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SUNDAY
August 17, 2008

WESTLAND Observer

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W-W scores 'trending upward'

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Students in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools are showing progress when it comes to the Michigan Merit Exam.

"We're pleased with the progress we've made, we're trending upward," said School Superintendent Greg Baracy, adding that, "our improvements were more significant than statewide."

More than 800 11th-graders took the MME, which includes the ACT college entrance exam, showing increases district-wide in meeting or exceeding state standards in mathematics, reading, writing and English language arts. There was a minuscule decline — two students — in science and a drop of 44 students not making the grade in social studies over last year's scores, according to state data.

Statewide, 11th-graders who scored at the proficient or advanced levels improved slightly in the subjects of reading, writing, English language arts, and science. There was no change in the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced in math and a slight decline in social studies.

Meeting or exceeding state standards at John Glenn High School were 117 students in mathematics, 222 in reading, 179 in science, 354 in social studies, 121 in writing and 174 in English language arts, while Wayne Memorial High School, students showing mastery totaled 126 in math, 198 in reading, 188 in science, 317 in social studies, 107 in writing and 160 in English language arts.

"We're pleased with the progress made, it's 10 points in some areas at Wayne Memorial," Baracy said.

According to Baracy, the district has worked hard to realign the high school program to match the merit curriculum and exam. It's also providing additional support at earlier levels so that once the students get to 11th grade they will have what they need.

"That's important," he said. "The curriculum wasn't quite aligned, but with these changes, they'll be better prepared to take the tests."

He added that students also are realizing the importance of the new test. There's a bonus in passing the MME. Students who complete the tests and receive scores in reading, writing, mathematics and science can qualify for a \$4,000 scholarship.

"It's starting to get through to them," he said

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BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The fallout was grim, and it came swiftly, after the dust settled from a deadly drug sting that seemed more like a scene from a gritty crime movie than an August afternoon in a bustling Westland neighborhood.

One accused would-be robber was dead. Four defendants face the possibility of life in prison. A mayor who has been trying to boost his city's image was upset. Undercover police officers, merely trying to take suspected drug dealers off the streets, came under public scrutiny for the way they do their jobs.



Pringle



Brian Thomas was shot four times and died at the scene.

The silver lining: No suspects remained on the loose, and no innocent bystanders had been shot or killed as authorities capped an extraordinary summer week that will be remembered for a gunfight outside Bob's of Canton-Westland, a popular market on Warren east of Merriman.

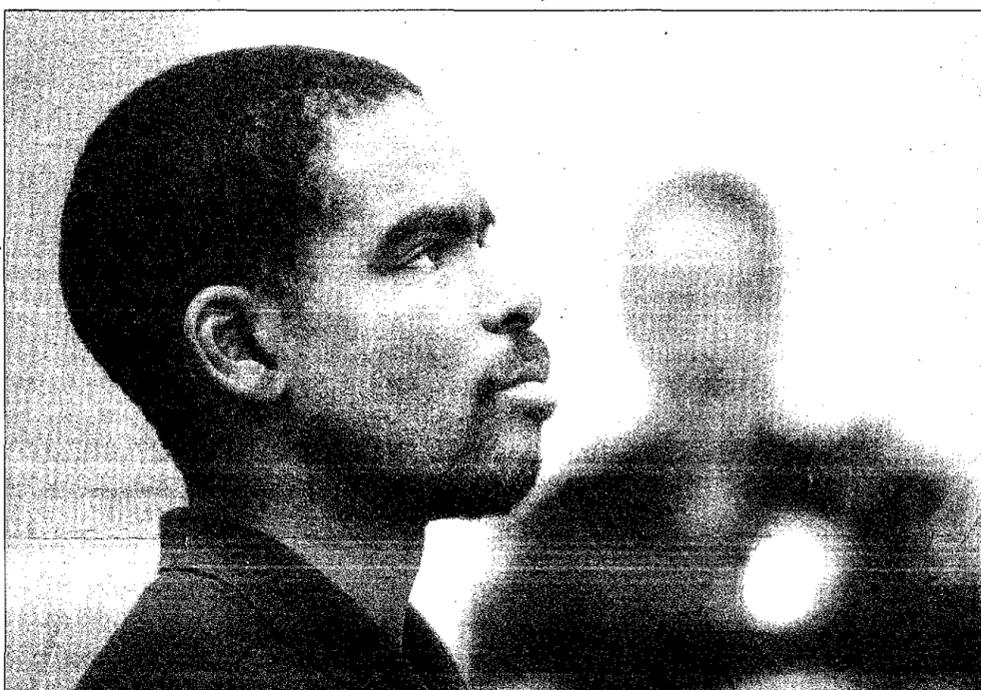
The gravity of the situation appeared to sink in when one defendant, 49-year-old Joseph Boldizar of Garden City, was slapped — like three other men — with a \$1 million cash bond.

"Oh, God," Boldizar said, facing Westland 18th District Magistrate Donald Vandersloot.

"My record is clean," Boldizar said in court. "I've never done anything like this before."

Arrested on Friday along with Boldizar in court were Demond Nigel Sanders, 29, and Roberto Reed, 32, both of Detroit. Defendant Benjamin Pringle, a 32-year-old Detroit and accused gunman, learned of the charges against him from a hospital bed where he was recovering from a chest wound.

Another accused gunman, 28-year-old Detroit Brian Thomas, fared worse. He was shot four times and died Tuesday afternoon outside Bob's market, where his body was covered with a white sheet for several hours before it



Roberto Reed appears for his arraignment in Westland District Court.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

was taken away.

In court, Vandersloot ordered the defendants back in court for an Aug. 28 preliminary hearing that will determine whether they should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. If convicted, all four men could face life in prison. Not-guilty pleas were entered for them.

Pringle is charged with four counts of assault with intent to murder; assault with intent to rob while armed; conspiracy to rob; delivery, possession and conspiracy to possess 1,000 grams or more of cocaine; three counts of felonious assault; being a felon with a firearm; felony firearm; and being a second-time habitual offender.

Authorities don't believe that Boldizar, Sanders and Reed fired any shots, police Lt. Dan Karrick said.

Boldizar is charged with assault with intent to rob; conspiracy to rob; and

Please see **SHOOT-OUT, A2**



Demond Nigel Sanders heads back to the lockup after his arraignment.



Joseph Boldizar of Garden City reacts to the \$1 million bond set by Magistrate Donald Vandersloot.

Mayor criticizes use of mall for drug bust

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland Mayor William Wild has sharply criticized the way Romulus police handled a drug sting that exploded in gunfire Tuesday afternoon outside a Westland market, leaving one suspect dead, others facing charges and scores of workers and residents terrified in their own neighborhood.

A polarizing debate over the merits of the undercover sting arose almost as quickly as the bullets stopped flying.



Wild

innocent people potentially in harm's way?

Wild has sided with those critics, and even though he had no prior knowl-

Why, many people wondered, would Romulus police agree to an undercover cocaine deal outside a busy shopping center near the northeast corner of the bustling Merriman-Warren intersection? Why would they place

edge of the sting, he offered an apology Thursday afternoon to business owners, residents, employees and customers "whose lives were placed in danger because of this event."

'NOT PART OF OPERATION'

Romulus notified the Westland Police Department's patrol desk around 3 p.m. Tuesday about the impending undercover operation that erupted in gunfire a half-hour later in the Merri-Warren strip mall parking lot. The officers declined assistance, Westland Police

Chief James Ridener said. "We were not part of the operation, nor were we requested to be part of the operation," Ridener said, although he personally chose not to second-guess Romulus police.

Wild, who has heard complaints about the incident, said that "in retrospect, I believe the recent Romulus Police Department undercover operation in Westland displayed both a very poor choice of time and location and a

Please see **STING, A2**

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Coming Thursday
in filter



Kid Rock to kids' stuff
The latest in entertainment news
is featured each Thursday in Filter

SHOOT-OUT

FROM PAGE A1

delivery, possession and conspiracy to possess 1,000 grams or more of cocaine. Sanders and Reed face the same charges as Boldizar, but Sanders also is charged as a third-time habitual offender and Reed as a fourth-time habitual offender.

Outside the courtroom Friday, Karrick said Thomas was the "common link" among the five men who authorities say went to the Merri-Warren shopping center intending to rob a police informant of three kilograms of cocaine.

In court Friday, police Sgt. Michael Harhold said the suspects were supposed to bring \$60,000 to buy the drugs. Instead, he said, they brought guns.

Sanders drove up in a Chevy Lumina with passengers Thomas and Boldizar, and the latter two suspects got into a silver Mercedes where the drug informant was waiting with cocaine, Harhold said. Meanwhile, Reed pulled up in a Buick Rendezvous with passenger Pringle, who approached the Mercedes.

Seconds later, a struggle erupted over the guns as the informant fought for his life, police said, and Thomas and Pringle are accused of firing shots from a 9mm semiautomatic pistol and another handgun as nine undercover Romulus officers began responding. By then, Westland police, who hadn't been asked to participate in the sting, began responding to the chaotic scene.

With Thomas dead, authorities said they captured Boldizar and a wounded Pringle on the scene. Police tracked down Sanders that night in Detroit, and Reed turned himself in Wednesday night to Detroit police, Karrick said.

The gunfight stunned workers and nearby residents who gathered near the shopping center and watched as the police investigation unfolded.

Westland Mayor William Wild was critical of Romulus police for the incident, and he issued an apology to bystanders who may have been placed in danger. Romulus Public Safety Director Charles Kirby said the suspects chose the location and that police weren't able to dictate where the two sides would meet.

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STING

FROM PAGE A1

poor decision not to involve the Westland Police Department."

Wild said he understands the need for inter-agency cooperation, but "I don't want or appreciate other communities bringing these types of operations to our city."

Romulus Public Safety Director Charles Kirby reiterated earlier Thursday that the suspects — not police — chose the location for the supposed drug deal. Authorities said the sting turned sour the moment the would-be drug buyers produced at least two handguns and fired first, in an attempt to rob a police informant rather than pay him.

"The police would love it if the bad guys would let us pick the spot," Kirby said, but he maintained that undercover stings are "a cat-and-mouse thing. It's back and forth."

One gunman, 28-year-old Brian Lamar Thomas of Detroit, was killed and another suspect was injured and hospitalized, but no police officers or citizens were wounded in the shoot-out. Witnesses reported hearing dozens of rounds being fired.

INVOLVEMENT 'IMPERATIVE'

Wild questioned the way the sting was handled and said, "I believe that if it is imperative that an operation like this take place in our city limits, that our police department should be involved in the operation from the very beginning."

Wild called the local narcotics division "one of the best trained and equipped units

in Wayne County" and said its officers "should have been involved in the planning, execution and backup stages of this operation, and should have been given the opportunity to secure the area to ensure public safety."

Police have accused one of the suspects, a Garden City man who lives near the Warren-Merriman intersection, of arranging the location for the drug deal that turned into a botched robbery.

Numerous residents have questioned the decisions by Romulus, while others have voiced support for authorities for trying to do a difficult job of taking drugs off the street.

"What is going on?" resident Carlos Manzo wrote in a letter to the *Observer*. "Why are we experiencing shoot-outs in Westland in the middle of the day between Romulus police and would-be drug dealers?"

Manzo didn't fault police for doing their job, but he said city officials should move to stop such operations in busy public places.

"I'm all for getting the bad guy," Manzo wrote, "but don't invite the bad guy to my backyard — invite him to some isolated woods."

Wild agreed that drug stings need better planning.

"I apologize to the business owners, residents, employees and customers of these establishments whose lives were placed in danger because of this event, and would ask that in the future, more consideration of ensuring the public's safety be taken into account with regards to the planning and execution of these types of operations," he said.

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Spaghetti dinner

The Ed Gucwa Memorial MDA Spaghetti Dinner will be held noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24, at the Sgt. Romanowski VFW Post 6896, 28945 Joy, east Middlebelt, in Westland. The dinner costs \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. There also will be music, bake sales and raffles. For more information, call (734) 525-9454.

Wildflower talk

Native plant specialist Vern Stephens will be at the Public Library of Westland Wednesday, Aug. 20, to speak on "Native Wildflowers for the Home Landscape." His native wildflower plant sale will run from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in advance of his talk 7-8:30 p.m.

People interested in attending can call the library at (734) 326-6123 to reserve a seat.

Fireside chat

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, invites residents to join him for refreshments and an informal Fireside Chat 6-8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland.

"I know we all lead busy lives, but it's important to me to hear from Westland residents about the issues that matter most to them, and at a time convenient to them," LeBlanc said. "In addition to my regular monthly coffee hours in the morning, I've decided to start hosting additional hours so we can get together for an evening Fireside Chat."

"My hope is that the additional evening hours will allow residents another opportunity to keep up to date on developments in the Capitol, especially when it involves initiatives to turn our state's economy around and creating more good-paying jobs for our workers."

For more information, call LeBlanc toll-free at (888) 737-5325 or send an e-mail to richardleblanc@house.mi.gov.

Residents can also visit his Web site at www.leblanc.houseedems.com. LeBlanc's legislative home page, which is fully accessible to people with disabilities, is a portal for news, district information and video public service announcements on issues important to Westland residents.

Health Expo

Patrons at Westland Shopping Center will find an added benefit when they shop on Saturday, Aug. 23. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Westland Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Health and Business Expo in the mall's east court. The event, which will feature both general business and health care providers, is co-sponsored by Westland Shopping Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, and Parkside Credit Union.

The Westland Shopping Center is at 35000 West Warren Road at Wayne Road. For more information, call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at (734) 326-7222.

AROUND WESTLAND

ON THE WEB

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

Outdoor concert

Operas are generally presented amid dim lighting indoors, but not so with the performance at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, in the Friendship Center's Coburn Park. The Mary Thompson Foundation is sponsoring a performance by two Michigan Opera Theatre singers with an accompanist and will include songs of George Gershwin, Irving Berlin and more.

Anyone interested is encouraged to sign up at the Friendship Center's front desk. The center is at 1119 N. Newburgh between Marquette and Ford.

Community gathering

An evening of free family-friendly fun is coming to the north end of Westland — and the entire community is invited.

Westland Mayor William R. Wild will hold a Community Gathering on 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, at Corrado Park. The evening marks the first in a series of outdoor gatherings that aim to bring together members of the city administration and residents in an informal setting.

"This evening is about families getting together," said Wild. "Parents can bring their children down to the park for fun and great food, and also learn something about their neighborhood in the process."

Recent developments regarding the Cooper School property will be discussed and representatives of Orchard Hiltz & McCliment, Inc., Westland's consulting engineers, also will be on hand to give an update and answer questions regarding the Ann Arbor Trail resurfacing project.

There will be plenty of games and activities for children, including safety demonstrations by the Westland Police and Fire Departments, a mini golf clinic and inflatable bouncers. A free, old-fashioned barbecue will cap off the event.

Westland's Corrado Park is on Gladys at Flamingo Road, south of Joy. For more information, call (734) 467-3200.

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.

Open house

McKinley Cooperative Preschool will have an open house 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 23. The preschool is enrolling for the 2008-9 school year for children ages 2 to 5. It offers morning and afternoon classes, affordable tuition and a teacher with over 25 years of experience.

McKinley is located at 6500 N. Wayne Road, at the

corner of Hunter. Mention this announcement and get \$10 off registration fee for registrations at or before the open house. For more information, call (734) 729-7222 or go online www.mckinley-preschool.org.

Surplus food

The City of Westland will distribute surplus federal food to residents north of Michigan Avenue 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 21, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, south of Palmer.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers may collect their food at Taylor Towers and must contact their building manager for their day of distribution. Greenwood Villa residents must pick up their food items at Greenwood Villa.

The August distribution will include grapefruit juice, instant potatoes, peanut butter and frozen 2-pound turkey ham. For more information, call the Dorsey Center's surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366.

Football opener

Join the Westland Comets and the Westland Meteors as they celebrate the 50th anniversary of Westland Youth Athletic Association. WYAA began with football in 1958, and, on Sunday, Aug. 24, the Meteors and the Comets will play their inaugural game of season at Wayne Memorial High School. Games are at 10 a.m. (Junior Freshman), noon (Freshman), 2 p.m. (JV) and 4 p.m. (Varsity).

WYAA is inviting all former players, coaches and unit directors of both squads to join the group for a day of football. In addition, the WYAA will honor four Super Bowl Championship teams from both units — the 1990 JV Comets, 1995 Varsity Meteors, 2001 JV Meteors and 2001 Varsity Comets. Members of those squads can contact Keith DeMolay at (734) 722-1251 or (734) 516-9269 by Aug. 20.

Bowling fund-raiser

John Glenn High School cheerleaders will have their annual bowling fund-raiser Saturday, Aug. 23, at Merri-Bowl Lanes, 30950 Five Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$15 each and include three games of bowling, shoes, door prizes and food. There also will be a 50/50 drawing and raffles. Adults only. Call Tammy Hudson for ticket information at (734) 729-1132.

Tent sale

Keep an eye out for the big tent at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church at 37775 Palmer, Westland. The church will be holding a tent sale beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 13. Tables filled with household goods, miscellaneous items and specialties like Avon, candles, tools, houseplants, books and crafts will be on sale. Used clothing also will be for sale in the church for \$2 per plastic grocery bag, and there also will be a food court.

All money raised will be donated to are organizations to help people in the

community. Past recipients have included the Salvation Army, Wayne County Family Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, World Hunger (CROP Walk), St. Mary's Outreach Center and the John Bolde Food Depot, the church's mission partner, Trinity Lutheran Church, and for food baskets for Adams Middle School families.

The cost to participate is \$25, if you bring your own table, and \$35 to use one of the church's eight-foot-long table. For more information, call (734) 722-1735 or (734) 722-4363.

School registration

St. Damian School is accepting students for its three-year-old preschool program and students for kindergarten through eighth-grade. The school is fully accredited and offers a licensed morning and afternoon latchkey program; certified, experienced teachers; hot lunch program and many other school programs and extracurricular activities. It's at 29891 Joy east of Merriman in Westland. For more information, call (734) 427-1680 or visit its Web site at www.stdamian.com.

Preschool enrollment

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is currently accepting enrollment into its Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year-old and 4-year-old programs. Willow Creek is at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-0078.

Meals drivers needed

Residents who have the time and available transportation can help the elderly delivering meals to home-bound seniors as part of the Meals on Wheels program. The route can be done in approximately 45 minutes, and mileage is paid to the driver. Half the route is a senior high-rise lobby drop-off, the other consists of a condo route.

For more information, call Barbara Ramseur at (734) 722-7632 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Community cookout

The Lutheran Church of Our Savior holds a community cookout from 6-8 p.m. Thursdays at the church at 29425 Annapolis, Westland. The church also holds a community forum from 7-8:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month. For more information, call (734) 728-3440.

YWCA enrollment
The YWCA of Westland Wayne County's preschool programs are now accepting registration for the fall.

The YWCA offers quality programs to children 2-5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs also are available. Children learn valuable skills needed for future socialization and educational growth.

For more information on these programs, or to enroll a child, call the YWCA's Education Department at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

Golf outing

John Glenn High School's wrestling program will have its 11th annual golf outing fund-raiser on Saturday, Sept. 20, at Warren Valley Golf Course. Cost is \$85 for golf, cart, lunch at the turn, and dinner. Please contact Judy at judyawl122@yahoo.com or (734) 634-4595 for more information or to make reservations. More information also is available at www.glennwrestling.com.

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LIKE NUMBERS? there are a pile of them in today's SPORTS section



Wayne Memorial senior drum major Delancey Barron works with freshman Emma Karson on her posture.

Wayne High students jazz it up for band camp

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

By last Thursday evening, 16-year-old Stefanie Huffman was "pretty much packed" for band camp.

A junior at Wayne Memorial High School, she's making her third trip with the band for a week of practice at Camp Mowana in Mansfield, Ohio.

"It's a lot of fun even though it's a lot of hard work," she said. "We practice and then we get to have fun at night."

The band left at 10 a.m. this morning for the camp, about a two-hour drive from western Wayne County. They'll stop along the Ohio Turnpike for lunch and get to the camp in time to begin working on what will be their seven-minute half-time show this fall.

According to band director Matthew Diroff, this year's theme will be a tribute to New Orleans, with the music wrapping around a Dixieland tune, *When the Saints Come Marching In*.

"It's the first time we're doing a jazz show for halftime, that's why it's difficult for us," he said.

The band has 32 new students, 18 more than last year and, with 70 members, it's the largest it's been in years. Last

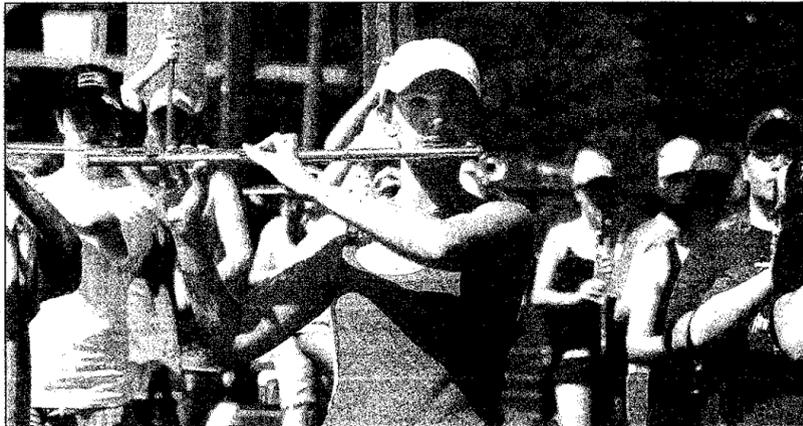


Wayne Memorial junior Megan Connolly chose a colorful hat to wear during marching band practice.

week, Diroff spent the week working on the basics in preparation for camp where the band will practice 3 1/2 hours before lunch and a like amount of time in the afternoon and after dinner, when they'll "put everything together they learned during the day."

"It's a lot of work, they keep a busy schedule," he said. "They're exhausted by the end of the day."

But not too exhausted. According to Huffman, there's a party, a dance, scavenger hunt and video games in the evening. The dance is Thursday night and the students have to dress up like a celebrity or a cartoon



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne Memorial Marching Band member Dixie Watkins practices having the correct posture, being at attention and learning steps in preparation for this week's trip to band camp.



The Wayne Memorial High School marching band works on the basics in before heading to Camp Mowana this week for band camp.

character. "I know I want to be a cartoon character, I just haven't decided which one," said Huffman during an interview last Thursday evening.

When Huffman joined the band as a freshman, she played the baritone, but her second year switched to the Sousaphone. She's glad she did. It's easier to carry when marching.

The veteran camper remembers her first trip to camp. She described herself as a "little bit shy," but by the time she got back home, she was talking a lot.

"This year, I know a lot of the people," she added.

The band will be back at Wayne Memorial Saturday afternoon and will do a show for their families and the community at 5 p.m.

"They'll run through the half-time show a couple of times; usually, they do better the second time," Diroff said. "It's a nice way to give the parents and the community a chance to see what they did at camp."

They'll also show off their band camp T-shirts which they'll wear under their uniforms during the marching

band season. According to Diroff, the shirts allow them to look uniform when they take their jackets off after performances.

With so many new members, Diroff admits it will take the group awhile to fine-tune the halftime show, but he's not worried, because "this is a great group of young kids."

"With 32 new students, we've had to teach them scratch and they've done a fantastic job," he said. "They're like sponges, they pick up what we throw at them."

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SMART Park + Ride moves civic center lot

Beginning Monday, Aug. 18, people who utilize SMART's Park + Ride Route 255 near Westland's City Hall will park their vehicles in a new location - one that is still in the vicinity of City Hall.

The change of location was recently proposed in part of Mayor William R. Wild's V.I.R. (Very Important Resident) program and resident complaints that the parking lot at City Hall was too full to conduct city business.

V.I.R., which began early last year, continues to manage citizen concerns and track trends in an effort to deliver quality service to residents.

"Our residents who frequent City Hall have shared with us their concerns about finding a place to park," said Wild. "We wish to accommodate SMART passengers, yet we cannot compromise the needs of our residents."

The new parking location for Route 255 will be the northeast lot of the Bailey Recreation Center off of J.F. Kennedy Drive behind City Hall. Patrons can access the lot by turning onto J.F. Kennedy Drive from Ford Road or by turning onto Cliff Orr Street (which becomes J.F. Kennedy Drive) from Carlson. The bus will stop on Kennedy Drive to board passengers.

For a detailed schedule of pickup and drop-off times, call SMART at (866) 962-5515 or visit www.smartbus.org.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Peace Camp for Kids
Kirk of Our Savior Peace Camp takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24 (lunch will be served). The camp is open to children of all ages and religious backgrounds. Spend a few hours learning to work together in order to achieve success. Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information or to sign up, please contact Jenny at 313-532-4310.

Open house

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, located at 30330 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia, will be hosting an open house 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20. The three-year program runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and the four-year program runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Potty training is not required. Low cost tuition. For more information, visit the Web site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com or call (734) 844-8147.

Fall enrollment

Registration is now being accepted for the fall for preschool 3-year-olds and kindergarten through eighth-grade at St. Damian School, 29891 Joy, Westland. Call parish office at (734) 421-6130 for more information.

Free workshop

Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician, wellness consultant and clinical nutritionist, is presenting "Your Thyroid and Weight Gain" 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, at Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Do you have cold hands or feet? Diet and can not lose weight? Need answers? This no charge workshop will present a holistic approach to balancing your hormones naturally. Seating is limited to the first 15 callers. Reservations are required. For reservations, call (734) 756-6904 or go online to www.TLCHolisticWellness.com.

Remote-controlled race day

Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church hosts "Remote-Controlled Race Day," 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6. Racers can bring their R.C. vehicle and race it on the church's large oval track, complete with hill and jump ramp. Ribbons will be awarded to winners. No sign-up necessary. Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. If you need more information, contact Jenny at (313) 532-4310.

John Glenn reunion

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

Fish Dial-A-Ride

Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times, and areas they're willing to drive. For additional information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Higher Rock Cafe

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands. Check out Higher Rock on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

CRAFT SHOWS

Sts. Peter & Paul

Crafters are wanted for the 20th annual arts and crafts show Saturday, Nov. 22, at Sts. Peter & Paul Church Hall, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Deb at (248) 946-0173 or Virginia (734) 522-9653.

St. Theodore

The St. Theodore's CCW will hold its annual Fall Craft Show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, in the parish social hall at 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Admission is free, and table rental is available for \$25. Call Mary at (734) 425-4421 (voice mail #10) for rental information.

FOR SENIORS

Friendship Center

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

Dyer Center

The Wayne-Westland school district's Dyer Senior Adult Center offers activities Monday-Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts,



Wish you were here

Dina Klaus of Garden City and Rick Kolo of Philadelphia, Pa., posed with the Garden City Observer while vacationing in South Miami Beach, Fla., where they enjoyed a week in the sun. The couple posed in front of the infamous Loewis Hotel while browsing through stores on Collins Avenue. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Garden City or Westland Observer and send it to Sue Mason, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, kitchen band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.

Senior fitness

Seniors can get in shape through some programs offered at the Maplewood Center. The Senior Fitness Room is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Annual membership is \$50 per year or \$1 for a daily pass. Aerobic classes are held 8:45-9:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

Advocacy group

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

Substance abuse support

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

422-1995.

Menopause & More

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

Counterpoint

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

Toughlove

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

EDUCATION

St. Raphael

St. Raphael Catholic School, located on Merriman just north of Ford in Garden City, is now accepting open enrollment for the 2008-2009 school year for pre-

school through eighth-grade. Programs include 3-4-year-old preschool, technology updates and a host of extra-curricular activities. Computer labs, new classroom technology, Japanese class, and chess club are some of the school's newest additions. The school has a strong academic program and also offers religion class, weekly Mass and sacramental preparation including Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation. Latchkey and bussing is available, and all faiths are welcome. For registration information or to learn more about St. Raphael Catholic School, contact the school office at (734) 425-9771 or visit the Web site at www.straphael-gc.org.

St. Damian

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

Academic Pathways

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool at 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia, is currently enrolling for 2008-2009 school year. Morning sessions for the 3- and 4-year-old programs are available. Potty training is not required. There is a certified teacher. The 4-year-old program runs 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. The 3-year-old program runs 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday mornings. For more information, call (734) 459-6689 or visit the Web site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com.

YWCA preschool

The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2+ to 5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available. For more information on these programs, or to enroll your child, call the YWCA's Education Department at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

VOLUNTEERS

Karmanos Institute

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

First Step

First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne

County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223.

Drivers

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

VNA Hospice

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required. (248) 967-8361 or visit www.vna.org.

Seasons Hospice

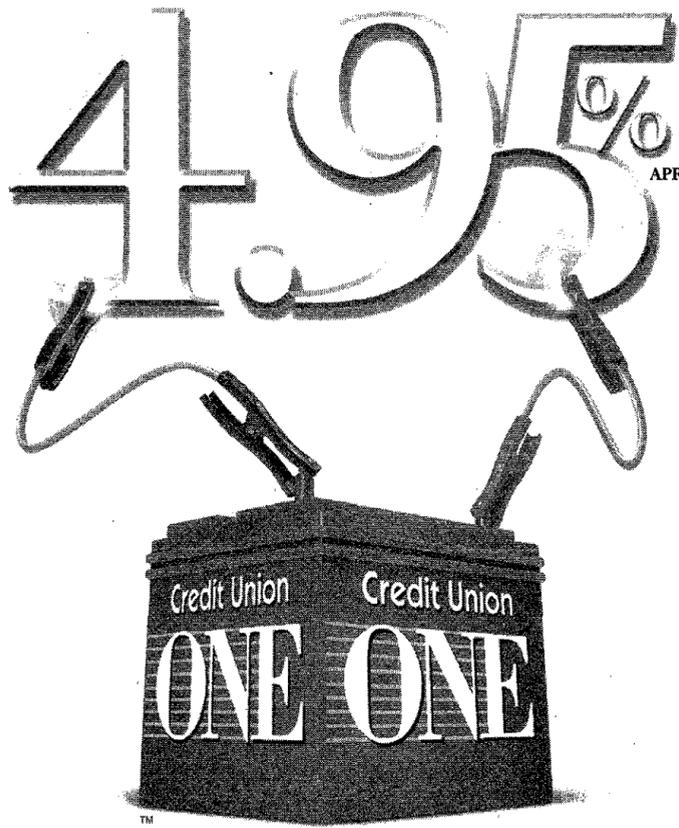
Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community. For more information please call Ruth at (800) 370-8592.

Literacy Council

The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

Heartland Hospice

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.



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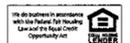
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Members of a Haitian boys soccer team show the jerseys and cleats donated by members of the Wayne-Westland Soccer League.

Donations bring smiles to soccer team

The recognizable red and black jerseys of the Wayne-Westland Soccer League can be found in rural Haiti where a team is sporting shirts and cleats, donated by the families of local soccer players.

The league, which collected the donations of old soccer equipment and jerseys at its annual summer picnic last month. Working with the Raincatchers organization, it was able to send the uniforms with a group that went to install rainwater collection systems on houses in a small mountain-top community in Haiti.

There was group of boys that made up a soccer team in the small community. Most of the boys on the Haitian team are guides and translators for Raincatchers and have helped carry barrels and pipes for Raincatcher teams for years. WWSL state delegate Steve Blanchard found out about Raincatchers through co-worker Craig Calkins who participates in the organization.

"We talked about how awesome it would be to send some soccer shoes with him," Blanchard said. "From there the idea took off. We as a league were just glad we were

able to participate and make a difference!"

"This is a truly generous gift," said Bob Keese, founder of Raincatchers. "The boys are used to playing in ripped and filthy clothes, now they will look like a professional team, and who knows, maybe even play like one."

"The kids were ecstatic over the jerseys and cleats," Calkins said.

They put the uniforms and cleats to good use taking on the Raincatchers members in a game of soccer. The boys team beat the Raincatchers team 6-4.

Web site takes on health care quality

A local startup company is taking on two major issues important to Michiganders, job creation and health care quality.

WhereToFindCare.com hopes to add hundreds of jobs while improving access to quality health care. They're lofty goals, yet the business is optimistic it will reach those goals with its new Web site, www.WhereToFindCare.com. The site is meant to steer consumers to the highest-quality health care facilities and compile patient experiences for facilities to use to improve their services.

"With all the new services we're currently developing, our goal is to grow to at least 100 employees in the next several years," said company co-founder Barbara O'Connell of Westland.

WhereToFindCare.com is a Michigan-based startup that seeks to empower people in health care decision making. The firm provides a free Web site that combines quality and satisfaction data of many different types of health care facilities and presents them in a clear, concise format which eases patients' decision making process. It also allows patients, families and visitors to rate the care they received so that others may benefit from that knowledge.

In addition to ratings, visitors to WhereToFindCare.com can also view quality data and browse amenities, photos and virtual tours of participating

facilities. Consumers use the site for free and health care facilities may purchase upgraded home pages. In order to promote health care improvement, facilities may view their ratings and comments any time, free of charge. The site's data base includes free clinics, hospitals, dialysis centers and nursing homes, among others.

According to O'Connell, the company has three full-time employees and contracts services from several Detroit-area companies and individual professionals. Depending on how successful the Web site is in

2008, the company may hire up to 10 employees in 2009, including sales, marketing and support staff. It plans to hire at least two sales representatives in 2009 regardless of 2008 performance. O'Connell added that WhereToFindCare.com's market is large enough to sustain growth requiring the support of hundreds of employees.

For more information, go online to www.wheretofindcare.com/contactus.aspx or e-mail Barbara O'Connell at boconnell@wheretofindcare.com.

Have You Had A Hip Fracture In The Last 8 Years?

If you are 55 or Older we're looking for you!

Wayne State University and the Institute of Gerontology are conducting research to learn how individuals rebuild their lives after a hip fracture.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

GISP certification

Casey Hanson of Westland is a senior analyst in Wade Trim's Municipal Services Group, earned his Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP) certification.

With more than six years of experience, Hanson provides mapping and technical support to Wade Trim staff and the firm's client communities. His expertise includes parcel creation and mapping, GPS tools and techniques, and GIS utility asset management systems. He is also responsible for creating and maintaining GIS server applications.

Hanson earned his bachelor of science degree from Eastern Michigan University in 2001 and joined Wade Trim in 2002. He is a member of IMAGIN, a Michigan association for GIS professionals.

Overseen by the GIS Certification Institute, the certification program recognizes GIS professionals that have met educational and professional development requirements, professional experience requirements, and have met the standards for ethical conduct. GIS Professionals must renew their certification every five years. Hanson is one of 68 certified GIS Professionals residing in Michigan.

New pharmacist

Oakwood Healthcare System is welcoming pharmacist Dr. John Kurian to the Oakwood Annapolis Hospital

pharmacy department. Formerly a contingent pharmacist at Oakwood, Kurian is now a full-time clinical pharmacist specialist at the hospital.

Kurian, who received his doctor of pharmacy degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C., in 2006 and brings to Oakwood several years of experience from St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He was the chairperson for the Clinical Practice Council, has served on numerous multidisciplinary committees and was involved in the implementation of several clinical initiatives.

IGA glass certification

After 10 online modules, four online electives, 10 hours of written tests, and four hours of instructor-lead course work, glass installer Nathan Beaune of Auto One-Garden City was successfully certified by the Independent Glass Association (IGA).

"The IGA/AGRSS certification process is important to us as a corporation. With certified installers, consumers can be confident that their auto glass replacement was done by highly trained, qualified professionals," Ron Overbeck, operations manager, Auto One Glass and Accessories.

Auto One-Garden City is on Ford east of Wildwood.

New market manager

Ann Arbor's Sunday Artisan Market has announced the hiring of William T. Charley, a former of Westland resident, as market manager, to facilitate its weekly operations and expanded marketing initiatives.

William brings to the market diverse experience in customer service, policy planning and implementation, as well as graphic design/fine art

experience. He has worked at Zingerman's Delicatessen in Ann Arbor in purchasing where he coordinated the buying, receiving, and accounting departments.

He also is a freelance illustrator and is currently working on a children's project for Huron River Press, a volunteer with several community non-profits, including The Ark, Food Gatherers and Friends of the Library.

"The Sunday Artisan Market is a wonderful place," he says, "it just wants to grow. I feel that that is my job - to offer a vision of the future, create the action steps to get there, and then help navigate the path through that growth."

The Artisan Market is a weekly venue in the Kerrytown Pavilion at 315 Detroit St., Ann Arbor, where 50-plus artists show and sell their original work in glass, textiles, ceramics, wood, fiber, jewelry, painting, drawing, digital imagery, photography, recycled and mixed media. Some produce and concession vendors with jams/jellies, nuts, popcorn, plants, holiday greens, and cut flowers also are regular or seasonal vendors.

The Market is an all-volunteer not-for-profit organization founded in 1991 to offer an affordable venue for artists to show their work, learn and practice the business of art, and contribute to Ann Arbor's diverse art community. To learn more, go online to <http://artisanmarket.org> or <http://theartisanmarket.blogspot.com>.

Cheer for the hometown, read today's **SPORTS** section



Town 'N' Country Lanes

1100 S. Wayne Rd. Westland
Between Cherry Hill & Palmer

Fall Leagues Now Forming!

LADIES	MEN'S	MIXED
Monday 6:30 pm Tuesday 9:30 am Wednesday 9:30 am Wednesday 6:45 pm Thursday 6:45 pm	Wednesday 7:30 pm Thursday 6:30 pm	Friday 6:45 pm Saturday 7:15 pm Sunday 1 pm Monday 7 pm Wednesday Trio 7:30 pm
YOUTH LEAGUES	Tuesday Mens Inventional 6:45 pm	MIXED Every Other Week
Saturday 10:00 AM Saturday 12:30 PM	\$10,000 1st Place Based on 14 Teams	Saturday 7:15 pm Sunday @ 4 & 7 pm
BUMPER LEAGUES		ADULT/YOUTH
		Every other Sunday @ 10 am 4 on a Team

Open Bowling Special!

only **\$1.25** per game
Everyday Noon-6pm
Now Till Aug 30th

Openings for teams or individuals.
For More Information or to Hold a Spot Call **(734) 722-5000**

Town 'N' Country Lanes

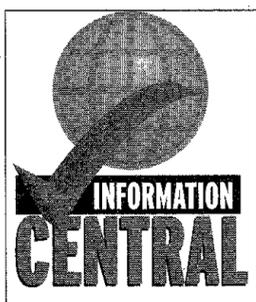
Visit Us On The Web: www.towncountrylanes.com

The 'other' China

If you think this is going to be another story on Beijing or the Olympics, you're dead wrong. This is about the other kind of china - the sort you sip tea from.

How many of you have Grandma's old china displayed in a cabinet, sitting in your cupboards, or even packed away in boxes in your basement? Do you ever wonder about its history or value? If so, a trip to the library might be in order.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland has books on many different types of china. Titles include "Lyle Price Guide to China," "Collectors Guide to Porcelain China," "Collectors Encyclopedia of Hall China," "Haviland China: The Age of Elegance," "Gaston's Flow Blue China Comprehensive Guide"



and "English China: Patterns and Pieces." Any of these books can be checked out and taken home with you or you can bring a piece in with you and browse the books here. Our selection isn't just limited to

china, either. The library has books and pricing guides on Depression glass, coins, stamps, antique furniture, clocks, vintage clothing and sports memorabilia.

Whether you're looking to sell, looking to insure, or just want to know how much those old dishes are worth, the library is a great place to start. And of course, if you do want books on the country of China, we have those, too!

Stop in anytime during business hours and ask a friendly librarian to show you where books on your subject of interest are.

Highlighted Activities
Capital Market Outlook (2nd Quarter Market Review): 7 p.m. Aug. 18.

Join Andrew Gagne, associate financial advisor, who will help you put current market conditions in perspective to help you become a better informed investor. Sign up to reserve your seat.

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

Join us as we discuss "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" by John Berendt. Berendt's sharply observed, suspenseful and witty narrative reads like a thoroughly engrossing novel and yet it is a work of nonfiction. Please read the book before coming to the discussion. All are welcome.

20s-30s Book Club: 7 p.m. Aug. 20 at Biggy Coffee, 37644 Ford, west of Newburgh.

Our next selection will be discussing is Tom Robbins' "Still Life With Woodpecker," a love story that takes place inside a pack of cigarettes. Copies are available at the Reference Desk.

Native Wildflowers for the Home Landscape: 7 p.m. Aug. 20.

This program will review the origin of native wildflowers, identify easy-care plants for the fall garden and provide maintenance tips. Native wildflowers will be available for purchase outside from 5:30-6:30 p.m., and registration for the program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Verne Stephens, native plant specialist, will present the program and conduct the plant sale. Call the Reference Desk at (734)326-6123 to reserve your seat.

Information Central was compiled by young adult librarian Bridget Sturdy. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.



A bowling fund-raiser will benefit the family of the late Gary Brown (left) - son Raymond, 4, daughter D.J., 2, and wife Patty.

Bowling benefit helps accident victim's family

Donations are being accepted for a bowling fund-raiser which will benefit the family of 27-year-old man who died Aug. 4.

The Gary Brown Benefit will be Saturday, Aug. 23, at Vision Lanes, 38250 Ford, west of Newburgh, Westland. The cost will be \$20 per person for two games of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and pop and entry in a drawing for a door prize. Children age 5 and under are free. There also will 50/50 and

other raffles.

According to Westland Police, he was hit at 4:55 a.m. Aug. 3 while he was in the eastbound lane of Joy about a half mile east of Newburgh. He was transported to St. Mary's Hospital and airlifted to the Ypsilanti hospital in grave condition with blunt force trauma to the head. He died at 9 a.m. Aug. 4.

He leaves behind a wife, Patty, and two children - Raymond, 4, and D.J., 2.

A 21-year-old Livonia man, who was arrested the day of the accident within 800 feet of where it occurred. The man has been released, pending the results of blood tests to determine if alcohol was a factor.

"He was my little brother's best friend," said Tiffany Walls. "He was pretty close to us."

For more information or to make a donation, call Walls at (734) 377-0620, Damian Ekpa at (734) 560-5520 or Brian Taylor at (734) 377-7295.

Mall offers gift cards for cotton purchases

Westland Shopping Center and Cotton Incorporated, the marketing and research company representing upland cotton, have unveiled "a natural part of everyday life," a back-to-school cotton promotion which offers shoppers the opportunity to receive a \$20 gift card for use towards their next purchase at the Westland Shopping Center cotton retailer of their choice.

"A natural part of everyday life" showcases images of people enjoying life - in fashionable cotton clothing. Shoppers choosing to take advantage of this promotion simply need

to present receipts from cotton merchandise purchases totaling \$200 or more to the Westland Shopping Center Customer Service Center beginning Monday, Aug. 18, and continuing while supplies last. They will receive a \$20 gift card to use towards their next cotton purchase.

Westland Shopping Center, managed by Jones Lang LaSalle, is among 23 malls throughout the country participating in this promotion.

"This promotion communicates a sincere and relative message to consumers regarding the natural choice - cot-

ton," said Paula G. Rosario, Cotton Incorporated's vice-president, consumer marketing - strategic alliances. "The concept 'a natural part of everyday life' simply states the obvious."

Westland Shopping Center, at Warren and Wayne roads, is a regional shopping center offering 80 stores including Aeropostale, Forever 21, Charlotte Russe, Pac Sun, American Eagle Outfitters and Eddie Bauer Outlet. For more information about the back-to-school promotion, call the Customer Service Center at (734) 421-0291.

OPEN
MON.-SAT. 9-9
SUN. 9-7

Mike's Marketplace

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(734) 464-0330

Your Meat & Deli Supermarket

Mike's Fantastic Savings

SALE VALID AUG 18 - AUG 24

Fresh Ground Beef
GROUND CHUCK \$2.29 lb.
Family Pack

Farm Fresh BBQ
SPLIT FRYER HALVES \$1.29 lb.

Tender Juicy
PORK TENDERLOIN \$3.59 lb.

Boneless Beef
SIRLOIN STEAK \$4.99 lb.

Fresh Ground Beef
GROUND SIRLOIN \$2.79 lb.
Family Pack

Bone In
CENTER CUT PORK CHOPS \$2.99 lb.

Boneless Beef Tenderloin
FILET MIGNON \$6.99 lb.
4 STEAK Value Pack

Frozen Fully Cooked • 31-40 Ct.
JUMBO SHRIMP \$6.99 lb.
2 lb. Bag \$13.98

Lean Boneless
DELICIOUS CUBE STEAKS \$2.99 lb.

From The Deli
Fresh Sliced Lipari
OVEN ROASTED TURKEY BREAST \$3.99 lb.

Check our website for additional specials! Mikes-marketplace.com

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TONIGHT
THE STYLISTICS 8:30PM
HAROLD MELVIN'S BLUE NOTES
 and **THE MAIN INGREDIENT**
 featuring **CUBA GOODING, SR.**
70'S SOUL JAM
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

CHRIS ISAAK 8:00PM
 wsg **JAMES HUNTER**
 MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

TOMORROW
JUDAS PRIEST 8:30PM
HEAVEN & HELL wsg **MOTORHEAD**
TESTAMENT and **SEDCU**
METAL MASTERS TOUR
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

THURSDAY
THIRD DAY 8:00PM
SWITCHFOOT wsg **ROBERT RANDOLPH & THE FAMILY BAND**
JARS OF CLAY and **MORE**
MUSIC BUILDS TOUR
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

GEORGE THOROGOOD 8:00PM
 & **THE DESTROYERS / BUDDY GUY**
 MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

FRIDAY
UB40 8:30PM
 featuring **MAXI PRIEST**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

FRANK CALIENDO 8:00PM
 Comedian
 MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

SATURDAY
NINE INCH NAILS 8:00PM
 THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

BROOKS & DUNN 8:00PM
ZZ TOP wsg **RODNEY ATKINS**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL 1:00PM
 MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24TH
THE HUMAN LEAGUE 8:30PM
BELINDA CARLISLE, ABC, A FLOCK OF SEAGULLS and **NAKED EYES**
REGENERATION TOUR
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL 1:00PM
 MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

GET BACK! CAST OF 8:30PM
BEATLEMANIA
 MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

AUGUST
 27 **THE ALLMAN BROTHERS BAND** / **BOB WEIR & RATDOG**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

25 **MARON 5 / COUNTING CROWS**
 wsg **AUGUSTANA**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

30 **THE MUSIC OF LED ZEPPELIN** A Rock Symphony
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

31 **THE TEMPTATIONS REVUE**
 featuring **DENNIS EDWARDS**
 and **THE CONTOURS** featuring
SYLVESTER POTTS
LEGENDS OF MOTOWN
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

SEPTEMBER
 4 **NEW RESCHEDULED DATE**
MICHAEL W. SMITH / **STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

7 **JUST ADDED**
MOLLY HATCHET / **BLACKFOOT / NAZARETH**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

7 **BARRAGE**
 "High Strung" Fiddle Fest
 MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

9 **JOURNEY**
 wsg **HEART** and **CHEAP TRICK**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

12 **NEW RESCHEDULED DATE**
LOU GRAMM
 wsg **PATTY SMYTH & SCANDAL**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

14 **TOBY KEITH**
 wsg **MONTGOMERY GENTRY**,
CARTER'S CHORD, **MICA ROBERTS**
 and **TRAILER CHOIR**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

20 **RASCAL FLATTS**
 wsg **TAYLOR SWIFT**
 THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

21 **LYNYRD SKYNYRD**
 DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

26 **CELINE DION**
 THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

27 **JANET JACKSON**
 THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

FOR COMPLETE SCHEDULE AND TICKET INFORMATION VISIT PALACENET.COM
 PROGRAMS AND DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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Public Notice

Wayne County Residents Public Auction of Tax Foreclosed Property

September 15, 16, 17*, and 18*, 2008
International Center Building
 400 Monroe, 8th Floor
 Detroit, Michigan

* If necessary

BIDDER REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 A.M.
AUCTION BEGINS AT 9:30 A.M. ON SEPT. 15
EACH DAY THEREAFTER THE AUCTION IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M.

A \$1,000 **CASHIER'S CHECK** in U.S. funds is required per property bid payable to the Wayne County Treasurer. A **CASHIER'S CHECK** must be shown at registration. The Wayne County Treasurer, as the foreclosing governmental unit, under Public Act 123 of 1999, reserves the right to remove any property from the sale and to reject any and all bids. List of properties being offered and rules and regulations are available online after August 20th at

www.waynecounty.com/treasurer

Auction books will be available at the Treasurer's Office. Check website for exact date.

Call (313) 224-5990
RAYMOND J. WOJTCWICZ
 Wayne County Treasurer
 Office Hours:
 Monday-Friday / 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Janus settlement likely won't create any new millionaires

Q: Dear Rick: I heard something on your radio show about the Janus Funds in regard to a settlement during the mutual fund scandal. I have not received my check yet. Should I be concerned?

A: There's absolutely no reason to be concerned. As of Aug. 15, Janus will distribute \$100,000,000 to investors. If you were a shareholder, you will receive a settlement. A \$100 million settlement sounds like a lot of money, however, in reality you and I will not be receiving large checks. After all, Janus Funds had millions of investors and the settlement gets divided over a large number of people. Whatever the settlement is, my philosophy is the money looks better in your pocket



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

than anywhere else.
Q: Dear Rick: I make over a \$100,000 a year. I wanted to convert some of my existing IRA money into a Roth IRA, but I was told I do not qualify. A friend of mine said in a couple of years I will be able to convert and use a Roth IRA. Is that true?

A: Your friend is correct. In order to convert existing IRA money into a Roth IRA, your adjusted gross income, whether you are married or single, must be less than \$100,000. However, in 2010 there is a temporary change in the law

that will allow those who earn more than \$100,000 to convert a traditional IRA into a Roth IRA.

I am a big fan of the Roth IRA because it allows money to grow tax-free, not tax-deferred, as in a traditional IRA. Even though you're investing post-tax money — money that you've already paid tax on — vs. pre-tax money (as in a traditional IRA), the advantages of a Roth are substantial.

In a traditional IRA, even though you receive a writeoff for the money you are contributing, when you withdraw the money you pay tax on the initial contribution and the growth.

In a Roth, there are no taxes when the money is withdrawn. Therefore, all the income and

growth that accumulates in your Roth will be tax-free.

Another advantage of a Roth is the money is not subject to required minimum distributions. At age 70½, you must begin taking distributions out of your traditional IRA. At that time, the money is taxed at your ordinary income tax bracket. There is no required minimum distribution for Roth IRAs. You can let a Roth IRA grow income tax-free for as long as you choose.

One issue regarding Roth IRAs that confuses people is estate taxes. Roth IRAs are income tax-free, but they are subject to estate taxes just like traditional IRAs.

However, the major difference is the income tax

consequences for a Roth IRA are income tax-free, while a traditional IRA is subject to income tax. Even upon death, if your beneficiary inherits your traditional IRA there will be income taxes paid by the beneficiary along with any potential estate tax. While with a Roth there will be no income taxes to your beneficiary.

Whenever we're talking about tax laws, there is a caveat. Tax laws change faster than the weather in Michigan. It is possible that by 2010 the opportunity for people who make over \$100,000 a year to convert their traditional IRA into a Roth IRA could change.

If you make less than \$100,000 a year, I believe it is good strategy to consider converting a traditional IRA

into a Roth.

My general rule is:

■ You must have money to pay the tax due upon conversion without touching money you are converting;

■ Converting the money will not place you into a higher tax bracket; and

■ You should leave the money in the Roth IRA for at least five to seven years.

If you meet these requirements, you should convert to a Roth.

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

Wayne County prosecutor launches citizens' academy

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy has launched a new program designed to give residents a firsthand look into the workings of the criminal justice system and the way her office operates.

The First Annual Wayne County Prosecutor's Office Citizen's Academy is a free six-week course that will teach people how the prosecutor's office works that will run Tuesdays, Sept. 16 through Oct. 21 at Greater Grace Temple, 23500 W. Seven Mile Road (one block east of Telegraph) in Detroit.

Applicants to the program must be at least 18 years old with no felony convictions and no misdemeanor arrests within the last three years. To ensure these criteria are being met, brief background checks will be run on applicants. Waivers for these requirements, however, can be obtained on request



Worthy

to the prosecutor's office.

Admission to the courses is free but space is limited. Participants should contact the office to secure a place by contacting the Wayne County Prosecutor's office at (313) 224-5780 or by going online to www.wayne-county.com/prosecutor.

Applications for the program can be obtained online and returned via mail to Nicole Scott, c/o Wayne County Prosecutor's office, 1441 St. Antoine, 12th floor, Detroit, MI 48226.

Salvation Army taps development chief

The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit recently named John Hale as the nonprofit's executive director of development. Hale had been serving as the interim director of development since April 2007.

Hale has eight years of experience with TSA's Development Department. He has served as Capital Campaign manager for the Eastern Michigan Division's successful Kroc

Center application, associate director of Development and as a gift-planning specialist where he closed more than \$7 million in gifts during the four years he held that position.

Prior to his work with TSA, Hale held positions as a financial and tour manager for

Christian Rock artists, The Insyderz and as an assistant branch manager for the First of America Bank in Rockford, Ill.

A graduate of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Ill., Hale lives in Rochester Hills.

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check out the numbers in
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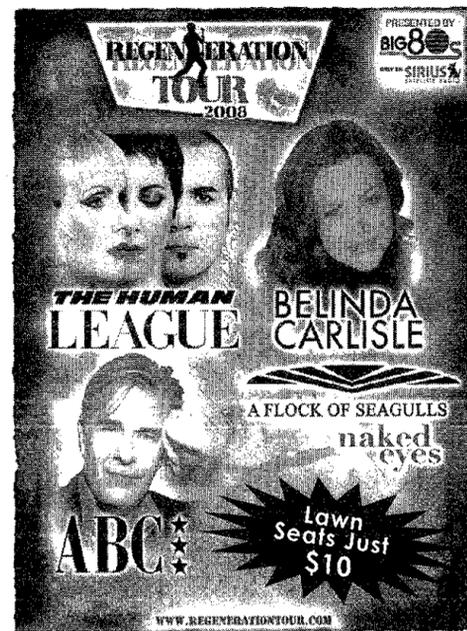
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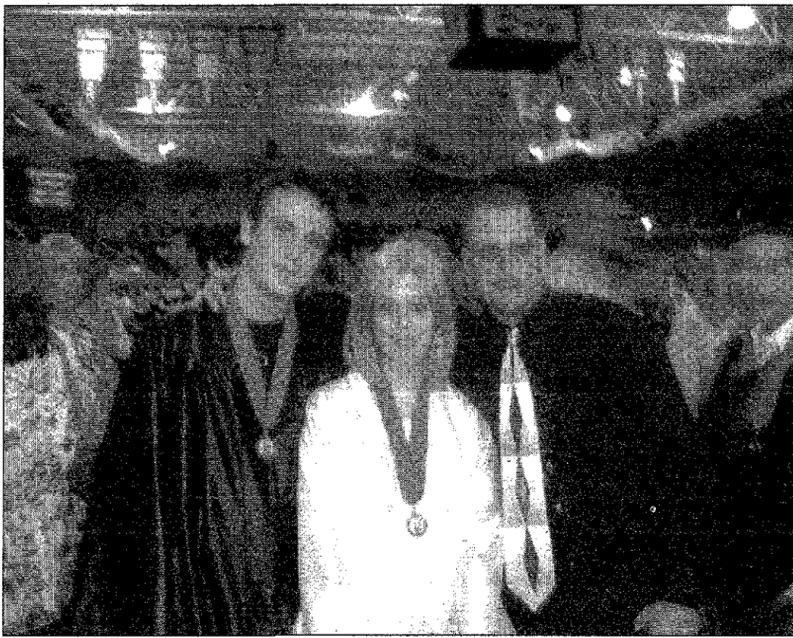
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Jessica Grzych poses with her boyfriend, Rob Bell, and her father, Walt, at her graduation from Northville High School in June.

Spaghetti dinner benefits cancer patient

It's known as "Team Mott's 7," the cancer ward on the seventh-floor of Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, a place Jessica Grzych has come to know quite well since being diagnosed with cancer in April.

The 18-year-old is being treated for treatments that Acute Myelogenous Leukemia, a fast-growing cancer of the blood and bone marrow. She is undergoing treatment at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor which requires her to be in the hospital four-five weeks with a one-two-week break between each round. She has had a third round of chemotherapy and is scheduled to have a bone marrow transplant this month.

To help pay expenses related to her treatment, a spaghetti dinner benefit is being held 2-8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, at the Garden City Knights of Columbus Hall, 30759 Ford in Garden City. The cost is \$8 per person and includes a spaghetti dinner, rolls, salad, dessert, coffee and beverages. There also will be a 50/50 drawings, raffles, door prizes and music.

The benefit will help pay for expenses related to Grzych's

cancer treatments.

"I will not forget that day - Saturday morning, April 19, 2008," said Walt Grzych. "My son called me and asked if I was sitting down and that he had some bad news concerning Jessie. He had to figure a way to pick her up from work at McDonald's right then and there and take her to Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. The doctor said they had to get Jessie from work and take her immediately to the University of Michigan. The type of leukemia has, if left untreated, can cause death within a couple weeks."

Walt Grzych said it's been hectic since then for the family. Her father is on family medical leave, has no income, and spends every minute with his daughter. The family and friends have helped with expenses, such as every ay needs, food, shelter, gasoline to and from the hospital and any medical expenses not covered by insurance, and health insurance premiums, which are at COBRA rates, that have to be paid.

"This is the reason for the benefit, to raise money to keep his everyday necessities," Walt

Grzych said. "Jessie lives with her dad and relies on him for maintenance."

Jessica Grzych is scheduled to have a bone marrow transplant this month and a rare twist of fate, her father is her match. He will be her bone marrow donor.

Jessica Grzych is a manager at McDonald's. A June graduate of Northville High School, she had planned to study to be an art teacher after she graduated from high school but has changed her career plans and will study nursing. She will start classes in January after she recovers from the bone marrow transplant.

Organizers have been gathering donations of gift baskets, gift certificates and other items to raffle off during the benefit. In letter seeking donations, they wrote that Grzych's "courage is absolutely amazing."

Businesses and individuals interested in donating, can call the K of C at (734) 425-8380. Cash donations - make checks payable to the Jessica Grzych Foundation - can be sent to the Immaculate Conception Council, Knight of Columbus, 30759 Ford, Garden City, MI 48135.

Wellness programs focus on health

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

Monday, Aug. 18

Exercise Express 12:30 p.m. Thirty minutes of exercise including cardio, strength training and stretching. Exercise at your own comfort level. Get in, get out and get on with your day. Fee is \$30 per month or a \$5 drop-in fee. Call (734) 458-3242 for more information.

Tuesday, Aug. 19

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m., 3 and 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Diabetes Self-Management Education (second of four classes) at 9:30 a.m. This comprehensive series is planned to help people Live Well With Diabetes. Participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481 for more information or to register.

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

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

Wednesday, Aug. 20

Exercise Express 12:30 p.m. Thirty minutes of exercise including cardio, strength training and stretching. Exercise at your own comfort level. Get in, get out and get on with your day. Fee is \$30 per month or a \$5 drop-in fee. Call (734) 458-3242 for more information.

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

CPAP and BiPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. Attention CPAP and BiPAP users: Did you know that most insurances cover new supplies every year? Have you been wanting to try a new style of mask, but don't know how to get one? Visit the Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan, 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland, 5-6 p.m. any Wednesday for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed. Call (734) 458-3330 with any questions or for more information.

CPR - Adult (ARC) at 6 p.m. Approved by the American Red Cross, this class provides hands-on CPR training to adults. Participants are prepared to respond to breathing and cardiac emergencies in victims, age 8 and above. This class is offered at Garden City Hospital's Health & Education Center at 6701 Harrison, just north of Maplewood. There is a fee. Participants will receive certification upon successful completion. Call Community Education at (734) 458-4330 for more information.

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

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m., 3 and 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

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medicine balls, balance balls, and Therabands in order to isolate and tone each of the major muscle groups. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

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

Friday, Aug. 22
Exercise Express 12:30 p.m. Thirty minutes of exercise including cardio, strength training and stretching. Exercise at your own comfort level. Get in, get out and get on with your day. Fee is \$30 per month or a \$5 drop-in fee. Call (734) 458-3242 for more information.

Daily Programs
Garden City Hospital's Health Enhancement Center offers daily programs Monday through Friday in Phase II and III Cardiac Rehabilitation/Cardiac Wellness, a Peripheral Vascular Disease Exercise and Strength Training Program, and a Diabetes Exercise Program. These classes are presented and monitored by certified exercise physiologists. Contact the Health Enhancement Center at (734) 458-3242 to select an exercise program specifically designed for you.

Volunteer at Garden City Hospital
Volunteer opportunities are available at Garden City Hospital for those age 14 and older. Individuals interested in providing clerical support, staffing information desks, transporting patients and assisting on nursing units are needed.

Volunteers receive a free lunch on their volunteer day, a uniform and the chance to be involved "behind the scenes" at an award-winning hospital. To apply to become a volunteer, complete an application form, available at the hospital's main lobby information desk or call (734) 458-4280. The hospital is at 6245 Inkster Road in Garden City.

Volunteers also Aug. donate time to the hospital by becoming a member of the Garden City Hospital Guild. The group raises funds to support patient care. Members staff the hospital coffee shop, gift shop and information desks, and deliver mail to patients. For more information, call (734) 458-4421.

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, MI 48124 (313) 277-7940 8/28/2008 at 9:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

- 1006 KATHLEEN RODRIGUES - FRIDGE, MATTRESS, BOXES
- 1082 PSONITA FOWLER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 1138 YANCY DAVIS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 1160 ANISE BANKHEAD - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 1214 YAMEKA RAINER - MATTRESS, COUCH, BAGS
- 1220 TIFFANY FORD - MATTRESS, TOYS, BOXES
- 1252 KHADLAH ROBINSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 1374 TRAVIS JOHNSON - BOXES, MATTRESS, TOTES
- 1468 LINDA RILEY - MATTRESS, BAGS, BOXES
- 1576 COREY NANTAMBU - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 2188 SHATUNNA PRIESTER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 2230 JEFFREY MCANALLY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 2281 VERNONICA PETERSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 2286 DWIGHT DAVIS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 2384 LATANYA EVANS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 5006 TODD HARBIN - BOX, BAGS, TOTES
- 1333- OLIVE GARDEN - BOX, BAGS, TOTES
- 1572- HARCOURT SCHOOL PUBLISHERS - BOX, TOTES, BAGS

Publish: August 10 & 17, 2008

CE0801119

CITY OF WESTLAND

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **August 28, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions) for the following:

Leaf Machine & Leaf Boxes

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at www.CityofWestland.com. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

JADE M. SMITH
Controller

Publish: August 17, 2008

CE0817078-232.5

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelham Road, Taylor, 48180 (313) 292-9730 8/29/08 at 10:30am Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

- 2075 RUTH WEST - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 3010 ROBERT BRIAN JARVIS - TOYS, TOTES, VACUUM
- 3046 DEEANNA EIGHMEY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 3048 TANISHA HOLSTON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 3051 SHERYLLETTE HUMPHREY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 3054 THOMAS HOOKER - MATTRESS, TABLES
- 3073 SARAH PHELAN - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 3088 KIAUNA LEWIS - TABLE, BOXES, TOTES
- 3089 ANGELA MARTINEZ - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 3091 MICHELLE MELCHERT - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 4017 SHARON SIMPSON - BOXES, TOTES, LIFEJACKET
- 4083 CLAUDE ROSS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 5057 NENA GONZALEZ - BOXES, BAGS, MATTRESS
- 5061 ANGEL EVANS - MATTRESS, TOTES, TABLES
- 5064 DAWN BARNARD - TV, BAGS, BOXES
- 5070 STARLA BRIGGS - FRIDGE, TOYS, AIR CONDITIONER
- 5083 WILLIE MAE SADLER - BOXES, DRESSER, LUGGAGE
- 5089 SANDRA CHURCH - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 5093 DANIELLE CARNEY - CRIB, BAGS
- 6042 ASHLEY GALLAGHER-MOREY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 6057 EDWIN OMEY - BOXES, TOTES, MICROWAVE
- 6059 JUDITH RYAN - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 6071 TONI KINCHEN - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 6080 DONALD DAIGLE - BED, MATTRESS, BOXES
- 6085 RON BEMBRY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 6091 DONALD FAULKNER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 6191 ROBERT HOWELL - BOXES, TV, LADDER
- 7017 VIKKI HOOD - BAGS, BOXES, TOTES
- 7019 TIFFANY SCOTT - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 7055 CRYSTAL ROWLAND - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 7108 DEONTE BARBER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 7109 BRANDY WILLIAMS - SOFA, DRESSER, TOTES
- 7121 DANA COUNTS - BAG, WASHER, STOVE
- 7128 MEGAN HOWARD - BOX, BAG, TOYS

Publish: August 10 & 17, 2008

CE0801118-246

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 20080 Allen Rd. Trenton, MI 48183 (734) 479-5442 8/29/2008 at 9:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

- 1022 FAYE GUERRA - CAR PARTS, BAGS, BOXES
- 1027 DIONNE D JENKINS - BAGS, TV, DRESSER
- 1028 SABASTION A PEREZ - FRIDGE, RUGS
- 1033 SANDRA GAIL NESTOR - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 1034 RICKY LEE NEDROW - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 1039 DIONNE JENKINS - STROLLER, TOYS, BOXES
- 105 STEVEN DALE TRIMBLE - TOOLS, BAGS, TOTES
- 1114 TINA KELLER - TV, BAGS, TOTES
- 214 JASON WOZNIAK - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 221 SHIRLEY BOWMAN - WASHER, BED, BIKE
- 327 NATALIE ROSE CHRAPKO - TV, BAGS, BOXES
- 345 DON SMITH - TIRES, TOOLS, BAGS
- 509 NURHAYDA SISON - TV, DRESSER
- 532 MICHAEL A SANTWIRE - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 533 ROSEANNA LEWIS - DRESSER, BIKE, BAGS
- 538 KIMBERLY D MILLER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- 539 SCOTT MURRAY - WASHER, BOXES, TOTES
- 639 ANNIE BRAND - COUCH, FUTON, BAGS
- 658 DAVID ZIMMERMAN - TOOLS, PAN, BOXES
- 826 KERI ELLIOT - STROLLER, BOXES, TOTES
- 832 NATHAN CAMPBELL - CARSEAT, TOOLS, BAGS
- 904 SHAROLYN CHEATHAM - DRESSER, TV, LOVESEAT
- 947 SUSAN DALIMONTE - SOFA, DRESSER, TV

Publish: August 10 & 17, 2008

CE0801118-246.5



WESTLAND CAR CARE TOWING

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

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	BODY	VIN #
1995	Ford	E-150	Van	1FDEE14HXSHB44359
1995	Pontiac	Gr. Prix	4DR	1G2WJ52M0SF341729

Publish: August 14 and 17, 2008

CE0801118-231.5

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-3117 8/29/2008 at 11:30am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

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- B048 KEYANNA WAFFORD - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B070 ELLIOT KING - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B079 DENISE ROGERS - FURNITURE, BOXES, MATTRESS
- B084 TOMMIE GRIFFIN - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B086 DOROTHY MORTON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B102 PATTI ROMERO - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B126 JEFFREY JOHNSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B128 DWAIN PURYEAR - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B129 LINDA CARTER - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B204 ANKIT P GANDHI - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B225 EDWARD OAHARAH - SOFA, CHAIR, BOXES
- B226 ADT SECURITY SERVICES, CURITY SERVICES - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B257 PETRICE JOHNSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B353 DAVE SMITH - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B383 RONALD HUGGINS - TV, DRESSER, BAGS
- C043 TONIA JOHNSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- D030 AARON DANIELS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- D044 CORTNY SMITH - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- F010 BETTINA RAGAN - MATTRESS, BAGS, TOTES
- F049 JOANIE JACKSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B022 ABBAS AWADA - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B054 GARY GERESY - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B069 BOSSIE ANDERSON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B104 BURT MELLUM - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B150 GEORGE CHENE - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B152 ERIC NIXON - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B193 JOYCE MCBRIDE - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B247 ROBERT HANKINS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B314 AMANDA WERSTEIN - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- D040 SHERRY LEWIS - BOXES, BAGS, TOTES
- B249 SANDRA GASTON - BOX, BAGS, TOTES
- E020 ALTHEA GAMBLE - BOX, BAGS, TOTES

Publish: August 10 & 17, 2008

CE0801118-248

TV debate program focuses on state House races in November

To help voters in southeastern Michigan cut through the campaign clutter, focus on the state's future, and make informed decisions in November, Detroit Public TV (DPTV), in association with the Center for Michigan, is offering to host debates between the top candidates in state House of Representatives races throughout metro Detroit. Debate offers will be extended to candidates in 47 contested races.

DPTV and the Center are taking steps to guarantee the debates receive the largest possible audience; Video

of every debate will be provided free and unrestricted to all media outlets and cable access TV stations in southeastern Michigan. The expectation is debate videos will be posted on media Web sites, aired on cable access, and used in TV news reports. Additionally, DPTV will broadcast debates on Channel 56 and post videos online.

"With so much attention on the presidential race, these debates are critical to helping voters focus on state House races - and helping candidates focus on the issues that matter most to voters," said John Bellow, executive

director of the Center for Michigan, a non-partisan, non-profit "think-and-do" tank.

In the past year, the Center has hosted 180 community meetings across the state to develop a "common ground" agenda. It includes three priorities for the state's future: 1) a globally competitive workforce; 2) a diversified economy and great quality of life; and 3) effective, efficient and accountable government.

"When you talk about Michigan's future, these really are the big three," Bellow added. "Everyone should be interested to see how the

candidates address these and other issues critical to turning the state around."

"The Great Debates is an extraordinary use of traditional and new media to engage and educate voters," said Rich Homberg, DPTV president and general manager. "It's also another example of how Detroit Public Television is working to better serve the people of southeastern Michigan."

The 30-minute, fixed-format debates will be taped at DPTV's Detroit studios in August and September and - due to production constraints - be limited to

two candidates. Candidates will field questions from respected journalists Nolan Finley, editorial page editor of *The Detroit News*, and Ron Dzwonkowski, editorial page editor of the *Detroit Free Press*. Other Detroit-area journalists may serve as hosts/moderators depending on debate schedules.

As debate invitations were mailed (and e-mailed) to candidates Aug. 6-8, DPTV Director of Program Development Dave Manney stressed the importance of candidate cooperation.

"We obviously can't force candidates into the studio,"

Manney said. "We need every candidate to embrace this project and reach an agreement with their opponent. Tell us you're ready for a serious debate of the issues and we'll make it happen."

The Center for Michigan is a "think-and-do tank" founded by Phil Power and a group of statewide business and political leaders in early 2006. A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the Center's objective is to assist our state through its current period of wrenching economic trouble and to lay the foundation of informed hope for a better future Michigan.

Educators can hone their skills at Detroit Zoo open house Aug. 26

The Detroit Zoological Society will host an open house for teachers and administrators on Tuesday, Aug. 26, 5-8 p.m., at the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center. "Zoolastic Achievement - Explosion 2008" will give educators the opportunity to learn about the educational offerings at the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. The free event will feature live entertainment, food and educational resources for the classroom and beyond.

Sponsored by DTE Energy Foundation, "Zoolastic Achievement - Explosion 2008" will provide educators insight into the zoo's dynamic, age level-appropriate

programs that teach important concepts about animals, habitats and ecosystems in alignment with the Michigan Curriculum Framework and Grade Level Content Expectations. The event will also offer tips on planning and optimizing school group visits with guided tours, self-led tours, scavenger hunts, interactive education presentations and backpack programs.

Teachers and administrators will learn about other educational options at the Zoo as well, including the Ford Education Center's Interpretive Studios, Wild Adventure Ride, Madeleine Berman Academy for Humane Education and Humane

Science Lab. A tram or walking tour of the zoo will highlight new animal habitats, including Meerkat Digs, and exhibits that feature interactive learning options. Guests will also meet David Gakure, Kenyan conservationist and Detroit Zoo education specialist, who engages students at the zoo and in the classroom with stories of people and wildlife in the African Grasslands.

Online registration for "Zoolastic Achievement - Explosion 2008" is available until Aug. 21 at <http://www.detroitzoo.org/zoolastic/>.

The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. The Detroit Zoo is at the intersection of 10 Mile Road and Woodward Avenue, just off I-696, in Royal Oak. The Detroit Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April through October (open at 9:30 a.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day) - with extended hours until 8 p.m. Wednesdays during July and August - and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. November through March. Admission is

\$11 for adults 13 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 12; children under 2 are free. For more information, call (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org. The Belle Isle

Nature Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. year-round and provides educational programming with interpretive staff support from the Huron-Clinton Metroparks. For information, call (313) 852-4056.

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JACKIE KALLEN
After 26 years in the boxing world as publicist and then manager, Jackie Kallen has been dubbed *The First Lady of Boxing*. Having managed four champions, she was twice nominated as *Manager of the Year*. Her life story inspired the Paramount film *Against the Ropes*, starring Meg Ryan. A former journalist, TV host and radio personality in her native Detroit, Kallen is also a successful motivational speaker.



KYM L. WORTHY
It was an historic moment in 2004 when Kym L. Worthy was sworn in as the first African-American, and the first woman, to become the Wayne County Prosecutor. Worthy began her career in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office in 1984. In 1994 she was elected judge of the Recorder's Court for the City of Detroit, then became a judge in Wayne County Circuit Court in 1997. Worthy is a strong believer in community service and has received numerous awards and honors for her role as community leader. She is the mother of ten-year-old Anastasia.

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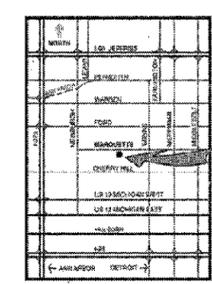
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Hurry Last Chance To Register! Classes Start Sept. 2nd

It is the policy of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Board of Education to forbid any acts of discrimination in all matters dealing with students, parents, employees or applicants. The Wayne-Westland Schools reaffirms its policy of equal educational and employment opportunities for all persons without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, height, weight, or handicap. Inquiries concerning the application of Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504 legislation at the Wayne-Westland School District may be referred to Ron Barrett, Director, 36745 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185, (734) 419-2645. Furthermore, the School District guarantees the right to a free appropriate education for all school-aged handicapped persons and all limited English proficiency students. Revised by the Board of Education 2005. Any unresolved concerns may be appealed through the school district appeal process.

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Explore the tradition, community, creativity at State Fair

BY ANNE GREENSTEIN
CORRESPONDENT

"Our State Fair is the best State Fair. Don't miss it! Don't even be late."

This quote from Rodgers and Hammerstein's 1945 musical can apply to the Michigan State Fair, which starts on Friday, Aug. 22, and runs through Sept. 1.

The nation's oldest state fair, the Michigan State Fair was first held in 1849, only 12 years after Michigan attained statehood. The fair traveled around the state until it settled in its current fairgrounds at Eight Mile and Woodward Avenue in 1905. In addition to agricultural displays, the Miracle of Life Exhibit, contests, a midway and live entertainment is

the Community Arts Exhibit.

The Community Arts Building was built in 1967 and houses many arts and crafts exhibits. Before this "home" was built, the exhibition was displayed underneath the grandstand or in the clubhouse. Normally, 5,000 pieces of art are exhibited, created by 2,000-3,000 people throughout the state. In addition to arts and crafts are baking, canning and greenery displays. Prizes are given to winners in these categories.

BUSY MAN

Peter Latouf, involved with the fair since 2000, for the first time is in charge of the Community Arts Building.

"The Community Arts Building is the main venue for showcasing the artistic tal-

ent of residents of the state.

Professionals and nonprofessionals can enter different contests to win prizes or ribbons," said Latouf.

Contests for youth as well as adults are held daily. There are contests in homemaking crafts and hobbies involving fiber arts, doll making, photography or ceramics. Other contests are in baking, canning, woodworking, greenery and table decorating. Youth contests are similar to the adults but there is also a category for "Legos and K-nex."

"Best of show" or the "gold ribbon winners" from the county fairs compete at the Michigan State Fair. In addition to youth and adults are contests for the physically and mentally challenged to include everyone with an opportunity

to participate. The Oakland County Fair does not include "Community Arts" competitions, so Farmington community residents who wish to compete must enter directly to the Michigan State Fair. Volunteers are present from the time people enter their artwork until the fair closes who watch the items submitted for judging and exhibition.

Ribbons are offered as prizes and small cash prizes are also awarded worth \$8 to \$25 depending on the contest. Some companies give cash prizes for their contests. Pillsbury gives a \$200 prize for the best pie crust in the show.

Demonstrations are held on a daily basis, in quilting, wood carving, and lace, painting porcelain, floral designs, making

baskets from pine needles, T-shirt painting, using a spinning needle, and using a knitting machine. People can participate in these demonstrations and make a project. Baking and cooking demonstrations are also held each day.

Judges of the various contests come from county fairs and are professionals in their own field. Previous blue-ribbon winners also serve as judges. While many of the judges have been judging at the State Fair for years, a few for up to 40 years, they continuously get new judges.

DEDICATED TO MOM

Eugene Kondash, every year, gives 35 ribbons for awards for canning, baking or handiwork for youth and adults in mem-

ory of his mother, Catherine Kondash.

Catherine Kondash, who lived behind the fairgrounds, "believed in the Fair with all her heart," said Eugene. She was a fair volunteer and exhibitor throughout her adult life. She baked fruit pies for the governor's luncheon. She gave baskets of homemade products including pies made from fruit in her garden to the governor every year dating back to G. Mennen (Soapy) Williams until Gov. John Engler.

Besides awarding ribbons, Eugene Kondash gives a gift to winners such as a book or craft project to the person related to the winner's category. Two "Viewers Choice" awards are given in memory of Kondash's mother. Eugene and his brother give two \$50 savings bonds, one for the adults and one for youth of displays that the public picks.

Eugene remembers when he was a boy during the late 1940s and early 1950s seeing the train bring people from all over the state to come to the State Fairgrounds. Last year, Steven Jenkins, manager of the fair, gave Kondash a Michigan State Fair award for his ongoing contributions.

Paul Karr, president of the Friends of the Michigan State Fair, leads this volunteer organization which supports the fair. The Friends support the fair with beautification projects.

They refurbish security guard booths, plant gardens, and assist with buying the carved rock signs found at the entrance off of Woodward Avenue and in front of the coliseum.

Most importantly, the Friends of the Fair annually awards scholarships to several Michigan high school seniors each year in agriculture and community arts.

"Over the past 15 years, the Friends have awarded \$40,000 worth of scholarships. This year we will award one \$1,000 scholarship in agriculture and two scholarships in community arts. (First prize is \$500 and 2nd prize is \$350)," said John Write, scholarship chairman.

For more information visit www.michigan.gov/mistate-fair.



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OUR VIEWS

Study the candidates, issues before voting in November

This year's general election in November will feature ballots with important contests, both at the local and national level.

With our state's economy in the dumps and an entire nation tiring of a seemingly endless war, those successful candidates from the president on down will be faced with significant and serious issues and challenges.

And the best way to make sure our politi-

cal leaders are up to the task is to elect the most qualified men and women for those positions.

Because the political stakes are so high, voters need to put in extra time becoming a truly educated electorate. Voting along party lines or simply going with the incumbent no longer are options.

Incumbents need to be challenged on their past performance and clearly explain why

they deserve to keep their job. This is especially true in the state Legislature, where every seat in the House of Representatives is up for election.

There is a wealth of information available about each contested race in every hometown. Voters should study the candidates, and make sure their positions on critical local, regional or national issues is in line with their own beliefs and values. Local

newspapers — including this one — candidate Web sites and voter guides produced by the League of Women Voters and other organizations are all good places to mine information about the races.

Thanks to the hotly contested presidential races, area clerks are bracing for record turnouts at the polling places. Let's hope voters make the effort to ensure they cast an educated vote.

LETTERS

Not in my neighborhood

Mr. Mayor and council members, What is going on? Why are we experiencing shoot-outs in Westland in the middle of the day between Romulus Police and would-be drug dealers? Why would we allow outside law enforcement to run a risky undercover operation in our shopping centers, endangering innocent citizens? What was the Westland official who made this decision thinking?

I don't think Westland citizens want our city to become the next shooting gallery do you? I know our police force is doing the best they can and I don't fault them for doing their job, but I am concerned with our city leaders. Let's use better judgment next time. We can't allow dangerous sting operations in our neighborhoods, allowing these dangerous sting operations is like allowing high-speed chases in our neighborhoods, innocent people can get hurt.

I'm all for getting the bad guy but don't invite the bad guy to my back yard, invite him to some isolated woods. I'm glad no officers were hurt. I know undercover police work is tough and dangerous, trust me I do know. That's why I know we shouldn't be doing these risky sting operations in crowded shopping centers.

Carlos Manzo
Westland

Sign of election season

A sure sign that the November elections are approaching recently occurred in the United States Senate. As if on cue, Senate Republicans have reintroduced their infamous "Defense of Marriage" amendment to the United States Constitution.

The amendment attempts to enshrine discrimination into our Constitution but it is really

intended as an election year tool to pander to homophobes and other bigots who are a key part of the Republican voting base. The amendment itself does nothing whatsoever to defend marriage.

Moreover, one needs to look no further than the list of Senate cosponsors of this grossly misnamed Constitutional amendment to see the blatant hypocrisy involved. One is David Vitter, R-Louisiana, convicted of serial prostitution. Another is Larry Craig, R-Idaho, convicted of trolling for gay sex in an airport restroom.

Defending marriage? I think not. The Republican Party: come and get those family values right here!

Joe Golonka
Westland

Life in the fast lane

I read your (editorial) on whether government should mandate a speed limit cut.

You don't think this is the answer, and feel it should be up to individual motorists whether or not to slow down. Individuals who wish to slow down really have no choice in the matter, unless you are willing to risk being run off the road.

While I know I am in a very small minority with this opinion, I have always felt that a speed limit of 70 is too high. Even following the posted speed it is fairly routine to have people on my bumper, weaving in and out of traffic around me, and flashing their lights because I am not going fast enough. It gets really nasty when I dare drive 65 — and I'm not referring to being in the left lane!

If you leave a decision to voluntarily reduce speeds to a public who loves to speed, drive while on their phones, while putting on makeup, while reading newspapers, and who feel a need to pass you on subdivision side streets because

you are only driving 25, it will not happen.

Marianne Jokisch
Rochester Hills

How much is enough?

The *Observer & Eccentric* roared about "unfunded mandates" in its editorial titled, "Good ideas merit adequate funding."

Based on the language, I've got to wonder which education official was the ghostwriter. The editorial suggests that any requirements the state places on schools should be considered an unfunded mandate. What it fails to point out is that state provides over one-third of the state budget — some \$13 billion dollars — to schools. Are these requirements really unfunded?

The editorial takes an unsubstantiated swipe at the migration to all-day kindergarten as another example of an unfunded mandate.

What it fails to point out is that schools already receive the full state grant per pupil for kindergarten students, while only providing a half-day of service. Unfunded mandate?

The editorial claims these mandates come "at a time when state aid already has fallen behind increased costs." What it fails to point out that schools are responsible for managing their own budgets, and allow employee costs to balloon out of control.

If the *Observer & Eccentric* does not believe schools get enough money, then exactly how much does the *Observer & Eccentric* think schools should get? How much should it increase each year? Articles like this only further the notion that no amount of money is ever enough.

Mike Reno
trustee, Rochester Community Schools

Not a good civic lesson

The incarceration of Detroit's mayor for violating the terms of his bond which is essentially at the end of the day a white collar crime is troubling on some many fronts. The public castration and humiliation that many believe is exactly what the mayor deserves in truth has never worked nor been a deterrent to those who have committed all manner of crimes.

There is no public good or civic lesson to be gained from the rumination and incarceration of an elected official for a white collar crime in a country where public officials have committed crimes of a scope which dwarf the allegations of crimes the mayor is charged with. The notion that the mayor, an elected official, is the same as an average citizen is a myth and an insult to the reality of the truth. There has and there will always be preference for some in our criminal justice system in our country.

What happened today was the dangerous and freighted outcome of a media-driven tabloid spectacle which not only has colored the objectivity of many in this region but it was impacted and tainted the administration of those in our criminal justice system who are sworn to carry out their duties without prejudice and political influence.

The mayor's alleged failures and personal shortcomings did not warrant his incarceration. Lesser measures were available to the judge to exercise his displeasure with the mayor's behavior for the judge to imprison an elected official only affirms to many how the agenda of those who do not have the interest of the citizens of the city have contaminated even the judiciary in this region.

Greg Thrasher
Birmingham

YOU MAY HAVE A CLAIM

Dr. Yasser Awaad is a pediatric neurologist who was employed by Oakwood Healthcare, Inc. until 2007. Since Dr. Awaad left Oakwood, the law offices of Benner & Foran have been retained by a large number of parents who believe their children were misdiagnosed with epilepsy and/or seizures by Dr. Awaad. If you think your child or children may have been misdiagnosed with epilepsy/seizures by Dr. Yasser Awaad, please contact the law offices of Benner & Foran for a free, no obligation consultation.

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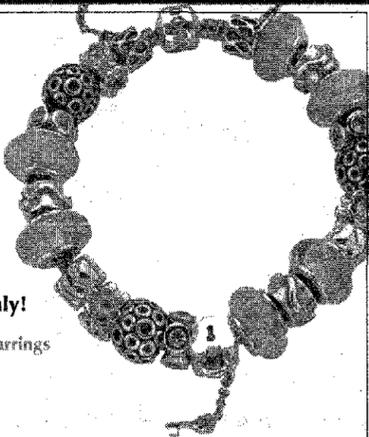
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And the living is easy: August is truly summer at its finest

There is nothing subtle about nature's way this August - if you get out of your air-conditioned car, ditch the iPod, turn off the cell phone and get your feet off pavement.

August is the month of sparkling "fire" in the meadow and streaking "fire" in the sky. A month of phenomenal wild berry production, tall meadow flowers, gray treefrogs singing

to the approach of supercell storms. In Birmingham and Royal Oak and Rochester human habituated house sparrows hop around sweaty ankles under outdoor café tables in search of dropped dinner morsels. It's a month of the unpredictable and the predictable.

Among the predictable, the seasonal collision between Earth and a great curtain

of cosmic dust, the Perseids meteor shower - spawned by Comet Swift Tuttle - is already under way. Get out of the city! Get away from bright lights! The darker the sky, the more meteors you will see. Head for rural slices of darker northern Oakland County where the entire world does not glow all night in artificial light, or better yet go on a one tank of gas camping trip and find a

look out point by a Great Lake (away from lights) and you are in for a heavenly sky show. Barring heavy cloud cover the folks at Spaceweather.com are predicting you will see up to 100 meteors per hours before dawn on Tuesday, Aug. 12.

August brings a continuation of "sparkling fire" in moist meadows that have not been bathed in pesticides or cropped to golf course like

nothingness. Call them fire-flies, call them lightning bugs; two names for the same creature, a tiny miracle beetle with the gift of bioluminescence, a butt end that glows and flashes and delights children and adults. The basic biology is simple: the male flies about and flashes the ladies. If the female likes what she sees, she flashes back. After a short dialog of "flash-dating" the meet-



On Nature
Jonathan Schechter

ing is arranged. Works faster than human Internet dating but poses some of the same risks: Imposters. Some fire-flies practice trickery and deceit and flash signals of other species. Once the no-

time-to-waste romantic suitor wings in, a cannibalistic death awaits.

August brings apple trees gone wild feeding deer gone tame. August brings bold fawns, young fox and coyotes exploring their world, often with mom out of the picture. Near tame house wren wrap up nesting. Big bluestem reaches for the sky along the Paint Creek Trail. Massasauga rattlers sun in seclusion at Indian Springs Metro Park and Independence Oaks. Pitcher plants devour bugs at Bald Mountain Recreation Area. August is the month suburban groundhogs love: gardens everywhere! Skunks scent humid nights. One of the skunks favorite treats down suburbia way are the subterranean nests of yellow jackets.

Evening bird song is on the wane, as insect chorus increases in preparation for the final night bug concert of September. Jewelweed, your nature-wise child knows it as "Touch Me Not," adds beautiful tiny orange trumpets to wet landscapes. Touch the seed pod and it "explodes" shooting seeds over a yard away. Every naturalist knows that trick.

Canada Geese temporarily displaced from Oakland Hills County Club by swarming hordes of golf crazed humans seek out short grass for their summer bulk up time. And here and there, sometimes along roadside ditches, more often at the edge of marshes and ponds, the increasingly common heron size, pure white American Egret stakes fish and frogs.

Before the month is over a hint of red appears in red maples, and black walnuts and hickories will be draped in the huge dirty-gray nests of the already here fall web worms. And of course, squirrels will be on nut gathering rampages, as we humans harvest elderberry and blackberries that line so many trailways and old railways.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. He can be reached at oaknature@aol.com.



JONATHAN SCHECHTER

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SPORTS

B (W)

Sunday, August 17, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

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Stevenson facing new challenges

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

In 2007 Livonia Stevenson breezed through its boys soccer season, only to have it end on a sour note with a loss in the Western Lakes Activities Association championship final to Canton and in the Division 1 district final to Northville.

With a slew of veterans returning from last year's 18-2 squad, the Spartans will face an even more demanding schedule this fall within the confines of the newly formed 23-school Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

The Spartans now pick up two matches each in Central Division against perennial state powers Northville, Novi and fellow WLAA-Lakes Division member Salem, as well as newcomers South Lyon and South Lyon East.



Klemczak

Coach Lars Richters also has booked non-KLAA dates with traditionally strong foes Saline, Warren DeLaSalle, Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day and Troy Athens, as well as Livonia Churchill and Livonia Franklin, both members of the KLAA's South Division.

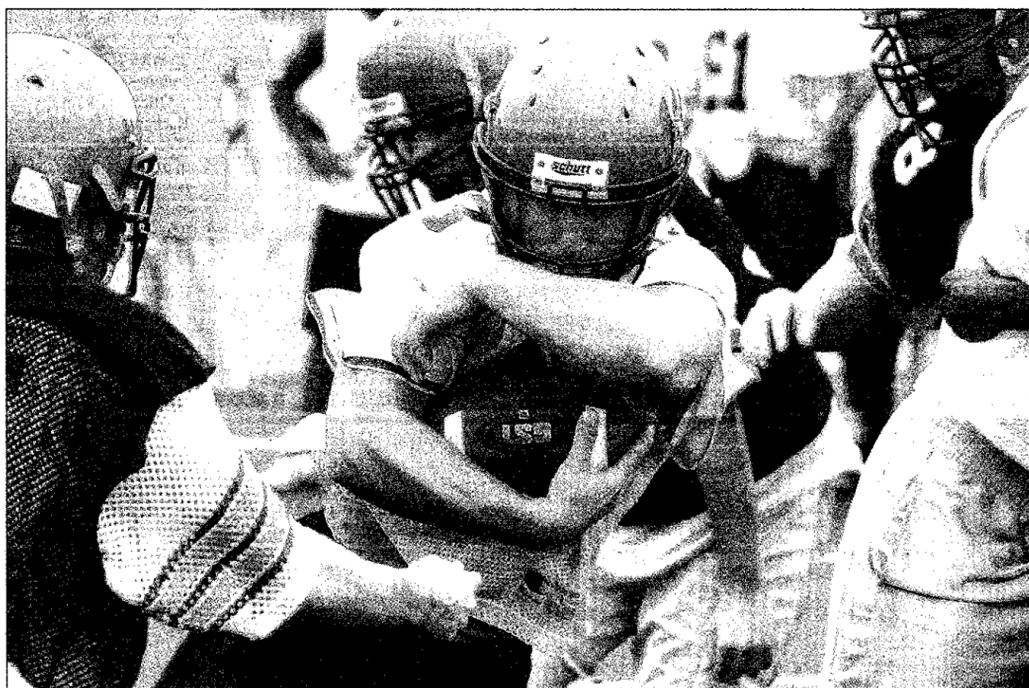
And if that's not tough enough, the Central and South Division champions of the KLAA will meet on Oct. 6 for the Kensington Conference crossover followed by a KLAA crossover on Oct. 8, just a week prior to the districts.

That's certainly a challenge in itself.

Richters must replace first-team All-Area picks Dylan Green and Brady Thom, but eight other starters return led by first-team All-Observer choices Brian Klemczak, a senior midfielder and captain, and Joey D'Agostino, a senior midfielder.

"In order to achieve our goals this year, we will need to replace two reliable players in the back line, find consistent goal scoring, and improve

Please see **SOCCER, B2**



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia Franklin is looking for a full season from senior running back David Fortin, who missed most of 2007 with a broken arm.

Running game priority for Pats

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVERS SPORTS WRITER

Because injuries and out of necessity, footballs filled the air frequently last season during Livonia Franklin's run to the state football playoffs.

Quarterback Jesse Carpenter, who has since graduated, threw for a school-record 2,220 yards, including 18 TD passes.

But when David Fortin, who broke his arm during the 2007 opener (and was lost for the entire regular season), returned for the playoffs, things changed dramatically as he ripped up Monroe for 238 yards and added 188 in another playoff win against Fordson.

With 5-foot-10, 205-pound senior's return alone, the Patriots should be able to move the ball on the ground with greater efficiency in 2008.

Fortin will be complemented by two promising juniors - Mike Baumgardner (6-1, 178), a member of Franklin's school-record 4 x 100-meter relay team, and Mike Gadsby (5-11, 185).

"We should be a little more run-oriented than in the past," said Franklin coach Chris Kelbert, who is coming off a 7-5 season. "If teams try and focus on David, we have those two guys who can do damage in the edges. And we're good enough outside to open things up inside for David."

Senior Mark McRobb (5-11, 185) takes

FAST FACTS

School: Livonia Franklin.

Head coach: Chris Kelbert, eighth season.

League affiliation: Kensington Lakes Activities Association (South Division).

2007 record: 7-5.

Key losses: Pat Cecile (first-team All-Area); Jeff McCullough (first-team All-Area); Jesse Carpenter (first-team All-Area); Israel Woolfork (first-team All-Area); Jordan Short (second-team All-Area); Brian Humenay (second-team All-Area); Austin Mesler, Dan Robinson.

Returning starters: David Fortin, Sr. RB-LB (5-10, 205); Nate Coleman, Jr. OL (6-3, 293); Brandon Lane, Sr. DL (6-4, 230); Mark McRobb, Sr. QB-DB (5-11, 185); Conner Leidal, Sr. DB (6-3, 188).

Promising newcomers: Mike Baumgardner, Jr. RB-P (6-1, 178); Mike Gadsby, Jr. RB (5-11, 185); Josh Weigand, Sr. WR (6-2, 165); Dan Muller, Soph. DB (6-0, 170); Brian Nixon, Jr. OL (6-2, 215); Sean McAuliffe, Jr. OL-DL (6-2, 225); Nate Robinson, Jr. OL (6-0, 250).

Coach's quote: "It's a hard-working group, but not a rah-rah group. They get their business done, they get in and get out. They have a good work ethic, but we need to try and increase the intensity level and enthusiasm on the field."

Schedule (all 7 p.m. starts): Aug. 28 (at Livonia Stevenson); Sept. 5 (Walled Lake Western); Sept. 12 (at Wayne Memorial); Sept. 19 (Livonia Churchill); Sept. 26 (at Westland John Glenn); Oct. 3 (Canton); Oct. 10 (Plymouth); Oct. 17 (at KLAA Central Division); Oct. 24 (Hartland).

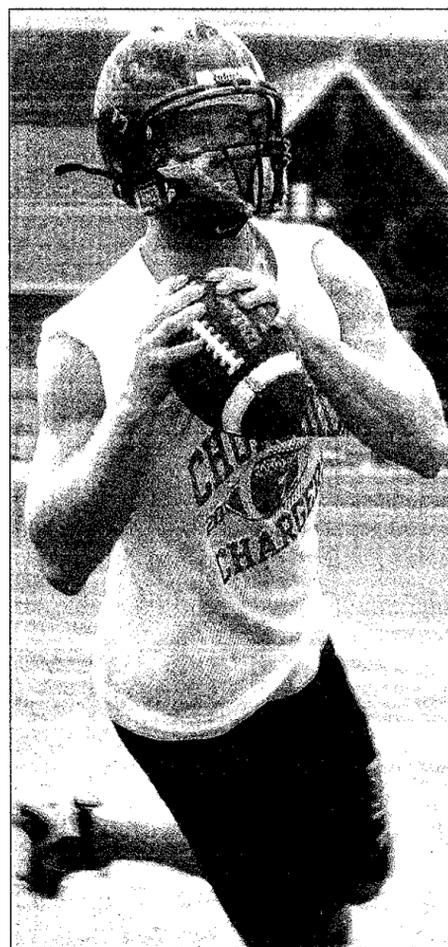
over at QB and has been a pleasant surprise in camp so far.

"He was our second-leading rusher last year, he has good mobility and he's athletic," Kelbert said. "He brings another dimension to the run. He's been dependable throw the ball and we're happy with that."

The offensive line is anchored by the lone returning starter, junior Nate Coleman (6-3, 293).

Meanwhile, an inexperienced defense is led by two seniors - end Brandon Lane (6-4, 230); and safety Conner Leidal (6-3, 188), who started all 12 games and led the Patriots in interceptions.

"Teams ran away from Pat (Cecile) and went right at Brandon, and he more than held his own," Kelbert said. "He was a very good player for us last year. He'll set the tone. He's aggressive and he's our big-hit guy."



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior quarterback Grant Morgan, rolling out in a recent practice, will direct Livonia Churchill's new spread offensive attack.

Schematic change

Chargers planning to implement spread attack

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

Start spreading the word. Livonia Churchill football is undergoing an extreme makeover - on the offensive side of the ball.

Chargers 11th-year coach John Filiatraut, coming off a 7-3 playoff season, is ditching the Wing-T and going to the spread attack after making the decision in January and spending time with the Central Michigan University staff.

"Yes, it will look radically different," Filiatraut said. "The kids are having more fun running this offense because it gets a lot of people involved handling the football."

"And the staff has done a great job teaching it. Just how will it translate against other teams? I don't know but at some point you have to turn the kids loose. We almost did it last year, but we did not want to disrupt things."

Churchill has two quality senior running backs - Matt Kowalis (5-8, 190) and Jeff Ricketts (5-7, 173) to help make the transition go smoothly.

"Those two guys are special players and will be tough to defend," Filiatraut said. "I don't think I've ever had a better running back in my 12 years than Matt. He had close to 800 yards last year and is an excellent running back."

Senior quarterback Grant Morgan (5-10, 170), who finished the season as Churchill's starter, also returns.

FAST FACTS

School: Livonia Churchill.

Head coach: John Filiatraut (12th season).

League affiliation: Kensington Lakes Activities Association (South Division).

2007 record: 7-3.

Key losses: Ryan Whittum (first-team All-Area); Ryan Dolan (first-team All-Area); Kevin Tabone (first-team All-Area); Duane Najarian (first-team All-Area); Mark Parris, Mike Bargerstock, Darius Miller-Wells, Max DiCicco, Daran Carey, T.J. Tilley.

Returning starters: Devin Moynihan, Sr. LB-TE (5-11, 215); Matt Kowalis, Sr. RB (5-8, 190); Jeff Ricketts, Sr. RB (5-7, 173); Grant Morgan, Sr. QB-FS (5-10, 170); Nate Zak, Sr. DL (5-7, 190); Jordan Systma, Sr. DB-WR (5-10, 144).

Promising newcomers: Dylan Ochala, Sr. OLB (6-0, 212); Jordan Grohoski, Soph. QB-DB (5-11, 150); Curtis Castleberry, Jr. OLB (5-8, 186); Alex Bay, Sr. WR-TE (6-2, 190); Walter McCarthy, Sr. OT (6-6, 248); David Mendivil, Sr. C (5-9, 190); Matt Schiffrt, Sr. OG (5-9, 185); Eric Perowski, Sr. DL (5-11, 180); Ara Markarian, Sr. SS (5-11, 185).

Coach's quote: "We have to develop depth because we're fully platooned. The third- and fourth-stringers are now the second stringers. We have a lot of question marks on our offensive and defensive lines. But we play well, we'll be tough to beat."

Schedule (all 7 p.m. starts): Aug. 28 (at Hartland); Sept. 5 (Waterford Kettering); Sept. 12 (Westland John Glenn); Sept. 19 (at Livonia Franklin); Sept. 26 (Plymouth); Oct. 3 (at Wayne Memorial); Oct. 10 (at Canton); Oct. 17 (KLAA crossover); Oct. 24 (Livonia Stevenson).

"We're catching and throwing it well, but whether we go 50-50 (run-pass), I don't know," Filiatraut said. "We'll probably be 60-40, but we might be best right now throwing it around."

Defensively, the Chargers will run their standard scheme led by senior linebacker Devin Moynihan (5-11, 215), a first-team All-Observer pick who had 141 total tackles last year, including four games with 20 or more.

"We're really committed to it,"

Filiatraut said of the stunt 4-3. "We still have to line up properly, not make mistakes, force turnovers and keep the ball in front of us."

How quickly the defensive and offensive lines come together will also be a key.

"We have a lot of question marks up front, but if they play well, we'll be tough to beat," the Churchill coach said. "We have to develop depth. We're fully platooned, but our third- and fourth-stringers are now are second stringers."

Sidelines

Spartans net 2nd

Livonia Stevenson came away with first-place medals in singles and one in doubles during Thursday's Adrian Early Bird Invitational boys tennis tournament.

Jackson took the team title with 20 points followed by runner-up Stevenson (16), Chelsea (14), Stevensville-Lakeshore (13), Monroe Catholic Central (6) and the host Maples (1).

Stevenson's top two singles players, senior Chris Martin (No. 1) and junior Clayton Northey (No. 2) each finished 3-0 on the day to earn first-place medals. Teammates Kevin Francisco (No. 3) and Paul Franchina (No. 4), a pair of sophomores, each captured second-place medals with 2-1 marks.

The Spartans' No. 4 doubles team of junior Kyle Fan and senior Giang Nguyen also won their flight with a 3-0 mark.

Stevenson's other three doubles squads each went 1-2 on the day including senior Garrett Adams and sophomore Vince Sabatini (No. 1); junior Lukas Rudis and Simjae Holman-Rayos (No. 2); and juniors Jeff Sondergaard and Paul VanGilder (No. 3).

Senior golf champs

James Harkrader was the championship flight winner as the Livonia Senior Men's Golf League completed its season last week. A total of 142 golfers, ages 62 and up, participated during the season recording 2,471 nine-hole rounds at Livonia's three city courses.

Eighty members qualified for the five-day match-play tournament held Aug. 4-5 and 11-13 at Whispering Willows.

Other flight champions included Jack Robertson (first); Ron Kurkowski (second); Ken Johnson (third); and John Gjernes (fourth).

Runner-up flight finishers included John Coyne (championship); Ron Barch (first); Bob Bristow (second); Tom Allan (third); and Leo Catallo (fourth).

Sam LaMonica won the closest-to-the-pin contest on the No. 7 hole June 9 at Whispering Willows. His shot was 5 feet, 1.5 inches from the pin.

CHS soccer alums Livonia Churchill will stage an alumni soccer match beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23 at the high school field.

For more information, e-mail Churchill varsity coach Reid Friedrichs at rfriedri@livonia.k12.mi.us.

Hole-in-one club

On July 31, Livonia's Dennis Drabicki used a 9-iron to ace the 116-yard, No. 9 hole 31 at Shenandoah Country Club in West Bloomfield.

BOYS SOCCER CAPSULE OUTLOOKS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Reid Friedrichs, ninth year.
League affiliation: KLA-A-Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 9-7-3.
Notable losses to graduation: Vinny Carozza (second-team All-Area).
Leading returnees: Adam Bedell, Jr. Def. (second-team All-Area); Etienne Lussiez, Sr. MF; Ben Zukowski, Sr. Def.; Ian Guerin, Jr. MF; Matt Regan, Jr. MF; Max Washko, Jr. F; Drew Sieber, Sr. F; Chris Denapoli, Sr. MF; Josh Andrzejewski, Sr. Def.
Promising newcomers: Erik Bird, Jr. Def.
Friedrichs' 2008 outlook: "We return most of our players and have a veteran team. It's a group of boys that I have really gotten to know well. How we play will be up to the boys. They know how I want them to play and if we execute, play team defense, and find some people to step up and score some goals, it could be a fun year."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Vic Rodopoulos, seventh year.
League affiliation: KLA-A-Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 5-15-1.
Notable losses to graduation: Ryan Matthey (second-team All-Area); Joel Boettcher.
Leading returnees: Zain Qureshi, Sr. MF-F; Steve Trapp, Sr. MF; Travis Matthey, Jr. Def.; Brad Mangune, Sr. GK; Chad Dorton, Sr. MF; Mike Geracl, Sr. Def.; Jordan McKindles, Jr. Def.; Dave Gabany, Sr. Def.; Joe Michniewicz, Jr. MF.
Promising newcomers: Sean Clark, Jr. Def.; Dylan DeBellis, Soph. Def.; Jonathan Haddad, Sr. MF; Joe Morski, Jr. MF; Zach Miller, Soph. F; Brendan Rossiter, Jr. F; Brad Tatro, Soph. MF; Adam Tweedy, Jr. MF; Issa El-Kildani, Jr. MF; Hudson Cadet, Jr. MF.
Rodopoulos' 2008 outlook: "We lost some key players, but the players we have back are in key areas of the field. The newcomers seem to fit really well. The camaraderie is really good. The guys are excited to get the season rolling. We lack height, only a couple of tall guys, but we make it up in skill and desire. I think we'll be competitive. The guys are ready to play."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Lars Richters, 11th year.
League affiliation: KLA-A-Kensington Conference (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 18-2.
Titles won last year: W.L.A.A.-Lakes Division.
Notable losses to graduation: Dylan Green (first-team All-Area); Brady Thom (first-team All-Area).
Leading returnees: Brian Klemczak, Sr. MF (captain; first-team All-Area); Joey D'Agostino, Sr. MF (first-team All-Area); David Simor, Sr. F (10 goals); Adrian Fylohenko, Sr. MF (second-team All-Area); Nate Sergison, Sr. MF; Kendal Snow, Sr. Def.; Conner Burton, Jr. GK; Justin Collins, Sr. GK.
Promising newcomers: Zac Cooney, Soph. MF; Adam Dabkowski, Jr. CB; Reilly Mullett, Jr. OB.
Richters' 2008 outlook: "We return quite a few players from last year's team, so I'm encouraged by our level of experience and excited about our depth. For the most part, this team is fairly athletic and fit, and there is

widespread competition for roles on the field, so I'm hoping that we can perform well on a consistent basis. I trust that our incredibly competitive regular season schedule will point out the shortcomings of this group on a regular basis. As a result, I hope that we can learn the necessary lessons along the way so that we can be stronger and more prepared to succeed in October."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Jimmy Mortada, first year.
League affiliation: KLA-A-Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 4-15-1.
Notable losses to graduation: David Kavelage (second-team All-Area); Jeff Thompson.
Leading returnees: Jacob Gates, Sr. MF; Sergio Pavan, Sr. F; Logan Chaston, Sr. MF; Mark Thompson, Jr. Def.; Nelson Kenne, Jr. MF.
Promising newcomers: Santiago Garcia, Sr. Striker; Robert Hurst, Soph. MF; Kyle Beguhn, Soph. MF; Justin Bean, Fr. F; Austin Valentine, Fr. F; Caleb Samborski, Fr. MF.
Mortada's 2008 outlook: "We have some very smart players in Jacob Gates, Sergio Pavan, Nelson Kenne and Robert Hurst. We'll rely on Gates a lot because he has the most experience. Kenne can play the whole game at full speed and I see a very good player in the future. This year I think we'll surprise a lot of people. We're looking and we're in very good shape. We're understanding each other in the field and we're ready to prove our soccer respect from the powerhouse teams."

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Co-coaches: Ashley Cooley and David Daigneau, first year.
League affiliation: Kensington Lakes Activities Association (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 2-14-1.
Notable losses to graduation: Stephen Maynor (second-team All-Area); Tim Hubbard, Albert Balli, Stefan Harrison, Eric Schmitt.
Leading returnees: Corey Taylor, Sr. GK; Zack Girouard, Sr. C-MF; Matt Thompson, Sr. MF-Def.; Alex Balli, Jr. Def.-C-MF; Kevin Glass, Jr. Def.; Kyle Michael, Jr. F-MF; Brandin Everley, Jr. Def.
Promising newcomers: Doug Malcolm, Jr. F-MF; Lucas Moore, Fr. F; Kevin Diehl, Jr. Def.
Daigneau's 2008 outlook: "We are in a new division (KLA-A) and are looking forward to a great season. There are two new coaches to the program and the potential for a great season is there. Our attitudes and outlook on the game is great. I see great futures for many of these players as athletes and people."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: Trevor Johnson, second year.
League affiliation: Metro Conference.
Last year's overall record: 5-13-1.
Notable losses to graduation: Matt Parent (second-team All-Area); Daniel Pepaj, Ryan Glass.
Leading returnees: Phil Strachan, Jr. MF; Garett Hintzman, Jr. MF; Garrett Gregg, Sr. GK; Matt Garant, Sr. Sweeper-F; Jake Bibik, Sr. Def.; Jimmy Moody, Soph. MF.

Promising newcomers: Tim Kuszak, Sr. Def.-MF; Demien Opatenoff, Fr. F; Joe Hollinger, Fr. Def.
Johnson's 2008 outlook: "We have 15 players on the team, which is low, but everyone is

ready to work hard and we're determined to improve upon last year's disappointing record and finish in the districts. Our expectations for this season are to be highly competitive in every single game. We're young and raw at some position, but we battle for 80 minutes every game. My players play a physical breed of soccer, but at the same time, we play intelligent soccer. Our goal is to compete for a Metro Conference championship, but as a coach, I'll be satisfied if we take strides and improve every game leading up to districts. With consistent play from my returning starters and some role players stepping up, this season can be a successful one for the Trojans."

LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND
Head coach: Rich Block, 18th year.
League affiliation: Metro Conference.
Last year's overall record: 10-6-3.
Notable losses to graduation: Ryan Baglow (second-team All-Area); Adam Zehel (second-team All-Area); Aaron Derminer.
Leading returnees: Josh Kruger, Sr. F; Micah Hausch, Sr. GK; Brad LaRose, Sr. MF; Chris Barnaby, Sr. Def.; Ben Crandell, Sr. MF; Austin Baglow, Jr. F; Gag Flanery, Jr. MF; Anthony Cipolla, Jr. Def.; Lath Francis, Jr. F.
Promising newcomers: Ben Derminer, Jr. Def.; Mason Sultana, Jr. MF; Ken Krzyzski, Soph. MF; Trevor Sultana, Soph. MF; Mitchell Boehm, Fr. MF.
Block's 2008 outlook: "This year's team has come into camp in the best shape physically than any other team I've had - that I can remember. One of the keys to our success will be how well we can replace the three skills positions we lost to graduation - two center-midfielders and a central defender. What we'll have to do is run a little different system or formation - if you will - to be better complement the skills and abilities of the players we have returning."

HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Head coach: Jim Ott, ninth year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division).
Last year's overall record: 0-17-1.
Notable losses to graduation: None.
Leading returnees: David Adiof, Soph. Def.; Matt Kempainen, Soph. MF; Matt St. John, Soph. MF; Andy Barber, Soph. Def.; Aaron Howell, Sr. F; Bryan Gruenewald, Jr. Def.; Braden Wollet-Babb, Sr. Def.; Eric Schaffer, Sr. F; Tyler Wagaman, Jr. MF; Kyle Warren, Jr. MF; Austin Tranchida, Sr. F.
Promising newcomers: Kyle Tacia, Sr. GK; Richie Mamo, Jr. MF; Claire Wood, Jr. MF.
Ott's 2008 outlook: "We scored only about 20 goals last year. Our goal is to score more goals. We're hoping Austin (Tranchida), Aaron (Howell) and Mark St. John, and even Eric Schaffer, who normally plays defense, can do that. We want to get more shots on goal. Last year nobody wanted to take the shot if they were open. We've got to get more opportunities. Last year we rotated goalkeepers because things did not go well last year. Kyle (Tacia) didn't play last year. He's 6-5 and he's solidified that spot. That will help. We're hoping to compete this year. Our junior and senior classes haven't won any conference (MIAC) titles in any sport."

SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

our on-field leadership," the Spartans' coach said. "Also, as is always the case for any successful high school soccer team, we will have to come together as a group and work selflessly for the good of the team."

The KLA-A's South Division features defending WLLA champion Canton, Plymouth, Churchill, Franklin, Westland John Glenn and Wayne Memorial.

Churchill (9-7-3) returns a slew of veterans led by senior midfielder Etienne Lussiez, senior defender Ben Zukowski, and junior defender Adam Bedell, along with junior midfielders Ian Guerin and Matt Regan.

Franklin (5-15-1) reached a Division 1 district final last season, but must replace

second-team All-Area pick Ryan Matthey, who was lost to graduation.

Meanwhile, both John Glenn (4-15-1) and Wayne (2-14-2) will have new coaches on the sidelines.

Assistant Jimmy Mortada takes over for Reavis Olive for the Rockets, while former Novi player Ashley Cooley will team up with David Daigneau as co-coaches for the Zebras.

One area team to watch in Division 4 is Lutheran High Westland, directed by the dean of area coaches, Rich Block, now in his 18th year. Block guided the Warriors to a runner-up finish in the 2003 state tournament.

"Our goal this year is to improve on our 10-6-3 record from last year and make it farther into the state tournament," Block said. "Last year's team lost a considerable amount of talent from

the previous year, and played more to compete and stay in games, rather than playing to win. I expect this team to play with more confidence, desire and passion to win and control games. If we can do that, it should be a pretty nice year for us."

The Warriors return to the Metro Conference along with another area school in Livonia Clarenceville, which is coming off a 5-13-1 season under rookie coach Trevor Johnson.

The Metro Conference stands at an even eight members after Clawson left to join the Macomb Area Conference.

Another area school looking for an improved season is Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (0-17-1), a member of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday, Aug. 23
 South Lyon Inv. at Island Lake, 9:30 a.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING

Saturday, Aug. 23
 John Glenn at Howell Invitational, 8:30 a.m.

BOYS TENNIS

Monday, Aug. 18
 Wayne at South Lyon East, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 19
 W.L. Central at Stevenson, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 20
 Wayne at Ypsilanti Lincoln, noon.

Thursday, Aug. 21
 Stevenson at Churchill, 4 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 22
 John Glenn at South Lyon East, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23
 Stevenson at Monroe Quad Meet, 9 a.m.

GIRLS GOLF

Monday, Aug. 18
 Franklin Inv. at Fox Creek, 7:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 19
 Corvus Invitational at Hudson Mills, 8 a.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 20
 South Lyon, South Lyon East, Wayne at The Woodlands (Van Buren), 4 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, Aug. 21
 John Glenn at Milford, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23
 South Lyon Invitational, 8 a.m.

Battle Creek Tournament, 8 a.m.

W. Bloomfield Tournament, 8 a.m.

Carleton Airport Tournament, 9 a.m.

PREP BOYS SOCCER

Monday, Aug. 18
 South Lyon East at Wayne, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 19
 Waterford Mott at John Glenn, 4 p.m.

Crestwood at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Stevenson at Saline, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 20
 New Haven at Clarenceville, 5 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 21
 Franklin at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

John Glenn at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.

Wayne at Waterford Mott, 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 22
 Ypsilanti at Clarenceville, 5 p.m.

(Huron Valley Lutheran Tourney)

Thursday, Aug. 23
 Taylor Baptist at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.

St. Joe Mich. Luth. at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23
 Huron Valley Tournament, 11 a.m.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Stevenson Team Night

Livonia Stevenson will stage its fall sports Meet the Team Night for athletes, parents and coaches from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, at the high school auditorium. Academic eligibility, participation fees, season schedules, rules and policies, varsity letter requirements, team photos and medical information will be among the topics discussed. For more information, call (734) 744-2894.

Churchill Meet The Team

Livonia Churchill High athletics will stage its Meet the Team Night, beginning at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 20 at the Carli Auditorium. All athletes and their parents from the fall, winter and spring sports seasons are expected to attend. For more information, call (734) 744-2650, Ext. 46117.

Churchill Pompon clinic

The Livonia Churchill varsity pom-pom team will be offering a pom clinic (ages 6-14) from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, Aug. 23, at high school. All who attend the workshop will be performing a routine at a Churchill varsity soccer game. To register, call Robin Schwarz at (734) 464-0556.

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No doubting Thomas - MU women's soccer coach seeking '08 rebound

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There were too many occasions last fall where Madonna University's women's soccer team couldn't hit the back of the net.

Inconsistent offense and injuries plagued the Crusaders, who tailed off badly in the second half of the season to finish 8-7-2.

But a rise to the top of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference in 2008 might not be a pipe dream thanks to the addition of some promising recruits, including former Schoolcraft forward Jessica Austin — along with a preseason camp where coach Paul Thomas isn't handing out guarantees of playing time.

"All of our players are working hard, there are 25 players competing for 11 spots," said Thomas, entering his third season as Madonna's coach. "Players are going at it (in practice), they want to succeed, they want to win and they want to be in the starting 11."

Last season, some players didn't have to fight as hard for regular playing time. This time around, which begins 4 p.m. Friday against host

Trinity International (Illinois), that won't be the case.

"I won't be afraid to start a team that is new to this college," said Thomas, adding that message is being heeded by his returnees. "The majority are knuckling down and working hard."

The Crusaders should keep goals from their opponents down, with strong midfielders and defenders in front of aggressive sophomore goalkeeper Brittany Warner (Canton/Oakland University).

Leading the midfield corps are the team's co-MVPs from a season ago, senior Ashley Stoychoff (Canton/Salem) and junior Lauren Hess (Livonia/Ladywood). Both also have offensive skills, sharing the '07 team's goal-scoring lead (five) with forward Kaila Moore (Howell), who is back for her junior year.

Stoychoff and Hess are helped out by sophomore Diana Brda (Westland/U-M-Dearborn) and impressive newcomers Andrea Mareel and Shannon McIntyre, the latter a senior coming over from Eastern Michigan University.

Providing depth will be junior Rachel Thompson (Livonia

Stevenson) and freshman Nicole Rodriguez.

According to Thomas, if the midfielders play as well as they've looked during preseason, the offense will emerge.

"The midfielders are effective because of their level of fitness and technical ability, to work in tandem with the defenders and forwards," the coach explained. "It's hard to score goals if you don't have the service."

Up front, the team will be looking for Austin (one of Schoolcraft's top goal scorers last year) to reach double figures in goals, something the Crusaders haven't had since Kelly Japowicz tallied 15 in 2006.

"I expect a lot out of Jessica," Thomas said. "Expectations are high with the (high-scoring) reputation she has. But she's going to have to continue to work hard" and adjust to the speed of the WHAC game.

Austin won't have to do it alone, because Moore is looking solid in the early practices and is determined to pick up where she left off last season.

The Crusaders also have junior newcomer Jaclyn Ventimiglia (Macomb/Concordia) and returning senior Dina Allie who will be prowling

for goals. Thomas likes how both players are performing thus far, particularly Allie.

"Dina Allie's probably looked the best I've seen her in the past four years this preseason," Thomas said. "She's looked very sharp, very fit. ... She has the desire to go out with a bang and win something. She's very, very motivated right now."

If sophomore forward Chelsea Skinner (Milford) bounces back from a leg injury, she could also contribute to Madonna's scoring.

Madonna's defense will feature steady senior Andrea Johnson (Canton) and juniors Gina Leone and Lia Melasi. Both Leone and Melasi were named to the all-WHAC first team last year.

"Those three players have been the standouts in the back line," Thomas said. "They've all been consistent players the past three years."

Milford alums Chelsea Shrewsbury and Allison Zemaitis, both freshmen, will bolster the defense as will sophomore Katie Kozlowski (Crestwood).

The defenders will assist Warner, who was redshirted at Oakland University last fall due to a hand

injury.

"She's a very aggressive goalkeeper with a good pedigree," Thomas said. "She's played a high level of club soccer and high school (at Canton) and will be a solid player for us back there."

One thing for fans of the Crusaders to get used to as they take aim at the top of the conference standings is watching a goalie who likes to gamble.

"She's brave, but you need to be brave as a goalkeeper," he noted. "You need to be able to put your head where other people's feet are. You have to come out for crosses. Those types of attributes Brittany has."

The backup goalkeeper will be freshman Macie Carevic while sophomore and Livonia Clarenceville alum Chelsea Gregg is injured and will miss the season.

Thomas said the team could be further boosted by the dedication of Stoychoff and Allie, who tasted the success of going to the national tournament in 2005. "Those players know what it's like to win and they want to win before they leave."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Zanesville hurler finishes off Rams in Johnstown tourney

Nate Van Meter was probably the sole reason the Michigan Rams were heading home Thursday from the All-American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament in Johnstown, Pa.

The 20-year-old left-hander from Muskingum College (Ohio) tossed a complete-game four-hitter and belted a three-run homer to propel the Zanesville (Ohio) Junior Pioneers to a 7-1 triumph over the Rams at Point Stadium.

The 20-and-under Rams, representing the Livonia-based Michigan Collegiate Baseball League, finished four days at the AAABA Tournament with a 2-2 record and end their season at 30-12 overall.

Van Meter fell behind 1-0 in the second inning on an RBI double by Aaron Wick (scoring Dan Augustine), but allowed only two hits the rest of the way and wiggled his way out of a bases-loaded jam in the bottom of the eighth inning when he got Madonna University's Shawn Little (Canton) on a strikeout and Wick on a groundout.

Zanesville, meanwhile, tied it in the third on an RBI double by Jordan Foster and took the lead for keeps on Zack Pollock's two-run double in the fourth off starting and losing Rams pitcher Tom Whiting.

SANDLOT BASEBALL

Chaz Mohler contributed an RBI single in the fifth and Van Meter put the game away with a three-run homer over the left field screen in the top of the ninth.

The Rams used a total of four pitchers including Adrian College's Matt Tuttle (Livonia Stevenson), MU's Bret Spencer and Colin O'Connell. Spencer was the most effective, allowing one just one run in 3.2 innings of relief.

"Going 2-2 for the National Tournament - everyone was disappointed that they couldn't advance, but were pleased and proud of the fine season," Rams manager Rick Berryman said.

Rams rally in 9th for win

The Michigan Rams pulled out a dramatic ninth-inning victory Wednesday to stay alive in the AAABA Tournament in Johnstown, Pa.

The Rams erased a 3-1 deficit with five runs in the top of the ninth to eliminate Youth Service of Brooklyn, N.Y., 6-3, at Point Stadium.

All five runs came with two-out.

The Rams' Tim Cross and Dan Augustine were each hit with a pitch and pinch hitter

Derek Mosher followed with a walk to load the bases.

Brad Herman then delivered a clutch two-run double to right-center field to knot the score at 3-all and Brett Mazmanian broke the deadlock with the game-winning two-run single scoring both Mosher and Herman.

Josh Kirsten padded the lead with an RBI double scoring Mazmanian and reliever Jon Tibaud set Brooklyn down in order in the bottom of the ninth to pick up the victory.

Tibaud worked the final 2.1 innings in relief of starter Brett Shankin, who allowed just one earned run on three hits, four walks and four hit batters in 6.2 innings. Tibaud gave up one run on one hit and did not allow a walk. Shankin fanned five.

Losing pitcher Josh Reyes worked the first 8.2 innings, allowing four runs on just four hits. He walked six and hit two batters before reliever Eric Diaz took over in that fateful ninth.

The Rams scored once in the second to take a 1-0 lead on Aaron Wick's RBI single.

Brooklyn got two back in the fourth on Mike Georgio's two-run double and went up 3-1 on an RBI sacrifice fly by Armando Gutierrez in the eighth.

Concealed Dodgers 2-2 in Puerto Rico tourney

The Concealed Security Dodgers reached the final four before bowing out last week in the American Amateur Baseball Congress Pee Wee Reese Division (12-and-under) World Series in Toa Baja, Puerto Rico.

Concealed finished 2-2 in tournament play and 67-17 overall.

On Aug. 9, the Gresham Park (Ga.) Yardogs eliminated the Dodgers, 4-1, as Drew Hoarde (Oak Park) homered in the loss.

Losing pitcher Dalton Greyerbiehl (Commerce) scattered seven hits over six innings. Only one run was earned as he fanned four and walked only one.

Greyerbiehl picked off three runners at third base, only to have all three runners score following errant throws

as a result of a rundown situation.

Concealed stayed alive in the double-elimination tournament with a 4-2 win over the New Haven (Conn.) Naturals as Alec Padilla of Romeo, a pick-up player from league rival the Detroit Metro Stars, was the hero.

Using a 'cutter,' the 6-foot-3, 170-pound Padilla scattered eight walks and four hits over seven innings to pick up the win. He got out of a bases loaded jam with two-out in the bottom of the seventh by recording his 14th strikeout on a 3-2 count.

Padilla also led the Dodgers' seven-hit attack going 3-for-3 with a pair of doubles. Greyerbiehl also added two hits and two RBI.

In the tourney opener Aug. 7, host Levittown, P.R., the

defending AABC champion, blanked the Dodgers, 8-0, as Horde collected the lone hit in the third inning.

Greyerbiehl, Mike Vomastek (Livonia) and Dee Jawad (Dearborn Heights) shared the mound duties for Concealed, giving up a total of seven earned runs on eight hits and four walks.

On Aug. 8, Concealed stayed alive with their first victory, an 11-3 triumph over Cincinnati (Ohio) Midland as Greyerbiehl went 2-for-3 with a double and four RBI. Horde also walked in the fourth and swiped second, third and home on three pitches.

Jake Semak (Livonia) pitched three scoreless innings in relief of starter John Slater (Southfield) to earn the save. Semak struck out five and did not allow a walk or hit.

Schmitt earns bronze medal in 800 relay

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

All those years of sweat equity paid off big time for Allison Schmitt Wednesday morning in Beijing, China.

The 18-year-old Canton resident earned a bronze medal at the 2008 Summer Olympics around 11:40 p.m. local time Wednesday when she swam the first leg for the United States in the 4 x 200-meter relay.

Australia won gold with a world-record time of 7:44.31 while the host Chinese captured second in 7:45.93.

The U.S. touched in 7:46.33, more than three seconds faster than fourth-

place Italy.

Schmitt was in first place for nearly half of her 200-meter leg, however, she was fourth when teammate Natalie Coughlin took over for the second 200 meters.

Caroline Burckle, Schmitt's roommate in Beijing, swam the third leg for the U.S. ahead of anchor Katie Hoff.

Schmitt has been weakened this week by an intestinal illness, NBC Sports reported during Wednesday's race.

Schmitt narrowly missed qualifying for the 200 freestyle finals earlier in the week when she turned in the ninth-best time in the semis.

Only the top eight swimmers advanced to the finals.

Schmitt, who graduated from Canton High School in January, is headed to the University of Georgia in a couple of weeks with an athletic scholarship. She is a member of Club Wolverine, which is based in Ann Arbor.

Schmitt is expected to return to Canton on Monday for a brief stay before heading to Georgia.

Her parents, Ralph and Gail, returned home Friday from their week-long journey to the Far East to watch their daughter compete in swimming's biggest event.

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CLEANING-DAY MAID/OFFICE CLEANING
 FT, Mon-Fri. 12-2pm. Call for appt. 248-615-3554

CUSTODIAL - PT
 Large Church in Northville. Two positions available. Evenings and weekends, 2:30-11pm. \$11.10/hr. Apply at 40000 Six Mile Rd. Or call 248-374-7400

CUSTOMER SERVICE REP
 WEIGHT WATCHERS is looking for a qualified individual to work in our high volume call center. Previous experience in a call center and communication skills a must! Base salary plus commissions. Weight Watchers Lifetime Membership a definite plus. dataentry_08@yahoo.com or fax to (248) 699-3906 EOE

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT
 Do special work. Assist persons we serve in residential settings. \$7.65 total plus good benefits. 248-474-8293 734-953-8911, 734-425-8334 Livonia

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT
 Enjoy your work. Support persons we serve in their home & community. \$8.50 + good benefits. S. Lyon area: 248-573-5023 Ann Arbor: 734-239-9015

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT
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SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS
 Private school in Detroit is seeking certified school bus drivers. Must be able to pass background check. 20 hours a week driving. Hours vary from days, afternoon, and weekends.
 Contact U of D Jesuit High School for application at: (313) 862-5400

DRIVER
 With exp for asphalt co. needs CDL Class-A & DOT for tandem dump truck 248-474-5543

Driver
100 New Driver Trainees Needed!
 at Swift Transportation! Earn \$800 per week. No experience needed! CDL & Job Ready in 3 weeks at Nu-Way - #1 in MI! Great home time! Swift can cover costs! 1-888-822-8743

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 18 months experience. Call: 734-748-5940

DRIVER-ROUTE
 Delivery for local area, full & part time, commission based pay. Positions for motivated individuals. Experience not necessary, but will train. Flexible hours and some weekends required. CDL license not required. Trucks equipped with automatics. Clean shaven policy required. Ask for Kevin or Jared 1 (877) 955-9094

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 Looking for a career in residential service? Must have great customer service skills. Health & 401(K) are just the start.
 Apply in person at: 31015 Grand River Farmington Hills

MANAGER ON DUTY/MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR
 Duties include overseeing maintenance of the grounds and building, room set-ups, general maintenance of facilities equipment by supervising the maintenance staff, staff liaison during special events and meetings.
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HR MANAGER THE MEDICAL TEAM
 The MEDICAL TEAM provides diversified health care services with a community-based staff of several hundred nurses, aides, and administrative staff. We are looking for an enthusiastic, experienced HR Manager to work in our Livonia office to oversee H.R. processes, including recruitment, pre-employment testing/verifications, new employee orientations, performance evaluations, termination processes and file maintenance. This is a hands-on position for an individual with excellent communication skills who can actively engage with all levels of staff. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree, minimum 2 year's exp. in H.R., knowledge of employment/labor compliance issues. This is a mid-level position; compensation commensurate with experience. Please resume to: 734-779-9747 or email: personnel@medteam.com

JANITORIAL, PT
 Plymouth area. \$8/hr. to start. Mornings. (313) 537-2451

LAWN PESTICIDE APPLICATORS
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 In Plymouth from 11am-1pm. Mon-Fri. \$9/hr. 734-953-7163

MACHINE OPERATOR/DRIVER
 Livonia bindery. Mechanical skills a must. Resume to: lphim@philmcoservices.com or fax: 734-513-0221

Help Wanted-General 5000
Mechanic Certified Motorcycle Mechanic
 Top Pay. Flexible Hours. Independent Family Owned Shop in Livonia. Resume Required. Fax: 734-522-1617 or email: fredsbhastrikes@scglglobal.net

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 Charter Township of Redford
 For more information call: 313-387-2761 or visit our website at: redfordtp.com/dept/hr

Sales Trainees Needed
 Michigan's fastest growing home improvement company-Hansons Windows-is now hiring for Sales Trainees to enter into our Paid Sales Training Program. No experience is necessary, paid training program, and rapid advancement opportunity with unlimited earning potential. The perfect job for new college grads and those looking to start a great career w/ a growing company. Call Now! Dan 248-581-3030 ext 681.

SCHEDULER
 Farmington Hills home care agency. Experience required. Great people & communication skills a must. Fax: 248-419-5016 or email: mtuner@forddshomecare.org

TAX PREPARERS
 Learn to Earn - Free Training No Exp. Necessary Competitive Salary & Flexible Hrs. Call: (586) 991-0434

TEACHER
 Certified HS teacher w/ Chemistry as well as Math focus. Part time. Retirees welcome. Akiva Hebrew Day School in Southfield. Send resume w/cover letter to: Terri Giannetti Fax: 248-386-1632 Call: 248-386-1625 ext 227 Email: trtkat@yahoo.com

Teachers-Part time
 In Reading & Math. Sylvan Learning Center, West Bloomfield. Certified. 248-737-2880

Help Wanted-Office 5020
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
 Farmington Hills Mortgage Co. approx 25 hrs. Computer skills needed. Call: 248-848-0999 or fax resume: 248-848-0955

Administrative Support
 Busy psychological consulting firm is looking for customer oriented individual with highly developed interpersonal skills to assist in writing reports, proctoring and scoring psychological tests, and performing general office duties. The person we seek will be a self starter with the ability to multi-task and manage time effectively. He/she will be detail oriented and have knowledge of correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Must be proficient in Microsoft Word & Microsoft Operating Systems. FT & PT positions available. Please submit resume and cover letter by fax: 248-827-4037 or email: Psybus@aol.com

CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
 PT position, approx. 25 hrs/wk, w/flexible schedule; computer skills needed; Word, Outlook and willingness to learn. A positive outlook, great communication skills and the ability to work independently a must. Submit resume to Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 W 10 Mile Rd. Novi, MI 48275. Fax: 248-349-2585 or Email: info@umcnovi.com Please include references. Check out our website: www.umcnovi.com

LEGAL SECRETARY
 Approx. 30-35 hrs/wk. for Livonia sole practitioner. Good MS Word skills a must! Legal exp. preferred. Fax resume: 734-425-2397

LEGAL SECRETARY
 Law firm seeking part time legal secretary. Candidates must have professional telephone etiquette, strong organizational skills, attention to detail, excellent oral and written communication skills, ability to multi-task and provide details with follow up skills. Proficiency in MS Word, Excel & Outlook required. Qualified applicants should send a resume, cover letter and salary requirements to lessel07@hotmail.com

OFFICE HELP
 FT w/exp. Must be able to multi-task, organizational skills, QuickBooks a plus. Dependable & accuracy a must. Fax: 248-673-4745 salesmanager002@gmail.com

RECEPTIONIST FULL-TIME/PART-TIME
 Real Estate/Property Management Office. People, Phone, Computer Skills. Apply in person: 19172 Grand River, Detroit. E. of Outer Dr., Rosedale Park, Mon-Fri. 9-5.

RECEPTIONIST, Part-Time
 fast paced, outstanding customer service. Professional phone presence. 734-713-0527

SECRETARY
 Law offices of Alexander, Zelmanski & Lee, PLLC, are seeking Secretary to fill full time opening in Plymouth office. Please submit resume and salary requirements to: 1436 Prestbury Ct. Canton, MI 48187

SECRETARY
 Full-Time for Livonia real estate office. Self starter. Phones, computer & general skills. Fax: (734) 464-8713 Email: c21row@aol.com

SECRETARY
 Law offices of Alexander, Zelmanski & Lee, PLLC, are seeking Secretary to fill full time opening in Plymouth office. Please submit resume and salary requirements to: 1436 Prestbury Ct. Canton, MI 48187

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL ASSISTANT
 Bloomfield Hills Endodontic office seeking highly motivated, energetic individual to join our team. Experience preferred but willing to train. Fax resume ATTN: Lisa at: 248-647-0576

DENTAL ASSISTANT
 FT & PT. Exp. in dental office needed. Must be positive, upbeat, people oriented, and able to multi-task. Farmington area office. Fax resume: (248) 474-0052

DENTAL ASSISTANT
 Friendly Livonia general practice. 2 yrs. exp. needed. (734) 425-1121

Dental Assistant
 Troy office. Exp'd. only! Full-time, benefits, 401K. Fax resume to Brenda at: (248) 879-9956

DENTAL ASSISTANT
 Well paid position and work you'll love in a professional, growth-oriented environment. Leading edge specialty practice is looking for a FT assistant with exc. dental exp. Call only to: 248-357-3100

DENTAL ASSISTANT, FT
 Exp'd. friendly, reliable person. No weekends. Family office. Garden City. 734-422-4350

DENTAL ASSISTANT/CLERICAL
 Exp'd. preferred but willing to train. Full-time position for Southfield dental office. Fax resume: (248) 304-1387

Help Wanted-Office 5020
Sales Assistant
 Virginia Tile in Farmington Hills is seeking a FT Assistant to support Sales Dept. Must have 2-3 years experience, excellent communication skills, and proficient in MS Office & AS400. Excellent benefit package. Send resume to hrmanager@virginiatile.com or fax 734-421-0993.

SECRETARY
 Full-Time for Livonia real estate office. Self starter. Phones, computer & general skills. Fax: (734) 464-8713 Email: c21row@aol.com

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DENTAL ASSISTANT
 Bloomfield Hills Endodontic office seeking highly motivated, energetic individual to join our team. Experience preferred but willing to train. Fax resume ATTN: Lisa at: 248-647-0576

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 Exp'd. friendly, reliable person. No weekends. Family office. Garden City. 734-422-4350

DENTAL ASSISTANT/CLERICAL
 Exp'd. preferred but willing to train. Full-time position for Southfield dental office. Fax resume: (248) 304-1387

DENTAL ASSISTANTS, DENTAL HYGIENISTS & DENTAL RECEPTIONISTS
 With experience for general offices. Excellent pay. Apply at performanceplusstaffing.com

DENTAL HYGIENIST
 Part-Time. 12 Mile & Evergreen. Thurs. & Sat. Call Toni at: 248-353-4747

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
CLINICAL MANAGER
 Needed full time for multi-specialty group of clinics in Garden City, MI. area. MA or Nurse with prior experience in physician's office management required. Excellent working conditions, benefits and salary. Respond w/salary requirements to: Observer & Eccentric, Box 6200 Metro Pkwy, Sterling Heights, MI 48312, or email: oeresume@hometownlife.com Ref Code: 1713 Or fax: 734-468-4723

CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR, RN
 Expanding, private practice in Troy seeking a FT, self-motivated, RN to participate in conducting clinical trials. Previous research exp. preferred, but not req'd. Fax resume: 248-267-5001

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 To work in senior living communities, assisting residents with activities of daily living. Requires formal training, good skills, experience, and customer service mind set. Openings for day, evening and weekend positions in tri-county area. Special needs: qualified med passers for Northville area; shift supervisors in several locations. Nursing home or assisted living experience a plus.
 •CNAs for private duty cases. Must have exc. clinical skills and demonstrated ability to work with patients/families who req. TLC. Experience with spinal cord and/or closed head injuries a plus.
 •Home Health Aides
 Must meet Medicare requirements & have exp. in home health.
 Please fax resume to: 734-779-9747 or email: personnel@medteam.com

ECHO & VASCULAR TECH
 Cardiology office. FT & PT. Romeo & Rochester area. Fax resume: 586-752-0740

MEDICAL ASSISTANT Part-Time
 Needed for busy family practice in Livonia. Must have previous experience in a medical office and be experienced in phlebotomy, X-ray experience helpful. Must be available for vacation coverage. Hours are: Mon. 2:00pm - 8:00pm, Thurs., 9:00am-6:00pm, Fri. 9:00am-2:00pm, and two Saturdays per month 8:00am-1:00pm. Fax resume to: (734) 427-7260

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
 Experienced medical assistant needed full time for busy pediatric practice. Fax resume to Rebecca at (248)540-8701.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
 For Cardiology office in Farmington/Novi. Fax resume to Judy: 248-380-6630

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
 Position available for experienced MA in fast paced family practice. References required. Fax resume to: 246-474-4224

MEDICAL ASSISTANT/RECEPTIONIST FT/PT
 Busy dermatologist. Dermatology exp. preferred. Fax Resume 734-455-7371

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS
 Needed for multi-specialty group of clinics in the Garden City, MI area. Experience required, full and part time positions open. Must be willing to cover for and/or train for the front office as well. Excellent salary and benefit package offered. Send resume w/ observer & eccentric, Box 1717, 6200 Metro Pkwy, Sterling Hgts, MI 48312, or oeresume@hometownlife.com Ref Code: 1717 Fax to: (734) 458-4723

MEDICAL BILLER
 Exp'd. full-time for Endodontic/Pediatric. Fax Resume: 248-824-5984

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
 Part-Time for busy endodontology practice in Rochester Hills. Computer exp. a must. Fax resume to Tammy: (248) 853-7230

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST, PT
 For great OB-GYN office in West Bloomfield. Exp. in Nco & Vail. (248) 855-7616

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST/PHLEBOTOMIST
 Full-Time with benefits for specialty office in West Bloomfield. (248) 855-5620

OPTICIAN/DISPENSER
 Needed for our quality driven independent eye care practice. Exp'd/ABO certified preferred. Please call Val: 734-421-5454

PATIENT RECRUITER
 Full time for a busy non-smoking clinical trials department in Troy. Must have a medical background, be self-motivated and energetic. Fax resume to: 248-312-0026

PHYSICAL THERAPY TECHNICIAN
 Part-Time needed for established Orthopedic Physical Therapy Clinic in Livonia. Exp. recommended but will train. Email or Fax resume Attn: Susanptowork@medendlesnorth.com or fax: 734-542-9790

RN/LPN
 PT for busy pediatric office in West Bloomfield, 2 days, Thurs & Fri, and rotate Sat. AM. Debbie: 248-855-7510

RN: (Home Health Liaison Nurse) & Home Health Sales & Marketing Rep
 For Adult & Pediatric Vent./Teache home care patients, in Metro Detroit. See details & apply online at: **careerbuilder.com** Keywords Search: 0e08616804

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080
BARTENDER
 Full or Part-Time. Also need Snack Person, Part-Time, weekends a must. Apply in person: Country Lanes, 30250 W 9 Mile, Farmington Hills. (248) 478-3201

COOK
 Needed for Italian Cuisine. Exp. necessary. Call Paul at Nico & Vail. (248) 207-7880

COOK/UTILITY POSITION
 Plymouth Inn Assisted Living 205 Haggerty Rd. Plymouth. (734) 451-0700

SERVER, Part-Time
 Small family restaurant in Downtown Northville. Extremely reliable. 734-420-2141

Help Wanted-Sales 5120
Auto Dealer
3 New Car/Truck Salespeople
 needed immediately. Very large west side Ford store. Great Pay/Benefits Pkg. Contact Bob Faust @ 734-641-6134

Auto Dealer
SERVICE MANAGER
 Minimum 5 years experience in Ford Lincoln-Mercury store. High quality control, computer skills and retail marketing a must. Contact Jim Demmer @ 734-841-6171

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Help Wanted-Sales 5120
SALES MANAGER
 Position for educational programs. Must be able to travel throughout Michigan & work with administrators, parents, students & staff. Some Sat's. & later evening hours required. Minimum of undergraduate degree. Email resume & salary requirements to: mmccully@mercutoring.com

TEAM LEADERS
 Great for Fundraising Groups or indiv. in need of extra income. PT/great pay. Recruit & oversee a sales staff team of 6+ & avail. during U of M home football, adults needed, training avail., base & comm. 248-720-0387/248-396-4122 or email wendy.wanner@livesportsradio.com

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240
HOUSEKEEPER
 Outstanding opportunity for live-in housekeeper (MUST BE NON-SMOKER). Duties include live-in 5 days/4 nights, thorough housekeeping, accurately record phone messages; cooking skills a big plus. Applicants must speak English clearly, be discrete, work well with others, have own transportation, be dependable, have flexible schedule; like pets. Household exp. required. Bloomfield Hills. Please fax qualifications w/ references to 248-827-1716 domestic_worker@yahoo.com

Good vision critical for success in school

The Michigan Optometric Association reminds parents that good vision is critical for many classroom tasks such as reading books, seeing a blackboard and viewing a computer screen. Without an eye exam many children will suffer from undetected vision problems and some may even be misdiagnosed as having a learning disorder.

The American Optometric Association's 2008 American Eye-Q survey, which assesses public knowledge and understanding of a wide range of issues related to eye and vision health, showed 87 percent of respondents were unaware that one in four children have a vision problem that might affect learning.

"Over 400,000 school children in Michigan have vision conditions that can negatively affect learning," said Peter Agnone, MOA optometrist. "Many parents rely on vision screenings in school to check for eye problems, but that isn't enough. Comprehensive eye exams are necessary to detect problems that a simple screening can miss such as eye coordination and moderate amounts of farsightedness and astigmatism."

Optometrists can tell if vision skills are lacking or if the eyes are not functioning properly. These eye and vision issues can lead to headaches, fatigue and other eyestrain problems. Parents should be aware of symptoms that may indicate a child has a vision or visual processing problem. Be sure to tell an optometrist if a child frequently loses his or her place while reading, avoids close work, holds reading material closer than normal, tends to rub his or her eyes, has headaches, turns or tilts head to use one eye only, makes frequent reversals when reading or writing, uses finger to maintain place when reading, omits or confuses small words when reading, or consistently performs below potential.

Studies indicate that 60 percent of children identified as problem learners actually suffer from undetected vision problems. In fact, according to the Eye-Q survey, only 39 percent of adults understand that behavioral problems can be an indication of vision problems.

Early detection and treatment provide the very best opportunity to treat and correct vision problems to help children see clearly. The MOA recommends that a child's first eye exam take place at six months of age. Unless problems are detected, the next exam should be at age three, and then every two years once a child begins school. Unfortunately, the Eye-Q survey showed that 57 percent of children did not receive their first eye exam until age five or older.

"Good vision doesn't just happen," said Agnone. "A child's brain learns how to use eyes to see just like he or she learns how to use legs to walk or a mouth to form words. The longer a vision problem goes undiagnosed and untreated, the more a child's brain has to overcompensate to live with the vision problem, instead of developing and learning normally."

For more information or to locate a Michigan Optometric Association doctor, visit <http://michigan.aoa.org>.

Birth control pill risks, and neck pain solutions



Peter's Principles

Peter Nielsen

Pam from Fenton emails that she is taking birth control pills and heard that she could be at an increased risk of cancer. Is this true?

A new study finds that women who take birth control pills have a higher risk of cervical cancer. Researchers studied more than 50,000 women. They found those who took the pills for at least five years had nearly double the risk of cervical cancer than those who had never taken the pill. But there is some good news. The study also found that risk disappeared a decade after women stopped taking the pill.

Previous studies have shown the hormones found in birth control pills can protect against ovarian and womb cancer, which are harder to detect.

Mike from Clarkston emails saying he wakes up each morning with the worst pain in his neck and shoulders. What can he do?

Mike you are not alone. Doctors estimate that seven out of 10 people will suffer with the same pain at some point in their lives. The biggest cause is use and abuse. Here are three simple things you can try to help relieve the pain.

When you are at the computer or a desk, keep your head balanced directly over your spine. Keep both feet on the ground and sit all the way back in your chair.

How do you use the phone? Do you crick your neck to one side? That could be a big culprit. Try a head set or speakerphone to keep your head in a neutral position.

Do you carry a briefcase, bag or heavy purse? Carrying that weight on one shoulder all the time could cause pain. Try switching to a backpack or alternate which shoulder you use.

Hopefully these simple things will help relieve your pain.

Peter Nielsen is a fitness expert and owner of Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield, and Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield. Watch him on WDIV and WJL, or visit www.peternielsen.com.

Networking for health

Gwen Adomaitis (right) of Farmington Hills introduces herself and 6-month-old daughter Rowan at a Holistic Moms Network meeting in the Plymouth District Library. Shannon Yee of Livonia and her children Ella, 3, and Josiah, 2, look on.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Andrea Stevens is the Metro Detroit chapter leader of Holistic Moms Network. Behind Stevens is Stephanie Rose of Farmington.



The Holistic Moms Network met for the first time at the Plymouth Library.

Holistic moms gather to share information

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Andrea Stevens seemed surprised that nearly 35 parents turned out for the first meeting of the Holistic Moms Network at the Plymouth District Library. Moms and dads from Ann Arbor, Farmington Hills, Northville, Sterling Heights, Plymouth, Livonia, Canton, Ferndale, Westland, and Dearborn came to the event in search of ways to make their families healthier.

The national organization had told Stevens to expect 10 to 12 parents, but she passed out flyers at numerous places such as farmers markets in an effort to reach as many moms as possible. The Redford mom of two is starting the local chapter of the nonprofit that offers support for parents interested in natural living. The turnout was indicative of the popularity of the holistic movement. The nonprofit has grown to 120 chapters nationwide since it was founded five years ago.

Stevens began thinking about following a healthier lifestyle while taking a holistic birth class at the Center for the Child Bearing Year in Ann Arbor before her daughter was born 2 1/2 years ago. Even before then she had quit drinking diet soda after reading a book on aspartame which she blames for giving her headaches. Since the holistic birth class Stevens has further researched everything from nutrition to vaccines and decided to return to living the way she grew up. Her mother Joyce Murch never fed her family processed or fast foods. Today Stevens teaches the Bradley Method of Natural Childbirth in Dearborn and prefers cooking from scratch to eating out.

"I'm just a regular mom not a holistic expert by any means," said Stevens. "I try to do a little step at a time, try to buy as



The room was crowded for the first meeting of the Holistic Moms Network on Thursday, Aug. 7.

much organic and locally grown food as possible. I boost the children's immune systems through proper nutrition and supplements. They get lots of fruits and vegetables and we avoid high fructose corn syrup. I opted not to vaccinate our children because of so much information about adverse reactions and long term health effects. That's not to say I don't let my mother-in-law take the kids to McDonald's once in a while. I don't want it to be taboo and then they want it more."

Like Stevens, co-leader Daedra Surowiec of Dearborn started reading labels when she was pregnant four years ago.

"I wanted to know what I was putting in my body. I stopped drinking pop," said Surowiec. "When you have something growing in your body you start thinking about what you're putting in your body."

Tali and Julian Wendrow of West Bloomfield started making changes in their lifestyle because of their two children ages 15 and 13.

"Our daughter has autism and we found making changes in the kids' diets made a difference," said Tali Wendrow. "Our son has ADD. We started with a yeast-free, gluten-free diet for our daughter. We eat more organic, avoid artificial flavors and colors and found it was helping diminish symptoms of autism and ADD and they're hardly ever sick with the flu."

"Even organic produce gets rained on. We can't screen out everything but we found a healthy eating approach helps with prevention," added Julian. "We avoid antibiotics and keep their immune

systems optimal by other means."

Gwen Adomaitis of Farmington Hills, like the Wendrows, came to the meeting to network with parents who believe as she does. The \$45 membership fee includes a newsletter and the opportunity to participate in an e-mail group to exchange information.

"I wanted to find a community of people on the same path to keep things natural, to be able to go to a play group and not worry about food dyes, to try to eat food as natural as possible, to cook at home from food we might recognize, things my great grandmother did," said Adomaitis who gave birth to two of her children at home. Adomaitis takes her children to a pediatrician with a holistic practice in West Bloomfield. She was totting her 6-month-old daughter Rowan in a baby sling.

"I got started when I had my first child in the hospital with a midwife six years ago. It kind of snowballed. I now make a lot of my cleaning products."

The Metro Detroit chapter of the Holistic Moms Network meets 9:45-11:45 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. The topic for the Sept. 4 meeting is toxic ingredients in household and personal care products. Stevens hopes to add an evening session for working moms if she receives enough requests.

For more information, visit www.holisticmoms.org, call Andrea Stevens at (313) 220-4592 or send e-mail to amstevens14@juno.com.

lchomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

AUGUST

Vinyasa yoga

From 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 17. Vinyasa yoga blends strength and flexibility training emphasizing power, precision, timing, grace and coordination, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. To register, call Julie Burt at (734) 394-5460 or online at www.netafit.org.

Blood drive

From 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Aug. 18, in the DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Conference Center, 1 William Carols Drive, Commerce. Pledge a blood donation by going to www.give4life.org with the sponsor code DMC

and choose the HVSH drive. Walk-ins welcome but appointments encouraged to prevent lengthy waits.

Diabetes in the school

An educational session for school personnel, with or without medical training, on how to care for a child with diabetes, presented by University of Michigan's C.S. Mott Children's Hospital 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 19, at the Washtenaw Intermediate School District, 1819 S. Wagner, Ann Arbor. Cost is \$20. Call Jennifer Schwab at (734) 615-4596 or send e-mail to schwabja@med.umich.edu.

Inner engineering

Led by Isha Yoga Teacher Sadhguru

Jaggi Vasudev Wednesday-Tuesday, Aug. 20-26, free intro talk 7 p.m., Aug. 20, at The Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills. Contact (248) 722-0111 or detroit@ishafoundation.org.

Sharing & Caring

Education and support program for breast cancer survivors features field trip Ai Chi: Range of Motion through Aquatic Exercise 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 21, at the Goldfish Swim School, 2388 Cole St., Birmingham. To register or for more information, call (248) 551-8585.

Movie marathon

Begins 10:00 a.m., Friday, Aug. 22, and runs for 24 hours through Saturday

morning at Emagine Theatre in Novi to benefit Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan, an independent foundation that helps families cope with the many financial and emotional stresses of battling leukemia, lymphoma and related blood disorders.

Raising a minimum of \$105.10 in pledges will get you admitted to the Theatre for 24 hours of watching your choice of current-run movies, also lunch, dinner and continental breakfast on Saturday morning, snacks throughout your stay and all the pop and popcorn you can eat. New for this year is the "Family Pack Special" for a family of four. A

special admission allows parents with two children to arrive on Friday at 5 p.m., watch two movies, have dinner, and enjoy pop and popcorn all for the same pledge total as one individual, \$105.10. Register online at www.leukemiainmichigan.org or call Children's Leukemia Foundation at (800) 825-2536. Individuals aged 13-17 may only participate until 10 p.m. unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Alzheimer's memory walk

Saturday, Aug. 23, at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak, rain or shine. To start a team or make a donation, contact the Alzheimer's Association at alzgm.org or (248) 351-0280. The Alzheimer's

Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's research, care and support. For more information, visit www.alz.org.

Hatha yoga classes

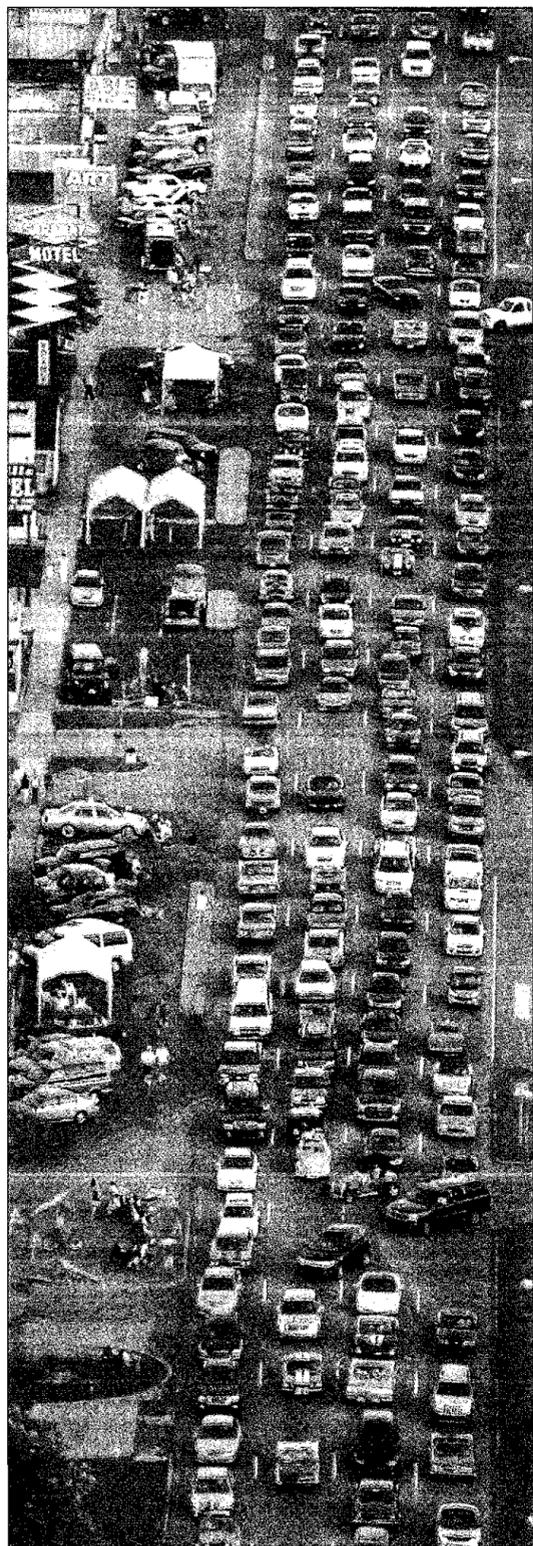
From 5:15-6:30 p.m., Tuesdays beginning Aug. 26 to Sept. 30, in Classrooms 1 and 2 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Hatha Yoga increases flexibility, energy level and strength at your own pace in a non-competitive setting. Class participants need to be able to move between a standing position to a hands and knees position with ease. There is a fee. Space limited. To register, call (734) 655-1162.

Floating on a Dream Cruise

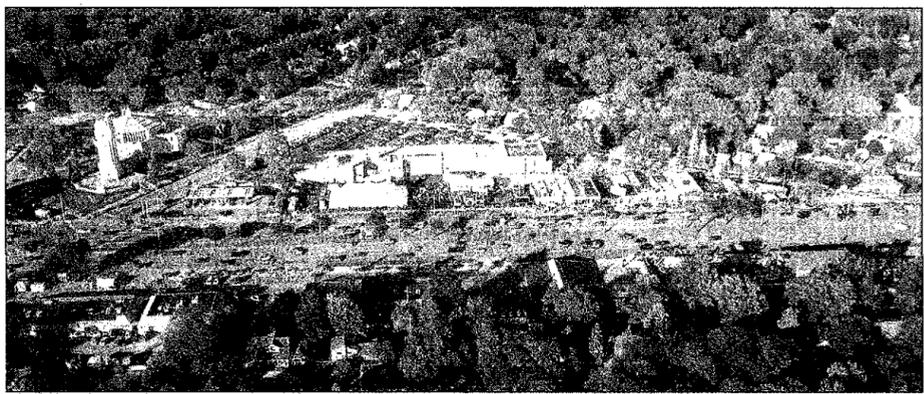


The Northwood Shopping Center, located at the intersection of 13 Mile and Woodward, is considered the epicenter of the Woodward Dream Cruise.

PHOTOS BY STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER JOHN STORMZAND



It wasn't easy to navigate Woodward Friday evening if you weren't a classic car cruiser.



John Stormzand | Staff Photographer
The intersection of Woodward Avenue and Twelve Mile saw some of the heaviest cruising activity.

Whoa. That is one pink car. Oakland County Sheriff's deputies Dave Losinski and Bill Christensen spot it immediately. Even hundreds of feet above the ground it pops out — a Pepto Bismol-colored drop inching north on Woodward Avenue Friday night.

Losinski and Christensen are members of the Sheriff's Department Aviation Unit, a helicopter patrol division that's monitored county skies since 2001.

This weekend saw the unit's helicopters hovering up and down Woodward, as they patrolled the 14th annual Woodward Dream Cruise.

The unit helps the nearly two dozen other police agencies in monitoring the festivities that, from hundreds of feet above, take on an almost mythic quality.

The great American road that is Woodward stretches into the horizon, lined with tiny bits of candy-colored cars.

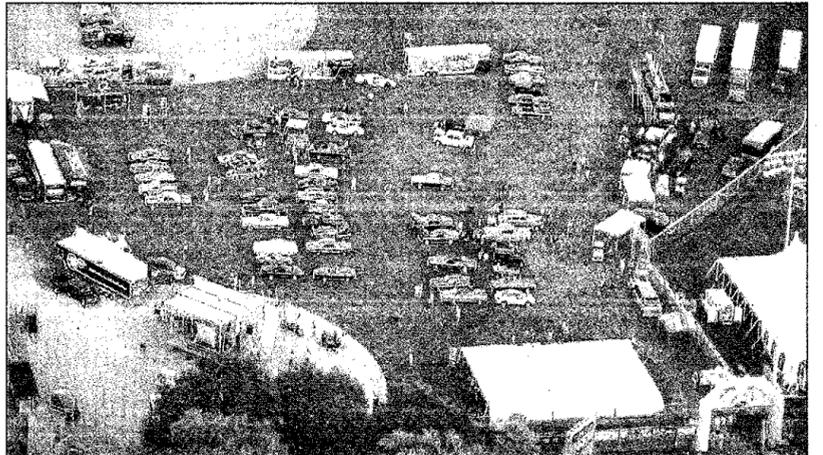
Christensen said in the years he's patrolled the Dream Cruise, there haven't been any serious incidents. A few disorderly conduct problems, a few cases of people trying to steal tires from cars.

"I haven't heard of very much beyond that," he said.

Christensen attributes the relative lack of incidents at the Dream Cruise to the heavy police presence on the ground, and the deterrent effect of the helicopter patrol.

"We're actually a presence more than anything," he said.

— By Megan Pennefather



Classic cars were displayed in Memorial Park in Royal Oak Friday.



Spectators take in the cruising action in front of Potbelly's on the west side of Woodward north of Normandy in Royal Oak.



By 8 p.m. Friday, Woodward was home to a classic car traffic jam.

Store and share large files on the Web without spending a dime

Question: How can I share large files, like photos and videos, with friends and family members?

Answer: When I need to do this, I invariably turn to YouSendIt (yousendit.com). Granted, the Web offers countless similar services, but I like YouSendIt because it's quick, easy, and free — and because I'm a creature of habit.



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

I may need a new habit, however, now that I've discovered Drop.io (www.drop.io). True to its name, this service is like an online dropbox for your files. Or, to put it another way, permanent temporary storage.

Without so much as setting up an account or providing an e-mail address, you can choose a Web address for your "drop" (drop.io/whatever-name-you-want), select the file(s) you want to upload, enter a password (optional), and specify how long the drop should exist: anywhere from 1 day to 1 year.

You can, of course, share your new URL with others if you want to provide access to your files — and you don't have to worry about the decor. The "drop space" looks quite attractive and offers several views for browsing files.

What's more, sharing a Drop.io URL with co-workers is like creating an instant online workspace for collaborating on files and documents.

In recent months the service has added even more interesting features, such as audio recording by cell phone: When you create a drop, you get a phone number and extension you can dial into to record meetings, podcasts, reminders, or whatever.

In a nutshell, you dial the number, wait for the prompt, and enter your extension. Whatever audio gets recorded by your

phone is converted to an MP3 file and stored on your drop. You can listen to the file, download it, share it with others, and so on.

Drop.io can also send via fax any Word document or PDF you've uploaded: Just click Send, then Fax, and then enter the recipient's fax number. Presto: The document gets delivered just as though you'd sent it from a fax machine. (You're limited to documents of no

more than 20 pages each.) Receiving a fax is a bit more complicated: You have to e-mail a special cover sheet to the recipient, who must use it as the top sheet when sending your fax. The pages will arrive in your drop as a PDF, which you can then download, view, print, etc.

Amazingly, all these Drop.io services are free. Bookmark this site pronto.

Question: How can I reduce the amount of energy consumed by my computer(s)?

Answer: Windows users should check out Edison (verdiem.com/edison), a free utility that helps you manage your PC's power settings and shows your estimated annual savings for every tweak you make.

The program includes separate settings tabs for both work and non-work hours (which you can designate using the Schedule tab). Using a slider, you nudge your PC toward "save less" or "save more" — Edison makes corresponding adjustments to the display, hard drive, and suspend settings. As you drag the slider, you get instantly updated annual-savings figures, which you can make even more accurate by plugging in the actual kilowatt/hour costs for your home or office.

This is a brilliant, easy-to-use little application I hope everyone will try. Sure, you can tweak the same power settings without it, but there's something very satisfying about seeing how much money you'll save at the same time you're conserving energy.

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.



Faith and Grace Hargrave are 4 and 6 years old. Their mother, Bonnie Arndt, dressed both of them from head to toe, including backpacks, for under \$15.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dress for less

Thrift store offers bargains to benefit disabled American veterans

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Sarah Kennedy struts through the DAV Thrift Store in Westland showing off her outfit. The 17-year-old Westland girl assembled the trendy skirt, tank top, sweater, shoes, purse, beads, and bracelet for under \$15.

Bonnie Arndt dressed both of her daughters Faith, 4, and Grace, 6, from head to toe, including backpacks, for under \$15. Sharon Jones of Detroit dressed for success in a pants suit with briefcase for \$15.

Lashawna Wright is constantly looking for bargains as night manager of the store that opened March 28.

DAV THRIFT STORE

What: The DAV Thrift Store
Where: 8050 Middlebelt, north of Ann Arbor Trail on the east side of the street.
Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday.
Phone: (734) 513-6020.
Donations are accepted at the store every day. Pickup is available by calling (866) 520-5328.



Steven Ellis is the co-manager of the DAV Thrift Store in Westland.



Chandler Wright of Redford is 12 years old. His Tommy Hilfiger jeans cost \$3.98 at the DAV Thrift Store in Westland.

She shops for back to school clothes for her 12-year-old son Chandler year round. His Tommy Hilfiger jeans cost \$3.98.

The DAV Thrift Store is able to offer low prices on used clothing every day because merchandise is donated to the organization which provides services for disabled American veterans. Sales reduce the costs for customers even more. Signs located throughout the store show weekly specials and on Monday seniors receive an extra 25 percent off of clothing.

"If you wait for them to be half off you get an even better deal," said Lashawna Wright of Redford. "I'd been looking for shoes but didn't want to pay \$40 to \$50 because he's so hard on them. These are Adidas. I got them for \$4.98."

Martine Vartanian and her sister Denise Bendall like shopping for work clothes at the thrift store.

"On Sundays certain items are a quarter each or five for \$1," said Bendall, a Redford resident who works at the 35th District Court in

Please see **THRIFT, C2**

In the pink

Volunteers brighten life for seriously ill Livonia girl

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

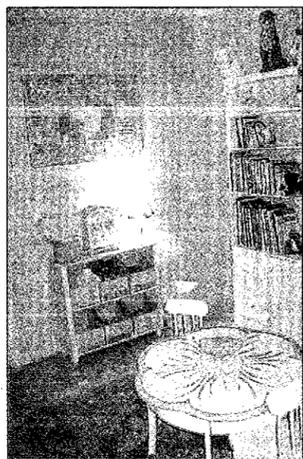
Celeste Gosselin squealed with delight when she walked into her newly redecorated rooms. The six-year-old girl considers herself an artist so the playroom is one of her favorite places.

Thanks to the hard work of a group of volunteers from The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth, Celeste has a cheery environment to brighten the long days she spends there. Diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia in 2004, Celeste spends almost the entire day in her bedroom and playroom.

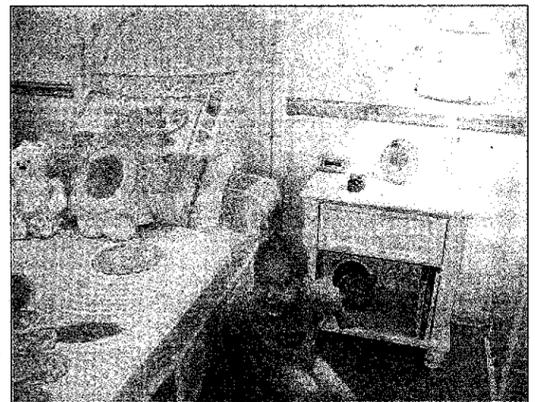
"I like the pink and white colors and the butterflies," said Celeste. Suzanne Gosselin is just happy that her little girl is happy.

The family had just moved into their Livonia home in October when a week later they found out Celeste was no longer in remission. For a while the Gosselins spent more time at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor than their new home.

Celeste is once again going through chemotherapy. When her white blood cell count is down she has no ability to fight infection and



This is the playroom where Celeste Gosselin does her painting.



Six-year-old Celeste Gosselin of Livonia likes the pink and white colors in her new bedroom.

must remain isolated in her home. "She was bubbling over, but before she was very nervous a lot of her things would be moved and changed," said Suzanne. "I was relieved that she accepted everything so wonderfully. Certain things are very unpredictable for her now. The play room is more like an art room with book shelves. In the center of the room is a flower painted table that she does her painting and stuff. I'm happy but it's a bittersweet happiness. She only has me to play with. I play Barbies with her, jump on her trampoline. We had a garage sale just to buy a trampoline. It makes her laugh. It's great therapy."

Tawnya Johnson and the rest of the volunteers at The Inn at St. John's took six weeks just to plan the theme. The co-workers found out about Celeste while attending a luncheon for the Suite Dreams Project in May after she was nominated to receive a dream bedroom through the Rochester-based non-profit. Working with the staff at The Inn, Tawnya and eight other volunteers raised over \$5,000 to redo the two rooms.

"We started with her favorite colors," said Johnson, who led the project's volunteers. "She's six and a little girl so pink is the big thing. We hired a muralist, Upon a Wall, to paint the flowers,

Upon a Wall, to paint the flowers,

Please see **PINK, C3**

Polish dance classes to begin in September

The Polish National Alliance Centennial Dancers is registering children ages 4-18 for Polish dance classes this fall with Suzan Charuba Marzec. The group will hold an informational parent meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Simply Polish, 28841 Plymouth Road, one block east of Middlebelt, Livonia. Classes start the following Wednesday and run through March 21. The classes conclude with a recital by

the PNA Centennial Dancers and the adult Radomianie Polish Folk Dance Ensemble. The performance was held at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton last April. For more information, call (734) 266-9995 or visit www.PNACentennialDancers.org. Marzec has been teaching Polish folklore dancing for 20 years. The classes include instruction in the customs, traditions and language of Poland.

Redford Suburban League seeks crafters

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Time is running out and Lillian Malley is a little worried. The Farmington Hills woman still doesn't have enough crafters for the boutique which is part of the Redford Suburban League's annual celebrity fashion show. The Fall Festival of Fashion takes place Wednesday, Oct.

15, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

Proceeds from the event go to the Burger School for Students with Autism in Garden City.

Once again this year Rich Fisher and Doris Biscoe host the fashion show spotlighting clothes from Lord & Taylor and the Men's Wearhouse.

"We have quite a large boutique with all kinds of

crafts including jewelry, door wreaths, decorations, flower arrangement, a lot of Christmas of course, doll clothes," said Malley, Redford Suburban League board member and publicity person for this year's fashion show.

"We're looking for any kind of crafters/vendors. Skirted tables are \$45 each. The boutique opens at 9 a.m. Crafters can come in at 7 a.m. to set

up. Lunch for them is \$15. The fashion show runs after lunch at noon."

For more information about the boutique, call Sara Gorman at (313) 937-8583 or Josetta Howes at (248) 960-0853.

Tickets for the fashion show are \$45 per person, includes luncheon. Call Miriam at (734) 981-6003.

lchomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

Livonia Civic Chorus looking for new members

The Livonia Civic Chorus begins its 2008-2009 season with a rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, at Frost Middle School, 14041 Stark, Livonia.

New members are always welcome. All vocal ranges are needed, especially tenors and bass/baritones.

The chorus meets every Tuesday from September through May and performs two major shows each December and May.

For more information, call (248) 543-2946, send e-mail to gerisings@sbcglobal.net, or visit www.livoniacivicchorus.org.

THRIFT

FROM PAGE C1

Plymouth. "That's a real bargain with gas the way it is."

"I shop here all the time," said Vartanian, a Westland resident who works for Comcast. "I just lost 43 pounds and am going to lose more so I buy clothes and then donate them back that way somebody else gets a chance to wear them. I got all of my summer stuff for maybe \$20. I've gotten brand names, Ralph Lauren, Gloria Vanderbilt, things with tags still on them."

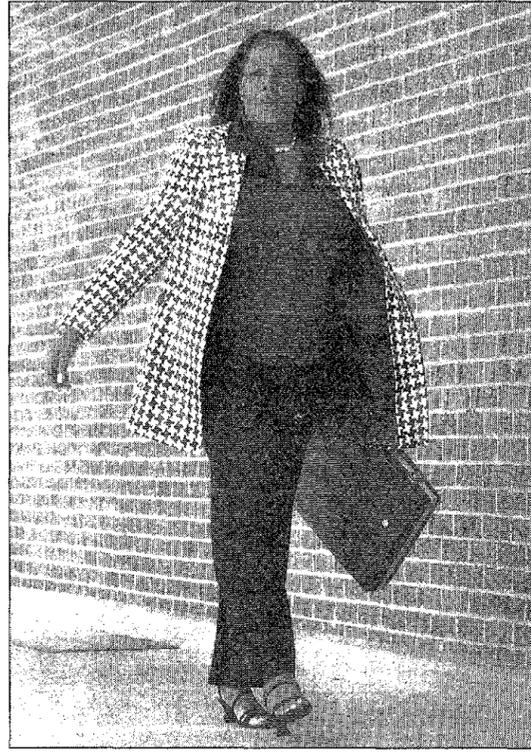
Timna Peterman of Redford comes once a week to buy merchandise to sell on eBay.

"A lot of people are doing that," said Peterman. "I see whatever is a good deal that I know will sell. I also find goodies for me. They price it to move it out. The store is very neat and well organized."

Manager Carla Monier shows off the back room where items go through a four step process before ending up on the sales floor.

"There's nothing with holes, no broken zippers or stretched out material because we only want to put out the best of the best," said Monier of Northville. "It comes through the door and goes through a sorting area. Electronics are all tested. If it doesn't work it's thrown out."

The racks and racks of



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sharon Jones of Detroit is dressed for success. The total cost of her outfit was \$15 including the briefcase.

sweater, tops, pants, shoes, boots, children's clothes, maternity and evening wear fill only part of the 25,000-square-foot store. Furniture, throw pillows, toys, wicker baskets, books, TVs, coffee pots, household items like dishes, knick knacks,

golf clubs, and car seats are among the thousands of items for sale. It's the perfect place to not only dress for less but furnish a dorm room or cottage.

"People are already shopping for back to school, buying jeans, shirts. We have

uniform separates for 99 cents. For \$5 they can get a whole outfit from head to toe including shoes," said Monier. "We're able to give good deals because everything is donated. People in Michigan are so generous."

Duane Alexander has been managing thrift stores since 1985. His Retail Management Specialists in Oklahoma City, Okla. oversees the DAV Thrift Store owned by Disabled American Veterans. Although staff is paid, there's always a need for volunteers.

"We have everything in household except for food, guns, ammo with the exception of large appliances and mattresses," said Alexander. "We just need more people to know about us."

Rolly Lee is especially excited about the opening of the DAV store, the first in Michigan. Proceeds go to programs that help disabled veterans with transportation and to make their stay at VA hospitals easier. Past contributions to VA hospitals have included everything from wheelchairs to TVs. The nonprofit organization was founded after World War I.

"We act on behalf of disabled veterans to make sure they get the benefits they earned," said Lee, state adjutant for the DAV. "The store is going to help us be self sufficient and help us to do more things for disabled vets and their families."

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Arthritis Today

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ARTHRITIS AS A TEST OF NERVES

Often pain in the hands or feet indicates the onset of arthritis, but not always. Particularly in the aged, a discomfort that is in part pain, but in part numbness, can begin with no warning in the feet. The discomfort starts in the toes, and over time moves upward into the ankle and lower leg.

The discomfort is bilateral, i.e. in both feet and is present day and night. For most people, the discomfort is worse at night and disrupts sleep. In medical practice, this feature of night pain helps the doctor make a diagnosis. Arthritis improves when one is not walking or standing.

In contrast, problems involving the nervous system worsen while in bed. The reason is that at night outside stimulation is at a minimum, so internal discomfort magnifies.

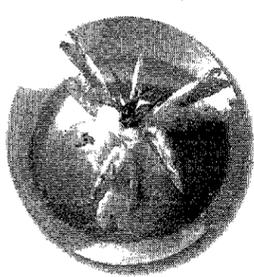
Such day and night pain involving the feet is called "stocking" neuropathy. The word stocking is apt as the pain, numbness, tingling, and wooden feeling begins in the toes and works upward following the distribution of a stocking going from toes to the ankle.

In some instances the hands also become numb and tingling, beginning in the fingertips and working back to the wrist. That pattern received the name "glove" neuropathy.

This type of peripheral neuropathy occurs in diabetics, the elderly, and at times, in others for unknown reasons. Treatment is not with arthritis drugs but with neurologic medications such as Lyrica and Neurontin.

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Jeffrey H. Miller, M.D.

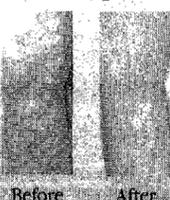
Dr. Miller has over 13 years experience in treating venous diseases and has received many honors and awards including being named one of "Detroit's Top Docs" by Hour Magazine

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PINK

FROM PAGE C1

fairies and butterflies. We ended up doing two rooms. We didn't replace the carpeting so it gave us the opportunity to do her second room, a playroom.

"This was our first undertaking. We wanted to do something that made a difference in our local neighborhoods. Everyone brought their ideas. We did a lot of online late night shopping. People purchased plain lamps and added hanging butterflies, crystals. My husband painted the stripes. She was so excited when she came home, giggling and checking out her new stuff. Her family was so happy. It was great."

Dana Orlando was concerned because so many of the volunteers contributed to the design of the rooms.

"We had five different women with five different personalities and tastes come together for the design. That's probably why it took six weeks," said Orlando, associate director of sales at The Inn. "We all have children. Mine are ages 3 to 14, all boys. I was having a blast with that."

Jayne Taormina says the volunteers were a dream come true for her. As project director for Suite Dreams she coordinates the volunteers and assists them in creating bedrooms for sick children. The nonprofit was founded by Kay Ponichall and Kris Appleby.

"That's how we want every Suite Dreams projects to go," said Taormina. "We hope they consider this again."

There was one hitch in the project though. Celeste was unable to start chemotherapy when complications arose due to a low platelet count. The volunteers had planned their work around the young girl's hospital stay.

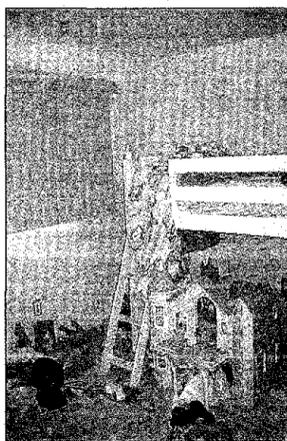


Celeste Gosselin is pictured here with the angels from The Inn at St. John's.

"How wonderful they were with us," said Jeff Gosselin, Celeste's father. "The day we took Celeste in for treatment was supposed to be an admission. We knew they were working on the house. We drove back home and talked to Tawnya and they put us up in a room at The Inn at St. John's, the most beautiful hotel room we ever stayed in."

"At the house they went around and cleaned, rewashed all of her clothes, folded them and put them

in the dressers, rearranged and sorted her toys, vacuumed the house. That made that homecoming so much nicer. Getting that kind of bad news is rough. Having all those things made it a lot easier. Celeste was able to swim in the pool there. She hadn't been able to swim for a year. She's limited to going outdoors because chemo makes her sensitive to sunlight. It was a couple day vacation almost. Everyone who came did such an amazing job. It's extremely impor-



This was Celeste Gosselin's bedroom before volunteers from The Inn at St. John's redecorated.

'At the house they went around and cleaned, rewashed all of her clothes, folded them and put them in the dressers, rearranged and sorted her toys, vacuumed the house. That made that homecoming so much nicer. Getting that kind of bad news is rough. Having all those things made it a lot easier...'

JEFF GOSSELIN, Celeste's father.

tant to Celeste."

Wednesday was painting day for Celeste.

"I painted when I was 3 or 4. I'm a really good artist now," said Celeste. "I drew a peacock. It's hard. Nobody can draw a peacock."

For more information about Suite Dreams, visit suitedreamsproject.org or call (248) 601-0799.

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Ballet companies to hold auditions for new season

Young ballerinas have not one but two chances to audition and land a role in *The Nutcracker* as well as other productions for the 2008-2009 season.

The Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company holds auditions Sunday, Aug. 24, at Joanne's Dance Extension, 42020 Koppernick, Canton. The fee is \$10.

Dancers will be evaluated in a full length ballet class which consists of a warm up at the barre and center work. Selected dancers will be evaluated on their pointe work and partnering. Scholarships are available for boys.

Auditions begin at noon for ages 7-9, 1 p.m. for ages 10-12, and 2 p.m. for ages 13 to adult. All dancers should bring a dance photo and resume which includes the dancer's training and performing experience.

Girls must wear black leotard, pink tights and ballet shoes; boys, black tights or jazz pants, white T-shirt and ballet shoes. Teens and adults should bring pointe shoes which are optional for younger dancers.

Older boys may be asked to partner during the audition class.

Select dancers may be asked to stay for the next audition class. Dancers are selected to join the company based on their demonstration of ballet technique.

For more information, call (734) 676-7233 or visit www.metroshoresballet.org.

The Livonia Civic Ballet Company holds auditions Sunday, Aug. 24, at Miss Jean's Dance Arts, 19215 Merriman, Livonia. The fee is \$10.

Auditions begin at 1 p.m. for ages 6-9 with 2-years minimum ballet experience; 2:15 p.m. for ages 10-12 with 4-years minimum ballet experience, and 3:30 p.m. for ages 13 and up with 6-years minimum ballet experience.

Proper ballet attire required. Bring pointe shoes if you have them.

For more information, call (248) 474-8722.

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EUNICE J. GRAHAM

Of Waterford; August 11, 2008; age 97; Beloved wife of the late Donald Graham; Loving mother of Ross (Marcia) Graham and Donald (Flora) Graham. Beloved grandmother of David Ross Graham and Paul Donald Graham. Great-grandmother of Maya Elizabeth Graham. Mrs. Graham was retired from American Motors and was a resident of Canterbury on the Lake for over 13 years. She attended services at St. Luke's Memorial Chapel and also enjoyed watching sports, playing cards and reading. Funeral Services will be held Friday, August 15, 2008, 1:30 p.m. at the St. Luke's Memorial Chapel at Canterbury on the Lake, 5601 Hatcher Road, Waterford. Officiating Father Robert Kerr. The family will receive friends Thursday 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the Riverside Chapel, Simpson-Modetz Funeral Home, 5630 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford. Memorials may be made to World Medical Relief. Online guest book: www.modetzfuneralhomes.com

DELIA "GRACE" (ESTES) MIKTON

A long time Detroit Metro area resident peacefully left us on Tuesday morning, July 22nd to be with her heavenly father after demonstrating amazing strength and capacity to love despite a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. She was admired and loved by family and friends throughout her life and particularly known for her expertise in real estate, knowledge of alternative health methods, compassionate heart, and providing excellent service to her clients. Grace was preceded in death by her parents, Mae Estes Kelly and Alfred Estes, a son, Phillip and 8 of her 10 siblings. Those who will miss her include siblings Kyle Estes of Carleton, Michigan and Ruth (Estes) Mullins of Woodhaven, Indiana, dear friend and sister-in-law Wanda Estes, her daughters Brenda Wallace of Ocean Shores, WA., and Cindy Dake of Livermore, CA., 8 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, many loved nieces and nephews, dear friends primarily in Michigan and California, and nearly 40 years of cherished real estate clients and well-respected peers in the industry. Services to honor Grace's life will be held by her family at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia, Michigan on August 24th at 6:00pm. In keeping with her life's passion for serving, over the course of the past year, Grace expressed further desire to serve the underprivileged. Due to complication of illness, Grace was unable to fulfill her heart's desire. In an attempt to carry out her wishes to serve, her family has selected the following venue for donation: Grace Cottage, a non-profit organization / 2734 Kelly Street, Livermore, CA 94551.



THEODORE R. STAGGERS

Of Birmingham passed away peacefully on July 30, 2008. Ted was born February 10, 1921 to Harley and Mabel Stuart Staggers in Faimont, West Virginia, the youngest child of eight. A state tennis champion by the age of 15, he married his high school sweetheart, Bette Lee Clark of Grafton, W. Va., on January 14, 1944. They were married 63 years, until her death last year. Shortly after his marriage, Ted completed his military training and was sent overseas. He attained the rank of 2nd Lieutenant, and later Captain, of the Army Air Corps in WWII. A daring P-51 fighter pilot, he flew many bombing escort missions over the English Channel with the 339th Fighter group based in Fowimere, England. On September 11, 1944, Ted was shot down over Germany and served out the balance of the war in a POW camp. Upon the liberation of the camp in May 1945, U.S. Army personnel believed he had died from starvation, but Ted had other ideas in mind. Returning to his wife back home, Ted was transferred by the Army to Arizona, where he recuperated and spent the time teaching young officers the art of golf, a lifelong passion at which, together with his tennis, he truly excelled. After his discharge in 1947, Ted earned his BA at Ohio State University and went to work for the General Electric Company, where he stayed his entire career until retirement in 1983. He and Bette relocated to Birmingham in 1951. They adopted two children, Kimberly Ann and Stephen Stuart. Together with an amazing group of friends who stayed together over 50 years, Ted and Bette enjoyed dancing, entertaining, golf and travel for many happy years. Ted was predeceased by his wife and son. He is survived by his daughter and several grandchildren. A memorial service to celebrate his outstanding life and service will be held at 10:00 a.m., on Saturday, August 23, 2008 at The First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willis, Birmingham, Michian. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions be made to: AmeriCares, 88 Hamilton Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902. Arrangements: A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 248-362-2500. Share memories at: obit.DesmondFuneralHome.com

FRANCES B. KEZERTA

Of Saline, MI, Formerly of Farmington, Hills, MI. Beloved mother and grandmother. Age 94, passed away on Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at Arbor Hospice Residence in Ann Arbor, MI. She was born December 24, 1913 the daughter of William George and Texas Caladonia (Jackson) Miller. On September 14, 1946 at Trinity Methodist Church in Highland Park, MI she married Harry Kezerta, Jr. and he preceded her in death on December 11, 2004. Frances was a member of Orchard Methodist Church in Farmington, MI, the Order of the Eastern Star, White Shrine of Jerusalem and was a member of the Farmington Senior Center where she and her late husband taught bridge. She was also a former member of the Farmington Players. She is survived by her daughter, Terry (Daniel) O'Toole of Saline and her grandson, Brendan Michael Kezerta O'Toole of Orlando, FL. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband. Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, September 25, 2008 at 2:30 P.M. at Brecon Village 200 Brecon Drive, Saline. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are requested to Brecon Village and envelopes will be available at the service. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home, Saline.



LLOYD EDWIN RICHARDS and RUTH LEONA RICHARDS

The sons of Lloyd and Ruth Richards are sad to report the deaths of their parents, but rejoice in knowing the promise of eternal life with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Ruth was born in Wooster, Ohio, to Harry and Leona Frantz Lester on August 9, 1926 and she passed away on January 7, 2007.

Lloyd, the son of Edwin and Helen Keech Richards, was born in Detroit on May 26, 1929 and died in his sleep in February 2008.

Lloyd was a graduate of Cooley High School in Detroit and a veteran of the Korean Conflict. Ruth graduated from Royal Oak High School. They were married on March 19, 1955 and made their home in Garden City until they moved to Alpharetta, Georgia in 2001. While living in Michigan, Ruth and Lloyd were avid bowlers, enjoyed gardening and spending time with their family. In Michigan, attending their children's and grandchildren's musical concerts and sporting events was an important and enjoyable part of their lives. After moving to Georgia, they were able to spend more time and continue to attend the events of their younger grandchildren.

They are survived by son Michael (Karen) McClain of Brownstown, son Jeffrey (Barbara) Richards of Alpharetta GA, grandchildren Robert (Amy) McClain, Kathleen (EJ) Sieracki, Jessica Richards, James Richards and great-grandchild, Anders McClain. Ruth and Lloyd were members of Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Alpharetta, GA. Memorial services were held in Alpharetta with burial at Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia.

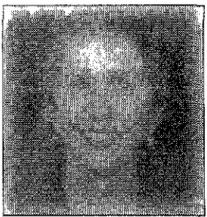
DUANE P. ROSENTHAL

Age 81, August 12, 2008. Beloved husband of Elizabeth. Dear father of Pamela (Gary) Lewis, Robin (Eugene) Petruska and Terri (Paul) Thor. Loving grandfather of Michael, Elizabeth and David Petruska. Visitation was at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. Funeral Mass was at St. Genevieve Catholic Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Genevieve to be used for the religious education program.

STANLEY J. SKAISTIS

Age 88, of Birmingham, died peacefully August 14, 2008, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. Mr. Skaistis was born July 7, 1920, in Bend, Illinois. He was an active member of the Birmingham Senior Men's Club, National Men's Garden Club and on the Board of Directors at Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council (BASCC). Mr. Skaistis enjoyed volunteering at Birmingham area schools as well as gardening, photography and winemaking. He was an avid clock and stamp collector. Mr. Skaistis is survived by his children, Lynn (David) Contos, Mark (Jean) Skaistis and Paul Skaistis and grandchildren, Brian Contos, Leslie (Scott Hinz) Skaistis, Jeffrey Skaistis and Joel Skaistis. He is also survived by his nephews, Bruce, Mike and Bryan Skaistis. Mr. Skaistis is preceded in death by his wife, Jean. Memorial service at First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, Monday 2pm. Memorials appreciated to First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, Michigan 48009 or Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council (BASCC), 2121 Midvale Avenue, Birmingham, Michigan 48009.

Condolences at lynchfunerarydirectors.com



PATRICIA E. McKENNA

Beloved mother, political activist and supporter of the arts, aged 70, formerly of Huntington Woods, Birmingham and Troy, passed away in the arms of her children on July 29, 2008 in Tucson, AZ. The daughter of Irish immigrant Patrick McKenna and Michigan native Helen Keene, she attended the Kingswood Cranbrook School and graduated in 1959 from Denison University in Ohio with a BA in Theatre and English. Her marriage in 1961 to Detroit police officer Gordon "Buck" Grant produced three children: Patrick Grant (1963), Daniel (1969) (Stacey) Grant, and Gael (1971) (Michael) Giles. Patricia and Gordon divorced in 1974. Patricia's many talents and interests were reflected in her multi-faceted career. Amongst the positions and activities she held were: model for the International Car Shows held in Detroit, investigative journalist for the Detroit News, director/actress of amateur theater for the Ridgedale Players in Pleasant Ridge, private investigator for a retired FBI agent (she obtained a degree in Law Enforcement and Protection from Mercy College in 1978), talent booking agent (clients included comedian Tim Allen), and assisting the administration of McKenna Industries Inc., an automotive model making firm established by her late father. She was accepted as a member in the American Academy of Certified Geniuses in 1987. In the last two decades of her life she lived in the American southwest (NM and AZ) where she wrote poetry and plays, articles for the local newspapers, fought corruption in her local government, helped youths with substance abuse problems and sponsored local immigrant families. She will be lovingly remembered by her children and grandchildren Courtney, Meghan and Grant Thomas, her brother Michael McKenna of West Bloomfield, her nephews, Mick (Eulalia and family), Brian and niece, Stephanie. Her body will be cremated and a memorial service will be held within the year in the greater Detroit area.

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

PET PICKS

On the prowl: Doggie statement Ts, like this black cotton stretch shirt with pink sugar glitter lettering that reads "Lover Not a Biter," will earn Fido even more attention on his evening stroll. Available at www.moondoggieinc.com.



Tasty Treat: Carob-dipped Scottie Biscotti, a cinnamon cookie dipped in dog-friendly carob, available at Three Dog Barkery, 550 Forest Ave, Plymouth.

Caught on film: Grab a copy of the third season of "Dog Whisperer with Cesar Millan," now on DVD and on sale at www.cesar-millaninc.com.

Out of this world: Planet Dog's new Cosmos collection of Orbee-Tuff toys keeps big dogs (65 to 100-plus pounds) happy chewing minty-flavored, durable orbs. Order the colorful, bouncy balls at www.planetdog.com

Got a pet-centric pick to share or suggest? Send us a tip or jpg photo of your pet and its favorite accessory or toy at scasola@hometownlife.com.

Compiled By Stephanie A. Casola



Get your paws on: The FURminator, the best de-shedding tool for cats or dogs around. Find them at The Posh Pup in Livonia or Marcy's Groom a Pet in Birmingham.

Lover Not a Biter T by Moon Doggie.

GARDEN CALENDAR

Keep it long

Don't give your lawn a buzz cut if you want it to grow healthy. Tall grass promotes deep roots which need less water and fertilizer, contributing to a thick, healthy lawn, according to Lillian Dean of the Healthy Lawns and Gardens Program of Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA). Thick grass also serves as a water quality filter, helping to keep sediment and other pollutants out of storm drains and rivers. Cutting grass tall is an easy way for residents to protect waterways, yet in a study conducted in 10 southeast Oakland and southwest Macomb County neighborhoods last month, SOCWA found that more than 70 percent of all households cut their grass too short, leaving two inches or less on the blade after cutting. The study, funded by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, measured grass height three times during a single week. To find out more about lawn cutting and care, attend a free "Healthy Lawn Care Workshop" from 7-8:30 p.m., Monday, Aug. 18, at the Ferndale Public Library, 222 East Nine Mile, just east of Woodward. Rick Lazzell, horticulture educator from Oakland Community College and Macomb Community College, will be the guest speaker. All participants will receive an information packet and opportunity for personal consultation on lawn care. Register by calling (248) 288-5150 or e-mail: LFDean@aol.com. Walk-ins welcome.

Maintain the Magnificence Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club is selling raffle tickets during an ongoing fund-raiser to benefit Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club, which maintains the hall's 14 gardens. Supporters may purchase tickets (\$10 each, or 11 for \$100) for a chance to win \$2,500, \$1,250, and \$625 cash prizes. The drawing will be held 1 p.m. Aug. 19 at Meadow Brook Hall and Gardens, but ticketholders need not be present to win. To purchase tickets, call Laurence Cathey at (248) 467-0617.

Kids and butterflies The Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA) will present art projects, live butterfly exhibits and stories for children at its next meeting, at 7 p.m., Aug. 20, at Nankin Mills, 33715 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Admission for "Getting Kids Involved with Butterflies" is \$3 for non-members. No charge for children. There is parking on both Hines Drive and Ann Arbor Trail. (734) 326-0578 or visit www.semabutterfly.com.

Fall gardening tips Nancy Szerlag, author of "Perennials for Michigan and Annuals for Michigan" will present the free gardening seminar "Fall Gardening Tips Make Spring Magic," at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 21 at Art Van, 29905 Seven Mile Road, Livonia. Refreshments will be served. Call (888) 619-2199.

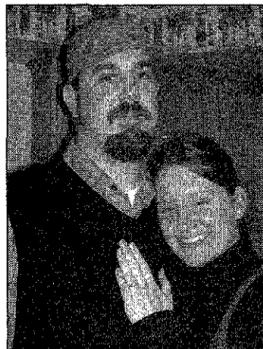
From Garden to Plate Learn the basics of canning, freezing and storing fresh produce for optimal quality and safety through the Michigan State University Extension Oakland County, Robin Danto, MSU Extension instructor will teach a class from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 27, at Tollgate Education Center, 28115 Meadowbrook, Novi. \$20 per person. (248) 858-0887 or e-mail to smkithin@oakgov.com.

Medicinal plants Herbalist Jim McDonald, with more than 14 years experience in gathering, preparing and using herbal remedies, will lead a walk through woods and field to explore the medicinal virtues, folklore and preparation of common weeds and herbs, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 14, at Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center, 2375 Indian Lake Road, Oxford. Some of the plants to be covered include Burdock, Yellow Dock, Solomon's Seal and Wild Yam. To register, send an e-mail with your name, phone and workshop title and date to clifford@uheac.org. Payment can be made at the door (\$50) or in advance (\$40) by sending a check made payable to: UHEAC, 2375 Indian Lake Rd., Oxford, MI 48370.

ENGAGEMENTS

Williams-Kulisz

Dennis and Denise Williams of Metamora announce the engagement of their daughter, Vanessa Crystal Williams, to Kenneth David Kulisz of Beaverton, Ore. He is the son of David and the late Shirley Kulisz of Livonia. Vanessa is a graduate of Lapeer East High School and earned a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration from Oakland University in Rochester Hills. She works for Klarquist Sparkman, LLP in Portland, Ore. Kenneth is a graduate of Stevenson High School in Livonia and earned a bachelor's degree in communication design from The College for Creative Studies in Detroit.



He works as a graphic technician for the Dick Hannah Auto Group in Vancouver, Wash. The couple are planning a January 2009 wedding at the Lafayette Grande in Pontiac.

Beste-Weintz

Bob and Pam Beste of Garden City announce the engagement of their daughter, Barbra Olivia Beste, to Elton William Weintz of Shelby Township. He is the son of Justine Weintz of Columbiana, Ohio and the late Donald Weintz. Barbra is a 1998 graduate of Garden City High School and received her undergraduate degree from Western Michigan University in 2002. She works as a human resources administrator for Burroughs Corp. in Kalamazoo. Elton is a 1988 graduate of Canfield High School in Canfield, Ohio. He earned his undergraduate degree from Ohio University in 1992 and graduate degrees from Villanova University in 1994 and Western Michigan University in 2003. He is completing his doctoral dissertation through Western Michigan University and is currently a professor of history at Macomb Community College. The couple is planning a September wedding.



completing his doctoral dissertation through Western Michigan University and is currently a professor of history at Macomb Community College. The couple is planning a September wedding.

BIRTH

Chmura

Jason and Christina Chmura of Livonia announce the arrival of their son, Nathan Alphonse Chmura, born July 19, at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. He is grandson to Ron and Mary Valenti of Forest Hill, Md. and Stan and Sherry Chmura of Willis, Mich. Great-grandparents are Stanley Ulle of Forest Hill, Maryland and Mary D. Valenti of Allentown, Penn.



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3. Photos must be e-mailed in jpg format to photos@hometownlife.com and must meet our listed requirements.
4. Announcements are all free of charge.

To send a form/photo by mail:

1. Mail to The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple Road, Birmingham, MI 48009.
2. Oakland County residents should send announcements to Sharon Dargay, or e-mail questions to sdargay@hometownlife.com. Wayne County residents should send announcements to Stephanie Angelyn Casola, or send e-mail to scasola@hometownlife.com.
3. Announcements run in the Sunday Hometownlife sections of the paper and are placed in the order they are received and depending on space restrictions.
4. For more information, visit http://www.hometownlife.com/apps/pbcs.dll/section?Category=CUSTOMERSERVICE.

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Create a fund-raising team and walk in Mega March '08

BY SHARON DARGAY
OGE STAFF WRITER

Jackie Petiprin, an account executive at SMZ Advertising in Troy, took on an added title and job responsibilities last week: Captain of Jackie's Barkers.

The Royal Oak woman will lead a team of walkers — families, friends, and colleagues — in the Michigan Humane Society's (MHS) third annual Mega March for Animals on Sunday, Oct. 5.

"It's a mission she takes seriously, but with a playful spirit. "It's so much fun. I encourage anyone to do it. It's two miles and it goes by real quickly. It's so much fun to see all the different dogs out there. And I'll do anything for my dogs."

Individuals and teams — consisting of family members, friends and business associates — will collect donations over the next seven weeks, assemble with their pets on Oct. 5 at Hart Plaza in Detroit and walk en masse for two miles. About 4,500 animal-lovers walked last year, raising nearly \$250,000.

"This year, in tough economic times, it is more important than ever that more people and their four-legged friends join us and support the mission of the Michigan Humane Society and help us surpass that figure," said Jan Cantle, MHS public relations and media coordinator.

"Imagine, if you ask 25 co-workers, friends, and family to donate \$5. That's \$125. It costs just about \$120 to provide food and medical care for one animal. If each walker came with \$120 or \$240 ... that is a lot of animal lives changed.

'ANIMAL LIVES CHANGED'

"While our goal is to raise \$300,000 this year we like to think of it more in terms of animal lives



That's Jackie Petiprin in the front row holding her Chihuahua, Hank. The Royal Oak resident convinced friends, family and colleagues from SMZ Advertising in Troy, where she is an account executive, to walk with her last year in the Mega March for Animals.

changed. Most importantly, we need help from the community to meet this goal.

The money raised will go toward the Michigan Humane Society's programs and services, which include its three shelters, animal adoption and care, cruelty investigation, legislative advocacy, education, veterinary

centers, wildlife care, spay and neuter programs and assistance with animal behavior problems.

Jackie's Barkers has raised nearly \$500 in the week since it was formed. Petiprin was among dozens of local business representatives who attended the Mega March corporate kick-off breakfast on Aug. 7, at the Townsend

Hotel in Birmingham. They watched a tear-jerking video about homeless animals, heard pet adoption success stories, listened to representatives from the walk's major corporate sponsors, as well as from MHS staffers, and left with bags full of posters, brochures and a step-by-step guides to help them form Mega March teams.

CORPORATE SPONSORS

"This is a wonderful cause," said Jason Vines, senior vice president of Computware, a major Mega March sponsor. "A lot of my colleagues at Computware have been doing it for a long time."

Cheryl Phillips, an MHS board member who also represents major sponsor Masco Corp., said she strolled one of her five cats in a buggy through the dog-heavy crowd the past two Mega Marches.

"It's amazing to see this peaceful convergence of cats, dogs," she said, urging listeners to "get out there and speak with our feet."

Petiprin will have Emmie, her Coon hound-beagle mix, and Hank, her Chihuahua, on hand. She and a friend walked as individual donors during the first Mega March. Last year, she created a team and got employees at SMZ involved. This year's team is already up and running.

"SMZ Advertising did the Mega March logo this year," Petiprin added. "Nancy (Gunnigle) at the MHS contacted me earlier in the year and asked if we could design the logo pro bono. Since we are all animal lovers at SMZ, we said absolutely."

Webster, a Labradoodle owned by SMZ chairman Jim Michelson, serves as a company mascot of sorts. A photo of Webster, wearing a scarf and sunglasses on his head, pops up when visitors to the SMZ Web site click on a bone-shaped "fetch" icon. Each image dispenses a kibble of wisdom.

"He comes to work every day," Petiprin said. "He normally lay's outside of Jim's office. The Mega March is pretty intense. I think Webster would love it."

To form a Mega March team or sign up as an individual donor, visit www.michiganhumane.org or call (866) MHUMANE. See Webster by logging onto www.smz.com.

HOME CALENDAR

Win a bear, get

Stop by the youth bedroom department in any Art Van location from Sept. 2-14 and register to win a Build-A-Bear stuffed toy. The giveaway celebrates the new Build-A-Bear bed-

room collection by Pulaski Furniture, being introduced this month at Art Van. The furniture is designed by kids for kids and features changeable options including wood-tone and painted drawer

fronts, two styles of drawer knobs, a "beary" special place in each bureau chest for a child's furry friend and countless storage options.

There will be additional opportunities to win bears and other prizes at bear-stuffing parties next month at Art Van. The parties will feature

refreshments, kids' activities and personalizing stuffed toys.

They will run from 3-7 p.m., Sept. 19 at the Ann Arbor store, 425 E. Eisenhower Parkway; from noon-4 p.m., Sept. 20 at the Shelby Township store, 14055 Hall; and 3-7 p.m., Sept. 26 at the Novi store, 27775 Novi Road.

Visit artvan.com for more information.

OFF THE GRID

Wayne Appleyard, co-founder of Sunstructures Architects, will talk about renewable energy options at a workshop from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 13, at Upland Hills Environmental

Awareness Center, 2375 Indian Lake Road, Oxford. He'll explain how to assess needs, explore conservation measures, and evaluate cost-effectiveness and feasibility of renewable energy options such as solar, wind, geothermal, radiant floor heat and other alternatives. The workshop is for

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

A NEW BEGINNING

SBF, 47, 5'4", likes action movies, swimming, dancing, plays outdoors, just having fun. Seeking SBM, 45-55, for friendship or more. **2289151**

PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL

SWF, retired, talented, fun-loving, attractive, 132lbs, 5'5", blonde, seeks well-grounded gentleman, 35+, to share life and enjoy each other's company. **22891247**

EARTH BABY

DWF, 62, 5'10", 300-lbs, N/S, N/Drugs, many interests, family-oriented, honest, loyal, easygoing, optimistic, seeks friendship first, possible LTR with SDWM, 46-60. **2289158**

GET TO KNOW ME

Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel. ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. **22893760**

ZOOMER SEES ADDED ZIP

SWF, 55, passionate about life, enjoys the outdoors, good political discussions, dancing, more. Would love to meet a man enjoying life. **2284371**

ARE YOU SEEKING?

DWF, 63, 5'2", Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, athletic, loving, optimistic, likes theater, travel, dining, fitness. Seeking to meet N/S SM, 58-70, financially secure, easygoing, good morals, loves family, for dating. **22890868**

SEARCHING FOR A MAN...

40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. In a 47-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. **22962317**

TRADITIONAL VALUES

Well-educated DWF, 59, dark blonde/green, full-figured, interested in finding friendship leading to more with a WM, 30-50, to share life with. **2283327**

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR?

WF, 48, 5'3", brown/brown, has pets, N/S, great sense of humor, looking for WM, 46-55, who likes dining out, museums, movies, reading and more, to do things with. **22850891**

HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME

SBF, 44, 5'2", 165lbs, black hair, brown eyes, light complexion, N/D, N/S, enjoys movies, bowling, dining, plays cards, reading. Seeking SBM, 39-51. **2284388**

CUTE AND CUDDLY

SBF, 45, tall, long brown hair, big baby blue eyes, tall, looking for fun, down-to-earth guy, 35-55, who enjoys camping, travel, big trucks, Harley's. **2279724**

VERY ATTRACTIVE

SBPF, 37, mother, looking for attractive, sexy, tall, dark-complected, employed, intelligent BM, 33-50, for friendship possibly leading to LTR. **2282116**

BEAUTIFUL SBF...

37, seeks SM, 30-50, who is spontaneous and knows how to have fun. Casual relationship first, maybe leading to more. **2271683**

LOADS OF FUN

Active WF, young 50s, good sense of humor, enjoys different music, travel, dining out, dancing, more. Seeking decent, kind, honest man for indoor and outdoor activities. **2283342**

SEEKING LOVING KINDNESS?

SPE, 45, 2'4", interested in developing new friendships, maybe more. Seeks energetic, N/S SM, 45-55, that loves reading, midnight picnics, walking, and exciting conversations. Must have good SOH and self-worth. **2282618**

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT

SBF, 47, 5'7", full-figured, N/S, likes roller skating, canoeing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 45-70, who is healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. **2287365**

READY FOR A FRESH START?

DWF, 47, 5'7", 120lbs, long blonde/blue, well-proportioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SM, 45-57, 6'1", 225lbs+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, many gentlemen. **2285243**

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT

SBF, 47, 5'7", full-figured, N/S, likes roller skating, canoeing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 45-70, who is healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. **2287365**

SEEKING SINCERITY

SBF, 54, 120lbs, likes parks, walks on the beach, outdoor activities. Looking for down-to-earth, family-oriented SM, 40-50, with same interests. **2286634**

ARE YOU THE ONE?

SWF, 36, long brown/green, N/S, athletic build, pretty, animals lover. In search of attractive, fit, funny, easygoing SM, 27-43, with no children, for dating, possible LTR with right man. **2286634**

HELLO OUT THERE

SWF, 39 years young, seeks SM, who enjoys life simple pleasures, enjoys dining out, computers, movies, the parks walks, travel and life in general. Friendship first. **2241298**

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?

Bright, spunky, pretty SBF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. **2280694**

HARD WORKER SEEKS SAME

SBF, 44, N/S, mother, seeks old-fashioned BM, 29-49, N/S, homebody, to explore all life has to offer! enjoy reading, bike rides, playing tennis. **2274519**

COULD IT BE YOU?

SBF, 44, professional, hard-working, independent, enjoys church, shopping, more. Looking for a SM, 44, employed, open-minded, warm-hearted and considerate, to share all life has to offer. **2239988**

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Good looking SBF, 42, intelligent, mature, spiritual, seeking SM, 37+, 40-50, physically fit, good looking inside and out, loving, who likes traveling, for friendship first leading to LTR. **22147058**

FUN & OUTGOING

SBF, 18, 160lbs, brown eyes, love walks on the beach, movies, basketball. Seeking SM, same age, for friendship or more. **2257908**

SEEKING SAVED MAN

SBF, 27, N/S, seeks one good man, 29-51, N/S, no games, who enjoys movies, bowling, church, for friendship first. **2225509**

ARE YOU THE ONE?

SWF, 42, 5'11", loves Italian food, music. Looking for SM, 32-59, who is successful, financially secure, has a good head on his shoulders but also has a wild side. **2284615**

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT

SWF, 37, 5'7", long brown hair, full-figured, two daughters, loves all kinds of movies, being outdoors, beaches, playing catch. Seeking SM, 32-40, for possible relationship. **2285634**

NURSE

Attractive SWF, 64, 5, 135lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, fair skin, looking for N/S, honest gentleman, 62-70, who has numerous interests including history, traveling, and home life. **2240879**

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP

SBF, young 60s, w/ good morals, caring, nice-looking, 5'3", 165lbs, N/S, N/D/Drugs, clean, honest living, party rational, enjoys art, card playing, casinos, and movies. Seeking honest man 50-60, race open. **2213425**

READY FOR A FRESH START?

DWF, 47, 5'7", 120lbs, long blonde/blue, well-proportioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SM, 45-57, 6'1", 225lbs+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, many gentlemen. **2285243**

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT

SBF, 47, 5'7", full-figured, N/S, likes roller skating, canoeing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 45-70, who is healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. **2287365**

A WOMAN OF CLASS

SWF, 68, looks younger, in search of a SM, 62-68, who likes movies, dining, theater. Is it you? **2271066**

LOVE IS THE GOAL

DHOCF, 71, looks younger, 5'2", long dark brown hair, brown eyes, intelligent, seeks faithful SMW for LTR. **2266264**

WHY NOT CALL?

SBF, full-figured, seeks a SM, 37-80, for friendship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. **2212724**

LADY IN THE WOODS

SWF, 50, looks younger, blonde/hazel, 5'5", average build, educated, dog lover, classy, sassy and fun, seeking compatible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life. Livingston County. **2210247**

DOWN-TO-EARTH

Asian woman, 5'2", 110lbs, slim, attractive, independent, loving, caring, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel, quiet times at home. Seeking very handsome WM, 47-58, N/S, clean-shaven, HW proportionate, for friendship first. **2281223**

DOWN-TO-EARTH

Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR. **2278171**

GREAT-LOOKING BF...

35, seeks serious, mature, financially secure man for LTR. Call me; you won't be disappointed! **2283172**

BEAUTIFUL MAKEUP ARTIST

Sincere, kind SWF, 53, proportionate, 5'6", 124lbs, professional, attractive, intelligent and educated, loves music, dancing, motorcycles, outdoors, movies and creative pursuits. Seeking attractive gentleman, 42-63, with like interests, qualities, for friendship. LTR. **2246848**

A POLISHED DIAMOND

Attractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentleman. You won't be disappointed when we meet! **2287057**

LET'S GET TOGETHER

Sexy SBF, 40, N/S, seeks fun and witty WM, 35-80, for friendship first, maybe more. **2270132**

LOVELY VIRGO

SBF, 47, with a young heart, enjoys cartoons, music, dancing, good food, good fun. Looking for SF, 30-65, with same interests. **2286375**

DOWN-TO-EARTH AND HONEST

SBF, 36, 5'10", N/S, short hair, no children, looking for SBM, 35-50, who enjoys festivities, travel, spending time together. **2286959**

LET'S DANCE IN THE RAIN!

Petite SBF, 36, 150lbs, brown eyes, mother of two, enjoys cooking, music, church. Looking for SM, 35-75. **2281872**

MATURE MAN WANTED

SBF, 33, 5'4", 115lbs, caramel complexion, brown eyes, short blonde hair, wears glasses. Seeking tall, muscular SBM, 25-40, who enjoys bookstores, movies, dining, water. **2287856**

KEEP COOL

SBF, 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attractive SBHM, 18-25, who keeps it real. **2287598**

WARM SMILE

SBF, 21, N/S, looking for SM, 21-40, for friendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each other. **2287167**

ONLY SERIOUS NEED REPLY

Voluptuous SBF, 42, would like to meet a nice, serious SM, 35-50, who would like to become acquainted with a woman and who is ready, willing, and able to commit. **2287365**

HELLO THERE

Asian woman, 5'2", 180lbs, slim, attractive, health-conscious, vegetarian, ND, N/S. Enjoys dining, movies, quiet time. Seeking clean-cut, fit, attractive, respectful, professional Asian or White male for dating and possibly more. **2211991**

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR

SWF, 27, mother, enjoys swimming, walking, nature, being outdoors. Seeking similar SM, 23-45, for companionship. **2226278**

LET'S GET TOGETHER

SBF, 54, 5'8", N/S, enjoys life's simple pleasures. Seeking SBWM, 48-62, N/S, for friendship or more. **2282444**

GET TO KNOW ME

BF, 57, full-figured, brown eyes, N/S, social drinker, looking for a gentleman, 45-80, to share good, clean fun with. **2280756**

COUNTRY GIRL

Good-natured, clean-cut, fun-loving SWPF, 54, pianissimo, 5'5", HWV-proportionate, enjoys travel, horseback riding, exercise, dining. Seeking SM, 55-65, N/S, N/Drugs, for serious relationship. If you love motorcycles call me. **2279848**

ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS

BF, 57, 150lbs, likes cooking, listening to music, camping and more. Would like to meet a man to enjoy life with. **2284318**

SINCERE AND HONEST

Happy SF, loves country music, dancing. Looking for honest, sincere SBWM, 30-50, children ok, for friendship first. **2284932**

FORMER RUNWAY MODEL

Attractive SBF, 5'10", 140lbs, N/S, one kid, likes clubs, outdoor activities, dancing, working out. Seeking single male, 25-35, 6'1", N/S, slim to medium build for friendship first, dating and more. **2286613**

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

LOVELY, GENUINE HEART

SBM, 20, no children, light smoker, seeks sexy, attractive SF, 20-31, who wants to see the real side of me. **2284967**

BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED

SBM, early 40s, seeks attractive, younger lady, 28-45, for romance, companionship, must be independent and laid-back. Serious replies only. **2284501**

LADY-BACK GENTLEMAN

BM, 6', 250lbs, N/S, occasional drinker, nice sense of humor, likes dining out, bowling, some travel and having fun. If you would like to join me, please call. **30-40. 2278643**

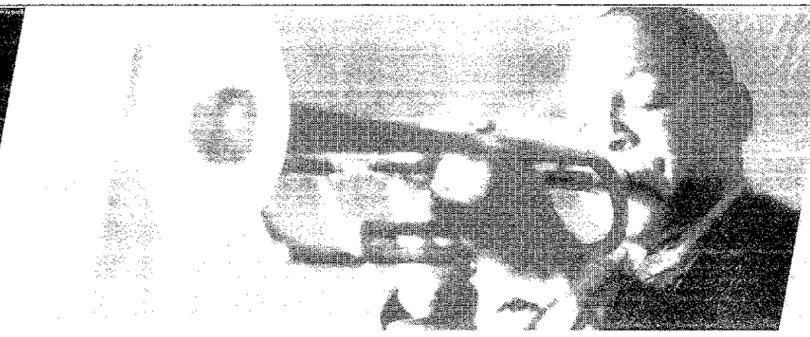
LOOKING FOR ME RIGHT

WMM, 45, 5'11", 220lbs, is easygoing, fun-loving, enjoys a variety of activities, indoor/outdoor. Looking for LTR, with the right person. **2286340**

FIT & FUN-LOVING

Easygoing DWHM, 48, 6-180lbs, romantic, looking for a woman, 25-50, who can find humor in what life gives us. Open to anything as long as we're laughing. **2286335**

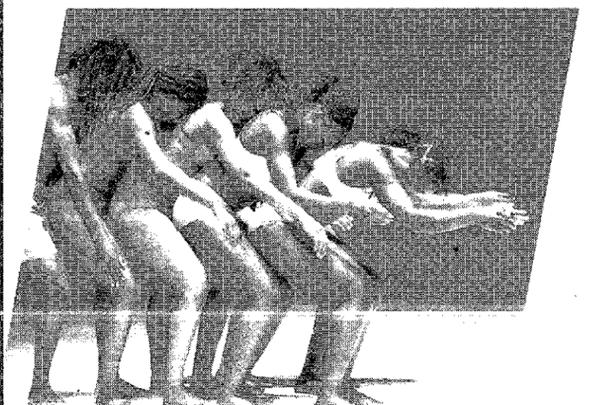
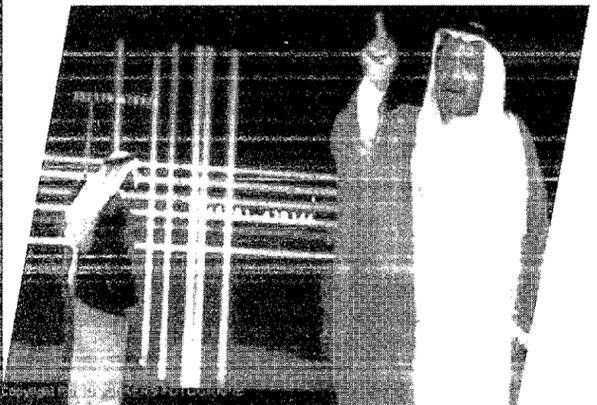
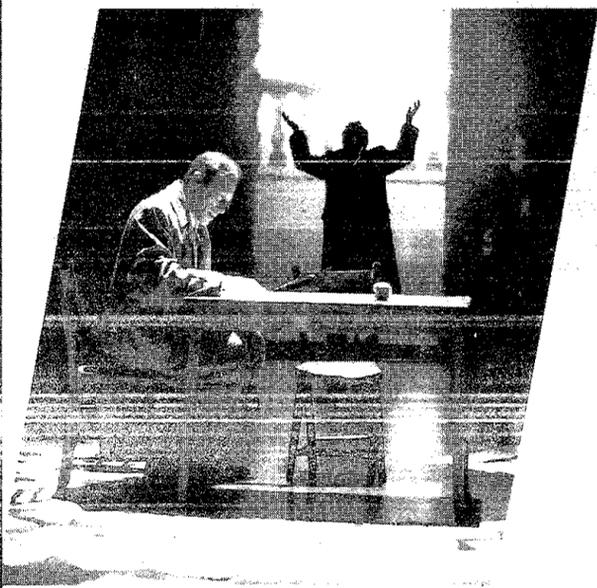
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*Motorcraft® Premium Synthetic Blend Oil and filter change • Replace fuel filter and air filter • Check cabin air filter if equipped • Rotate and inspect four tires • Inspect brake system • Test battery • Check belts and hoses • Top off all fluids. Up to five quarts of Motorcraft® oil and Motorcraft® oil filter. Taxes, diesel vehicles and disposal fees extra. Hybrid battery test excluded. See Service Advisor for vehicle applications and details. Expires: 08/31/08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

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Check and adjust camber and toe. Additional parts and labor may be required on some vehicles. Taxes extra. See Service Advisor for details. Expires: 08/31/08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

\$99.95 COOLING SYSTEM FLUSH & RENEW

Flush cooling system and replace with up to two gallons of Motorcraft® antifreeze. See Service Advisor for details. Taxes extra. Expires: 08/31/08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

\$129.95 FUEL INDUCTION SERVICE

Prices are based on most cars and light trucks. Shop supplies and disposal fees not included. See Service Advisor for details. Taxes extra. Expires: 08/31/08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

\$23.95 MOTORCRAFT® PREMIUM SYNTHETIC BLEND OIL AND FILTER CHANGE

Up to five quarts of Motorcraft® oil and Motorcraft® oil filter. Taxes, diesel vehicles and disposal fees extra. See Service Advisor for vehicle applications and details. Expires: 08/31/08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

10% OFF PARTS AND SERVICE DURING OUR SUMMER SALES EVENT!

Excludes maintenance and already-discounted items. See Service Advisor for details. Offer only valid during Summer Service Sales Event. Taxes extra. Expires: 08/31/08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

PIPE REPAIR FRONT END & BRAKE INSPECTION

Front-wheel-drive vehicles. Check CV drive axle boots for tears, splits and cracks. Road test vehicle connections. Taxes extra. See Service Advisor for details. Expires: 08/31/08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

\$44.95 TWO-WHEEL ALIGNMENT

Check and adjust camber and toe. Additional parts and labor may be required on some vehicles. Taxes extra. See Service Advisor for details. Expires: 08/31/08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

\$129.95 AUTOMATIC TRANS FLUID FLUSH

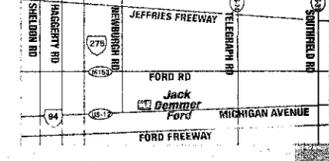
Flush transmission and replace automatic transmission/transaxle fluid. Prices are based on most cars and light trucks. Diesels extra. Disposal fees and shop supplies not included. See Service Advisor for details. Taxes extra. Expires: 08/31/08. Offer valid with coupon at Jack Demmer Lincoln Mercury.

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Private school in Detroit is seeking certified school bus drivers. Must be able to pass background check. 20 hours a week driving. Hours vary from days, afternoon, and weekends.

Contact U of D Jesuit High School for application at: (313) 862-5400

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With exp. for asphalt co. needs CDL Class-A & DOT for tandem dump truck

248-474-5943

\$1,500-\$6,000 Bonus for New Driver Trainees

No Money? No Problem! \$0 down Financing. Government Grants & Company Reimbursed Training available! Don't Miss this Opportunity! Call today. Start your new career Tomorrow!

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Auto parts warehouse Farmington Hills. \$9-\$10/hr. Benefits. Hrs: 8am-2pm, Mon-Fri. 8-12 every other Sat. Must have clean driving record, chauffeur's & DOT certificate required. Some heavy lifting. Call: 248-471-7222

DRIVER, PT

Must have clean driving record. Southfield. Call: 248-357-2355

Driver-Catering Truck Driver

Permanent position. Good pay. Apply at Mr. Pita, 34708 Plymouth Rd., Livonia, on 8/19 & 8/20 btwn 3-5pm. No phone calls.

DRIVER-ROUTE

Delivery for local area, full & part time, commission based pay. Positions for motivated individuals. Experience not necessary, but will train. Flexible hours and some weekends required. CDL license not required. Trucks equipped with automatics. Clean shaven policy required. Ask for Kevin or Jared 1 (877) 955-9094

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DRIVING INSTRUCTORS

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ELECTRICIAN JOURNEYMAN

Looking for a career in residential service? Must have great customer service skills. Health & 401(K) are just the start.

Apply in person at: 31015 Grand River Farmington Hills

EVENT COORDINATOR

Experienced. Part-Time. (248) 374-0200

FABRICATOR/ASSEMBLER

Need right people to expand. Construction exp. helpful. Saws, hand tools, initiative a plus. \$9-\$13/hr w/exp. Benefits available. Canton. Fax resume to 734-207-7995

GLAZIER/GLASS INSTALLER

Exp. d. only. New construction. Crystal Glass, Wixom. Robin or Eric. (248) 685-9220

Help Wanted-General 5000

GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE

Grounds Person for Public Golf Course. Apply in person: Links of Novi, 50395 W. Ten Mile, Novi.

HAIR ASSISTANT w/License or Hair Apprentice

Dependable. Also Nail Techn. Alfaro Fox Salon, Livonia 313-600-9959, 734-542-0524

HAIR STYLIST

with clients for busy Farmington Hills salon. See Janet or Pam: 248-553-4480

HAIRSTYLISTS NEEDED FOR MANAGEMENT, FT, PT POSITIONS!!!

Would you like to have control of your income? Would you like to have flexible hours? Would you like to work in a fun and friendly atmosphere? What if we supplied your equipment and provided you with outstanding benefits? This is real. If you are a talented, licensed hairstylist, we want you working for us at HairMasters Salon.

Handyman for Farm Part-Time

(248) 374-0200

Housekeeping/Janitorial Dining Services Management

Company has immediate openings for full-time and part-time janitorial cleaners at a Detroit College. Experience a plus. Must be able to work evenings and weekends. Friendly, energetic, customer service oriented individuals need only to apply. Please call Sherry at: 313-883-8558

HP Boiler Operator/HVAC Tech

5+ yrs. exp. Commercial/Industrial exp. OTC Certified. Union. Benefits. Reliable. Email: mel@betenair.com

HR Manager THE MEDICAL TEAM

The MEDICAL TEAM provides diversified health care services with a community-based staff of several hundred nurses, aides, and administrative staff. We are looking for an enthusiastic, experienced HR Manager to work in our Livonia office to oversee HR processes, including recruitment, pre-employment testing/verifications, new employee orientations, performance evaluations, termination processes and file maintenance. This is a hands-on position for an individual with excellent communication skills who can actively engage with all levels of staff. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree, minimum 2 year's exp. in H.R., knowledge of employment/labor compliance issues. This is a mid-level position; salary commensurate with experience. Please fax resume to: 734-779-9747 or email: personnel@medteam.com

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National Marketing organization looking to fill four positions in our Livonia office; MUST have life/annuity insurance experience. Send resume with desired position and compensation expectations to: support@msmlife.com

JANITORIAL, PT

Plymouth area. \$8/hr. to start. Mornings. (313) 537-2451

LANDSCAPE & GROUND MAINTENANCE

FT year round position 2 yrs exp & driver's license required. Full benefits. Apply in person 9a-5p: HLCA Clubhouse, 20301 Silver Spring Dr. Northville, 48167

Help Wanted-General 5000

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Needed A.S.A.P! \$450/wk. plus bonus. Please call Down to Earth Lawns, Inc. 1-888-383-5295 or (734) 522-1480

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Livonia bindery. Mechanical skills a must. Resume to: tpm@phimcoservices.com or fax: 734-513-0221

MAINTENANCE & PREP PERSONNEL

For our Canton apts. Benefits available. Must have exp. with Johnson Air Ease combo units. 734-981-3891 or visit: hartmantlyner.com/careers

Maintenance Technician

FT position w/ Downtown Detroit Apt. Community. Must have min. 3 years or more verifiable apartment maintenance exp. incl. heating/cooling for Johnson Aires Sys. All around maint. repair. Carpentry, dry-wall, plumbing, etc. Have tools, dependable, transportation. Drug & Police check req. Fax resume: (313) 567-0682

Manager of Group Home

Seeking person experienced in group home management, consumer services, personnel management. \$10.90 total per hr. Good benefits. Near 8 Mile and Middlebelt, Livonia. Call: 734-458-8140

Manager on Duty/Maintenance Supervisor

Duties include overseeing maintenance of the grounds and building, room set-ups, general maintenance of facilities equipment by supervising the maintenance staff, staff liaison during special events and meetings. Must be available Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 2-10PM, Friday 3-11PM and variable hours on Sundays. Send resume to: rick@temple-israel.org

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\$1200-\$4000 per week! Exp'd. ONLY. Truck and tools required. 734-416-0800

POLICE CADET

Charter Township of Redford

For more information call: 313-387-2761 or visit our website at: redfordtp.com/dept/hr

PRE-SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR

Canton is now accepting applications for Part Time Pre-School Instructor. Job description with complete qualifications is now available on the Canton Township website at: www.canton-mi.org. EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

PRESSMEN-HEATSET WEB

Printing: Looking for experienced Heatset-Web Pressmen. The ideal person will have experience running 4-color web on full or half size heat set web presses. Openings on all shifts. Excellent wages and benefits including company matching 401k.

Call John at 734-941-6300 or fax your resume to 734-942-0920

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SWIM/DIVE COACHES

needed for large club, high school & middle school. (810)299-4146 mcmintt@wise.oas.k12.mi.us

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Certified HS teacher w/ Chemistry as well as Math focus. Part time. Retirees welcome. Akiva Hebrew Day School in Southfield. Send resume w/cover letter to: Terri Giannetti Fax: 248-366-1632 Call: 248-366-1625 ext 227 Email: trkrikat@yahoo.com

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in cutting scrap & salvage vehicles. FT w/benefits. Call: 734-713-0529

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Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Farmington Hills Mortgage Co. approx 25 hrs. Computer skills needed. Call: 248-848-0999 or fax resume: 248-848-0995

Administrative Support

Busy psychological consulting firm is looking for customer oriented individual with highly developed interpersonal skills to assist in writing reports, proofreading and scoring psychological tests, and performing general office duties. The person we seek will be a self starter with the ability to multi-task and manage time effectively. He/she will be detail oriented and have knowledge of correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Must be proficient in Microsoft Word & Microsoft Operating Systems. FT & PT positions available. Please submit resume and cover letter by fax: 248-827-4037 or email: Psybus@aol.com

CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

PT position, approx. 25 hrs/wk w/flexible schedule; computer skills needed; Word, Outlook and willingness to learn a positive outlook, great communication skills and the ability to work independently a must. Submit resume to Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 W 10 Mile Rd. Novi, MI 48375. Fax: 248-349-2585 or Email: info@umcnovi.com Please include references. Check out our website: www.umcnovi.com

CLERICAL

Law firm seeking experienced, organized, computer proficient individual with attention to detail.

Fax Resume: 248-377-0800 Email: rmlcck@aolaw.com

LEGAL SECRETARY

Approx. 30-35 hrs/wk for Livonia sole practitioner. Good MS Word skills a must! Legat exp. preferred. Fax resume: 734-425-2387

RECEPTIONIST FULL-TIME/PART-TIME

Real Estate/Property Management Office. People, Phone, Computer Skills. Apply in person. 19172 Grand River, Detroit. E of Outer Dr. Rosedale Park, Mon-Fri. 9-5.

Receptionist Part-Time

For a Canton Real Estate office. Hours: 2 days per week 4-8 pm. Duties: answering phones, setting appointments, transferring calls, filing, various other office duties. \$8/hour. If interested in this position call Laura Jankowski at 734-981-2900

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

RECEPTIONIST, Part-Time

fast paced, outstanding customer service. Professional phone presence. 734-713-0527

RECEPTIONIST, PT

Plymouth Real Estate Office. Mon. & Wed. 3-7pm & rotational w/ends. Exceptional phone skills, organized, multi-tasker, positive attitude, professional, and computer skills required. Email resume to: msampson@kw.com

Sales Assistant

Virginia Tile in Farmington Hills is seeking a FT Sales Assistant to support Sales Dept. Must have 2-3 years experience, excellent communication skills, and proficient in MS Office & AS400. Excellent benefit package. Send resume to hrganman@virginiatile.com or fax 734-421-0993.

SECRETARY

Full-Time for Livonia real estate office. Self starter. Phones, computer & general skills. Fax: (734) 464-8713 Email: c21row@aol.com

SECRETARY

Law offices of Alexander, Zelmanski & Lee, PLLC, are seeking Secretary to fill full time opening in Plymouth office. Please submit resume and salary requirements to: 1436 Presbury Ct. Canton, MI 48187

Help Wanted-Engineering 5030

MAC VALVES, INC.

is a worldwide manufacturer of pneumatic solenoid control valves. We are a people oriented technology based company. We operate our company in a group system environment, where people are given responsibility and opportunity to learn and advance. We are looking to hire people who would like to work in such an environment and grow with us.

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2nd shift. Candidate should have at least a 2 year degree in manufacturing/mechanical technology or equivalent experience. This is a hands on floor support position where the engineer will be required to solve problems, implement improvements, design fixtures, and train our work force. Applicants must have 3D CAD skills. MANUFACTURING ENGINEER

For our machine design group, candidate should have a BS degree in mechanical Engineering and at least 1 year experience in precision machine design. Including tooling, fixture, and jig design/programming and shooting and also machine system purchases from concept through production. MAC VALVES, INC. offers competitive compensation and great benefits including profit sharing. If you have an interest in this position, send your resume with salary requirements to: MACVALVE, INC. P.O. Box 111 Wixom, MI 48393

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Bloomfield Hills Endodontic office seeking highly motivated, energetic individual to join our team. Experience preferred but willing to train. Fax resume ATTN: Lisa at: 248-647-0576

DENTAL ASSISTANT

For a Garden City family practice. Part time. Exp'd only. Fax resume to 734-421-4538

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Full-time. Friendly Livonia general practice 2 yrs exp. needed. (734) 425-1121

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Well paid position and work you'll love in a professional, growth-oriented environment. Leading edge specialty practice is looking for a FT assistant with exp. dental exp. Call only to: 248-357-3100

DENTAL ASSISTANT, FT

Exp'd. friendly, reliable person. No weekends. Family office. Garden City. 734-422-4350

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT/CLERICAL

Exp'd. preferred but willing to train. Full-time position for Southfield dental office. Fax resume: (248) 304-1387

DENTAL ASSISTANTS & DENTAL RECEPTIONISTS

With experience for general offices. Excellent pay. Apply at performanceplusstaffing.com

DENTAL HYGIENIST

Part-Time. 12 Mile & Evergreen. Thurs. & Sat. Call Toni at: 248-353-4747

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

Chiropractic Asst.

Permanent PT. Mon, Wed & Fri 8:45-12:30pm, Tues & Sat. 8:45-1:30pm. Westland office. Must have clerical skills, computer knowledge and be able to multi-task. Great learning environment 27527 Joy Rd., 734-522-5501

CNAS, MAS, PCAS

THE MEDICAL TEAM

The MEDICAL TEAM has positions available in our Personal Care Services, Medicare, and Private Duty divisions for highly qualified, reliable personnel. Openings include:

- Shift Supervisors,
 - Med Passers, PCAs
- To work in senior living communities, assisting residents with activities of daily living. Requires formal training, good skills, experience, and customer service mind set. Openings for day, evening and weekend positions in tri-county area. Special needs: qualified med passers for Northville area; shift supervisors in several locations. Nursing home or assisted living experience a plus.

- CNAs for private duty cases. Must have exp. clinical skills and demonstrated ability to work with patients/families who req. TLC. Experience with spinal cord and/or closed head injuries a plus.
 - Home Health Aides
- Nursing home or assisted living requirements & have exp. in home health.

Please fax resume to: 734-779-9747 or email: personnel@medteam.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT Part-Time

Needed for busy family practice in Livonia. Must have previous experience in a medical office and be experienced in phlebotomy. X-ray experience helpful. Must be available for vacation coverage. Hours are: Mon. 2:00pm - 8:00pm, Thurs., 9:00am-6:00pm, Fri. 9:00am-2:00pm, and two Saturdays per month 8:00am-1:00pm. Fax resume to (734) 427-7260

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Experienced medical assistant needed full time for busy pediatric practice. Fax resume to Rebecca at (248)540-8701.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

For Cardiology office in Farmington/Novi. Fax resume to Judy: 248-380-6630

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Position available for experienced MA in fast paced family practice. References required. Fax resume to: 248-474-4224

MEDICAL ASSISTANT/RECEPTIONIST FT/PT

Busy dermatologist. Dermatology exp. preferred. Fax Resume 734-455-7371

MEDICAL BILLER

Exp'd. full-time for Associated Podiatrist. Fax Resume: 248-624-5984

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Great salaries & benefits! 2+ yrs. exp req'd. Many locations: Receptionists, CMAs, Ophthalmic Tech, Surgical Scheduler, Practice Manager. andrea@harperjobs.com Fax: 248-932-1214 Andrea: 248-932-1204 Harper Associates www.harperjobs.com

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST, PT

For great OB-GYN office in West Bloomfield. Exp. req. Fax to Beverly: 248-855-7546

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST, PT

Immediate Opening. Exp. preferred. Fax resume: (734) 421-9954

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST/PHLEBOTOMIST

Full-time with benefits for specialty office in West Bloomfield. (248) 855-5620

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

MEDICAL RECORDS STAFF

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\$1,395 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

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4 AT THIS PRICE - 26 AVAILABLE

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\$389* ³⁶MO **\$436*** ³⁶MO
\$1,637 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

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\$277* ³⁶MO **\$320*** ³⁶MO
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\$334* ³⁶MO **\$384*** ³⁶MO
\$1,730 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

NEW 2008 FORD F150 4X4 XLT SUPERCAB!



Featuring...remote start, sliding rear window, power windows, locks, speed control, tilt wheel

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\$365* ²⁴MO **\$415*** ²⁴MO
\$1,747 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

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Featuring...SYNC, Moonroof, remote start, SIRIUS radio, power windows, locks, speed control.

35 AT THIS PRICE - 222 AVAILABLE

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\$1,344 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

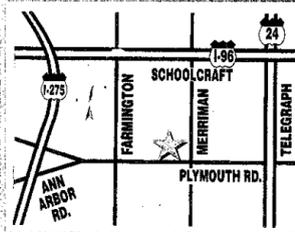
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Featuring...SYNC, Remote start, Power windows, Seat, Locks, speed control, tilt wheel, reverse sensing system.

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