and African Americans.

Michigan and Florida decided to defy the party and the party retaliated by stripping those states of their delegates. The candidates agreed not to campaign here and in Florida. Obama and John Edwards pulled their names from the Michigan ballot, Clinton kept her name on the ballot. Voters did not get a fair

It would be sad if Michigan is not included in the convention. But it would be sadder if the party accepts a sham vote and that vote is in any way decisive in selecting the nominee.

chance to evaluate the candidates or hear them in person.

Now Clinton wants those votes counted out of her concern for the voters of Michigan and Florida. Yeah, right!

On Friday, the Michigan Democratic Party announced the delegate allocations, if, and they presume when, the Michigan delegation is seated. Based on the primary, Clinton would receive 73 pledged delegates, 16 pledged alternates and 10 committee members. There will be 55 uncommitted delegates, five uncommitted alternates and eight uncommitted committee members. The actual delegates will be chosen at congressional and state meetings in March and May. The delegation will also include 28 unpledged delegates (the superdelegates).

Ironically, if Michigan had kept its February primary date, the state would be a key player in the nominating process. The two remaining candidates would be spending a lot of time and media dollars here. Michigan's broad, racially diverse population would have made a difference. And, as the economy weakens, Michigan's problems would be a central concern for candidates.

The leap frogging primaries have been a disservice to democracy. The slow building primary process has always been a way for the less well-known candidates to make their case and build a following against the better-known and better-financed candidates. This is why Obama's campaign has built momentum against Clinton. The process has also been beneficial for Sen. John McCain, who was counted out by the media but began scoring victory after victory against the better-financed former Gov. Mitt Romney, who was favored by party leaders.

It would be sad if Michigan is not included in the convention. But it would be sadder if the party accepts a sham vote and that vote is in any way decisive in selecting the nominee. Such an outcome would see many of the young voters who have been excited by Obama's campaign sit out the election and many black voters turn away from the election because they will feel they've been disenfranchised yet again.

Democrats, don't do it.

Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of the Observer Newspapers. He can be reached by phone at (734) 953-2149 or by email at hgallagher@hometownlife.com.



Hugh Gallagher

Hospitals strengthen services for patients through merger of systems

The best doctors and nurses. Access to the latest equipment. Advanced treatments. Affordable and compassionate care. This is what we want when we think of health care today. We want the highest quality of care as close to home as we can get. If there is a treatment or a diagnostic test we need and our local doctors or hospital does not provide it, we want a shared



David Spivey

network that has expanded resources. A patient-centered network we know and trust. St. Mary Mercy Hospital of Livonia and Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, based in Ann Arbor, are supporting and re-investing in our communities by offering just that — a strategic merger that expands the health care services we currently offer.

Sharing the same mission of service, together we are embarking on an exciting new era of growth to support the care provided to you. We are collaborating instead of competing.

Effective Feb. 1, we have strategically merged not only to strengthen our services locally, but to expand our patients' access to a stronger health system regionally throughout southeast Michigan. Our newly expanded network of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System (SJMHS) is now composed of St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital in Howell and Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital in Saline, as well as facilities in Canton and Brighton — all members of Trinity Health, based in Novi. Collectively, the new Saint Joseph Mercy Health System employs more than 8,500 associates and has 1,600 physicians, making it one of the region's leading employers.

So what does this mean to you? The hospitals in our new system will benefit patients by sharing physician and professional expertise, technology advancements and innovation, best practices, medical breakthroughs, quality and excellence in the patient care experience. By merging and collaborating efforts, we are working to keep costs down and health care affordable for our patients. As a Catholic health system, our mission includes giving back to the community through support services, mission-based charity care programs and sponsorships of various local organizations and events. Combining our efforts as a health system, we provided more than \$58 million in 2007 to those in need.

What have we learned from you? Both organizations have recently constructed new facilities to respond to community growth and need. With cancer and heart disease as the top two leading causes of death in Michigan and the U.S., St. Mary Mercy Hospital also recently opened the Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, which provides a coordinated setting for cancer patients, including physician offices, clinical research trial

options, chemotherapy, radiation therapy with IMRT technology and a one-of-a-kind Image Recovery Center. The new Heart & Vascular Center provides the latest cardiac catheterization and interventional radiology technology available for interventional and endovascular procedures. St. Mary Mercy also utilizes Remote Presence™ Robotics technology in its Emergency Center for neurology consultation through the Michigan Stroke Network.

Our partner, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, recently opened a new 11-story East Tower that includes 356 private patient rooms, each 300 square feet with personal bathrooms, patient media systems and the latest medical technology for staff. Within the last two years, the hospital has opened a new Surgery Pavilion, launched the use of CyberKnife®, a revolutionary cancer care treatment — the first and only of its kind in Michigan — and opened the Saint Joseph Mercy Woodland Cancer Center in Brighton.

Also as pioneers of technology, the system will share an Electronic Medical Record system with computerized physician order entry for efficiency and accuracy of your health records. Far less paper charting and deciphering handwriting. Your records will be easily and electronically accessible to clinical staff at any Saint Joseph Mercy Health System Hospital.

What does the future hold? Additional capital investments in the Saint Joseph Mercy Health System service area are planned to continue to meet the needs of the communities served. Some of these investments include both facilities and technology:

■ Ann Arbor — a second new seven-story north tower.

■ Livonia — a new patient tower providing all private rooms; expanded emergency center, surgical services and radiology.

■ Canton Health Center — expansion for advanced medicine and surgery.

■ Saline — new community health pavilion and imaging center.

At a time when health care costs are increasing, competitors are building new facilities with unproven need and some Michiganders lack access to quality health care, this strategic merger represents collaboration to control costs and expand your access to services. By investing in our existing hospital campuses as one integrated system, we aim to provide greater benefits to the communities we have traditionally served.

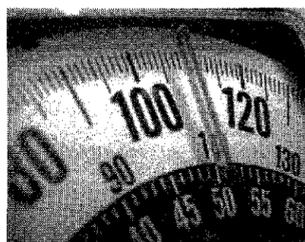
The system will be led by the Office of the President, consisting of Garry C. Faja, president of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System and regional market executive for Trinity Health, and David Spivey, president of St. Mary Mercy Hospital. More information can be found at www.stmary-mercy.org and www.sjmercyhealth.org.

David Spivey is president and CEO of St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

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The physicians at every center have specialized training in weight loss medicine, and use a variety of techniques to achieve rapid weight loss. For patients who have tried everything, The Center for Medical Weight Loss offers new hope to those who have tried over and over to drop those unwanted pounds.

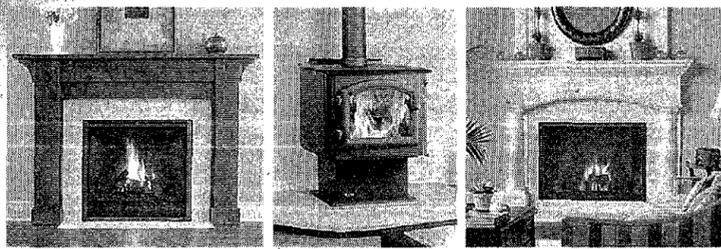
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*Average weight loss based on a random sample of 58 men and 61 women on the medically prescribed diet.

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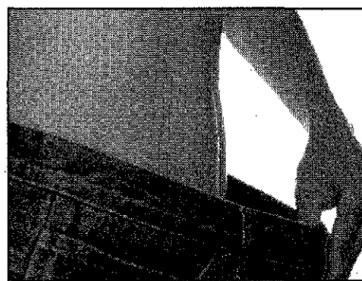


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Thursday, February 21, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Trojans demolish Lutheran North for Metro title

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

BOYS BASKETBALL

There was no drama during Tuesday's Metro Conference boys basketball championship game.

Livonia Clarenceville didn't even have to cut down the nets.

The Trojans left little doubt they were class of the conference, sprinting to a 17-2 first-quarter lead en route to a 67-41 win at home over Macomb Lutheran North.

Clarenceville, 18-1 overall, celebrated its first conference crown since the 2002-03 season.

"This is the number one goal that we established -- to win a league championship," Clarenceville second-year coach Corey McKendry said. "Since last March we said we wanted to put up a banner. We're 11-0 in the league and it is our first outright championship. It feels good."

Lutheran North (12-7) was competitive in its last meeting with the Trojans, losing 80-67, but the Mustangs never threatened after going 0-for-14 from the field in the first quarter.

"Maybe we were nervous, but no excuses, they played great," North coach Gary Gutenkunst said of the Trojans. "They (Clarenceville) deserved it. They beat us twice and it was not a fluke."

"At times we were played a too tentative of a pace, and at other times, we took quick shots which fed into their running game."

North, torched for a school-record tying 40 points by 6-foot-4 Clarenceville junior swingman Jamie Stewart in the last encounter, opened the game with a triangle-and-two defense.

The Mustangs may have slowed down Stewart, who finished with 15 points, but the supporting cast was hitting on all cylinders, led by 5-10 senior point guard Lonnie Fairfax, who ended up with a game-high 18 points.

"We came out focused and ready to play, we were ready to win a championship," said Fairfax, who made 8-of-12 shots from the floor. "We knew they would concentrate on Jamie more, so I saw the openings and took it to the hole."

Detroit Southeastern transfer Craig VanNostrand, a senior guard, chipped in with

11 points, while junior guard Darryl Whitaker finished with nine.

Brian Budchuk's basket at the buzzer to end the first half pulled North to within 16 points, 35-19.

But Clarenceville went on a 16-4 tear to open the third quarter as Fairfax hit three shots in a row, including a 3-pointer, to build a 53-23 advantage and to put the game out of reach.

"At halftime we told our guys don't let them (North) make the first run," McKendry said. "We

Please see **TROJANS, B3**

Sidelines

Hoop skills champs

Brian Alsobrooks posted the high score of 49 points to win the Boys 10-11 age bracket in last Friday's MPRA Hoop Challenge Basketball Skills Competition hosted by the Livonia Parks and Recreation Department.

Other boys age group winners included Christian Woods (14-15), 48 points; Zack Atwood (12-13), 46 points; and Evan Cummins (8-9), 13 points.

Angelica Woods scored 47 points to win the Girls 14-15.

Other girls champions included Hannah Laurer (12-13), 17 points; Danielle Hague (10-11), 6 points; and Sarah Jennings of Dearborn Heights (8-9).

All Livonia age-group winners advance to Michigan Parks and Recreation Association Area Competition Saturday, March 9 at the Saline Recreation Complex.

MU's Battle lauded

For the fourth time this season, Madonna University's Jon Battle (Cleveland, Ohio) was selected Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Payer of the Week (ending Feb. 17) as he scored 30 points and grabbed 14 rebounds in Saturday's 77-70 win over Concordia University.

The senior guard also scored 17 and added eight rebounds in a 77-67 triumph Feb. 13 at Siena Heights.

Battle is averaging 18.2 points per game as the Crusaders improved to a school-record 17-12 overall and 9-4 in the WHAC.

Paauz lifts Lakers

Grand Valley State University freshman Jeff Paauz (Livonia Stevenson) helped the Lakers' 800-yard freestyle relay team to a third-place finish with a school-record time of 6:50.66 in last weekend's Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Men's Swimming and Diving Championships hosted by the University of Indianapolis.

The Lakers' 800 freestyle relay quarter also earned an NCAA Division II Nationals 'A' qualifying standard.

Individually, Paauz took fifth in the 200 backstroke (1:55.62); sixth in the 500 freestyle (4:42.55); and seventh in the 1,650 freestyle (16:37.16); as the Lakers won the team title with 665 points followed by runner-up Wayne State with 634.

S'craft women seize Eastern Conference

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Last year, Karen Lafata's Lady Ocelots hit the wall. This year, energized by newcomer Heidi Warczynsky, they seem determined to run through it.

On Saturday, with Warczynsky scoring 20 points and contributing 11 assists, Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team breezed to a 95-66 win over visiting Wayne County Community.

The victory enabled Schoolcraft (21-3, 14-1) to clinch the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Eastern Conference title for the second season in a row.

All 12 players who saw action against the Wildcats scored at least two points, helping Schoolcraft set a school record for field-goal percentage in a game (36-of-58, 62 percent).

"I like the way we did it in grand fashion," Lafata said with a big smile. "We proved that we wanted it. It was a fine performance from the whole team. I'm proud, because it was one of our goals to win it again, and we did."

"But we know there's bigger fish to fry. So it's just one step. But it's good because we're playing well. Last year at this time, that wasn't the story."

The Lady Ocelots, as a result, will be the top seed in the conference playoffs.

Lafata is confident this season won't end on a sour note the way it did in 2006-07, when Schoolcraft dropped its final two games in the postseason to finish at 25-5.

"It's because of the depth, the energy, the commitment, the kids last year hit a wall and we didn't

have the sophomore leadership," she said when asked why she is confident things will finish differently this time around.

One player who epitomizes those characteristics is sophomore guard Warczynsky, who was not on the '06-07 squad. An example of the fire she brings to the proceedings took place midway through Saturday's first half, when Wayne County (6-16, 4-11) took a brief 19-17 lead.

That advantage lasted only as long as it took Warczynsky to take the ball to the other end of the court and drain a trey from the left corner. She pumped her fist into the air following the big bucket, and Schoolcraft went on a 15-0 tear that set the tone for the afternoon.

"When you've got Heidi out there playing the way she's playing, she just put us on her back," Lafata said. "She's our emotional leader. It's been like pulling teeth to get her to realize that, that she has to be more vocal out there."

But the Wildcats didn't go away quietly, trailing just 46-37 at halftime thanks to the hot shooting of guard Ruth Bell (14 points), who hit four treys during the first 20 minutes.

After Lafata made a couple of adjustments during halftime, Bell and her teammates could not stem the Schoolcraft tide.

The Lady Ocelots started running and gunning, with plenty of players getting in on the act. Sophomore forward Antoinette Brown and sophomore guard Brittney Ivey each scored 13 points, while sophomore forward Janelle Harris chipped in with 12.

Please see **SCHOOLCRAFT, B2**



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Schoolcraft's Janelle Harris (left) scored 12 points in Saturday's win against Wayne County CC, which sewed up the Eastern Conference title in the MCCA.

Blazers prove to be district tough

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Canton was well on its way to digging out of a Grand Canyon-sized hole during Monday night's Class A district opener against Livonia Ladywood when the Blazers' Jenna Anastos stole the Chiefs' shovel.

The scrappy Chiefs had whittled a 16-0 deficit down to 16-10 on a Baylee Hollowell basket with 42 seconds left in the first half, but Anastos countered with a triple from the deep corner and a fast break layup at the first-half buzzer to extend Ladywood's lead back to 21-10 at the intermission.

The Blazers carried the late momentum into the second half and continued on to win, 48-29, to advance into Wednesday night's semifinal showdown against Northville, which drew a first-round bye.

"Those five points Jenna scored at the end of the first half were very important because we didn't want to go into the half leading by just a couple of points after outplaying them for a quarter-and-a-half," Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski said.

Ladywood, ranked No. 7 in the state in Class A, improved to 18-3. Canton capped its season with a 6-15 mark.

"I thought we came out a little tentative and not as aggressive as I would have liked," Canton coach Brian Samulski said. "Once we got flowing a little bit, we made a nice run to end the second quarter. I'm proud of the way the kids hung in there and battled."

Anastos led all scorers with 13 points. Alison

Please see **BLAZERS, B2**



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

February madness

Livonia Stevenson's Kaylee McGrath drives to the bucket for two points in Monday's Class A district girls basketball opener against Redford Thurston. McGrath scored 15 points, but Thurston came away with a 66-48 win. See more on page B2.

Patriots put 10 grapplers into regional

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

It was highly productive day for Livonia schools in Saturday's Division 1 individual district wrestling tournament hosted by Birmingham Groves.

Franklin established a new school record for most regional qualifiers with 10, while Stevenson (seven) and Churchill (six) will also send strong

contingents this Saturday to Southgate Anderson. Action gets under way at 9:30 a.m.

The Patriots were led by district champions Jared Pieknik (112 pounds) and Dan Woodall (171).

Other regional qualifiers included freshman Steve Tuyu, 103; Justin Jacobsen, 119; Brandon Smith and Matt Hintz, both at 140; Don Stratz, and Elvin Ferreira, both at 152; Garrett Hay, 171; and Mike Modes, 285.

"Brandon Billiau was hurt at

Please see **PATRIOTS, B3**

Warriors ground Hawks again; Clarenceville reaches 'B' final

It was rematch of Dec. 6 girls basketball meeting between neighbors Lutheran High Westland and Westland Huron Valley Lutheran and the outcome wasn't much different.

Nine of 10 players scored Monday as Lutheran Westland opened Class D district action with a 57-27 triumph over the host Hawks, champions of the Red Division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. The Warriors also took the first encounter, 43-22.

Junior center Becca Refenes scored 18 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead the victorious Warriors, who improved to 14-5 overall. Junior guard Allyson Yankee chipped in with 12 points and five steals.

Katie Kipfmiller scored seven for the Hawks, who couldn't overcome a 39-19 halftime deficit.

CLARENCEVILLE 58, HAMTRAMCK 41: Senior guard Amanda Moody scored 21 points and dished out six assists Monday to propel host Livonia Clarenceville (9-11) to a Class B district triumph over the Cosmos (2-18).

Chenay Kemp chipped in with 18 points and 11 rebounds for the Trojans, who led 29-14 at halftime after going on a 19-6 second-period run.

It was Clarenceville's third win this season over the Cosmos and puts the Trojans into Friday's district championship game against Detroit Public School League runner-up Renaissance (16-4), which dressed only six players in Monday's first-round win over Highland Park. (Game time is 7 p.m. at Clarenceville).

Daz Chavon-Hall and Kaniqua Montgomery tallied 14 and 12 points, respectively, for Hamtramck. Clarenceville went 11-of-19

from the free throw line, while Hamtramck was 7-of-16.

Just four days earlier (Feb. 13), the two teams met for seventh-place in the Metro Conference playoffs with the host Trojans posting a 51-26 win behind 13 points from Moody and 12 from Kemp.

Ashley Hall also had a double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds for the Trojans, who enjoyed a 31-14 halftime advantage.

Chavon-Hall led the Cosmos with 11 points.

LADYWOOD 37, RENAISSANCE 26: In Saturday's Operation-Friendship consolation game at Detroit Cass Tech, Catholic League runner-up Livonia Ladywood (17-3) bested Public School League runner-up Renaissance (15-4) behind 14 points from senior forward Jenna Anastos and 12 from senior center Alex Serowoky.

Ladywood led 20-18 at halftime before gaining some breathing room with a 15-5 third-quarter run.

Lorreal Jones scored nine for the Phoenix, who suited up only five players for the game due to a team boycott coupled with an internal disciplinary action.

LUTH. WESTLAND 31, HARPER WOODS 29: In the regular season finale Feb. 12 for fourth place in the Metro Conference playoffs, host Lutheran High Westland (13-5, 8-3) needed a pair of free throws from Abi Gieschen with only 10 seconds remaining to subdue the stubborn Pioneers (4-15, 3-8).

The Warriors shot only 9-of-37 from the floor, but connected on 13-of-22 free throws.

Leading scorers for Lutheran Westland included Allyson Yankee (nine points), Katey Ramthun (eight) and Gieschen (seven).

Becca Refenes was the Warriors' top rebounder with 15 followed by Ramthun and Yankee with eight and seven, respectively.

Sarah Deramo led Harper Woods and all scorers with 10 points.

Barbee's return lifts Wayne to district tourney triumph

Victory was sweet Monday night for the Wayne Memorial girls basketball team and the timing couldn't have been any better.

With leading scorer Trenia Barbee back in the lineup after a four-game absence, the Zebras tasted victory for the first time since Dec. 14 with a 50-42 win at home over Garden City in the Class A district opener for both teams.

Barbee, a senior guard bound for Henderson State (Ark.), was cleared to play after undergoing minor knee surgery and scored a game-high 23 points.

Senior guard Nastassia Goines chipped in with 13 points and six assists, while junior center Wendi Foster contributed 11 rebounds as Wayne snipped a 14-game losing skid.

The win moved Wayne (4-

GIRLS BASKETBALL

17) into Wednesday's district semifinal at home against rival Westland John Glenn (9-11), which owns 56-48 and 65-44 regular season victories over the Zebras. The other semifinal pitted Romulus (13-5) against Ypsilanti (12-6).

Karen Grecicz led the Cougars (2-18) with 18 points. Katie Torok added 10.

Wayne trailed 24-21 at halftime but took command with a 15-7 third-quarter spurt.

The Zebras won despite making only 10-of-26 foul shots (38 percent). Garden City was 5-of-11 from the free throw stripe.

THURSTON 66, STEVENSON 40: Sophomores Chelsea Carradine and Ashley Wheeler each scored 17 points as host Redford Thurston

(15-5) opened Class A district play Monday with a win over Livonia Stevenson (4-17).

Wheeler connected on five 3-pointers, while Carradine pulled down nine rebounds.

Senior guard Jacyntha Green contributed 14 points, while junior center Rennica Lee Merida added 13 points, nine boards and three blocks.

For the Spartans, junior center Kaylee McGrath played a strong first half scoring 13 of her 15 points in the opening 16 minutes - enabling her team to trail just 33-24 at halftime.

But Thurston hit the floor with more intensity beginning the second half, and the Eagles cashed in with a number of put-backs and fast-break buckets by Carradine, Merida and it was 65-37 with about 2:30 remaining, when Stevenson's reserves strung together the final four field goals of the night.

Senior forward Rachel Stevens and senior guard Julia Schroeder added eight and six points, respectively, for the Spartans.

FRANKLIN 45, W.L. NORTHERN 24: In

the Western Lakes Activities Association third-place game tourney game played last Thursday, junior forward Brianna Taylor had a huge night, netting 14 points, 16 rebounds, five assists and five steals to lead Livonia Franklin (16-4) past host Walled Lake Northern (13-6).

Twin sister, Brittany Taylor also shined, contributing 16 points, five rebounds and five steals.

Senior center Ashley Price chipped in with seven boards and sophomore Senneka Scott added six points.

Brittany Gibson led the Knights with seven points.

PLYMOUTH 64, WAYNE 34: In the regular season finale Feb. 13, the host Wildcats (9-11) earned the victory over Wayne Memorial (3-17) as Shaakira Haywood led the way with 17 points.

Stacey Klonowski added 14 for Plymouth, which jumped out to a 21-7 first-quarter advantage.

Nastassia Goines led Wayne with 17 points, while Wendi Foster added eight points and 11 rebounds.

ALL-WLAA GIRLS HOOPS

2007-08 ALL-WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAMS

ALL-CONFERENCE: Alaya Mitchell, Sr., Salem; Chelsea Davis, Sr., Salem; Kelly Costello, Sr., Walled Lake Central; Brianna Taylor, Jr., Livonia; Franklin; Melanie Wilkerson, Sr., Walled Lake Western; Malissa Guiles, Sr., Walled Lake Northern.

ALL-WESTERN DIVISION: Sarah Stern, Sr., Northville; Brittany Taylor, Jr., Franklin; Baylee Hollowell, Jr., Canton; Shaakira Haywood, Jr., Plymouth; Carly Zettlin, Sr., W.L. Western; Trenia Barbee, Sr., Wayne Memorial; Chelsea Atzinger, Jr., Northville.

ALL-LAKES DIVISION: Charli Coram, Sr., W.L. Northern; Brooke Gustafson, Jr., W.L. Central; Sarah Stone, Soph., Salem; Brittany Holbrook, Jr., Westland; John Glenn; Porsche Dudley, Sr.,

W.L. Central; Victoria Brotz, Sr., Salem.

HONORABLE MENTION

Salem: Brett deBear, Soph.; W.L. Western: Chelsea Hunter, Jr.; Paige Partenio, Jr.; Lauren Williams, Sr.; Tanya Meftah, Sr.; Franklin: Ashley Price, Sr.; Samantha Floyd, Sr.; W.L. Northern: Karleen Herbst, Sr.; Carlissa McKenna, Soph.; Katie Hockstad, Soph.; Northville: Allison Holmes, Sr.; W.L. Central: Jordan Serra, Sr.; Krista Hakola, Soph.; Plymouth: Stacey Klonowski, Soph.; Kelsi Robinson, Jr.; Livonia Churchill; Chelsea Mansian, Sr.; Lindsey Gray, Jr.; John Glenn: Brittany Brown, Sr.; Chanel Payne, Jr.; Shanlinique Baker, Sr.; Canton: Marie Martin, Sr.; Livonia Stevenson: Kaylee McGrath, Jr.; Becca Bartek, Sr.; Sarah Smith, Fr.; Wayne: Nastassia Goines, Sr.;

BLAZERS

FROM PAGE B1

Szczyпка added 10 points and three steals, while Alexandra Serowoky netted eight points and four rebounds.

Hollowell, playing in her last high school game, registered 11 points, 10 rebounds and three steals. Freshman forward Kayla Bridges was next with five points.

Ladywood's defense was stifling during the game's first 16 minutes, when it held Canton to 0-for-8 shooting while forcing 10 early turnovers. The Chiefs' first points didn't come until the 4:25 mark of second quarter, when a Hollowell put-back made it 16-2.

"The number one thing I was most pleased with was the way we came out with a lot of energy," Gorski said. "That's something we hadn't been doing our past few games. I knew right

off the bat that things were going to go well for us tonight."

Sophomores Lindsay Winters and Kaylie Martin contributed key baskets in the Chiefs' late second-quarter streak.

The Blazers closed the third quarter much like they ended the first half - with a blaze of glory. This time it was Serowoky who completed a catch-and-shoot at the horn to put her team up 32-17 with eight minutes left.

Both teams emptied their benches with just under four minutes to play.

A combination of tenacious defense by both teams, post-season jitters and poor decision-making resulted in a combined 52 turnovers - 27 for Ladywood and 25 for Canton.

The Blazers connected on 60 percent of their field goals (18-for-30) and half their free throws (8-for-16).

Canton was 8-for-29 from the floor (27.5 percent) and 13-of-21 from the charity stripe (61.9).

Crusaders deck Cards in WHAC win

The Madonna University's men's basketball team defeated Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference foe Concordia University on Saturday, 76-70, behind a 30-point, 14-rebound performance from senior guard Jon Battle.

MU improved to 17-12 overall and 9-4 in the WHAC (a half-game behind both Aquinas and Cornerstone for first place).

Other Crusaders to help the cause included Wayne memorial's Cedric Sims (16 points, eight boards), Canton's D.J. Bridges (12 points) and Wayne's Mike Rashad (nine points).

Anthony Bates notched a game-high 30 points for the Cardinals (10-18, 6-6).

Ocelots drop two more

The Schoolcraft College men's basketball team suffered its 16th and 17th straight losses of the season following a 101-

MEN'S BASKETBALL

68 setback Saturday at home to Wayne County Community College and a 120-64 defeat Feb. 13 to host Kirtland CC.

Schoolcraft is now 2-23 overall and 2-14 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan CC Athletic Association.

Anthony Wafer scored 20 and Ryan Matthews added 14 for the Ocelots against Wayne County (14-11, 11-5).

Seven players, meanwhile, scored in double figures for Kirtland (14-9, 10-4) led by Torey Troop and Nick Simpson with 22 and 21, respectively.

Others in double figures for the Firebirds included Steve Sidebottom (15), Pierson Szubelak (14), Leroy Allen (12), Mark Wallace (11) and Marc Schafer (10).

Matthews scored 14 for the Ocelots.

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(Fairman/Fitzpatrick/Fogliatti)
 Zaszak Enterprises 4-0-0/ 8 points
 D&G Heating & Cooling 3-1-1/ 7 points
 Coldwell Bank/G&G 1-2-2/ 4 points
 Hunt's Ace Hardware 0-4-1/ 1 point
 (LeBlanc/Roskelly/St. Croix)
 Stante Excavating 3-0-1/ 7 points
 Livonia Auto Body 2-2-1/ 5 points
 LaSalle Bank 2-3-0/ 4 points
 Daly Restaurant 0-3-2/ 2 points

SCHOOLCRAFT
 FROM PAGE B1

Also providing plenty of that energy Lafata likes were freshman forwards Tayler Langham (Plymouth Salem) and Sheray Brown. Langham finished with nine points along with three steals, while Brown contributed eight points and 10 rebounds.

Crusaders fall, 79-68

On Saturday, second-half woes cost visiting Madonna University in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference setback at Concordia University.

The Crusaders were outscored 50-36 in the second half, and that proved too much as the Cardinals earned a 79-68 win.

Leading Concordia (12-16, 5-7) was Courtney Willis, who connected for 26 points.

Christie Carrico and Caryn Inman scored 17 and 16 points, respectively, for MU (12-15, 7-6), while Tabatha Wydryck (13 points) and Cali Crawford (10 points) also scored in double figures.

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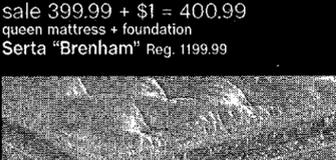
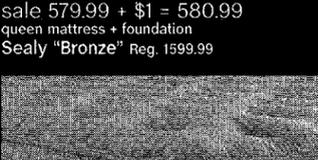
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Four in a Rowe as Spartans nip Franklin in double OT

Livonia Stevenson boys basketball team took a page out of the Jerry West playbook last Friday night.

The Spartans got clutch baskets and clutch plays down the stretch in a 78-76 double-overtime victory over visiting Livonia Franklin.

Junior guard Brian Rowe scored nine of his team-high 16 points in the first OT, including a 35-foot three-pointer with only four seconds to go to knot the game at 69-all and send it to a second 4-minute extra session.

Junior forward Gary Cobb, who added 11 points, then sealed the victory with a steal and layup with only 10 seconds remaining in the second OT to break a 76-all deadlock and provide the final margin of victory.

Junior Mark Grisa and senior Pat York chipped in with 14 and 13 points, respectively, for the Spartans, who improved 8-11 overall with their third straight victory. Sophomore Jordan El-Sabeh finished with eight points.

Franklin (5-14) got a game-high 22 points from senior guard Ryan Matthey. Junior Jeff Poole, who nailed a pair of free throws with only five seconds left in regulation to make it 63-63, chipped in with 14 points along with senior forward Israel Woolfork.

Kevin Percin also added 10 for the Patriots, who overcame a 38-27 half-time deficit by outscoring Stevenson 36-25 in the second half.

Following Poole's two free throws, the Spartans missed a chance to sew up the victory at the end of regulation when sophomore Austin White's shot from the block rimmed out.

Franklin made 26-of-38 free throws on the night (68.4 percent), while Stevenson was 5-of-15 (33 percent).

STEVENSON 68, W.L. NORTHERN 56: On Tuesday, Mark Grisa led a balanced scoring attack with 13 points as Livonia Stevenson (9-11) earned its fourth straight victory with a win at Walled Lake Northern (3-17).

The Spartans trailed 37-30 at halftime before turning back with a 23-11 third-quarter run followed by a 15-8 fourth-period

BOYS BASKETBALL

Gary Cobb and Brian Rowe chipped in with 12 and 11, respectively, for the Spartans, who made 14-of-19 foul shots. Jordan El-Sabeh and Kendall Snow added eight and seven, respectively.

"Rebounding was the difference in the second half," Stevenson coach Mike Allie said. "Kendall Snow played his best game of the season. He really got on the boards, played excellent defense and blocked some shots. I thought both Gary (Cobb) and Jordan (El-Sabeh) really helped him out inside."

Leroy Jackson scored 17 to pace the Knights. Tim Ferenc added 11.

CANTON 58, FRANKLIN 42: On Tuesday, the visiting Chiefs (7-13) came on strong during the second half to beat host Livonia Franklin (5-15) for the first time in three meetings between the two teams.

Chris Bailey and Dan Stoney each scored 10 for Canton, which outscored the Patriots 38-23 during the final 16 minutes.

Sophomore Nate Coleman tallied 12 for Franklin.

CRANBROOK 65, LUTH. WESTLAND 58 (OT): In a fifth-place consolation game Tuesday in the Metro Conference playoffs, host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (9-10) prevailed in overtime against Lutheran High Westland (4-15).

Xander Streck led the Cranes with a game-high 20 points, while teammate Eric Fishman added 15.

The Warriors, who fought back from a 32-18 halftime deficit with a 22-11 fourth-quarter run, got 19 points apiece from Sam Ahlersmeyer and Eric Shoats.

Ahlersmeyer's driving layup off a set play with only two seconds remaining sent the game into OT at 54-all.

Josh Kruger contributed 12 points for the Warriors, who made 18-of-23 free throws (78.2 percent).

Cranbrook was 10-of-14 from the foul line.

LIGHT & LIFE 63, HURON VALLEY 53: Three players scored in double figures Tuesday as Taylor Light & Life Christian (12-6) downed host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (4-15) in a non-conference game.

Jeremy Anderson and Kyle Whitehouse each tallied 13 points for the victorious Crusaders, while Jake Grimaldo added 12.

Huron Valley's Ryan Jones led all scorers with 21 points. Teammate Kyle Tacia added 10.

Light & Life was 20-of-32 from the foul line, while the Hawks hit 9-of-13.

TROJANS

FROM PAGE B1

wanted to play like we did the first quarter. We felt like we could score, but we wanted to shut them down defensively. We knew if we could shut them down, we knew we could be successful."

Andrew MacDonald and Jordan Buuck tallied 16 and 14, respectively, for the Mustangs, who committed 18 turnovers.

"It was a poor night for us shooting, no doubt," said Gutenkunst, whose team went 18-of-67 (26.8 percent) from the field. "They (Clarenceville) intimidated our big guys."

"We held him (Stewart) better, but the other kids stepped up. Their point guard (Fairfax) did a nice job."

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Barnes' hat trick bolsters Patriots

Livonia Franklin's hockey team is making a late season push under first-year coach Scott Wirgau.

Tyler Barnes notched a hat trick as the Patriots wrapped up the Western Division portion of their schedule Saturday in the Western Lakes Activities Association with a 4-2 win over host Walled Lake Western at the Lakeland Ice Arena.

Barnes scored unassisted to break a 2-2 tie in the second period and added another goal from Jordan Short and Alex

BOYS HOCKEY

Wypych as Franklin improved to 8-13-2 overall and 2-5-1 in the division.

In the first period, Dan Ostrosky scored from Short, while Barnes added his first goal from David Muller and Dalton Pennington for the Patriots.

Western got first-period goals from Ryan Logan (from Bo Miller and Ben James) and James (from Mark Lariviere and Jordan Green).

Franklin goaltender Austin Mesler stopped 26-of-28 Western shots.

Trevor Whitehead made 31 saves for the Warriors.

On Feb. 13, Franklin edged Canton in a WAAA-Western Division game, 4-3, on third-period goals by Pennington from Tyler Miller at 1:57; and Barnes from Muller at 2:59.

Canton's Ryan Lash scored with 4:27 left from Corey Sosnowski with 4:27 left to cut the deficit to 4-3, but Mesler (28 saves) kept the Chiefs off

the board the rest of the way. Canton jumped out to a 2-0 first-period lead on goals on a pair of goals by Nick Tomilenko.

Anthony Bonnett and Jason Avedesian assisted on the first goal, while Justin Ward and Mark Barath added assists on the second.

Franklin tied it 2-2 with a pair of goals in the second period - Erik Volk (from Short) and Jordan Chisholm (from Muller).

Canton goal Zane Birchler made 37 saves.

PATRIOTS

FROM PAGE B1

145 or we may have had more," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "We had some great performances - Tuyo was the first freshman in Franklin history to qualify and Hay wrestled very well."

"Some of the guys didn't place as high as I would have wanted them to, but hopefully we can make some adjustments and get a good number of these guys to the state tournament. There are going to be a lot of close matches from here on out."

Stevenson coach Dan Vaughan was pleased with the day's showing.

"Unfortunately we did not have any champs, but this is the most ever we've had in my three years," he said. "We had a really good day. We beat some guys who beat us earlier."

Stevenson placed four in the finals, including Michael Fobar (112), Tommy Myshock (125), Ziad Kharbush (160) and Matt Greenman (215).

Kharbush, a senior, suffered his first defeat of the season against Salem's Jeremy Epley in a rematch of the Jan. 31 Observerland Invitational, 4-2, in overtime.

Kharbush is now 40-1 overall.

Other Stevenson qualifiers

included Anthony Mainella (135), Raz Markosian (145) and Emanuel Onwuemene (189).

Churchill boasted four district runners-up, including Andrew Murray (135), Jon Paul Gaffke (140), Gramos Pallaska (145) and Mark Parrish (285).

Matt Hecksel (112) and Grant Morgan (160) also got through with fourth-place finishes.

Glenn boasts two champs

Also headed Saturday to the Division 1 individual regional at Southgate are five Westland John Glenn wrestlers, including Wyandotte Roosevelt district winners Anthony Pavlich (103) and Jeremiah Austin (125).

Austin, a senior co-captain, ran his record to 48-0 when he defeated Monroe's Zach Stevens in the final, 7-5.

Pavlich, a sophomore, improved to 46-2 with a 3-0 decision over Ryan Jones.

Also getting through for Glenn at 103 was sophomore Steven Wakeford, who took fourth. He is 38-7 overall.

Other qualifiers for the Rockets included junior Jared Stephens (130) and senior Dan McCahill (140), both taking fourth.

Trojans qualify pair

Livonia Clarenceville will send a pair of wrestlers - 285-pounder Matthew Neal and

119-pounder Jake Ruth - to Saturday's Division 3 regional at Goodrich.

Neal, a senior, fell via a pin in 4:24 in the final to Mike Zuchelski of district host Lake Fenton. Neal is now 24-11 overall.

Ruth, a junior, raised his mark to 31-9 by defeating Collin Lesko of Dundee for third place, 3-1.

Kemp leads Warriors

Observerland champ Steve Kemp and Craig Kowalski led the way for Lutheran High Westland in the Division 4 individual district tourney Saturday at Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest.

Kemp took the 152-pound title when he scored a take-down with only 15 seconds left to beat returning state champion Bill Cloke of Manchester, 3-1.

Kowalski, meanwhile, earned the 189-pound crown with a takedown in the final second to edge Andrew Tice of Clinton, 4-3.

Both Justin Palka and Ben Crandell advanced in the 125-pound class to Saturday's regional at Manchester.

Palka won by a technical fall over his teammate Crandell, 19-4.

Also getting through was Brad LaRose (112) and Nic Yancy (160), both placing third in their respective weight class.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Thursday, Feb. 21
Det. Community at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Det. Urban at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.
Huron Valley at Birm. Rooper, 7:30 p.m.
(Western Lakes Finals at John Glenn)
Churchill vs. Northville, 5:30 p.m.
John Glenn vs. Wayne, 7 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
DISTRICT TOURNAMENT DRAWS
CLASS A
at REDFORD HURSTON
Friday, Feb. 22: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the Walled Lake Western regional semifinals vs. Brighton district champion.)
at WAYNE MEMORIAL
Friday, Feb. 22: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the Wyandotte Roosevelt regional semifinals vs. Ypsilanti Lincoln district champion.)

at LIVONIA LADYWOOD
Friday, Feb. 22: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the Walled Lake Western regional semifinals vs. North Farmington district champion.)

CLASS B
at LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Friday, Feb. 22: Livonia Clarenceville vs. Detroit Renaissance, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the Detroit Renaissance regional semifinals vs. Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day district champion.)

CLASS D
at WESTLAND HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Friday, Feb. 22: Championship final, 7 p.m. (Winner advances to the Warren Immaculate Conception regional semifinals vs. Detroit City district champion.)

PREP HOCKEY
Friday, Feb. 22
(WAAA Crossovers)
Churchill vs. Northville at Edgar, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 23
Franklin vs. W.L. Central at Lakeland Ice Arena, 3:20 p.m.
Ladywood vs. Walled Lake at Plymouth Arctic Pond, 6 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING
Saturday, Feb. 23
(Individual Regional Tournaments)
Division 1 at Southgate Anderson, 9:30 a.m.
Division 3 at Goodrich, 10 a.m.
Division 4 at Manchester, 10 a.m.

BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING
Thursday, Feb. 21
WAAA Prelims at Salem, 1 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 22
WAAA Diving Prelims at Salem, 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 23
WAAA Finals at Salem, noon.
GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Thursday, Feb. 21
WAAA Meet at Churchill, 7 p.m.

PREP BOWLING
Friday, Feb. 22
(Team Regionals)
Division 2 at Super Bowl, 10 a.m.
Division 1 at Drakeshire Lanes, 12:30 p.m.

(Individual Singles Regionals)
Division 2 at Super Bowl, 10 a.m.
Division 1 at Drakeshire Lanes, 10:30 a.m.

COMPETITIVE CHEER
Saturday, Feb. 23
Berkley Invitational, 10 a.m.
WAAA Invitational at Northville, 1:30 p.m.

WAAA COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Feb. 23
Oakland CC at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Feb. 23
Oakland CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Thursday, Feb. 21
Whalers at Windsor Spitfires, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 22
Whalers vs. Brampton Battalion at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 23
Whalers vs. Sault St. Marie Greyhounds at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.

MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE
Sunday, Feb. 24
Detroit Ignition vs. Baltimore Blast at Compuware Arena, 4:35 p.m.

INDIVIDUAL WRESTLING

DISTRICT TOURNAMENT RESULTS

DIVISION 1

Feb. 16 at Wyandotte Roosevelt

103 pounds: Anthony Pavlich (Westland John Glenn) d. Ryan Jones (Monroe), 3-0; 3rd place: Derek Davidson (Monroe) won by major dec. over Steven Wakeford (John Glenn), 9-1.

112: Justin Fieson (Belleville) won by major dec. over Tom Fox (Temperance Bedford), 10-0; 3rd: Leon Shannon (Wyandotte) d. Chris Branoff (Southgate), 6-2.

119: Paul Hancock (Dearborn Fordson) pinned Chris Schneider (Belleville), 5:13; 3rd: Kyle Davidson (Monroe) d. Isaac Morissette (Southgate), 3-2.

125: Jeremiah Austin (John Glenn) d. Zac Stevens (Monroe), 7-5; 3rd: Mike Roberts (Southgate) d. Devin Ashley (Garden City), 11-6.

130: Christian Cullinan (Wyandotte) d. Billy Osborn (Bedford), 5-3; 3rd: Mike Peck (Bedford) p. Jared Stephens (John Glenn), 2:23.

135: Dario Faruggia (Wyandotte) won by injury default over Jason VanWassenovva (Lincoln Park); 3rd: Wesley Long (Monroe) d. Justin Johnson (Garden City), 2-0.

140: Jacob Loosen (Belleville) d. Aaron Jeffrey (Bedford), 9-7; 3rd: Earl Hunt (Romulus) d. Dan McCahill (John Glenn), 5-0.

145: Steve Cook (Belleville) d. Dain Taylor (Monroe), 12-6; 3rd: T.J. Romijnin (Bedford) won by inj. default over Jake Johnson (Garden City).

152: Pat Nusbbaum (Bedford) d. Khodor Hoballah (Dearborn), 2-0; 3rd: Matthew Washelewski (Woodhaven) d. Derrick Boyliard (Lincoln Park), 6-0.

160: Alex Ortman (Bedford) d. Ian Kohlhofer (Bedford), 8-5; 3rd: Brian Housholder (Romulus) d. Alex Ekim (Dearborn), 6-3.

171: Devin Duncan (Monroe) p. Mike Morby (Garden City), 5:25; 3rd: John Schneider (Woodhaven) d. Ali Berry (Fordson), 9-6.

189: Nick Whitenburg (Bedford) won by major dec. over Jabreel Naser (Fordson), 13-2; 3rd: Ryan Breen (Woodhaven) won by inj. default over Anthony Viau (Lincoln Park).

PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

215: Jacob Moore (Southgate) p. Kaare Cigan (Belleville), 1:48; 3rd: Jacob Szych (Bedford) p. Buster Wilson (Lincoln Park), 4:02.

285: Adam Love (Garden City) p. Travis Brown (Southgate), 4:49; 3rd: John Bronikowski (Southgate) won by inj. default over Mason Cole (Bedford).

Note: Top 4 finishers advance to the individual regional 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 23 at Southgate Anderson.

Feb. 16 at Birmingham Groves

103 pounds: 1. Connor Caldwell (Novi); 2. Waleed Faraj (Canton); 3. Steve Tuyo (Livonia Franklin); 4. Jordan Russell (North Farmington).

112: 1. Jared Plekniik (Franklin); 3. Michael Fobar (Livonia Stevenson); 3. Matt Jaisle (N. Farmington); 4. Matt Hecksel (Livonia Churchill).

119: 1. Jonny D'Anna (Northville); 2. Robbie Yusko (Novi); 3. Carl Lucke (Canton); 4. Justin Jacobson (Franklin).

125: 1. Donnie Watkins (Canton); 2. Tommy Myshock (Stevenson); 3. Clayton Caldwell (Novi); 4. Kevin Bennett (Salem).

130: 1. Kevin Hayter (Salem); 2. Evan Bentley (Northville); 3. John Hebert (Northville); 4. Mike Jaisle (N. Farmington).

135: 1. Steve Cox (Canton); 2. Andrew Murray (Churchill); 3. Matt Ladhoff (Northville); 4. Anthony Mainella (Stevenson).

140: 1. Brent Winekoff (Canton); 2. J.P. Gaffke (Churchill); 3. Brandon Smith (Franklin); 4. Matt Hinz (Franklin).

145: 1. Brian Baglan (Northville); 2. Gramos Pallaska (Churchill); 2. Raz Markosian (Stevenson); 4. Matt Lamer (N. Farmington).

152: 1. Ryan Thomas (Novi); 2. Don Stratz (Franklin); 3. Matt Hagan (Northville); 4. Elvin Ferreira (Franklin).

160: 1. Jeremy Epley (Salem); 2. Ziad Kharbush (Stevenson); 3. Nick Musar (Northville); 4. Grant Morgan (Churchill).

171: 1. Dan Woodall (Franklin); 2. Rodger Kropp (Canton); 3. Johnathon Bryant (Oak Park); 4. Brandon Smith (Oak Park).

189: 1. Ryan Ridenour (Novi); 2. Adam Powers (Canton); 3. Emanuel Onwuemene (Stevenson); 4. Brandon Smith (Oak Park).

215: 1. Marcel Dubose (Oak Park); 2. Matt

Greenman (Stevenson); 3. Dimarco Scarber (Oak Park); 4. Dan Wanshon (Canton).

285: 1. Alen Doman (Birmingham Brother Rice); 2. Mark Parrish (Churchill); 3. Luke Konstzke (Canton); 4. Mike Modes (Franklin).

Note: Top 4 finishers advance to the individual regional 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 23 at Southgate Anderson.

TEAM DISTRICT RESULTS

DIVISION 4 SEMIFINAL
Feb. 13 at Madison Heights Lamphere
MADISON HTS. LAMPHERE 63
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE 9

130 pounds: Collin Allison (MHL) pinned Scott Convery, 0:58; 135: Kyle Rudy (MHL) won by technical fall over Cody Sillanpaa, 18-2; 140: David DiPerna (MHL) won by major decision over Patrick Walker, 12-2; 145: Steve McAlpine (MHL) p. Tony Brandt, 2:26; 152: Corey Box (MHL) won by void; 160: Josh Swanson (MHL) p. Derek Robinson, 3:22; 171: Doyle Lewis (MHL) d. Tim Siedinski, 6-4; 189: Nick Gattes (MHL) d. Andrew Jasmer, 7-0; 215: Ben Kinczkowski (MHL) p. Mamer Mesinovic, 3:07; 285: Matthew Neal (Cville) p. Kyle Brook, 1:46; 103: Shane Dutton (MHL) p. Brent Gilman, 1:27; 112: Don Gorman (MHL) p. Coy Sillanpaa, 1:23; 119: Jake Ruth (Cville) d. Kyle Raymond, 8-3; 125: Ryan Oke (MHL) won by void.

Clarenceville's final dual meet record: 18-9 overall.

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Spring has arrived? MU wins pair

A heavy downpour postponed Sunday's scheduled Madonna-Lambuth baseball game at Jackson, Tenn.

But the teams did get in Saturday's doubleheader, the first games of the season for Madonna, with the Crusaders winning 4-3 and 5-3.

In the opener, the Crusaders scored three runs in the top of the seventh to help reliever Carl McDevitt (in relief of starter Will Kennedy) post a

COLLEGE BASEBALL

victory. Key hits in that rally included RBI singles by David Herrick (Livonia Churchill) and Pat Kenny and a run-scoring double by Kevin Zerbo.

Both Zerbo and Ryan Morrow had two hits in the opener.

In Game 2, Kenny went 2-for-3 including a home run and starting pitcher Sean Maher went six strong innings

for the victory. Coming in to pitch the seventh for the save was John McCracken.

Lambuth (8-3) went ahead 1-0 in the bottom of the first, but the Crusaders rebounded with runs in the next two innings with Kenny's second-inning round-tripper and a sacrifice fly by Herrick.

Madonna (2-0) is idle until starting a spring trip in Arizona, with the first game slated for March 1.

PREP BOWLING

BOYS BOWLING RESULTS
LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
INDIVIDUAL DOUBLES TOURNAMENT
 Feb. 9 at Country Lanes
Team champions: Ryan Gabriel and Cory Harden (Wayne Memorial).
INDIVIDUAL QUALIFYING SCORES
 Wayne: 4. Ryan Gabriel, 258-248-199-705 (series); 6. Eric Robertson, 223-247-227-697; 9. (tie) Zac Kyle, 235-245-206-686; 34. Josh Vojtkofsky, 181-201-224-606; 42. Nate Mosley, 148-175-267-590; 40. Mike Solarz, 225-184-184-593; 44. Cory Harden, 203-179-195-577; 45. (tie) Tom Pattenau, 149-224-203-576; Aaron Langston, 205-189-182-576; 52. Kellen Collison, 191-164-213-568.
 Westland **John Glenn:** 16. Kyle Hamblin, 221-212-227-659; 27. Justin O'Hara, 242-196-180-618; 33. Ryan Herzog, 237-183-187-607; 47. (tie)

Gordie German, 236-180-159-575.
Livonia Clarenceville: 21. (tie) Philip Heldler, 258-193-180-631; 28. Jason Bertera, 158-238-220-616; 32. Austin Bentley, 233-195-183-611; 39. Chris Diaz, 162-203-229-594; 49. (tie) Christian Grates, 213-189-172-574; 52. (tie) Nick Shiller, 174-224-170-568.
BOYS TEAM STANDINGS
(3 regular; 2 Baker games)
 Wayne: 2. Kyle-Robertson, 1,848; 8. Gabriel-Harden, 1,691; 13. Pattenau-Solarz, 1,627; 18. Mosely-Langston, 1,597; 27. Mike Davis-Vojtkofsky, 1,510; 30. Austin Hassen-StefanHarrison, 1,482; 36. Mike Wilson-Collison, 1,422.
John Glenn: 16. Hamblin-O'Hara, 1,609; 29. Phil Peters-Herzig, 1,493; 38. German-Josh DuPrie, 1,392; 40. Jon Burlett-Berrick Ammons, 1,328.
Clarenceville: 15. Bentley-Heldler, 1,615;

20. (tie) Bertera-Chris Diaz, 1,585; 31. Garett Hintzman-Cody Kissandi, 1,471; 32. Shiller-Grates, 1,469; Sean Diaz-Joe Haapala, 1,355; 43. Jake Mariani-Corey Coughlin, 1,243.
DUAL MATCH RESULTS
WAYNE MEMORIAL 26, NORTHVILLE 4
 Feb. 7 at Novi Lanes
Wayne scorers: Eric Robertson, 243-184-427; Zac Kyle, 236-189-425; Lonnie Lawrence, 205-160-365; Mike Solarz-Cory Harden, 150-233-383; Nate Mosley-Ryan Gabriel, 172-204-376.
Team totals: 1,006-970-1976 (16 points); **Baker games:** 203-279-482 (10 points).
Northville scorers: Dan Dwyer, 249-185-434; Mike Jacoboni, 201-203-404; Matt Dwyer, 186-185-371; Dan Beger, 173-171-344; Mike Jolly, 126-161-287.
Team totals: 935-905-1,840 (4 points); **Baker games:** 190-150-340 (0 points).



League champions

Forward Heather Sartorius pumped in three goals Saturday as Livonia Ladywood captured the Catholic League girls' hockey championship for the third straight year with a convincing 6-1 triumph over Harper Woods Regina in a game played at Orchard Lake St. Mary Prep. Forward Abby Kienbaum, defenseman Elise Sarwarski and forward Ashley Ballarin also scored goals for the Blazers, who led 1-0 after one period and 3-0 after two periods. Ladywood goaltender Michelle Wyniemo stopped 10-of-11 shots as the Blazers improved to 12-8-1 overall. Regina goalie Meghan Smerecki had 24 saves as the Saddlelites fell to 6-13. Wyniemo, Sartorius and Kienbaum all earned All-Catholic honors for Ladywood, while Ballarin, Sarwarski and defenseman Maria Rotondo received All-League accolades. Ballarin also made the Catholic League All-Academic squad.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

MU softball clinic

The Madonna University softball clinic is scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon on Sunday, Feb. 24 at the MU Activities Center.

The clinic will consist of all phases of hitting in fast-pitch softball, over a three-hour

session. MU softball players and coaches will be on hand to instruct young players who sign up.

Pre-registration is required; the cost of the clinic is \$30.

For more information, contact MU head coach Al White at

734-432-5783 or 734-516-

5137, or via e-mail at awhite@madonna.edu.

LJAL needs umpires

The Livonia Junior Athletic League needs experience and non-experienced umpires for the upcoming baseball and softball season.

Games begin Monday, April

28 and run through mid-July.

The LJAL will also stage a mandatory umpires clinic from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, March 8 at Frost Middle School.

Those interested should contact Dave Carlson at eaglesbball@sbcglobal.net; or Bill Rowlett at ljal_basball@yahoo.com.

yahoo.com.

Youth baseball signup

The Wayne-Ford Civic League will begin baseball registration for youths ages 4-10 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. each Saturday at the Civic League hall, located at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Registration fees are \$65 for T-ball and Coach-Pitch leagues; \$80 for Mustang League.

Registration will continue each Saturday until teams are full.

For more information, call (734) 728-5010; or e-mail Vic Barra at vbarra@comcast.net.

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How do your grasses grow?

Goldner Walsh hosts seminars with landscape expert

BY WENDY VON BUSKIRK
STAFF WRITER

While many people spend snow-filled days dreaming of walking barefoot in the grass, local gardeners are itching to plant it.

Goldner Walsh Nursery in Pontiac will host "Grasses and the Design of Livable Landscapes" on Feb. 29 as part of its ongoing speaker series. The program will feature internationally-known

author, photographer and horticulturist Rick Darke. Darke will sign copies of his books, including "The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes" at 6:30 p.m., and offer a presentation at 7:30 p.m.

"We are known for having national and international speakers come in, particularly garden speakers," said Tim Travis, owner of Goldner Walsh. "It's part of our Cabin Fever series we've set up for our customers who are anxious to do gardening but can't because it's winter."

GARDENING WITH GRASSES

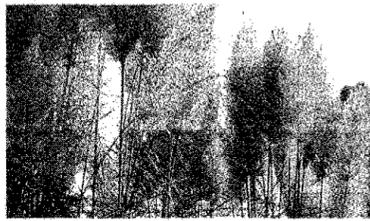
Grasses of all kinds are becoming increasingly popular for use in landscapes, Travis said. Ornamental grasses range from dwarf varieties that can be used as borders, to flashy tufts that can grow 12 feet tall. They can be used to create natural hedges, and are great for soil erosion control.

Most are low maintenance, Travis said, making them a great choice for yards and lakefronts.

"There are a lot of grasses that work in Michigan," Travis said. "They don't require a lot of water, certain fertilizers or any special treatment. They just need to be mowed down in the spring and divided every few years."

The wind makes a pleasant sound blowing through tall grasses, and different varieties offer texture, color, plumage and visual interest that can last right through the winter, Travis said.

Please see **GRASS, D2**



RICK DARKE WORKSHOPS

Grasses and the Design of Livable Landscapes

When: Friday, Feb. 29

What: At 6:30 p.m. Author Rick Darke will sign copies of his books "The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes," "Pocket Guide to Ornamental Grasses," and "The American Woodland Garden: Capturing the Spirit of the Deciduous Forest." At 7:30 p.m., Darke will present "Grasses and the Design of Livable Landscapes"

Cost: \$35, advanced registration required. Landscapes Through the Lens: Digital Photography and the Art of Observation

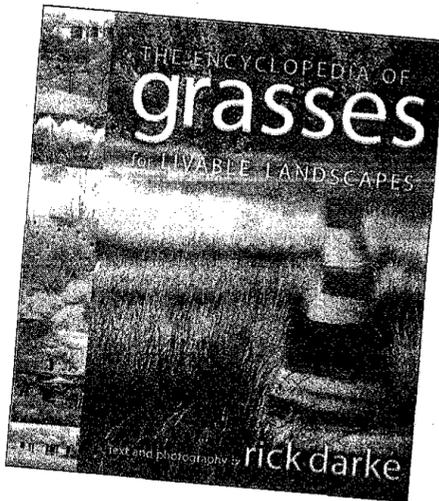
When: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. March 1

What: Celebrated photographer Rick Darke will demonstrate techniques for maximizing the potential of digital cameras and related computer hardware and software, and explore how the camera can be an important creative tool in landscape design.

Cost: \$165 includes lunch

Where: Both programs take place at Goldner Walsh Nursery, 559 Orchard Lake Road, Pontiac

Information: Call (248) 332-6430 and visit www.goldner-walsh.com or www.rickdarke.com.



Author Rick Darke will sign copies of his book *The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes* (Timber Press, 2007, \$59.95) at Goldner Walsh in Pontiac on Feb. 29.

Seek out reasonably priced 2005 Bordeaux now

Bordeaux with its 12,000 wine chateaux and more than 250,000 acres, producing some 800 million bottles annually, remains California's biggest competitor for high-end wines.

Yet, if you believe that some Napa Valley high-end cabernets

have become out of reach at \$125 to \$200-plus per bottle, then you must think that prices for 2005 Bordeaux high-end bottlings at three times that and more are stratospheric. You're right, yet that's a small fraction of what's produced in Bordeaux.



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

Vintage 2005 in Bordeaux was sensational and you should seek out some wines that are more reasonably priced. It has long been said, that in a great Bordeaux vintage, real value lies in seeking out the best from lesser-known chateaux.

However, within the Bordeaux region, there are 57 appellations in the Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée (AOC) system and unless you've become a student or connoisseur of Bordeaux wines, discovering these wines can be head spinning.

CHRISTIAN MOUEIX TO THE RESCUE

CHRISTIAN MOUEIX TO THE RESCUE

The Christian Moueix Regional Series, including a wine from each of St.-Emilion, Pomerol and Medoc appellations, retailing between \$23 and \$25, was just introduced to the Michigan market. For the uninitiated, these three bottlings offer an introduction to these appellations. For those in the know about Bordeaux wines, some fine drinking at sensible prices.

In addition to the Moueix family vineyards including the renowned Chateau Petrus, Chateau Trotanoy and Chateau La Fleur Petrus, to name a few, Christian Moueix acts as a buyer and supplier of up to 100 wines from the region each year, including Chateau Gazin and Chateau Lafleur in Pomerol and Chateau Belair in St.-Emilion.

Please see **WINE, D3**

Sexiest vegetarian lives in Birmingham

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

There's a contest to vote for the country's sexiest vegetarian and one contestant is a Michigander from Birmingham.

His name is Jonny Kest, a handsome and healthy, dedicated husband and father. What makes him special is that despite his chiseled face and toned abs, there's not a huge ego pouring out of Kest. Instead, he's a leader in the Yoga community working hard to promote healthy bodies and minds.

And to add a cherry to the top of the soy ice cream sundae, Kest is also a staunch protector of animals. He does not tolerate cruelty or mockery of animals — or humans.

No wonder Kest is one of just 16 finalists, out of hundreds in the U.S. and Canada, chosen by People for Ethical Treatment of Animal's *Sexiest Vegetarian Contest*.

The reason for the competition isn't popularity. Rather, it's to help publicize the connection between human health, the environment, animal compassion and vegetarianism.

Kest, 40, is the owner of the successful Center for Yoga studios based in Birmingham and West Bloomfield. He's an instructor in a variety of Yoga forms including Ashtanga, also known as "eight limbed yoga," that focuses on breathing and posture.

He's been a vegetarian since the age of 12 and went vegan two years ago — meaning he eats no animal flesh (no fish) or animal by-products such as dairy or eggs. He thanks his father for teaching him kindness toward animals and respect for his body.

VOTE FOR JONNY KEST!

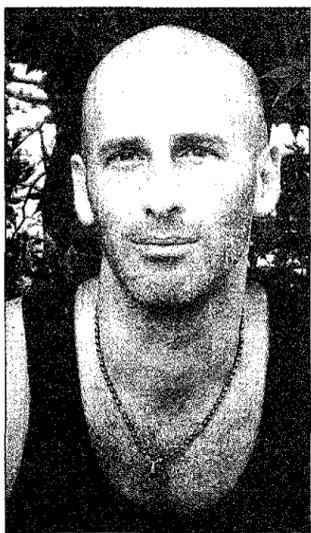
What: Birmingham's own Jonny Kest beat out hundreds of entrants nationwide in PETA's Sexiest Vegetarian Contest. He's one of just 16 finalists.

What he could win: Seven nights in Maui — and Kest was raised in Hawaii so he would be re-connecting with his roots.

Why he deserves it: For starters, he's hot. But it goes deeper. Kest volunteers his time educating the public about compassion for animals. And, as a Yoga instructor, he's promoting better health in our community.

Vote for him: Click on http://www.govog.com/feat/sexiest_vegetarian_next_door_2008/index.asp

Interested in Yoga?
Visit www.centerforyoga.com



"I am lighter, stronger, freer and happier," Kest said.

He is humble and attributes his energy and youthful appearance to veganism and Yoga. He doesn't preach or judge, but when asked, he will encourage students to read the *New York Times* best selling book *Skinny Bitch* by Rory Freedman and Kim Barnouin, a book that bluntly explains that you can be thin and eat a lot — just make it vegan.

And to make him even sexier, Kest is not a nightclub-hopper or a show-off. Instead he prefers reading, meditation, walks and swimming in the ocean with his wife and three vegan sons.

If he wins the PETA contest, he joins the ranks of celebrity sexy vegetarian winners such as *American Idol*'s Carrie Underwood, *The Tonight Show*'s Kevin Eubanks, and actors and actresses Joaquin Phoenix, Natalie Portman, Nicollette Sheridan, Alicia Silverstone, musician Prince and professional triathlete Brendan Brazier.

Jonny Kest's Center for Yoga studios are located at 555 S. Old Woodward Ave., Birmingham and 6710 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Call (248) 258-YOGA or visit info@centerforyoga.com.

PECAN-CRUSTED FRENCH TOAST

Makes 6 to 8 slices

- 1/2 cups soy or rice milk
- 3 tablespoons corn starch
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon chickpea flour or brown rice flour
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans
- 2 tablespoons refined coconut oil, or more as needed for cooking
- 6 to 8 slices vegan whole wheat or whole wheat raisin bread
- maple syrup, for serving

In a medium bowl, whisk together the soy or rice milk, corn starch, and cinnamon. Whisk the chickpea or brown rice flour. Transfer the mixture to a shallow bowl. Place the pecans in another shallow bowl.

In a large skillet over medium heat, melt the coconut oil. One slice at a time, dip the bread in the milk mixture, turning to soak both sides. Dip one side in the pecans, pressing to coat. (Yeah, it's a little challenging to make 'em stick in there. Quit whining. You're about to have French toast!) Arrange the bread in the skillet (you might have to do more than one batch), pecan side down. Cook 2 to 3 minutes, until the pecans are well browned. Carefully turn the bread and continue cooking until the second side is browned, 2 to 3 minutes. Serve immediately with maple syrup.

*Source, *The Skinny Bitch Cookbook*

WINE PICKS

Although Bordeaux varieties are grown in many places around the globe, Zinfandel is not. California is its home and the following are some superb wines from the 2005 vintage.

Outstanding:
2005 Rancho Zabaco Toreador Monte Rosso Vineyard \$60

Excellent:
2005 Mazzocco "Pony" Dry Creek Valley \$27

2005 Mazzocco "Maple" Dry Creek Valley \$36

2005 Rancho Zabaco Sonoma Valley Monte Rosso Vineyard \$45

Very Good:
2005 Kenwood Sonoma County \$14

2006 Artein Mendocino County \$18

2005 Kenwood Reserve \$20

2006 Dashe Late Harvest Dry Creek Valley \$30 (dessert style)

2005 Kenwood Jack London Vineyard \$25

2005 Montevina Terra d'Oro Deaver Vineyard \$30

2005 Montevina Terra d'Oro SHR Field Blend \$30

2005 Wilson Carl's Vineyard Dry Creek Valley \$32

2005 Dashe Florence Vineyard \$32

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

Put your videos on YouTube for public, private consumption

If you've ever seen the famous Mentos-and-Coke video, the four guys dancing on treadmills, or Miss Teen USA South Carolina's beauty pageant train wreck, then you're no doubt familiar with YouTube.

The site is the Web's top destination for streaming video, the kind you view inside your Web browser.

Today I'm going to explain how to put your own videos online. When you're done, you'll be able to invite select friends and family to view them or make them available for public consumption.

There's no cost to sign up for a YouTube account (youtube.com), though obviously you'll need some kind of video recorder to make your movies.

This can be a traditional camcorder, a digital camera or cell phone that's able to record video clips, or even a Webcam. (YouTube's Quick Capture feature can record up to 10 minutes of Webcam footage, meaning you can sit down at your PC and create a new video almost instantly.)

For the ultimate in convenience, consider a digital-video camera like the Flip Video Ultra (theflip.com), which records up to an hour's worth of YouTube-ready video clips. I find it ideal for those moments when the kids are doing something incredibly cute.

After capturing the moment, you plug the camera directly into your PC's USB port for quick and easy uploading to YouTube.

Similarly, Casio's latest Exilim digital cameras (exilim.com) offer a YouTube capture mode that records video using YouTube's preferred settings.

Pop the camera's memory card into your PC and Casio's special software simplifies the process of uploading the videos to the service.

Of course, these methods are best suited to short, impromptu clips that require no editing. If you're using a camcorder and/or making an actual mini-movie, you'll need editing software.

Windows user need look no further than Windows Movie Maker, which comes baked into Windows XP and Vista. Mac users can turn to iMovie, an OS X staple.

Both programs enable you to edit your video, add titles and transitions, apply special effects, and turn an MP3 or similar audio file into a soundtrack. You can then output the completed video in a YouTube-friendly format.

Speaking of which, YouTube limits videos to 10 minutes apiece. It also limits resolution to 640 by 480 pixels, though if you upload a higher-resolution video, the service will automatically down-convert it.

Just be sure to keep the file size under 100



Armed with a camera or camcorder, an Internet connection, and an idea, you can easily add your own videos to YouTube.

megabytes; anything larger requires you to install YouTube's Windows-only Uploader utility, which can accommodate files up to 1 gigabyte. (The 10-minute length limit still applies.)

That utility also lets you select multiple files to upload at a time. Otherwise, you can use YouTube's Web-based single-file uploader.

Just click the yellow Upload button that appears on every YouTube page, then provide a title, description, category and tags.

You'll also want to choose public or private status for your video; the latter limits you to 25 viewers, while public videos can be viewed by anyone. Finally, pick your sharing options, like whether external sites (such as blogs) can embed your video.

YouTube also allows you to upload videos straight from your phone. You'll need to venture into your account settings first and configure a mobile profile.

Once that's done, you can send a video message (also known as an MMS) directly to YOUTUBE, or attach your video to an e-mail and send it to the special address listed in your profile (which you should add to your phone's address book for easy future use).

Now that you've added your video to YouTube's massive library, how can you attract eyeballs? Start by getting it off YouTube and onto your blog.

For every uploaded video, YouTube provides an "embed" code that you can copy and paste into a new blog post. The result is an embedded YouTube video player — the kind you've clicked countless times before, but this time it's your very own video on the Tube.

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

GARDEN CALENDAR

If you have an item for the garden calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Wendys Von Buskirk at wvonb@hometownlife.com.

English Gardens Events

English Gardens will host a free presentation on perennial gardening 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23 at its retail stores in Ann Arbor, Clinton Township, Dearborn Heights, Eastpointe, Royal Oak and West Bloomfield. Learn how to create a colorful garden that will come back every year. Also, English Gardens is hosting its 6th Annual Orchid Festival through Feb. 26, with displays of more than 50 varieties of orchids at all stores. Visit www.englishgardens.com.

A Bit of Green

Goldner Walsh, 559 Orchard Lake Road, Pontiac, will host a benefit for Shades of Pink, a Birmingham-based organization that helps women battling breast cancer. A Gardening Lecture and Luncheon 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22 will feature lunch in the Event Greenhouse at artist-created tablescapes, and lectures by local experts. A Wine Tasting and Tablescapes Preview 6-10 p.m. tonight will include hors d'oeuvres by candlelight and a sneak peek at the tables; \$60 per event, or \$100 per person to attend both. Call (248) 594-1249 or visit www.goldnerwalsh.com.

Master Composter Classes

The Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority will hold Master Composter classes for environmental gardening enthusiasts beginning 6:45-8:45 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28 at the Birmingham Department of Public Services Building, 851 S. Eton. The course includes six classes and a field trip to the SOCRRA compost facility. Cost, \$30, includes supplies. Call (248) 288-5150 or e-mail LFDean@aol.com.

Tropical Breezes

Get ready for some "Tropical Breezes" — that is the theme for the annual Flower Show Competition to be held within the Michigan Home and Garden Show at Ford Field in Detroit March 7-9. The Livonia Garden Club is one of 43 Michigan garden clubs participating in the competition. Admission to the show is \$9, adults; \$4 children 6-14; free, 5 and under. Call 1-800-328-6550 or visit www.FordFieldHomeShow.com.

Monster Plants!

The Michigan Cactus & Succulent Society will host Monsters, Crests and other Bizarre & Ugly Plants! at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, March 9 in the Commons Room of the Unitarian-Universalist Church, 38651 Woodward, Birmingham. Free. Call (248) 790-9089.

Hostas 101

The Royal Oak Garden Club will present Hostas 101 at 7 p.m. March 10 at the Royal Oak Public Library. A Royal Oak gardener who has turned his backyard into a successful nursery business will explain how to propagate and cultivate hostas at the free event. Call (313) 861-6579.

Orchid Show

The Michigan Orchid Society will host its 54th Annual Palm Sunday Show March 15-16. Formerly at Laurel Park Place in Livonia, the show will move to the MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Programs for beginner, intermediate and casual growers of orchids; 30 vendors selling orchids, supplies and related items. Free. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Visit www.miorchids.com.

GRASS

FROM PAGE D1

"When everything else is dying down and kind of drab, the grasses are still there like a sculpture. They add drama to the landscape when it's pretty dull," Travis said.

Travis said Rick Darke's background as a photographer gives him a unique perspective on the aesthetics of various types of grasses.

"He sees the added value of what they do visually in the landscape, not just by themselves but the shadow and lighting they create," Travis said. "Most people don't think about moonlight in a landscape, but if you imagine a full moon night in the winter or fall, grasses add just as much dimension as an old oak tree."

DARKE'S PERSPECTIVE

Rick Darke heads a Pennsylvania-based consulting firm, and is an internationally-recognized authority on the use of grasses in landscapes. While grasses will be a thread that runs through his talk at Goldner Walsh, he will also cover the gardener's role in creating sustainable environments.

"It will be a broader discussion of the smart design of landscapes that are as sensual and practical and walkable and intimate and expansive as we want them to be, and at the same time in sync with regional resources and showing some kind of reverence of place," Darke said.

Darke will explain how grasses, sedges and rushes can be used in patterns and approaches that will work in southeast Michigan.

"They are beautiful spontaneous landscapes to live in and to share, and at the same time they are truly sustainable, maintained without taking an unfair amount of resources or being harmful to local ecologies," he said.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY

Darke has been photographing landscapes for more than 30 years. "The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes," is the world's most complete individual reference on the topic, and he'll use photographs from the book to embellish his talk. According to Travis, that's what makes Darke such a unique speaker.

"His presentation is like an art show," Travis said. "He speaks of plants in an artistic way, not just a horticultural way. You learn a lot about plants but also their artistic value in a landscape."

On Saturday, Darke will lead a second workshop in which he teaches attendees how to use their digital cameras to observe and improve their gardens. Landscapes Through the Lens: Digital Photography and the Art of Observation is limited to 20 people.

The workshops at Goldner Walsh are part of Darke's mission to share his inspiration with others, both through his photography and his passion for ecology.

"If we take a decent and inspired approach to our landscaping and our design work and the gardens we make, we can be contributing in meaningful ways to the environment and world we live in," he said.

A SHORT GUIDE TO GRASSES

Susan Charette, perennial manager and buyer for Goldner Walsh, offers a snapshot of some grasses that grow well in Michigan.

Feather Reed Grass: One of the most common grasses used in landscapes, it grows upright, 4-5 feet tall. Starts blooming fairly early in the season and stands up through Michigan winters.

Japanese Silver Grass: There are many different varieties of this colorful grass. The green and white variegated Cosmopolitan variety grows 6-8 feet tall, with big silvery plumes in the fall.

Little Bluestem Grass: An example of native grasses that are becoming more popular, especially around lakes, Little Bluestem grows 2.5-3 feet tall. Very blue in color, it turns pinkish-red in the fall. Good for soil erosion control.

Golden Leaved Japanese Forest Grass: This graceful weeping grass, 12-18 inches tall, looks beautiful bowing over rock boulders and used as a border grass. Its golden color shows up nicely in the shade.

Clumping Bamboos: Various bamboos, such as the 8- to 10-foot-tall Umbrella Bamboo, are becoming increasingly popular in Michigan. They can create shade for other plantings in a landscape.

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Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority
Invitation to Bid

Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority will solicit sealed bids at the YCUA Service Center, 2780 Clark Rd, Ypsilanti, Michigan until 2:00PM Wednesday, March 5, 2008 for the following:

(1) Midsize 4-door car
(1) Midsize/compact pickup truck
(2) 1/2-ton extended cab pickup trucks

Specifications may be obtained online at www.ycuu.org or by contacting YCUA's Service Center at (734) 484-4600, extension 300.

YCUA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in part or whole, to waive any formalities and to accept the bid which it believes to be in the best interest of the Authority.

Henry J Gerst
Director of Service Operations
Ypsilanti Comm. Util. Auth.

Publish: February 17 & 24, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND
SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
MTG. 3 2/4/08

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

37 - Approved minutes of 1/22/08.
- Bulk Fuel Bid-Mansfield Oil, truck transport; and RKA for tank wagon deliveries.
- Public Educ. & Rouge River Prgm., amt. of \$18,000.
- Adopted Ord. 253, to amend Chptr 2, Art. X, Section 2-701 thru 2-708.
38 - Approved voucher list: \$1,066,360.22 and Prepaid \$1,354,967.28.
- Meeting Adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Minutes available at the Clerk's office.
JAMES R. GOUBOUT EILEEN DEHART
Council President City Clerk

Publish: February 21, 2008

STEFEK'S

Coming Soon!

Stefek's, Ltd., Auctioneers & Appraisers of Antiques and Fine Art, is currently seeking consignments for their new auction house opening early 2008 in Grosse Pointe Farms. The following are just some of the items Stefek's is interested in:

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A few things you can do to protect Michigan's animals

The following items, surprisingly, are not illegal in Michigan:

In Michigan, it's legal to trap a fox, bear, wolf and beaver with a heavy steel trap, armed with steel teeth-like jaws that clamp around the animal's body leaving them to slowly bleed to death, chew off their feet to escape, die of starvation, and drown ... just for the use

of their fur. Dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, deer and many other animals wander in these traps too. (To educate yourself, if you want to see a photo, visit www.endtrap.org. It's not a pretty picture.)

Steel leghold traps are illegal in 88 countries including the entire European continent, but not yet in Michigan.

Also in Michigan, if you think you are being compassionate by taking stray animals to some animal shelters, you may not realize those animals might not be safe. They might be collected by "Class B" dealers — people who buy homeless dogs and cats and sell them to research laboratories.

And in Michigan, if you have a family member who has tortured or abused an animal, there isn't a whole lot you can do for justice and prevention.

Now, rather than feel helpless, feel empowered.

You can help protect the animals who live in this state with one e-mail or telephone call.

Currently, there are pending state bills that, if passed, will improve everything I've listed above.

All you need to do is e-mail your legislator and urge them to support the bills listed below.

Simple, if you don't know the identity of your state representative, just go to the Humane Society of the United States' Web site and obtain the information with the click of a mouse: <https://community.hsus.org/humane/leg-lookup/>

search.html.

The following bills aren't political, rather they are potential laws that could just protect animals better. Ask your representative to vote "yes" on:

■ Michigan House Bill 4497. The passage of this bill is long overdue.

Steel leghold traps are outdated and used to cruelly trap animals for their pelts. Michigan is far too low on its level of respect and compassion for sentient creatures.

■ Michigan House Bill 4741 would allow a person to petition the courts for restraining orders against a spouse, ex-spouse, ex-lover, or anyone who has lived in their home who has killed, injured, threatened to injure or kill or neglect an animal owned by the petitioner. This bill would protect both the animal, and the animal's guardian, because we know by now that people who hurt animals often harm humans.

■ Michigan House Bill 4742 would make it a felony to kill, torture, disfigure, poison, or harm an animal — as a means of committing domestic violence (such as a husband harming a wife's dog). It would be punishable by up to six years in prison or a \$7,500 fine.

■ Michigan House Bill 4139 would add sexual abusers of animals to the list of registered sexual offenders.

And lastly and the bill being examined hard right now...

■ Michigan House Bill 5263 would stop "animal dealers" from getting dogs and cats from animal shelters and selling them to research laboratories. Class B dealers sometimes respond to "free to good home ads" pretending to adopt the animal. The hidden truth is animals are then sold to laboratories where they endure painful experiments not needed for human safety.

There's also a bill about foie gras, but we'll save that for another day — I would like to hear your thoughts on that in the future.

Lana Mini is a staff writer for Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Read her column, One World, Many Beings, every month in HometownLife.

Thank you, readers, for saving an animal

A few weeks ago we wrote about a homeless black lab puppy whose time was running out.

We asked if any of you, dear readers, would save his life. The response was overwhelming. He's now in a happy home playing with another dog all day long.

Then we asked for help with the rescue group Metro Area Animal Adoption that needed foster families. Without families willing to let a dog or cat live with them for a few weeks, homeless animals don't have any place to stay. Again, an overwhelming number of you responded and now the group has more volunteers — which means more saved lives.

But your help is needed again.

■ Metro Area Animal Adoption is in desperate need of a foster home where the homeowner does not have any other animals. Sometimes friendly dogs and cats need fostering, but do better in homes where they are the only pet.

So if you love animals, but are too busy to be a permanent guardian — why not foster? Doing so allows you to spend a few weeks with an animal, and then stay in touch with him or her forever once they're adopted.

If you're too busy traveling or working, you can take a break from fostering. Then when you get a hankering for animal companionship, foster again. If you can help, send an email to slymom@sbcglobal.net.

■ The Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society, one of the area's best animal rescue



Stevie is a fun, beige, one-year-old Lab mix who desperately needs a foster home, or permanent home, with no other animals. Stevie loves children, is house-broken and is eager to learn new tricks. He just doesn't like to share human affection with other animals. If you can save the life of this friendly boy contact Julie Sly of Metro Area Animal Adoption at slymom@sbcglobal.net.

groups that also does cruelty investigation, is in need. As the economy worsens, the number of homeless animals increases because some people say they can't afford to feed their animal anymore. MACS needs foster families, and it also needs donations. As the economy weakens, donations at the shelter have dropped. If you can foster, call (313) 891-7188. Send donations to: Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society, 13569 Joseph Campau Street Hamtramck, 48212.

We will keep you posted.

Lana Mini

WINE

FROM PAGE D1

With a dual role as wine producer and negociant, Moueix is afforded a unique opportunity to understand classic Bordeaux wine closely and is probably the most experienced person in the region when it comes to blending exceptional wine.

WHAT TO BUY

On the right bank of the Dordogne River, all producing principally plush Merlot-based wines, Saint-Emilion (where limestone soils significantly impact the wines' character) can be grouped with Pomerol. Thus a nice pairing to learn the similarities and differences between the appellations is Christian Moueix 2005 St-Emilion and the Christian Moueix 2005 Pomerol.

The St-Emilion (85 percent merlot and 15 percent cabernet franc) showcases black cherry and cassis aromas with mirrored flavors. It's a pure fruit expression with good structure, round yet obvious tannins and long finish.

The Pomerol (95 percent merlot and five percent cabernet franc) is highlighted by blackberry and dark currant aromas and is more austere than the St-Emilion. Similarly though, flavors mirror aromas with the addition of truffle accents and a chocolate nuance.

Strikingly different is the Christian Moueix 2005 Medoc (50 percent cabernet sauvignon, 30 percent merlot, 15 percent cabernet franc and 5 percent petit verdot). An attractive black fruit melange, dark berry and vanilla notes characterize the aroma. Here too, flavors mirror aromas but in the mouth, structural tannins and an immense grip suggest bigger foods, such as a grilled steak.

On this point, red Bordeaux wines are best with food and are not sipping wines.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are contributing editors for the internationally-respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at efocus@wine@aol.com.



Cottage & Lakefront Living

The Cottage & Lakefront Living Show, at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi Feb. 28-March 2, will include log and cedar homes, cottage rental, furnishings, lakefront homebuilders and realtors, lakeshore maintenance, boats and docks, outdoor recreational equipment, sand art demos by Big Wave Dave, and seminars about family kayak adventures and 'green' lake practices. Show hours: 2-9:30 p.m. Thursday; 2-9:30 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission: \$9; \$4, children 6-14; free, under 5. Call (800) 328-6550 or visit www.cottageandlakefrontliving.com.

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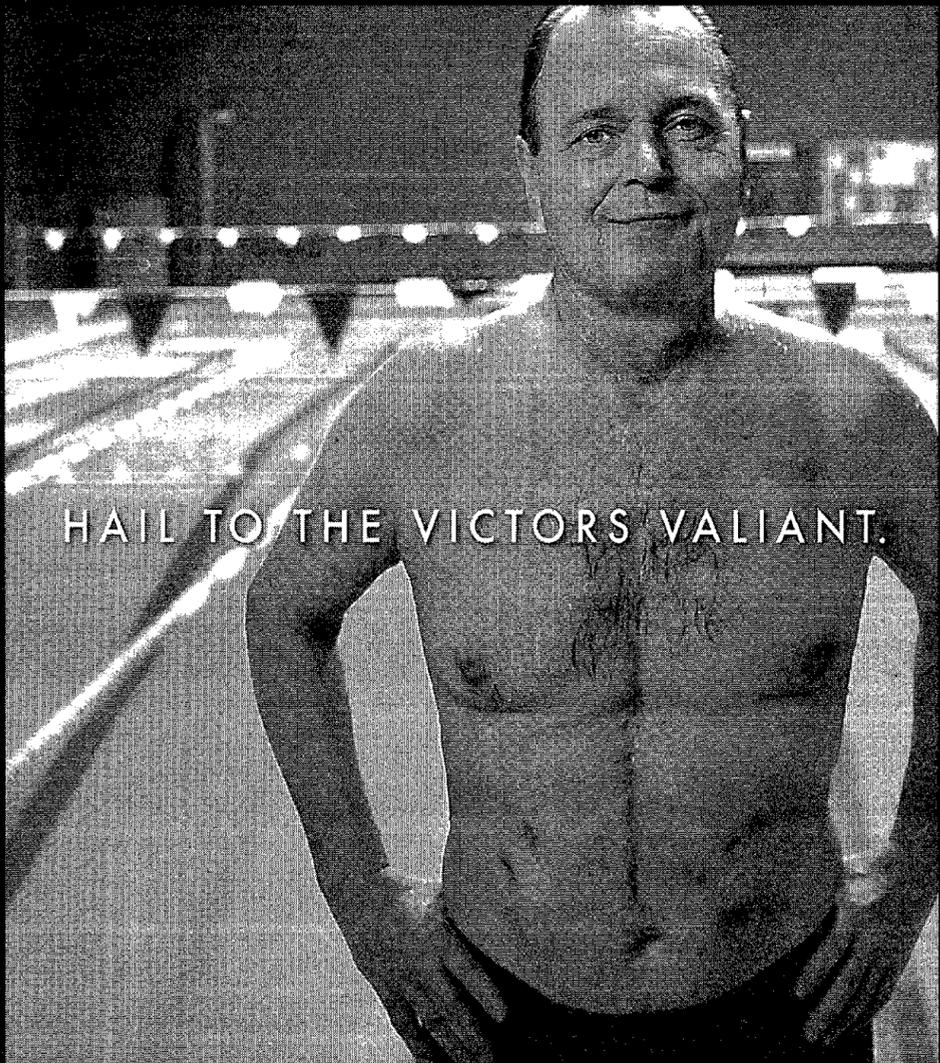
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pink

Don't miss the O&E's pull-out Wedding Guide next Thursday!

pink picks

by Wendy

Wear It!

Wide leg trousers

DON'T Wear It!

Exposed tattoos at a corporate job

Accessorize It!

New Era fitted caps for him and her at Burn Rubber in Royal Oak

Shop It!

Exclusive Styles in Dearborn

Smell It!

Hard Candy Fragrance

See It!

Fool's Gold for a mid-winter escape

DVD It!

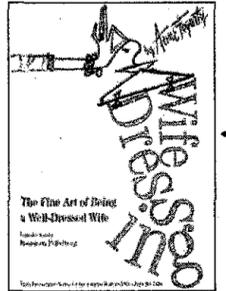
Across the Universe

TIVO It!

Dexter

Indulge It!

A deep tissue massage by Zena at Margot's Euro Spa in Birmingham



Read It!

Wife Dressing: The Fine Art of Being a Well-Dressed Wife by Anne Fogarty

Eat It!

Calimari at Campari's in Plymouth

Tote It!

Xhilaration Twill Hobo Bag at Target

Drink It!

Muscle Milk after workouts

Book It!

A girl's ski weekend Up North

Vera Wang goes vintage

Revolutionary designer veers toward look of yesteryear

BY SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
AP FASHION WRITER

To talk about bridal fashion trends is almost moot: Yes, there are subtle differences from season to season but, in the end, the gowns are almost always white, feminine and pretty.

A subtle shift away from floaty, ethereal gowns toward more fitted, glamorous ones — as in Vera Wang's newest collection — actually is a notable change.

"The shape I was feeling for was extremely fitted. It's not something I've been doing a lot of," says Wang.

A slinky, sexy silhouette is often easier to pull off in bridal than in everyday clothes or even evening wear because the market for show-stopping wedding gowns tends to be a specific demographic: youthful women eager to have all eyes on themselves.

"It's a finite group," the designer says. "In ready-to-wear, it's from my daughters all the way up to someone who is 60 — and I'm headed in that direction myself."

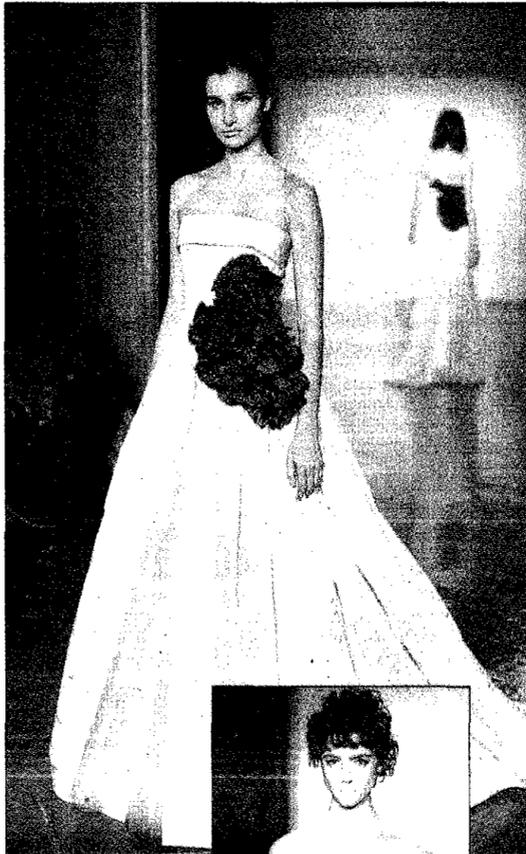
(Wang, 58, won the Council of Fashion Designers of America award as the industry's top womenswear designer for her ready-to-wear collections in 2005.)

If the silhouette was going to hug the body, Wang says, it became important to her to make the surface details, including cabbage-rose corsages, interesting. That led to a look that seemed rooted in the 1950s and early '60s on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, though modern enough to be worn by the granddaughters of that era's famed socialites.

"Once I saw a little Jackie Kennedy in it, I knew we were heading in a very sophisticated direction. It reminded me of



Vera Wang's 2008 line includes unique embellishments like tulle sashes (above) and cabbage-rose corsages (at right).



"That formality looks very new to me. The glamour was fresh to me."

It's also a classic American look, notes Wang. "It's sweet and racy. ... The women from the '40s to the early '60s had a polish and a thoroughbred good look. They were just to me what American glamour was about."

VERA WANG TRUNK SHOW

When: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, March 14; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 15; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, March 16

Where: The Bridal Salon, Macy's Somerset, 1st floor

What: A representative from Vera Wang will present the elegant designer's latest collection.

Appointments: Call (248) 816-4270.

women who were the predecessors of Jackie: Babe Paley and the other women Truman Capote ran with," Wang says.

The many looks of Miss America

PHOTOS BY TOM DONOGHUE

Everyone is still buzzing about hometown girl Kirsten Haglund, who won the Miss America crown on Jan. 26 at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino in Las Vegas. Here's another glimpse of the high style the 19-year-old Farmington Hills native displayed during competition. As Miss America 2008, Haglund will travel 20,000 miles a month speaking to audiences about her platform of raising awareness of eating disorders, and acting as the official National Goodwill Ambassador for Children's Miracle Network.



Kirsten Haglund wore a black bikini edged in gold during the swimsuit competition.



After she was crowned, Haglund, was honored by PINK's, a legendary hot dog stand in Hollywood that also serves Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino. The Observer & Eccentric's PINK salutes Haglund too.



Haglund wore a beautiful blue gown designed by Larry Kralowski of Kray Chic in Farmington Hills during the talent phase of competition, in which she sang 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow.'



Haglund was crowned in the stunning, jeweled dress she wore for the evening gown competition, designed by Kralowski. Carol LaBute of The Mane Connection in Farmington Hills traveled with Haglund to keep her loose, wavy hair looking impeccable throughout the show.

If you have an item for the Malls & Main Streets calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Wendy Von Buskirk at wvonb@hometownlife.com.

Kohl's Holds Job Fair

CANTON — Kohl's Department Stores will wrap up its job fair today to fill 150 full- and part-time positions for its Canton store, opening in April. The job fair will be held 12:30-7:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Holiday Inn, 46194 I-94 North Service Dr. in Belleville. Call (877) NEW-KOHLs or visit www.kohls-careers.com.

Cooking Up Culture and Couture

DETROIT — The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History will host "Cooking Up Culture and Couture" 6-10 p.m. tonight. The event will recognize fashion designer Kevan Hall, and style and food expert B. Smith. Detroit-born Hall has dressed celebs from Angela Bassett to Charlize Theron. Restaurant owner and author B. Smith is spokeswoman for Lawry's "Cooking Up Culture" campaign, celebrating the diversity of American cuisine. The gala includes a fashion show featuring select gowns from Hall's 2008 spring line, along with artwork by Annie Lee. The museum is located at 315 E. Warren Ave., Detroit. Call (313) 494-5853 or visit www.maah-detroit.org.

Reem Acra Trunk Show

TROY — The Bridal Salon at Macy's Somerset will host a Reem Acra bridal trunk show Feb. 22-24 featuring the latest designs and a representative from the company. The Reem Acra look is a combination of old world tradition with a modern sensibility and features attention to detail, signature beaded embroideries and unique fabric combinations. Appointments are suggested. Call (248) 816-4270.

Parisian Clinique GWP

Parisian stores in Livonia, Rochester and Clinton Township are offering a Clinique cosmetics gift-with-purchase through Feb. 24. With a Clinique purchase of \$21.50,

receive a gift valued at \$50. A bonus Allure Magazine opportunity also is included.

Ashka Salon VIP Event

Ashka Salon & Spa in Brighton will host an exclusive VIP Event 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26. The evening will include 15 percent off Aveda products, 10 percent off gift cards, a fashion show featuring hush and impulse, hors d'oeuvres, Barefoot Wine & Bubbly, and drawings for a spa day and prizes from Rotterdam Jewelers. First 100 guests receive a free gift. Ashka is located at 9740 Village Place Blvd. in Brighton. Call (810) 225-9441 or visit www.ashkasalon.com.

Easter Bunny Hops into Novi

NOVI — The Easter Bunny will hold court at Twelve Oaks Mall's Central Park Garden, March 1-22. Photos of the Easter Bunny with children and families will be available for purchase. Each child who visits will receive a free gift. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Twelve Oaks is located at I-96 and Novi Road. Visit www.shoptwelveoaks.com.

Local Retailer Recognized

WESTLAND — Catherine Buchanan of Independent Carpet One Floor & Home was presented with an award for her exceptional commitment to community service during the past year at Carpet One Floor & Home's annual Winter Convention in Houston, Texas last month. The award recognizes a retailer who was part of Carpet One Floor & Home's 2007 community relations campaigns, and went above and beyond the expectations to make an impact on their community. Buchanan was actively involved in the Carpet One Floor & Home Welcomes Your Support breast cancer welcome mat campaign, selling over 425 welcome mats and raising \$2,337.50. Buchanan offered 25 percent off during the month of October to women who showed proof of a mammogram. Visit Independent Carpet One Floor & Home at 1400 North Wayne Road, or call (734) 729-6200.

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