

SUNDAY

July 19, 2009

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

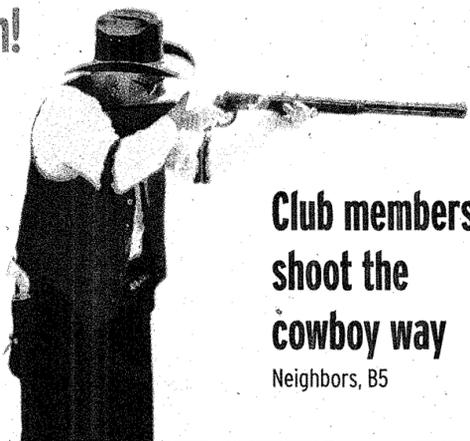
Volume 45 Number 16

75 CENTS

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# WESTLAND OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com



Club members shoot the cowboy way  
Neighbors, B5

## AROUND TOWN

### Super heroes

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's Super Hero Saturday!

Kids are invited to wear their Super Hero costume and compete in games like Kryptonite Toss, Justice League Training Course and Pin Spider-man on the Web at Wayne County Parks and Recreation's Super Hero Saturday, July 25, in Hines Park's Nankin Mills area in Westland.

The super event will take place from 1-3 p.m.

### Day 'kampers'

The Westland Parks and Recreation Department is looking for youngsters for Kamp Bailey, a weeklong summer camp at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, behind City Hall.

The camp is for children ages 6-12. There will be two sessions — Monday-Friday, July 20-24 and July 27-31. Hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The cost is \$100 for Westland residents and \$103 for nonresidents. Activities include swimming, arts and crafts, games and more. After-care is available for an additional fee.

For more information or to register, call (734) 722-7620.

### Celebration

Head on over to Stottlemeyer Park on Dancy at Paul Street in the city's south end for an old-fashioned picnic with the family and friends at the Annapolis Park Historical Celebration Saturday, July 25.

The picnic takes place 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and includes games, prizes, raffles, music and entertainment. It follows a ceremony for the unveiling of a historical marker recognizing Annapolis Park as one of the first subdivisions built in the U.S. in the 1950s for African Americans.

The unveiling will take place at 10 a.m. at the entrance to the subdivision at Middlebelt and Hanover.

### Baby, baby

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency will hold its 12th annual Community Baby Shower 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24, at Wayne County Community College's Downriver Campus in Taylor.

The Community Baby Shower is a free event for low-income expectant parents and those with infants up to 3 months of age by Sept. 24.

Parents will receive information and resources regarding their new bundles of joy. Guest speakers will share information regarding family safety, parenting tips and healthy relationships. Participants will also enjoy lunch, prizes and raffles throughout the event.

Call for information regarding on-site childcare. Space is limited. Call (734) 246-2280, Ext. 122, for more information or to register. Callers who reach a voice mailbox should leave their name and telephone number so that their call can be returned and the registration process can be completed.

## City adds sprayground to Tattan Park

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Before the end of summer, kids should be having some cool fun at Westland's new H2O Zone Sprayground.

Construction on the state-of-the-art 6,500-square-foot facility located adjacent to Play Planet in Tattan Park began Tuesday.

"We need to compete with all the video games and other things kids

have, so we need to come up with cool stuff for kids," said Parks and Recreation Director Bob Kosowski. "This will be the coolest park in the area. You know it's a success when kids walk up with their eyes wide open."

Scheduled to be completed in late August, the new water sprayground will contain a variety of spray fixtures that are fun, safe and interactive. The sprayground will also be completely wheelchair accessible.

The H2O Zone will include above ground elements, such as a large dump bucket, palm tree, tumble buckets, water shooting cannons, and a nest of friendly crocodiles led by one named "Steve." The highlight of the sprayground will be an 18-foot helicopter that will dispense water from its spinning top rotor.

"The helicopter — it's a one-of-a-kind feature," said Kosowski, who hopes to keep the new sprayground open until the end of September after

the Bailey Pool has closed.

The sprayground will also include 15 in-ground water features to create a park that is perfect for children from the youngest to the oldest. The sprayground is all about fun, but it's also an environmentally sound project.

Although there is no standing water like a traditional swimming pool, the water used at the sprayground collects in an underground

Please see **PARK, A2**



It's a family affair at La Casita Supermercado in Westland. Rodolfo Martinez, who owns the business with his brother-in-law, gets a hand from his nephew Eric Martinez and niece Jessica Martinez.

## Taste of home as close as ethnic markets

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Everyone has their own version of comfort food and exactly what dishes have that familiar homey feel probably depends a lot on what you grew up eating.

Shoppers with a taste for foods from Mexico, South America and Africa can find plenty of choices at three businesses along Ford. Located just west of Wildwood, La Casita Supermercado offers imported groceries, specialty meat cuts and has an adjoining restaurant.

"Three-quarters of our products are

'Three-quarters of our products are imported. We have things that wouldn't be found in a regular grocery store.'

RODOLFO MARTINEZ, La Casita owner

imported. We carry some products from South America — Venezuela — not just Mexico," said Rodolfo Martinez, who owns La Casita with his brother-in-law, Erick Ortiz. "We have things that wouldn't be found in a regular grocery store."

But an especially popular item at the store happens to be made at a plant in Grand

Rapids — El Milagro Tortillas.

"We sell 50 cases of those tortillas in a week. They taste closer to the tortillas in Mexico — the chips, too," said Martinez. "The ones from southwest Detroit don't have as good a flavor but we carry them."

La Casita — little house in Spanish — offers baked goods and meats, including thinly cut beef for fajitas, really thin short ribs for grilling and deli meats imported from Mexico.

Members of the extended Martinez family work at the Westland store, which

### ETHNIC SPECIALTIES

**La Casita Supermercado:**  
34707 Ford, Westland, (734) 326-0523

**La Espiga Dorada:**  
33223 Ford, Garden City, (734) 425-1318

**Winners African Market:** 33676 Ford, Westland, (734) 437-1099

Please see **MARKET, A2**

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### CANDIDATE PROFILES

The following is the third profile of nine candidates for city council in the Tuesday, Aug. 4, primary election.



**ELECTION 2009**

Voters will decide which eight will advance to the November general election, when four terms — three four-year and one two-year — will be filled. Vying for a spot are Christine Cicirelli-Bryant, Hal Dunn, Sam Durante, Janet Frederick-Wilson, Adam Hammons, Meriem Kadi, Kenneth Mehl, Dewey Reeves and Mark Rodriguez.

## Durante: Will work hard for community

Why are you seeking a position on the Westland City Council?

I am certain my optimistic, ambitious, cost-conscious attitude has a positive impact on our community and will have in the future. I would sincerely appreciate working closely with the other council members, city officials and private citizens who are focused on the betterment of Westland for all its people in private life and in business.

What qualities or skills do you believe you would bring to the council, if elected?

Most importantly my good worth ethics, a listening ear and open mind, vast personal and business experiences, my determination and love for this community will drive me



Durante

Please see **DURANTE, A2**

### SAM DURANTE

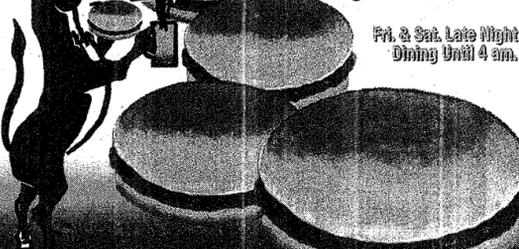
Age: 67  
Employment: Retired  
Family: Married to Linda for 34 years, three children, six grandchildren  
Education: two-year program at business college  
Community Involvement: Westland Library Board vice president, EDC/TIFA board member, Westland Summer Festival Committee, Senior Citizen Advisory Council, Commission on Aging, Mission Green, Friendship Center activities, Wild for Youth Events.

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**MARKET**

FROM PAGE A1

added a taquería — a restaurant — adjoining the store. The family also has a second restaurant in Ypsilanti.

"My aunt came from Mexico for two years and taught us the dishes. She owns a restaurant in Mexico City," said Martinez. "It's more authentic Mexican food."

Canton resident Yolanda Rojas spontaneously praised the store and restaurant.

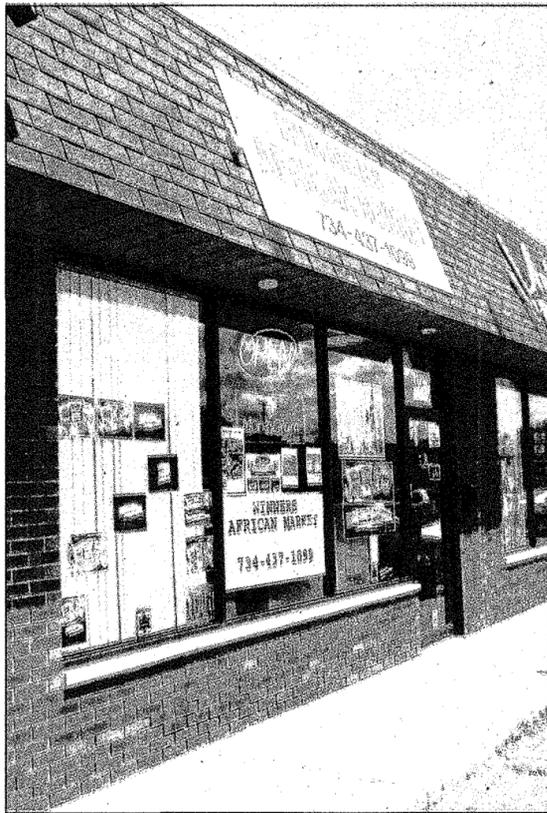
"It's so great that this store is here. I don't have to go to southwest Detroit anymore," said Rojas, who was looking for Mexican pastries her mother wanted to give as a gift. "They are all very nice and give very good service. The food in the restaurant is finger licking good."

As it happened, Rojas needed more sweet breads than La Casita had on hand but found what she needed a short distance further east on Ford in Garden City at La Espiga Dorada, the Golden Wheat in English, a Mexican bakery.

"There are not a lot of Mexican bakeries, but there are a lot of Mexican people," said Yolanda Garcia, who co-owns the bakery with her brother, Santiago.

"A lot of American people like Mexican bread, too. We make everything here, it's fresh daily," said Garcia, whose daughter Marêli translated her comments.

Along with Mexican bread, which is thicker and larger than most American bread, another popular Mexican specialty is tres



Open since September, Winners African Market in Westland offers imported and specialty foods, along with DVDs and cloth.

leche or three milk cake. Like La Casita, the bakery also offers moneygrams, Mexican bill paying and telephone calls.

Between the two Hispanic businesses, Abiola Mustapha has Winners African Market offering many items imported from her native Nigeria and other African countries.

The market offers cassava — a

yam-like root vegetable — fresh or made into flour. Looking like a yam on steroids, the fresh cassava can be cut up and boiled, Mustapha said, or the flour can be added to hot water.

"It's more like mashed potatoes, it's a taste of home," said Mustapha, who was a direct care worker before opening the store in September 2008. "A lot of products, you can get the same brand here but what comes from Africa tastes different."

Some products are distinctly African and unlikely to be found in American grocery stores, for example, palm oil.

"It's a red oil used for cooking, you don't have it here," she said.

Another unusual item is egusi, melon seeds that are available whole or ground, and dried round okra, which is used as a thickener. There is dried shrimp, frozen goat meat, dried peppers and plantain chips.

"We get some American customers who want to try something, they will ask me how to make it," said Mustapha, a Westland resident.

lr Rogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

**AROUND WESTLAND**

**It's Magic Monday**

Magic Monday Family Night with WMGC 105.1 radio returns to the Bailey Recreation Center 7-9 p.m. Monday, Aug. 3.

Meet your WMGC 105.1 Family and enjoy inflated games provided by Bobby's Bouncers, swimming in the outdoor pool, and playing in the Bailey Center gymnasium and at Tattan Park's Play Planet Playscape.

All ages are welcome. Bring your swim attire and a lock for locker. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$2 for child to use the pool. Adults in the wading pool area are free. All other activities are free.

In case of inclement weather, activities will be in the gymna-

sium, swimming not available. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

**In concert**

Scott Cramer, band teacher at John Glenn High School, will be directing the Novi Concert Band when it performs at 6 p.m. this evening (July 19) at the Performance Pavilion of the William P. Faust Public Library.

A part of the Westland Cultural Society's summer concert series, the performance is free. The concert Sunday, July 26, will feature Blue Grass music with Bandura Bridge with Mitch and Jesse Mann.

Bring your own chairs or blankets. In the event of rain, the concert will be rescheduled, if possible. The library is

on Central City Parkway, just north of Ford. For more information, call (734) 722-7620 or (734) 522-3918.

**Free seminar**

The public is invited to attend a free seminar on downsizing at Westhaven Manor in Westland at 1 p.m. Friday, July 24.

The seminar, "Simplify your Life: A Moving Experience," is for seniors and anyone else who would like to know how to downsize their possessions and pack their valuables. It will be held in Westhaven's Cards and Games Gallery. Refreshments will be served.

The retirement community is at 34601 Elmwood Ave., off Wildwood north of Ford in Westland.

**PARK**

FROM PAGE A1

tank to be re-chlorinated and reused. The water saving element added about \$75,000 to the project.

"The only difference between how we handle the water at the sprayground and the Bailey Pool is that the water at the sprayground doesn't stand," said Kosowski. "It's really cool and goes along with Mission Green."

The \$350,000 project is being funded by the Downtown Development Authority and will be adjacent to the recently constructed Play Planet, which has already proven to be a pop-

ular destination for families.

"If your child likes Play Planet, they will love the H2O Zone," said Mayor William Wild. "Wait until you see the silly serpent, it is 15 feet long and has mist and water shooting from its mouth and body. The design of the park will truly captivate the kid in everyone."

The \$250,000 tab for Play Planet was also paid for by the DDA, which has a district extending along Westland's stretch of Ford and along Wayne Road from Ford to Glenwood.

"It's a gathering point where families can have fun for free. It's appreciated and really well used. It attracts people," said DDA Chairperson Margaret Harlow. "They will visit Dairy

Dan, Subway, Boston Market and store along Ford Road. We need that people are very concerned with doing business with small local businesses."

Tattan Park is located just south of Ford Road on Carlson next to Westland City Hall. For more information, contact the Westland Parks and Recreation Department at (734) 722-7620 or visit the city Web site at www.cityofwestland.com and click on the Recreation Department tab.

A formal groundbreaking ceremony has been scheduled for 8 a.m. July 23 at the regularly scheduled July meeting of the Westland Downtown Development Authority.

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**DURANTE**

FROM PAGE A1

to work hard ensuring that Westland remains the All American City I am proud to call home.

**What do you see as the issues facing the city at this time?**

First and foremost the issues will be determined by the individual citizens, citizen groups, businesses, city departments, etc. Whatever is brought to the council table creates our agenda. Personally,

I believe of utmost importance is our community's most valuable asset, our fragile youth. During the present economic crisis, we must do everything we can to be sure their learning tools and school programs aren't taken from them.

**How would you address those issues?**

My vast personal experiences working as a team player and my management experience in business spanning 50 years gives me a solid base for working as a city

council member. I will bring to the council an open mind, intelligent suggestions and ideas and a serious listening ear; all to help provide solutions to problems.

**What do you want voters to know about you?**

Since retiring, it has been such a pleasure having more time for community activities. If elected to the city council, I still expect to continue my other volunteer work as long as there is no conflict of interest. Of course, the council work will be my primary concern.

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# 'Huge' project could ease I-275/Ford Road issues

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth drivers making their way into or through Canton will have an easier time of it if officials can successfully push a \$22.5 million proposal to create hundreds of jobs and improve the overburdened I-275/Ford Road interchange.

The plan, officials say, hinges on federal economic-recovery dollars communities are fiercely competing to receive.

Officials say the project would dramatically ease traffic congestion in a bustling corridor including the Ford-Haggerty intersection, one of Michigan's most accident-prone intersections with 345 crashes during a five-year period ending in 2008.

The project could begin with a design phase as early as February with construction finished in 2012, aiding motorists not only in Canton, but also in neighboring communities such as Westland.

"This would be huge," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said Tuesday.

His remarks came on the same day the township board agreed to spend nearly \$10,000 to hire a Detroit-area transportation consulting firm, Parsons-Brinckerhoff, to beat a Sept. 15 deadline to apply for a federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER, grant.

Consider how the three-pronged project would benefit the area:

- Motorists exiting the southbound I-275 ramp could avoid Ford altogether and connect to northbound Haggerty by accessing a new road slip that would curve over and intersect with Haggerty north of Ford, near the IKEA property. A traffic light would be installed at the inter-

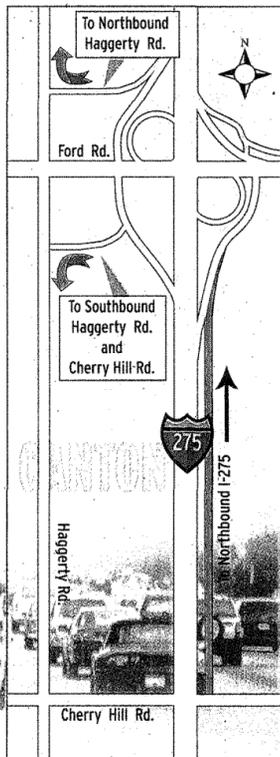
## I-275/Ford Rd. Recommended Enhancement Concept

### Features:

- Access to Northbound I-275 from Cherry Hill Rd. without use of Haggerty Rd., bypassing Ford/Haggerty intersection.
- Access from Southbound I-275 to SB Haggerty Rd. and Cherry Hill Rd. without use of the Ford/Haggerty intersection.
- Access from Southbound I-275 to NB Haggerty Rd. without use of the Ford/Haggerty intersection.
- Potential for improved access to development parcels east of I-275, relieving congestion at Ford/Lotz intersection.



New / Realigned Ramp  
New Service Drive Roadway



dents and businesses. "It would be brutal," Faas said, but the current proposal will not displace anyone.

The impact of potential lane closings during construction isn't yet known. But, Faas said, "I expect the biggest disruption could be on the northbound on ramp to I-275, as it (would be) completely reworked."

The project already has gained support from the Michigan Department of Transportation, but Faas conceded competition will be fierce for \$1.5 billion at stake in federal TIGER funds, part of a larger economic stimulus plan. However, the firm hired to seek the grant, Parsons-Brinckerhoff, is highly familiar with the project because the company was involved in a regional transportation study that placed a high priority on the proposal.

That study — completed for local, county, regional, state and federal officials — spawned a report in 2006 that listed numerous projects endorsed by an array of government agencies, including the township board. The study cost \$450,000, largely funded by MDOT, and it encompassed a 72-square-mile area.

LaJoy said talks about improving safety around the I-275/Ford Road interchange began in earnest in 2003, when he was a state representative. LaJoy called it critical to ease traffic congestion along Ford Road, which he said already was being traveled by some 50,000 vehicles a day when one study was done nearly a decade ago. Haggerty, too, has its share of gridlock.

Township officials expect to know by February whether the \$22.5 million project will be approved. Said LaJoy: "It's kind of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

section.

- Drivers using the same I-275 ramp could access southbound Haggerty by crossing Ford — rather than traveling on it — and using another road slip south of Ford. Even with two traffic lights — one at Ford, one at Haggerty — motorists could avoid the Ford gridlock. "It's a huge difference," LaJoy said.
- Drivers traveling either east or west along Cherry Hill could access I-275 by using a northbound connector — essentially a service drive — that would be built along the east side of the interstate. The connector

would intersect Ford, where a traffic light would be installed, and then continue to a newly designed, northbound I-275 on ramp.

Tim Faas, the township's municipal services director, said the \$22.5 million project, if approved for federal funding, could create an estimated 235 to 705 jobs. Area businesses also could benefit from the dollars those workers would spend, he said.

Moreover, the project would be far less costly than installing a completely new interchange — a much larger project that would force out some of the area's resi-



## A bit of vaudeville

There'll be time for fun, to sing along with some of the old familiar tunes of days gone by and learn about vaudeville when The Petticoat Ladies perform at Garden City Presbyterian Church's Saturday Night Light at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 25. The program, "Vaudeville Vance's Petticoat (Plus One) Review," is a historical presentation of how vaudeville got started, along with a "bill" of singers, dancers and comedians representing that time period. Featured will be Pastor Ron Vanderbeek (top row, from left), Debbie Eleson, Denise Salo (clockwise), Louise Salvatore, Jackie Zopff, Vera Seifers, Gini Miles, Gail Smalley and Wanda Jarvis. Not pictured is Rita Gibbs. The church is on Middlebelt south of Ford in Garden City. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-7620.

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# 40th anniversary of the lunar landing

"We choose to go to the moon. We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things,

not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win, and the others, too."

Those were the words of President John F. Kennedy just a few weeks after astronaut Alan Shepard became the first American in space. Kennedy was setting forth a new challenge for NASA. He wanted to send astronauts to the moon before the decade came to a close. For eight years, thousands of people worked tirelessly to make that dream a reality. On July 20, 1969, the first ever manned moon landing occurred. The now famous Apollo 11 mission carried astronauts Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins into orbit. Armstrong and Aldrin were the first two men to actually step foot on the surface of the moon while Collins circled it.

In honor of the Apollo anniversary, there will be many celebrations throughout the country lasting until the end of July. Here at home, you can come to the library and check out the DVDs, "NASA, the Ultimate Collection: To the Moon and Beyond" and "In the Shadow of the Moon." We also have Buzz Aldrin's newly published biography, "Magnificent Desolation: The Long Journey Home from the Moon" as well as "Rocket Men: The Epic Story of the First Americans on the Moon."

Here are some links to sites that are also celebrating this event: [www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/apollo/40th/index.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/apollo/40th/index.html), [www.wechoosetohemoo.org/](http://wechoosetohemoo.org/), [www.popularmechanics.com/apollo11turns40/](http://www.popularmechanics.com/apollo11turns40/).

For more information stop by at the reference desk, call us at (734) 326-6123, or remotely search our catalog 24 hours a day at [www.westlandlibrary.org](http://www.westlandlibrary.org).

**Highlighted Activities**

**Adult Book Discussion Group:** 7 p.m. July 21.

Join us as we discuss "A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier" by Ishmael Beah. This is a first-hand account of the life of a child who survived a brutal civil war in West Africa. Please read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

**Storytelling Workshop with Rob McCabe:** 5 p.m. July 22

Interested in telling stories to kids, friends, or family? Want to learn how to tell them better? Learn the basics and more in this beginning workshop with local storyteller and teacher, Rob McCabe. Space is limited. (Participants are being asked to bring a snack to pass for break time.) Sign up at the

Reference Desk to reserve your seat.

**20s/30s Book Club:** 7 p.m. July 22, Biggy Coffee, 37644 Ford, west of Newburgh.

This month's selection is the memoir, "Smashed: Story of a Drunken Girlhood" by Koren Zailckas. From earliest experimentation to habitual excess to full-blown abuse, 24-year-old Zailckas leads us through her experience of a terrifying trend among young

girls, exploring how binge drinking becomes routine, how it becomes "the usual."

**Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the library:** Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome.

**Chess Night:** Every Thursday evening at 7 p.m.

Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to Chess masters are all welcome. No

sign-up required.

There's still time to join the Adult Summer Reading Program, "DIY @ Your Library." Programs, prizes and reading now through Aug. 15.

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

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## County helps 4 agencies assist domestic violence victims

Four non-profits have received funds from Wayne County to assist victims of domestic violence.

The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) in Dearborn, First Step, with offices in Plymouth, Taylor and Redford, Vista Maria in Dearborn Heights and the YWCA of Western Wayne County in Inkster are getting money from the Wayne County Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The county awarded a total of \$2 million in grant funds.

"In these challenging economic times, statistics show that domestic violence increases," said Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano. "We want to empower the lives of women and men in this county who are victims of domestic violence so they may begin again with a sense of safety, hope and dignity."

According to a 2005 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study, one in four women and one in nine men are victims of domestic violence at some point in their lives.

ACCESS plans to purchase and rehabilitate vacant homes for victims of domestic violence. The Wayne County Land Bank will assist ACCESS with the project.

ACCESS provides a wide range of human and cultural services as well as advocacy work for the Arab-American community and the greater

community as well.

"We would like to thank Wayne County and Mr. Ficano for their support," said Andrea Awada, president of Access.

The Plymouth-based First Step, which provides shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence, will construct new housing units in the city of Wayne. The YWCA and Vista Marie will use their awards to purchase and rehabilitate houses to use as transitional housing for victims of domestic violence.

"These are important projects to support," said Tuka Mullin, chief development officer of Economic Development Growth Engine. "To provide safe havens for victims of domestic violence cannot be overstated."

According to a 2004 Allstate Foundation National Poll on domestic violence, 43 percent ranked fear that the abuser will find the victim as the number one reason a victim would not leave his/her abuser.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) dispersed \$3.9 billion in NSP funds around the country to help governments stabilize areas hardest hit by foreclosed and abandoned properties. Under the Housing Recovery Act of 2008, Wayne County received \$25.9 million in February 2009 to address vacant, abandoned and foreclosed properties.

# Flag sales down with the economy

BY KAREN SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Fewer and more worn U.S. flags may be flying this Fourth of July.

Flag sales are down or flat from a year ago, according to flag shops in Livonia and Clawson.

Bill Miles, owner of American Flag and Banner Co. in Clawson, estimates sales there are down 25 percent because of Michigan's economy. A lot of his customers are Big 3 auto suppliers, he said.

"It's not a decrease in patriotism; it's a decrease in the amount of people buying them," he said.

Amy Spahr, owner of the Flag Shop in Livonia, said sales at her shop are "probably comparable" to last year, but have been slowly trickling down each year since Sept. 11, 2001, when they reached unprecedented numbers.

"I just think it's something people have cut back on with the economy," Spahr said.

Both stores sell mostly to businesses, and businesses are either going without or not replacing their flags as frequently as they once did, they said.

"If you drive around, there are a lot of people (businesses) with flagpoles" but no flags, Spahr said.

Flags flown daily need replacing every six months to a year or more, depending on weather conditions.

The time between Memorial Day and Fourth of July is their busiest for sales, they said.

The most popular size flag for businesses is 5 feet by 8 feet, suitable for a 30-foot pole. A flag that size retails for about \$60-\$80. For residents, it's 3 feet by 5 feet. They pay \$14.90 to \$50, depending on the quality.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Amy Spahr manages The Flag Shop on Levan Road just north of Plymouth Road in Livonia.

While people can get U.S. flags made in China from big-box stores, the two local retailers sell only American-made flags.

"All our flags are made here in the United States. I think that's important," Spahr said. Despite overall sales being

lackluster, Spahr said she's seen a spike in sales from some U.S. car dealerships that want to replace flags advertising new and used car sales with Old Glory.

"I think they are proud of being American and an American company and they

### HERE'S HOW TO TREAT OLD GLORY

Federal law stipulates many aspects of flag etiquette, according to [www.usa-flag-site.org](http://www.usa-flag-site.org). The section of law dealing with American flag etiquette is generally referred to as the Flag Code. Here are some general guidelines from the Flag Code:

- The flag should be lighted at all times, either by sunlight or by an appropriate light source.
- The flag should be flown in fair weather unless the flag is designed for inclement weather.
- The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing. It is flown upside down only as a distress signal.
- The flag should not be used for any decoration in general. Bunting of blue, white and red stripes is available for these purposes. The blue stripe of the bunting should be on the top.
- When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object; it should be received by waiting hands and arms. To store the flag, it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously.
- The flag should be cleaned and mended when necessary.
- When a flag is so worn it is no longer fit to serve as a symbol of our country, it should be destroyed by burning in a dignified manner.

want to display that with the flags," she said.

[ksmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:ksmith@hometownlife.com)  
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**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, MI 48124 (313) 277-7940 7/28/2009 at 1:00pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

1082	Psontia Fowler	boxes, bags, totes
1468	Linda Riley	boxes, bags, mattress
1476	John Seefelt	boxes, bags, sofa
1532	Vanessa Patterson	boxes, tv, chair
1552	Marion Sinclair	piano, stereo
2014	Ernest Robinson	boxes, dresser, totes
2060	Joseph Caudill	boxes, bags, tv
2190	Scotty Russell	bags, saw, tool box
2240	Charlotte Scott	boxes, bags, totes

Publish: July 12 & 19, 2009

**CITY OF WESTLAND**

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland, 36601 Ford Road Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **July 27, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.** for the following (no exceptions will be made for late filings):

**Editing & Video Storage System for WLND**

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or at [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com). Please direct any questions pertaining to the specifications to Craig Welkenbach @ (734) 467-3198. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

William Gabriel  
City Controller

Publish: July 19, 2009

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY**  
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To all residents and interested parties, the Council minutes will be available for review on the internet at:

[www.gardencitymi.org](http://www.gardencitymi.org)

You can access this information at City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Police Station Lobby 24 hours a day.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS,  
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: July 19, 2009

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-3117 7/28/2009 at 12:00pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

B028	Deborah Coe	boxes, bags, chairs
B104	Rhonda Houston	washer, dryer, bags
B128	Dwain Puryear	boxes, bags, totes
B129	Linda Carter	boxes, totes, treadmill
B185	Tabita Latham	boxes, dresser, totes
B260	Naeena V Love	boxes, bags, tv
C013	Ted Konesky	boxes, bags, dresser
D016	Jerrid Spicer	bags, sofa, tv
F049	Aikesiah Carter	stove, bags, refrigerator

Publish: July 12 & 19, 2009

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**  
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**CONCRETE SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS AND PAVEMENT**

Sealed proposals for the installation, removal, and replacement of concrete sidewalks, driveways and pavement will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185 on or before **Thursday, July 30, 2009 at 11:00am.** Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

**Description of Work** - Work will consist of installing, removing and replacing concrete sidewalks throughout the City of Westland as designated by the Director of the Department of Public Services.

**Contract Documents on File** - Contract documents may be examined at the City of Westland Engineering Division, 37095 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185. Phone contact (734) 467-3240. A non-refundable charge of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) will be made for each set of Contract Documents.

William Gabriel  
City Controller

Publish: July 19, 2009

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelham Rd., Taylor, MI 48180 (313) 292-9730 7/28/2009 at 11:00 am Sales are for cash only.

Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

2001	Odessa Sartor	grill, totes, sofa
2005	Holly Cacilhas	bags, vacuum, ac unit
2013	Mark Pfromm	boxes, bags, bike
3046	Shavonne Watkins	boxes, tv, chairs
3060	Donnie Wyrick	table, sofa, boxes
4008	Jeremy McCauley	table, dresser, Yamaha 250 Honda motorcycle VIN H319HM0B4501
4051	Antoine Murry	boxes, totes, speakers
4058	Sharrie Gardner	boxes, bags, tv
5023	Gary Scott Giraud	boxes, totes, dresser
5053	Jolyn Trojanowski	boxes, bags, chair
6037	Traicie Breuer	Honda motorcycle VIN H319HM0B4501
6080	Donald Daigle	boxes, tv, fan
6093	Rosemarie Schafer	boxes, totes, dresser
6131	Richard McNamee	boxes, bags, tv
7015	Ryan Moxie	boxes, bags, totes
7038	Deborah Oakley	boxes, dresser, chair
7055	Richard Wallner	boxes, bags, totes
7082	Jeffrey Stonecipher	totes, dresser, boxes

Publish: July 12 & 19, 2009

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 20080 Allen Rd. Trenton, MI 48183 (734)479-5442 7/28/2009 at 10:00 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

133	David Sokolowski	tool box, boxes, totes
231	William D Lane	boxes, bags, sofa
337	Norris Taylor	boxes, bags, picture
345	Don Smith	boxes, totes, grill
512	Janet Pielak	boxes, bags, totes
524	Debra Higgins	boxes, bags, totes
539	Scott Murray	boxes, totes, washer
631	Donald Feister	boxes, totes, chair
658	David Zimmerman	boxes
919	Aaron Cusmano	boxes, bags, totes
946	Kathy Strauss	boxes, bags, totes
947	Susan Dalimonte	boxes, bags, totes
1013	Linda Shutlworth	bags, grill, chairs
1018	Gary Jedenasty	boxes, bags, totes
1116	John Jordan IV	boxes, bags, totes

Publish: July 12 & 19, 2009

# Fixed rate mortgage not always way to go

**Q:** Dear Rick: I have a 30-year fixed rate mortgage at 6 percent. I have approximately 25 years left on the mortgage. Even though my house has dropped in value I still have plenty of equity. I am a contract employee and my contract ends in 18 months. At that time, I plan to sell my home and move to Arizona. I also have a home there and I plan to retire. A friend suggested that I consider refinancing my home because fixed rate mortgages are less than I currently pay. Do you think this is a good strategy?



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

are other options. In situations involving a short time frame such as yours, it may make sense to refinance using an adjustable rate mortgage. Typically, adjustable rate mortgages have a lower rate for the first year until the mortgage readjusts. Currently, adjustable rate mortgages are about 1 percent less than traditional fixed rate mortgages. The key is what will it cost you to refinance? If you can refinance and save, it makes sense.

If you're only going to save a few dollars, however, it's probably not worth it.

One mistake many individuals made over the last decade was refinancing without calculating actual costs. They got caught up in a variety of gimmicks mortgage companies were offering. Good or bad, those gimmicks have evaporated in this economy.

I recommend contacting a couple companies to find get a rate and cost of refinancing. If you can recoup the cost of refinancing over six-eight months, refinancing makes sense. If it takes more than a year to recoup your costs, refinancing is probably not a good idea.

**Q:** Dear Rick: I just graduated Michigan State last spring and am starting my very first job. My father told me that it is smart to sign up for the company's 401(k) plan and to contribute the maximum possible. The company's plan has two options, a traditional 401(k) plan and a Roth 401(k) plan. What would you recommend?

**A:** Congratulations on your graduation from Michigan State, my alma mater, but also on getting a job. In today's tough economic environment it says a lot about you that you were able to get a job. I also think that you should be congratulated for listening to your dad and fully contributing into a 401(k) plan.

I cannot stress enough how important it is that the day you start work is the day that you start thinking about your retirement. If you can continue to contribute the maximum into your 401(k) plan, when you want to retire money won't be an issue.

In choosing between plans, I generally lean toward the Roth 401(k). It allows money to grow tax free while a traditional 401(k) plan prows tax deferred. When

you withdraw money from a traditional 401(k), it is subject to ordinary income taxes. When you withdraw money from a Roth 401(k), there are no tax consequences — it is totally income-tax free.

The longer you invest money, the better a Roth 401(k) option looks. Since you are just starting your career, I think it is a slam dunk that the Roth 401(k) option is the way to proceed.

The one downside of the Roth is you are contributing post-taxed dollars as opposed to pre-taxed dollars in a traditional IRA. However, when you factor into the equation that all your accumulations (in a Roth) are tax free versus tax deferred (Traditional IRA), the benefits are substantial.

In addition, since you are just starting your career, you probably are in a low-tax bracket which is yet another reason to take advantage of the Roth option.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](http://moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit Rick's Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

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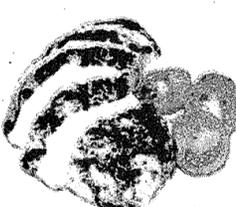
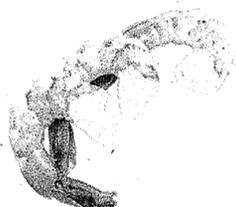
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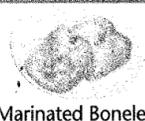
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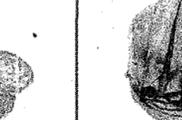
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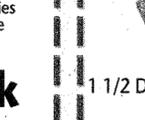
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## No Green for U-M-bound White

BY JIM TOTH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There will be a little different look to Thanksgiving dinner around the White household this year.

Austin White, the heralded running back from Livonia Stevenson, bucked the family trend of support to the Green and White of Michigan State by announcing last week he has given a verbal commitment to Rich Rodriguez and the coaching staff at Michigan to become a Wolverine in 2010.

The decision to attend U-M was the first of its kind among the immediate White family as both mom (Karen) and dad (Michael) are MSU alums, while brothers Myles and Mitchell currently attend the East Lansing University. Extending the family further, Austin even has aunts and uncles who bleed green and white.

"I don't know about Thanksgiving, but I do know my mom is going to have to do some redecorating," White said.

White said his decision came down, mainly, to where he would feel comfortable both as an athlete and a student the next four years. Several schools, including MSU, were among his final selections, but he said in no way did family members try and sway him East Lansing's way.

"My brothers and my par-



Livonia Stevenson's Austin White, shown in last year's Division 1 state semifinal at MSU's Spartan Stadium against Rockford, is going to the Big House and the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

ents didn't push me because they just kept an open mind and said it was my decision and really supported me through the whole process," said White, who indicated LSU, Iowa, Wisconsin, Purdue and Illinois also had his attention right up to the final days. "The first time I stepped on campus at U-M the coaches seemed excited about me

being there and I think I really appreciated their interest.

"I definitely enjoyed meeting the (U-M) coaches and the players and felt that was the kind of program I wanted to be a part of."

In the 6-foot, 190-pound White, the Wolverines will be getting a versatile running back, who last season as a junior at Stevenson, racked up

1,610 yards on 228 carries and scored 28 touchdowns. He also caught 21 passes for 310 yards and four scores and totaled 279 yards on nine kick-off returns.

Perennial contenders for the Big Ten championship and annually among the top 20 teams in the nation, the Wolverines stumbled last year in Rodriguez's first year at the

helm, winning just three of 12 games. Asked if playing a role in the rebuilding process had any impact on his decision, White said a greater factor was the wide-open offense implemented by the Wolverines and the opportunity to play in "some big games" in a couple of years.

"I guess we kind of saw this coming," Karen White said of her son's decision. "You could see him light up when he was there (U-M) around the coaches. I think he enjoyed the passion the coaches have toward what they do.

"You have to go where your heart is and where you're going to be happy and I'm proud of the fact he's taken his time and looked at all the schools," she went on. "It was a difficult decision, and I'm sure he's glad it's over."

With the decision in the bag, White said he can now focus at the task at hand - winning a state championship. He and his Spartan teammates nearly reached that milestone in 2007 when Stevenson earned a berth in the Division 1 title game. Unfortunately for the Spartans, those dreams were dashed as Macomb Dakota came away with a 41-21 victory.

"I'm happy it's over with because now I can focus on my school's football season and on reaching our goal of winning a state championship," White said. "That didn't happen last time, but we have another chance."

## SIDELINES

### Rams gain tourney bid

The Michigan Rams will be returning to familiar grounds next month, courtesy of Wednesday's 2-1 triumph over the Michigan Blue Knights at Bicentennial Park.

Single runs in each of the third and sixth frames proved to be the difference as the Rams upped their season mark to 17-8 and secured a sixth consecutive berth in the upcoming AAABA National Tournament slated for Aug. 9-15 in Johnstown, Pa.

Joe Barnes' single in the sixth inning, his second of the game, brought home Ryan Abraham with the tie-breaking run, and reliever Tom Whiting worked a perfect seventh inning to preserve as the lead as the Rams clinched the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League's top spot.

Justin Forster plated the Rams' other run with a double in the third inning. Abraham, Aaron Cieslak, Brett Mazmanian and Jake Rhodes were the other Rams players clubbing hits as the hosts out-hit the Blue Knights 7-4.

Despite giving up a run on two hits in the sixth, Whiting was credited with the victory. He struck out three and didn't walk anyone in two innings on the mound.

Ben Schroeder got the start and pitched solidly through five innings, yielding two hits and two walks and fanning three.

Dustin Hill took the loss for the Blue Knights (13-14).

### Falcons yard sale

Farmington High School's girls cross country team will have a yard-sale fundraiser July 23-25 at 23986 Colchester, Farmington. The times for the yard sale will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

Other houses in the neighborhood will be having yard sales, too, giving potential buyers a wider selection of goods.

A wide variety of items will be for sale, including small appliances, clothing, sports equipment, etc.

Items will not be priced for sale but will be sold on a donation basis. Proceeds will be used to send the team to running camp and pay for other team needs.

Colchester is located between Orchard Lake and Power roads, south of 10 Mile and north of Shiawassee.

### USA Hockey honors

Ron Hayes, Plymouth Canton Hockey Association director of instructional program, was recognized by USA Hockey at the 2009 Annual Congress June 3-6 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Hayes was chosen to receive the William Thayer Tutt award, given annually to honor the memory of Tutt, who served as USA Hockey president from 1972-86.

A panel of hockey journalists and broadcasters select the winner from a list of nominees, presenting it to a volunteer who, during years of service, has displayed a selfless dedication to the enhancement of ice hockey at the grassroots level in America.

## League champion Rangers featured winning mix of talent

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

All of the ingredients for a winning team were sprinkled into the mix for the 11U Rangers of the Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association.

Those Rangers, coached by Rick Covault, parlayed that mix of strong pitching, clutch hitting, aggressive baserunning and defense into a 16-0 record and the 11U championship — the latter captured thanks to a 12-1 rout over the Dodgers on June 29 at Plymouth Township Park.

The championship was the team's second in the past three seasons with a runner-up finish the third season during that impressive run, Covault said.

"The success we enjoyed this season is because our kids are focused, practiced hard all season, are very coachable and very athletic," Covault emphasized. "And we have a great group of parents who are very supportive."

According to Covault, whose staff included assistant coaches Mike Baldwin, Jeff Campbell, Kevin Krupski, John Rinke and Darrin



The Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association 11U Rangers show off their hardware following a 12-1 victory over the Dodgers in the championship final, held June 29 at Plymouth Township Park. Pictured front row (from left) are Blake Lewis, Ricky Covault, Jake Silvester and James Baldwin. Pictured middle row (from left) are Luke Krupski, Micah Rinke, Cody Borke, Aaron Kosmyna, Carson Pakula, Anthony Garbarino and Ian McKinnon. Pictured back row (from left) are coaches Darrin Silvester, Jeff Campbell, Rick Covault (head coach), Mike Baldwin, John Rinke and Kevin Krupski. Not pictured is player Joey Verkerke.

Silvester, the Rangers stepped it up in all categories.

### MANY CONTRIBUTORS

"We've always been a good hitting

team, but this year, they fine-tuned their hitting skills and really worked hard at practice to become better defensively as well," Covault said. "They especially improved on fielding and knowing where to be on the field regardless if the ball was hit to them or not.

"They also worked hard to learn other strategic aspects of the game as well."

But the Rangers excelled all year in all aspects, the coach continued.

For example, there was the steady pitching of Cody Borke, Ian McKinnon and Micah Rinke along with solid hitting from Jack Campbell, Aaron Kosmyna, Luke Krupski, Blake Lewis and Jake Silvester.

James Baldwin, Ricky Covault, Anthony Garbarino, Carson Pakula and Joey Verkerke chipped in with big contributions in baserunning and defense.

And team chemistry provided another element that contributed to the title.

"Many of our kids and families have been together since they were six years old," Covault said. "So they know each other and it's fun for everyone."

## NRCLL crowns champions in baseball and softball

BY JIM TOTH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was quick, but it was exciting, as the North Redford Central Little League recently wrapped up summer play by crowning its champions in baseball and softball play.

One of the more interesting

achievements came in girls softball where the Redford Heat, comprised of 9-10-year-olds, fielded a host of newcomers to the game and still managed to come out on top in the six-team division standings.

Coached by Dennis Butka and assisted by Charlie Kamin and Kathy Tarr, the Heat post-

ed a 10-4-1 ledger during the regular season. Unfortunately, their stay in the post-season was abrupt as they lost their first game.

"It was a very enjoyable season," Butka said. "We started the season with eight girls who had never played softball before, but they listened well,

learned quickly and just went out there and had a lot of fun."

Butka praised the efforts of the entire team, which included Haylee Butka, Emma Williams, Tylar Bennett, Amanda Drain, Allison Peck, Amy Kamin, Kennedy Spratt, Asia Banks, Jayla Johnson, Adelina Salano, Tracie Carrico

and Emily Douglas.

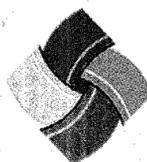
"My approach the entire season was to teach them how to play the game and whatever happens, happens," Butka said. "It was rewarding."

In other action, the Minor A division saw a pair of teams

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## West dazzles East gridders

There were plenty of fireworks on July 4 — plenty on the Spartan Stadium football field, too.

The West exacted a 43-22 revenge on the East in the 29th Annual Michigan High School Football All-Star Game presented by the MHSFCA.

It was 13-9 at halftime before the contest turned into an offensive exhibition in the second half.

Local players competing for the East were Canton

lineman Justin Sneddon and Salem lineman Andrew Grabowski.

All 88 players in the game were seniors last season and were nominated to take part in the prestigious contest.

Among East highlights was a three-yard touchdown by West Bloomfield's Chris Hurst (with the extra point by Troy's Kevin Muma) and a 79-yard TD reception by Hurst from Detroit Southeastern's William Sturgis.



## Wildcats win Pinckney

The South Farmington 12U Wildcats Travel Softball captured the 12-and-under championship at the Pinckney Rebels Fastpitch Tournament held in Hamburg, MI. After knocking off top-seeded Pinckney Rebels 16-3 in semifinal action, the first-year travel team registered a 13-6 victory over the Brighton Bulldogs in the title game. Pictured above are team members (seated, from left) Rachel Walsh, Patricia Piontek, Ali Gambill, Madelyn Omietanski, Allie Blair, Victoria Bayliss, (kneeling) head coach Beverly Blair, manager Dave Walsh, (standing, from left) coach Bob Fish, Jacquyn Reynolds, Leah Petrak, Lauren Fish, Emily Cox, Elise Andreski, Samantha Danto, coach Jim Gambill and coach Howard Bayliss.



## Batbusters in World Series

Two runner-up finishes in recent tournament action has the 18U Batbusters Fastpitch softball team gaining three World Series berths. Strong finishes in the USSSA Romeo Renegade Tournament, Davison Tournament and ASA Motor City Showdown qualified the Batbusters for the upcoming USSSA World Series, ASA Worlds and NSA World Series. Pictured above are team members (front row, from left) Kathryn Garry, Ali Robinson, Danielle Keys, Brittany Lines, Maria Gomez, (middle row, from left) Sara Cupp, Devin Culham, Chrissy Albrecht, Sammy Ray, Gwen Hittle, Katie Rankin, (back row, from left) coach Bonnie Engel, manager Brant Engel and coach Mike Albrecht.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Churchill golf workouts

Conditioning for the Livonia Churchill girls varsity golf team will be from 11 a.m. until noon, Tuesday through Thursday, and 9:30-11 a.m. Friday, July 24, at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

Conditioning is open to all incoming ninth- through 12th-graders attending Churchill in the fall. There is no charge.

For more information, call Churchill coach Paul Worley at (248) 476-4493.

### Coaches needed

Westland John Glenn is seeking a head girls cross country coach for the upcoming fall season. Those interested can apply online at [www.wwcsd.net/employment/](http://www.wwcsd.net/employment/).

Wayne Memorial High School is looking to fill the coaching positions for the boys varsity cross country and girls varsity golf teams for the fall season. Previous high school coaching experience is preferred.

Interested individuals are asked to send a letter of interest and resume to Greg Ambrose, Athletic Director, 3001 Fourth, Wayne, MI 48184. Information can also be faxed to (734) 595-2227.

### New Canton hockey site

The Canton Amateur Hockey Association recently unveiled a new and improved web site for the 2009-10 season. The site has all the information anyone might need about CAHA teams, leagues and coaches for next year as well as brand new online registration. Check it out at [www.cantonhockey.org](http://www.cantonhockey.org).

### Learn to skate

The Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton is offering eight weeks of learn-to-skate sessions through August. Classes are 30 minutes each with 15 minutes of free time and are grouped by age and ability. Parents can register children at the Arctic Edge, 46615 Michigan Avenue, or call (734) 487-777 for more information.

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Walker: (248) 426-1283</p> <p><b>DELIVERY/SALES</b> \$675-\$975/wk. Will train. Valid Driver's License required. Call between 10am-2pm. (248) 471-5200</p> <p><b>Driver - Truck Driver</b> for construction Co. Exp'd with good driving record &amp; Class A CDL license. Exc. pay and benefits. 248-476-5122</p> <p><b>Oh Yeah!</b> Make your life easier... find it in your classifieds!</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-General 5000</b></p> <p><b>Driver</b> <b>2 DAY HIRING EVENT!</b> Driver trainees needed in Michigan July 20 TMC 4pm July 21 Werner 11:30 2 great companies 1 awesome career! No experience needed Training provided by Integrity Truck Driving School 800-930-4837 Integritytrucks.com Michigan works! approved</p> <p><b>DRIVERS: Owner/Operators</b> Needed for apt. complex. EPA Universal certified. Min. 5 yrs. exp. in field. Full time, benefits. Fax resume: 248-486-4420 or call: 248-467-4909</p> <p><b>HVAC Service Technician</b> Commercial/residential. EPA Universal certified. Min. 5 yrs. exp. in field. Full time, benefits. Fax resume: 248-486-4420 or call: 248-467-4909</p> <p><b>MAINTENANCE TECH</b> E.T. for Apt. Complex in Westland. Exp'd in electrical, plumbing, heating &amp; cooling. Must be reliable and have own tools, transportation and valid driver's license. \$10/hr. Fax resume: (734) 326-5912</p> <p><b>MAINTENANCE TECH</b> Needed for apt. complex. Exp. in apt. maintenance and turn-over. Resume to: <a href="mailto:p.m.apps@hotmail.com">p.m.apps@hotmail.com</a></p> <p><b>RECEPTIONIST</b> Midnight Shift, Part-Time. Needed at senior residence. Accepting applications at: 37501 Joy Rd. Westland MI 48185</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-General 5000</b></p> <p><b>SOFTWARE ENGINEER-F/T</b> Plan &amp; develop new computer systems &amp; modifying existing systems to integrate upgrades &amp; changes. Design &amp; develop software systems using scientific analysis &amp; mathematical models to predict &amp; measure outcome &amp; consequences of design. Consult with clients on project status, proposals &amp; technical issues such as system design &amp; maintenance. Responsible for requirement gathering, development of new reports, writing functional specification &amp; program specification, design reviews &amp; drafting detailed unit test plans. Bachelors Degree in Comp. Science/related field or equivalent. &amp; 3-5 yrs exp. in software dev. software required. <b>Send Cvr Ltr &amp; Resume to: Dearborn Group, Inc.</b> Attention: Mary Revak, 27007 Hills Tech Ct., Farmington Hills, MI 48331</p> <p><b>WAREHOUSE</b> Coffee Distributor <b>Pack Orders/Warehouse</b> duties. Warehouse experience required. 25 hrs. weekly. 4931 Delemere, Royal Oak. (248) 280-3102</p> <p><b>Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020</b></p> <p><b>ADMINISTRATOR</b> Part-Time Small builder developer seeks assistance for home office in Southfield. Matures &amp; exp. Computer skills including Word, Excel, QuickBooks Pro required. Some training avail. Resume: <a href="mailto:stulberg@dorst.com">stulberg@dorst.com</a></p> <p><b>Legal Secretaries</b> Southfield law firm seeks full-time exp'd. legal secretaries to fill openings on our Medical Malpractice/Products Liability/General Litigation/Insurance Defense teams. Candidates must possess a minimum of 5 yrs. litigation exp., excellent grammar, writing and organizational skills &amp; must be able to work under pressure &amp; in a team environment. MS Word exp. Competitive salary/benefits. Submit resume/salary requirements to: HR/Legal Secretary Position, PO Box 222 Southfield, MI 48037 Fax: 248-746-2760 or Email: <a href="mailto:HR@swappc.com">HR@swappc.com</a></p> <p><b>Observer &amp; Eccentric Classifieds</b> Just a quick call away.... <b>1-800-579-SELL</b></p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020</b></p> <p><b>SECRETARIAL</b> Full-time. Good benefits &amp; pay. Must have office experience, computer, filing, accounting. Apply in person: <b>Brose Electric</b> 37400 W 7 Mile, Livonia. (734) 464-2211</p> <p><b>Help Wanted-Dental 5040</b></p> <p><b>DENTAL ASSISTANT</b> Must have exp. Great office &amp; staff. Farmington Hills. Fax resume: 248-888-0971</p> <p><b>DENTAL FRONT DESK</b> Exp'd. req'd in Dentrix. Plymouth area. Fax resume: (734) 459-0314</p> <p><b>FRONT DESK - DENTAL ASST.</b> Experience necessary in both insurance billing &amp; clinical assisting. Call 248-444-9933 Or fax: (248) 356-2568</p> <p><b>RECEPTIONIST</b> Temporary position for receptionist in Bloomfield Hills. Must know Soft-Dent. Please call: 248-334-3888</p> <p><b>Help Wanted-Medical 5060</b></p> <p><b>FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST</b> Cardiology Practice in Farmington Hills. Fax resume to: 248-932-0973</p> <p><b>MASSAGE THERAPIST/PHYSICAL THERAPY AIDE</b> Hands on Center for Physical Therapy in downtown Plymouth has an opening for a full time Massage Therapist/Aide. Fax Resume: 734-455-2924 or Call: 734-455-8370 <a href="mailto:handsoncenter@hocpt.com">handsoncenter@hocpt.com</a></p> <p><b>MEDICAL ASSISTANT</b> For a busy, family practice in Westland. MUST have 5 yrs. exp. in vena puncture &amp; other family practice related work. Health care benefits offered. Apply online: <a href="mailto:bmohta@gmail.com">bmohta@gmail.com</a> or mail resume to: 42380 Bradner Rd., Northville, MI 48168</p> <p><b>MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST, FT</b> 2 yrs. of Phlebotomy exp. for busy West Bloomfield office. References. (248) 855-5620</p> <p><b>PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION</b> Sat. accelerated classes beg. July-Aug 10-4pm. Garden City, Wyandotte and Southgate locations; \$925, including book. (313) 382-3857</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-Medical 5060</b></p> <p><b>PHYSICIANS WANTED SIGN-ON BONUS</b> Increased salary! Full time with full benefits. Excellent opportunity! No nights or weekend. Internal med, Family practice, &amp; geriatric needed. Practices located in *Southfield, Taylor &amp; Utica. Call 877-531-9955</p> <p><b>VPA</b> Visiting Physicians Association Bringing Integrated Health Care Home</p> <p><b>Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080</b></p> <p><b>LINE COOKS</b> Full-Time. Exp'd. Apply in person btwn. 1:30-5PM. at: 41122 W. Seven Mile Rd., Northville.</p> <p><b>WAITSTAFF</b> W/EXPERIENCE Apply at: Starting Gate 135 N. Center St., Northville</p> <p><b>Help Wanted-Sales 5120</b></p> <p><b>OUTSIDE SALES REP</b> Experienced. Food Distributor. Commissioned. Must know the Detroit Metro area. Excellent earning potential. Email resume to: <a href="mailto:resumes@ParsIceCream.com">resumes@ParsIceCream.com</a></p>
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# Reasons to think Whalers

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It might be warm weather outside, but it's time to start thinking Plymouth Whalers hockey once again.

The Ontario Hockey League team is entering its 20th season, and anniversary promotions and special events are expected throughout the year at Compuware Arena.

One of those is a flex plan that allows fans to buy a pack of nine vouchers (good for any 2009-10 Whalers game) for just \$90. Along with the pack are extra free vouchers to pre-season games and all Monday and Wednesday contests during the regular season.

The deal originally was set to expire on June 30, but it is being extended indefinitely.

Also, Whalers' Director of Communications Pete Krupsky said a game featuring alumni players (possibly including former NHL-ers) is being discussed and could take place in August. Go to the

## HOCKEY

Plymouth Whalers Web site ([www.plymouthwhalers.com](http://www.plymouthwhalers.com)) for more details.

Meanwhile, training camp is just around the corner, not to mention a pre-season game 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 5 against the OHL champion Windsor Spitfires (who also won the Memorial Cup).

For those who want to stretch their skating legs, Compuware is offering open public skating sessions and "sticks and pucks." The skating sessions are 1:50 in length and begin anywhere from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; call (734) 453-6400 for an up-to-the-minute schedule. To skate, cost is \$4 for adults, \$3 for children under 12 and \$2 for senior citizens. Skate and helmet rentals are \$2.

As for the 50-minute "sticks and pucks" sessions, times also vary. This week, sessions start at 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and 2:30 p.m. Tuesday. Next week, par-

ticipants should plan on 5 p.m. sessions on Monday, July 27 and Thursday, July 30.

For "sticks and pucks," full equipment is required and pucks must be brought to Compuware. The price is \$5.

## DROP-IN HOCKEY

Although Compuware no longer hosts drop-in hockey, players can hit the ice and compete over at Plymouth Cultural Center & Ice Arena throughout July and August (except July 25-26 and Aug. 8-9).

Times for drop-in are 4:30-to-5:50 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10-to-11:50 a.m. Sundays, with days and times subject to change.

The arena at 525 Farmer St. also hosts "sticks and pucks," weekdays from 2:30-to-4:20 p.m. and Saturdays from 12:30-to-2:20 p.m.

For more information, call (734) 455-6620 or visit [www.ci.plymouth.mi.us](http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us).

tsmith@hometownlife.com



The Redford Heat girls softball team emerged champions in division play by totaling 10 wins on the season. Pictured above are (top row, left to right) assistant coach Charlie Kamin, manager Dennis Butka, assistant coach Kathy Tarr, (middle) Haylee Butka, Emma Williams, Tylar Bennett, Allison Peck, Amy Kamin, Kennedy Spratt, Amanda Drain (bottom) Asia Banks, Jayla Johnson, Adelina Salano, Tracie Carrico and Emily Douglas.

## CAMPS/CLINICS

### Football

North Farmington High School will have a football skills camp 8 a.m. to noon July 27-30 for any football player entering the ninth through 12th grade in the 2009-10 school year.

The cost is \$75. The camp will be conducted by the North coaching staff. Each player will need football cleats, gym shoes, workout clothes and helmet with mouth guard. Helmets should be provided by the player's high school.

To register contact coach Todd Schultz at either Todd.schultz@farmington.k12.mi.us or 248-888-6263.

The Pops QB Tutor summer camps will be making stops in the area including: Plymouth/Canton Area QB-WR - 1-2:30 p.m., July 27-30, at Heritage Park (grades 3-12).

For more information, visit [popsqbtutor.com](http://popsqbtutor.com); or e-mail Richard Popp at: theqbtutor@yahoo.com.

### All sports

Schoolcraft College will offer a series of summer sports camps for ages 10-18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, including:

Boys and girls soccer - July 20-23, 27-30 (cost \$150); boys and girls basketball - July 20-23 (cost \$150); girls volleyball - July 27-30 (cost \$150).

For more information, call the Schoolcraft College Athletic Department at (734) 462-4804, Ext. 3; or e-mail athletic director Sid Fox at [sfox@schoolcraft.edu](mailto:sfox@schoolcraft.edu).

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of summer sports programs and several clinics. The summer programs, through Aug. 17, will focus on fun, exercise and social interaction through instruction and include "Kickers and Shooters" soccer, preschool and youth basketball, preschool soccer class, preschool and youth baseball.

Morning and evening classes are available; ages vary by program but there is something for children between ages 3-9. Programs are open to YMCA members and community members.

Three sports clinics also are on tap through Plymouth Family YMCA.

Those include baseball (July 21-25, for ages 9-11), soccer (July 28 through Aug. 1, ages 6-9) and basketball (Aug. 4-8, ages 6-9).

Call (734) 453-2904; or visit [www.ymcadetroit.org](http://www.ymcadetroit.org) for information.

### Soccer

Midwest Soccer Academy, one of the most respected and experienced soccer training organizations in the United States, will be conducting soccer training camps for boys and girls July 20-24. Hosted by Our Lady of the Good Counsel in Plymouth, the week-long camp will feature members of the MSA staff working with youngsters in improving their overall skills.

Cost is \$125 per camper. Sessions for girls will be held 9 a.m.-noon daily, while the boys will run from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

More information can be obtained by contacting Midwest Soccer Academy at 1-800-714-5575 or toll free at

1-877-714-5575, or by email at [info@midwestsoccer.net](mailto:info@midwestsoccer.net), or by signing up online at [www.midwestsoccer.net](http://www.midwestsoccer.net).

### Basketball

Madonna University will be staging its 35th annual All-Star camp for boys (ages 8-15) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 27-31.

The cost is \$175 per player. For more information, visit [madonna Crusaders.com](http://madonna Crusaders.com).

### Volleyball

Westland John Glenn will stage an Asics Performance camp for high school girls (grades 9-12), Monday through Wednesday, July 20-22.

The camp features collegiate trainers from the Premier Volleyball Academy based in Maumee, Ohio.

Sessions will cover skills and drills on all aspects of competitive volleyball. The cost of the camp is \$100 (includes T-shirt).

For registration information, call Glenn coach Julian Wargo at (248) 295-7245.

St. Fabian volleyball coach Jason Gold and his staff of varsity high school and college players will conduct a volleyball skills camp July 27-30 at St. Fabian.

The \$75 fee provides campers with 12 hours of volleyball training (four three-hour sessions). The camp is for girls entering the third through eighth grades.

Campers will be divided by age, with grades 3-6 going from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and grades 7-8 from 2:45 to 5:45 p.m. Campers should bring a water bottle, knee pads, T-shirt (no tank tops) and volleyball shoes.

Registration is limited to the first 50 girls who register and send their payment. Checks should be payable to Coach Jason Gold and mailed to: Jason Gold, 30056 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

The St. Fabian gym is located at 32200 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, (on the north side of 12 Mile, west of Orchard Lake). Call 248-538-7269 with questions.

## NRCLL

FROM PAGE B1

Mets and Tigers — tie for the top spot.

Those players leading the Mets included Nicholas Bisaro, Kieran Bledsoe, Tyler Collard, Teddy Coon, Jacob Gagnon, Aaron Horn, Evan Jaynes, Matt Thomas, Bradley Trout, Kyler Weekly, Khyllon Starks, Talil Groves and

Tavian Groves. The Mets were coached by Randy Weekly and Joe Gagnon.

The Tigers, meanwhile, were led Kameron MacIver, Tommie Lewis, Troy Woodrox, Allen Arnett, Lawrence Jenkins, Matt Drain, Robert Dean, Sam Alcalá, Caleb Gordish, McLane Menting and Devon Waller. The Tigers were coached by Dan MacIver.

In Minor B action, the Bulls and Scrappers proved equal in effort, while the Majors

saw manager Mark Pogoda's Pirates come out on top.

Team members for the 10-4 Bulls included Abigail Booth, Nathan Burnash, Logan Calimazzo, Luc Calimazzo, Skyler Carpenter, Caitlyn Kenney, Brooklyn Mullins, Zachary Shoemaker, Caleb Tiernan, Cooper Tiernan and Shane Rakowski.

The Bulls were managed by Jerry Tiernan and assisted by Tom Kenney and James Conkright.

Check us out on the Web every day at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

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MEDICAL DATEBOOK

JULY 20-26

Pressure point therapy

Free class to help improve circulation, eliminate stress and enhance health, 7 p.m., Monday, July 20, at Karl Chiropractic Clinic & Wellness Center, P.C., 30935 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Call (734) 425-8220 to register.

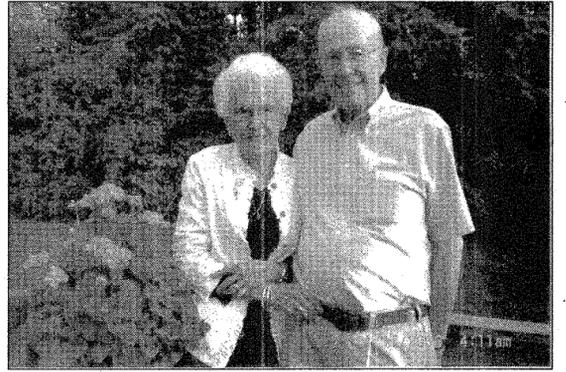
Vascular screening

Oakwood Healthcare System and Advanced Screening and Wellness will offer affordable, preventative vascular health screenings for early disease detection so that individuals can live longer, healthier lives 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 21, at the Wayne Community Center in Wayne

and Saturday, July 25, at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne near the Surgery entrance. Screenings will be available for peripheral artery disease, stroke/carotid arteries, stroke/heart disease/atrial fibrillation, abdominal aortic aneurysm, heart/echocardiogram, full blood lipid panel (a 12-hour fast is required), glu-

cose and ALT/AST (liver screening). Individual screenings start at \$45 and combination packages are available. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. To make an appointment, call (800) 541-8110 or sign up online at Oakwood.org.

MILESTONES



Betty Jeanne Ready and Myron Stanley (Barney) Coon celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary in June.

66TH ANNIVERSARY

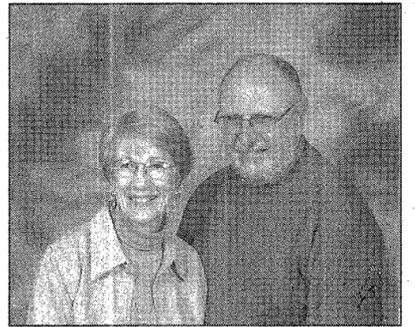
Betty Jeanne Ready and Myron Stanley (Barney) Coon celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary in June. They were married in the First Methodist Church in Farmington on June 26, 1943. They have lived in Farmington Township, Farmington Hills, and Farmington all of their married life. Betty's family moved to Farmington in 1932; the Coon family came in 1937. Barney graduated from Farmington High School in 1939 and Betty in 1940.



Betty Jeanne Ready and Myron Stanley (Barney) Coon were married at the First Methodist Church in Farmington on June 26, 1943.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

George B. and Maxine B. (Brown) Huysken of Livonia celebrated 50 years of marriage with a gathering given by their children and grandchildren and a dinner attended by friends and neighbors last month.



George 'Bud' and Micki Huysken of Livonia celebrate their golden anniversary.

The couple wed June 27, 1959 at Eastminster Presbyterian Church in Detroit. They've lived in Livonia since 1961.

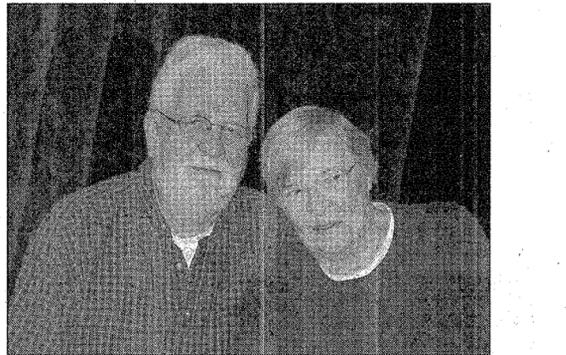
George "Bud" has degrees from Alma College and Madonna University and worked for Chrysler Corporation, American Safety Equipment Corp., Ford Motor Company and Champion Enterprises in purchasing, sales and legal assistant positions.

Maxine "Micki" is a graduate of Michigan State University and was employed by Livonia Public Schools for 25 years.

Their children are Kimberly Chibou of Livonia, Kristin Huysken of Chicago, Ill., Mark Huysken (Amy) of Kalamazoo and Erik Huysken of Royal Oak.



George 'Bud' and Micki Huysken of Livonia on their wedding day in 1959.



Charles and Margaret Drury of Redford

60TH ANNIVERSARY

Charles and Margaret (Sirola) Drury of Redford celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this month. The couple married July 9, 1949, in Detroit.

Charles is retired from DePatis Floral Design School, which he owned and managed. Margaret worked as an IBM keypunch operator and co-owned and co-managed the school with her husband.

Chuck is involved with a WWII Naval Armed Guard veteran's group. He also enjoys music, playing cards, and working in his workshop. Marge enjoys playing cards, cooking, sewing, and watching the Detroit Pistons. Both are very active in family activities.

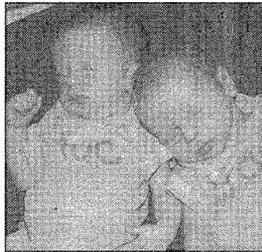
Their children are Robert Drury of Highland, the late Richard Drury, Maureen (Clyde) Thomas of Auburn, Calif., Mary Beth (Glen) Conger of Livonia, and Pamela (Alan) Zoeller of Highland.



Charles and Margaret Drury on their wedding day in 1949.

The couple has five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. They planned to celebrate their milestone day with a family barbecue.

BIRTHS



The Ciuffetelli twins of Livonia

CIUFFETELLI TWINS

Proud parents Tom and Heather Ciuffetelli and big brother Ty of Livonia welcome the newest additions to their family, born May 26, 2009: Luc Scott, 6 pounds 5 ounces and 21 inches long; and Jack Thomas, 7 pounds, 5 ounces, 21 1/2 inches long.



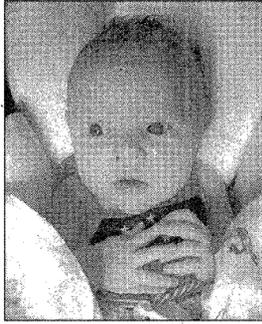
Lev Paul Myers

LEV PAUL MYERS

Lev Paul Myers was born April 24, 2009, at Cedars Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles, Calif. He weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20 inches long.

Proud parents are Natalie Marom Myers and Alec Myers of Los Angeles.

Lev is their first child. Alec was a 1991 graduate of Farmington High School. Grandparents are Joe and Laura Myers of Farmington, and Michal and Naomi Marom of Baldwin, Long Island, N.Y.



Mallory Grace Dilluvio

MALLORY GRACE DILLUVIO

Mallory Grace Dilluvio was born June 22, 2009, in William Beaumont Hospital.

Proud parents are Christopher Dilluvio and Kathleen Clark of Farmington Hills. Mallory's big sister is Paige, 22 months. Her grandparents are Gary and Phyllis Clark and Frank (Kathy) Dilluvio, all of Warren, and the late Patricia Dilluvio.

GARDEN CALENDAR

If you have an item for the garden calendar, submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

At English Gardens

■ Hear about techniques for planting to ensure success with landscaping, at 7 p.m., Wednesday, July 22, at all stores.  
■ Perennial Gardening 101, at 7 p.m., Wednesday, July 29, at all stores, will include a list of best garden performers, tips on selecting plants and caring for them throughout the season. Local stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506. For information, log onto www.EnglishGardens.com.

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IVAN L. BAILEY

Ivan was born on May 27, 1927 in St. Johnsbury, VT. He lived his young adult life in Quebec, Canada where he married Margaret L. Burns on December 26, 1949. Ivan and Margaret moved to MI where he retired from General Motors after 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; his children Judy, James, and Janette; his sisters Virginia and Jean; and his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Ivan was predeceased by his son, Lloyd in 1966 and his brother Bernard in 1992. A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday, July 22 at 2:00pm at Covenant Community Church in Redford, MI.



EVELYN BRAGG DANIEL

On Monday, July 13, 2009, Evelyn Bragg Daniel, 87, went to be with her Lord, and to be greeted by all of her loved ones who have gone before her. Funeral services will be held 10 a.m. Saturday at Arlington Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation: 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at Arlington Funeral Home. Evelyn was born July 5, 1922, in Moscow, Ky. She was the daughter of Woodford and Mora Bragg. She married Wiley Daniel in 1940, and they had five children while living in Union City, Tenn. Evelyn moved to Plymouth, MI in 1954 where she worked and retired from the Plymouth School District. After retirement they returned to Clinton, Ky. and lived there for two years before moving to Texas. Evelyn was a member of Lamar Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Wiley; twins; two sisters, Lena and Edith; and three brothers, Aaron, Morris, and Gene. Survivors: Sons, Lynn Daniel and wife, Toni, and John Daniel and wife, Ann; daughter, Mary Jean Steinmetz and husband, Melvin; she will be missed by all of them, as well as her six grandchildren, David Daniel, Richard Daniel, Kim Peach, Sarah Steinmetz, Greg Daniel, and Jennifer Bassier; and five great-grandchildren, Lane, Isabella, Cooper, Landon, and Campbell. Arlington Funeral Home 1221 E. Division St., 817-548-1791



ELIZABETH "Betty" ZOLLER KNEEN

Saturday July 11, 2009, age 72. Resident of Bloomfield Hills. Beloved wife of Phillip "Phil" for 49 years. Loving mother of Deborah "Debbie" Heagen (Doug) and Jennifer "Jennie" Schneider (Luke). Devoted grandmother of Chris and Jack Heagen and Ben and Matt Schneider. Sister of Bob Zoller (Roberta). Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Memorial tributes to Cranbrook House and Gardens, 380 Lone Pine Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303 or Lourdes Senior Community Nursing Home, 2300 Watkins Lake Rd., Waterford, MI 48328. A. J. Desmond & Sons, (248) 362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

REMONT MORRIS

July 15, 2009, age 85, of Westland. Mother of Jerry, Jeffrey "Rico", and Judy (Cliff) Van Tuyl. Grandmother of Tammy, Kimala, Walter, Dwight, Kristen and Michael and Great-grandmother of Daniel, Matthew, Magen and Madison. Funeral Service Saturday 11AM at Vermeulen Funeral Home 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Beck and Sheldon) Plymouth. Visitation Friday 3-9 PM. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. To share a memory please visit: www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

RONALD A. SCHOMER

Age 61, of Westland, July 13, 2009. Beloved husband of Sandra. Loving father of Lisa (Pat) McDonagh, Lori (Stephen) Garchar, Ronald (Penny) Schomer Jr., Clint (Jennifer) Farley and Jonathan (Erika) Farley. Dearest grandfather of 10. He was preceded in death by his parents, Louis and Jeannette Schomer. Funeral service is Thursday, 10:30 AM at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Visitation was Tuesday, 6:00-9:00 PM and Wednesday, 12:00-9:00 PM. Interment in Michigan Memorial Park.

LOUISE A. STEVENS

Age 89, July 6, 2009. Formerly of Farmington. Beloved wife of Jay for 31 years. Loving mother of Carol G. Stevens and Robert J. Stevens. Cherished grandmother of Sandra Smith and Julie Stevens. Great-grandmother of Charis, Maria, Constance, and Merlin Smith. Dear sister of the late William Beyreuther. Memorial service Saturday, July 25th, 11:00 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills. Arrangements entrusted to THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington. Memorial contributions may be made to the church. www.thayer-rock.com

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

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EDWARD MATTHEW BIRKE JR.

Age 89, of Livonia, passed away July 13, 2009 at his son's home in Stockton Springs, Maine. He was born in Muskegon, Michigan November 19, 1919 to Edward Matthew Birke Sr. and Marguerite L. (Fitzgerald) Birke. Edward attended St. Mary High School in Muskegon, graduating in 1937. He enlisted in the United States Army October 23, 1941 where he served in WWII. Following his service Edward attended The College of Commerce & Finance, University of Detroit graduating with a Bachelor Of Science degree in 1948. He then married Betty Leota Baird on August 21, 1948 in Muskegon. Edward initially worked as a CPA at Lybrand, Ross, & Montgomery Accounting Firm; later at Ralph Center CPA firm; and for the last 55 years, as an accountant for a private extended family, retiring in June of 2009. Edward lived in Muskegon, Detroit, and Livonia, Michigan. He traveled all over the United States and throughout the World and especially enjoyed cruises. Some of his favorite places to visit were Hubbard Lake, Michigan, Big Moose Lake in the Adirondack Mountains, New York State; Sanibel Island, Florida; and Stockton Springs, Maine. Ed was an avid reader, and enjoyed taking online courses to expand his never ending curiosity. Edward was pre-deceased by his wife, Betty Leota (Baird) Birke in 1999; his sister, Marjorie Jean (Donahue) Johnson in 2008. He is survived by his son, Michael E. Birke and wife Kathryn of Stockton Springs, Maine; granddaughter, Kimberly A. Birke and husband Matthew Brennan of Hope, Maine; two great-grandchildren (Maya and Lily Birke Brennan); several brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, and many nieces and nephews. A celebration of Ed's life will be held at his home in Livonia, Michigan at 1:00 pm on July 25, 2009. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that donations be made either to: Waldo County Home Health and Hospice Services, 19 Northport Avenue, PO Box 407, Belfast, ME 04915 or your local public television station. Online condolences may be made at: www.criabelripstafuneralhome.com

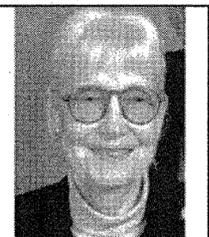


NATHAN EUGENE FRANK, Jr.

Passed away June 24, 2009 in Fort Collins, Colorado. Born in Highland, MI on January 20, 1944 to Lois O'Rear Frank and Nathan Frank, Sr. Nathan grew up in Garden City, MI. He graduated from Garden City High School and attended Ferris Institute. He worked for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department in Michigan and retired in Fort Collins. He was a patriot and veteran having served in the Army in German. He loved sports, especially the Detroit Red Wings and fast cars. A member of Divine Child Catholic Church in Plymouth, he attended St. Joseph's and John the 23rd in Fort Collins. Nathan is survived by his sons: Per Frank Jakobsen of Kirke Saaby, Denmark; Aaron Frank of Plymouth, MI; Daughter, Tiffany Frank Petersen (Matthew) of Indianapolis, IN; a brother, Douglas Frank (Kara) of Livonia, MI; a sister Almeta Frank Petersen (Jim) of Fort Collins; nephews: Rod Fran, Roy Frank, Brett Shafer (April); nieces: Lauren Shafer Steele (Jason); grand nephew, Evan Steele; grand nieces, Delainey Shafer and Caidin Steele and many caring supporters in Michigan and Colorado. A private family service will take place at Cadillac Memorial Garden in Westland, MI. Donations may be made to Vet's Haven, 4924 S. Wayne Rd., Wayne, MI 48184.

MILLIE D. HENSLEY

Age 78, July 12, 2009. Beloved wife of Howard for 60 years. Sister of Duane (Velda) Durham and Helen Durham. Also survived by several nieces and nephews. She was a wonderful lady who will be missed by all who knew her. Funeral Service Thursday 11:30am at the John N. Santeiu and Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). Memorials suggested to the USO.



BENITA L. BUELL

July 7, 2009, age 80. Lifelong resident of Birmingham and very active member of First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham. Wife of the late Charles R. Dear mother of Patricia F. Ormston (David) and Charles R. (Bettie). Grandmother of Jason Ormston and Rebecca White. Sister of Harold Johnson (Nancy), Ruth Ann Barksdale (Glen) and David Johnson (Marie). Services have been held. Interment Acacia Park Cemetery, A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. view obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

JOAN PATRICIA COLASANTI

July 10, 2009, age 75, of Rogers City, MI and Charlotte Harbor, FL. Beloved wife of R. Bruce. Dear mother of Bruce T. (Julie) of Grand Blanc, MI, John (Audrey) of Minneapolis, MN, Linda Wade (Mark) of Royal Oak, MI and Robert (Maya) of Minneapolis, MN. Grandmother of Anne, Jane, Dominic, Pete, Kate, Lou and Christine. Sister of Tim Toben (Jan) of Orlando, FL, Suzanne Kisseberth of Royal Oak, MI and the late Nancy Leavenworth. Memorial service will be held at a later date at St. Ignatius Church in Rogers City. Memorial tributes to Alzheimer's Association, 20300 Civic Center Dr., Ste 100, Southfield, MI 48076. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

# Bang! Bang! Yeeha!

Club members shoot the cowboy way

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI  
CORRESPONDENT

At least once a month, the Rev. C.S. Oosterveen puts on his holster, heads west to Plymouth Township and becomes a cowboy known as the Rev. Missalot, for about four hours.

"I come here for the camaraderie and to have a good time," said Oosterveen, a Roseville resident.

Taking part in the Cowboy Action Shooting at the Western Wayne County Conservation Association on Napier is a welcome break from the pressures of his job.

On a picture-perfect Saturday morning, Oosterveen was among about 60 people who left their worries behind and became cowboys for the day.

Everyone takes on a new name and sees what score they can get shooting a single action pistol, rifle and shotgun on five courses hitting metal targets set up in different shooting stages. The 16-inch targets are at seven to 50 yards. "No target is too big or too close that it can't be missed," according to the Web site, [www.wvcca.com](http://www.wvcca.com).

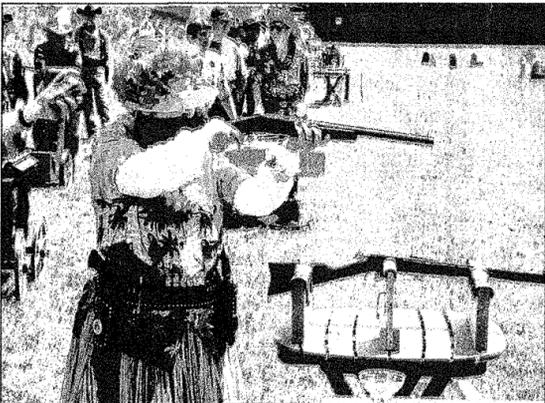
Accuracy and speed are key. "It's a lot of fun," said Mario Derrick of Westland. "It's a lot of old guys getting together playing cowboy."

The club gives members a chance to go back to yesteryear "when you knew right from wrong, you showed respect, and played fair," according to a Cowboy Action Shooting (CAS) brochure. "Truth and justice ... that's the cowboy way back then and now."

Sometimes Derrick brings his wife, Liz, and granddaughter, Hannah, 13, who has been shooting for two years. In fact, there are a number of women



Steve Dininsky of Redford doffed his traditional cowboy garb in favor of a tropical theme for Cowboy Action Shooting at the Wayne County Conservation Association.



Denise Van Raemdonck of Livonia looks a little bit hula dancer and a little cowgirl as she shoots, while others wait their turn.

and young people involved. Some members dress up in complete cowboy attire and others don't.

"Everybody's a friend here," said Ronie Abrahamian, a Garden City resident, who goes by Honest Abe when he's packing pistols.

Livonia resident Denise Van Raemdonck, also known as Deadwood Denise, started shooting about four years ago. "It's really a nice sport," Van Raemdonck said. "A lot of nice people come here."

Livonia resident Debbie Hanka, who becomes Shakey

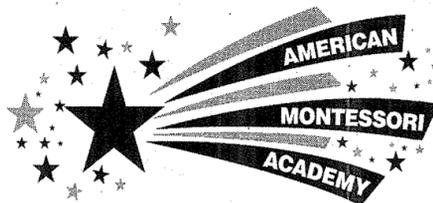
Puddin' when she's shooting, says she likes taking part in a sport she can share with her husband, Ray Hanka, vice president of WWCCA, head of the local cowboy club and known as Rainmaker Ray.

#### KEEPING IT SAFE

Reviewing a list of checkpoints and precautions, Ray Hanka said, safety is paramount when the CAS local chapter, The Johnson Creek Regulators, meets. Anyone is welcome to watch as long as

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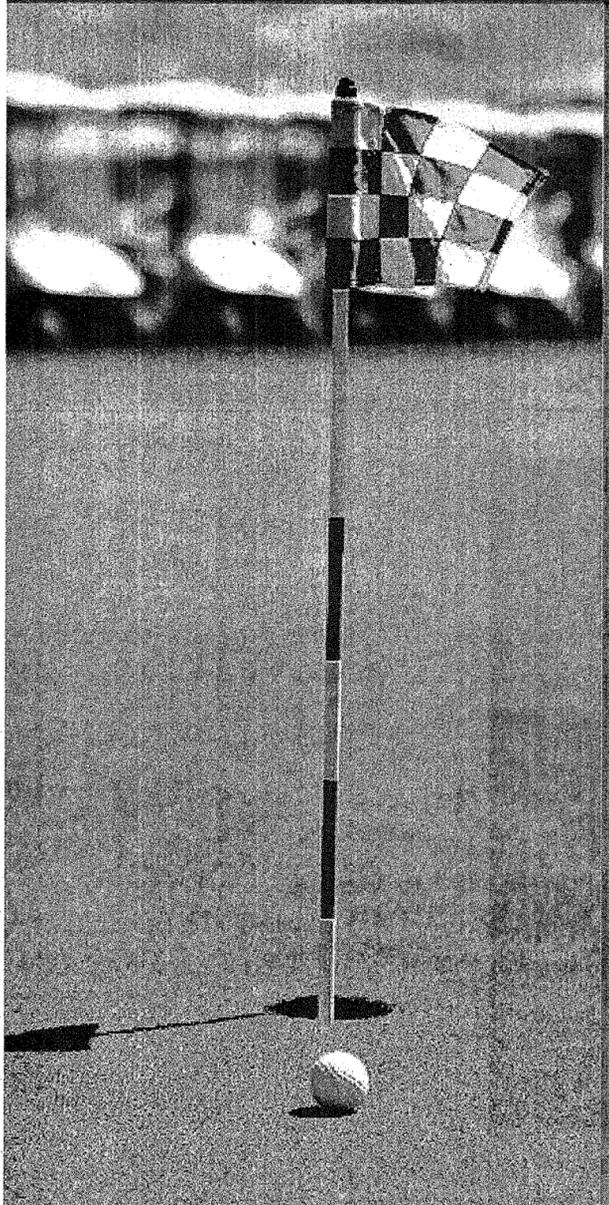
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# NEIGHBORS

## AAUW ably represented by local women at national convention

BY JULIE BROWN  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Mickey Edell of Canton and Sharon Belobraidich of Plymouth Township were in St. Louis June 25-28 for the national convention of the American Association of University Women.

"I thought the convention was outstanding," said Edell, who works at Hoben Elementary School in Canton. This was her second national convention for AAUW.

Both women are state board members of AAUW, with Edell having served as state president 2006-08. Both have ties to the Plymouth-Canton schools, with Belobraidich a retired elementary teacher and Edell a current speech and language pathologist.

This convention was shorter than the previous one Edell attended: "But the speakers were outstanding," she said.

The women at the convention had debates on whether AAUW should drop its requirement for a two-year degree. The first vote was almost 50/50, with the final vote 1,450 to 36 to maintain the degree requirement.

Edell, a 20-year member, favored dropping the degree requirement, noting "as an



Kathy Banfield Shaw of Battle Creek (right), AAUW of Michigan president, meets with Lily Ledbetter, for whom the recently passed Fair Pay Act is named. Ledbetter was the keynote speaker at the national convention in St. Louis, Mo., which a number of Michigan AAUW members attended.

inclusive organization AAUW should not be exclusive by using a degree designation."

That was part of a larger revision of association bylaws and governance.

AAUW, approaching its 130th year, works to provide educational opportunities and equity for women and girls. Edell got involved through friend and colleague

Belobraidich.

"Sharon Belobraidich asked me if I would like to be Figaro in *Pinocchio*," said Edell, referring to the Plymouth-Canton branch's signature annual play for children. Edell continues to love the play and social aspects, but also was drawn to gender equity issues.

In St. Louis, Lily Ledbetter, for whom recently enacted pay equity legislation is named, was the keynote speaker. "She was very thoughtful," said Eleanor "Coco" Siewert of Birmingham, a Wayne State University law school staffer and former Birmingham mayor.

That was President Barack Obama's first piece of legislation signed, said Siewert, who has been AAUW's national parliamentarian for more than 20 years. Women earn approximately two-thirds of what equally qualified men do.

Edell, a former Plymouth-Canton branch president, also enjoyed hearing Ledbetter, who was instrumental in passage of the Fair Pay Act which bears her name. Edell also listened closely to a Connecticut congresswoman, Rep. Rosa DeLauro, who helped pass the Paycheck Fairness Act in the

U.S. House. The latter awaits U.S. Senate action.

"Even now in 2009, women are not still paid equitably on the dollar with men," Edell said. "These women (speakers) had us on our feet, cheering them."

There were about 50 Michigan delegates, she added. Edell remains on the state board as Initiative director, with fellow state board member Belobraidich as Diversity director.

The national conventions are held every other year, with the next one in 2011 in Washington, D.C.

Michigan AAUW members attending the St. Louis convention include: Ann Arbor branch: Margaret Fisher, Jennie Lombard, Mary Mostaghim, Pauline Pan, Martha Petroski, Amy Seetoo; Birmingham branch: Carolyn Burdi, Sally Doty, Charlotte Mahrt, Carol Pyke, Eleanor Siewert, Jean Walker; Detroit branch: Cynthia McClure, Janet Watkins; Farmington branch: Joan McGlinchey; Grosse Pointe branch: Carolyn Barth, Patricia Greenwood; Oakland branch: Lynette Brown; Plymouth-Canton branch: Sharon Belobraidich, Mickey Edell; Wyandotte-



The Michigan delegation was glad to travel to St. Louis for the national convention of the American Association of University Women.

Downriver branch: Josephine Burke, Gloria Conn, Diana Mente, Delores Miller; Rochester branch: Sharon Postnieks; Livonia branch: Cornelia Blaga, Mary Bond, Barbara Medwedeff; Romeo area branch: Jeanette Douglas.

Outstate Michigan attendees were: Battle Creek branch: Janis Emery, Deborah Ensign, Constance VandePolder; Grand Rapids branch: Mary Jane Keeler,

Helen Kinsworthy; Hillsdale branch: Ruth Brown; Holland branch: Martha Swank; Jackson branch: Patricia Jennings; Lansing area branch: Vida Sisco; Marshall branch: Kathy Shaw; Midland branch: Betty Chenoweth, Mary Crane-Franek, Ann Ward; Port Huron branch: Pamela Oziah, Pamela Ruehle; Traverse City area branch: Shirley Murray; Escanaba area branch: Joy Holman, M. Jean Jokipii.

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Dearborn, Janice Frank, (313) 563-2644  
Detroit, Cynthia McClure,

(313) 867-3042  
Farmington, Diane Hague, (248) 788-0506  
Grosse Pointe, Carolyn Barth, (313) 881-0409  
Livonia, Judith Stewart, (734) 591-0492  
Monroe, Gloria Rafko, (734) 457-3086  
Northville-Novi, Harriet Sawyer, (734) 420-3270  
Oakland, Lois Hitchcock,

(248) 358-5698  
Plymouth-Canton, Monica Nick, (734) 454-9316  
Pontiac-Waterford Area, Evangeline M. Chase, (248) 681-0534  
Rochester, Sharon Postnieks, (248) 651-7337  
Romeo Area, Nita Glover, (586) 336-1052  
Wyandotte-Downriver, Jackie Hector, (734) 284-6603

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# COWBOY

FROM PAGE B5

you have eye and ear protection.

Cowboy Action Shooting is one of the fastest growing sports and with chapters around the world, local members are eligible to participate at all the different programs.

"CAS shooters are some of the friendliest folk you'll meet," according to the Web site. "If you don't have all the hardware — come on out and partner up with a cowboy or cowgirl and they'll lend you what your missin'." Either way, come on out, bring the family and watch the goin's on. You'll have a great time."

## SHOOTING VARIETY

If cowboy style shooting doesn't interest you, WWCCA, in operation for 71 years, also has a target range and holds a variety of classes and leagues for people of all ages who love to shoot guns from pistols, shotguns and rifles in a prone position, in cowboy get up or in an all-women league.

WWCCA has 761 family members from Plymouth, Livonia, Canton, Westland, Dearborn Heights, Detroit and other communities across the state.

"Memberships are down, because of the slump in the economy, but our spirits are up," said Bob Haviland, WWCCA president. "We offer



John Blades of South Lyon (left) times Rick Levy of Plymouth.

such a variety of activities that it brings people to us."

Among the many activities, WWCCA also provides hunter education classes and Junior Olympics archery development, as well as trap and skeet shooting on 84 acres that sits on a parcel that touches Wayne and Washtenaw counties.

A new program, Pin Top, challenges shooters to hit five bowling ball like pins with a 22 caliber long rifle handgun. It's a timed event with a maximum 15 seconds.

Deer roam the land on a picturesque setting ideal for walking after shooting stops at 5:45 p.m.

"I call this my little piece of country in the city," Haviland said.

"It's important for people to know we're a family-oriented club and we try to provide family-oriented activities along with individual activities."

For more information, go to [www.wwcca.com](http://www.wwcca.com).

## Zonta scholarship

The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County is offering a new \$500 scholarship to help women. Zonta is an International Women's Service Organization whose mission is to improve the status of women. Women who live in Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Wayne, Garden City, Westland, Northville Township and the Wayne County portion of Northville are eligible. Applicants must be a U.S. Citizen, attending a Michigan college or university with a concentration in math or science and have successfully completed one year of undergraduate studies with a 3.0 grade point average. The scholarship is renewable for a second semester with successful completion of course work. Request an application form by e-mailing [rsrand521@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rsrand521@sbcglobal.net). Applications must be returned by mail and post marked by Aug. 7, 2009. Scholarship money will be awarded for the Fall 2009 semester. [www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

## Golf for good cause

The Senior Alliance holds its 2009 Golf Classic Friday, July 24 at the Woodlands of Van Buren Golf Course, 39670 Ecorse, Wayne.

The 9 A.M. shotgun start will kick-off a day filled with opportunities to win great raffle prizes, eat delicious food, and possibly win the cherished "Ficano Cup." Last year's event sold out quickly. Reserve your foursome by calling Linda DeVore, program manager, at (734) 727-2017. The raffle supports The Holiday Meals-on-Wheels Program, a charitable effort that provides hot, festive meals to thousands of eligible recipients throughout the 34 communities that The Senior Alliance serves on Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, and Labor Day.

The non-profit organization helps thousands of seniors and caregivers throughout southern and western Wayne County through the Meals-on-Wheels program, the Holiday Meals-on-Wheels program, information and

assistance. Ninety-three cents of every dollar raised from this event will go directly to senior services.

## Garage sale

Presbyterian Village of Westland plans a garage sale Saturday, July 25 to raise money for employee and resident picnics.

The facility is a part of Presbyterian Villages of Michigan, a nonprofit organization that serves senior citizens of all faiths. The Village

of Westland offers one- and two-bedroom apartments with services, Assisted Living & Alzheimer/Memory Care cottages, along with Respite Care for short term stays. It also provides home-cooked meals, activities, transportation to shopping and banking, personal emergency response buttons, a Wellness Center with exercise equipment, and gardening. It's located at 32001 Cherry Hill, in Westland. Call (734) 762-8954 for more information.

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As we age, we experience a loss in the ability to balance our body and coordinate our movements. Continuing activities such as tennis, golf, dancing and walking can mitigate the loss in balance and coordination but not eliminate these changes.

The problem for seniors is that the other changes in health make adjustment to aging in balance and coordination more difficult. The two problems that cause the most trouble are Parkinson's and arthritis.

The image of a person with Parkinson's disease is someone with a fixed expression of the face, a bent forward posture, a shuffling walk and constant, fine tremor.

However, it is possible to have a degree of Parkinson's with little facial change, no tremor and slight loss of rhythm in gait and body motion. But these small changes make an individual more vulnerable to a slip or fall. In addition, the individual develops wear and tear arthritis of the hip or knee the possibility of a fall increases.

Physicians can treat Parkinson's but the effect on gait and balance is uncertain. In contrast, treatment for hip or knee arthritis has a predictably good effect when the therapy involves joint repair or replacement.

When to undertake a joint operation and what procedure to undertake are decisions in which dialogue between doctor and patient are important. In instances when balance and coordination are considerations, waiting for joint pain to determine timing is inappropriate. The pattern of falls decides the issue.

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22 IF YOU GIVE A PIG A PANCAKE x 2:00PM & 7:00PM  
Children's Program  
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23 SMOKEY ROBINSON x 7:30PM  
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23 GORDON LIGHTFOOT x 8:00PM  
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24 DEF LEPPARD x 7:00PM  
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MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

27 JACKSON BROWNE  
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

28 DAVE MATTHEWS BAND  
w/OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW  
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

29 KENNY ROGERS w/SAVANNAH JACK  
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

31 ANITA BAKER x  
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

31 DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA x  
Big Band Bash - Thomas Wilkins, Conductor  
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

### AUGUST

1 TRAVIS TRITT w/RANDY HOUSER x  
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PROGRAMS AND DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

# Manners matter when visiting family, friends in hospital

BY JULIE BROWN  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Etiquette may not be the first thing on your mind when visiting a loved one in the hospital. Even so, health care pros know there are a few courtesy basics.

"We do encourage families and friends to visit," said Marcia Filek, manager of patient relations at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne. Such visits are good for emotional and spiritual needs of patients, said Filek, who has a social work background.

"We think visitors are wonderful," said Donna Gray, chief nursing officer at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia. "Visitors are our partners in the care of that patient."

One basic is to use the public restroom on the hall. The patient may need his or her bathroom, and there are infection concerns with using a patient bathroom. You should also wash your hands before



and after visiting, Filek said.

At her hospital, there's anti-septic cleanser foam in rooms which visitors are encouraged to use.

"Check with the nurse" on bringing in food, Filek advised. "We know people want to get out of the hospital as soon as possible." Some food brought in by visitors can create blood sugar or other problems that prolong stays.

Gray said something like grandmother's special rice pudding can help boost a patient's appetite, which is fine. You should check with the nurse; food from home needs to be labeled by name and date. It can be stored in a refrigerator, and there's a microwave available.

Don't visit the hospital if you've been drinking heavily, Gray added.

You shouldn't stay too long, Filek said, noting shorter and more frequent visits are better, maybe half an hour. Her hospital has open visiting hours, to accommodate varied work schedules.

Gray said St. Mary Mercy visiting hours are flexible in the general hospital. "Visiting hours are really around a respectful environment for that other patient in the room," she said. TV noise and boisterous visitors can bother a roommate.

St. Mary Mercy arranges for

some family members to stay overnight in a waiting room. The birthing center is open to dads around the clock. Stricter standards apply for behavioral health and intensive care units.

You shouldn't sit on the patient's bed, for comfort concerns as well as infection possibilities. Also, Filek said, don't touch any equipment, and call the staff if you need help: "That's why we're here."

Gray said visitors shouldn't sit on or pile coats on an empty bed in the room, as nurses will need to remake the bed then.

Information release is up to the patient, due to privacy laws, although such information may be released with approval in the patient's presence. If care is being given, visitors may be asked to step out into the hall.

"We'll ask them to step out for patient privacy and the comfort of the patient," Filek said.

You can bring puzzles or playing cards to pass the time,

but Filek recommends against bringing expensive electronics which can get lost.

You don't want to bring liquor into the hospital, although patients do occasionally have beer or wine with dinner. That's ordered by a doctor and provided through Oakwood Annapolis' food and nutrition department. One such man recently had a beer.

"That was part of his routine on Saturday nights," Filek said of the doctor-approved beer in the hospital.

You shouldn't bring outside medications into the hospital, checking with the nurse or doctor on those. That sometimes happens now with holistic medications, although those too can interact with treatment plans.

Phones are individually assigned to patients, and you can keep in touch if you've got a cold or the flu. Don't visit if you're not feeling well, experts advise.

"Patients are more susceptible to those things when they're in a weakened condition," Filek said.

"If you aren't feeling well, don't go in there," agreed Gray, adding you should communicate your reasons with the loved one. "You don't want to be seen as not caring."

Oakwood Annapolis has courteous visitors, although the numbers can add up in the mostly semiprivate rooms. "We've asked our staff to monitor that," Filek said. Some visitors are asked to use the family lounges on each floor.

Breaks are good for visitors as well, she added, particularly in end of life situations.

Gray sees some problems with visitors staying too long. A co-worker, for example, may feel the need to entertain a visitor rather than get rest.

"The patient really should be allowed to have the environment to get well," Gray said. "It does wear people out."

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