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Hometownlife - C1



SUNDAY
November 23, 2008

WESTLAND Observer

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Green family faces holidays without daughter

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Edward and Barbara Green of Westland will face their first holiday season without their 22-year-old daughter, Laci, who was found strangled to

death May 7 in a grassy field near their home on the city's southwest side.

"It's still hard to talk about it," Edward Green said. "It's the most devastating thing for a parent."

The Greens have gone on

with their lives as best they can as they await a Jan. 26 trial for their daughter's ex-boyfriend, Robert James-the-First Howard, a 25-year-old Dearborn Heights man charged with first-degree murder.

"Each person copes in a different way. I just throw myself into my work and my church, and my wife goes to church with me every Sunday," said Edward Green, who stocks places like gas stations with copies of *The Detroit News*.

With Howard's trial looming in Wayne County Circuit Court, the Greens already have testified during a preliminary hearing in Westland 18th District Court. They told how they encountered Howard outside their Dunn Court home,

mere hours before their daughter was found dead around 6 a.m.

Howard helped search for Laci Green, a Schoolcraft College nursing student and

Please see **GREEN, A3**

Court to hold holiday-related alcohol testing

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Touted as the busiest bar night of the year, Thanksgiving Eve will be a sobering reminder not to drink for probationers of Westland 18th District Court.

In all, 550 people have been sent letters ordering them to report to court for alcohol testing not only on Thanksgiving Eve, but also the day after the holiday. It's an effort to keep problem drinkers sober and to make roads safer.

"Some people don't realize it's the busiest bar night of the year," 18th District Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli said. "People are coming home from college, and people are visiting from out of town."

At worst, reunions and friendly get-togethers at bars can have potentially devastating consequences for people involved in accidents. At a minimum, the fun times can become a temptation for probationers who are supposed to remain sober.

Cicirelli called the court program "a good reminder" that people need to obey no-drinking orders from her and 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos. Probationers who don't report or who fail their alcohol test could face penalties like fines, additional work program days, extended probation or, in severe cases, even jail.

Alcohol testing will be done 8-11:30 p.m. on Thanksgiving Eve and 7-10 a.m. on the day after the holiday.

"Unlike St. Patrick's Day and New Year's Eve, when drivers on the road pay extra attention because they expect that there may be drunk drivers, many people are unaware that (Thanksgiving Eve) is such a busy bar night," Cicirelli said.

Those chosen for the enforcement include people who have been placed on probation for alcohol-related offenses and who have a strict no-drinking clause in effect. The Westland court has been conducting alcohol tests for the last seven years and has found the program to be a good deterrent.

Anyone who fails to report will receive notice of a hearing. Unless they can prove they had a good reason not to show up, Cicirelli said, they will face penalties.

Those who do show up, but who fail their alcohol tests, also will face penalties.

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Jefferson-Barns Elementary first-grader Kirssi Peters is excited as she reaches for her new backpack as classmates Diana Machael (left) and Kayla Reece wait their turns. Writing out names on the backpacks is Mary Vellardita of the Westland Rotary.

School supply project is team effort

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Students at Jefferson-Barns Elementary School can study a little more easily now, thanks to the Westland Rotarians.

Kindergartners through fifth-graders at the school in Westland received backpacks filled with school supplies Wednesday, Nov. 19.

"The students and staff at Jefferson-Barns appreciate the generosity of Westland Rotary so much," said Principal Laura Beckman. "It means a great deal to the families as well."

The children entered the gym by class, getting their backpacks with their names written on by Rotarians. Teachers and Beckman helped the

younger students with name spellings. As children moved along, additional Rotarians and other volunteers provided school supplies to fill up the backpacks.

A total of 180 children at Jefferson-Barns and 290 at nearby Lincoln Elementary received backpacks and sup-



First-grader Samantha Beneteau decides on the color of ruler she would like from Westland Rotarian Gary Bulson.

plies, said Mary McGaw, community service chair for the Westland Rotary. Supplies included folders, pencils, notebooks, glue sticks, crayons and rulers.

The Rotary project wasn't a solo effort. Wayne County Community College and the Westland Community Foundation also provided support.

"I think it's very satisfying to help these kids out, especially when you see their faces," McGaw, a banker with Bank of America, said of the annual project.

Students at Lincoln, where Jennifer Munson serves as principal, will receive their backpacks and supplies this week before the Thanksgiving break.

Judge denies appeal of W-W recall language

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Organizers of a recall petition drive targeting two Wayne-Westland school board members have been cleared to continue circulating petitions after a Wayne County Circuit Court judge ruled Friday that the use of an acronym for the district's teachers union was acceptable.

"The judge denied the appeal, he made it very clear that we understood why we were being challenged and that people would know what WWEA means," said Shawnn Maxwell who is spearheading the campaign to force the recall of school board President Martha Pitsenbarger and Vice President Skip Monit. "We only have to have clarity of the action taken and we had it in the language."

Attorney Alan Canady argued that if the petition drive ends in a recall election, voters going to the polls would want to know what the acronym stands for.

According to Monit, Judge William J. Giovanone acknowledged that while the vote by the school board to adopt hearing procedures to discipline teachers who had walked off the job on Oct. 6 "was done in an environment where it's known what that (WWEA) stands for," the coverage that surround the four-day strike has made the acronym recognizable to residents.

"It's unfortunate," Monit said. "You can't put officials in a position where they have to worry about recall for every little thing they do. It's terribly unfortunate."

The ruling clears the way for recall supporters to continue collecting signatures of register voters in the district. Maxwell said the plan is to submit the petitions to the Wayne County clerk by Jan. 30, in advance of the 95-day limit for getting issues on the May election ballot.

Plans to submit language to recall board Secretary Cindy Schofield and Trustee William Gabriel to the Wayne County Elections Commission also have been delayed. Maxwell had said that language was going to be submitted on Friday, but she now plans to meet with recall committee members this weekend about delaying it until the August election.

"We'll definitely pursue recall of them, but we may aim for a later date," she said. "We're upset with how money is being spent in the district, but we don't want to take money away from the students with a special election."

With the petition drive moving forward, Monit said he and Pitsenbarger will now start their own campaign to battle a possible recall election. They will form a campaign committee and start holding fund-raisers.

"We're going to start getting the word out," he said. "We have a pretty sizable amount of contacts, and we plan to fight this to the bitter end."

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Coming Thursday in **filter**



Your guide to holiday happenings

Public helps LPS set priorities plan for buildings

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Long-term planning for Livonia Public Schools buildings got underway Wednesday night with the first of three community focus groups. More than 300 people have registered to attend these. The next two are Dec. 2 and Dec. 4. Students and staff will also participate. "Almost everyone has come here with ideas that they're ready to share, and we're here to receive that," said Donna McDowell, administrator for communications. The 40- to 55-year-old buildings are generally in good repair, but need modernizing, said Supt. Randy Liepa. "We want to make the schools excellent educational facilities for students and a source of pride

for the community." Participants broke into small groups to discuss what they consider the top priorities to be addressed, from a list that included curb appeal, energy efficiency, safety, classroom instruction upgrades, technology, fine arts, air conditioning and building additions. Bob Fisher, who has three children in the district, said security and technology were his group's top projects. "Everyone is after the same goal," he said, which is educating students. Some members of one group reasoned that energy efficiency would lead to cost savings and allow the district to address other projects. Dawson Barries, a junior at Franklin High School, was one of the focus group facilitators. From his perspective,

classroom improvements are needed, especially in terms of teaching "supplies," he said, adding air quotes with his hands for emphasis. "It was a good session, very well structured (and) non-confrontational," said Dave Bartek, a parent participant. All of the responses will be typed and posted online once all the focus groups are finished, McDowell said. The school board will also get a summary in January. Sometime next year, the board will decide whether to put a sinking fund renewal, millage request or both on the ballot. The current sinking fund, which raises \$6 million per year for building and site repairs, expires in February and runs through the 2009-10 fiscal year.

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PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Emerson Middle School seventh-grader Lucas Willyard (right) explains his group's project, the Vader Mobile, to his mother, Cathy Kabrovich, during the Motorized Toy Fair on Monday night.

AROUND WESTLAND

WYAA meeting, party

The Westland Youth Athletic Association will have its annual general membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road, north of Ford. The purpose is to elect a general board of directors and review the past year. The WYAA also will conclude its 50th anniversary celebration year with a Christmas party 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Papa Joe's, 34275 Ford at Wildwood, Saturday, Dec. 6. In addition to the party, the annual WYAA raffle draw will take place at 7:30 p.m. Ticket stubs are due by Dec. 6 at the WYAA Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington, north of

ON THE WEB

For an expanded version of Around Westland and the first marking period honor rolls for John Glenn and Wayne Memorial High Schools, visit our online edition at hometownlife.com and click on the Westland home page.

Ford Road. Ticket stubs can be dropped off at the building 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays.

For further information, call the Westland Youth Athletic Association at (934) 421-0640.

Decoration contest

Westland City Council James Godbout has announced the city's Christmas decoration

contest. Anyone who wants their home or a neighbor's home considered for prizes should contact the Westland City Clerk's Office by Dec. 1 by calling (734) 467-3191. Winners will receive a plaque and other recognition during a Westland City Council meeting in December.

Historic holiday

The public is invited to visit the city's historic Octagon House 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, to enjoy refreshments and see Santa Claus. Cameras may be brought along. The house is located at the Westland Historic Village Park on Wayne between Marquette and Cherry Hill. The historic museum on the same site will be open 1-4 p.m. that day.

Students aim to please with toy designs

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Emerson Middle School seventh-grader Brittany Lang (right) demonstrates her group's motorized toy, The Galaxy, on the three-meter test track during the Motorized Toy Fair on Monday night.

Whether kids want a motorized toy that climbs a 30-degree ramp, one that moves quickly on a flat surface, or one topped off by a red snowman with pipe cleaner arms, there was something for everyone at Emerson Middle School's toy fair.

Seventh-graders learned engineering, teamwork, consumer research and presentation skills while taking part in the project in teacher Kim DuSablons science classes.

One class was sponsored by Honeywell and Society of Automotive Engineers for an international competition, but SAE provided kits (gears and a fabrication frame) for all classes, and they were all part of the motorized toy fair.

Students had to decide how to put them together (for speed or torque), as well as how to decorate the toy. The goal was to make it appeal to kids 6 to 10.

"Toy cars are mostly designed for boys. Unless you are a tomboy you wouldn't like it as much," said Katera Rincon. So she and teammates came up with a design that included fish, which their research determined to be kid-friendly.

Their toy, "A Race To Sea," was voted the best, and will be sent to the international competition, which includes teams from eight other schools,

including from France, Mexico, Czech Republic and Switzerland. The competition will be judged later this month.

While everyone else was trying to make their toys go three meters in three seconds, Alejandro Castillo and his teammates had another idea for the High Flyer. It can go up steep ramp, and it looks like a spacecraft.

"We wanted something different," Castillo said. "We interviewed 10 kids; 10 of them said (they wanted) fast. But that's only 10 kids. We have a whole nation to think about."

Their toy had a few glitches; it got put together backwards and had to be hot-glued at the last minute. "If we had been prepared, we could have won," said Ryan Pace.

Representatives from Honeywell, and other volunteers with engineering expertise, worked with the students for nine weeks.

On Tuesday, Honeywell technical manager Mustafa Ullahkhan and office manager Diane Roffelsen visited the class to see the toys in motion.

One team's toy disappointed; it wouldn't go up the ramp. "Back to the drawing board," Roffelsen said. "Welcome to my life," Ullahkhan said.

"Their experiences are very similar to what is happening in real life," he added. "That gives them an idea what it is like to be an engineer. But their imagination is far more advanced than mine."

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BOLT (PG) 11:30, 1:45, 4:00, 6:30, 8:45
FR/SAT LS 11:00

BOLT DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:25
FR/SAT LS 11:35

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG)
11:05, 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30
FR/SAT LS 11:35

ROLE MODELS (R)
FR/SUN-TH 11:15, 1:35, 4:10, 6:35, 9:05
FR/SAT LS 11:20 SAT 4:10, 6:35, 9:05

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Fitness clubs offers workouts 24/7

GREEN
FROM PAGE A1

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Word of mouth is what brought Michael Bobby to Anytime Fitness. He checked it out and liked what he saw.

In fact, he liked the idea that it fit his seven-day-a-week fitness routine.

"The best thing I like is that it's open 24 hours a day," Bobby said. "I work 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., the nights I'm off, I come in and work out. It's the best thing I like about it."

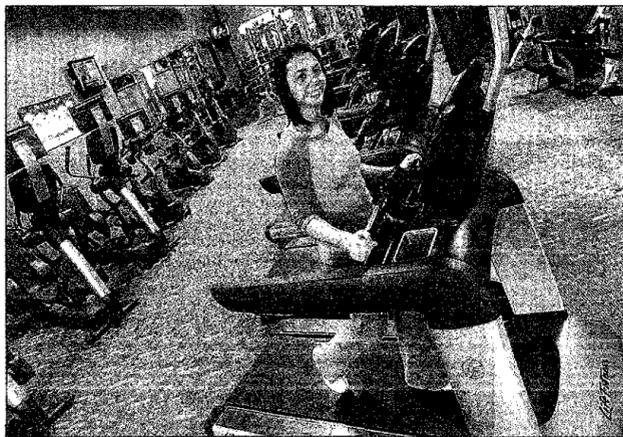
Located on Wayne Road, south of Bayview, Anytime Fitness offers members a convenient workout option at an affordable cost as well as membership reciprocity at any one of the more than 1,000 Anytime Fitness locations in the United States, Canada, and Australia.

"We're doing very well," employee Gregory Balteff said. "People love the concept, we never close."

"The convenience and affordability of Anytime Fitness can't be beat," added office manager Patricia Bon. "Choosing this club makes it easy for members to stay committed to their fitness goals."

The club will celebrate its grand opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony from 3-5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 25. Club tours will be available during the grand opening celebration as well as staffed hours.

Anytime Fitness is the only fitness club in the area with 24-hour access. Members can workout any time of



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Former Garden City resident Holli Guetta visits the recently opened Anytime Fitness three times a week to work out.

the day or night, every day of the year by using a security-access key to enter the club, even when it is not staffed.

The layout of 4,000-square-foot club is designed for quick and effective exercise. The equipment options include circuit and cross-training machines, free weights, stationary bicycles, and treadmills. Members also can add a tanning option to their membership. Private showers and dressing areas also are available.

"Anytime Fitness clubs are pared down to the essentials necessary for

a great workout," Bono said. "Where we don't cut corners is in our personal service and commitment to our members."

The club has been open about two months and has around 350 members. Word-of-mouth as well as lawn signs that can be found on street corners around the city have helped introduce people to Anytime Fitness.

One-year and two-year memberships are available and cost between \$25 and \$35, depending on the member's needs.

"The feeling at Anytime Fitness

ANYTIME FITNESS

Where: 761 S. Wayne Road, Westland
What: A co-ed fitness club that offers 24-hour access to state-of-the-art equipment and tanning facilities.

Members use a secure access to enter the facility, even when it's not staffed. Memberships can be used at 1,000 Anytime Fitness clubs in the United States, Canada, and Australia.

Who: The club has five employees, including several personal trainers.

Information: Membership information is available at the club, by calling (734) 326-1550 or visiting www.anytimefitness.com.

is that fitness is lifelong commitment," Balteff said. "We try to make it affordable for everyone."

Bobby had used another fitness center, but it lacked the leg equipment he needed. He found it at Anytime Fitness.

"I pretty much do strength training," he said. "I like it here because they have everything I need. It's great."

Bono also is enthused about the Westland club.

"We are excited to be in Westland and it's our goal to become an active member of the community," she said.

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MotorCity Casino employee, but police believe he already had killed her after arranging to meet her outside her house. A taxicab driver has testified that he drove Howard to the neighborhood.

Westland police Sgt. Steve Borisch testified during Howard's preliminary hearing that Howard indicated during an interrogation that Laci Green had been strangled, even before Borisch knew the cause of death. Borisch said in court last summer that he believed Howard was angry that Laci Green had broken up with him and was seeing another man.

Another officer, Robert Fruit, testified that Howard had the same kind of fresh grass clippings on his clothing that police found on Laci Green's body.

"All he kept saying was he had nothing to do with it," Fruit said in court last summer.

Howard's hearing spanned several days, and during one dramatic moment he suddenly slammed his hands on a courtroom table where he sat. Defense attorney Bertram Johnson has indicated in court that Howard might not have been given a chance to see an attorney before he spoke with police.

For now, all the Greens can do is try to make it through Thanksgiving, then Christmas, then another year, knowing that their daughter will not celebrate any more milestones with them.

"Our daughter was the joy of our life," Edward Green said. "We are really glad that the trial has been set."

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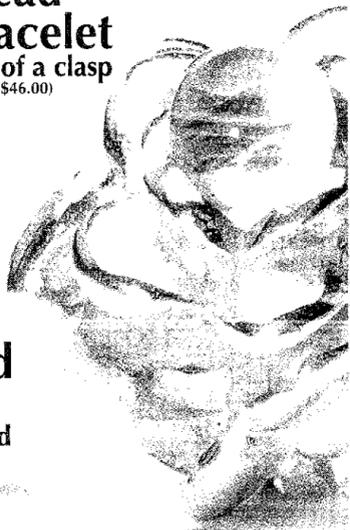
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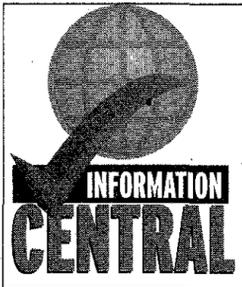
Facts about polar bears

Polar bears make their home in the Arctic Ocean and the northern most areas of Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Russia and Norway's Svalbard archipelago. In areas where long-term studies are available, polar bear populations are showing signs of stress due to the effects of climate change and the resultant loss of sea ice. Consequently, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature officially classified the polar bear as a vulnerable species in 2005 and in 2008 the U.S. Department of the Interior reclassified the polar bear as a Threatened Species under the Endangered Species Act.

In the wild, polar bears live an average of 15 to 18 years and in captivity, they may live until their mid-to late 30s. Polar bears usually only breed once every three years, but when they do, cubs are often born in pairs.

The average male polar bear weighs 550 to 1,700 pounds! Female polar bears usually only tend to weigh half of that amount. These unique mammals can withstand temperatures of -50 degrees and can actually be more susceptible to overheating than the cold. They are protected with a layer of blubber that can measure 4.5 inches thick.

To find out more about the polar bear at the Public Library of Westland, you can start with "Polar



Bears" by Nikita Ovsyanikov. "The World of the Polar Bear" by Norbert Rosing is full of amazing pictures of polar bears in their natural habitat. We also have a number of polar bear books for children as well as some polar bear DVDs. Check out "Polar Bears" and "Masters of the Arctic Ice."

Want to find out more about polar bears and get involved to preserve their natural home? Check out the Polar Bears International Web site at www.polarbearsinternational.org. Also take a look at the World Wildlife Federation's Polar Bear Tracker at www.panda.org/polarbears.

Highlighted Activities

Red Cross Blood Drive: 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 26.
Stop in or call the library at (734) 326-6123 to sign up for a blood dona-

tion appointment.

Documentary Movie Night: "Spellbound"

Who would have thought that a documentary about spelling bee contestants could be as suspenseful as a Hitchcock thriller? "Spellbound," which follows eight kids from their early victories in regional spelling bees to the national competition in Washington, D.C., is an out-and-out nail-biter. No sign-up required. Refreshments will be provided.

Adult Poetry Group: 3-4:15 p.m. Dec. 2. Adult only.

Interested in reading, discussing, and writing poetry? Please join us for one of our sessions, whether you're a first-time writer or a serious word-smith. Sign up at the Reference Desk. Check out our blog at <http://westlandadultpoetry.blogspot.com>.

Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the library will not meet Wednesday, Nov. 26. The library will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26, and also will be closed Thursday-Friday, Nov. 27-28. Winter hours will resume Saturday, Nov. 29.

Information Central was compiled by reference librarian and library Web designer Kristy Cooper. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Christine Roperti gets a little help from four-year-old grandson Maverick in the turkey yard at the Roperti Turkey Farm in Livonia.

Turkey farm marks its 60th year

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Christine Roperti doesn't just talk turkey. She knows turkeys.

It has been life on the turkey farm on Five Mile, since it was her father's and since she was a child. Today she owns the farm that bears her last name, celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. That's a long time for a business, let alone for a farm, that sits in the middle of a suburb.

"By 9 years old, I was driving the tractor and helping my dad plant crops for the turkeys," she said. "I have been a turkey farmer since then. I always enjoyed working outside and the years when I worked with my dad."

Roperti's father, Thomas Roperti, moved from Dearborn in 1942 and bought five acres and the farm to provide for his family.

"At the time, this area of Livonia was all dirt roads and open land," Christine Roperti said. The family had 40 head of cattle and sold milk to Twin Pines Dairy.

But the cattle were sold in the late 1940s, when Christine's brother Fred, enlisted in the Army. "My dad sold all his cattle because he relied

ROPERTI'S TURKEY FARM

What: A five-acre turkey farm in the middle of Livonia, raising free range, corn-fed turkeys for Thanksgiving and Christmas since 1948.

Where: 34700 Five Mile (west of Farmington Road), Livonia

Phone: (734) 464-6546. Call first to reserve turkey and for pickup hours.

Web: www.freewebs.com/ropertis/index.htm

Roperti wants to keep providing the best quality turkeys that she knows how for her customers and her family. "I hope to make people more aware of where their food comes from and how it's raised," Roperti said. "I want people to realize how important it is to support your local farmer because we want to continue providing the best quality turkeys for generations to come."

"My neighbors love knowing that I won't sell my property to builders that want to turn my farm into another subdivision. My family farm is a place that families have made a tradition of coming to year after year. I have customers that have been coming here since the farm first began raising turkeys."

Roperti plans to keep the farm going, raising turkeys for holiday meals. And while local businesses may have cut back on large scale purchases of holiday turkeys for employees, she still encourages businesses and families to consider buying them as holiday gifts. "Families refuse to buy any other turkey even though the economy is the worst we've seen in recent history," Roperti said.

kabramcz@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2119

ACHIEVERS

Melissa Taylor-Pennington has been tapped for to The National Honor Society. The daughter of Christina Pennington-Neal, she is a senior at Garden City High School.

She has a 4.0 grade point average and is drum major for the high school marching band. She plans to attend Madonna University in Livonia in the fall of 2009.

Taylor Hill, a second-grader at Walker-Winter Elementary School in Canton, has qualified to compete in



Taylor Hill

in National Inc.'s 2008 Miss Junior Pre-Teen Detroit pageant on Nov. 2. She now has the chance to compete with young ladies from different states for \$60,000 in prizes and awards

Taylor studied modeling

and participated in the Talent Expo in Dallas, Texas. She enjoys dancing and modeling.

Named to the honor roll for the first marking period at the Tinkham Alternative High School in Westland were **Michael Bargo, James Boyce, Shanelle Cunningham, Michelle Fort, Ashley Holland, Tressie Howell, Sarah Jordan, Brighton Means, Zachary Moreno, David O'Reilly, Tiffany Payne, Brandon Potvin, Janell Reeves and Alicia Taylor.**

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

Filter Let us entertain you! Every Thursday

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
DECEMBER 8, 2008

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on December 8, 2008 at 6:56 p.m. regarding the proposed Salary Ordinance for the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), Local 1911:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE # A-09-_____

The City Council of the City of Garden City, in accordance with the City Charter and Labor Negotiations between it and the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 1911 (IAFF), hereby adopts and establishes the following salaries for its employees for the period of July 1, 2008** through June 30, 2011.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS:

SALARY ORDINANCE: International Association of Fire Fighters

Firefighters Starting Without All Required Certifications			
Experience Level	07/01/08-06/30/09	07/01/09-06/30/10	07/01/10-06/30/11
No experience	\$37,143	\$39,000	\$40,950
0 - 1 year	\$38,031	\$39,933	\$41,930
1 - 3 years	\$38,913	\$40,859	\$42,902
3 - 5 years	\$39,793	\$41,783	\$43,872
Over 5 years	\$40,679	\$42,713	\$44,849

Firefighters Starting With All Required Certifications Beginning of Probationary Period			
Experience Level	07/01/08-06/30/09	07/01/09-06/30/10	07/01/10-06/30/11
No experience	\$40,869	\$42,913	\$45,058
0 - 1 year	\$41,752	\$43,840	\$46,032
1 - 3 year	\$42,637	\$44,769	\$47,007
3 - 5 year	\$43,523	\$45,699	\$47,984
Over 5 years	\$44,405	\$46,625	\$48,956

Completion of Probationary Period			
Time	07/01/08-06/30/09	07/01/09-06/30/10	07/01/10-06/30/11
Probation Complete	\$47,758	\$50,146	\$52,653
1 year	\$52,309	\$54,924	\$57,670
2 years	\$54,217	\$56,923	\$59,774
3 years	\$56,319	\$59,135	\$62,092

Officers			
Rank	07/01/08-06/30/09	07/01/09-06/30/10	07/01/10-06/30/11
Fire Inspector	\$58,746	\$61,683	\$64,787
Engineer	\$59,305	\$62,270	\$65,384
Lieutenant			
Start	\$60,827	\$63,868	\$67,061
After 1 year	\$62,282	\$65,396	\$68,666
Captain			
Start	\$63,905	\$67,100	\$70,455
After 1 year	\$67,233	\$70,595	\$74,125
Fire Marshall	\$75,990	\$79,790	\$83,780

**Back Pay to only July 1, 2008. Contract Term is 10/1/08 - 6/30/11.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS
City Clerk/ Treasurer

Posted: November 18, 2008
Published: November 23, 2008

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
DECEMBER 8, 2008

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on December 8, 2008 at 6:59 p.m. regarding:

The proposed reprogramming of \$54,000.00 of Community Development Block Grant Funds.

All documentation regarding the CDBG program is available at the Community Development Dept. 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135, (734) 793.1663.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS
Treasurer/City Clerk

Posted: November 18, 2008
Publish: November 23, 2008

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
December 8, 2008

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, December 8, 2008 at 6:58 p.m. in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the proposed Special Land Use - 27505 Ford Road, Ruby's Deli which is on file in the Clerk's Office.

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

ALLYSON BETTIS
City Clerk-Treasurer

Posted: November 18, 2008
Publish: November 23, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT
FOR THE 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM
NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM
Public Notice Announcement

The City of Westland anticipates receiving an estimated \$2,061,000 of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds (substantial amendment to fiscal year 2008-09 funding) under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The following details how the City proposes to utilize the Neighborhood Stabilization Program grant.

Project	Funding Level
Norwayne Demolition/Renovation/Reconstruction	\$1,345,750
- Identify foreclosed and abandoned vacant properties, primarily in the Norwayne community.	
- Work with non-profit and for-profit developers to develop single-family homeownership housing.	
- Allowable uses of funds: demolition, site preparation, construction, appraisal, homebuyer assistance.	
Rental Rehabilitation	515,250
- Work with developers to expand current program to benefit families at or below 50% of area median income.	
Administration	200,000
TOTAL:	\$2,061,000

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION - Neighborhood Stabilization Program

Submit written comments to the Department of Housing and Community Development at 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, MI 48186, or via email to jinglis@cityofwestland.com until December 1, 2008. Copies of the City Council authorizing resolution are available for review at the Department of Housing and Community Development during normal business hours.

William R. Wild, Mayor, City of Westland

Published: November 23, 2008

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
DECEMBER 8, 2008

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on December 8, 2008 at 6:57 p.m. regarding the proposed Salary Ordinance for the Command Officers Association of Michigan (COAM):

PROPOSED ORDINANCE # A-09-_____

The City Council of the City of Garden City, in accordance with the City Charter and Labor Negotiations between it and the Command Officers Association of Michigan (COAM), hereby adopts and establishes the following salaries for its employees for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY ORDAINS:

SALARY ORDINANCE: Command Officers Association of Michigan (COAM)

	Patrol	Sergeants	Lieutenants	Deputy Chief
Multiplier	0%	111.53%	120.57%	133.00%
Equivalent Wage @ 7/1/08	\$57,691	\$64,343	\$69,558	\$76,729

**Back Pay to only July 1, 2008. Contract Term is 7/1/08 - 6/30/11.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS
City Clerk/ Treasurer

Published: November 23, 2008

401(k) plan not at risk

Dear Rick: I work for a small company in the automotive business. I think the company will go out of business. My concern is with my 401(k) plan. If my employer files for bankruptcy or closes down, is my 401(k) at risk? If it is, is there anything that I can do to protect it?

Your 401(k) plan is not considered an asset of the company. Whether the company went into bankruptcy or just shut down, your 401(k) plan is not subject to creditor attack. The 401(k) plan is held in a separate trust that shields



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

it from creditors. In fact, the separate trust also prevents your employer from dipping into your 401(k) plan.

Although 401(k) plans are shielded they are subject to market fluctuation. If a portion of the 401(k) is invested in company stock and the company goes out of business, there will be a significant loss.

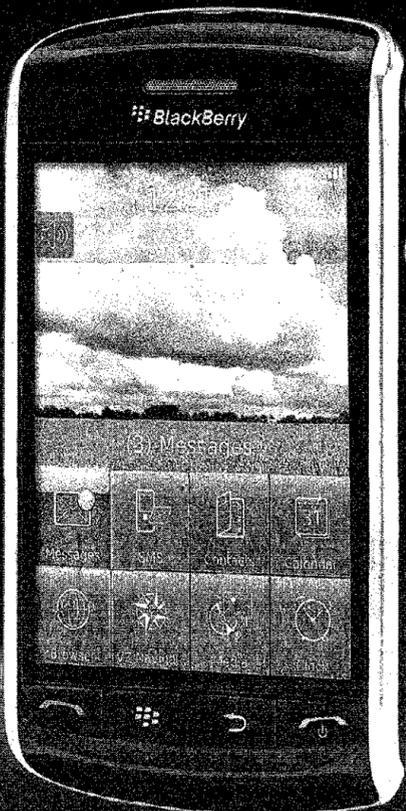
Employees should limit their exposure to company stock. I recognize there is a loyalty issue, however, the bigger issue is diversification. Investors cannot afford to keep all their eggs in one basket. That is why it's important to limit the amount of exposure to company stock.

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

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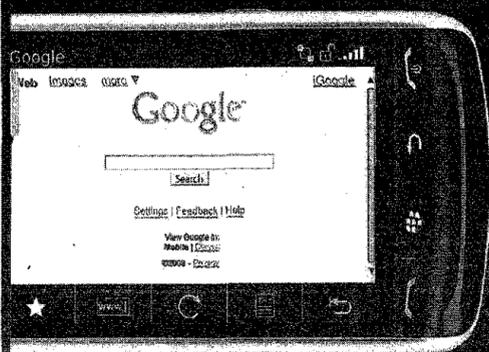


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CLINTON TOWNSHIP
 17370 Hall Rd. 586-2281-4977
DEARBORN 24417 Ford Rd. 313-278-4491
 Fairlane Mall 313-441-0168
DETROIT 14126 Woodward 313-869-7392
 300 Renaissance Center 313-567-4055
FARMINGTON HILLS
 31011 Orchard Lake Rd. 248-538-9900
FENTON 17245 Silver Pkwy. 810-629-2733
FT. GRATIOT 4129 74th Ave. 810-385-1231
LAKE ORION 2531 S. Lapeer Rd. 248-393-6800
LIVONIA 29523 Plymouth Rd. 734-513-9077
MONROE 2161 Mall Rd. 734-241-4099
NORTHVILLE 70580 Haggerty Rd. 734-779-0148
NOVI 43025 12 Mile Rd. 248-305-6600
 Twelve Oaks Mall 248-735-3973
PONTIAC/WATERFORD
 454 Telegraph Rd. 248-335-9900
ROCHESTER HILLS 3035 S. Rochester Rd. 248-853-0550
ROYAL OAK 31941 Woodward Ave. 248-549-4177
ST. CLAIR SHORES 26401 Harper Ave. 586-777-4010
SOUTHFIELD 78117 Telegraph Rd. 248-358-3700
STERLING HEIGHTS Lakeside Mall 586-997-6500

TAYLOR 23495 Eureka Rd. 734-287-1770
TROY 1913 E. Big Beaver Rd. 248-526-0040
 Oakland Mall 248-588-9507
WARREN
 5745 Twelve Mile Rd., Heritage Village 586-578-0955
WESTLAND 35105 Warren Rd. 734-722-7330

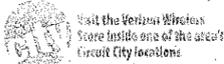
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Canton resident dines with WNIC stars

Why did Carol Richardson want to have lunch with WNIC radio jocks?

"Because I absolutely adore them," Richardson wrote in her winning entry for Dining with the Stars.

"I love WNIC and would never switch to satellite radio," wrote Richardson, who got to meet and lunch with her favorite radio crew — WNIC's Breakfast Club hosts Chris Edmonds, Lisa Barry and newsman Dave Lockhart and afternoon host Kevin O'Neill — Tuesday at Buddy's in Farmington Hills.

"I could not function in the mornings or apply makeup without Lisa on my shower radio and my bathroom counter radio," Richardson wrote. "Dave Lockhart is so precious with his conservative views, reminds me of Dad. Chris Edmonds is hilarious. Kevin gets me home — traffic



Dining with the Stars winner Carol Richardson of Canton Township gets a mini-makeover from Sebastian Kobeissi of I Design Salon and Spa in Dearborn.

jams, rain, snow or sun I am devoted to Kevin."

Richardson presented each WNIC radio host with a rose in the limo ride to Buddy's courtesy of Class Plus Limo. "Lunch lasted over two hours," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's, who initiated the Dining with the Stars promotion with this newspaper.

Richardson, a Canton Township resident, said it was "way more than I expected."

She even brought her best friend, Deb Lance, to share

in her win and give her support on the way to picking up her "stars." Buddy's owner, Robert Jacobs, stopped at the table to congratulate the winner and meet the stars and the staff at Buddy's got into the spirit of the moment.

"They arrived at 11 a.m. when Buddy's just opened, so they had the entire place to themselves. It was very cool. About 40 minutes later, the place was packed. They left about 1 p.m. full and happy," Brontman said, adding "the limo driver car-

ried out about 40 balloons for Carol and put them in the limo for the trip home."

Buddy's Pizza donated \$500 to The Children's Miracle Network and Judson Center in honor of the WNIC crew.

Richardson also was treated to a mini-makeover by Sebastian Kobeissi of I Design Salon and Spa in Dearborn, a \$100 gift certificate from Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and dance exhibition by the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

GC Hospital programs focus on healthy living

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

Monday, Nov. 24

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.

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

Tuesday, Nov. 25

Get Up and Move at 9 a.m., 3 and 4 p.m. This is an invigorating exercise program is 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.

Wednesday, Nov. 26

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.

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.

First Aid (ARC) at 6 p.m. This American Red Cross class teaches how to care for injuries, sudden illness and other emergencies at home or on the job. Content includes bandage and splinting, bleeding, burns, poison, shock, wounds, seizures, fractures, diabetes, stroke, heart attack and heat/cold emergencies. The class is offered at Garden City Hospital's Health and Education Center at 6701 Harrison, north of Maplewood. There is a \$25 fee. Participants will receive a three-year certification upon successful completion. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information or to register.

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.

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.

GC Hospital dedicates annual Tree of Angels

As the holidays draw near, the phrase, "lost but not forgotten" rings true for many families.

On Friday, Dec. 5, all community members are invited to attend Garden City Hospital's fourth annual "Tree of Angels Dedication Ceremony," which honors friends and family members who are currently battling or have lost their battle to a terminal illness.

Guests will be able to choose from an array of cus-

tom-made angel ornaments by Garden City Hospital Oncology staff members and dedicate it to a loved one. They will be able to inscribe the name of their loved one on the ornament and hang it upon the holiday tree to honor their memory and spirit and also to encourage hope among those currently battling disease.

Guest speakers, Dr. Ronald Lutsic of Radiation/Oncology, Jerry La Pere, chaplain, Vitas Hospice, and

nurse Debra Ahmed, manager of Oncology, will offer support and inspiration to the loved ones and survivors of those that have passed away.

The Tree of Angels Dedication Ceremony is sponsored by Garden City Hospital's Oncology department. The dedication ceremony will begin at 5:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 5, in the hospital's main lobby. The decorated tree will be displayed through Jan. 5.

Guests may take home their ornament at any time.

The event is free and light refreshments will be served. Reservations aren't necessary, however, people planning to attend are asked to call Wendy Fairchild at (734) 458-4259.

Garden City Hospital is at 6245 Inkster Road, north of Ford Road, Garden City. For more information about the hospital, call (877) 717-WELL or visit the Web site at www.gchosp.org.

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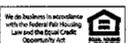
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Railroadiana
Ss. Simon and Jude Church's Ushers Club will sponsor a Toys and Train Show noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30, at the church hall, 32500 Palmer Road, one mile west of Merriman Road. Admission is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food and beverages are available. Parking is free. There will be approximately 130 dealer tables available at \$10 each. To reserve a dealer table, call Norm at (734) 595-8327. Dealer set-up is 9 a.m. the day of the show.

Nutcracker Ballet
More than 70 dancers from Bunny Sanford's School of Dance perform the holiday classic at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at Stevenson High School, 33500 Six Mile Road (just west of Farmington). Tickets are available for \$5. This special production features original choreography and costumes from the Nutcracker Ballet that formerly appeared at the Fox Theatre and Detroit Opera House. Tickets are available at the door or by calling Bunny Sanford's School of Dance at (734) 464-7440.

Charity casino
If you are looking for a place to show your skills at Texas Hold 'Em, the hottest game in town, the Canton Charity Casino, Western Wayne County's only charity poker room at the Shark Club on Ford in Canton every Thursday through Sunday. The Canton Charity Casino offers nightly tournaments as well as continuous cash games and a venue for players of all skill levels. Non-profit, charitable organizations are licensed by the State of Michigan to sponsor each weekend, allowing them to raise funds for their special causes. The hours are 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursday-Friday (tournament at 8 p.m.) and 2 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Saturday-Sunday (tournament at 5 p.m.) The Shark Club is at 42070 Ford, just west of Haggerty in Canton. Non-profit groups interested in sponsoring a fund-raising weekend can call (734) 502-7033 or send an e-mail to spokerbto@gmail.com.

Class reunions
Cherry Hill High School Classes of 1983 and 1984 will hold a reunion 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Nov. 28, at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club on Merriman north of Warren Road, Westland. The cost is \$50 per person and includes dinner and open bar (casual attire). Advanced tickets only must be purchased by Sept. 30. Contact one of the following committee members for additional information: '83- Lori Westerholm at (734) 834-6796, '83- Mary McCollough (Potvin) at (734) 658-1014, '83- Mary Ann Brefka (Stempien) at (734) 729-6783, '83- Mark Tyl at (313) 587-0092.



Let us pray

The Rev. Neil Cowling of Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church in Westland stands with state Sen. Glenn S. Anderson, D-Westland (right), and Lt. Gov. John D. Cherry on the Senate floor after delivering the invocation before the Michigan Senate on Thursday, Nov. 13.

'83- Lori Hagedorn (Schuler) at (313) 730-1303 or '84- Renee Liske (Scott) at (734) 425-7826.

Garden City High School Class of 1989 will hold its 20th reunion 6 p.m. to midnight Aug. 29, 2009, at Joy Manor in Westland. Tickets are \$65 before March 1 and \$75 March 2-June 1. Tickets includes, dinner, premium open bar, DJ, door prizes, picture CD and other gifts. Tickets are available for purchase at www.gardencity89.com or by contacting Paula at gchsl989reunion@hotmail.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

Garden City Knights of Columbus

Crafters are needed for the Garden City Knights of Columbus second annual craft show 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday Nov. 22, at the hall, 30759 Ford, Garden City. For more information, call Linda at (734) 422-0373 or Vicki at (313) 538-0204.

Lathers
Crafters and vendors are being sought for Lathers Elementary School's second annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Show 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13. The cost of an 8-foot space is \$20. All of the proceeds going toward new playground equipment. Contact Lisa at crafter2007@yahoo.com.

Sts. Peter & Paul
Sts. Peter & Paul Church will hold its 20th annual arts and crafts show 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, in the church hall, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights. There will be a raffle and bake sale. Cabbage rolls and other ethnic food will also be available. Admission is \$1. For more information, call Deb at (248) 946-0173 or Virginia at (734) 522-9653.

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.

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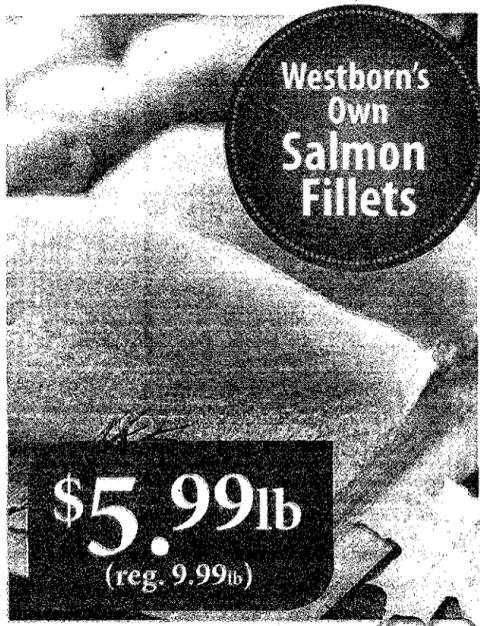
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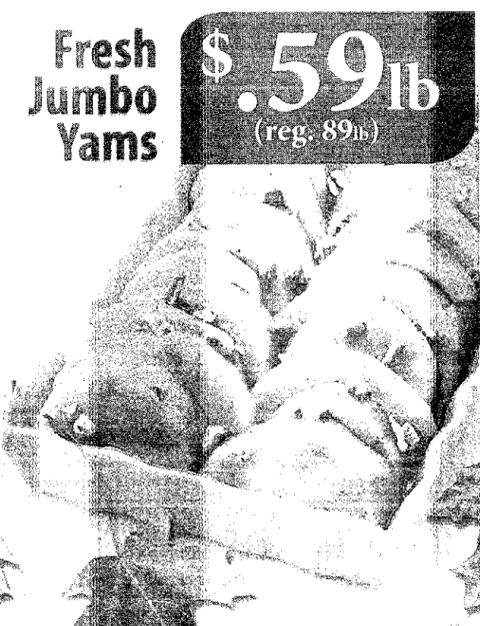
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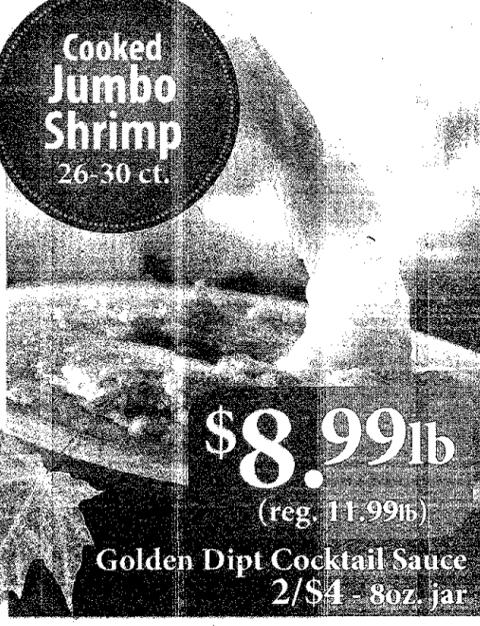
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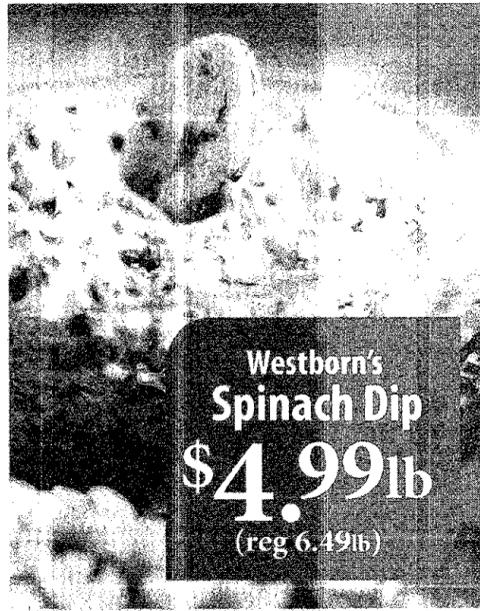
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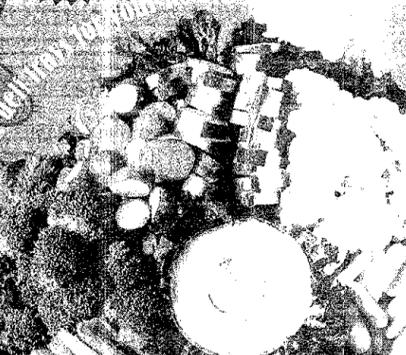


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Let there be light! Lightfest opens for month of holiday fun

Wayne County Parks' Lightfest officially opened Thursday with fireworks, music and Santa Claus.

Lightfest features more than 35 giant animated displays and over one million lights; it is the Midwest's largest and longest light show. The complete Lightfest route is over four miles of Hines Drive. The light display is open 7-10 p.m. through Jan. 1 (closed on Christmas Day).

Dec. 2, 9 and 16 will be Toy Nights. Wayne County will be lending a hand to provide toys to disadvantaged children in Wayne County. On these nights, the community is invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the suggested \$5 donation fee. Visitors are also welcome to contribute the recommended donation.

At the walk through display area, visitors can stop by Santa's Workshop at the Warrendale Area for refreshments and gift shopping. Santa will be there from Thanksgiving until Dec. 23. Don't forget to bring your letters to Santa! Outside of Santa's workshop there will be a giant mailbox where kids of all ages can drop off their letters to Santa. Santa's elves will pick up the letters each night.

Although Lightfest begins at 7 p.m., Hines Drive will be closed to traffic beginning at 5:45 p.m. nightly. Visitors enter Wayne County Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman, 2½ miles south of I-96 in Westland.

Lightfest is presented in partnership with Fox 2 News, Magic 105.1 FM, DBT Marketing and Promotional Group, Garden City Hospital, McDonald Modular, the Friends of Wayne County Parks, Entertainment Express Luxury Limousine and ITC Holdings.

For more information on Wayne County Lightfest, call (734) 261-1990 or visit www.waynecountyparks.org.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

County Executive Bob Ficano, Santa Claus, and a crowd of kids throw the switch to light the lights for the Wayne County Lightfest.



The fireworks begin for the opening of the Wayne County Light Festival.



Nine-year-old Claire Frankowski enjoys a doughnut while waiting for Santa Claus.

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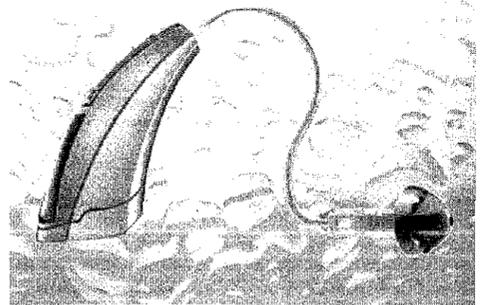
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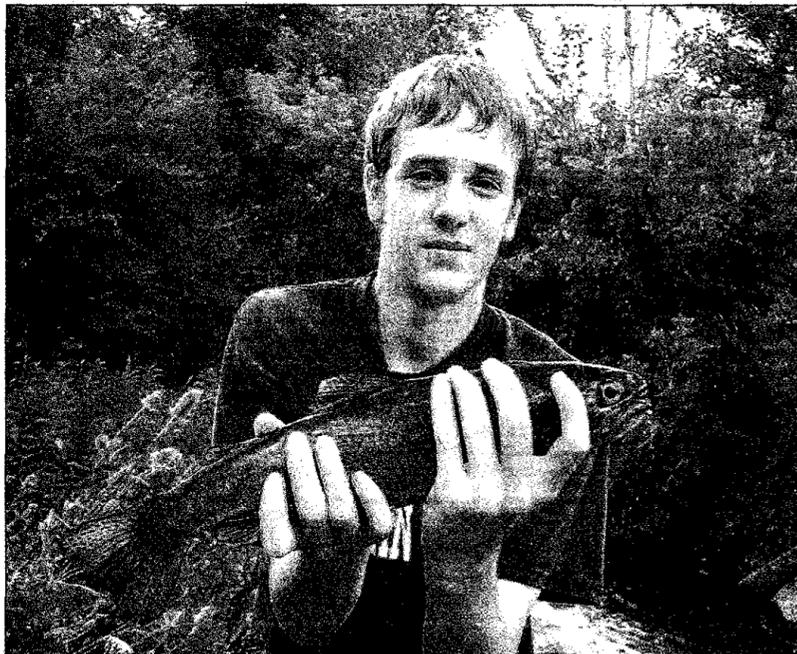
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This young angler caught (and released) this beautiful rainbow trout in Canton last year.



Cyndi Ross of Friends of the Rouge was one of about two dozen people to paddle down the Lower Rouge River last month through Wayne and Westland.

Salmon, trout prove Rouge no longer on brink of death

Mention the Rouge River to some people in these parts and their thoughts are likely to conjure up images of industrial pollution, smelly logjams or, perhaps, even an open sewer.

I'm not one of those people.

When I think of the Rouge River, I think about fishing (including for trout and salmon), canoeing and taking hikes along picturesque banks.

OK, I'll give you a moment to get the laughter out of your system. I'm not crazy (well, maybe a little bit). And I'm not thinking about the future. Believe it or not, after a generation of restoration efforts, the Rouge River is steadily coming back to life.

Since participating in my first Rouge Rescue about a decade ago, I've gotten to know our little river well. Despite its reputation,

and all that humanity has done to her, I have come to learn that this river (like all of nature) is resilient and full of surprises.

Like last weekend, when I took the kids and dog for a walk across the street to Goudy Park in downtown Wayne. As we walked along the river's edge, I looked down to see a female salmon laying along the rocks. She had just died after spawning near a spot just below some rapids. When I picked her up, eggs were still pouring out of her. I looked upstream about 10 yards, and I saw at least three other salmon swimming around looking for a mate. They were trying fulfill their destiny before dying on the banks of the Lower Rouge River.

As chance would have it, Frank Walker pulled up after having done some steelhead fishing in the Huron River in Flat Rock. Walker is a longtime Wayne-Westland teacher, who has brought students down to the Rouge River to conduct water quality tests for years. Now a

Plymouth resident, Walker grew up along the banks of the Lower Rouge in Wayne and knows it well. He has been documenting the annual salmon run for about a decade.

As we examined the dead salmon, he noticed that it didn't have a clipped fin, meaning it was a naturally reproduced fish and not the product of a DNR fish hatchery. He's convinced these fish have been successfully reproducing in the Rouge. You read that right — the Rouge River.

It kind of contradicts the old image of the Rouge, doesn't it.

The Rouge watershed, probably the state's most urban watershed, is also home to trout. The DNR has been planting brown trout in Johnson Creek, a cold-running tributary stream in western Wayne County and part of Washtenaw County, for a number of years. There are also rainbow trout thriving in the Lower Rouge River in Canton Township. A few of the small headwater streams also contain trout.

While many people had written the Rouge off as a dead river a long time ago, there has been an army of volunteers, spearheaded by Friends of the Rouge, who were not ready to write its obituary. Thanks to U.S. District Court Judge John Feikens, who has forced local governments to uphold the Clean Water Act, these volunteers have been buoyed by a commitment from local, county and state government to change the Rouge's fortunes.

In the last two decades, millions of dollars have been invested in restoration projects. As a result, monitoring has continued to show improved water quality and overall ecosystem health. Dissolved oxygen levels are higher at most monitoring stations compared to five years ago. Bacteria counts are declining. There have been numerous habi-

tat restoration and streambank stabilization projects conducted throughout the watershed. The presence of trout and salmon is proof that these efforts are starting to pay off.

As the river improves, some people are trying to promote the river's recreational possibilities, including fishing and canoeing.

Friends of the Rouge recently led a group of about two dozen people on a canoe/kayak adventure along the Lower Rouge through Wayne and Westland under a canopy of beautiful fall colors. (If you want to watch a short video of the trip, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLtSFLcZeqQ on the Web.)

One of the people on that trip was Northville author Doc Fletcher, who penned the book *Weekend Canoeing in Michigan: The Rivers, The Towns, The*

Taverns. He was impressed with the trip. He is doing a followup book about canoeing less-known Michigan rivers and is including a chapter about the Rouge River. A generation ago, that would have been unimaginable.

There is still a lot to do to restore the Rouge River, beginning with not destroying important headwater areas and wetlands in the upper reaches of the watershed. But the fact is our efforts are starting to pay off. Saving this river isn't as far-fetched a notion as it might have seemed years ago, when the river was on the brink of death.

This is what I and many others think about when the Rouge River is the topic of conversation.

Kurt Kuban is community editor for the Canton Observer. He welcomes feedback at kkuban@hometownlife.com or (734) 953-2164.

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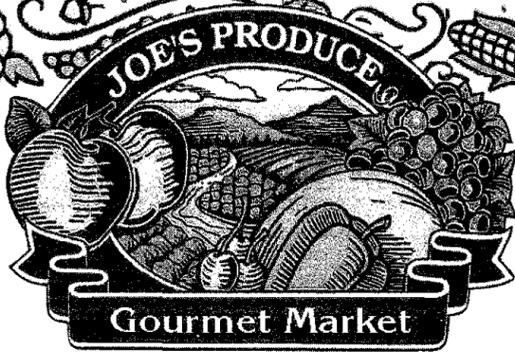
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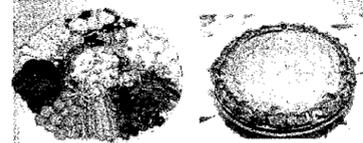
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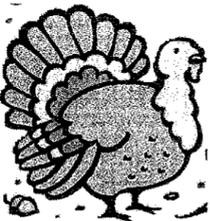
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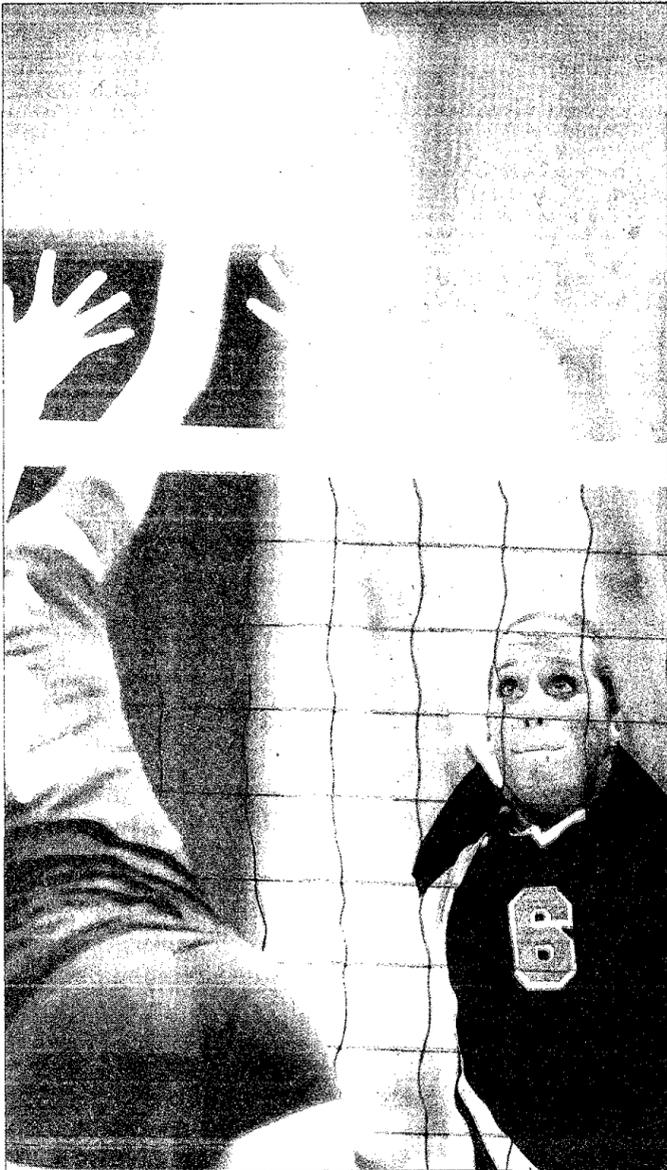
Brad Emons, editor . (734) 953-2123 . bemons@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia Churchill players (from left) Cierra Yetts, Jessica Stroud and Katie Matz can't hide their disappointment after losing in four sets to Jenison in the Class A state semifinals at Battle Creek's Kellogg Center.



Livonia Churchill's Kristen Nalez looks to block a spike attempt by Jenison's Elizabeth Vaughan during Friday night's Class A state semifinal match at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

Sidelines

MU hitting camp

The Madonna University women's softball program will stage two sessions of hitting camps from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 20 (I) and Sunday, Dec. 21 (II).

The cost for each session is \$30. For more information, or to register, call MU coach Al White at (734) 432-5783; or visit www.madonnacrusaders.com.

Meet C'ville teams

The Livonia Clarenceville High athletic department will stage its Meet the Team Night for all winter sports athletics, parents and coaches from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 25, in the school cafeteria.

Topics include: athletic and academic eligibility, sportsmanship, season schedule, team rules and consequences, team policies and banquet information. Breakout sessions with each individual coach will end the evening.

For more information, call e-mail Clarenceville athletic director Kevin Murphy at kmurphy@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.

WYAA basketball

Basketball registration for the Westland Youth Athletic Association will be from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. until noon Saturdays at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

Age groups offered include: Right Start (7-8), Freshman (9-10), Junior Varsity (11-12), Varsity (13-14-15) and Senior (16-19).

JV- and Varsity-age players involved in middle school basketball will be eligible for WYAA play once their seasons conclude.

For more information, call the WYAA building at (734) 421-0640.

Can't dig out

No. 1 Jenison ends Churchill's run

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It had been exactly 54 days — Sept. 27 at the Temperance Bedford Tournament — since Livonia Churchill's volleyball team had tasted defeat.

Defending state Class A champion and No. 1-ranked Jenison spoiled the Chargers' quest for their third Class A volleyball state title in school history with a 25-17, 21-25, 25-12, 25-22 victory Friday night at Battle Creek's Kellogg Center.

The Wildcats, 64-6 overall, moved into Saturday's championship with a rematch against Bloomfield Hills Marian (65-8-1).

Churchill, trying to duplicate its 2006 (winter season) state championship run

bowed out at 49-4 overall.

Senior outside Megan Hendrickson, bound for Duke, collected the game-winning kill, one of her 20 on the night, after Churchill had rallied and closed the deficit to two, 24-22.

Jessica Maier and Elizabeth Vaughan added 12 and 10 kills, while setter Leah Poel finished with a game-high 43 assist-to-kills for the Wildcats.

Senior outside hitter Kristen Nalez recorded a team-high 16 kills for the Chargers. Junior middle hitter Cierra Yetts added nine, including five in the second set to go along with two blocks, in sparking Churchill's only set win in the second.

Please see **CHURCHILL, B3**

Ultimate Warriors: Pellston falls in semifinals

Refenes leads 3-0 sweep

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Up-and-over by Lutheran High Westland's Bocca Refenes equated to over-and-out for Pellston's season.

The above-the-net power displayed by Refenes turned out to be a key ingredient in the Warriors' 3-0 sweep of

For results of the championship match between Lutheran Westland and Battle Creek St. Philip, visit www.hometownlife.com.

Pellston in a Class D volleyball semifinal at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

Lutheran Westland (46-5-5) rolled to 25-15, 25-15, 25-10 wins in a match rarely in doubt and advanced to Saturday's Class D final against Battle Creek St. Philip (60-7-5).

Time and time again, especially when the Warriors needed to stop any rare Pellston momentum, it was Refenes getting up and hammering the ball into gaps in the Hornets' end.

Most of those hits were perfectly teed up by senior setter Lauren Gieschen (34 assists). "I just did my part. That's



Lutheran Westland's Emilie Freeman tips a shot over the net.

what a team is, everyone does their part and we played really well," Refenes said later, downplaying her contribution.

But Lutheran Westland head coach Kevin Wade stressed that the Hornets "had no answer for her (Refenes) up front."

ROOM TO HIT

Other Warriors also had free reign to pick their spots. "They really didn't block



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Lutheran Westland volleyball team begins celebrating after getting the final point to defeat Pellston during Friday afternoon's state semifinals match at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

us much, even all our other hitters," Wade said. "Katey (Ramthun) had some nice hits, Rachel (Storck), Emilie Freeman, Allyson Yankee. They hit the ball and they weren't blocking it, so we said swing

away."

Storck and Yankee chipped in with eight and five kills, respectively. Ramthun tallied six kills and nine digs, while Freeman helped out with several timely blocks.

Strong serving also had a lot to do with how quickly and decisively the Warriors put away Pellston.

In Game 1, junior defensive

Please see **WARRIORS, B3**




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Stevenson icers open year with 6-2 triumph

Livonia Stevenson launched its 2008-09 boys hockey season Friday with a 6-2 victory over Lake Orion in the Metro Invitational Showcase at the Novi Ice Arena.

The Spartans, who out-shot the Dragons 33-12, got a goal and two assists from Trevor Baruzzini.

John Vella (power play), R.J. Kierdorf, Mark Villaire and Cole Rochowiak each added a goal and assist for the victorious Spartans, who led 1-0 after one period and 3-1 after two periods.

Evan Malick tallied Stevenson's other goal, while teammates Justin Shureb and Jake Hermann contributed two assists apiece.

"It was a nice way to start the season against a quality opponent," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said.

Dan Sager was in goal for the Spartans, who played Grand Rapids Catholic Central on Saturday (results will appear on www.hometownlife.com).

Adam Chappie tallied both Lake Orion goals.

MU women upset Indiana Wesleyan

Behind 15-point efforts from three Crusaders, including a double-double of 15 points and 10 rebounds from senior Alyssa Guerin, the Madonna University women's basketball team upset No. 8-ranked Indiana Wesleyan, 76-66, Friday night as part of the 2008 WHAC-MCC Challenge.

Guerin, Christie Carrico and Tabatha Wydryck each scored 15 as MU improved to 2-6 overall.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Carrico just missed joining Guerin in the double-double club with nine rebounds.

MU, which trailed 36-33 at intermission, shot 26-of-50 from the floor (52 percent) and outrebounded the Wildcats, 39-25. The Crusaders only committed 12 turnovers.

Indiana Wesleyan's Elaine Hessel led all scorers with

22 points, while teammate Andrea Fichter added 10.

The road does not get any easier for MU as the Crusaders make the short trip down Interstate 94 on Saturday to take on NCAA Division I foe Eastern Michigan University. The Crusaders and Eagles will tip off at 2 p.m. inside the Convocation Center.

Ocelot men stop Owens

Ryan Matthews scored 13

points to pace a balanced scoring attack as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team evened its record at 3-3 with a 65-61 non-conference homecourt triumph Wednesday over Owens Community College (Ohio).

Martez Abney (Wayne Memorial), Trivoris Freeman and Bruce Watson contributed 12 points apiece for the Ocelots.

The loss drops Owens to 3-4 overall.

S'craft men's soccer eliminated in NCJAAs

Things didn't go quite according to plan for the Schoolcraft College men's soccer team at the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Tournament held in Phoenix, Ariz.

On Thursday, top-ranked Yavapai (Ariz.) Community College improved to 24-0 overall with a 3-1 victory over the eighth-seeded Ocelots. Schoolcraft was then

eliminated Friday by Georgia Perimeter in consolation match Friday at Paradise Valley CC, 2-0, as sophomore striker Mike Mercerod (53rd minute) and freshman Emmanuel Barriyiga (87th minute) tallied goals to end Schoolcraft's season at 18-3-4 overall.

Georgia Perimeter, which improved to 17-4-1 overall, outshot the Ocelots, 9-3. In the match against No.

1-seed Yavapai, Roughriders freshman defender Fabrice Kalala scored just two minutes into the match before Schoolcraft's Josh Swiastyn (Grand Blanc) tied it in the 21st minute.

Yavapai sophomore attacker Justin Meram then scored what proved to be the game-winner in the 42nd minute off an assist from Pavel Panchenko.

Freshman attacker Gabriel

Okito added an insurance goal in the 57th minute to give the Roughriders a two-goal cushion and the win.

Yavapai outshot Schoolcraft 13-9.

The Ocelots' Chris Riley (Waterford Kettering) was given a red card and sat out Friday's match.

Top seeds Yavapai (25-0) and San Jacinto CC of Texas (18-1-2) were scheduled to play Sunday for the national championship.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Nov. 26
(at Livonia's Edgar Arena)
Churchill vs. Stevenson, 6 p.m.
Franklin vs. Novi, 8 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Monday, Nov. 24
Lansing CC at Schoolcraft, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 25
Madonna at Rochester College, 7:30 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Sunday, Nov. 22

Madonna at Eastern Michigan, 2 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 25
Wayne State at Madonna, 7 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 28
(Kalamazoo Valley Turkey Trot Shootout)
Schoolcraft vs. Owens CC (Ohio), 3 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 29
(Kalamazoo Valley Turkey Trot Shootout)
Schoolcraft vs. Kennedy-King (Ill.), 4 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 30
(Kalamazoo Valley Turkey Trot Shootout)
Schoolcraft vs. Columbus St. (Ohio), noon.

Lady Ocelots drop two in national tournament

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Ocelots opened the scoring at the 9-minute mark on a goal by Clare Baptist (Plymouth), but the Coyotes scored a pair of goals before the half ended and held on for the win.

Angie Grode made it 1-all

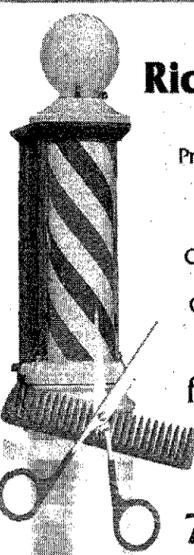
just a minute later off an assist from Kayla Poe, who then scored the game-winner in the 33rd minute off an assist from Megan Larsen.

On Friday, Katie Oliver scored on a breakaway from Caitlin Gunzelman as Anne Arundel CC (Md.) eliminated the Lady Ocelots, 1-0.

Schoolcraft lost despite out-

shooting the Pioneers, 13-4. The Lady Ocelots end their season 10-4-3 overall, while Anne Arundel improved to 11-8-2.

Top-seed Darton (Ga.) College, 23-0-1 overall, was scheduled to meet third-seeded Lewis & Clark (Ill.), 25-1 overall, in Sunday's championship final.



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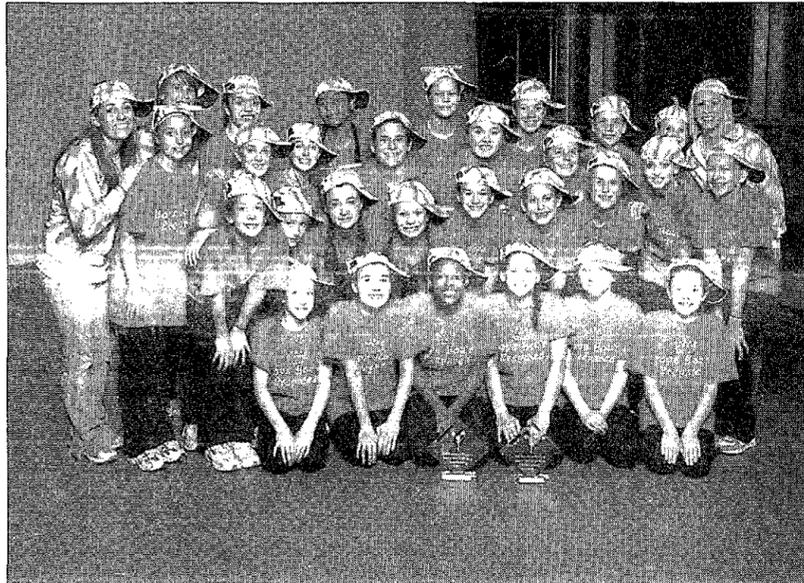
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The Schoolcraft College women's soccer team came away parched in its trip to the desert in quest of an NJCAA Division 1 national title.

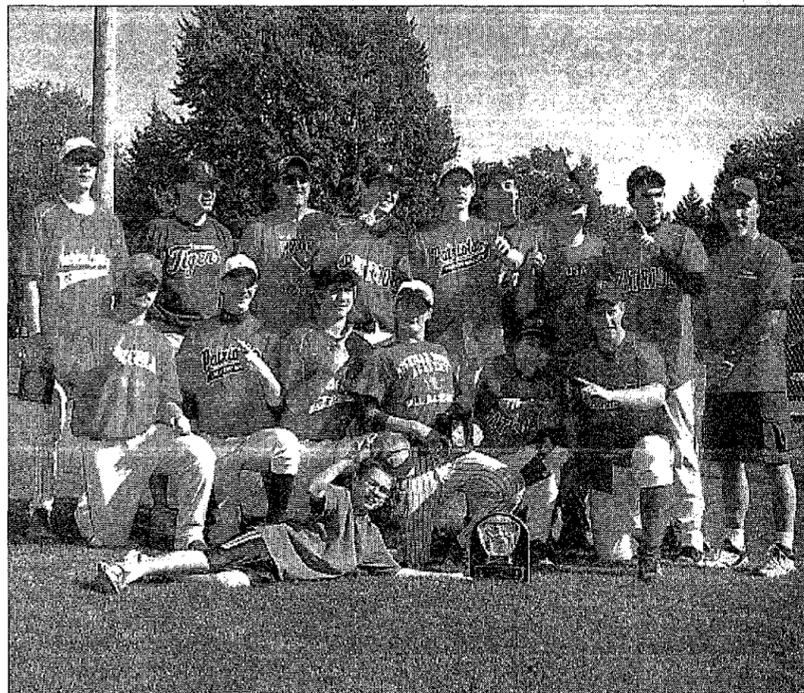
In a battle of fourth and fifth seeds Thursday, host Chandler-Gilbert CC (Ariz.) improved to 20-1-1 overall by edging Schoolcraft, 2-1. The fifth-seeded Lady

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Livonia Pom first

The Livonia Middle School pom team, comprised of girls in grades 6-8 from all three upper elementary and three middle schools in Livonia, took home a pair of first-place trophies at the Mid-American Pom High Kick and Dance competition held Nov. 2 at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center. They placed first in Hip Hop competition where 13 girls performed to a mix titled, 'The Wheels on the Bus,' along with a first in Hick Kick where all 27 performed to a routine to the theme from 'Fresh Prince of Bel Air.' Team members include: Jennifer Alberts, Kari Barden, Jamie Brda, Lindsay Carpenter, Maria Castrodale, Kate Clark, Jessyca DeCotto, McKenzie Douglas, Sam Earhart, Madison Fret, Michaela Harter, captain Ajhia Jackson, Alex Kaipio, Maria Leopardi, co-captain Megan Mila, Kelsey Mills, captain Shelby Miscavage, Alesha Mytych, Ashley Niesyto, captain Tina Olter, Madison Pettit, Gabby Portis, Brianna Stancer, Shelby Stec, co-captain Heather Swirles, Heather Vallance and co-captain Becca Yaremyn. Coaches include Andrea Shook, Emily D'Annunzio and Ashley Thomas.

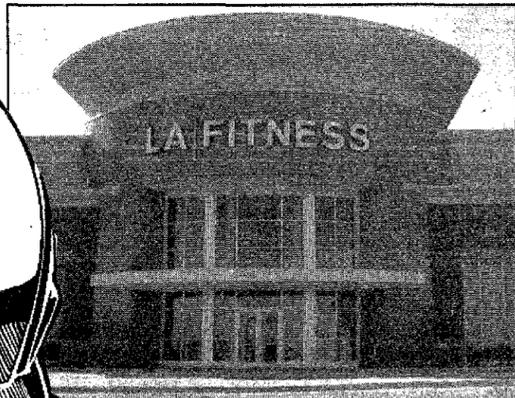
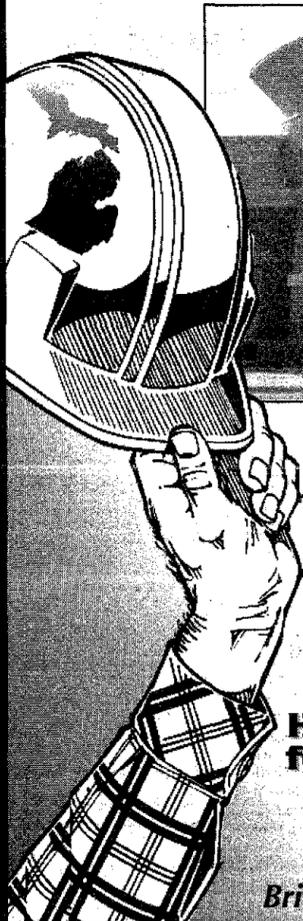


Fall baseball champs

The 16-and-under Livonia Baseball Club recently captured the Total Baseball Fall League with a 3-2 victory over the Lumber Kings. The team is made up of JV and varsity players from Livonia Franklin, Livonia Churchill, Wayne Memorial and Walled Lake high schools. Team members include: Jack Chinavare, Will Kramer, Ben Matigian, Nick Hopson, Steve Hovermale, Shane Wilson, Kevin Bryan, Christian Leathley, Anthony Crechiolo, Dane Saylor, Shane Kommer, Dave Kramer, Nick Schilling, Tom Percin and Joe Williams. Coaches include Jim Hopson, Jeff Matigian, Joe Wilson and Tom Chinavare. The bat boy is Jay Hopson.

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Livonia Churchill coach Mark Grenier talks to his team during a timeout during Friday's Class A state semifinal match against Jenison at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.

CHURCHILL

FROM PAGE B1

Churchill's downfall in the match was 39 attacking and 11 service errors.

"I couldn't ask for anything more," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said. "We had our chances, but we made too many unforced errors. The kids played hard, but we got caught with too many (errors) and you can't do that against a good Jenison team."

Taylor Root, bound for Valparaiso University, finished with 21 digs, while Poel added 17.

The 6-foot Hendrickson also contributed 11 digs and kept Churchill's defense off-balance with a variety of attacks from all angles of the court.

"She (Hendrickson) changed things up a couple of times and went in the opposite direction," Grenier said. "There's a reason why she was runner-up for Miss Volleyball. And their libero (Taylor Root) — we couldn't get the ball around her. They played great defense and they did a good job."

Churchill senior Lindsey Graciak played an outstanding match with a game-high 22 digs. Teammate Taylor Kerr added 10. Setter Kristy DeClercq finished with 19 assists.

"They (Jenison) moved really well and they picked up all our attacks," Graciak said. "They're a good team with a lot of experience. Some key plays took us down, but we were able

to leave here saying we put our all into it. That's what makes it so hard."

Graciak was one of four players who played reserve roles on Churchill's 2006 state championship squad.

"We had that little feeling from before, that fire, that's why we really wanted it," she said. "I'm so proud of everything we did. We played our hearts out and just lost to one of the best teams."

Jenison lost the second set, but romped in the third. The Wildcats then built leads of 23-19 and 24-20 in the fourth before Churchill rallied. That forced Jenison coach Alana Kooi to call a last-ditch timeout.

"I was getting a little nervous, but we knew it would be a struggle," Kooi said. "They run a high offense and it slows things down. It makes it difficult to play them. They play a very different game than East Kentwood, which likes to spread the floor, play fast and use a lot of different combinations. We tried to speed things

up as much as we could. We wanted to control the tempo."

Following the timeout, Hendrickson came through with a thunderous shot to the middle of the floor for match point.

"Volleyball is a momentum game and at this level no team is better than the other," Kooi said. "She (Hendrickson) did a great job of coming through. She rose to the occasion. She's a great leader on the court. That's why she's a premier player."

Churchill, meanwhile, will lose seven seniors to graduation, including Nalecz, Graciak, DeClercq, Kat Krupsky, Jessica Stroud, Rachel Elery and Katie Matz.

"I told them (afterward) that I was proud of what they accomplished and that there's a bigger picture than this game," Grenier said. "It was a good experience and a good year. We showed a lot of heart and determination. It was an honor to be here."

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WARRIORS

FROM PAGE B1

specialist Nicole Zehel's four-point service run (featuring a patented Refenes spike) put Lutheran Westland up 5-1 and turned out to be a sign of things to come.

That game was effectively over after senior libero Abi Gieschen's strung together four more points to make it 14-7.

Pellston never led in the middle game, with another round of laser serves by Abi Gieschen (including two aces) putting the Warriors up 16-7.

"I kind of try not to think about it," Gieschen said about her serving. "I just take a deep breath and try to get it in the court, hit high (over the net)."

The Warriors and Hornets traded sideouts in the early going of Game 3 before Yankee's five-point service run got the ball rolling toward a clinching victory.

Yankee also served up six points later in the game (with two more Refenes kills) as the Warriors went up 20-8.

Finishing off the Hornets with three service points was Lauren Gieschen.

Wade said jumping out to a lead in every game, and not letting Pellston back into it, turned out to be essential.

"When you can build a lead and make a run, you've just got more confidence, you don't have to press," he said. "And so we got the lead, it seemed like every game was a carbon copy."

The only Hornets to challenge the Warriors at all were junior outside hitter Katie Dzedzie (nine kills, four digs), junior setter Rachel Hutto (21 assists, six digs) and heavy-hitting senior outside hitter Nicole Madigan (two kills, four digs).

NO WORRIES

Meanwhile, with one end zone jammed with enthusiastic Warriors fans dressed in white, Lutheran Westland showed little signs of nervousness under the Kellogg spotlight.

"You thrive off that," Wade said. "They're rooting for you, cheering for you and you're making good plays."

"It just gets you up even

more knowing you have people supporting you."

According to Refenes, who led the way with 17 kills and 11 digs, being on the big stage was quite a thrill.

"I was pretty excited going into it, and then we got on and it was super fun," Refenes said. "I haven't done anything that fun in a while."

Ramthun (six kills, nine digs) noted that the Warriors "were really excited going into it, and really pumped for it. We started strong right away."

Abi Gieschen (six digs) added that being at Kellogg was "really exciting, we've never been here before. It's our senior year, so it's a good way to end it."

Wade said the team's poise Friday can't hurt it in the championship match. But it will still come down to making the plays.

"We played well, we got a chance to play on Saturday and that's all we can ask for," he continued. "Whatever happens, win or lose, we're champions no matter what."

"We're happy to be here and we'll give it our best shot."



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran High Westland coach Kevin Wade, who celebrated his 29th birthday Friday, barks out instructions to his team during the Class D state semifinal against Pellston at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.

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Req's 2 years relevant exp. or any equally suitable comb of educ. training or exp. to qualify applicant to perform job duties. Send resume to: Manikrupa, Inc. d/b/a Dunkin' Donuts, 34417 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185. EOE.</p>	<p>Shipping/Receiving Material Handler AW Transmission Engineering (AWTEC), located in PLYMOUTH, is an award winning industry leader in remanufacturing of automotive transmissions, with a commitment to quality and equipment standards that is unsurpassed in the automotive industry.</p> <p>AWTEC is looking for an individual who holds a Chauffeur's License and a Hi-Lo Certification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10.50/hr + shift premium Planned work hours are 7:00AM- 3:30PM Raise after 90 days Quarterly & Year end bonuses 100% company paid health/dental/optical sick pay Tuition reimbursement 401k with company match <p>AWTEC-HR 14920 Keele St. Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: 734-454-1091 Email: jphipot@awtec.com EOE</p> <p>Snow Removal Oakland Co. Truck drivers. Loader operator and sidewalk people needed. MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE. Reliable and available 24 hrs/day. Top pay. Call 248-543-8110</p> <p>Staffing Tree LLC, in Sylvan Lake, requires a Software Support Specialist for writing JavaScript, VB Scripts, PHP Scripts for web applications, web forms, remote drive connectivity, auto back up & security. Update patches & firewall. Install & maintain SAP, Oracle ERP & BES Server. Email resumes to elizabeth@staffing-tree.com.</p>	<p>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Full-Time for West Bloomfield CPA firm. Must have computer & office experience, some bookkeeping experience helpful. Mail or fax resume to: Klein & Hillson, PLC 7031 Orchard Lk. Rd. #206 West Bloomfield, MI 48322 Fax: 248-865-7563 kleinandhillson@ameritech.net</p> <p>OFFICE ASSISTANT, PT 25 hrs per week. Wage dependant on experience. Must be proficient in verbal, computer, word processing and letter writing skills. Some bookkeeping helpful. Send cover letter & resume Attention: Board of Directors: farmingtonvillage@aol.com Or fax to: (248) 476-8241 EOE</p> <p>Receptionist/Secretary 6 1/2 hrs/day. Exc. computer/typing skills (65wpm). Practical knowledge of Microsoft Word/Excel. Familiar with general office equipment. New offices in Bingham Farms. Email resume to: E.Nick@enercomenergy.com</p> <p>SECRETARY For outpatient counseling clinic in Canton. Part-Time, 25 hrs/wk can be flexible. Medical office and data entry exp. helpful. Email resume: acshrdpt@yahoo.com</p>	<p>ASSISTANT OFFICE MANAGER Full-Time for family practice physicians office in Westland. Must have knowledge of medical insurance billing, billing procedures & coding. Must have exc. communication & computer skills. Send resume to Attn: Bruce, 42010 Baintree Circle, Northville, MI 48617</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT Full-Time for busy internal medical office in Troy. Must have 1-2 yrs. exp. and be proficient in EKG, injection, and phlebotomy. Fax resume to Kim: 248-267-8791</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT FULL-TIME. Send resume to: 43422 West Oaks Drive, PMB #167, Novi, MI 48377-3300</p> <p>Medical Assistant Medical office seeks experienced Receptionist. Must have strong computer & medical insurance knowledge. Full Time with exc. pay & benefits. Plymouth/Ann Arbor area. Fax resume to: 734-956-8767 or Email: a2derm@aol.com</p> <p>Medical Assistant Part Time, Experienced Tuesday & Thursday all day, Saturday a.m. only. Busy dermatology office Farmington Hills area. Fax Resume to 248-477-3328</p>	<p>Bar tenders & Waitstaff Bikin's during the day. Good attitude. Apply in person only, anytime day & evening Wayne Rd. Pub., 1870 S. Wayne Rd., Westland (corner of Wayne & Palmer)</p> <p>BIKINI WAITSTAFF & BARTENDERS FT/PT, days & nights. Apply in person before 6pm: Plymouth Road House, 34101 Plymouth Rd. (734) 421-7744</p> <p>Help Wanted-Sales 5120</p> <p>INSURANCE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE/SALES w/P&C or Life/Health License. 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<p>ACCOUNTING Full-Time position in Livonia. Various accounting responsibilities include daily invoicing and cash applications, investigating customer inquiries, updating general ledger, preparing accounting statements and reports, and completing accounts payable and receivable tasks. Pay commensurate with education and experience. Full benefits. Food industry helpful, some college strongly preferred.</p> <p>Awrey Bakeries is an Equal Opportunity Employer Email resume including salary requirements to: personnel@awrey.com No Phone Calls Please.</p>	<p>APPOINTMENT SETTER Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pickups for Purple Heart. Call 9-5, M-F. 734-728-4572</p> <p>Bookkeeper Homebuilder seeks exp part-time bookkeeper. Responsible for financial stmts, budgets, forecasts, cash flow mgmt, A/P, payroll, tax reports & returns. Please send resumes to P.O. Box 1444 Novi, MI 48376 inc. Min. hourly wage requirement. Email resume: jsilva@neaprodvlines.com</p> <p>BUYER - SENIOR BUYER Tier 1 automotive driveline supplier. Ideal candidate will have 5-7 yrs. of procurement exp. with a Tier 1 Automotive or OEM. (preferably in driveline or chassis). Salary commensurate with exp. Email resume: jsilva@neaprodvlines.com</p>	<p>DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT Do special work. Assist persons we serve in their home and community. \$8.30 per hr plus good benefits. Call: 248-960-9557, 248-437-7535 248-946-4425</p> <p>"It's All About Results" Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL</p> <p>DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT Enjoy helping others. Assist persons we serve with daily living. \$8.50 + good benefits. S. Lyon area: 248-573-5023 Ann Arbor: 734-239-9015</p> <p>DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT Join the team. Assist persons we serve in residential settings. \$7.65 total plus good benefits. Livonia: 734-489-4523 734-489-4519, 248-474-0283</p> <p>DIRECT CARE STAFF To work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland area. Call Mon-Fri. 734-595-3253</p> <p>Do you have a positive attitude? Then we want you! We are seeking 43 ambitious energetic men and women to start immediately. \$1,600/mo 734-425-7180</p>	<p>INTERNET MARKETER 3 yrs. Pay Per Click exp. Fax resume to Lover's Lane, Plymouth (734) 414-0020</p> <p>MACHINIST To operate CNC Mill & Lathe. Union shop. Apply at: 8001 Ronda Dr., Canton MI 48187</p> <p>MAINTENANCE PERSON Detroit/Redford Apartment Community. Minor plumbing/electrical, general maintenance. Self motivated, requires on-call duties. Pay based on experience. Fax resume to: 248-649-0075</p>	<p>MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN Plating Company needs a Maintenance Technician. Must have plumbing & electrical knowledge. Competitive wage, benefits, retirement. Fax resume: 313-341-0315</p> <p>Manager Apartment Manager Career minded individual needed to manage a mid-size apt. community in Westland. Competitive salary/benefits. Fax resume: 734-261-4811</p> <p>Find the best garage sales in O&E Classifieds!</p>	<p>WELDER/FITTER Structural Steel for industrial door manufacturer for union shop. Must read & interpret drawings. Minimum 3 yrs. exp. Apply at: 8001 Ronda Dr. Canton MI 48187</p> <p>Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020</p> <p>ACCOUNTING CLERK Part-Time. A/P, A/R, payroll. Proficient in QuickBooks & Microsoft Office. Resume to: System Services, Inc. 248-476-1313 Canton, MI 48075</p>	<p>DENTAL ASSISTANT Exp'd. Westland office. Part-Time or Full-Time. Fax resume: 734-425-7875</p> <p>hometownlife.com</p> <p>DENTAL ASSISTANT Experienced. Mon. & Thur. Plymouth area. Please Call: 734-459-7110</p> <p>DENTAL ASSISTANT For friendly patient oriented family practice in Walled Lake/Novi area. 24-35 hrs. Experience required. Email or fax resume to: igotblues@aol.com Fax: 248-669-2176</p>	<p>DENTAL ASSISTANT For friendly patient oriented family practice in Walled Lake/Novi area. 24-35 hrs. Experience required. Email or fax resume to: igotblues@aol.com Fax: 248-669-2176</p> <p>Dental Hygienist Farmington Hills. Monday evenings & Saturday mornings. Fax resume to 248-487-4015</p> <p>DENTAL TECHNICIAN Small crown & bridge dental office in Farmington Hills looking for technician for piece work. FT. Call Anne 734-425-7533</p>	<p>Medical Assistant Position available for experienced MA in fast paced family practice. References required. Fax resume to: 248-474-4224</p> <p>MEDICAL BILLER For sub specialty practice in Troy. Missy background preferred. Must have working knowledge of insurance requirements for coding through status review. Full time, excellent working conditions and benefits. Competitive salary. Fax resume to: 248-435-7365</p> <p>MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST/CASE MGR PT, Exp req'd. \$11/hr. Fax resume: (734) 421-9954</p> <p>OPTOMETRIC ASSISTANT Part-Time, for private office. Exp. preferred. Please fax resume: (248) 427-9610</p> <p>RNs, LPNs, PT & MSW Needed for home visits. PT & FT w/benefits. Call: 248-968-9714 or fax resume: 248-968-9715</p>
<p>APPOINTMENT SETTER Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pickups for Purple Heart. Call 9-5, M-F. 734-728-4572</p>	<p>Bookkeeper Homebuilder seeks exp part-time bookkeeper. Responsible for financial stmts, budgets, forecasts, cash flow mgmt, A/P, payroll, tax reports & returns. Please send resumes to P.O. Box 1444 Novi, MI 48376 inc. Min. hourly wage requirement. Email resume: jsilva@neaprodvlines.com</p>	<p>EDITOR Immediate PT position to become Full-Time 2-1-09. Tech. soc in Farmington Hills seeks PT Editor who is highly organized and motivated with expertise in proofreading, copy editing and desktop publishing. Proficient in WordPerfect, MS Word, FrameMaker, InDesign & Photoshop. Prepress and digital color correction exp. a plus. 4 yr degree, 2 yrs pertinent exp., exc. editorial/ language skills. Resume and salary req: Director, H.R. - PT P.O. Box 9094 Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9094 FAX: 248-948-3771 Barb.cheyne@concrete.org</p> <p>ELECTRICIAN-Licensed Industrial door manufacturer. 2 yrs. industrial electrical exp. to repair & troubleshoot doors/control panels. Serious inquiries only. Apply at: 8001 Ronda Dr., Canton MI 48187</p>	<p>MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN Plating Company needs a Maintenance Technician. Must have plumbing & electrical knowledge. Competitive wage, benefits, retirement. Fax resume: 313-341-0315</p>	<p>WELDER/FITTER Structural Steel for industrial door manufacturer for union shop. Must read & interpret drawings. Minimum 3 yrs. exp. Apply at: 8001 Ronda Dr. Canton MI 48187</p>	<p>ACCOUNTING CLERK Part-Time. A/P, A/R, payroll. Proficient in QuickBooks & Microsoft Office. Resume to: System Services, Inc. 248-476-1313 Canton, MI 48075</p>	<p>DENTAL ASSISTANT Exp'd. Westland office. Part-Time or Full-Time. Fax resume: 734-425-7875</p>	<p>DENTAL ASSISTANT Experienced. Mon. & Thur. Plymouth area. Please Call: 734-459-7110</p>	<p>Medical Assistant Position available for experienced MA in fast paced family practice. References required. Fax resume to: 248-474-4224</p>
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FIRST TEAM

ELMAR ENGHOLM, JR., PLYMOUTH: The foreign-exchange student from Sweden left a lasting mark on the Wildcats' program as he became the No. 1 runner in the school's history, setting a mark of 15:48. He won the Holly Invitational, the KLAA conference meet, the KLAA South Division meet and the Ypsilanti Early Bird meet. To add icing to the cake, he placed second at the Division 1 Regional and earned All-State status by placing 23rd at the state meet.

"Elmar, who's just 16 years old, would have had a good chance of being in the top five in the state next year if he didn't have to go back to Sweden at the end of the school year," Plymouth coach Jon Mikosz said.

DUNCAN SPITZ, SR., CANTON: Spitz had a spectacular senior season, placing second at the KLAA South Division meet, third at the KLAA conference meet and eighth at the Division 1 Regional meet before turning in a 16:14 clocking at the state meet.

"Duncan is probably the greatest runner in school history," said Canton coach Bill Boyd. "Duncan was a four-year letterman who was named first team all area three times. He has broken the school record three times and has run three of the school's four fastest times ever at the state meet."

MATT DEVEY, SR., SALEM: The four-year varsity performer was the Rocks' No. 1 runner throughout most of the fall, placing 11th at the KLAA Central Division race, sixth at the KLAA conference meet, 10th at the D1 Regional and 59th in the state meet.

"Matt is a four-year runner who showed tremendous improvement over his junior and senior seasons," said Salem coach Geoff Baker. "His personal best of 16:20 came at the state meet where he executed the race plan to perfection. Matt is the perfect example of what can happen with hard work and dedication — he was not a varsity runner until half-way through his junior season,

2008 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS CROSS COUNTRY FIRST TEAM
 Elmar Engholm, Jr., Plymouth
 Duncan Spitz, Sr., Canton
 Matt Devey, Sr., Salem
 Spencer Lyle, Sr., Luth. Westland
 Warren Buzzard, Jr., Plymouth
 Kyle Clinton, Sr., Canton
 Matt Neumann, Jr., Plymouth
 Derek Lax, Sr., Plymouth
 Miles Felton, Fr., Canton
 Mark Waterbury, Sr., Liv. Churchill
 Mike Charara, Jr., Salem

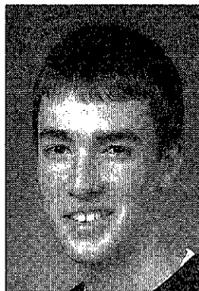
SECOND TEAM
 Joe Porcari, Soph., Plymouth
 Greg Reed, Sr., Canton
 Paul Rakovitis, Jr., Canton
 Mitch Clinton, Fr., Canton
 Jason Smith, Sr., Salem
 Zach Spreitzer, Jr., Canton
 Matt Macek, Sr., Redford Union
 Tim Boes, Sr., Westland John Glenn
 Peter Walbray, Sr., Liv. Franklin
 Austin Jones, Soph., Liv. Franklin

COACH OF THE YEAR
 Jon Mikosz, Plymouth

HONORABLE MENTION
 Plymouth: Derek Gielarowski, Jimmy Eiben, Stephen Balazs; Canton: Steve Watts, Jon Peck, Josh Osinski, Mike Elmers; Salem: Alex Lang; Churchill: Matt Szado, Tom Winkle; Franklin: Nick Gherardini, Dylan Taylor, Paul Hanni, Jason Riffel, Bobby Wilson, Alex Curry; Stevens: Shawn Howse, Joe Urso; John Glenn: Jeff Adkins, Erick Mlynar; Redford Union: Justin Faur, Zac VandenToorn, Mike D'Arcangelo; Lutheran Westland: Theodis Washington, Alex Kemp; Wayne Memorial: Tyler Gendron; Garden City: Andrew Chambo.



Elmar Engholm
Plymouth



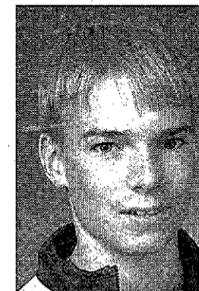
Duncan Spitz
Canton



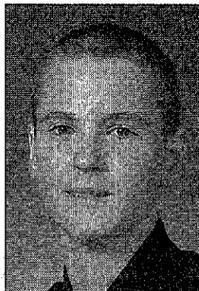
Spencer Lyle
Lutheran Westland



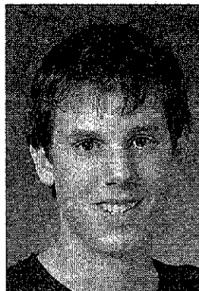
Warren Buzzard
Plymouth



Kyle Clinton
Canton



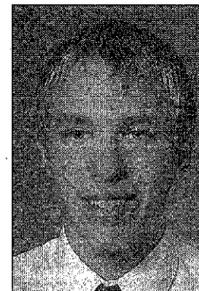
Matt Neumann
Plymouth



Derek Lax
Plymouth



Miles Felton
Canton



Mark Waterbury
Livonia Churchill



Jon Mikosz
Plymouth coach

but ended up his career as the thirteenth-fastest Rock in school history."

SPENCER LYLE, SR., LUTH. WESTLAND: The senior earned All-State honors in Division 4 with a 24th-place showing in 16:29. He is a four-time state qualifier.

Lyle was runner-up in regional at Lake Erie Metropark and took third in the Metro Conference meet.

He captured titles this season at the Shamrock and Falcon invitationals, as well as tri-meets at Newport Lutheran South and Dearborn Heights Annapolis. He was also runner-up at the New Boston Huron and Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard invitationals, as well as the Metro Conference jamborees.

"Spencer has been a great individual to coach the last four years," Lutheran Westland coach Jeremy Fabris said of the 12-time meet winner. "A big part of his success this year comes from his unwavering focus and commitment to hard work. He was a great example for our younger runners this year."

WARREN BUZZARD, JR., PLYMOUTH: The junior carried over the momentum he garnered from

last year's state-meet berth by turning in a spectacular season. He placed 11th at the KLAA conference meet, 19th at the Regional and 98th at the state meet. Buzzard ran a personal-best time of 16:36 at the state meet. He has a 4.0 grade-point average.

KYLE CLINTON, SR., CANTON: Clinton capped a sensational high school cross country career by placing third in the KLAA South Division meet, fifth at the KLAA conference meet and 13th at the D1 Regional before posting a time of 16:34 at the state meet. The captain was voted the Chiefs' MVP.

"Kyle is unquestionably one of the greatest runners in Canton history," said Boyd. "He received his letter all four years and his time of 16:33 at the 2007 state meet places him fifth on the team's top 10 board. As the team's captain, Kyle was instrumental in the team's 2008 division championship."

MATT NEUMANN, JR., PLYMOUTH: Neumann had a break-out season, dropping over 80 seconds from his previous personal-best time. He placed 13th at the Wayne County Championships, 16th at the conference meet, 25th at

the Regional race and 106th at the state meet, where he posted his PR of 16:37. Neumann has a 3.9 grade-point average.

"Matt was definitely one of the leaders of our team," said Mikosz.

DEREK LAX, SR., PLYMOUTH: The four-year varsity runner was a member of both Plymouth teams that placed 12th in the state meet in 2006 and 2008. Lax ran his personal best time of 16:31 this year at the D1 Regional meet. He is the fourth-fastest runner all-time at Plymouth and carries a 4.1 grade-point average.

MILES FELTON, FR. CANTON: The ninth-grader earned "Rookie of the Year" status for the Chiefs this fall after placing 17th in the KLAA meet and 14th at the Regional race. He posted a 16:54 at the state meet.

"Miles shattered the freshman school record by 27 seconds," said Boyd. "A hard worker and team leader, Miles set high goals for himself then worked hard to achieve them. He was the fastest freshman in the league and the fifth-fastest freshman at the D1 state meet."

MARK WATERBURY, SR., LIV. CHURCHILL: The senior is a three-time All-Observer selection who owns a personal best of 16:40.

Waterbury posted a season best of 16:44 en route to a 17th-place at the Division 1 regional. He also took 21st in the Kensington Conference and sixth in the KLAA South Division race.

Waterbury was also Livonia City champion and earned medallist the Michigan State, Monroe Jefferson and Wayne County invitationals.

"Mark is a fine student athlete and gentleman," Churchill coach John McGreevy said of the 2007 Academic All-Stater and 2008-09 MHSAA Scholar Athlete nominee. "He has very high expectations and goals. He is a very hard worker and a tremendous competitor. Mark always puts the team first and is like and respected by his teammates."

"Mark battled through some nagging injuries and saved his best performance for the regional. He has been a great role model for the young runners and will be sorely missed next year."

MIKE CHARARA, JR., SALEM:

Charara enjoyed a success-filled season, placing ninth at the Wayne County Championships, seventh at the KLAA Central Division meet and seventh at the KLAA conference meet. He is the 13th-fastest junior in Salem history.

"Mike is the type of person every coach wants and every good team has," said Baker. "He is a tremendous leader, a hard worker and he's extremely dedicated. We look for big things from him this coming track season and in the future."

COACH OF THE YEAR

JOHN MIKOSZ, PLYMOUTH: The first-year coach guided the Wildcats to their most successful season in school history. Under Mikosz's leadership, the Wildcats captured several invitational titles throughout the course of the fall before capping the campaign with a 12th-place showing at the Division 1 state meet. Mikosz was an assistant coach at Plymouth under Lee Shaw for several years before getting promoted to the head job when Shaw was hired as head coach at Marygrove College.

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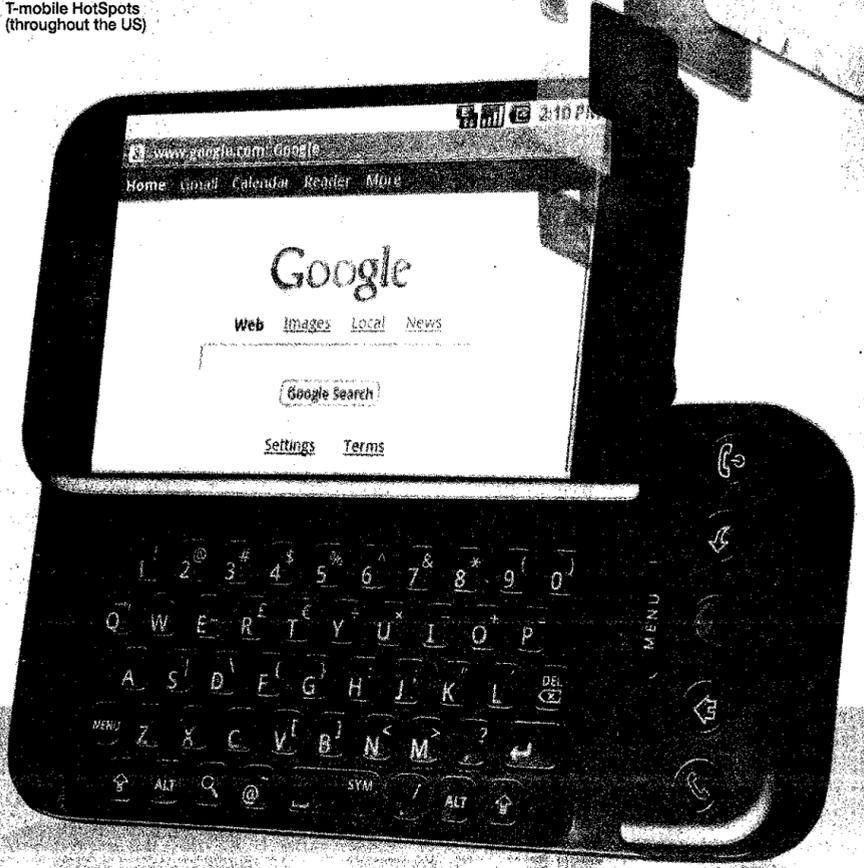
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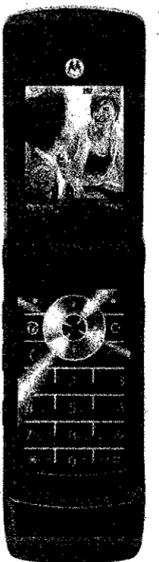
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Hugh Gallagher, editor . (734) 953-2149 . hgallagher@hometownlife.com

Vegetarian tasting a time for sharing

Thanksgiving is probably a lot of people's favorite holiday, but especially vegetarians who take pride in the fact that they're not only eating healthy but a turkey hasn't died for them. That's probably why there were a lot of happy diners at the Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza Sunday, Nov. 9, at Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist School in Plymouth.

While many Seventh-day Adventists opt not to eat meat it was apparent that hundreds of others are trying to eliminate flesh from their diet. Many had come with their families to sample the 57 holiday dishes plus desserts made by about 35 cooks. After picking up our trays and filling them with every-



Linda Chomin

thing from entrees to side dishes, my sister Gwen and I began rating the dishes listed in the program. One star meant it was good, two stars we'd probably make it, three we really liked it. All but a few were yummy or at the very least met with our approval. Although near the end we were so full it became harder and harder to tell how much we liked the appetizers, soups, salads and desserts. Still, sharing the information was fun. We even exchanged our findings with Amy and Diane, the sisters-in-law who sat next to us. They weren't total vegetarians but trying to cut down on the amount of meat they ate as part of their diet. The extravaganza allowed them to taste different vegan and vegetarian dishes before trying the recipes in the cookbook sold at the event.

Many had come with their families to sample the 57 holiday dishes plus desserts made by about 35 cooks. After picking up our trays and filling them with everything from entrees to side dishes, my sister Gwen and I began rating the dishes listed in the program.

Vegan dishes have no animal products as opposed to vegetarian which can contain milk, eggs and cheese.

The main courses ranged from a polenta and veggie sausage stuffing by Jeanie Weaver to holiday pecan loaf by her mother-in-law Natalie.

Jeanie Weaver was especially excited as she floated from table to table. The personal trainer founded the tasting extravaganza 21 years ago. She said switching to a plant-based diet is not as simple as not eating meat. Anyone considering the change should first educate themselves about a nutritious meatless diet. It wasn't easy to do when we stopped eating meat in the mid 1970s because PBB in feed left our neighbor's dairy cattle crippled. After watching him bury his entire herd, we gave up red meat then pork, poultry and fish. Today more and more studies show the less meat you eat the better. You don't have to become a vegetarian, but trying some of these dishes could be a pleasant surprise.

Back then there were only a few meatless cookbooks which made the switch difficult. Mostly we tried to substitute grains and beans for meat.

There was only one kind of tofu — the white brick. It was pretty tasteless because we didn't know how to season it or what to use it in. It wasn't until we discovered ethnic foods that we realized there are many cultures around the world who eat very little or no meat. Years later I'm still looking for vegetarian recipes and looking forward to the March 29, 2009 Better Health cooking seminar at the Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist School. To sign up, call (248) 349-5683.

For more about next year's Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza, call (248) 446-9176 or visit www.vegieholiday.com.

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2145 or lchomin@hometownlife.com.

Clowning



John Landis of Livonia proudly poses with his son Kris, a Farmington Hills police officer. John joined the Distinguished Clown Corps 20 years ago. Kris is celebrating his fifth year.

Community leaders put on grease paint for a family affair

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER



Victor, 28, (left) and Josh, 30, now join their father Syd Ross (center) of Bloomfield Hills in the Distinguished Clown Corps. They began coming to the parade 18 years ago when Ross first became a clown.

John Landis counts on remaining anonymous behind the grease paint when America's Thanksgiving Parade steps off at 9:20 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 27, in Detroit.

During the week he is managing director of The PrivateBank in Bloomfield Hills so it's important clients take him seriously. Thanksgiving Day is another story as the Livonia resident joins more than 100 community and business leaders in the Distinguished Clown Corps.

Without the clowns, The Parade Company might not be able to produce the event. Each pays \$1,000 for the privilege of marching down Woodward on the day meant for families.

"It's just really quite amazing that these business and community leaders come out year after year," said Joan LeMahieu, president of The Parade Company and a Bloomfield Hills resident. "Their involvement demonstrates their commitment to one of the community's treasures."

COSTUME MILESTONES

Landis will proudly don his 20-year costume for the 82nd annual parade. Every five years the clowns receive a new suit to designate their years of surviving all kinds of Michigan weather. Landis will wear a silver and black outfit, his cape and a special silver ruffle celebrating the corps 25th anniversary this year. His son Kris, a Farmington Hills police officer, received his five-year suit for 2008. Clowns look forward to this milestone as their first costume is a one piece which makes going to the bathroom a real challenge, said Landis.

"I got started because a friend, Linda Kuhn, asked me to be part of the parade," said Landis. "You have to be invited and sponsored. When I started to do this my family became involved. My son Kris was 5. My first year I didn't know anybody. While it was fun it wasn't that family atmosphere. Now you go down for the breakfast, get made up any way you want and get your picture taken with your family"

Please see **CLOWNS, C7**



Linda Orlans of Birmingham (center), her daughter Alison (right), 29, and Linda's best friend Rox Roselle march with the Distinguished Clown Corps on Thanksgiving Day in Detroit.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Linda Nimmerguth created this "pear tree" with its own partridge just in time for the Plymouth Symphony Holiday Home Tour.

Home tour puts visitors in the holiday spirit

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

K.C. Mueller gazes in wonder at the elegant decorations greeting visitors to the Linda and Gary Nimmerguth home in Plymouth Township. Golden deer and Christmas trees sparkle everywhere including the bathroom sink filled with snowy white cotton and glittering glass bulbs. Mueller says there's something special about each of the seven homes on the Plymouth Symphony League Holiday Tour, which runs noon to 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30. She is co-chairing the annual fund-raising event to benefit the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra.

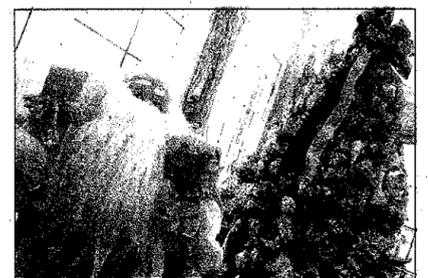
One homeowner's display of 600 Santas is so spectacular it led the league to invite children this year. Ticket prices were reduced as well to encourage all ages to get in the spirit of the season. Many of the homes have been extensively renovated and offer plenty of ideas not only for holiday decorating, but making over a house.

"For the three-story Winter Wonderland, she makes her own ornaments," said Mueller, who's been involved with the tour since 1985. "Her whole kitchen was created in Germany and shipped here. It has a European flair. Each was chosen because it either has historical significance, architectural design or decor."

The Nimmerguths moved into their 5,200-square-foot Cape Cod in 2004 and began ripping up floors and replacing them with cherry wood. Linda worked with Maggie Walsh of Interior Painting, Antiquing & Faux Finishes to give an old world look to the kitchen cabinets by painting and adding architectural details. In the next room, a door wall was converted into a fireplace. Visitors especially won't want to miss the memory room with vintage family photographs, a doll dressed in a sailor suit their son wore as a toddler, and Gary's mother's wedding dress. Gary had the task of carrying up the boxes full of decorations. Even the rabbit statue in the front yard bears a wreath around its neck.

NONTRADITIONAL COLORS

In the living room is a centerpiece Linda made
Please see **TOUR, C7**



A Santa Claus stands next to the Christmas tree in Sandy Osmer's home.



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

North Farmington High School students sophomore Matt Hayhow, on the floor, and senior Michael Drucker, center, rehearse a scene with their cast mates for the school's upcoming production of "You Can't Take It With You."

Teens exhibit photography at Focus:HOPE

Artful black and white and color photographs reflecting on students' three-year journey in Focus: HOPE's EXCEL Photography Program will be featured in a special exhibit opening Dec. 13 and running through March 27, 2009.

An opening reception for the EXCEL photography exhibit in addition to a graduation ceremony will be held 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13 for the students, the professional photographers who mentor them, and the public.

The Gallery is located on the second floor of the Center for Advanced Technologies, 1400 Oakman Boulevard, Detroit. Secure parking is available in the lot just south of the building.

A three-year journey lasting from March 2006 through December 2008, allowed high school students from communities in Wayne and Oakland counties to learn technical photographic techniques along with artistic aesthetics using black and white and color photography.

Program sessions took place during non-school hours on Focus: HOPE's campus, as well as field trips to such locations as Matthaei Botanical Gardens, Greenfield Village, Russell Industrial Center, Renaissance Festival, Eastern Market, Detroit Winter Blast, and downtown Royal Oak, among other sites. Each student worked toward the creation of a photographic group exhibition, themed series, digital portfolio, and their own Web page featuring selected works from the past three years.

"This program has not only provided these young people with marketable skills, it has also given them an outlet for self-awareness, discipline, and creative expression," said Annette Vanover, manager of community arts at Focus: HOPE. "It's been a privilege working with them and watching them grow artistically and socially."

The program is made possible with a grant from The Skillman Foundation and the support of Cole Street Studio of Birmingham, College for Creative Studies, and Boll Family YMCA.

The Community Arts programs are among several initiatives Focus: HOPE uses to bridge the racial divide in southeast Michigan. Focus: HOPE, which is now celebrating its 40th anniversary year, offers a food program that assists 42,000 women, children and senior citizens each month; education and training programs in the areas of engineering, manufacturing and information technology; a child care center, and neighborhood revitalization initiatives.

North presents 'You Can't Take It With You'

North Farmington High School presents the Kaufman and Hart comedy, *You Can't Take It With You*, Dec. 3-6.

The Vanderhof-Sycamore family at the center of *You Can't Take It With You* is a collection of cheerful, erratic but lovable incompetents, according to co-director Sue Cobb.

Due to the number of talented students who auditioned for the play, the directors, Dean and Sue Cobb, decided to double-cast the production.

The Fireworks cast performs at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 3 and Dec. 5 and the Love Dreams cast performs at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and at 8 p.m. Dec. 6. The play will be performed in Hunt Auditorium of North Farmington High School, 32900 13 Mile Road.

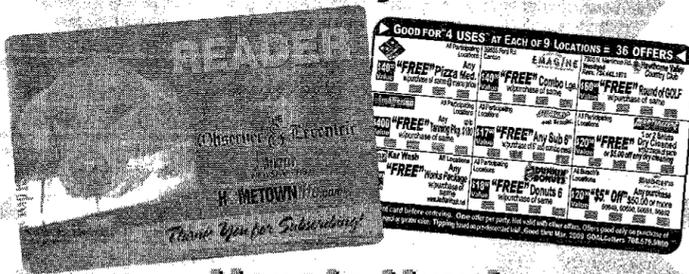
All tickets are \$8 and seats are reserved. Ticket sales begin Dec. 1 and tickets may be purchased at the door by calling the box office at (248) 426-5202, or in the NFHS west lobby between 10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., Dec. 1-5.



North Farmington seniors Michael Drucker, left, and Natalie Lichtman rehearse a scene from the school's upcoming production of "You Can't Take It With You."

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Dog of the week

Hi, my name is Ellie and I am an eight-year-old greyhound. I live in a foster home because my family had to give me up. My foster mom says I'm a very quiet and sweet girl. I like to give kisses and snuggles. If you would like to meet me (my racetrack name was Baby Tamme Rae), call Suzanne at (248) 425-3107, or visit MI REGAP (Retired Greyhounds as Pets) at www.rescuedgreyhounds.org. I'll be waiting.

I was talking on my office telephone the other day to a homeowner who was having a problem with her Maytag dishwasher that is 10 years old. I told her that Maytag dishwashers produced between 1997 and 2001 were under a national recall because of a fire hazard. Even though 2.1 million dishwashers were sold with this existing problem, only 32 percent of the U.S. population knows about this recall.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

While I was explaining what was wrong with this customer's dishwasher, Marylou who sits next to my office, was on her telephone calling the Maytag Co. When she hung up she came running over to my desk with a big smile on her face. "I just made \$75 by listening to you and calling Maytag."

I asked her to explain what was going on. You see, Marylou has a Maytag dishwasher, which is eight years old, it's not working and she was going to donate it to some scrap metal company. The Maytag Co. told her to punch some holes in the bottom of the inner drum so no one else would be able to use it and they

would send her a voucher for \$75. Is Marylou smart or what!

In this world we live in it is quite simple to find out about a recall concerning one of your major home appliances. Use the Google thing and ask for information. Type in the make of the product and what it is and all this information pops up.

If I had my way, the manufacturer would be totally responsible for informing the homeowner if they had a defective product in their home and there would be some serious consequences, severe penalties assessed to that manufacturer should someone suffer through a fire or loss of life. I know all products come with a registration card but many people just stuff that somewhere never to be seen again. There has got to be a better way to make sure that consumers are informed.

I talked with Linda from Bill & Rods Appliance in Livonia and she told me that they registered all the products they sell to their customers. I told her that I would like to see a system like the credit cards we receive. You have to call in to activate the card and maybe the manufacturers could use the same system. She thought this is a great idea, as there are homeowners who purchase a product

and leave it in the box until months later when they put it into use. These consumers don't realize that the warranty starts when you purchase the appliance, not six months later when you plug it in. They end up paying for repairs and loosing out on the warranty coverage.

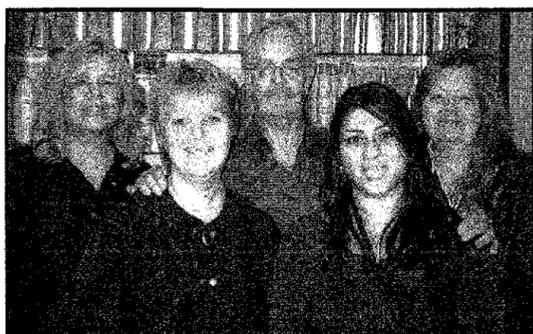
The warranty coverage has changed in the past two years on major home appliances. The majority of appliances now carry a one-year full warranty without any limited warranty on such components as transmissions, compressors, pumps etc. This is just another example of how companies are cutting their expenses and the proven fact is the burden of repair costs is extended to the homeowner. The example of the Maytag dishwasher recall is very expensive and must hurt the bottom line of the Whirlpool Corporation, which owns Maytag today. Is it even possible that a company would forget its corporate responsibility to their customers by not doing what is necessary to make sure that all homeowners are aware of a defective product? I hope not. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twml.rr.com

Reunion location changed at last minute

The location for the Franklin High School Class of 1988 reunion had to be changed at the last minute. The event still takes place at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28, but at The Italian American Club in Livonia.

For more information, call Sharon at (734) 261-3264.



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REUNION CALENDAR

The Reunion Calendar runs Sundays in the newspaper as space allows, and online in its entirety at www.hometownlife.com. Submit your reunion announcement at least two weeks in advance to Linda Chomin, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or e-mail lchomin@hometownlife.com.

Brighton High School Class of 1989
Planning a 20th reunion and searching for classmates. Sign up at "yahoo groups-brighton high school class of 1989" for more information.

Class of 1959
50th reunion with activities June 5-7, 2009. Events will include a Saturday evening dinner party at Plum Hollow Country Club in Southfield. For information, visit www.casstech59.com or contact Marge Teramino Knable, reunion@casstech59.com; Debbie Friedman, (248) 626-3729; or Steve Sperling, (248) 360-9658.

Clarkston High School Class of 1998
A 10-year reunion will be held at Deer Lake Athletic Club in Clarkston, 6:30 p.m.-midnight Saturday, Nov. 29. The evening includes dinner, entertainment and/or dancing and cocktails. Ticket price TBA. This is an adult dinner, and each alumnus is welcome to bring one date. For more information, look on MySpace and Facebook, visit <http://clarkston1998reunion.myspace.com>, e-mail chs1998grads@hotmail.com, or call Samantha at (248) 884-8658.

Crestwood High School Class of 1978
A 30-year reunion will be held Friday, Nov. 28, at the O'Kelly K of C Hall in Dearborn. Contact Diane (Verostick) Kapelanski at (734) 981-0091 or dianekap@comcast.net for more information.

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1969
Planning a reunion. Contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.com.

Detroit St. Brigid Class of 1959
Planning a reunion and looking for classmates. Contact szonyek@att.net with any information about

classmates.
Class of 1978
A 30-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Nov. 29. For more info, contact Donna Willingham at (313) 605-0377 or e-mail western1978@att.net.

Detroit Winship School Class of 1956
Members of the eighth grade graduating class of 1956 who are interested in planning a reunion, should call Beth Weingarten at (810) 695-7882.

Farmington Harrison High School Class of 1998
A 10-year reunion will be held at Andiamo Italia's Dirty Martini Lounge, 6-10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29. Purchase advance tickets, \$55, by sending a check payable to "HHS Class of 1998" c/o K. Crites, 4105 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, Ill. 60613. A limited number of premium priced tickets will be available after Nov. 1. No tickets at the door. Contact Kelly English Nelson at HHS.1998.Reunion@hotmail.com.

Garden City High School Class of 1960
Mini-reunion luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

Class of 1989
20th reunion Aug. 29, 2009, at Joy Manor (6 p.m. to midnight. Ticket \$65 before March 1, 2009, \$75 from March 2 to June 1, 2009. No tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets include dinner, premium open bar, dj, door prizes, picture cd and other gifts, and available for purchase at www.gardencity89.com or contact Paula at gchs1989reunion@hotmail.com.

Grosse Pointe North Class of 1991
Call (800) 677-7800, visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com.

Lincoln Park High School
Looking for members of Lincoln Park High School class of 1958 for 50-year reunion. Contact Nancy, (313) 535-8777 or nc6897@sbcglobal.net.

Livonia Franklin Class of 1969
A reunion is in the pre-planning

stages. For more information, contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@aol.com.

Classes of 1964-2004
Reunion for graduates of Livonia Franklin High School between the years of 1964 to 2004 presented by Franklin All School committee 7 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 29, at TC Gator's of Canton, 42775 Ford Road. Cost is \$10 and includes food and cash bar. Let's make this the biggest reunion that Franklin High School has ever seen. RSVP to Alicia O'Brien (Douglas) Class of 87 at (734) 261-4970 or e-mail: aliciadoug@aol.com. We need your help finding old classmates to make this reunion a success so please spread the word.

Class of 1988
The location for the Franklin High School Class of 1988 reunion had to be changed at the last minute. The event still takes place at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28, but at The Italian American Club in Livonia.

For more information, call Sharon at (734) 261-3264.
Milford High School Class of 1978
Planning a 30th reunion. Class members should contact the reunion committee as soon as possible. E-mail milford78@gmail.com.

Redford Union Class of 1988
Holds its 20th class reunion 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29, at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia. Information and registration can be obtained by calling Sharon Culbertson at (734) 261-3264. The Web site for the Redford Union Class of 1988 reunion is www.ruhs88.org/.

Class of 1998
10-year reunion 6-10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29, 2008, at Copper Canyon Brewery, 27522 Northwestern, Southfield. Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and include food, drinks and door prizes. For information and directions on how to RSVP, contact Craig Horger at ruh-98reunion@gmail.com. Reunion updates, discussions and direction on how to RSVP are located on Facebook. Make an account at www.facebook.com and search for REDfordUNION profile.

WEDDINGS



Elsner-Nahavandi
Robert and Marcia Elsner of Plymouth announce the marriage of their daughter, Elizabeth Marie Marzonic Elsner, to Kurosh Nahavandi of Portage. He is the son of Amir Nahavandi of Marabella, Spain and Amy and Paul Van Laak of Long Lake, New York, but currently residing in Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong.

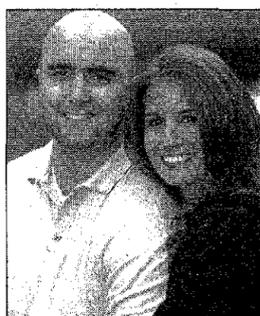
The bride is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and the University of Michigan, where she earned her bachelor's degree in chemical engineering, her master's degree in biomedical engineering and competed in softball as a Big Ten scholar athlete. She works as a senior analyst for Whirlpool Corporation in St. Joseph.

The groom is a graduate of Shenendehowa High School in Clifton Park, New York and of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, where he earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and his master's degree in material science. He works as a senior designer for Stryker Corporation in Portage.

The couple wed at sunset on Sept. 13, 2008 on the beach at the Dreams Resort in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. The bride was attended by maid of honor Kathy Mokienco Borsos of Plymouth and bridesmaids Marissa Young and Katie Shea. The groom was attended by best man Sujal Patel of Belmont, Calif., and groomsmen Bijan Nahavandi and Michael Elsner.

A candle-lit evening reception followed the service. Seventy guests, hailing from Spain, New York, California, Michigan, Florida, Ohio, Georgia, Texas, Minnesota, Massachusetts and the Dominican Republic, enjoyed an elegant evening of dinner and dancing.

ENGAGEMENTS



Williams-Johns
Thomas and Randa Williams of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Shelley Lynn, to Nathan Christopher Johns, son of Carl and Elaine Johns of Ann Arbor.

The bride-to-be is a 1997 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and a 2001 graduate of Michigan State University, where she earned her undergraduate and master's degrees in elementary education. She teaches first grade at Hoben Elementary School in Canton.

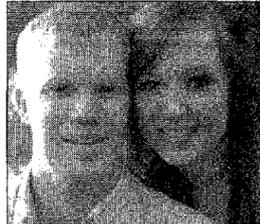
Her fiancé graduated from Ann Arbor Huron High School in 1998 and earned a degree in business from Michigan State University. He works

as an account executive at Big Communications in Ferndale. The couple plans a July 2009 wedding at the First United Methodist Church in Plymouth, followed by a reception at Glen Oaks Country Club in Farmington Hills.

Fournier-Montero

John and Charlotte Fournier of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Ashley M. Fournier of Ypsilanti, to Aaron Montero of Munnith. He is the son of Al and Jane Montero of Chelsea.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Churchill High School in Livonia and works for the University of Michigan. Her fiancé is a Chelsea High School graduate and also works for



the University of Michigan. The couple plans a March 2009 wedding.

Goldsworthy-Bohn

Don and Barb Goldsworthy of Madison, Wisc. announce the engagement of their daughter, Janie Goldsworthy, to Eric Bohn of Flagstaff, Ariz. He is the son of Mike and Pat Bohn of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1999 graduate of Madison West High School in Madison, Wisc., and a 2003 graduate of the University of Wisconsin. She earned her master's degree in biomedical engineering in 2006 from the University of Iowa. She works as a biomedical engineer with W.L. Gore and Associates in Flagstaff.

Her fiancé is a 1999 graduate of Stevenson High School in Livonia. He studied at the University of Michigan from 1999 to 2001 before transferring to the University of



Arizona, where in 2005 he graduated with his degree in environmental science. He works as an environmental scientist for Western Technologies in Flagstaff. The couple plans a September 2009 wedding in Arizona.

Kotzian-Reschke

Ralph and Kaye Kotzian of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kari, to James Reschke of Dearborn Heights. He is the son of Bob and Barb Reschke of Dashwood, Ontario, Canada.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Churchill High School in Livonia and she plans to graduate from Wayne State University Nursing School in December 2009. The groom is a graduate of Lawrence Technological University and works as an engineer for an automotive supplier.

The couple plans an August



2009 wedding at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church with a reception on Ovation Yacht Charters.

BIRTH



Anthony Joseph Jendrusik
Joe and Marisol Jendrusik of Westland announce the arrival of their son Anthony Joseph Jendrusik.

He was born Oct. 6, 2008 at William Beaumont Hospital. Grandparents are Emilio and Guadalupe Herrera of Westland, and Don and Sue Jendrusik of Livonia.

Auvil-Frye
Jodi Marie Auvil of Redford and Jeremy Eugene Frye of Nashville, Tenn., were married Sept. 17, 2008 in a private ceremony. A reception followed in Nashville, Tenn.

The bride attended Schoolcraft College (Fire Academy) and is a homemaker. She is the daughter of the late James P. Auvil Sr.

The groom is an ironworker. The couple spent their honeymoon in Hawaii. They will make their home in Tennessee.

Local celebration recognizes 91st anniversary of Finnish independence

The Finnish American Historical Society of Michigan celebrates the 91st anniversary of Finnish Independence, Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 6-7, at the Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. Eight Mile, Farmington.

On Dec. 6, the guest speaker for the weekend, Dr. Carl Rahnkonen, will jam with

other musicians including the Soitoniekat, the cultural center musicians. All types of music will be played. Musicians and listeners are welcome to this free event that begins at 7:30 p.m.

At 2 p.m. Dec. 7, Rahnkonen, a professor at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, will have an illustrated presen-

tation on the role of the musical instrument, Kantele, in the development of Finnish nationalism. Kalevala rune singing and an accordion rendition of Finlandia will also be part of the program. Coffee hour follows. The cost is \$10.

For more information, visit www.finnishcenter.org or call (248) 478-6939.

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DOROTHY A. DAVY
Age 86. Of Farmington Hills, MI. Passed away November 18, 2008. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.



FREDERICK D. NEIL
Age 60, of Brighton, formerly of Livonia. Died November 5, 2008. Graduated Clarenceville H.S. 1966 and Schoolcraft College 1968. Received the U.S. Army Commendation Medal for his service in Vietnam, 1970-1971. Fred loved sports, achieving his ultimate dream of completing the Boston Marathon in 1992. Predeceased by parents Eleanor and Donald Neil. Survived by his wife of 31 years Cathy (Goldiron) Neil; children Charles and Audrey; siblings Jim, Barb, Jack, Pat and Marge; numerous extended family and friends. Share memories and condolences at www.mi-cremation.com.



MOLLY S. TEHOY
Passed away on Wednesday, November 12th, 2008. Molly was beloved wife of the late William J. Tehoy II. She is survived by her children Diana York (Daniel) and William J. Tehoy III and grandchildren. Molly was a docent and member of the Cranbrook Art Academy & Art Museum, Cranbrook House & Gardens and Eastern Star. If you wish to honor her memory, the family suggests memorial gifts to Cranbrook Academy of Art & Art Museum, Molly Tehoy Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 801, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303-0801.



JACK ZOOK, Ph.D.
Age 85. Passed away November 5, 2008. Beloved husband of 60 years to Doris. Devoted father to John, Lawrence, and Janet (Steve) Douglass. Loving grandfather to Clayton, Serena, Sarah, Amanda, and Jonathan. Dear great-grandfather of Kirah. He is also survived by his niece Patricia Messenger. He piloted carrier-based Avenger torpedo bombers in the Pacific during World War II, for which he received three Air Medals. Upon his return, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Wayne State University, and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University. In his retirement years, he delivered Meals on Wheels, assisted the Detroit Goodfellow during their holiday gift drives, volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, and crafted wooden toys for patients at Children's Hospital of Michigan.



WILLIAM R. "BOB" KEOUGH
November 20, 2008. Age 91. Founder of Atmosphere Furnace Company. Beloved husband of "Toni". Dear father of Patrice Gibson, William M. (Gina) and John R. (Nancy). Stepfather of Michael and Patrick O'Mara. Grandfather of Eric, Kevin, Bonnie, Scott, Sara, Josh, Ian and Lane. Also survived by five great-grandchildren. Memorial luncheon Sunday, November 23rd, 12:30pm at The Birmingham Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham. Memorial tributes to the charity of donor's choice. A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

MARY LOU GARDNER
Passed away November 17, 2008 at the age of 78. Beloved mother of Karen (Harry) Hawkins. Dear grandmother of Melissa Kerley and sister to Edna Richardson and Patricia Green. Visitation Sunday 2 p.m.-6 p.m. at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth with a funeral service following on Monday at 11 a.m. Share your special thoughts and memories at schradler-howell.com



OBITUARY POLICY

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For more information call: Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7115 or Charlotte Wilson 586-826-7082

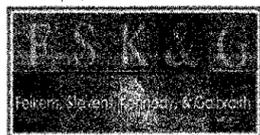
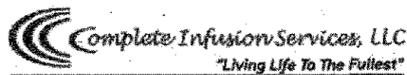
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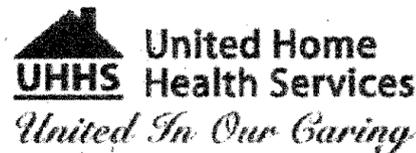
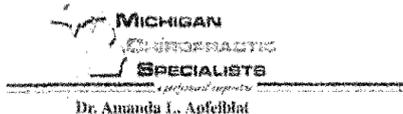
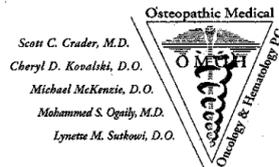
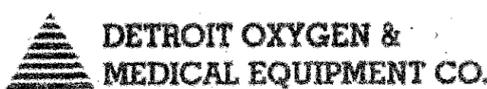
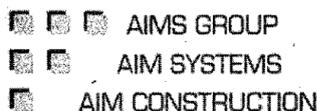
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KICKin' kidney disease

Educational program raises awareness in students

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Mariam Swaad was one of the first to raise her hand when health teacher Tom Alles asked the class if they knew anyone with kidney disease. The question led off the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan program he presents twice a year to students at Salem High School in Canton. Pre- and post-tests determine students' knowledge as well as the effectiveness of the K.I.C.K. (Kids Interested in the Care of their Kidneys) program available to schools.

Swaad thought she knew about kidney disease until watching the educational video about a 12-year-old girl who was on dialysis three times a week for two years until receiving a kidney from her brother. Swaad watched her uncle die while waiting for a donor. Kidney disease runs in her family. Her 5-year-old cousin is on dialysis treatments which remove waste from the blood when kidneys fail.

"I'm already eating healthy and exercising but didn't know so many different factors could affect it," said Swaad.

According to the National Kidney Foundation, 26 million Americans suffer from chronic kidney disease; that's why it's important to not only know the warning signs such as swelling of feet and ankles, puffiness around eyes, and lower back pain, but how to avoid the loss of function. Alles wasn't aware of the causes of kidney diseases or failure when first presenting the program 10 years ago. He uses the video as part of a comprehensive curriculum that includes nutrition and eating disorders, physical fitness, human sexuality, mental health, chemical dependency, and chronic and communicable diseases.

SUCCESS SEEN

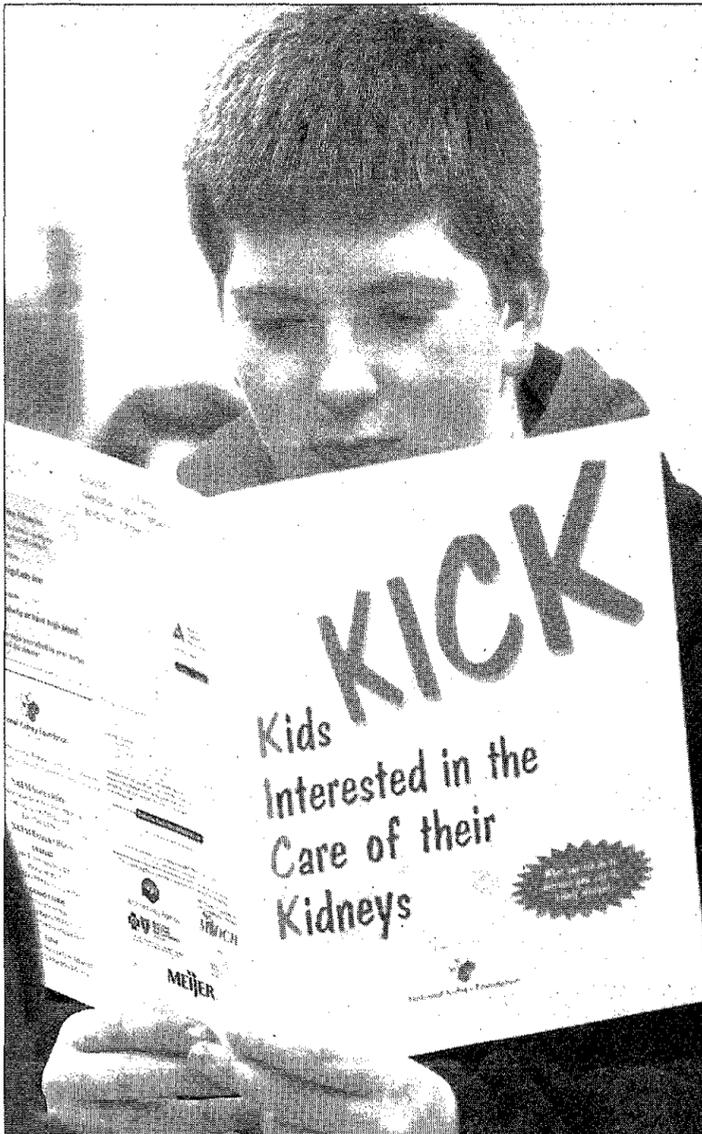
The approach seems to be working. Fewer students are smoking and at least have an awareness of the need for proper nutrition and exercise than when he began teaching health 30 years ago. Alles reaches about 350 students a year as the health course is a graduation requirement.

"Factors such as diabetes, high blood pressure predispose people to kidney disease," said Alles. "Not smoking is a factor in the development of kidney disease which can lead to cancer of the urinary tract, bladder and kidneys which have to filter out toxins. We see fewer students using illicit substances, smoking, but still need to work on the nutrition element and exercise. There are a fair amount of students who could improve on their weight and what they're eating. When both parents work, they eat pizza, burgers because that's all that's available to them. There are consequences like high blood pressure, diabetes."

Ashley Hinojosa, 14, didn't realize the seriousness of kidney disease until listening to Kayla Jowski talk about her grandfather needing dialysis. Jowski said she learned how to prevent kidney failure. She already dances seven days a week at Dancin' Feet at Summit on the Park community center in Canton to stay in shape. Lindsey Spooner of Plymouth plays softball and Monday night put on an exercise video to work out. She admitted knowing nothing about kidney disease when taking the pre-test.

'IN PERSPECTIVE'

"It puts everything in perspective,"



Plymouth Salem sophomore Alex Watson looks over literature from the National Kidney Foundation during a presentation in his health class.



Plymouth Salem High School health teacher Tom Alles hands out literature on kidney disease to his class.

said Spooner. "Before we learned about diseases I never knew how it could affect me."

Once kidneys fail the only treatments are dialysis and transplantation. As of Nov. 1, more than 2,500 Michigan residents were waiting for a donor kidney, according to Gift of Life Michigan. Alles stressed to students that the chances of survival with a live donor kidney are 95 percent, 90 percent with a cadaver kidney. Omar Hashwi, 15, said he might consider donating a kidney when he's older.

Larry Merx knows the need for donor organs will increase as the number of kids being diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes and hypertension does. Merx coordinates the NKFM school programs which

began in the fall of 1997.

"They're the two leading causes of kidney disease," said Merx. "They need to go to a doctor and get checked for blood pressure and diabetes and need to control if diagnosed so they don't get worse. And tell them to ask their parents when was the last time they were checked. They get school and sports physicals, but the parents are less likely to be checked."

NKFM reaches out to adults with programs that train African American hair stylists and barbers to share prevention strategies such as eating right and exercising with clients.

"One out of three people will develop diabetes or hypertension," said Merx from the NKFM office in Ann Arbor. "If a minority, the chance of getting are one in two. One in nine Michigan people will develop kidney disease. Kidneys clean toxins from the blood, but also help balance body fluids, remove excess water from blood, release hormones that regulate blood pressure, synthesize vitamins which control growth, and also control production of red blood cells."

For more information, call NKFM at (734) 222-9800 or (800) 482-1455 or visit www.nkfm.org and click Kidney Disease. To learn about organ donation, visit www.giftoflifemichigan.org.

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Volunteers needed for arthritis call line

The Arthritis Foundation, Michigan Chapter, is looking for volunteers to answer calls for its information and referral service, Arthritis Answers, in its Troy office.

The Arthritis Foundation anticipates call volumes to increase significantly beginning Jan. 1.

Volunteers provide an empathetic and understanding voice to Michigan residents who are living with arthritis. Volunteers should have arthritis or experience with arthritis, perhaps in

taking care of a loved one. Volunteers provide callers with the most up-to-date information regarding arthritis diagnosis, treatment, specialists, management strategies, exercise and self-help programs, support groups and more. Training is provided.

As a nonprofit organization the Arthritis Foundation heavily depends on volunteers who are asked to make a half day or full day commitment once a week.

For more information, call 1-800-968-3030.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

NOVEMBER

Chocolate Jubilee

To benefit the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Michigan Chapter noon Sunday, Nov. 23, 2008 at the Ritz-Carlton Dearborn. Held annually, Funds will support programs and services to more than 70,000 metro Detroit families affected by the disease as well as fund research. The luncheon is followed by a chocolate tasting with over 20 exhibitors offering up their sweetest creations. Luncheon and Jubilee tickets still available. To purchase or participate in the 50/50 Raffle or Sweet Chances, call (248) 351-0280 or visit www.alzgmco.org for details.

Qigong workshop

Pre-registration required by Nov. 26, for Qigong workshop with Daisy Lee Sunday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Winter Health for all, and 1-4 p.m. (women only), sponsored by Michigan Tai Chi Association, 38121 Ann Arbor Rd. at Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 591-3530 for information and form.

Turkey Busters program

The Livonia Family YMCA is offering a Thanksgiving morning series of back-to-back group exercise classes to help burn off those extra calories that will sneak up with any holiday feast 9:10-10:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 27. The classes are open to women and men age 13 and older. All fitness levels are encouraged to sign up. Sessions include 8 a.m. Yoga, 8:30 a.m. KickBox, 9 a.m. Step Aerobics, 9:30 a.m. HI/low Aerobics, and 10 a.m. Zumba. Space limited so everyone must register. Members may register online. Community members will need to register in person at Livonia Family YMCA at 14255 Stark Rd. For more information, visit www.ymcadetroit.org or call (734) 261-2161.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelts and Inkster roads, Livonia. And 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call Wendy first at (313) 387-9797. Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous Information visit www.oa.org or call (248) 559-7722.

UPCOMING

Gala evening at the movies

A benefit for the Crohn's & Colitis

Foundation of America, Michigan Chapter 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, at The Uptown Palladium Theater, 250 North Old Woodward, Birmingham. Evening includes the premiere of a new feature film and an hors d'oeuvres and dessert pre-glow reception. The honoree for the 31st annual Gala Evening at the Movies is The Michael Yendick Foundation for Children. To attend the event, purchase a listing in the Movie Gala Souvenir Journal from \$75-\$5,000 and receive complimentary tickets. Call (248) 737-0900, or e-mail michigan@ccta.org for more information.

Bone marrow drive

An opportunity to join the National Marrow Donor Program registry by completing a brief health questionnaire and having the inside of their cheek swabbed 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, at Madonna University, Take 5 Lounge, 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan off I-96, Livonia. Doctors search this registry to find a donor whose tissue type matches that of a patient. Potential donors must be between the ages of 18-60 and in good general health. For more information contact Edna Rankine at (734) 432-5425 or erankine@madonna.edu.

Qigong workshop

With Daisy Lee Sunday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Winter Health for all, and 1-4 p.m. (women only), sponsored by Michigan Tai Chi Association, 38121 Ann Arbor Rd. at Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Pre-registration required by Nov. 26. Call (734) 591-3530 for information and form.

Jingle Bell run/walk

For The Arthritis Foundation Sunday, Dec. 7, at Northville Downs Race Track, and Saturday, Dec. 13, at Covington School in Bloomfield Village. Both festive events offer competitively timed 5K routes, 4-mile children's Snowman Shuffles and post-race chili parties. Call 1-800-968-3030 or visit www.arthritis.org.

Gluten-free food fair

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 13-14, at Hiller's, 39950 W. 14 Mile (at Haggerty Road). Call (248) 960-1990.

Get ready to have a baby

Learn what to expect during pregnancy, labor and delivery and make the entire experience more rewarding. Childbirth Education Weekday programs held 7-9 p.m. Mondays to Dec. 15, and Wednesdays, Dec. 3 to Jan. 14. Childbirth Education workshops 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. There is a fee. Registration required. Call (734) 655-1162.

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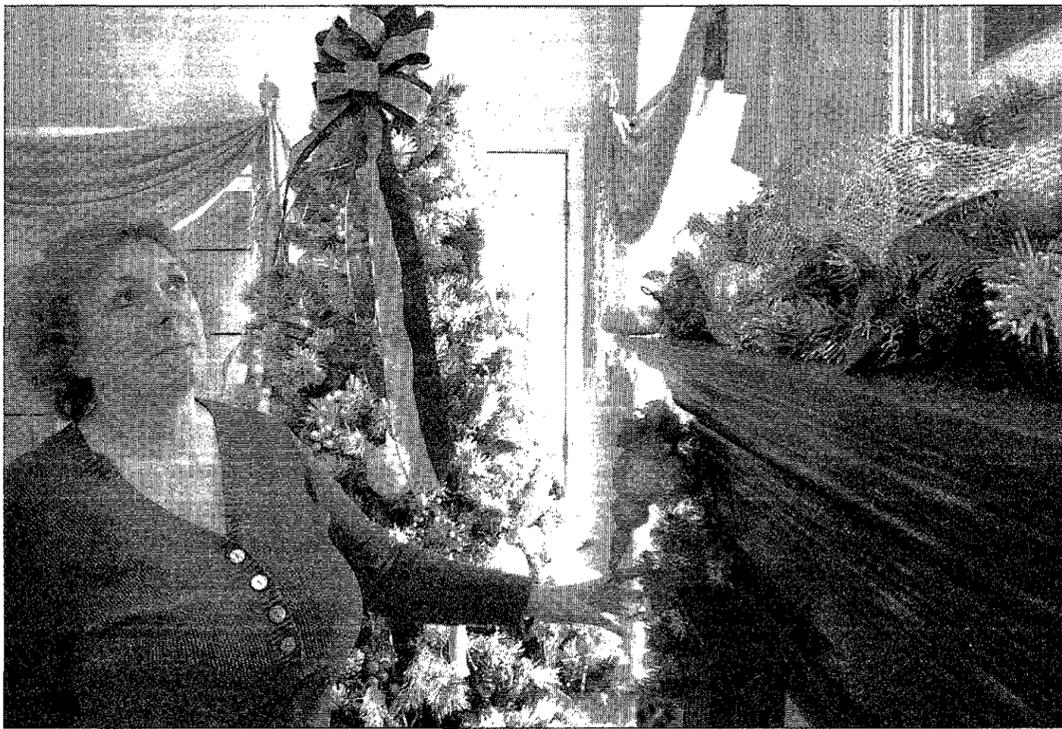
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Sandy Osmer looks over the holiday decorations she is putting up inside her home for the upcoming Plymouth Symphony Holiday Home Tour.

TOUR
FROM PAGE C1

by layering and then filling three cake plates with artificial pears and topping with a partridge. For the walk, Ribar Florals in Plymouth is creating a red rose centerpiece to serve as the focal point of the dining room table that forgoes traditional holiday colors for a red, white and black theme.

"I grew up in a family of eight kids and Christmas was all about memories," said Linda. "The music box church belonged to my mother. It brings me closer to my family."

Sandy and Mike Osmer moved into their 4,456-square-foot condo in 2005. Functional is the word for the renovations. One example is the coat closet transformed into a pantry. An interior designer by trade, Sandy is using decorations left over from Blooms Floral and Designs in Birmingham, her former shop.

"It works out better to work with what you have. That's part of the fun of it," said Sandy Osmer. "I kind of do things as I go as opposed to having a set plan. Designing gives you immediate gratification this way."

Osmer's granddaughter Ella, 8, loves decorating too. She'll trim the large-scale doll house in the lower level.

SPECIAL ADDITIONS

Marilyn Andrews, a well-known piano



Linda and Gary Nimmerguth's home is filled with Christmas decorations. It is one of seven homes on the upcoming Plymouth Symphony Holiday Tour.

teacher in the area, will provide the music on a baby grand in the living room. The symphony's new children's CD, *Magical Tunes & Mystical Tales*, will be sold there as well as luminaries to raise funds. The league has added extras to the walk this year just for that purpose. A wreath, displayed at the Nimmerguths, will be raffled off, while 20 percent of Cookie Lee jewelry sales at the

Barbara and Gene Levengood home go to support the symphony's operating budget. The Levengoods have an extensive wildlife art collection in their 4,200-square-foot home that backs up to pine trees and wetlands and gives the feeling of living Up North.

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CLOWNS

FROM PAGE C1

then the clowns step off to basically perform in front of a million people. It's a fun thing to do."

FATHER AND SONS

Syd Ross is clowning around when he says he's found his proper station in life. The Bloomfield Hills resident will have an especially good time leading the clowns as Distinguished Grand Jester just as Landis did last year. Ross never went to a parade until he joined the corps 18 years ago.

"My kids were little back then," said Ross, CEO of Great Lakes Wine and Spirits. "Now my sons Josh and Victor march with me. They have no children yet but someday they will and we'll get third-generation clowns. It's a good time. You shake hands with the kids and hand beads out. They love the floats. It's funny because the guys and women like doing it, too. We get there about 7 and have professional clowns putting makeup on you. After 15 years you get a cape. When you see someone with a cape they've been a clown for 15 years. It's a little secret, not something we talk about."

Jack Robinson claims three generations of clowns. This year, daughter Dr. Beth Robinson Swartz, a pediatrician at Henry Ford West Bloomfield, her husband, Steve, and their son, Nathan, a 19-year old student at Kalamazoo College, will join the Bloomfield Hills man in the parade. Robinson was chairman and founder of Perry Drug Stores when he became a clown 25 years ago.

"Being a clown is just great," said Robinson. "You develop a different persona when you remove your tie and suit and polished shoes. You put on



Jack Robinson celebrates 25 years in the Distinguished Clown Corps. Robinson, a Bloomfield Hills resident, was chairman of Perry Drugs (now Rite Aid) when he started marching as a clown in the Thanksgiving Day parade in Detroit.

the face grease and the wide smiles and all of a sudden you're liberated and having fun. I find it exciting to go out and smile at people. When you smile at people, they smile back."

For Linda Orlans, the experience starts her thinking about the meaning of the season. This year the Birmingham woman will continue to share the tradition of marching in the parade with daughter Alison, 29, and best friend Rox Roselle of Troy. The three work together at E Title Company in Troy which Linda founded. Linda was inspired to become a clown six years after a friend came to her home dressed in her clown suit after the parade.

"For me it starts the season of giving," said Orlans. "It just changes my mind and I start reflecting upon the year, what's important. It's all about helping people. And it's exciting to see all those little faces bundled up in those snowsuits and all of the smiles."

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BRACES, SPLINTS, AND WRAPS

If you experience pain in a knee or ankle, it makes sense to see if support around the joint will ease the pain. In cases of injury to a knee or a fracture of the knee cap, a leg splint is a good alternative to a cast.

However, in instances when the problem is arthritis, braces and splints have limited usefulness because devices that support a joint limit that joint's movement. In arthritis, that limitation does not rest the joint as much as place strain on the rest of the body. For instance, a brace for the right knee eventually puts an added burden on the left knee and leg. If the left knee also has a degree of arthritis, the added stress creates a greater problem for the left knee than the help gained by bracing the right knee.

However, bracing helps an ankle when a loss of muscle strength causes a foot drop. A lower leg-ankle brace holds the foot in a neutral position and allows walking without stumbling.

Splints create problems because the splinted joint remain in a fixed position, again placing strain on surrounding muscles and joints. The exception is the use of wrist splints at night to treat carpal tunnel syndrome. Then, holding the wrist in an upward flexed manner is desirable as that diminishes strain on the nerve causing the problem.

Wraps also are not helpful, because they provide insufficient support for an injured elbow or wrist. In general, joint pain needs medication or injection for relief.

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THINK 'RISK' WHEN PROVIDING CUSTOMER SERVICE



WORKWISE
by
Mildred L. Culp

The last time you felt grateful for excellent customer service, you might not have realized it, but your transaction involved some risk. If you took the time to write the company or send an e-mail, you can be certain that you'd been feeling vulnerable. The service a business gave you made it possible for you to keep working, unimpeded. Keep this in mind when you provide customer service.

SCHEDULE/IMAGE

Allison Heitman, CEO of software manufacturer Solutium Corp. in Williamsburg, Va., had something at stake. She contacted PrintingForLess.com, a commercial online printer, in Livingston, Mont., in a last-minute effort to order business cards for four employees leaving for a trade show in Barcelona, Spain. Solutium was launching two products there. Heitman had ten business days before leaving. In addition, "I chose a proof by e-mail," she confesses.

PrintingForLess.com guided her on maximizing her background image. "They were very generous with their time," she recalls. She chose the normal business production schedule, four days, to keep costs down, and overnight

delivery. The cards arrived in five business days. Heitman was so pleased with color and durability that she wrote the company, something she does only once or twice a year when her expectations are met or exceeded.

On October 8, I was sitting at my computer after everyone else had gone home. There were no cars in the parking lot; so the building probably looked closed. A man came to the door with a dolly stacked with two boxes of paper from Office Max (ten reams each) and another small box. He conceded that he'd thought no one here, but that didn't stop him from trying to make his delivery.

James Reed, as I learned later, is a distribution driver out of the Chicago office for USM Logistics Inc., based in Willowbrook, Ill. As soon as I spotted that dolly headed through the door, I cringed, recalling another one that was pushed across my grandmother's antique rug. I just told this delivery man that the rug was "special."

Meanwhile, I had two options... pick up the paper myself or push it across the rug after he left. Tendinitis in my shoulder made either impossible, even if I'd been strong enough. Reed stopped, without skipping a beat, asking a question or objecting; removed his shoes; and carried one box in each hand to store. On his way out, he said he'd close the door. I couldn't let him. His service meant too much.

PERSONAL FINANCES

Accountant Chris Baldwin of Hoboken, N.J., had the scare

of his life, putting him at risk emotionally, then financially. Bugsy, his 18-month-old rescue Pug, found some sugarless gum in Baldwin's gym bag and ate all of it. Its sweetener, Xylitol, is lethal to dogs.

Alarmed, Baldwin called Poison Control at the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), then raced Bugsy to an emergency veterinarian. "He pumped Bugsy's stomach, used IVs and kept him for a night," the owner recalls. Then the pooch spent a night or two at the regular veterinarian. Total cost: \$1,300.

Baldwin had recently left a pet insurer and signed up for Petplan, but he was apprehensive. His veterinarian had said that most pet insurers look for ways to deny coverage. He filed a claim with all of his receipts. In one week a check came, minus only the deductible: "Zero hassle, fast turnaround, one or two e-mails to make sure the dog was doing okay." He e-mailed Petplan about how thankful he was and says that he doesn't think he's sent a letter like it since that day in March, 2007.

The next time you're grateful that someone did something for you, let the company know. It's your best way to reward excellent customer service for putting you back in control. Then, when you provide service, find the customer's vulnerable spot and mitigate it.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. E-mail your questions to culp@workwise.net. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)



James Reed is a Chicago-area distribution driver for USM Logistics Inc., based in Willowbrook, Ill. He is a stellar example of how customer service can alleviate risk for customers.

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needed for Detroit County Day School. CDL-BPS endorsement helpful, not required will train. A good driving record a must. Submit resume to: HR 22305 West 13 Mile Rd., Beverly Hills, MI 48025, or fax 248-646-2458 or email h@dccls.edu.

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
Lincoln, leading national respiratory company seeks caring Service Representative. Service patients in their home for oxygen and equipment needs. Warm personalities, age 21+, who can lift up to 160lbs should apply. CDL w/DOT a plus or obtainable. Growth opportunities are excellent. Fax resume to Attn Don Monroe 734-459-2519 Drug-free workplace. EOE.

Help Wanted-General 5000

Shipping/Receiving Material Handler
AW Transmission Engineering (AWTEC), located in PLYMOUTH, is an award winning industry leader in remanufacturing of automotive transmissions, with a commitment to quality and equipment standards that is unsurpassed in the automotive industry.

AWTEC is looking for an individual who holds a Chauffeur's License and a Hi-Lo Certification.

- \$10.50/hr + shift premium
- Planned work hours are 7:00AM- 3:30PM
- Raise after 90 days
- Quarterly & Year end bonuses
- 100% company paid health/dental/optical
- Vacation/holiday/sick pay
- Tuition reimbursement
- 401k with company match

AWTEC-HR 14920 Keel St. Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: 734-454-1091 Email: jphillpot@awtec.com

A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

Snow Removal Oakland Co.
Truck drivers, Loader operator and sidewalk people needed. MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE. Reliable and available 24 hrs/day. Top pay. Call 248-543-8110

Staffing Tree LLC, in Sylvan Lake requires a Software Support Specialist for writing JavaScript, VB Scripts, PHP Scripts for web applications, web forms, remote drive connectivity, auto back up & security. Update patches & firewall, install & maintain SAP, Oracle ERP & BES Server. Email resumes to elizabeth@staffing-tree.com.

WELDER/FITTER
Structural Steel for industrial door manufacturer for union shop. Must read & interpret drawings. Minimum 3 yrs. exp. Apply at: 8001 Ronda Dr. Canton MI 48187

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

OFFICE ASSISTANT, PT
25 hrs per week. Wage dependant on experience. Must be proficient in verbal, computer, word processing and letter writing skills. Some bookkeeping helpful. Send cover letter & resume: farmingtonvillage@att.net Attention, Board of Directors: farmingtonvillage@att.net Or fax to: (248) 476-8241 EOE

RECEPTIONIST for law office.
Professional appearance with good communication skills. Fax resume to: (248) 357-8747

Receptionist/Secretary
6 1/2 hrs/day. Exc. computer/typing skills (65wpm). Practical knowledge of Microsoft Word/Excel. Familiar with general office equipment. New offices in Birmingham Farms. Email resume to: E.Nick@enrcomenergy.com

SECRETARY
For outpatient counseling clinic in Canton. Part-Time, 25 hrs/wk can be flexible. Medical office and data entry exp. helpful. Email resume: acshrdept@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Exp. 4, Westland office. Part-Time or Full-Time. Fax resume: 734-425-7575

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Experienced. Mon. & Thur. Plymouth area. Please Call: 734-459-7110

DENTAL ASSISTANT
For friendly patient oriented family practice in Walled Lake/Novi area. 24-35 hrs. Experience required. Email or fax resume to: igimblyes@aol.com Fax: 248-669-2176

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Must have insurance billing exp. Fax resume: 248-355-4225 or email: wattzz@msn.com

DENTAL TECHNICIAN
Small crown & bridge dental lab in Garden City looking for technician for piece work or P/T. Call Anne 734-425-7533

5000-6980 Employment

Accountant
West Bloomfield CPA firm. FT or PT. Must know CSI and QB. Fax 248-683-5076

Accounting
Full-time position in Livonia. Various accounting responsibilities include daily invoicing and cash applications, investigating customer inquiries, updating general ledger, preparing accounting statements and reports, and completing accounts payable and receivable tasks. Pay commensurate with education and experience. Full benefits. Food industry helpful, some college strongly preferred.

Awrey Bakeries is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Email resume including salary requirements to: personnel@awrey.com No Phone Calls Please.

Help Wanted-General 5000

ADULT CARRIERS NEEDED

Western Wayne County & Farmington Area
Previous experience preferred. Must be available on Thursday morning, Saturday evening/Sunday morning. Reliable transportation. Possible earnings of \$40-\$80 per delivery. Some Porch delivery. No Collections. Call Toll Free 1-888-887-2727 Observer & Eccentric

Apply now, firm has 37 PT/FT Openings \$14.25 base-apt. We train, great for resume, conditions apply, must be 18+, advancement opty. Call Today (248) 426-4405

APPOINTMENT SETTER
Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pickups for Purple Heart. Call 9-5, M-F. 734-728-4572

Audio company seeking motivated individuals to train & work with professional home theater equipment. Paid training. Company vehicle \$800-\$1000/wk. Valid DL. No winners! Call 734-207-0317

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

Help Wanted-General 5000

Attention Get CDL?
Get it Free! Get it now! Get to work!

Limited Funding Call now before Funds are gone \$40,000 Salary & Full Benefits Integrity Truck Driving School 866-216-9199 Integritytds.com

DRIVER PT for auto parts store in Southfield. Must have good driving record. Call 481-91pm. 248-357-2355

Driver
PT SHUTTLE BUS DRIVER
Independence Village of Plymouth, a luxury retirement community is looking for a self-motivated, customer service oriented PT shuttle bus driver. CDL with passenger endorsement required. We offer competitive wages. Interested candidates should fax resume to 734-453-1150 or email: gm@ivplymouth.com EOE

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds! 1-800-579-7335

Help Wanted-General 5000

Drivers & Helpers
Looking for class A & B drivers and helpers with household goods experience. MUST have a valid drivers license and be able to pass required physical, drug screen and background check. Weekdays, nights & weekends are required. Wages based on exp. Contact Howard at: 248-885-7784

REAL-ESTATE at it's best!
Observer & Eccentric

EDITOR
Immediate PT position to become Full-Time 2-1-09. Tech. soc in Farmington Hills seeks PT Editor who is highly organized and motivated with expertise in proofreading, copy editing and desktop publishing. Proficient in Word-Perfect, MS Word, Frame-Maker, InDesign & Photo-shop. Prepress and digital color correction exp. a plus. 4 yr degree, 2 yrs pertinent exp., exc. editorial language skills. Resume and salary req: Director, H.R. - P/T P.O. Box 9094 Farmington Hills, MI 48339-9094 FAX: 248-948-3771 Barb.cheyne@concrete.org

ELECTRICIAN-Licensed
Industrial door manufacturer. 2 yrs. Industrial electrical exp. to repair & troubleshoot doors/control panels. Serious inquiries only. Apply at: 8001 Ronda Dr., Canton MI 48187

FITNESS - WITH A FUTURE
\$9 Per Hour during training, plus Bonus/Commission. Positions available for high energy, enthusiastic people with a passion for fitness! If you are ready for a fun, not boring job with a generous, progressive leader in the fitness industry, we want to talk to you. Full benefits - vacation, health, dental, optical, 401k. Fully paid training with no experience needed (staff from other health clubs are welcome to apply). We reward productive people with increased earnings, promotions and weekly commission/bonuses. Fitness USA - Ladies Division call 248-356-6700 or apply in person at 3000 Telegraph Road, Southfield, MI on Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday

Holiday Help \$14.25 base-apt. PT/FT, flex schedules great for students/others. Call Today (248) 426-4405

INTERNET MARKETER
3 yrs. Pay Per Click exp. Fax resume to Lover's Lane, Plymouth (734) 414-0020

Help Wanted-General 5000

LOOKING FOR A CAREER (not a job) Real Estate Agent Free pre-licensing (except for materials \$85)
Salaried positions available if you qualify.

This is the time to buy homes in Michigan, be the one to sell the House. Change your life personally & financially register today.

CALL ED BOWLIN AT 734-591-5940, EXT. 107

MACHINIST
To operate CNC Mill & Lathe. Union shop. Apply at: 8001 Ronda Dr., Canton MI 48187

MAINTENANCE PERSON
Detroit/Redford Apartment Community. Minor plumbing/electrical general maintenance. Self motivated, requires on-call duties. Pay based on experience. Fax resume to: 248-649-0075

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
Plating Company needs a Maintenance Technician. Must have plumbing & electrical knowledge. Competitive wage, benefits, retirement. Fax resume: 313-341-0315

Manager
Apartment Manager
Career minded individual needed to manage a mid-size apt. community in Westland. Competitive salary/benefits. Fax resume: 734-261-4811

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
With Experience
Very busy Internal Medicine office in Livonia. Fax Resume Attn: Christina 734-779-2121

OFFICE CLEANER
5 nights/week for Livonia area. Exp. desired. \$120/wk. Fax resume: 734-254-9194

★ Oil Change Technicians ★
10 Minute Oil Change experience or will train. FT &/or PT. Apply at: 34680 W. 8 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, 1/2 mile W. of Farmington Rd. 248-476-1313

Print Media Buyer/Editor
Part-Time. Industrial exp. helpful. Send resume to: Admin@riegner.com

A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

Help Wanted-General 5000

PRINTING
Openings for IN-HOUSE Customer Service Rep's. College students with marketing degree preferred. Most CSR work is done via the internet or phone. Excellent opportunity. Email resume to: csjobs1@live.com

Sell it all with Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL

Property Manager
Professional needed for independent condo association in Northville Twp. 691 units, 3 lakes, clubhouse, swimming pool & extensive grounds. \$3-M budget & 16 full-time employees. Competitive salary and benefits. Excellent administrative & supervisory abilities, comprehensive knowledge of financial planning, good communication & computer skills essential. Bachelor's degree or higher in a related field desirable. The Property Manager is appointed by and reports to a seven-member Board of Directors. Resume to: Board of Directors 20301 Silver Springs Drive Northville, MI 48167 EOE

Purchasing Associate
(Detroit, MI area/ multiple openings)
Prepare purchase orders of bakery/restaurant and send copies to suppliers. Req's 2 years relevant exp. or any equally suitable comb of edu. training or exp. to qualify applicant to perform job duties. Send resume to: Manikrupa, Inc. d/b/a Dunkin' Donuts, 34417 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185. EOE.

RETAIL SALES
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Professional appearance with good communication skills. Fax resume to: (248) 357-8747

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Exp. 4, Westland office. Part-Time or Full-Time. Fax resume: 734-425-7575

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Experienced. Mon. & Thur. Plymouth area. Please Call: 734-459-7110

DENTAL ASSISTANT
For friendly patient oriented family practice in Walled Lake/Novi area. 24-35 hrs. Experience required. Email or fax resume to: igimblyes@aol.com Fax: 248-669-2176

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Must have insurance billing exp. Fax resume: 248-355-4225 or email: wattzz@msn.com

DENTAL TECHNICIAN
Small crown & bridge dental lab in Garden City looking for technician for piece work or P/T. Call Anne 734-425-7533

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Apply now, firm has 37 PT/FT Openings \$14.25 base-apt. We train, great for resume, conditions apply, must be 18+, advancement opty. Call Today (248) 426-4405

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Audio company seeking motivated individuals to train & work with professional home theater equipment. Paid training. Company vehicle \$800-\$1000/wk. Valid DL. No winners! Call 734-207-0317

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

Help Wanted-General 5000

ADULT CARRIERS NEEDED

Western Wayne County & Farmington Area
Previous experience preferred



careerbuilder.com™

Observer & Eccentric
HOMETOWNlife.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

DIRECTOR OF NURSING
•RN SUPERVISOR/
CASE MANAGER
•RNs, LPNs
•HOME HEALTH
LIAISON NURSE
& SALES/MARKETING
Excellent Pay!
Submit resume to:
sandy@ihealthcall.com
or visit:
www.ihealthcall.com
(248) 395-3777
or (800) 991-9933
Sandy extension 210
or Elliot extension 211

**Find the best
garage sales in
O&E Classified!**
"It's All About Results!"

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
FULL-TIME. Send resume to:
43422 West Oaks Drive, PMB
#167, Novi, MI 48377-3300

Medical Assistant
Medical office seeks experi-
enced **Receptionist**. Must
have strong computer & medi-
cal insurance knowledge. Full
Time with exc. pay & benefits.
Plymouth/Ann Arbor area.
Fax resume to: 734-998-8767
or Email: a2derm@aol.com

Medical Assistant
Part time, Experienced
Tuesday & Thursday all
day, Saturday a.m. only.
Busy dermatology office
Farmington Hills area. Fax
Resume to 248-477-3328

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Position available for experi-
enced MA in fast paced family
practice. References required.
Fax resume to: 248-474-4224

MEDICAL BILLER
For sub specialty practice
in Troy, Misys background
preferred. Must have work-
ing knowledge of insurance
requirements for coding
through status review. Full
time, excellent working
conditions and benefits.
Competitive salary. Fax
resume to: 248-435-7365

•Medical Biller
•Medical Receptionist
•Physical Therapist
Experienced
For Urgent Care Center
in Canton. Please send
resume to:
careers@premiermedicine.com
or fax: 734-454-5447

**MEDICAL OFFICE
& RN OPPORTUNITIES**
Harper Associates
See our Display Ad in the
Healthcare Recruitment Page
in today's newspaper.
www.harperjobs.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

**MEDICAL QUALITY
ASSURANCE**
Farmington Hills based HQ
is seeking a clinician for a multi
state physician practice to
work with QA, performing
audits & training. Home
Health experience a plus.
Outpatient E/M, ICD-9, OPT
knowledge a plus. Some travel
required. Excellent salary &
benefits. Email resumes to:
hrjobs@
visitingphysicians.com

**MEDICAL
RECEPTIONIST/CASE MGR**
PT, Exp req'd. \$11/hr. Fax
resume: (734) 421-9954

Medical Technician
FT position for infectious
disease, EIA, NAT or HLA
with required on call for
organ donors. Med Tech
degree with BS required.
Previous experience is
desirable. This position
comes with competitive
salary and excellent bene-
fits package. Please submit
cover letter and resume to:

HR, Gift of Life Michigan,
3861 Research Park Dr,
Ann Arbor, MI 48108, or
E-mail resume to:
jobs@giftoflifemichigan.org

Nursing Coordinator
For Neighborhoods at The
Village of Redford

An innovated, person cen-
tered care community looking
for results oriented, account-
able, trustworthy, progressive
Nursing Coordinator to part-
ner with us in transforming
our culture. The preferred
LPN/RN candidate must have
exceptional follow through
abilities, people skills, poss-
ess solid clinical skills, great
customer service and be for-
ward thinking regarding nurs-
ing policies and programs.
We offer great benefits and a
competitive salary. Interested
candidates should forward
resume cover letter and salary
expectations to:
malvarez@gvm.org
EOE

OPTOMETRIC ASSISTANT
Part-Time, for private office.
Exp. preferred. Please fax
resume: (248) 427-9610

**Physical Therapist
Full-Time**
Heartland Home Care is
searching for a qualified pro-
fessional who enjoys provid-
ing excellent care to join our
team servicing Ann Arbor &
surrounding areas. We offer a
warm work environment with
competitive compensation,
mileage reimbursement and
more! Contact Kim Trevas at:
810-923-4562
email resume:
ktravas@hcr-manorcare.com
fax: 517-913-5902
or apply online at:
www.hcr-manorcare.com

Heartland
Enriching life.
EOE Drug Free

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

RNs, LPNs, PT & MSW
Needed for home visits.
PT & FT w/benefits.
Call: 248-968-9714
or fax resume: 248-968-9715

**Help Wanted-
Food/Beverage 5080**

Bartenders & Waitstaff
Bikini's during the day. Good
attitude. Apply in person only,
anytime day & evening
**Wayne Rd. Pub, 1870 S.
Wayne Rd., Westland (corner
of Wayne & Palmer)**

**BIKINI WAITSTAFF &
BARTENDERS**
FT/PT, days & nights. Apply in
person before 6pm: Plymouth
Road House, 34101 Plymouth
Rd. (734) 421-7744.

COOK
Work line, prep, etc. Fast-
paced pub. Dunleavy's,
(248) 478-8866

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

DELIVERY/SALES
\$775-\$1050
3 needed to start now.
Casual Dress, Co. Vehicle,
Cash Daily, Sales Reg.
Call between 10am-2pm.
(248) 471-5200

Outside Sales Rep
Needed for new showroom in
South Lyon. Remodelling
experience required. Must be
self motivated, hard working
and trustworthy. Looking for
individual to grow with com-
pany long term. Commission
based salary. Fax resume to
248-437-0526

Retail
Jewelry Sales
SEASONAL
UP TO \$20/HR
734-525-3200 Fax 625-1443
jobs@jewelryexchange.com

Retail Sales
For Northville area. Cappy
Heating has PT w/flexible
hours. Must have outgoing
personality to generate leads
at Home Depot. Retirees and
college students welcome.
Please call 734-655-1360 or
email jeff@cappyheating.com

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

DAILY IN-HOME ASSISTANCE
for senior citizen in Plymouth.
1-4 hrs. per day, very light
work. Must drive. Background
check required. 517-420-5891

Position Wanted 5340

I AM A HOUSEKEEPER
Looking to do housekeeping
work 20 vrs exp. Exc. refer-
ence. Sharon. (734) 564-5922

PRIVATE NURSE AVAILABLE
Certified Geriatric Nurse.
Avail. for long term care pos-
ition. Exc. ref. (734) 844-8828

**Childcare Services-
Licensed 5360**

**CANTON Loving Home
Daycare** Mon-Fri. Activities,
meals, affordable, experi-
enced. Michele 734-354-6886

Childcare Needed 5380

BABYSITTER WANTED
Starting Jan. 5, 2009 in Novi
home. Mon-Thurs. 12:30-8:30
at \$10/hr. Call: 248-880-1922

Divorce Services 5510

DIVORCE \$75.00 -
www.CSRdisability.com
CS&R 734-425-1074

Business Opportunities 5740

**Opportunity to Earn Executive
Level Income** Average People
Using a Simple System. Learn
How. 800-753-7632

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when looking for a
great deal check the
**Observer & Eccentric
Classifieds!**

Local news.
You don't have to
fish for it.
It's right here, from
the front to the
back of your

Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS
TOTALLY LOCAL COVERAGE!

To subscribe call 866-88-PAPER

**Thanksgiving Early
Advertising Deadlines**

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the
Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will be
having early deadlines for advertising:

For the Issue of Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008

Deadline:
Friday, Nov. 21st at 4pm
Friday, Nov. 21st at 4pm
Monday, Nov. 24th at 3pm
Tuesday, Nov. 25th at 11am
Tuesday, Nov. 25th at 11am

Real Estate Display Ads:
Automotive Display Ads:
Recruitment/Apt. Display Ads:
Classified Liners:
Obits:

**Observer & Eccentric
Classified
HOMETOWNlife.com**

4 easy ways to place your ad:

PHONE..... 1-800-579-SELL (7355)
FAX..... 734-953-2232
ONLINE..... hometownlife.com
EMAIL..... oeads@hometownlife.com

Deadlines:
Sunday edition 4:30 p.m. Friday
Thursday edition..... 11:00 a.m. Wednesday

Offices and Hours:
Eccentric office..... 805 E. Maple, Birmingham
Observer office 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia
Hours 8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

POLICY
All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-0900. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspaper sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice. 0608028268

> buildmydreamteam.com or 877-Fill-A-Job

"A" TEAM OR EH? TEAM

If you don't already have a team that excites you, find one on CareerBuilder.com.
With millions of top performers available, adding all-star talent to your team
is as easy as A,B,C.

START BUILDING

careerbuilder.com®

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Observer & Eccentric
HOMETOWNlife.com

8000's Autos/RV's

8000... Airplanes
8010... Jet Site
8020... Boat/Motors
8025... Car/Boat/Sales/Rental
8030... Boat Parts
8040... Boat/Service
8045... Boat/Storage
8050... Boat/Vehicle Storage
8060... Insurance, Motor
8070... Motorcycles/Mini Bikes/Go-Karts
8080... Motorcycles-Parts & Service
8090... Off Road Vehicles
8100... Recreational Vehicles
8110... Snowmobiles
8120... Campers/Motor Homes/Trailers
8130... RV-Motor Home Rental
8140... Construction, Heavy Equipment
8150... Auto Misc.
8160... Auto/Truck-Parts & Service
8170... Auto Rentals/Leasing
8180... Auto Financing
8190... Autos Wanted
8200... Junk Cars Wanted
8210... Utility Trailers
8220... Trucks For Sale
8240... Mini-Vans
8250... Vans
8260... A Wheel Drive
8290... Sports Utility
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Mini-Vans 8240

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4WD, moonroof, 31K, looks new! \$14,900
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(734) 453-2500

BUICK RENDEZVOUS 2006
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V8, 4x4, 19K miles, excellent condition! \$12,900
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39 Mo. Lease

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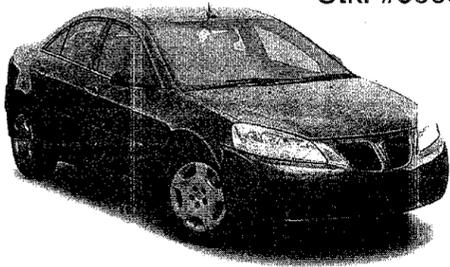
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Was \$19,480 **-OR- LEASE FOR**
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\$15,357* | **\$191**** PER MO.
\$0 Down Payment

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Stock #90146



37 MPG
Was \$17,725 **-OR- LEASE FOR**
NOW
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\$0 Down Payment

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Stock #078



Was \$28,875 **-OR- LEASE FOR**
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Stock #93035



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\$0 Down Payment

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Stk. #93048



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NOW
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\$0 Down Payment

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Stk. #93026



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Stk. #95013



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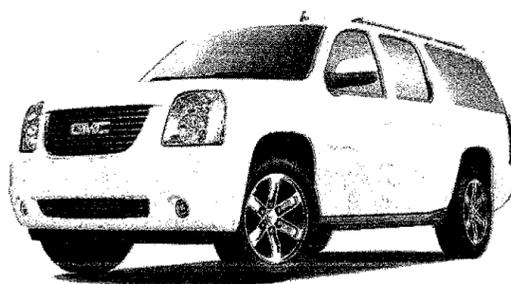
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\$24,953* | **\$335**** PER MO.
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\$11,995* | **\$198**** PER MO.
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Lease for 36 Months **\$269****
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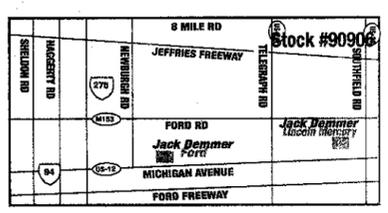
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