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WESTLAND Observer

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Senior village faces tweaking

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A developer hopes to ease criticism of a proposed senior citizen village by tweaking plans for a 24-acre complex he wants to build near Joy and Newburgh roads.

Still, developer Glenn Shaw Jr. indicated he won't scrap certain proposals, such as a three-story senior apartment building, that he considers critical to the economic viability of his project.

A group of residents has slammed Shaw's proposed Nankin Mills Village, which he hopes to build east and south of Sts. Helen & Constantine Greek Orthodox Church and the Hellenic Cultural Center, on Joy east of Newburgh. Critics say the high-density development doesn't fit in with their neighborhood and could hurt property values.

But Shaw defended his vision, saying he wants to build a classy senior village that would create new jobs, pump sorely needed revenues into the city's tax base and provide a broad spectrum of housing options. His plan calls for a 147-unit apartment complex, 10 two-condo buildings and 54 single-family homes.

Shaw's proposals for a rezoning and a preliminary plan already won support from the Westland Planning Commission, despite strong objections from neighbors, and the Westland City Council is expected to decide its stance on the development during its June 16 meeting.

In the meantime, Shaw said he hopes to amend his plan to address concerns of several homeowners, particularly on Gray, who would be most affected by the project.

"We're trying to come up with a better landscaping design to address their concerns," he told the *Observer*.

Shaw hasn't backed down from plans for an apartment building that he said could potentially include a 60-seat theater, a bistro, a fitness center, a library, an outdoor walking trail, a party store, a concierge service and other amenities. He said tenants could enjoy an all-day adventure without leaving the premises.

"It's like country club living," Shaw said. "It's like going to a four-star hotel."

Moreover, seniors could initially buy a single-family home in Nankin Mills Village and move later into a condo or an apartment as they choose to pare down their lifestyles.

Shaw hopes to build energy-efficient residences for different income levels, although he said he wouldn't start construction until he considers it economically viable. He said it's unlikely he would build models until the fall of 2009, at which time new jobs would be created.

Critics maintain that the high-density neighborhood won't fit in with their larger lots. Moreover, they have voiced concerns about traffic congestion.

Westland Planning Director Bruce Thompson has said Nankin Mills Village could be a semi-regional draw for senior residents. He has said the need for senior housing will only grow.

Festival needs sponsors

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Much like residents who are feeling the pinch of economic woes, Westland Summer Festival organizers are struggling to raise money to keep the city's biggest party going.

"We're trying to please the community, but at the same time it's costly," festival board member Diane Fritz said.

This year's five-day festival, expected to draw tens of thousands of spectators, will run July 2-6, culminating on the last night with a fireworks show that organizers say ranks among the area's most popular.

"Everything's coming together," festival Chairman Ken Mehl said. Still, the non-profit festival committee is trying to find sponsors to help pay the tab for what will be the 38th annual event.

"In order to keep this fes-

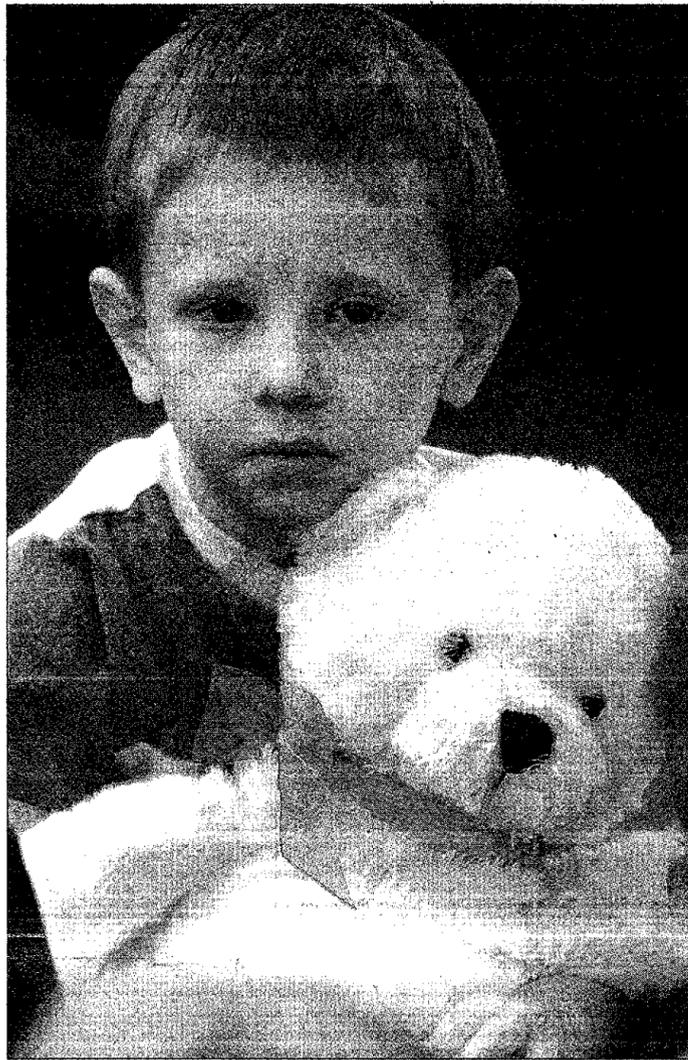
tival going every single year, we rely on businesses and the community for donations," Fritz said.

The fireworks show alone costs \$30,000; entertainment, another \$15,000 to \$20,000, Fritz said. Other events, such as racing pigs, can raise the tab by thousands of dollars.

As always, this year's festival will include carnival rides, entertainers like renowned flutist Alexander Zonjic, arts and crafts booths and many other attractions.

Organizers, meanwhile, have issued a call for financial help. Sponsors can pay from \$250 to \$3,000, and the amount they give will determine how they will be recognized, ranging from signs posted on festival grounds to VIP passes to see entertainers and watch the fireworks show.

For more information, call festival board member Tony Wager at (734) 637-7992.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Four-year-old Joshua George needed a little reassurance from the class teddy bear as he took part in kindergarten roundup activities at Livonia's Garfield Elementary School at the beginning of the school year.



FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten spans broad curriculum these days, A5.
What area school districts currently offer, A5.
State lawmakers share their opinions on subject, A5.

Full-day kindergarten

Too much or a step up?

"The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future life."

So wrote Plato more than 2,000 years ago, and educators and policy makers still believe it's true.

So what could be more important than kindergarten, which opens the door to a lifetime of education? Little does a 5-year-old know what a milestone kindergarten represents on the long walk toward adulthood. Lawmakers in Lansing are considering making full-day kindergarten mandatory. But that has raised serious questions about the need and value of such a program.

Today and Sunday, the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* will take an in-depth look at this issue, from the logic of the proposal to what goes on inside a typical kindergarten class to the perceived and real value of full-day kindergarten.

Lawmakers look at extended hours

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Kindergarten is one area of education that is coming under increasing scrutiny in Michigan's challenging economy.

Bills pending in the state Legislature would require schools to offer a full day of kindergarten. Gov. Jennifer Granholm, in her 2008 State of the State address, called full-day kindergarten essential to success in the 21st century.

"This simple step will make a dramatic difference in the lives of our children," she said. "We want all our students to have a great start in school, because we want them to have great opportunities in life."

School districts already receive the same state funding for kindergartners as they do for any other grade, even if only a half-day program is offered, and many districts are voluntarily switching to a full day.

Wayne-Westland is in its second year of offering a full-day kindergarten program at seven of its elementaries, available to residents through schools of choice. Livonia Public Schools officials discussed piloting an all-day program to attract new students this week, but balked at the cost. "The interest is definitely out there," said Supt. Randy Liepa.

The Senate Education Committee has a bill before it that would mandate full-day kindergarten. The House Education Committee has sent a bill to the House that would mandate full-day kindergarten by 2011, but only if a school isn't achieving adequate yearly progress under federal



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Garden City Douglas Elementary kindergarten teacher Christie Bronson jots down students' ideas about their reacting to a situation of finding out they're home alone for 24 hours, as part of a schoolwide writing improvement program earlier this school year.

No Child Left Behind guidelines. Several other bills would move up the mandatory starting age for kindergarten to 5 and as early as 4, if the child is ready. The current law requires school attendance at age 6.

As far back as 1995, more than half of all kindergartners nationally have been in full-day kindergarten. More than half the states provide full funding. Proponents say full-day kindergartners have higher academic achievement, better social

development and less need for extra help later in their education. Opponents say much of the evidence is anecdotal.

Research results vary, but one U.S. Department of Education study of kindergartners in the 1998-99 school year found greater gains in reading and math achievement among full-day kindergartners.

Please see **KINDERGARTEN, A5**

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Coming Sunday in Health



Learn about dangerous pesticides at safe lawn workshop

Every day's Earth Day at 'green' school

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Toads are welcome at Buchanan Elementary, according to a sign posted there. Bees are a good thing.

The school hosts a GardenFest every year to celebrate signs of life in its quarter-acre oasis, but this year's was special because Buchanan has been named an official Michigan Green School.

It is one of eight designated schools in Wayne County, having met 10 of 20 criteria including having a school yard habitat certified by the National Wildlife Federation, recycling, growing native plants and renovating the building to be more energy efficient. The school also provides a bird habitat.

At GardenFest, students visited stations to find out how other classrooms have contributed to Buchanan Oasis Garden.

Fourth-graders studied compost and worms. Julia Lutz pointed to a plastic two-liter bottle filled with dirt, leaves, twigs and a grocery bag.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Buchanan teacher Leigh Dresser takes her first- and second-grade classes through the recycling display.

"We're showing how everything can be broken down except for plastic," she said. In another tub, worms enjoyed fresh shredded newspapers and rotting lettuce. Some classes planted green beans or sunflowers. Students recycle milk cartons, plastic bottles and

lunch trays and cans "to keep the Earth clean," second-grader Jacob Fergan said. "Trust me," he added, "every day should be Earth Day." Volunteer gardeners Bill Craig and Laura Jannika help with the garden, which Buchanan calls an outdoor

classroom. "It's a very pleasant place to make observations," Craig said. "At the end of July, it's a blaze of yellow and orange. It's so lush and wonderful," Jannika said.

rrjones@hometownlife.com

New leaders to take Salvation Army helm

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army will have new corps commanders in late June, with current Capt. Matthew and Malinda O'Neil leaving for a corps in Midland.

The O'Neils will start their new assignment June 25, the same week Capt. Derek and Joanna Rose arrive from a Salvation Army assignment in Livingston County.

"We're friends with them and we know they'll be taking over," Matthew O'Neil said Tuesday. He, his wife and fellow officer Malinda and their three children ages 2, 8 and 10 will move from the Army-owned home in Wayne to one in Midland where the older children will attend school.

"We go where they see we're needed," he said, noting he has a cousin in Midland and both he and Malinda grew up in Alpena. "Hopefully, with God directing us, anything is possible."

The difficulty in leaving is relationships formed with people. "You planted the seed and somebody else has to water it," Matthew O'Neil said.

The O'Neils will mark four years at the Wayne-Westland corps on Venoy when they leave in June. The Roses, parents of two children ages 5 years and 19 months, are coming from a three-year assignment in Howell, their first. Three to five years is the average Salvation Army assignment, Matthew O'Neil noted.

"We're really excited," Joanna Rose said Wednesday of the new assignment. "It's nice to follow friends."

The Roses have attended Friday night gatherings at the Wayne-Westland corps, "so we know some of the people and we're excited to come," Joanna Rose said. They will learn about what the corps does now and its programs and set goals after that.

"We look forward to getting to know the community and just putting our hearts into it," she said.

Wednesday morning's Wayne-Westland Advisory Council meeting was a time for praise for Matt and Mindie O'Neil.

"I certainly enjoyed working with you as everyone else has," said Roy Clay, council chair.

CITY OF WESTLAND WEED CONTROL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE 37137 MARQUETTE WESTLAND, MI 48185 (734) 467-3239

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

Notice is hereby given that all noxious weeds growing on any land in the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan, must be cut down and destroyed on or before the 15th and 30th day throughout the months of May, June, July, August, September and October of 2008. Any person failing to comply with this notice on or before the date mentioned shall be liable to the imposition of the penalty set forth in the Code of Ordinance #226A of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan. If you wish to cut the weeds yourself or arrange to have it done by an outside party, you must notify the Director of the Department of Public Service, IN WRITING, prior to the 15th and 30th days of the months and complete the work prior to those dates.

Weed Commissioner's Authority:

If the owner, occupant or agent of any land shall fail or refuse to destroy any noxious weeds found growing on such land for a period of ten days after notice has been given, as provided in section 106-95, the commissioner of noxious weeds shall have authority to enter upon such land and destroy or cause such noxious weeds to be destroyed, and all expenses incurred in such destruction shall be paid by the owners of such lands. If the owner fails to pay such expenses as provided in this section, the City shall have the right to spread such expenses and fees against the property of such owner on the next county and school tax roll or the next general City tax roll. If it becomes necessary for the City to include such expenses and fees on the tax roll, a penalty charge of 30 per cent of the sum of the expenses and fees shall also be assessed.

Costs:

The cost to cut such noxious weeds in the City is as follows: (1) For frontage up to 20', the cost is \$160; (2) For frontage of 20' to 40', the cost is \$180; (3) For frontage of 40' to 60', the cost is \$200; (4) For frontage of 60' to 80', the cost is \$220; (5) For frontage of 80' to 100', the cost is \$240; (6) For frontage of 100' to 120', the cost is \$260; (7) For larger acreage parcels, the cost is \$200 per acre. If it is necessary to remove debris from the site prior to cutting, the cost to remove such debris is \$15.00 per cubic yard.

Penalty:

Every person convicted of a repeated violation of this Code of Ordinance #226A may be punished by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment for not more than ninety (90) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. THIS ORDINANCE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

Kevin L. Buford
CITY OF WESTLAND
Weed Control

2008 PRIVATE WEEDS

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| 026 99 0029 002 | 048 01 0102 002 | 070 01 0022 001 | 074 06 1213 003 |
| 026 99 0030 700 | 048 01 0103 002 | 070 01 0023 001 | 074 06 1214 000 |
| 026 99 0032 703 | 048 01 0123 001 | 070 01 0026 001 | 075 07 0007 001 |
| 027 03 0013 000 | 048 99 0031 000 | 070 01 0027 001 | 075 07 0008 001 |
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| 027 04 0016 304 | 049 03 0022 300 | 070 01 0029 001 | 075 99 0008 000 |

LPS looking at more cuts as budget news gets worse

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

More cuts are on the way for Livonia Public Schools.

The district's budget forecast got even worse Monday with news from Lansing that schools could expect to get a \$50 per student increase for the coming year, instead of the \$71 that LPS administrators used in their budget recommendations, Supt. Randy Liepa reported. It means district revenue would be \$360,000 less than planned.

"If that's the case, what we need to do is make budget reductions," he told the board.

The shortfall was already expected to be close to \$6 million, requiring at least \$2.5 million in cuts, taking \$2.5 million from the fund balance and finding another \$800,000 in savings or new revenue.

LPS is predicting a decrease of 400 students. Liepa recommended laying off a few more teachers, just to be on the safe side. "We may need to bring some back," he said. "I don't think we'll have to bring them all back."

The school board will vote on laying off more than 20 teachers Monday, June 2. The board must approve the entire budget by June 30.

Custodians' jobs are also on the line. Liepa recommended 21.5 job cuts and moving to a

reduced cleaning schedule for a savings of \$1.1 million. Common areas and bathrooms would be cleaned every day; classrooms every third.

An alternative is every other day cleaning, saving \$900,000.

"Where could we find that \$200,000 (difference)," asked Trustee Robert Freeman.

Elementary classrooms need cleaning every day, Trustee Steve King said. He suggested other areas to cut, including a lobbyist; hiring an in-house lawyer, instead of paying legal fees; staffing only one principal at the 5/6 schools; offering ROTC at the federally funded level; and sharing athletic directors at the high schools.

"I'm just hoping this year I can get support for some of this stuff," King said.

Administrators said other areas being considered are: reducing busing by increasing the "walk zone" around a school to 1.5 miles; and cutting more elementary school assistance providers, middle school technology paraprofessionals and building security paraprofessionals.

Trustee Dan Lessard said he heard from staff members about cutting their own wages and health care to save jobs.

Liepa said the district is in talks with union representatives and already planning the 2009-10 budget.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Fitness day

National Senior Health and Fitness Day will take over Westland's Friendship Center at 8:30 a.m. Friday, May 30. Seniors will join more than 150,000 older adults from across the nation in participating in the event, themed "Fitness ... A Lifetime Investment!" An easy-does-it walk around Colburn Park, behind the Friendship Center, will kick off the event. The Friendship Center is at 1119 N. Newburgh between Marquette and Ford.

Bound for Olympics

The Westland Parks and Recreation Department's Westland Stars is inviting dance teams, studios and community recreation dancers to join them in competing in the dance division of this summer's Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympic Games. The event is open to teams and individuals in standard dance - jazz, tap, ballet, lyrical hip hop etc.) ballroom/swing, and clogging. The AAU Junior Olympic Games will take place July 23-Aug. 2 in the metro Detroit area. The dance event will be held at the Allen Park Performing Arts Center July 28-30. Information can be found at www.aausports.org.

Blood drive

The Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union will hold an American Red Cross blood drive 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, May 30, at its offices on Wayne Road south of Cherry Hill. Call Jenny Hale at (734) 721-5700

For an expanded version of Around Westland, visit our online edition at www.hometownlife.com and click on the Westland home page.

Car wash

The Lutheran Church of Our Savior will hold a free car wash 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 31, at the church at 29425 Annapolis, Westland. The church also holds a community forum 7-8:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month. For more information, call (734) 728-3440.

Flea market

The parking lot of Westland Bowl on Wayne Road north of Ford will be the site of four flea weekend flea markets, beginning Saturday/Sunday, May 31-June 1. Vendors can reserve a spot for \$10 a day. Table rental is \$5 for a six-foot table. Spaces measure 9 1/2 feet by 18 feet. Flea markets also will be held June 28-29, July 12-13 and Aug. 9-10. Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For information or to reserve a spot, call Tara at (734) 732-6895.

Memorial balloon launch

Vermeulen Funeral Homes is inviting people to attend a Celebration of Life Memorial Service that will be held in Westland and Plymouth. Friends and family members are invited.

The second service will be

at 7 p.m. Sunday, June 1, at the Vermeulen Funeral Home at 46401 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. To participate, call (734) 459-2250 by June 1.

Class reunion

John Glenn High School Class of 1988 will hold its 20-year reunion on Saturday, Aug. 23 at Roma's of Garden City. Tickets are \$30 per person. For tickets and more information, visit jghs88reunion.com.

Constituent hours

The staff of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will hold office hours in several locations. The time is set aside so that the citizens have the opportunity to speak with a staff member one on one regarding any federal issue that they might have.

Tuesday, June 3, office hours are 9-10 a.m. at Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Redford Community Center, 1-2 p.m. at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Westland senior Friendship Center. Office hours for Thursday, June 5, are 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Summit Senior Center, 11 a.m. to noon at the Northville Senior Center, 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Van Buren September Days Senior Center. The congressman has two offices in Livonia and Milford the district to serve constituents. The Livonia office can be reached by calling (734) 632-0314 and the Milford office is available at (248) 685-9495.

63 tickets issued in Click It campaign

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Scores of Westland motorists are paying fines for seat-belt violations after being stopped by local police officers during the first round of a crackdown that continues this week.

Officers pulled over 63 drivers and issued tickets for seat-belt violations during a four-day period that ended last Thursday, police Sgt. Ron Kroll said.

Police focused their attention on busy intersections like Ford and Wayne, Ford and Newburgh, Warren and Newburgh, and Cherry Hill and Wayne, said Kroll, who heads up the Westland Police Department's traffic bureau.

Police focused their attention on busy intersections like Ford and Wayne, Ford and Newburgh, Warren and Newburgh and Cherry Hill and Wayne, said Kroll, who heads up the Westland Police Department's traffic bureau.

The second round of the latest Click It or Ticket campaign began Tuesday and will end Friday, as local officers using federal dollars participate in a national campaign aimed at saving lives by enforcing seat-belt laws.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the use of seat belts saved an estimated 15,383 lives nationwide in 2006, alone — and 75,000 lives from

2002 through 2006.

The NHTSA cited Michigan as having the second-highest seat-belt usage in the nation, with 94.3 percent of motorists buckling up. Only the state of Washington ranked higher.

In Westland, Kroll said the number of motorists ticketed during the Click It or Ticket campaign has declined over the years because more people are obeying laws.

"The numbers are down, and that's a good thing," he said.

Although it's all part of a national campaign backed by a federal grant, local officers still drew sporadic criticism from ticketed motorists who called the effort "a waste of our time and money," Kroll said.

Locally, the campaign actually brings in money. Westland 18th District Court Administrator David Wiacek has said fines for violating seat-belt laws are \$65.

With 63 tickets issued last week, the amount raised could top the \$4,000 mark.

Police acknowledge that some motorists will continue to complain when they get tickets. But officials say the fines are easy to avoid: Simply buckle up.

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2 JROTC cadets earn honors

Two members of the JROTC program at John Glenn High School were recognized for their outstanding performance in their duties as cadets.

Cadet Capt. Jaqueline Garrett, special projects officer, received the Daughters of the American Revolution-ROTC Medal and certificate recognizing her efforts as an officer. Cadet Capt. Theresa Barnhart, battalion S-2 arms and security officer, was awarded the Daughters of the American Colonists award certificate for her work.

The awards were presented during the JROTC awards ceremony, held May 10 at the high school. The cadets performed their ceremonial drills and received awards as part of the program, then gathered with their families for a cookout lunch.

Garrett received her award from Kathy Gibson, civil defense chair for the

Monguagon Chapter of the DAR. She is the daughter of Scott Garrett and Mireya Sanchez Condash. Garrett plans to attend community college to obtain a nursing degree then join the Peace Corps.

According to Garrett, the JROTC program instilled morals, taught her how to respect others, show her leadership skills and how to step up to her responsibilities.

Mary Ellen Vangoff, JROTC chair, presented Barnhart with her award for outstanding service on behalf of the Detroit chapter of the DAC. The daughter of Clayton and Beth Barnhart, she plans to join the U.S. Air Force and advance to an officer. She also plans to attend college in San Antonio, Texas.

She said the JROTC opened the door to many opportunities and made her "a better leader."



John Glenn High School JROTC instructor Sgt. Major Benjamin Brown is joined by JROTC Capt. Jaqueline Garrett (left) and Capt. Theresa Barnhart who received awards from the Daughters of the American Revolution and Daughters of the American Colonists respectively.

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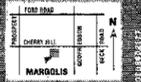
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| <p>Westland I 1660 Venoy Rd. N. of Michigan Ave. 734.326.7777</p> | <p>Westland II 39201 Joy Rd. E. of I-275 734.454.9838</p> | <p>Westland III 35700 Hunter Ave. W. of Wayne Rd. 734.728.8670</p> |

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Collection mixes food and diamonds

Time is running out for Garden City residents to make donations to a food drive being sponsored by Orin Jewelers.

The food drive, which benefits the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit, runs through Saturday, May 31. People are invited to bring canned food to Orin Jewelers' Garden City or Northville stores during their Anniversary Sale and receive "Diamond Point Certificates." The certificates are part of a contest in which six prizes will be awarded to the top six participants who save up the most Diamond Points. The prizes, which will be given out in each store, have a total value of more than \$10,000.

Participants will receive 200 Diamond points for each nonperishable canned or packaged food item donated and 400 Diamond Points to be applied towards their Diamond Points total for each canned fish, meat, or peanut butter item donated. Now through Saturday, individuals who make a donation are invited to pop a balloon to receive an additional 10-20 percent off already discounted sale prices and to obtain extra Diamond Points.

"The food drive to benefit the Capuchin Soup Kitchen is an engaging way for the community to get involved in gathering much-needed food for needy families. So far, we have been able to provide the Capuchin Soup



Orin Mazzoni Jr. (second from right) and employees of Orin Jewelers in Garden City show off some of the food that's being collected for the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit as part of an anniversary sale.

Kitchen with an entire truckload of non-perishable food items," said Orin Mazzoni Jr., owner of Orin Jewelers. "The prizes are simply a rewarding way to say thank you."

The prizes, which will be awarded at 5 p.m. Saturday, May 31, include a 1 carat total weight, 14k yellow gold Journey diamond necklace, a 14k white gold and diamond bracelet, an 18-inch 14k yellow gold pearl necklace with matching earrings, men's and ladies' matching Orin Signature watches, a Frederic Duclos sterling silver Venetian glass necklace with matching earrings and a Lorenzo sterling silver and 18k yellow gold green amethyst ring.

No purchase is necessary to participate and all of the prizes are on display

in the store. Donations will be accepted at both Orin locations during regular store hours - 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Founded in 1933, Orin Jewelers is recognized locally for its diverse selection of jewelry fashions and quality diamonds, as well as its knowledgeable staff and customer service. Orin Jewelers is a member of the American Gem Society™ and the only Garden City and Northville-area jeweler to carry IJO's Master Jeweler distinction.

Orin Jewelers has locations at 29317 Ford at Middlebelt in Garden City and 101 East Main St. in Northville. For more information, call (734) 422-7030 or visit them online at www.orinjewelers.com.

Conference looks at ways to improve health and safety

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc of Westland is inviting local community members and businesses to attend the Michigan Environmental Compliance Conference to learn about ways to improve environmental health and safety standards.

The conference will take place on Tuesday, June 17, at Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

Sponsored by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), there will be more than 20 different sessions will be offered ranging from proper waste management to environmentally friendly ways to expand facilities. An expert exhibit area will also be offered to provide attendees one-on-one assistance with DEQ agency representatives.

"I encourage our community to take advantage of this opportunity and attend the conference," said the Westland Democrat. "The natural resources we enjoy

in Michigan are a vital part of what makes our community so special. By working together to strengthen our environmental consciousness, we will attract more visitors and investments to our community - and that will create more jobs for our workers."

For more information about the conference or to register online, visit the DEQ Web site at www.michigan.gov/deq-workshops. The registration fee for the conference is \$100 and includes refreshments, lunch and workshop materials.

For questions, contact the DEQ at (517) 373-0607 or LeBlanc's office toll-free at (888) 737-5325.

"As the Great Lakes State, we must be especially vigilant in protecting our precious resources," LeBlanc said. "Programs such as this educate our residents and help ensure that our community is a great place to live, work and raise our families."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, Michigan Chapter, has appointed Paula K. Morning of Westland as Take Steps Walk manager and Ellen L. Sherwood as Team Challenge Endurance Manager, according to Bernie Riker, the executive director.

Morning is responsible

for the strategic planning, implementation and creative thinking to execute CFA's new walk campaign, Take Steps for Crohn's & Colitis. The position will provide leadership, vision and support to Michigan Chapter volunteers to help maximize the growth potential of the campaign.

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan has named Gary Bulson as a member of the board for The Village of Westland Senior Living Community.

Bulson, the owner of Men On The Move Inc., serves on the Westland Chamber of Commerce and is currently the chairman of the board. He also is the vice president

of S.P.A.R.K. Foundation and vice president of the Westland Historical Society.

Bulson, a Westland resident, is a member of the Westland Rotary Club, American Legion, Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce, Livonia Chamber of Commerce and the Detroit & Downriver Business Association.

2 officers honored by airport authority

A Westland resident was one of two police officers recognized by the Wayne County Airport Authority for graduating at the top of their class following recent 16-week basic training programs conducted by the Wayne County Regional Police Training Academy.

Airport Police Officers Ian Wong of Westland and Thomas Zahina of Milan received commendation for outstanding achievement from the Airport Authority Board.

"The Authority is exceptionally proud of Officers Wong and Zahina for individually finishing at the top of their classes," said WCAA CEO Lester Robinson. "Public safety and security is the Airport Authority's top priority, and we applaud both officers."

Wong, a two-year veteran of the Airport Police, received The Michigan Commission on

Law Enforcement Standards Outstanding Performance Award for finishing top among his May 2008 Academy class of 39 students.

Zahina, a one-year veteran, was recognized in late 2007 with two honors - the Academic Achievement Award and the Douglas Pederson Scholarship Award for his top performance among his 38-member November 2007 Academy class.

Both are assigned to the Airport Police Communications Unit. Both officers have requested and are awaiting assignments to the Patrol Unit. The Wayne County Airport Authority Police Department is an independent police agency responsible for law enforcement at Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW) and Willow Run Airport.



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**STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF WAYNE
CITY OF GARDEN CITY**

ORDINANCE NO 08-005

EVICION PROPERTY DISPOSAL ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY PROVIDING FOR THE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF AN EVICTED TENANT'S PERSONAL PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. USE OF DUMPSTER; REMOVAL OF EVICTED TENANT'S PROPERTY.

Upon a tenant's eviction by court order:

(a) The property owner or operator shall, concurrent with the eviction order, place and use or cause to be placed and used, for disposal of the tenant's personal property, a dumpster(s) of sufficient size to hold the tenant's household furniture and goods, on the private area of the owner or operator's property, only, and not on any public area adjacent to the owner or operator's property;

(b) The tenant's personal property shall be placed and disposed of, only, in the dumpster(s) required by this Ordinance, provided, that the dumpster(s) shall be of the type which will allow access from its side as opposed to access solely through the top of the container;

The dumpster(s) required by this Ordinance shall be removed from the owner or operator's property within forty-eight (48) hours of its placement.

SECTION 2. VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

Unless otherwise provided, any person, corporation, partnership or any other legal entity who violates the provisions of this Ordinance may, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or imprisoned for not more than ninety (90) days, or both, at the discretion of the court.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.

If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person, firm, corporation, legal entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, said judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to the legislative intent of this body that the Ordinance is severable, and that the Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provision not have been included in this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. REPEAL.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

All rights and duties which have matured, penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. PUBLICATION.

The Clerk of the City of Garden City shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Garden City at its regular meeting called and held on the 19th day of May, 2008, and was ordered to be given publication in the manner required by law.

ALLYSON BETTIS, Clerk/Treasurer

Adopted: May 19, 2008
Published: May 29, 2008

Observer

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**CITY OF WESTLAND
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN - FINAL STATEMENT
FOR THE 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) and HOME
PROGRAMS**

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Westland anticipates receiving an estimated \$1,057,158 of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and \$319,491 of HOME funds for the 2008 fiscal year (July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009) and has prepared an Annual Action Plan for the program period. The Westland City Council approved the use of funds at its regular meeting on May 19, 2008. In addition to the anticipated grant amounts, the City of Westland will use \$65,000 CDBG program income and \$35,000 HOME program income and reprogrammed funds.

2008/2009 USE OF CDBG AND HOME FUNDS
CDBG Program Funds \$1,122,158
(\$1,057,158 + \$65,000 Program Income):

| | |
|--|-----------|
| CDBG Administration | \$225,411 |
| Rehabilitation Administration | \$181,510 |
| Housing Rehabilitation | \$97,505 |
| Senior Programs | \$165,000 |
| Hegira Programs | \$4,000 |
| First Step | \$4,000 |
| Youth Assistance | \$30,000 |
| Outreach Ordinance Code Compliance | \$95,000 |
| Carver Sub. Fire | \$87,650 |
| N'hood Resource/Code Compliance Officer | \$114,000 |
| City Projects | \$100,082 |
| Potential projects: Fire Station No. 3 improvements, Friendship Center improvements, Norwayne water main/street improvements | |
| Samuel B. Ware Community Center | \$15,000 |
| Family Resource Center | \$3,000 |

HOME Program Funds \$354,491
(\$319,491 + \$10,000 Program Income + \$25,000 Reprogrammed Funds)

| | |
|--|-----------|
| HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program | \$114,464 |
| HOME Administration | \$31,939 |
| Set-Aside to Non-Profit Housing Organization | \$125,000 |
| Liberty Hill Housing Development | |
| Housing Rehabilitation | \$83,088 |
| HUD \$1 Foreclosure Project | |

Other Programs
Administration of the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
Administration of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program
Provide referrals to the homeless and persons with special needs for shelter and other available services.

WILLIAM R. WILD, Mayor
City of Westland

Published: May 29, 2008

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
PROPOSED 2008-09 BUDGET
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008**

Please take notice that, on June 9, 2008 at 7 o'clock p.m. at 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan, the Board of Education of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2008-09 budget.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2008-09 budget until after the public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2008-09 budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

MARTHA K. PITSENBARGER, Secretary

Published: May 25 & 29, 2008.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
Monday, June 9, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 9, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the proposed 2008 Tax Levy and Rate which is on file and can be viewed in the City Clerk's Office.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
2008 Tax Levy and Rate**

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Garden City Council to authorize the 2008 Tax Millage for all assessed property in the City of Garden City for the purpose of collecting sufficient funds to meet the needs of the services performed by the City; and

WHEREAS, the levy of said millage rate must be accomplished by ordinance, and

WHEREAS, this specific enactment is not permanent in nature and need not be compiled in the City Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Garden City hereby adopt the following form for the 2008 Tax Millage Rate:

THE CITY COUNCIL HEREBY LEVIES:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| General Fund Operating | 13.8403 Mills |
| Central Wayne County Incinerator | 0.0000 Mills |
| Judgment Debt Service | 1.8171 Mills |
| Refuse Collection | 2.7793 Mills |
| | <u>189018.4367 Mills</u> |

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

ALLYSON BETTIS
City Clerk-Treasurer

Posted: May 22, 2008
Published: May 29, 2008

KINDS OF KINDERGARTEN



- **Farmington:** Traditional half-day, full-day pilot at four schools; free full-day program starts in the fall.
- **Avondale:** Traditional half-day; full-day option for fee.
- **Berkley:** Free, full-day kindergarten starting next fall.
- **Birmingham:** Traditional half day; 2 tuition-based extended day programs.
- **Bloomfield Hills:** Traditional half-day with extended day for a fee.
- **Clawson:** Free, full-day kindergarten.
- **Garden City:** Traditional half-day program.
- **Livonia:** Traditional half-day program.
- **Plymouth-Canton:** Traditional half-day program.
- **Redford Union:** Half-day only. They are considering full day.
- **Rochester:** Traditional half-day program; all-day, alternate-day at one school.
- **Royal Oak:** Full-day program starting next year.
- **Southfield:** Free, full-day kindergarten for all pupils.
- **South Redford:** Full-day only.
- **Troy:** Traditional half-day; full-day "enrichment day care" option for fee.
- **Walled Lake:** Full-day, alternate day program; full-day "enrichment" offered for fee.
- **Wayne-Westland:** Traditional half-day; full-day "enrichment" option for fee. All day program at seven elementaries. Kindergarten magnet program for developmentally young 5-year-olds.
- **West Bloomfield:** Traditional half-day; full-day option for fee.



These days, kindergarten spans a broad spectrum of activities

BY DIANE K. BERT
CORRESPONDENT

Expectations have changed in the 20 years Birmingham Harlan Elementary School teacher Nancy Singer has been teaching kindergarten. Formerly the emphasis was on socialization, letter recognition and name recognition.

Today, beginning reading skills are introduced with phonics, sight words and "chunk words." Chunk words are words with a group of letters to which a beginning letter is added to make a word, such as in, pin, win, tin, etc.

"Children are on the cusp of reading as they enter. I can start at that point and lead them into reading. All of my students can read some words," Singer says. "Each student composed a simple book, also. Reading strategies and comprehension are taught."

Art, music, science, social studies and math are also incorporated into Birmingham's kindergarten curriculum. Each day, learning centers are set up. Children move from center to center, recording the completion of the activity. Parent volunteers help at some of the centers. Singer usually provides individual attention at the reading/writing center. Parents are taught teaching strategies as they help.

Parent involvement is outstanding at Harlan. "I have never asked for anything that I didn't receive. The parents are wonderful," Singer says.

One parent remarked, "This is the hardest thing I have ever done," as she worked at a center. She had added respect for the complex and challenging role of the teacher.

The morning begins in this kindergarten with the familiar routine of hanging



Kindergartners Mark Wischmeyer (left) and Zachary Kozlowski built an early human camp site as part of the activities at Birmingham Harlan Elementary School.

up jackets, putting snacks in the appropriate place, placing the attendance tag in the school slot. "There is a great comfort in knowing and following routines," Singer says.

After a time for selecting and reading their own books chosen from the 300 available in the classroom library, the children move to the brightly colored carpet for group time.

As Singer reads from three giant books, a chorus of voices reads along. She gives clues and encouragement to help children sound out unfamiliar words.

The activities of the day are introduced with talk about the science activity, measuring worms (real ones), fractions of one-half and one-third. The science curriculum emphasizes observation and using the five senses.

The math curriculum encourages chil-

dren to be lifelong mathematical thinkers. Problem solving occurs daily. Graphing, measuring and fractions happen naturally.

Throughout the year, the children have been learning the alphabet and singing alphabet songs. This morning, they rehearsed three songs to perform for their parents. "Minnie Mouse Minds her Manners" was one song accompanied by gestures and motions.

Snack time began with the use of hand sanitizers. Children chatted as they ate the snacks, which they brought for the day.

The class was divided into three groups for reading time. Singer moved from table to table to work with each group. Each child worked on a zoo book, inserting words and creating a page and coloring the pictures.

Outdoor recess provided a chance for gross motor physical activity and fresh air.

Children could select their play activity toward the end of the morning. Busy hands built Lego creations, some played in the housekeeping area, while some worked on their books.

Show and tell ended the morning. It remains an important part of kindergarten. Students have a designated day each week to bring an item. Added thinking opportunities occur as the children give three clues about their item, which is out of sight. Some unusual surprises have included a shark tooth and a pineapple plant growing a new pineapple.

The breadth and depth of the kindergarten curriculum provide an enriched learning experience for the young children.

Bill Blackwell, interim principal at Harlan, acknowledges that kindergarten is an important year: "This year lays the foundation for their future learning."

KINDERGARTEN

FROM PAGE A1

"Of all the things that I've seen and learned and researched since I've been here (in Lansing) ... it's that children, given the opportunity to learn early, have an incredible opportunity to make them more successful in the future," said Rep. Marc Coriveau (D-Northville Township). "Every dollar that we invest in a child early pays off in the future."

Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi), a former teacher who sits on the Senate Education Committee, doesn't dispute that. She's just not sure all-day kindergarten is the way to go. She's authored legisla-

tion to get kids in school earlier and to offer extra help in the early years for those who fall behind.

"A significant number of children at the age of 5 are not attending school," she said. "If kids begin to fall behind, they do so early. And not to address the all-important school academics and support for our youngest children is very unfair and is leading to what we are seeing now."

Many districts in Oakland County are already moving toward full-day kindergarten. Brian Whiston, Oakland Schools' director of Government and Community Services, said they aren't seeking additional funding. Still, he said some districts will

require more space and certainly more teachers.

"We've told them in both the House and Senate we support (the legislation)," Whiston said. "Even if they don't, we're going to move toward it anyway, at least in Oakland County."

Wayne County, where there is great financial disparity from one district to another, is taking a wait-and-see approach, said Tracey Wright, spokesperson for the Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency. She said there is no groundswell to switch to all-day kindergarten, although some districts are.

"They think there are additional kids who would come to

the public schools," Wright said. But in some other districts, "It would be a cost burden because they would have additional space, staff and equipment costs."

For legislation to pass, it will have to avoid penalizing districts that voluntarily offer full-day kindergarten, such as providing new money to districts making the switch only after they are ordered to do so.

"Leveling the playing field is the way I look at it," said state Rep. Tim Melton (D-Auburn Hills), chair of the House Education Committee.

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WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

Researchers have found no downside to full-day kindergarten. But opinions vary in Lansing as to whether it should be mandatory in Michigan.

"I am sympathetic to the schools that are indicating that they are not prepared in terms of funding to do this," said Rep. Marc Coriveau (D-Northville), a member of the House Education Committee. "That does not mean that once the bill is passed, that there

would be trouble or any opposition."

"I'm not sure this legislation isn't in search of a problem," said Sen. Nancy Cassis, (R-Novi), a member of the Senate Education Committee. "I think this should remain parental choice. ... Some children really are not ready for a full day anyway. They develop at different stages. ... I think more schools could be more proactive in certain areas where they're seeing a number of children waiting until they're 6, if that is indeed the case."

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Sulayman Al-Bassam Theatre
Richard III - An Arab Tragedy
Based on *Richard III* by William Shakespeare
Directed by Sulayman Al-Bassam
THU-SUN | MAR 19-22
Power Center

Commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company as part of its "Complete Works" Festival, this engrossing Arab adaptation of *Richard III* comes from Kuwait. The play unfolds within the hothouse, feudal atmosphere of desert places in an oil-rich kingdom. In this world of tribal allegiances, family in-fighting, and absolute power, the questions of leadership, religion, and foreign intervention that are at the heart of Shakespeare's play take on powerful new meanings in a modern Arab-Islamic context. Shown only at UMS and the Kennedy Center.

The Performing Arts of the Arab World series is supported in part by **TAQA New World, Inc; The Mosaic Foundation, Washington DC; and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan and Bustan al-Funun Foundation for Arab Arts.**
Additional promotional support provided by **The Arab American News and Arab Detroit.**

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From 8:30-5 pm

This offer is intended for people who have dental needs but are unable to afford the cost of treatment.

No advance appointments will be made. Patients will be given a time for treatment when they arrive and will be seen on a first come first served basis. Please arrive early to be guaranteed an appointment. We will see the first 120 people and more if time allows.

Patients must be at least 12 years of age or older in order to be seen and they must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian if they are under the age of 18. Free treatment will include exams, x-rays, cleanings, fillings, extractions, and pain control.

For more information about our office please visit our website
www.CantonDentists.com

or call
734.981.4040

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.

MAY

Suicide prevention conference

Faith-based interfaith event 9 a.m. Thursday, May 29, at Oakland Schools, 2111 Pontiac Lake Rd., Waterford. Pre-registration required, and begins at 8:30 a.m. Donation is \$10 at door. For details and registration forms, visit www.jjlmf.com or www.ocspc.org. Questions send e-mail to maryann@jjlmf.com or (248) 258-6693.

Summer music ministry

Thursday, May 29 (Dorinda Cox, soprano, gospel), June 19 (People's Ringers from Milan), and July 10 (Sci Ridge Brass Quintet), dinner at 6 p.m. for \$6, concert at 7 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730. Hymn sings May 25, July 6, Aug. 10, Sept. 7. Family Choir all ages are invited to sing at 9 a.m. rehearsal and then morning service June 22, July 27, Aug. 24, and Sept. 7. All are welcome to music events.

Family night in the park

Free food and music 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 30, at Heritage Park Amphitheater at The Summit of Canton. Features the First Baptist Church of Plymouth musicians. In case of rain, event will take place at the church, 45000 N. Territorial, between Sheldon and Beck. Call (734) 455-2300.

Concert

Featuring Marie Bellet 7-9 p.m. Saturday, May 31, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Tickets \$5, refreshments provided. Call (734) 425-5950. Bellet is a wife and mother of 9, who has written and recorded 4 albums of song celebrating marriage and the family.

Bethany Suburban West

Bethany Together Dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, May 31, Don Hubert V.F.W. Hall 27345 Schoolcraft (I-96 service drive), east of Inkster Rd., Redford. Admission \$15. For information, call (586) 264-0284.

Seekers of spiritual intelligence

Beacon Hill Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) explores the journey to an emotionally mature church during the 1 p.m. Sunday worship service in May at St. Michael Lutheran Church Chapel, 7000 N. Sheldon, south of Warren; Canton (enter through the south double doors next to the play area) For information, call (313) 402-6900 or (313) 806-PRAY. Send e-mail to beaconhillccdc@aol.com.

UPCOMING

God at work in Uganda

With guest preacher Rev. Justus Miwanda, executive director of the I.N. Network Uganda at the June 1 early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service will be at the Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark, between Lyndon and I-96 service drive. Call (248) 442-0422.

Baccalaureate church service

10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 1, at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, west of Canton Center, in Canton: All 2008 graduates of high school, college, or technical school are invited to attend this service in their honor, and are asked to wear caps and gowns. A light refreshment and fellowship follows the service. For information, call Robin at (734) 459-6950.

Hawaiian luau

5 p.m. Sunday, June 1, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Theme is Outrigger Island. Call (734) 464-6722.

Catholic singles potluck picnic

For unattached single Catholics, ages

30-59, noon Sunday, June 8, at Lower Huron Metro Park, Belleville. Bring your own beverage (no alcohol) and a dish to pass. Cost \$5/person plus park entrance (\$4/car). RSVP to Kathleen by June 6 at (734) 657-7750 or CatholicSinglesNYE@comcast.net.

Parish revitalization seminar

Sponsored by Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) 1:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, June 7, at St. Thomas Orthodox Church, 29150 10 Mile, Farmington Hills. Entitled Demythologizing Church Growth: Five Common Myths about Church Growth, and How We Can Overcome Them, conducted by the Rev. Jonathan Ivanoff, secretary of the Department of Evangelization of the Orthodox Church in America. The seminar is an introductory session. If it generates sufficient interest, the COCC will sponsor a complete series of seminars on the subject of parish revitalization. No charge. To reserve a seat, call (734) 422-0278 or send e-mail to paschbaaks@sbcglobal.net.

Fund raiser

Follows the 9:30 a.m. Sunday, June 8 service, potluck and silent auction to raise money for a church member, at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. For reservations, call (734) 421-7249.

Antique/classic car show

Presented by Crosspointe Meadows Church, featuring cars from the Ford and Mercury Restorers Club noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, June 8, at the church on Meadowbrook Rd, south of 13 Mile. Free hot dogs, brauts, hamburgers, chips, pop, and water, free raffle for fun prizes. As part of the Car Show, visitors are welcome to take a tour of the church's new location. For more information, call (248) 669-9400.

Patriotic pops concert

7 p.m. Sunday, June 8, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Ward Chancel Choir and Orchestra, Handbells, Ensembles and Children's

Choir present American favorites and a salute to U.S. Armed Forces. Child care provided through age 4. No admission charge. For details, call (248) 374-7400.

Summer camp

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Program is currently taking registrations for Summer Camp from June 9 to Aug. 22. The center is open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for ages 18 months to 12 years. For more information, call (734) 513-8413 or drop 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia.

Evolutionary presentation

Rev. Michael Dowd, author of the new book, Thank God for Evolution, (Viking/Penguin), brings his cosmic gospel back to the Detroit-area. Dowd, America's Evolutionary Evangelist, gives a 90-minute presentation. Thank God for Evolution: How The Marriage of Science and Religion Will Transform Your Life and Our World, at the 10 a.m. Sunday service June 15, and 7 p.m. Monday, June 16, at UU Farmington, 25301 Halsted, Farmington. Call (248) 478-7272.

Rainforest adventure

Vacation Bible Schqol 6-8:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, June 16-20, at King Lutheran Church, 9300 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Ages 3 through sixth grade welcome. Theme relates crafts, songs, games, snacks and Bible study. Registration is \$10, due by June 4. For more information, call (248) 767-4966.

Vacation Bible school

This year will be held with a camping setting 9:15 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday, June 16-20, for all children ages 3 to 12, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. Theme is Jesus, Our Forever Friend! Parents may register their children by filling out the online form at www.holycrosslvonia.org. Children could also register Monday, June 16. Visitors welcome.

Cosmic City

Vacation Bible School 9 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday, June 16-20, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth. A fun-filled free event for kids entering kindergarten through entering sixth grade. Call (734) 459-9550, ext. 26.

Vacation Bible school

6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, June 16-20, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Theme is Outrigger Island. Call (734) 464-6722.

Third Un-Annual Art Show

Does art have Buddha nature? 7-10 p.m. Friday, June 20, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at Still Point Zen Buddhist Temple 4347 Trumbull Avenue (at Canfield), Detroit. A portion of proceeds support Still Point. All welcome. Artists include Still Point members, invited guests and juried artists. Poetry reading opening night 9-10 p.m. under the stars (weather permitting). For details, call 313 645 9860 or (313) 580-6825, or send e-mail to stillpointart08@gmail.com.

Bethany Suburban West

Monthly Breakfast Meeting 9:30 a.m. Saturday, June 21, at Leon's 30149 Ford Rd., Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Call (734) 513-9479.

50th anniversary celebration

Former members and friends are being invited back to Grace Moravian Church in Westland 10:30 a.m. Sunday, June 22. A pot luck dinner will follow the service at 31133 Hively. If you are planning to stay for the meal, call Beverly Moore at (734) 722-4102. The Moravian denomination celebrates 550 years since it was founded in 1457. On July 13 former pastor Rev. Allen Bergmann will be the guest speaker. A pot luck follows that service as well.

Clothing bank

Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank is open 10 a.m. to noon on 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 information, call (734) 404-2480 or visit www.CantonCF.org.

Rummage sale

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 10-12, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Vacation Bible school

9 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday, July 14-18, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Cost \$25 for the first child, \$20 thereafter, includes music CD. Call (734) 464-0211.

Grandparents/kids weekend

July 25-27, at FaHoio Camp & Conference Center, Grass Lake, sponsored by ReMarried Ministries of Ward Church. The event is a retreat for grandparents and grandchildren, and includes two nights lodging, five meals, inspirational teaching by Barbara George-Howard, a wagon ride and bon fire, water blob and trampoline, go carts, initiatives, and lots of fun. Costs are \$283 per grandparent couple or \$154 per person, 16 grandchildren ages 6-17 \$90 each, 5 year olds free. Call (248) 374-7400.

Vacation Bible school

Registrations due July 27 for Aug. 4-7 VBS (3-years to fifth grade), at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. The theme is God's Big Backyard and focuses on service to others. Call (734) 422-0149. Cost \$10.

Tiny Tots Preschool

Now enrolling for 2008-2009, openings for 3 and 4-year olds at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Cost \$25 for the first child, \$20 for each child thereafter. Call (734) 464-0211.

ONGOING

Time change

Come to hear about the love of Jesus Christ for you 9:30 a.m. Sundays (May 25 to Sept. 7) at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. For information, visit www.livonfaith.org.

Sunday worship

The early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive.

Reformed Protestant services

The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism are preached by the 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, Canton. For information, call (734) 402-7186, send e-mail to sean.humby@att.net, or visit www.members.aol.com/rsiworship/detroit.html.

Sanskrit chanting

An ongoing, weekly class taught by Ania Kocpzyński, 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, at Renaissance Unity, 11200 E. 11 Mile, Warren. No pre-registration required. A free-will collection is taken at the session. For information, call (586) 353-2300 or visit www.renaissanceunity.org.

Church schedule

Garden City Presbyterian Church continues its 10 a.m. Sunday worship service with traditional hymns, scripture readings and choral music (fellowship follows). Youth Sunday School and nursery care also available at 10 a.m. Adult Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. Informal gathering 6 p.m. every Sunday with scriptures and discussion at the church on Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Rd. Call (734) 421-7620.

Single Place Ministry

Single Place Ministry continues to meet 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 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is \$5.

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.

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. Monday and Wednesday. Cost is \$5 per class. Drops in welcome. For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

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 Road, 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.

Couple prayer series

St. Colette Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia, is offering a Couple Prayer Series (www.coupleprayer.org) for married or engaged couple, began 7-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, in the Activity Center Hall. For registration information, call Mary Ellen at (734) 464-4435.

ENDOW

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia hosts two different sessions of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. Based on Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women, the group meets 9:30 a.m. Thursdays (began Jan. 10). The second session is called Different Times, Abiding Dignity and deals with a woman's inherent dignity at all stages of her life from 0 to 100. The group meets 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays (began Jan. 8). Both groups meet in the convent basement meeting room. Women of all ages and faiths welcome. There is a \$60 charge for materials, but no woman will be turned away because of inability to pay. Register by calling (734) 261-4555, Ext. 207 or online at www.endowonline.com. St. Michael's complex is at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia.

ENDOW

Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women sessions 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, to March 6, (explores Pope John Paul II's Mulleris Dignitatem - On the Dignity and Vocation of Women), in Bixmal Hall church building at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Second session is 7-9 p.m. Mondays to March 3, (explores Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women), in conference room in parish office. Registration required for both sessions. \$60 for materials for each session. Contact Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or send e-mail to mtschmidt@sbcglobal.net.

Day of service

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

New schedule

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

Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday, Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship at 10:30 a.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call (313) 278-5755.

Worship

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

Worship service

10:45 a.m. Sundays, Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship, Youth Group 5-7 p.m. and Catechism for Grown-ups 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile. For information, call (734) 425-2800.

F.I.R.E. ministries

With theme scripture, He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire (Luke 3:16), is organizing in Livonia at

Please see CALENDAR, A7

Passages
Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances
1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232
e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com
View Obits On-line@www.hometownlife.com

ANNA CATHERINE FULKERSON
Passed away May 23, 2008 at the age of 75. Beloved wife of the late Donald. Dear mother of Kathy Fulkerson and Donald Fulkerson. Dear sister of Vito Sambro. Mrs. Fulkerson was a life long resident of Plymouth. She was active with the Plymouth Goodfellow and a former member of Plymouth Eastern Star. She was an excellent candy maker and baker. A Memorial Service will be held Saturday May 31, 2008, 12 noon at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth. Friends may visit beginning at 11am. Memorials may be given to the Plymouth Good Fellows or The American Lung Association.

DAVID ALLEN ENGEL
Age 65, Farmington Hills, MI, passed away May 23, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

DORIS NELSON
Age 87, Farmington, MI, passed away May 22, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

JOHN A. DEAN
Age 84, of Birmingham, formerly of Allen Park, died Saturday, May 24, 2008 at Brookdale Senior Living. Troy. He was born June 12, 1923 in Detroit. Mr. Dean was a decorated WWII veteran who served in the European Campaign with the famed 90th Division, known as the "Tough Hombres". He was also co-owner of the Superior Fish Co. of Royal Oak until his retirement. Mr. Dean was predeceased by his much beloved wife, Virginia (Zaborski) of 47 years and brothers, Edward, Walter and Harold. Mr. Dean is survived by his children, Michael (Bridget) Dean, David (Julie) Dean, Judith (Tony) Fleming and Kevin (Melanie) Dean; sister, Theresa Dean; brother-in-law, Raymond Zaborski; and ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Visitation Friday 2-8 p.m. with a 7 p.m. rosary at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Rd. (4 blks. E of Woodward), Royal Oak. Saturday in state 9:30 a.m.-until time of mass 10 a.m. at Holy Name Catholic Church, 645 Woodland, Birmingham, MI 48009. In lieu of flowers, memorials to SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake, MI 48324. Share your memories at: www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

EMMA A. KNOUSE
Age 91, of Marshall and formerly of Garden City, died Saturday, May 24, 2008. She was born on January 15, 1917 in Moonrun, PA to Joseph and Mary Knouse. Emma had been employed by the Garden City Hospital, working in the kitchen for over 20 years. She retired in 1982. Survived by nephews, Lewis (Dorla) Christ of Marshall and George M. Christ of Bay City; nieces, Mary Ann Sustarsic of Moonrun, PA and Sylvia McKenna of O'Leary, OH. Services were held 2:00pm Tuesday, May 17, 2008 at Oakridge Cemetery, Marshall, MI. Arrangements are by the Craig K. Kempf Funeral Home. To leave a personal message, please visit: www.kempffuneralhome.com

MICHAEL JOHN OLSEN
Age 62, Livonia, MI, passed away May 23, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

THADDEUS WOZNIAK
Age 86, Livonia, MI, passed away May 23, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

JOSEPH LEE HAMILTON JR.
Age 42, was born in LaGrange, IL on January 26, 1966. Joe and "the love of his life" Kathleen O'Neill were both killed in a boating accident on May 24, 2008 on Lake St. Clair. He is survived by his daughter Lydia Marie Hamilton, age six. Joe moved to Orchard Lake Michigan at the age of two. He was raised in Milford, Michigan and graduated from Lakeland High School in 1984. He owned and operated Hamilton Concrete Construction for the past 16 years. To know him was to love him. His charisma and tenderness gained him many friends from all walks of life and across many states. Beloved son of Shirley and stepson of Glen Bibbins of Dandridge, TN and cherished son of Joseph and stepson of Millicent Hamilton of Loudon, TN. Brother of Pamela Savedes (Alec) of Howell, MI; stepbrother of Donna Scheidel (Brion) of Canton, MI; and Jeffrey Bibbins of Waxhaw, NC; half-brother of Mark Hamilton of Loudon, TN. Joe leaves behind nieces Alyx Rae Savedes and Alaina Gail Scheidel, and nephew Anthony Joseph Savedes, as well as many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Joe is blessed with many friends who deeply mourn his loss. Visitation Friday, May 30, 2008, 1-4pm and 6-8pm at the Keehn Funeral Home, Brighton (810-229-9871). Funeral service Saturday, May 31, 2008, 10:00am at Brighton Church of the Nazarene, 7679 Brighton Rd., Brighton, with Rev. Ben D. Walls officiating. Final visitation at the church begins at 9:00am. Burial later at Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi. Memorial contributions in Joe's name are requested to Pamela Savedes for the future care of Lydia Marie Hamilton.

JIM CARCLAY
Born 8/13/45 passed away on 5/22/08. Preceded by death Dr. Basil and Beatrice Carclay, and Brother Jack. Survived by Elaine, Daughter Lisa (John) Genbusch, Sons J.R. and Steven Carclay, Grandchildren Jack and Gabrielle Genbusch. Resided in Canton, Michigan and moved to Port St. Lucie, Florida. Donations can be made to Hospice Treasure Cove, 1201 S.E. Indian St., Stuart, Florida 34997. Memorial Services to be held at a later date. Allcounty Funeral Home & Crematory, Stuart, Florida 1-772-692-4055

MARIA C. PETRYKOWSKI (nee) Fenech
May 27, 2008, age 86 of Canton. Wife of the late Leonard. Beloved mother of Gloria (Daniel) Bywalec, Anna Marie (Ronald) Zreppa, and Elaine (Michael) Kelly. Proud grandmother of Dana, Brooke, Nathan, David and Evan. Visitation will be held May 30, 2-9pm, Rosary Service at 7pm at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth, (Btwn Sheldon and Beck. Funeral Mass Sat 10:30am, In State 10am at St. Thomas a'Becket, 555 S Lilley Rd, Canton. Don

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A6

Living Water Church, 11663 Arcola in the Inkster and Plymouth roads area at 7 p.m. Fridays under the leadership of Luke Willis. F.I.R.E. Ministries. For more information, call (734) 425-6360.

New worship schedule

Regular church service 10 a.m. Sundays with Communion and Nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and Faith Forum, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. All visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Sunday worship

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

Worship services

10 a.m. Sundays Divine Liturgy fol-

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

Pancake breakfasts

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

Men's breakfast

Ham & eggs, hash browns, pancakes, and more when you come to the Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at

The Senate Restaurant, located off Haggerty Road between Five Mile and Six Mile in Northville. All men are invited for fellowship and food. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

MOPS meetings

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

Bible studies

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

Mother of nine to sing about family

In honor of all mothers, St. Aidan Catholic Church presents An Evening of Music with Marie Bellet 7-9 p.m. Saturday, May 31, in the church building at 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia.

Bellet is a singer and songwriter, and mother of nine from Tennessee. Her four albums celebrate marriage, motherhood and the family,

and have sold over 35,000 copies. Her sense of humor and insightful messages are sung in her simple folksy style. Bellet's music CDs will be available for purchase after the concert. Refreshments will be provided.

Tickets are \$5 per person, \$20 per family, and can be purchased in advance at the office or at the door. Call (734) 425-5950.



Marie Bellet performs Saturday, May 31, at St. Aidan Catholic Church in Livonia.



Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST

UNITED METHODIST

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI
(between Wayne Rd. & Westland Rd.)
(734) 728-2180
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.
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To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

OUR VIEWS

Relay for Life: Get involved

Westland's annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life is this weekend, and we have to ask: Are you ready to Relay? If you live in the community, the answer should be a huge YES.

This Saturday, 34 teams will spend 24 hours walking around Jaycee Park at Wildwood and Hunter in hopes of raising \$100,000.

This is the American Cancer Society's signature fund-raising event that got its start more than 20 years ago, when one man took it upon himself to raise money for his local ACS office.

But Relay for Life is much more than a walk around a track. It is a time to remember those lost to cancer and celebrate those who have survived. It is a night for people who have shared the same experience to comfort and console one another. Money raised at the event helps accelerate the ACS progress toward a future where cancer doesn't take the lives of friends and family.

The American Cancer Society helps cancer patients and their loved ones navigate the cancer experience — from diagnosis and treatment to life beyond cancer. When cancer strikes, the American Cancer Society can lessen fears and provide inspiration through its many programs and services, services made possible through the donations raised at events like the Relay for Life.

It's a tribute to organizers that 34 teams are participating in the event, and it's a tribute to the community to have so many people willing to give of their time.

The Westland Relay for Life participants are but a few of the more than three million Americans and untold number of people in 23 countries around the world who are taking part in these 24-hour events. Throughout the spring, the teams have been holding fund-raisers and gathering donations, with it all leading up to this weekend's relay.

But they don't want to do their walking in a vacuum. They want the community to come out and be a part of the event, and we agree. We urge residents to stop by the park sometime between 10 a.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday and be a part of the Relay for Life. Cheer on the survivors, celebrate as they walk their victory lap at 4 p.m. Saturday, or pause to remember those who have lost their fight at a candlelight ceremony at 10 p.m. that evening.

Better yet, come early or hang around after those laps to enjoy the food and activities the teams will be offering to continue to raise money.

Each and every one of us has been touched by cancer, whether it is a family member, relative or friend who has had or has succumbed to the disease. Think about them and think about what you can do to help find a cure. Now is as good a time as any to get out and get involved.

We hope to see you at the Relay for Life.

Adequate DEQ funding is essential to protect waters

Anyone who has lived in Michigan for any amount of time can probably tell you how important water is to this state. From the Great Lakes and more than 11,000 inland lakes to the thousands upon thousands of rivers and streams, Michigananders are never very far away from a body of water.

Not only does this resource provide us with some of the finest drinking water in the country, it also provides us with countless recreation opportunities, aids our economy and is home to countless species of wildlife.

Our state lawmakers decided that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) would be the main agency to protect this amazing natural resource and uphold the public trust. However, in recent years the state Legislature has cut funding to the DEQ so severely that the department is finding it difficult to near impossible to perform the duties it is required to do by law. As a result, DEQ officials are proposing turning over a portion of the state's wetlands oversight and Inland Lakes and Streams Act oversight to the federal government.

While this may seem logical to those overseeing the DEQ's dwindling budget, turning over essential oversight of our water resources to the Feds would be a blow to our state.

Currently, the DEQ's Land and Water Management Division is responsible for overseeing most of the programs that are at risk because of inadequate funding. The LWMD's responsibilities include the protection of wetlands, stream banks and bottoms, floodplains, floodways, lake bottomlands and critical dunes. LWMD staff are the ones that go out in the field and determine what impact construction projects have on natural resources. They review permit applications for such activities as filling wetlands, altering stream banks, or building a dock on a lake.

Despite this critical role, the LWMD's budget has been slashed by nearly 30 percent since 2002, which has resulted in a 17-percent drop in staff (23 positions) over the same period. The loss of staff has handicapped the LWMD, and prevented it from fulfilling its responsibilities, according to a DEQ report. During this time, Michigan's waterways have suffered substantial environmental impacts from large projects, and many minor projects that have had a cumulative impact.



LETTERS

Will fight rezoning

As a homeowner on Joy Road east of Newburgh, I am very concerned about the City of Westland compromising the quality of our lifestyle in this neighborhood. I am deeply concerned for the safety of my family as traffic on Joy Road will increase significantly, in addition to more noise and physical pollution.

Development of this area will have an adverse effect on home values that are already suffering. There are numerous sites available elsewhere that are appropriate for the plans proposed by developer Glenn Shaw; the site adjacent to Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church is NOT an appropriate choice and the residents will fight to prevent this from being rezoned.

Nicole Ortiz-Rich
Westland

attendance yet sent acknowledgments. Again thank you for your continued support!

Juanita Francis
Westland

Let them pay

Band together and get ALL of the legislators to BUY their own gasoline, do their own driving, too, in their own cars. If they are to help us, they have to be like us. Right now we are purchasing their gasoline. Let's try to end this abuse of power.

Loretta LaBerge
Westland

Make bean counters happy

The bean counters for the American automakers and many of their suppliers should be happy. They pushed the United Auto Workers into ratifying a nearly 50 percent cut in their hourly wage, pushing new hires into the \$14-15 per hour range. Now who will be able to afford a stripped-down, basic model of any American subcompact?

One solution for married couples is to have the non-working spouse enter the work force, forcing them to hire baby-sitters for their preschoolers and elementary school-age children.

Wait a minute! That will mean that the extra income will only be going to pay for child care, not to pay for the higher gasoline and grocery bills.

Let's call in the bean counters to figure out this one.

Leonard Poger
Westland

Thanks for support

Greetings, everyone. Thank you for your support and those that attended our Community Fund-raiser Celebration Honoring Ashe' Lewis's acceptance to Interlochen Center for the Arts.

Due to the holiday weekend, we were not able to get the full attendance as last year, however, we appreciate the more than 100 people (primarily children) in attendance this year.

The children had a blast and could not believe all the entertainment provided for them and they especially enjoyed the parting gift bags at the end.

Our goal was \$2,500 to raise on that day and we are short \$1,500 to get Ashe' to Interlochen by June 20. The final balance is due immediately. One of the challenges we had, we anticipated more support from the merchants to cover the expenses/entertainment of the event and they were not able to be as generous as in the past, therefore, some of the funds received had to cover the expenses of the event.

We need your assistance to send Ashe' to Interlochen. Please make your donations payable to Interlochen Center for the Arts in the memo area write c/o Ashe' Lewis. We need to finalize the account this week. Please mail it to JFL Diversified, PO Box 1052 Garden City, MI 48136.

We will provide a thank you letter to next week on the results of the event as well as the names of the merchants, members of our network and everyone that showed their support. This is a small token of our appreciation for your support.

Special thanks to members of our network for providing their services: Midwest Marketing, catering; Daryl Rogers, The Videogame Mobile; Craig Kimball aka DJ Mystic, providing the sounds, and The JFL Dance Project, entertainment. Thank you to Westland Police D.A.R.E. Unit and Westland Fire Department for the edutainment.

Also great thanks to our dignitaries in attendance - Westland City Council President James Godbout and Wayne County Commissioner Ronaole Bowman. We appreciate our very own cable station WLND for the media coverage. Thank you to the dignitaries that were not in

Thanks for contributions

Style Masters Salon would like to extend our deepest gratitude for your contributions to our annual Earth Walk. On Saturday, May 4, more than 50 people participated in the walk which supported clean water initiatives on a global scale.

Together, we exceeded our goal and raised \$4,292! These funds will be donated to the Alliance for the Great Lakes, a nonprofit foundation working to preserve, clean and manage our greatest natural resource, Michigan's Great Lakes.

Thank you for participating, both physically and financially, in this most worthy cause!

Melanie Groves
owner
Style Masters Salon

'Green' facts

I just read Hank Borgman's letter to the editor, "Expensive gas is good," and I am appalled at his misstatement of facts. I would like to counter some of his beliefs point by point.

Borgman: "(Global Warming will) increase Michigan's climate by 10

degrees in 1,000 years, saving our heating bills."

Response: Warming the earth will melt the glaciers, which are vital to the earth's natural cycle. This will cause a host of problems throughout the world.

Borgman: "Slant drilling can pump oil from the Great Lakes, oceans, and Alaska, but 'greens' fear an accident."

Response: It is not just fear of accident that keeps people from fighting this practice. There aren't any sites that have enough volume. And have you ever seen what is left at the drilling site when "they're" done drilling? I have and it isn't pretty.

Borgman: "Nuclear power is clean, cheap, safe and feared."

Response: If it is so clean and cheap, what do we do with all the nuclear waste when we're done with it? To this day, there hasn't been any progress on how to safely dispose of this by-product.

Borgman: "Wind and solar power are unreliable."

Response: Yet, Sweden has no problem incorporating this into their energy policy. I thought Americans could do anything using our resources and advanced technology, I guess the Swedes are just smarter than us.

Borgman: "Open land is being plowed into cornfields, raising the cost of both food and fuel."

Response: How does adding more cornfields increase food and fuel costs? More corn would mean more supply thus causing prices to drop. Oil is six times more expensive than it was seven years ago and since everything we use or eat travels thousands of miles on average, it is no wonder prices on these products has increased so much.

Borgman: "Mandating more miles per gallon requires manufacturing small vehicles."

Response: Why is it unprofitable for American car companies, but foreign companies have no problems making a profit?

I have no problem with Mr. Borgman having an opinion on certain issues, but he should clarify using facts. Instead of blaming the "greens," he should try researching, studying, or listening to the other side before jumping to rash opinions.

Bryant Holly
Farmington Hills

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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

Fax:
(734) 459-4224

E-mail:
smason@hometownlife.com

QUOTABLE

"If I understand it right, this is like a think tank. If there's a decision to be made, it's run through the fellows, who look at four or more courses of action and tell them which is the best one. The fellows do the deep thinking for the highest echelons of government."

- Ron Story about the White House Fellows program that his son, Maj. Grayson Story, is a finalist for the class of 2008-09

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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.

Annual budget crisis shows state's leadership fails again

Just when you thought things were awful enough — gas more than \$4 a gallon; auto sales dropping fast; homes facing foreclosure; and the economy in a recession — now comes the bad news.

The nonpartisan and highly respected Citizens Research Council of Michigan (CRC) is predicting — once again — long-term, big-time state budget trouble. Even though the Legislature thrashed and fought most of last year, barely avoiding a state shutdown before finally enacting a new tax package and balancing the budget, it turns out that was only a temporary plug for the collapsing dam.

In fact, little accomplished last year has done anything to relieve the "chronic structural budget deficit." That means the cost increases of state programs will continue to outrun revenues.

Rapidly rising health care costs and our prison system (estimated at a 7.3-percent increase per year) will swamp state finances. The CRC experts estimate budget gaps starting next year which would balloon to a \$6 billion hole in the General Fund by 2017 if nothing is done.

All of which makes it disgraceful that last year's report of the governor's Emergency Financial Advisory Panel was so roundly ignored. The panel, headed by former Govs. Jim Blanchard and Bill Milliken and consisting of some of Michigan's most distinguished leaders, came up with a remarkably tough-minded, far-reaching set of structural reforms designed to cut costs and assure adequate revenues to sustain necessary state programs.

Some examples:

- Cutting corrections expenses, which now at \$2.2 billion a year are more than state spending on our colleges and universities.

- Reducing fringe benefits for state employees, which now exceed by a mile those paid to workers in the private sector.

- Working out better ways for school districts and local government units to collaborate by sharing services and cutting costs.

The devastating new CRC projections should come as no surprise to those familiar with the emergency panel's brief report, which ought to have been mailed to every family in the state. But they will hopefully add urgency to the movement for long-term structural changes in the workings of our state — and help make people realize how necessary those changes are.

By now, the broad outlines are fairly clear. Research by Michigan's Future, Inc., demonstrates that those states with young and highly educated work forces are the ones that are going to prosper in the future. As Lou Glazer says, "Talent trumps taxes." The issue isn't just the number of jobs; it's good jobs, which lead to high and growing family incomes.

In its recently issued report, "Michigan's Defining Moment: A Common Ground Agenda for Michigan's Transformation," the nonpartisan, nonprofit Center for Michigan (of which I am president) called for a talented and globally

As world-changing as this year's election may be nationally, for Michigan it is only a prologue to the really important election two years from now: For us, 2010 will truly be a watershed.

competitive work force, a vibrant economic, a great quality of life and an effective, efficient and accountable government.

Other regional economic development groups — Detroit Renaissance, the Detroit Chamber of Commerce, the West Michigan Strategic Alliance — have all proposed similar strategies.

People are unhappy with the slow pace of change and the continued partisan bickering. Polls published by The Center show that nearly 85 percent of citizens think it's important for lawmakers of both parties to work together in developing solutions to Michigan's problems, while the same number think that's not happening now.

Business leadership, in particular, is increasingly unhappy at the lack of urgency in Lansing. Leaders from the Detroit Renaissance chairman to the Domino's CEO have been warning that time's running out, but, as one said, it's "like screaming into the wind."

And most leaders I talk with agree that the kinds of decisions we make over the decade will play a major role in defining what kind of state Michigan will be over the next 50-75 years.

Truly, we are at a hinge in our history.

What is needed most is the political will to actually set these long-term strategies into place. I've been holding small, off-the-record, confidential dinner meetings with legislators for the past several months. As many as 30 from both parties are deeply troubled at the partisan gridlock in Lansing. They are anxious to work with business and civic leadership to start things moving.

The first step involves the 45 open seats in the House of Representatives that are up for election this fall. Frankly, I don't care which party wins the seats, but I do care a lot that we nominate and elect candidates willing to work together across party lines to reach far-reaching solutions to Michigan's problems.

And as world-changing as this year's election may be nationally, for Michigan it is only a prologue to the really important election two years from now: For us, 2010 will truly be a watershed.

Whether we like it or not, we'll elect an entirely new cast of characters to send to Lansing: the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, will all be new. So will at least 31 out of 38 state senators and more than half of the House, all thanks to term limits.

Politics does matter. And mobilizing citizens to get involved in these elections is the key to getting Michigan moving again.

Phil Power is founder and president of The Center for Michigan, a centrist think tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed here are Power's and do not represent the official views of The Center. Reader comments are welcome at ppower@thecenterformichigan.net.

High school grads, beware of financial aid scams

Congratulations to high school seniors who are graduating and taking the next step in their lives. High school graduates who are continuing their education are in the process of looking for financial aid. Unfortunately, it is also the time of year where scam artists who prey on high school grads looking for financial aid come out of the woodwork.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

One of the more popular is to send high school graduates an e-mail offering all sorts of scholarship offers. The e-mails request no money, rather they ask for certain financial information so it can be forwarded to a variety of scholarship providers.

Many conclude that since no money is exchanged, there is no problem. No so. Many of these so called scholarship-search companies are nothing more than an attempt to steal a student's identity.

Identity theft continues to be a growing problem in America, and the number of cases against teenagers is increasing dramatically. If you receive an unsolicited e-mail offering a college scholarship, you should be very leery.

In addition, if you are asked to provide any sensitive financial information, delete the e-mail. Just because teenagers do not have much established credit or assets does not mean that they are immune from identity theft.

Another scam targeted to high school seniors deals with services that guarantee a scholarship for a fee. What they don't tell you is the scholarship can be less than the fees paid. Many of these companies state that if you do not receive a scholarship they will refund the fee. I have seen many companies that offer this type of service and I am always leery. After all, many companies will promise you something and then never deliver. If you receive an e-mail from a scholarship-search company, I recommend you check it out with the Better Business Bureau and the Attorney General's office. The majority of these companies have questionable backgrounds.

Another scam targeted to high school seniors deals with services that guarantee a scholarship for a fee. What they don't tell you is the scholarship can be less than the fees paid. Many of these companies state that if you do not receive a scholarship they will refund the fee. I have seen many companies that offer this type of service and I am always leery. After all, many companies will promise you something and then never deliver.

I recognize that parents are desperate when it comes to financial aid for college. However, filing for a bogus scholarship offer is not going to help. There are legitimate scholarship search companies, however, they are few and far between.

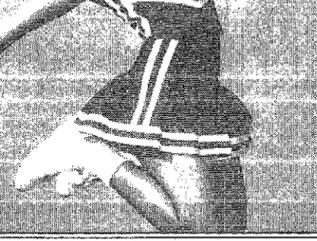
If you need financial assistance or are looking for a scholarship, do the search yourself. There are tools to assist in the search. An excellent (free) resource is www.findaid.org. This Web site has a vast amount of information regarding scholarships and financial assistance. It also has a variety of scholarships that are not necessarily based upon need, but on merit.

There have been many stories that financial aid will be more difficult to obtain this year than in the past. Whether this ends up to be true or not, I'm not sure. However, I can almost guarantee you there will be more scholarship scams by people looking to take advantage of others.

The reality is that government entities cannot adequately protect us from these scams. Many Internet scams come from outside our borders which make them immune from our laws. The bottom line is it is up to us to protect ourselves. Therefore, be cautious about offering sensitive information, independently check out companies before sending any money. If something sounds too good to be true, it is.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneyatters@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).

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's SPORTS section



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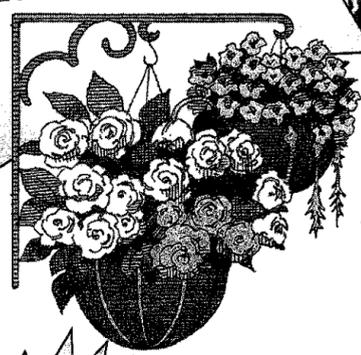
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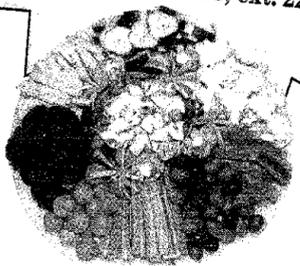
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SPORTS

B (LW)

Thursday, May 29, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Mustangs' Stern quells Churchill district hopes

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

Following his team's 2-1 loss to top-ranked Northville in Tuesday's the Division 1 girls soccer district opener, Livonia Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit made it a point to seek out the Mustangs' All-State forward Sarah Stern.

"I told her she was the difference in the game," said Hebestreit, whose No. 2-rated Chargers bow out at 14-3-2 overall.

And nobody could argue with that statement as Stern, bound for Michigan State, figured in both Northville goals as the Mustangs (17-0-2) advanced to Thursday's district semifinal to face Plymouth (8-7-3).

Stern's 25th of the season off a pass from Theresa Yankovich with only 16:32 remaining broke a scoreless deadlock. Her feed to Lauren

GIRLS SOCCER

Lokey after saving the ball from going out-of-play with 9:39 left all but ended it.

"Her aerial game is what makes her special," Northville coach Ron Meteyer said of Stern. "And it's her constant pressure. She comes at you from every angle. You don't know where she's coming from and that forces the defense to make mistakes. And when you have two or three players on you, it opens it up for other players."

Stern had four goals in last week's 6-0 demolishing of the host Chargers for the Western Lakes Activities Association title. This time Hebestreit countered by putting his best midfielder, Bailey Brandon, in the back, and moving Lindsey Marlow up to midfield.

"Bailey was outstanding," Hebestreit said. "We lost some of our offensive attack with Bailey being in the back, but we gained more of a competitive advantage. She won so many balls that it thwarted their (Northville's) attack."

"At times we were unable to withstand their pressure and we sat back, but overall I thought the whole team played their hearts out. And obviously having our keeper (Stefanie) Turner back (from mononucleosis) helped and I thought Julianne Puroll was outstanding in the midfield."

Northville had two goals waved off by offsides calls and the host Chargers missed a golden chance in the first half to take a 1-0 lead when Kayla Johnston's shot went wide.

The teams remained scoreless until the 67-minute mark, when Stern finally broke through.

"I was afraid to go to overtime. I was already plotting strategy," Meteyer said. "It was a good way to end the game. And because our depth is so good, I still felt good going into overtime because they (Churchill) don't substitute like we do."

Churchill's only goal ironically came with a second left off a pass sent in by Brandon, which glanced off Turner and was eventually headed in by Callie Mack.

bemons@oe.hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2123



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Franklin pitcher Natalie Sanborn makes the tag and saves a run on a play at the plate on Garden City runner Katelyn Shattleroe during the fifth inning to keep it 1-1 in the Division 1 predistrict clash at Westland John Glenn.

Cougars survive Patriots' bid, 2-1

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

It took all of seven innings for Garden City's softball team to remain alive in the Division 1 state tournament.

The Mega Conference's Red Division champions survived a stiff predistrict test Tuesday from Livonia Franklin with a 2-1 triumph on Tricia York's game-winning RBI single in the top of the seventh inning.

The Cougars, 25-6 overall, advance to Saturday's district semifinal to meet district tourney host Westland John Glenn, with the winner playing either Romulus or Wayne Memorial for the title.

Garden City coach Barry Patterson seemed relieved following the one-run triumph after his Cougars left eight baserunners stranded through the first four innings. GC managed to pull out the

win thanks to the solid pitching performance by four-year senior starter Hallie Minch, who struck out seven, scattered six hits and did not allow a walk against the 23-10 Patriots.

"Hallie's pitched over 200 innings this season and walked only eight," Patterson said. "She's like a machine out there. She hits her spots. She was the key to us winning because our offense did not come through."

The Cougars scored their first run in the second inning.

York drew a one-out walk, but was forced at second by Breanna King's groundout to the pitcher. Katie Torok brought King home with a double.

Minch retired the first nine batters she faced, but got into some trouble in the fourth when Franklin junior catcher Brittany Taylor reached base on an infield single and went to second on Jessica Emery's sacrifice bunt.

Sanborn's single to right brought

Taylor home to make it 1-1, but potential go-ahead run was gunned down at second on a strong throw by Cougars catcher Carley Shattleroe.

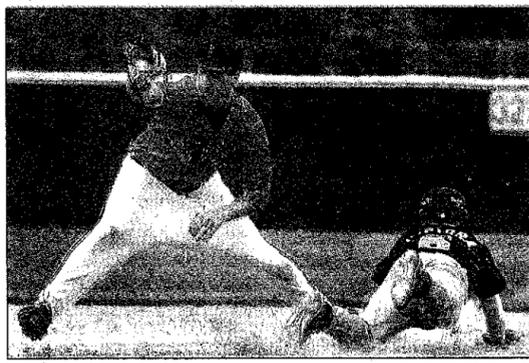
Franklin's cleanup batter Brianna Taylor then tagged a ball over the left field fence, but it sailed 15 feet wide of the foul pole. Minch then got the Patriots' dangerous shortstop out on strikes.

"They're a top-level team, the Taylors can play with anybody," Garden City coach Barry Patterson said. "Thank God their number four batter's hit (by Brianna Taylor) went foul. She smoked it."

"We tried to go tight inside on their leadoff batter (Brittany Taylor) and go with the changeup, off the plate, and on the edge to the other Taylor (Brianna) because she takes such a big rip. They can both bunt and run and they do it so well."

Please see **SOFTBALL, B2**

Franklin tops Garden City in baseball predistrict



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Garden City's Dave Ciciora dives into first base safely for a hit as Franklin's Jeff McCullough takes the throw.

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Franklin needed only one break to ignite a sixth-inning rally.

And the Patriots made good on it, scoring five runs to grab a 6-3 victory over Garden City in a Division 1 baseball predistrict matchup at Westland John Glenn.

That break was a one-out ground ball far to the left of Cougars senior shortstop Cody Short — who helped keep senior pitcher Angelo Zoccoli in the lead with several strong plays earlier. This time, however, senior Jeff McCullough's

grounder skipped through Short's legs.

After a walk to Anthony Andrus, Franklin coach Matt Fournier sent in recent junior varsity callup Jack Chinavare to run for McCullough. The move paid off when Michael Basner laced a liner to center, scoring the speedy Chinavare.

"It's a bang-bang play at the plate and I just know that Jeff doesn't make that," Fournier said. "So we gave the JV kid a shot that time, and that's the exact reason why we brought him up, to possibly pinch run in a situation like that."

With a chuckle, he added that "every once in a while, you pull

a move that works."

Short later threw out Andrus with a strong throw home to Garden City sophomore catcher Max Stratton for the second out, maintaining the Cougars' 3-2 margin.

But Garrett Gumm (two hits, one RBI) and Jesse Carpenter (two hits, one run, two RBI) each followed with an RBI single and Franklin had the edge it would not relinquish.

The Pats tacked on two more runs against GC reliever Bryan Grace, thanks to a wild pitch and an error. Carpenter, the hard-throwing Franklin right-

Please see **BASEBALL, B2**

Sidelines

MU signs Henry

Madonna University men's basketball coach Chuck Henry announced the second member of his 2008 recruiting class on Tuesday with the signing of Toledo (Ohio) St. Francis de Sales' Kevin Henry to an NAIA letter-of-intent.

The 6-foot-4 Henry, no relation to the MU coach, led de Sales in scoring and assists.

He was a three-year varsity letter winner who as a senior, he earned first-team All-City and All-Toledo Blade, second team All-District and honorable mention All-state team.

One of 13 children, Henry joins Southgate Anderson product Jon Jaciuk who signed with MU in April.

MU golf recruit

Madonna University women's golf coach Scott Marzolino announced the signing of Troy Athens' Jackie McCormick, a four-year letter winner and three-time Oakland Activities Association selection.

McCormick helped the Red Hawks to three straight Division 1 state finals, and as a junior, averaged 8.34 strokes per 18 holes.

Demolition game

The Detroit Demolition (4-1) will face the Wisconsin Wolves (3-2) in an Independent Women's Football League game beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday at Livonia Franklin High School.

The Demolition won the first encounter, 14-0, between the two teams on May 10.

Tickets are available by calling (248) 474-9176. For more information, visit www.detedemolition.com.

Cobras finish 3-2

The Livonia Stevenson Cobras captured three-of-five games in the AAU Michigan Memorial Classic held at Eastern Michigan University losing to Parallel 45 of the Upper Peninsula in the semifinals following a two-point win over the Michigan Mavericks.

Scoring honors were shared by Jordan El-Sabeh and Bobby Naubert, while Mark Grisa and Gary Cobb were the top rebounders.

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Late Plymouth rally bounces Chargers in predistrict, 12-5

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREP BASEBALL

Plymouth's hitting attack resembled a Fourth of July fireworks show during Tuesday afternoon's predistrict baseball game against Livonia Churchill.

The Wildcats were solid in the batters' box for the first five innings before producing an awe-inspiring grand finale over the final two.

Trailing 4-3, Plymouth followed up a five-run sixth frame with a four-run seventh to post a decisive 12-5 victory over the Chargers at Salem.

The win advanced coach Chuck Adams' 23-10 squad into a 10 a.m. Saturday Division 1 district semifinal contest against PCEP rival Canton.

Churchill's season ended with a 15-17 record.

Adams said he didn't sense any panic in his team's dugout when Churchill erased the Wildcats' early 3-0 advantage with a three-spot in the third - compliments of Tyler Bledsoe's three-run homer - and a single run in the fourth.

"Probably seven of our nine guys are hitting over .300, so we know we can strike at any time and we feel like we're never totally out of the game," Adams said. "Although, when we got to the sixth inning today and we were behind, you get a little worried - especially when you're facing a big sophomore like Churchill had out there today putting up a bunch of zeros against us."

After yielding three first-

inning runs, Charger sophomore hurler Josh Payzant was cooler than a cucumber from the second through the fifth, retiring 12-of-14 batters.

"I thought Josh really settled down and pitched well after the first inning," Churchill coach Ron Targosz said. "He got the ball up a little bit in the sixth. When you do that against a good-hitting team like Plymouth, they'll make you pay."

Senior catcher Garrett Rebnain ignited the Wildcats' 13-hit attack with a 2-for-4, four-RBI effort. Three of his RBIs came on a bases-loaded triple in the seventh.

Matt Skubik (3-for-4, two RBI, two runs), Travis Mewton (2-for-4, two RBI, two runs), Ronnie Goble (2-for-4, two runs, two RBI) and David Harvey (2-for-3, two runs) all made major contributions to the winners' offense.

Junior right-hander Cliff Buttermore was steady on the mound, scattering seven hits and two walks while striking out six in six innings of work.

Kyle Sanders pitched the seventh for the Wildcats.

After grounding into an inning-ending double play in the first, Bledsoe was unstoppable for the Chargers.

Along with his three-run blast in the third, he singled in Tyler Cotter in the fourth, and singled and scored in the seventh.

Ricky Scully added two hits to the Chargers' cause.



Semifinal winner

Canton Celtic F.C., coached by Dave Hebestreit (back row, far right) overcame an early 1-0 deficit to beat Drita Soccer Club of Mount Clemens, 2-1, in the semifinals of the USASA National Amateur Cup held May 18 at Livonia Churchill High School. Former Madonna University player Scott Emert (Walled Lake Central) scored with a minute left in the half to knot the count at 10-all and former Michigan player Michael Park tallied the game-winner with only three minutes remaining off a free kick from 34 yards out from former U-M standout Knox Cameron. Former Livonia Franklin High and Michigan State standout Chris Austin was in goal for Canton Celtic. Team members include (back row, from left) Paul Thomas, Michael Park, Corey Berzac, Eric Bowman, Knox Cameron, Kevin Hall, Alex Wood, Cam Cameron, captain Steve Huber, Austin and Hebestreit; (front row, from left) Jeff Kusch, Kevin Savitskie, Emert, Sam Stern, John LeBlanc, Dan Pichler and Jamie Howells. Canton Celtic will play for the USASA State Championship on Sunday, June 1 against the host Carpathia Kickers (Game time to be announced.)

Blazers, Stevenson roll in state district action

Livonia Ladywood took just 65 minutes to claim a Division 2 district girls soccer win over host Ypsilanti.

Alex Hyman scored a pair of goals as the Blazers improved to 9-5-4 overall with an 8-0 first-round mercy-rule victory over the Phoenix.

Ladywood, now 9-5-4 overall, advances to the district semifinals at 3 today to face Catholic League foe Dearborn Divine Child.

Hyman scored in the 39th minute to give Ladywood a 5-0 halftime lead. She also added a goal in the 45th minute.

GIRLS SOCCER

Laura Bou-Maroun scored from Rachel Maceri in the 65th minute to end the match.

Other Ladywood goal scorers included Alessia Vagnini (13th), Kristen Selasky (14th), Caitlin Szczyzpa (23rd), Erika Doroghazi (35th) and Sarah Kempa (41st).

Other assists went to Amanda Field (two), Kaitlyn Vitale, Caitlin Szczyzpa, Doroghazi, Allison Krueger and Sara Burnosky.

Ladywood goalkeeper Michele Ring didn't have

to make a save against Ypsilanti, which finished 5-9-1 overall.

STEVENSON 4, W. BLOOMFIELD 0: On Tuesday, Livonia Stevenson (8-8-2) advanced to the semifinals of the Division 1 district at Novi by blanking West Bloomfield as Kayla Kimble tallied a pair of goals.

Kimble's game-winning goal came in the first half from Julia Schroeder.

The Spartans added three second-half goals - Molly McConnell from Renee Boudreau (following Shannon Merritt's throw-in); Merritt unassisted after a loose ball in the box; and Kimble from Stephanie Gutkowski (off a break-away from 25 yards out).

Goalkeeper Michelle Krawczyk made one key save to post the shut-out.

"We did OK today - we did what we needed to do to win," Stevenson coach Chris Pinta said. "I thought Kimble, Gutkowski and (Rachel) Stevens were all outstanding. I thought Schroeder played well even though she was sick, and both Taleen Mergian and Brittany Hoots at outside-back played well."

PLYMOUTH 3, WAYNE 0: On Tuesday, goals by Kelly Dobbs, Megan Quinlan and Casey Webb propelled the host Wildcats (8-7-3) to the Division 1 district first-round win over Wayne Memorial (0-17-2).

Goalkeeper Marissa Williams posted the shutout for Plymouth, which led only 1-0 at intermission.

BASEBALL

FROM PAGE B1

hander, gave up two hits in the seventh (his first allowed since the second), but retired junior Brad Bond for the final out of the game.

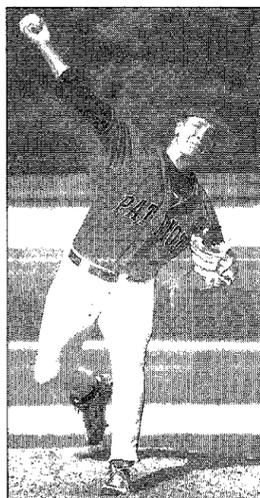
The win snapped Carpenter's four-game losing streak.

"He started to spot his curve ball better in the later innings," Fournier said about Carpenter (6-4). "And, of course, you're going to have a little extra adrenaline when you come into that last inning or so that you're going to put a little bit more behind it."

"But he's a competitor, he's our number one, and he's the kid we're going to run out there."

GC coach Steve Herman, whose team ended the season 14-15 and fell short on its goal to return to the regionals, said Zoccoli (7-2) was getting out of jams all day and things were bound to catch up to him eventually.

"They had a lot of innings where they had guys on and we were able to work our way out of it," Herman said. "Z' got himself in trouble in a lot of innings, but I thought the way he shut them down was very



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Franklin starting pitcher Jesse Carpenter earned the 6-3 victory with a complete game in Tuesday's Division 1 predistrict clash at Westland John Glenn.

impressive. "But you keep putting yourself in those situations, a good team like Franklin's going to eventually hit the ball. And they did in that one inning."

The win moved Franklin (14-15) into a noon Saturday district semifinal against host Glenn (15-17), a team the Pats defeated 4-1 during the regular season. The second game pits Wayne Memorial (9-21) against Romulus.

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Under Provisions of Sections 2.32.070 and 3.05.1006 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, the Police Department will be conducting an Auction of Forfeiture and Miscellaneous City vehicles.

May 31, 2008
Inspections begin at 9:30 a.m.
Auction begins at 10:00 a.m.

Location: Livonia Police Department
15050 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154

ALL PROPERTY TO BE AUCTIONED MAY BE VIEWED BETWEEN 9:30 A.M. AND 10:00 A.M., ON THE MORNING OF THE AUCTION. PROPERTY IS SOLD 'AS IS' AND ALL SALES ARE FINAL. THE CITY OF LIVONIA ASSUMES NO LIABILITY AS TO ANY ITEM SOLD AND MAKES NO REPRESENTATION AS TO THE AUTHENTICITY OF ANY ITEM SOLD.

ALL SALES MUST BE IN CASH AND ARE DUE IN FULL THE MOMENT THE BID IS ACCEPTED.

LINDA GRIMSBY, CITY CLERK

Publish: May 22, 25 & 29, 2008

PREP GIRLS SOCCER

2008 WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION GIRLS SOCCER TEAMS ALL-CONFERENCE

Defenders: Melanie Pickert, Fr., Canton. **Midfielders:** Bailey Brandon, Jr., Livonia Churchill; Chelsea Hunter, Jr., Walled Lake Western; Theresa Yankovich, Sr., Northville; Kayla Johnson, Jr., Churchill; Rachel Givens, Sr., Salem. **Forwards:** Sarah Stern, Sr., Northville; Tracy Rymph, Jr., Canton; Christy Naife, Sr., Walled Lake Northern; Jenna Shaba, Fr., Walled Lake Western; Riley Wood, Soph., W.L. Northern. **Goalkeepers:** Taylor Comiskey, Sr., Walled Lake Central; Stefanie Turner, Jr., Churchill.

ALL-DIVISION

Defenders: Kelsey Baskins, Jr., Northville; Sarah Aquino, Sr., Northville; Leslie Weisz, Jr., Canton; Meehan Hughes, Soph., Plymouth; Lindsey Lowe, Sr., W.L. Western; Lindsey Marlow, Sr., Churchill; Jenna Wiechert, Sr., W.L. Central. **Midfielders:** Caroline Castelli, Soph., Northville; Julia Bowden, Sr., Northville; Jessica Troy, Sr., Canton; Kasey Webb, Jr., Plymouth; Kelly Powers, Sr.; Livonia Franklin; Julianne Purill, Sr., Churchill; Jacqui O'Shea, Jr., W.L. Northern; Kelsey Breaugh, Jr., W.L. Northern; Katie Shull, Sr., Salem; Rachel Stevens, Sr., Livonia Stevenson. **Forwards:** Whitney Jacobs, Sr., Wayne Memorial; Hannah Otto, Jr., Churchill; Callie Mack, Jr., Churchill; Megan Straub, Jr., Canton. **Goalkeepers:** Payi O'Shea, Soph., W.L.

HONORABLE MENTION LAKES DIVISION

Churchill: Kelsey Rothermel, Tessa Allen, Alyssa Mira, Darcy DeRoo; **W.L. Northern:** Sarah Starrs, Trisha Bender, Karleen Herbst, Stephanie Boggs; **Salem:** Sara O'Leary, Maggie Huns, Louise Roy, Tori Kaye, Kaitlana Klusek; **Stevenson:** Stephanie Gutkowski; **Julia Schroeder, Taleen Mergian, Alex Harbovy, Molly McConnell, Kayla Kimble; W.L. Central:** Melissa Seymour, Taylor Pond, Aly Haney, Stephanie Ghannam; **John Glenn:** Kaitley Coleman, Danielle Levy, Megan Nikula, Jenna Williams.

WESTERN DIVISION

Northville: Jeannette Dolmetsch, Elana Ryznar, Amy Sweetapple, Lauren Lokey, Tori Wright; **Canton:** Lisa Pierce, Rachael Kane, Brynne Bellowary, Lauren Peeler, Hannah Mills, Laura Daniels; **Plymouth:** Katie Krajewski, Kelly Dobbs, Megan Quinlan, Jessica Heck, Carlee Barackman; **W.L. Western:** Nicole Trivax, Stacey Mukhtar, Holly Ferrari, Liz Kramer, Jodi Stratton; **Franklin:** Courtney Smith, Molly Perkins, Amy McGaughey, Renee Berger; **Wayne:** Danielle Borg, Nickole Jarvis, Megan Maynor, Lea DeGiusti.

WLAA CHAMPIONSHIP

Northville 6, Livonia Churchill 0

WESTERN DIVISION CHAMPION

Northville

LAKES DIVISION CHAMPION

Livonia Churchill

GIRLS TENNIS RESULTS

DIVISION 1-REGIONAL 4 GIRLS TENNIS TOURNAMENT May 16 at Novi

TEAM STANDINGS (top 2 qualify for state):
1. Novi, 30 points; 2. Northville, 26; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 15; 4. Dearborn, 10; 5. Livonia Churchill, 8; 6. Livonia Franklin, 6.7 (tie); Dearborn Fordson, Detroit Cass Tech and Westland John Glenn, 4 each; 10. Southgate Anderson, 3; 11. Wayne Memorial, 0.

INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT FINALS

No. 1 Singles: Amanda Border (Novi) defeated Haley Johnston (Northville), 6-3, 6-2; **semifinals:** Border def. Lindsay Hostetter (L.S.), 7-5, 6-1; Johnston def. Brittany Turner (Cass), 6-3, 6-2.

No. 2: Jackie Wang (Novi) def. Joanne Weber (Northville), 6-0, 6-3; **semifinals:** Wang def. Natalie Frakes (Dbn.), 6-2, 6-2; Weber def. Laura Sims (L.S.), 6-2, 4-6, 6-1.

No. 3: Sara Carlson (Novi) def. Ursula Cauffiel (Northville), 6-0, 6-3; **semifinals:** Carlson def. Kately Foster (L.C.), 6-1, 6-1; Cauffiel def. Paige McNamara (L.S.), 7-5, 6-4.

No. 4: Jennifer Felcher (Novi) def. Jessica Yu (Northville), 6-0, 6-0; **semifinals:** Felcher def. Riva

Jaddou (Dbn.), 6-0, 6-1; Yu def. Carli Marschner (L.S.), 6-2, 6-4.

No. 1 doubles: Kristin Randall-Laura Taylor (Northville) def. Lauren McCloskey-Megan Wenzl (Novi), 6-3, 7-5; **semifinals:** Randall-Taylor def. Erica Schneider-Zalnah Sabagh (Dbn.), 6-1, 6-0; McCloskey-Wenzl def. Michelle Thompson-Linda Comini (L.F.), 6-0, 6-1.

No. 2: Amy Chlang-Lauren Felcher (Novi) def. Abby Grajek-Sabrina Masciulli (Northville), 6-2, 6-3; **semifinals:** Chlang-Felcher def. Gabrielle Sabatini-Laura Gumpfer (L.S.), 6-4, 6-1; Grajek-Masciulli def. Luma Beydoun-Dana Achmar (D.F.), 6-0, 6-1.

No. 3: Teodora Gavric-Kelli Wallen (Novi) def. Valeria Juan-Maudie Smith (Northville), 6-1, 7-6 (7-4); **semifinals:** Gavric-Wallen def. Ashley Benvenuti-Shannon Dwight (L.S.), 6-0, 6-0; Juan-Smith def. Danielle Vasko-Cortney Bennett (L.C.), 6-1, 6-4.

No. 4: Sarah Koupal-Breanna Connett (Northville) def. Jenny Snyder-Julia Thomas (Novi), 5-7, 6-4, 6-1; **semifinals:** Koupal-Connett def. Daniell Jagodzinski-Simona Enea (L.S.), 6-1, 6-1; Snyder-Thomas def. Valerie Rose-Brianna Devlin (L.C.), 6-2, 6-2.

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Publish: May 22 & 29, 2008

Wildcats oust Churchill

Plymouth scored 10 runs in the fifth inning Tuesday en route to a 16-1 mercy-rule victory over Livonia Churchill in a Division 1 predistrict girls softball game.

The Wildcats, now 18-14 overall, were led by Stacey Klonowski and Amanda Burnard, who combined for eight of Plymouth's 16 hits. Klonowski also scored four runs.

Winning pitcher Megan Patterson allowed just two hits and struck out three over five innings.

Katie Stodulski had a double and scored the lone as Churchill bowed out with a 12-22 overall record.

Last week, Plymouth defeated Livonia Stevenson in a WLAA crossover, 5-1, as freshman Lauren Smith limited the Spartans to five hits, two each

PREP SOFTBALL

by Lauren Brueck (RBI) and Shelby Wilson.

CLARENCEVILLE 15, ROBICHAUD 0: In a four-inning mercy Friday, host Livonia Clarenceville (9-17) pounded Dearborn Heights Robichaud in a regular season finale as junior Brittany Brooks went 3-for-3 with a homer and four RBI.

Charmaine McQueen doubled, walked and drove in two runs, while Samantha Sillanpaa, Chelsea Lawler and Lisa Wilson each contributed a hit and scored two runs apiece.

Winning pitcher Val Schacki (8-13), who worked the first three innings, and reliever Chelsea Gehan combined on a no-hitter.

Schacki struck out eight, walked two and hit two batters, while Gehan fanned two and walked two in one inning.

Robichaud committed four errors, while the Trojans had only one.

SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

Garden City outit the Patriots, 7-6. The Cougars also played airtight defense for the most part, committing only one error.

"In a game like this, every single play matters," Patterson said. "We never stroked the ball today like we're capable of and, as the game progressed, we'd get tighter and tighter because we failed in those opportunities. We had four opportunities the first five innings to drive in runs and couldn't get the big swing. Give Franklin credit. They're capable. I thought we'd get a few runs and it would be more like a 6-5 game."

"Their infield impressed me. They're as good as anybody we've played."

Minch started the game-

winning rally with a single to start the seventh. After Kristina Susalla flied out to center and Shannon Pietruszka's hit into a fielder's choice at second, designated player Katelyn Shattleroe drew a two-out walk, setting the stage for York's game-winning single, which hugged the third-base line, scoring Pietruszka.

"We have a good defensive infield, that made some nice plays that got us out of some of those jams," Franklin coach Linda Jimenez said. "We had 10 putouts at first (base) and that's when we know she (Sanborn) is pitching well."

"They (Garden City) have a senior team. We only have two seniors graduating and it's the most wins Franklin has ever had other than the 22-2 (1986) state championship team. We had a good season. We just needed that one key base hit."

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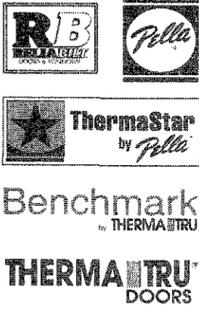
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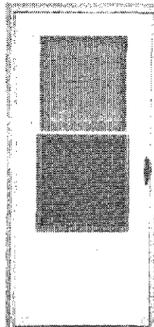
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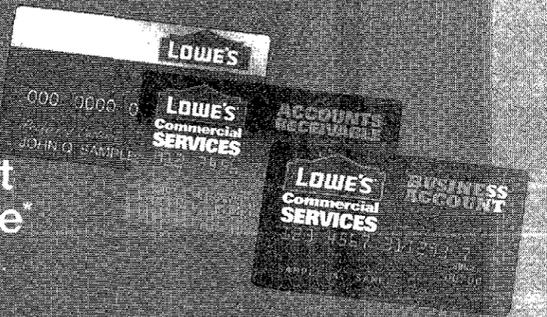
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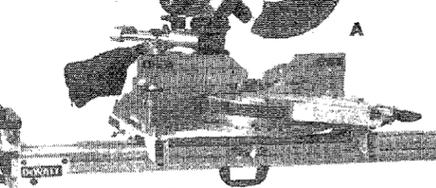
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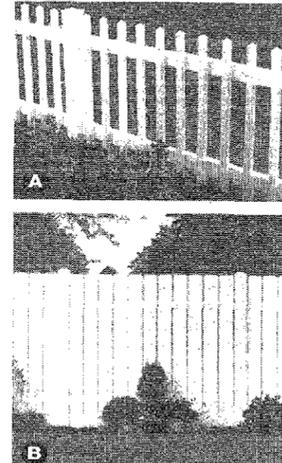
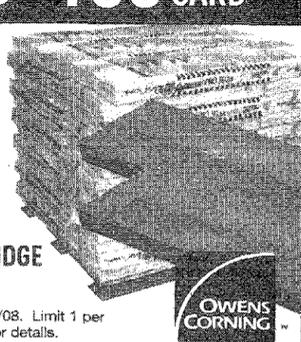


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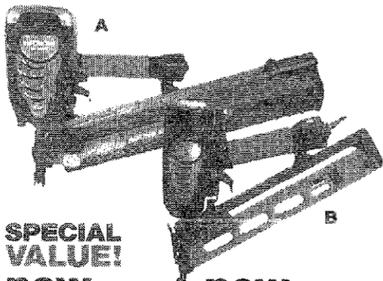
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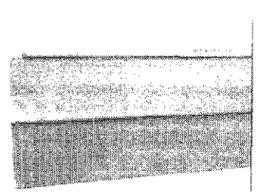


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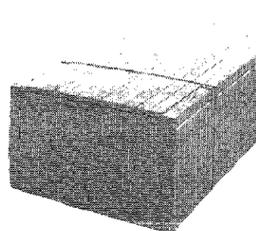
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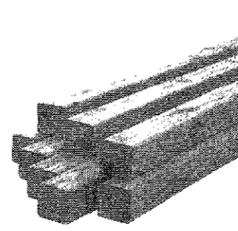
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Bucks advance

US Open Cup awaits after 2-1 win vs. Cleveland

The Michigan Bucks finished their perfect run at qualifying for the 2008 Lamar Hunt US Open Cup with a 2-1 win Monday in Cleveland against the host Internationals.

The Bucks captured all four of their first matches to lead the Great Lakes Division and Central Conference of the United Soccer Leagues (USL) Premier Development League (PDL) with a maximum 12 points and will face the Cleveland City (Ohio) Stars of the USL's Second Division, beginning at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 10 at Pontiac's Ultimate Soccer Arenas.

In the Bucks 13-year existence, they were allowed to enter the Cup 12 times and have qualified a record eight times. Four of those seasons also included perfect 4-0 starts to begin the PDL and Open Cup season.

The St. Louis Lions claimed the only other conference berth with a record of 3-0-1.

Cleveland, despite its best start in team history, finishes cup qualifying at 2-1-1 and would have snatched the final spot from the division leading Bucks with a victory.

The Bucks started attacking early on in the match and opened the scoring when Ty Shipalane took a short corner kick from college teammate and fellow countryman Nate Jafta. Shipalane fired a laser through a crowd in front of goal and into the side netting in the game's 10th minute.

The Internationals did not seem to be fazed by the early strike and continued to handle the majority of possession until halftime in an initial stanza that saw several yellow cards and a couple of spectacular saves by Bucks goalkeeper Steve Clark (Oakland University).

Although Clark played another stellar game in goal, he could not get his third shut-out of the season due to a call against the Bucks following a hard driven shot into the wall from the top of the 18-yard box that was deemed to be a handball.

Internationals midfielder Mike Nanchoff buried the penalty to Clark's left just before halftime and the teams went into the locker rooms deadlocked.

The Bucks came out more aggressive in the second half and regained much of the run of play as they pushed to get the second goal to put the game away.

With the Bucks holding the tiebreaker for Cup qualifying due to Cleveland's draw on Saturday, the experienced team from Michigan was patient enough to wait for the counter attack that would put the game away.

That opportunity came in the 66th minute when the dynamic duo of Kenny Uzoigwe and Jafta hooked up again for the game winner. Jafta laid a return pass to Uzoigwe, who blew past a defender and ripped a shot that the Internationals keeper Nick Harper had no chance at. Uzoigwe's fourth goal of

the season in as many games leads the Bucks team again in scoring, but is not far ahead of Jafta, who already has notched seven assists in the first four games to go along with the lone goal he scored Saturday against Fort Wayne.

Bucks whip Fever, 5-0

The Michigan Bucks continued their quest to qualify for the Lamar Hunt US Open Cup by defeating the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Fever, 5-0, Saturday in a PDL match during the Canton Cup at Independence Park.

The Bucks struck early in the sixth minute when defender Dave Hertel (Michigan State) placed a long throw into the box which the Ft. Wayne goalkeeper Rudy Ramirez bobbed before going into the net.

The side struck again in the 30th minute when Nate Jafta laid off a pass to Piotr Nowak (Sterling Heights/Oakland University) at the top of the box. Nowak made no mistake placing it in the far-side netting and recording his first ever goal for the Bucks.

Four minutes later, Jafta set up Bucks striker Besmir Bega in a similar position who slotted it past Ramirez, giving the Bucks a 3-0 lead going into halftime.

The Bucks took their foot off the gas a bit in the second half until Alex Morisset (Michigan) found Boris' Man of the Match, Jafta, in the box. Jafta took his chance well and slotted it home for a 4-0 Bucks lead.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL DISTRICT PAIRINGS
DIVISION 1
at WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Saturday, May 31: Westland John Glenn vs. Livonia Franklin, noon; Wayne Memorial vs. Romulus, 30 minutes after; Championship final: 30 minutes after.

at SALEM
Saturday, May 31: Canton vs. Plymouth, 10 a.m.; Salem vs. Livonia Stevenson, 12:30 p.m.; Championship final: 3 p.m.

DIVISION 2
at REDFORD THURSTON
Saturday, May 31: Redford Thurston vs. Livonia Clarenceville, 10 a.m.; Dearborn Divine Child vs. Inkster, 12:30 p.m.; Championship final: 2 p.m.

DIVISION 4
at WESTLAND HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Saturday, May 31: Lutheran High Westland vs. Redford Covenant Christian, 10 a.m.; Huron Valley Lutheran vs. Melvindale Business & Technology Academy, noon; Championship final: 2 p.m.

GIRLS SOFTBALL DISTRICT PAIRINGS
DIVISION 1
at WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Saturday, May 31: Wayne Memorial vs. Romulus, noon; Westland John Glenn vs. Garden City, 30 minutes after; Championship final: 30 minutes after second game.

at SALEM
Saturday, May 31: Salem vs. Livonia Stevenson, 10 a.m.; Canton vs. Plymouth, noon; Championship final: 2 p.m.

DIVISION 2
at REDFORD THURSTON
Saturday, May 31: Livonia Clarenceville vs. Livonia Ladywood, 10 a.m.; Redford Thurston vs. Dearborn Divine Child, 12:30 p.m.; Championship final: 3:30 p.m.

DIVISION 4
at WESTLAND HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Saturday, May 31: (A) Huron Valley Lutheran vs. (B) Melvindale Business & Technology Academy, 10 a.m.; Championship final: Lutheran High Westland vs. A-B winner, noon.

GIRLS SOCCER DISTRICT PAIRINGS
DIVISION 1
at NOVI (MEADOWS STADIUM)
Thursday, May 29: North Farmington vs. Livonia Stevenson, 5 p.m.; Birmingham Groves vs. Novi, 7 p.m.

Friday, May 30: Championship final, 7 p.m.

DIVISION 2
at NOVI (MEADOWS STADIUM)
Thursday, May 29: Northville vs. Plymouth, 4 p.m.; Westland John Glenn vs. Salem, 6 p.m.

Friday, May 30: Championship final, noon.

DIVISION 3
at BEVERLY HILLS-DET. COUNTRY DAY
Thursday, May 29: Detroit Country Day vs. Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood, 5 p.m.; Livonia Clarenceville vs. Clawson, 7 p.m.

Friday, May 30: Championship final, 1 p.m.

BOYS & GIRLS TRACK & FIELD FINALS
Saturday, May 31
Division 1 at Rockford, 9 a.m.
Division 2 at Zeeland, 9 a.m.
Division 3 at Conestock Park, 9 a.m.
Division 4 at G.R. Forest Hills Eastern, 9 a.m.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

WYAA football signup

The Westland Youth Athletic Association begins its 50th year of football with 2008 season registration from 7-9 p.m. each Wednesday and 10 a.m. until noon on Saturdays at the WYAA's Lange Compound, located at 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

Both the Meteors (41st year) and Comets (37th year) offer age groups for 7-8 (Junior Freshman), 8-10 (Freshman), 11-12 (Junior Varsity) and 11-14 (Varsity).

The cost is \$175-\$195. Non-residents are welcome at no extra fee. You must provide a current photo and new players must have a copy of their birth certificate. The age cut-off is Sept. 1 of the current year and there are weight restrictions for each age level.

For more information, including the WYAA's play for free program, call the Comets' Mark Simkow at (734) 731-11-76 or the Comets' Keith DeMolay at (734) 516-9269; or Galen Huren of the Meteors at (734) 716-6047.

You can also visit www.wyaa.org; or call the WYAA office at (734) 421-0640.

WYAA cheerleading

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association cheerleading for the Meteors and Comets squads will be from 7-10 p.m. Wednesdays; also 10 a.m. until noon each Saturday at the WYAA's Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

Openings are available for both units' squad for Junior Freshman, ages 7-8; Freshman, 8-10; Junior Varsity, 10-12; and Varsity, 11-14. Non-resident are welcome at no extra fee.

The cost is \$135 for freshman, JV and varsity; or you will receive 27 \$5 raffle tickets (sell all 27 and there is no cost). The cost for instructional is \$115 (you will receive 23 \$5 raffle tickets (sell all 23 tickets and the cost is free).

For more information, call the Meteors' Kathy Henderson at (734) 968-3272; or the Comets' Caryn Timbs at (734) 722-5806.

Simply Self Storage

Notice is hereby given that on June 13, 2008 on or after 9:30 a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien Process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are cash only. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: 34333 E Michigan Ave. Wayne MI. 48184. 734-728-8204.

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Publish: May 25 & 29, 2008

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Banfi looms larger than life

Castello Banfi, owned by the Mariani family, is a vineyard estate and winery in the Montalcino region of Tuscany. With its sister estates in Italy's Piedmont, Vigne Regali and Principessa Gavi, it looms larger than life on the Italian wine scene.



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

Additionally, a literal constellation of single vineyards with more than three dozen different subsoils, affords the Castello Banfi estate an unparalleled opportunity to capitalize on the expression of both the brunello grape and its storied Tuscan homeland, Montalcino.

BANFI TUSCANY

Because they are crisp, fresh and light on the palate, the following Tuscan whites from Banfi are outstanding warm weather wines: the 2006 Fumaio, sauvignon blanc and chardonnay blend (\$9.50) and 2006 Le Rime, pinot grigio and chardonnay blend (\$9.50).

Banfi manages to craft sangiovese into lighter-style reds, perfect for warm weather when bigger, bolder wines don't make it. Try the 2006 Col di Sasso,

Please see **WINE, D2**

Get tech support; contest winners listed

Question: Who won the Tech Savvy 200th-column contest from a few weeks ago?

Answer: First, let me thank everyone who entered the contest. I don't know if you all thought gushing praise would help your chances (it didn't — winners were chosen totally at random), but I appreciate it all the same. A certain famous quote from Sally Field comes to mind.

Congratulations to the following contest winners: Kathryn Hagen of Rochester, who won the MagicJack phone gizmo; Claudine and Jamal Mereb of Canton, who won the Logitech QuickCam Pro for Notebooks; Keith Poisson of Livonia, who won Norton Internet Security 2000; and Cindy Simmons of West Bloomfield, winner of the Verizon LG Voyager multimedia phone.

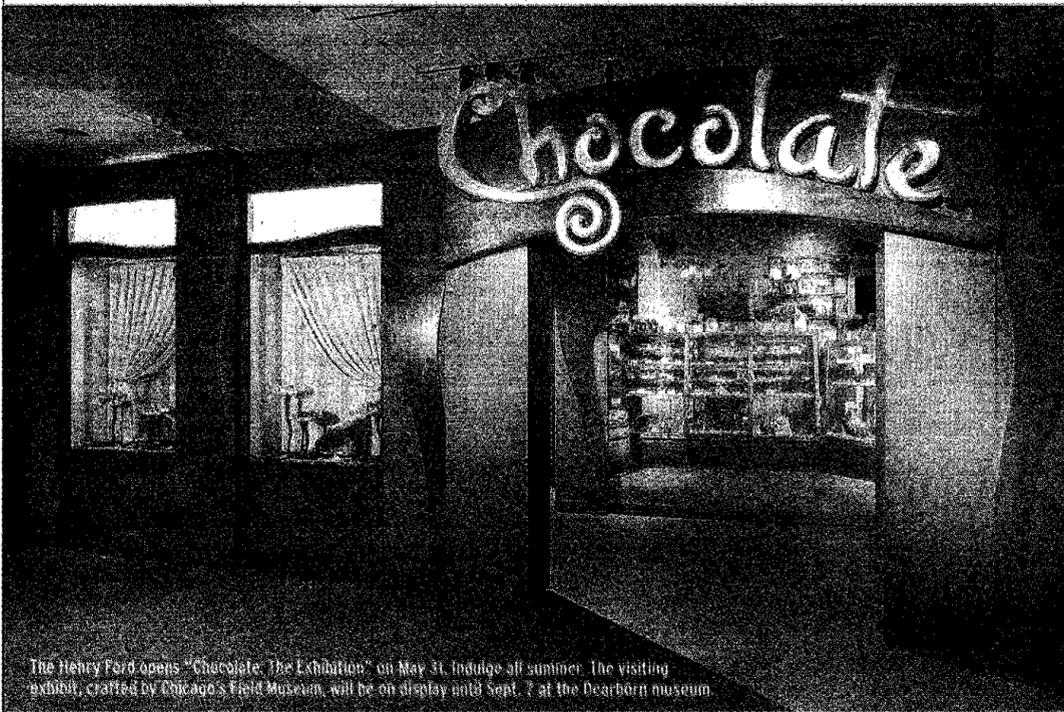
Question: I took your advice and bought a media-center PC, complete with TV tuner. How can I stream audio and video content to my TV, which resides in a different room?

Answer: Don't want your desk-top sitting in your living room, huh? I don't blame you one bit. Fortunately, there are several ways to bridge the gap between PC and TV, even if they're several rooms (and floors) apart.

What you need is an extender,

Please see **TECH, D2**

Feed the craving



The Henry Ford opens "Chocolate: The Exhibition" on May 31. Indulge all summer. The visiting exhibit, crafted by Chicago's Field Museum, will be on display until Sept. 7 at the Dearborn museum.

The Henry Ford sinks its teeth into one sweet exhibit

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Willy Wonka would be proud. While an onslaught of Oompa-Loompas won't be included, Dearborn's Henry Ford Museum promises a sweet summer with *Chocolate: The Exhibition*.

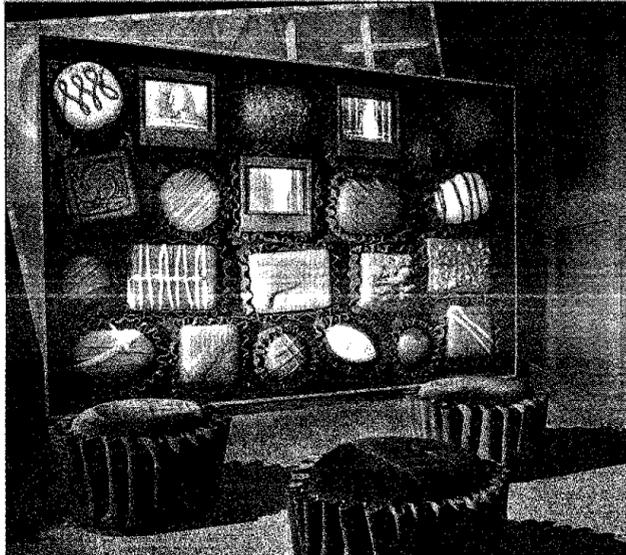
This traveling exhibit was created by Chicago's Field Museum and opens May 31 and runs through the summer. Donna Braden, curator of Public Life for The Henry Ford, said the detailed elements allows the exhibit's visitors to feel as

though they're walking into different worlds. "It sweeps you back to a certain time and place," she said. Move from the discovery of cacao in Mayan and Aztec civilizations to the introduction of chocolate

late in Europe and eventually the mass production of the product. *Chocolate* marks a first major exhibition based around food. Braden said *Chocolate: The Exhibition* is sure to evoke memories and common experiences among its visitors. "It's very nostalgic," Braden said.

It also seemed a suitable fit for The Henry Ford. "We look, especially in the summer, for a kind of mass media exhibit that will appeal to a wide variety of people," she said. And *Chocolate* began causing a stir even as it was being constructed.

"Because it came from the Field Museum, there tends to be a lot about world cultures, where it comes from and how it's made," said Braden. "It's very nicely presented." To coincide, she has curated additional elements that will surround the exhibition



Chocolate lovers may find it difficult to resist the newest exhibit at The Henry Ford.

and augment the experience with a specific focus on American chocolate innovations. Drawing from the museum's own collection, Braden thoroughly researched the growth of the chocolate industry and culture in the United States.

Experience the introduction of chocolate first as a beverage and later as it's developed into chocolate candy. "To some extent it started in Europe," said Braden. "But a great innovator here was Milton Hershey."

By using an assembly-line technique Hershey developed milk chocolate bars everyone could afford — and sold them for just 5 cents a piece in 1905. "He made chocolate for the masses and was known as the Henry Ford of American chocolate," Braden said.

The museum will showcase holiday chocolates, too, from vintage molds used to make it to specialized candies that are sold only at certain times of the year. The confection moved

Please see **CHOCOLATE, D3**

ACCENTS

TOUR PLYMOUTH HOMES

The Plymouth Symphony League presents its Spring Home Tour, "To Renew or Redo?" May 31-June 1.

The tour runs noon to 6 p.m. both days. It features three renovated historic properties in the city of Plymouth and three newly constructed or rebuilt estates in Plymouth Township.

The homes include exquisite detail, including one with marble, granite and travertine floors, another with a complete "redo and renew," a home built in 1898, another with a 100-year-old fireplace, one with a stone foundation and wide wood floor moldings and a Cape Cod with a large master bedroom.

Tickets are \$18 per person in advance, \$20 the day of the event, and may be purchased at Gabriel's, 322 S. Main St.; Michigan Made, 830 W. Ann Arbor Trail, and the Plymouth Symphony office, 18 Forest Place in Plymouth, and at Gardenviews, 202 W. Main in Northville. Proceeds from the League Home Tour support many programs of the Plymouth Symphony.

WILDFLOWERS FOR SALE

Looking for native Michigan wildflowers and plants? The Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy (formerly Oakland Land Conservancy) features its 10th Annual Spring Native Plant Sale 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, June 1, at the Auburn Hills Community Center.

More than 150 species of native wildflowers, grasses, trees, shrubs, ferns and vines will be available, along with advice about how and where to plant them.

"Native plants are pretty self-reliant," says Heather Huffstutler, land steward for the Conservancy.

"They are the ultimate low-maintenance landscape feature," Huffstutler said that native plants are cheaper to buy than exotics, or "ornamental" garden plants, and unlike their exotic neighbors, they rarely need replacing. The Conservancy will be selling both shade-tolerant and sun-thriving plants, with Conservancy staff and volunteers on hand to answer questions about planting and care.

Individual plants range in price from \$3 to \$28, depending on size and species.

For more information about the plant sale or a list of plants available, call (248) 601-2816 or e-mail info@sixriversrlc.org.

Art placement depends on room aesthetics

Question: "Do you have any general advice about where to hang pictures on a wall? I'm not sure how high to hang pictures or how close together to hang frames in a grouping."



Design Solutions

Terri Guastella

Answer: Generally speaking, when placing art work, you will need to consider whether or not your art will be viewed from a seated or standing position. This information will help you to set the height of the art work and its placement on the wall. For example, in the dining room, you and your guests will be seated when viewing your art work, whereas, in the foyer, the art will only be viewed from a standing position. The height at which wall art is placed in these two areas will be vastly different.

Hang your framed art work so that whether seated or standing, the center of the art is eye level. Of course, if you are 5-foot, 2-inches tall and your spouse is 6-foot, 2-inches, the eye level placement is much different for these standing areas. I use eye level for a person about 5-foot, 4-inches to 5-foot, 7-inches tall. When in doubt, err to the lower placement.

When using groupings of framed art work, the size of the individual frames will contribute to the distance between the frames. If the frames are around an 8- by 10-inch size, the pictures will be hanging only 1-2 inches apart from each other. The larger the frame size, the more space may be required between each frame. (Keep in mind that this is very subjective to the art work itself, and the size of the wall on which the pieces will be hanging.)

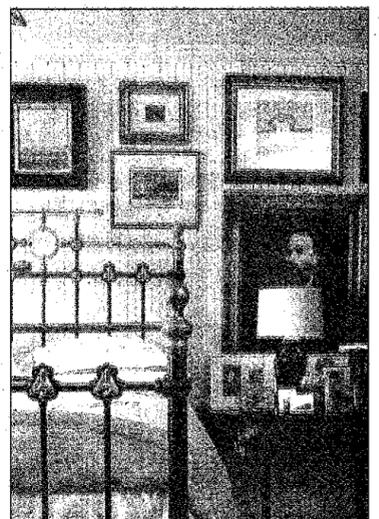
Do not be afraid to bring groupings of art very low near the floor or even to place framed art work behind a table lamp or plant. When

part of the picture is interrupted by something else, it can make the piece more intriguing to look at.

When hanging framed art over a sofa or other piece of furniture, it needs to be close enough to the furniture to remain part of the vignette. I often see art work hanging quite high over the furniture it is intended to work with, and the art becomes completely disconnected from the overall vignette, destroying the effect.

As with many interior design questions, I encourage you to look through design magazines and tour high end model homes to see how art placement effects the aesthetics of a room. You will train your eye so you can creatively hang your framed art.

Terri Guastella, an interior designer and a Canton resident, specializes in space planning, design and color consultation. Do you have a question about interior design or decorating your home? Contact Terri Guastella at www.exclusiveinteriordesign.com.



Don't be afraid to interrupt your art by placing a table lamp in front of it to add interest.

WINE
FROM PAGE D1

sangiovese and cabernet sauvignon blend (\$9.50), 2006 Centine, sangiovese, cabernet sauvignon and merlot (\$11.50)

and 2006 Chianti Classico, 100 percent sangiovese (\$15).

BANFI ESTATE WINES

Not every warm weather day is hot. Then, it's time to grill a steak and open any of the following from Castello Banfi:

2006 Rosso di Montalcino (\$22) and 2003 Brunello di Montalcino (\$75).

A Rosso di Montalcino is sometimes referred to as a "baby brunello." Although it's true that both a Rosso di Montalcino and a Brunello di Montalcino are both made from the sangiovese clone known as brunello, the Rosso is made from younger vines and not given the barrel or bottle aging of a Brunello di Montalcino.

Some wine reviewers have written that if you purchase and age a Rosso, it becomes, over time, the equivalent of the Brunello di Montalcino.

It will not.

If you're an avid reader of wine press, all the hype about Brunello violations is a tempest

in a teapot!

2003 Cum Laude (\$36) takes its name from the Latin "with honors," and is a blend of the four top red varieties on the Banfi estate: cabernet sauvignon, merlot, sangiovese and syrah.

2003 Summus (\$73), a blend of sangiovese, cabernet sauvignon and syrah, takes its name from the Latin "highest," and as such is one of the best Super Tuscans.

VIGNE REGALI

Under the Vigne Regali brand, Banfi makes two wines not to be missed.

2006 Principessa Gavi (\$14) is a dry white made from the cortese grape that's a winner with seafood.

2007 Rosa Regale (\$22) is

WINE PICKS

Planning a trip Up North? The Leelanau Peninsula Vintners Association introduces the first Premium Pour, a unique event 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 7, featuring a special tasting of one or two rare, library and estate wines from each of nine Leelanau Peninsula wineries: Longview, L. Mawby, Cherry Republic, Shady Lane Cellars, Chateau Fontaine, Bel Lago, Chateau de Leelanau, Black Star Farms and Forty-Five North. This is a high-touch, more intimate tasting designed for the wine taster looking to learn more about the superior, award-winning wines that are the hallmark of those produced in the Leelanau Appellation. Advance tickets at \$25 per person include a commemorative glass and a premium wine at each winery are available now at: www.lpwines.com.

a ruby-hued, highly-aromatic (rose, strawberry and raspberry) off-dry sparkler made from the brachetto grape. Serve it well chilled as an aperitif with fruit and light cheeses.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are contribut-

ing 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 focusonwine@aol.com.

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TECH
FROM PAGE D1

a device that, well, extends the Windows Vista Media Center interface to your TV and streams all your media (music, videos, live and recorded TV, etc.) straight from your PC.

Remember a couple months ago when I said that the best Blu-ray player you could buy was a Sony PlayStation 3? Well,

it turns out that one of the best extenders is an Xbox 360. Microsoft's popular game console has extender capabilities built right in—plus it can play DVDs and download movies and TV shows.

The Xbox 360 sells for \$349.99, though you might want to spring for the \$449.99 Elite model, which offers an HDTV-friendly HDMI interface.

Slightly cheaper, though also

slightly less capable, is the D-Link DSM-750 MediaLounge Extender. Designed to look like a glam stereo component, it should blend seamlessly into your entertainment center.

The DSM-750 lacks a DVD player (and idiotic copyright restrictions prevent it from streaming DVDs from your PC), though it can download movies from CinemaNow.

Both extenders require a wired or wireless connection

to your home network. Wired is best if you plan to stream a lot of video, especially high-definition video. Don't want to string Ethernet cable through your walls? Try a powerline networking kit like the ActionTec MegaPlug AV, which you can find online for around \$129.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, also writes the Cheap skate blog for CNET (blogs.cnet.com/cheap skate). He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

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Joseph A. DiMaggio Jewelers
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CHOCOLATE

FROM PAGE D1

into tasty fads like fondue or campfire s'mores and has been famously paired with ice cream. As such, visitors can check out displays of hot fudge warmers and a dry-ice-fueled eskimo pie dispenser.

Braden said the museum has been planning for over a year to host this chocolate extravaganza - and it was a project that inspired ideas galore.

Related events include an artist who paints in chocolate and a food expert who will host a chocolate tasting party. Area chocolatiers - including Schokolad, Sanders and Morley Candy Makers - are sponsoring the exhibit and a chocolate cafe will be featured.

"People will be in the mood for chocolate," said Braden, "no matter what."

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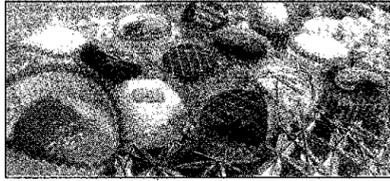
SATISFY YOUR SWEET TOOTH AT THESE CHOCOLATERIAS

Sanders Ice Cream Parlor: This Detroit original is best-known for its buttercream and fudge Bumpy Cake and its decadent Hot Fudge Ice Cream Puff dessert - topped with Sander's Milk Chocolate hot fudge. Stop in at 745 E. Maple Road in Birmingham. Call (248) 594-2056. Or visit the Livonia location inside Laurel Park Place at Six Mile and Newburgh roads. Call (734) 591-2147. See sanderscandy.com.

Schokolad Chocolate Factory: Among the newest edition to chocolaterias in Metro Detroit, this Birmingham-based "Willy Wonka wonderground" crafts fine handmade truffles and personalized chocolates. Visit the sweet-smelling cafe yourself at 167 N. Old Woodward, Birmingham. Call (248) 723-8008. Also at 3140 Walton Boulevard, Rochester Hills. Call (248) 375-9700. Visit schokolad.com

Morley Candy Makers: Since 1919 this metro Detroit candy factory has been churning out the sweet stuff. Chocolate lovers swear by the Pecan Torties and Peanut Butter Block. Sample the goods at 436 S. Main Street in downtown Rochester. Call (248) 656-2590. Visit morleycandy.com

Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory: Sure this factory churns out 300 varieties of handmade chocolates but let's face it, it's the assortment of Monster Apple confections lining the glass window that makes our mouths water. The caramel-coated Granny Smiths



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Schokolad, a sponsor of The Henry Ford's new exhibition, sells fresh, hand-crafted truffles that look like little works of art.

come dipped, rolled and drizzled in an array of nuts, candies and chocolate. See for yourself at the Somerset Collection North, 2800 W. Big Beaver, Troy. Call (248) 816-1454. Visit rmcfc.com

Moonstruck Chocolate Cafe: A relative newcomer to metro Detroit, Moonstruck's best-seller is simply a 2-ounce chocolate bar. Try an exotic flavor like Dark Chocolate Espresso Bean for \$3. Chocolate Cafes are located at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi and The Mall at Partridge Creek in Clinton Township. But the products can be found at Plum Market in Bloomfield Hills, Joe's Produce in Livonia and Nino Salvaggio in Troy. Visit www.moonstruckchocolate.com.

Compiled By Stephanie A. Casola, Staff Writer

Test your cocoa IQ

In time for The Henry Ford's candy-coated summer installment, *Chocolate: The Exhibition*, see how much you really know about the sweet stuff in our chocolate-flavored quiz:

1. What Detroit confectioner became synonymous with hot fudge after opening his first candy store in 1875?
2. In what year was Nestle Quik instant chocolate powder introduced?
3. What chocolate process did Holland chemist Coenraad Van Houten invent to give chocolate a darker color and milder flavor?

4. What chocolate contains no cocoa solids at all?
5. Who introduced the first box of chocolates?
6. Who crafted America's first chocolate assembly line process making 5 cent milk chocolate bars available to the masses, and earning the title "The Henry Ford of chocolate makers?"
7. What movie made Hershey's Reese's Pieces famous?
8. Name the unprocessed seeds from which chocolate is produced.

Compiled By Stephanie A. Casola, Staff Writer

Answers: 1. Fred Sanders 2. 1948 3. Dutching 4. White chocolate 5. Richard Cadbury 6. Milton S. HERSHEY 7. E.T. The Extraterrestrial 8. cacao.

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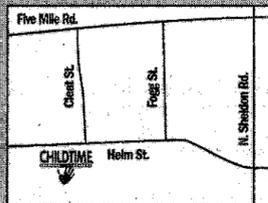
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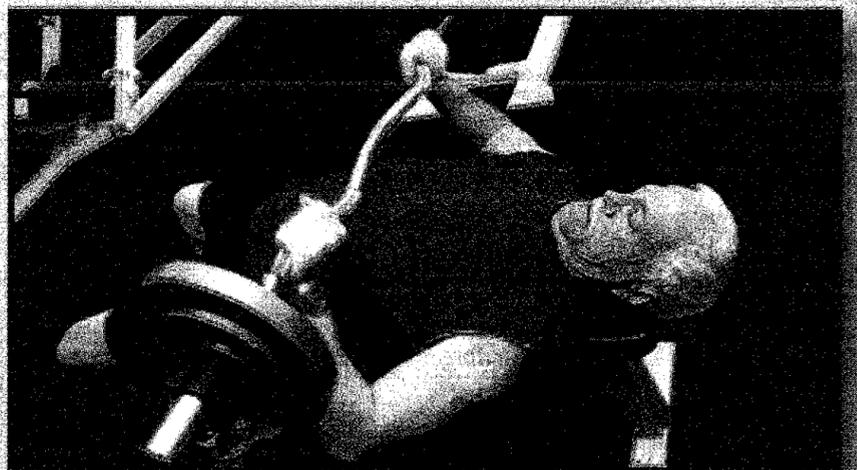
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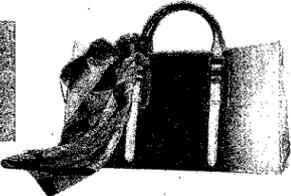




pink

Wensdy Von Buskirk - Features Editor (734) 953-2019
wvonb@hometownlife.com

pink picks



Wear It!

A great haircut — treat yourself

DON'T Wear It!

Yellow teeth — try a whitening system

Tote It!

T.J. Maxx Black and White Handbag

Kick It!

FitFlop Fitness Shoe — get those legs ready for summer



Face It!

Dior Addict Ultra-Gloss Reflect in Tinsley Pink at Saks — proceeds benefit Operation Smile

Eat It!

Spicy brownies from Sugar Kisses in Royal Oak inspired by the movie *Chocolat*

See It!

Sex and the City: The Movie!!!!!!

Drink It!

A cosmo, in honor of *Sex and the City: The Movie*

Tivo It!

So You Think You Can Dance

Hear It!

Detroit Rock CF Vol. 2 at Pure Detroit

Experience It!

Baby Loves Disco at Eden Nightclub in Ferndale



Volunteer Deanna Grace pours some tea for Pat Semerjian of Farmington Hills, left, and Alicia Moskal of Livonia during the Miss America afternoon tea at the Longacre House in Farmington Hills.

Miss America Tea Time



The tea blend, featuring American Beauty Rose, was selected to celebrate hometown girl Kirsten Haglund's 2008 Miss America victory.

The History of Miss America was the topic of Traditional Tea at the Longacre House on May 21. Tea enthusiasts sipped a special 'Miss America' blend as local hospitality expert Amy Anikewich recounted the history of the pageant, from its humble roots to the crowning of 2008 Miss America Kirsten Haglund, who hails from Farmington Hills. The Traditional Tea Series is offered through the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Farmington Hills Special Services Department. Themed teas are served once each month in the main dining room of



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tea specialist Linda Pudlik talks to tea goers during the Miss America afternoon tea at the Longacre House in Farmington Hills. Pudlik chose a menu — complete with a "Miss America" tea blend — to reflect the afternoon's theme.

The Longacre House, located at 24705 Farmington Road, just south of Eleven Mile in Farmington Hills. Teas are \$20 for residents of Farmington/Farmington Hills, \$25 for non-residents. To find out more about future teas, call (248) 473-1859.

For an online photo gallery from the Miss America Tea, visit www.hometownlife.com.



Bethany Shorb creates every tie in her Cyberoptix lab.

Naka Hosts Spring Trunk Show

Looking for the perfect gift for dad? Father's Day is fast approaching, and Naka hopes to help you get prepared. The Ferndale boutique will host a special trunk show 6-9 p.m. Thursday, May 29 featuring father-friendly gifts by Cyberoptix TieLab and Phantom Limb.

Museum in Bloomfield Hills, or online at www.cyberoptix.com and www.toybreaker.etsy.com.

PHANTOM LIMB

If pops likes to write, encourage him to record his fond memories of fatherhood — or his dreams of getting away from it all — in a journal by Phantom Limb.

Stephanie Tardy of Pleasant Ridge (who works here at the Observer & Eccentric) creates colorful paper goods under the motto "The Stuff You're Missing." Many of Phantom Limb's products are made from re-claimed paper culled from unusual sources. Tardy also will debut a 15-piece grouping of playful, mixed media art at the Naka Trunk Show as well as a new series of Michigan collages, inspired by her popular Michigan mixed-paper notebooks. Visit www.phantomlimb.typepad.com for more.

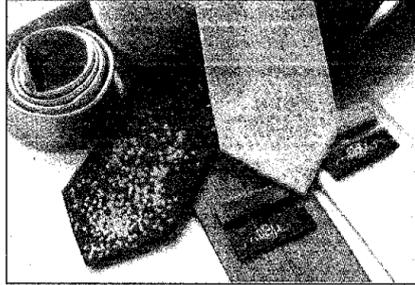
Naka, owned by Kelly Pettibone, is located at 171 W. 9 Mile Road in Ferndale. Call (248) 582-9113 or visit www.nakastore.com.

CYBEROPTIX TIELAB

Founded by Cranbrook Academy of Art alumna Bethany Shorb, Cyberoptix offers neckwear like you've never seen. If your dad likes to look hip at the office, check out these ties featuring wishbones, clipper ships, engine parts and exhaust pipes.

Shorb, who has been featured on The Martha Stewart Show, designs and hand-screens each necktie, using eco-friendly processes and water-based ink.

Selections from the Cyberoptix TieLab can be found locally at Naka in Ferndale; The Museum of Contemporary Art in Detroit; Design 99 in Hamtramck, The Store at Cranbrook Art



Skinny ties by Cyberoptix TieLab.

Locals gather for 'Sex and the City' soirees

In fashion circles, there hasn't been so much buzz over a movie since *The Devil Wears Prada*. I've heard of several parties being planned around the premiere of *Sex and the City: The Movie*, and tickets seem to be selling out fast.

I'll be going to a Fashion Group International-Detroit party that starts with cosmopolitans at Forté Restaurant, then heads to the Birmingham Uptown 8 for the 7 p.m. showing.

According to Alicia at Uptown 8, several S&TC showings have already sold out on opening night, and David at



Pink Ink
Wensdy Von Buskirk

Forté (located right next door to the theatre) is busy organizing parties at his restaurant around the movie.

Seems like many of the show's fans are eager to catch up on the latest adventures of Carrie, Samantha, Charlotte and Miranda. Will Carrie marry Mr. Big? Is Charlotte finally expecting? Is Miranda adjusting to family life? Is

Samantha as daring as ever? We'll soon find out!

There's still time to organize a girl's night out of your own! Most theatres sell tickets in advance, so round up your friends and make the night festive. Your significant other will be glad he's off the hook from having to see the biggest chick flick of the year ...

By the way, I personally loved the crazy hat Sarah Jessica Parker wore to the movie's London premiere, complete with plumes of grass, fabric flowers and butterflies reaching toward the sky. I recognized it immediately

as the work of London millener Philip Treacy, who visited metro Detroit when he exhibited his hats at Cranbrook a couple years back.

Only the most daring fashionistas can pull off his creations ... and SJP is certainly one of them.

Don't we all wish we could take wardrobe risks like that? Isn't that one of the main reasons we love watching S&TC in the first place?

This column is reprinted from Wensdy Von Buskirk's new "Pink Ink" blog. To read Pink Ink or create your own blog, visit www.hometownlife.com.

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