

Dinner to benefit infant stricken with cancer - A3

THURSDAY
October 29,
2009

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com

2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 1

FALL BACK
to Standard Time

Don't forget to set
your clock back one
hour before going to
bed Saturday night

AROUND TOWN

Candy check

Parents of Westland's ghosts, goblins and other characters can bring candy to the 18th District Court, 6:30-10 p.m. Halloween night, Saturday, Oct. 31, for a free candy check before kids gobble up treats.

District Court is at 36675 Ford Road, directly behind the Westland Police Station.

For more information, call (734) 595-8720.

Also on Halloween, the Bailey Recreation Center will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Guest speaker

The Hope 4 Healing Hearts support group will host "When Life Becomes a Crisis ... All Is Not Lost," a free presentation by C. Leslie Charles, an award-winning certified speaking professional.

The program will be 7-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland.

Charles offers practical ideas laced with inspirational anecdotes and examples in her speeches. She is the author of seven books, including the critically acclaimed *Why Is Everyone So Cranky?*, now in revision. Her background includes hardship, poverty and loss, including the death of her 21-year-old son Robbie, killed in a work accident in 1984.

Hope 4 Healing Hearts is a group support program for adults that have loved ones in prison. For more information, call Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or send an e-mail to bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com. A free-will offering will be accepted.

Tax help

If you need help with your taxes, the Internal Revenue Service is offering a free Solution Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at 477 Michigan Ave., 20th floor, Detroit, MI 48226. Detroit is one of only five cities selected for the program.

Foreclosure, bankruptcy, payment plans, penalties, past-due tax returns and other complex tax issues can be a challenge for taxpayers. Many of these issues require contact with specific IRS departments and tax experts. Solution Saturday brings together IRS employees from across the agency to work face-to-face with taxpayers to address unique tax problems or issues.

Taxpayers are encouraged to schedule appointments as soon as possible by calling (313) 628-3120.

"We need to stay in touch with taxpayers and keep the lines of communication open for people who need tax help," IRS Wage and Investment Commissioner Rick Byrd said. "Solution Saturday will be another way taxpayers can get access to the help they need to solve their unique issues."

People can also get help from the IRS Web site at [IRS.gov](http://irs.gov), or call (800) TAX-1040.



BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two write-in candidates have filed to challenge incumbent William Wild, who is unopposed on the Nov. 3 ballot, in his bid for re-election as Westland mayor.

Jeffrey Hayton and Angelo Stocchi each filed to be a write-in candidate prior to deadline Friday. Under state election law,

write-in candidates must have filed an affidavit — votes cast for anyone else are invalid.

Hayton, 39, had been employed as business manager for the Michigan State Fairgrounds until it was closed. He recently completed his master's degree in business administration and is working on a master's degree in public administration at Eastern Michigan University.

"I'm not real happy with the way the city is going. We're losing a lot of residents and we have a lot of vacant homes," said Hayton, who is married with two children. "We lost 6,000-7,000 residents in the last 10 years. We've lost 2,000 students from Wayne-Westland schools — that's \$16 million in lost revenue."

If elected mayor, Hayton said he would put more focus

on bringing more people to Westland, unlike the current administration, which is focusing on attracting smaller businesses. "We have Canton next door with a population that is going up. They have more businesses. We are losing people who are going further west," he said. "We need to focus on more retail businesses

Please see **CANDIDATES, A2**

2 file as write-ins in mayor's race



Westland dentists Daniel Simmons (left) and Shawn Morris are offering youngsters \$1 per pound of unopened Halloween candy in effort to save their teeth from damage. The candy then will be shipped overseas to U.S. troops.

Dentists swap cash and goodies for Halloween candy

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

You might think a candy-laden holiday like Halloween would be a dream come true for the dental industry but two local dentists are offering to take most of those sweets off the hands of trick-or-treaters.

Westland dentists Shawn Morris and Daniel Simmons are offering kids \$1 in cash per pound of unopened

Halloween candy turned in at their office, 32363 Ann Arbor Trail, east of Farmington Road, from 3-5:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1. The collected candy will be shipped to U.S. military troops overseas via Operation Gratitude.

"With Halloween on Saturday and this on Sunday, it couldn't have worked out better," said Lisa Witter, financial coordinator for the dental practice.

Youngsters who trade in their candy — a maximum of five pounds per child and total 1,000 pounds for the event — will receive a new Firefly glow-in-the-dark toothbrush and a goody bag of gifts. The youngsters will also be entered in a raffle to win one of three Nano iPods.

Along with reducing damage to young teeth, the candy collection also will benefit U.S. troops.

"It's kind of like saying that 'We

remember that you're there.' It's something they can enjoy and remember home with the candy," Witter said.

"The troops can also give the candy to kids (where they are stationed). It's good PR. I would hope they take care of themselves (when it comes to candy consumption)," said Morris, who like Simmons did a residency at

Please see **DENTISTS, A2**

Salvation Army signs up bell ringers

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As the holiday season approaches, the Salvation Army has the help wanted sign out for both paid and unpaid workers to help with fund-raising efforts.

No musical ability is required for applicants wanting to work as bell ringers collecting donations through the annual Red Kettle Christmas Campaign.

"We're always looking for people. We usually hire 40-60 people. By the last two or three weeks, it gets so cold that people drop off," said Capt. Derek Rose, who is Wayne-Westland Salvation Army corps officer with his wife Joanna. "We have a solid 15 people by the end of the year."

ning Nov. 13.

In addition, bell ringers also will be collecting funds at Wayne and Warren roads near Westland Shopping Center 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays, Nov. 28 and Dec. 19, with a third date of Saturday, Dec. 5 or Dec. 12.

Paid bell ringers receive \$7.40 per hour and can work up to 40 hours a week.

"We do have people who volunteer as bell ringers — more than 200 people. We have a wide variety of people who do it. We're looking for volunteers," Rose said.

The Red Kettle campaign, first started in San Francisco in 1891, has traditionally been the Salvation Army's most prominent fund-raiser. Locally,

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Please see **BELL RINGERS, A2**

AROUND WESTLAND**Bowling benefit**

The Plymouth-Westland Grange will hold a bowling benefit for Autism 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8, at Town 'n' Country Lanes on Wayne Road at Avondale in Westland. The event is for both adults and children. The cost is \$7. To pre-register, call Jeff at (734) 673-4032 or send an e-mail to plymouthwestland.grange@gmail.com.

Bowling fund-raiser

The John Glenn High School Wrestling Program will hold its first annual Bowling Fundraiser Sunday, Nov. 22, at Vision Lanes on Ford Road in Westland. The cost is \$20 for three games of bowling, shoes, pizza and pop. For further information or to register on-line, visit the Web site at

glennwrestling.com. For more information, call Judy at (734) 634-4595.

No leaf pickup

The Westland Department of Public Service is reminding residents that the leaf collection program has been discontinued this year. Any leaves can be bagged in the brown yard waste bags and put out to the curb for collection by the garbage hauler.

Also chipping season ended on Oct. 2. Any branches you have left can be tied or bundled to be picked up by the garbage hauler. The bundles must be tied and can not exceed 50 pounds or four feet in length.

For more information or questions, call the Department of Public Service at 734 728-1770.

CANDIDATES

FROM PAGE A1

on Ford Road between Garden City and Canton."

Hayton didn't file to run for mayor early enough to appear on the ballot, he said, because he hadn't realized that Wild was unopposed in the election.

"I thought someone with more political experience would stand up to him (Wild)," said Hayton, who cited his business and government experience.

In the time left before the election Tuesday, Hayton said he would do some campaigning, including his Web site www.voteforhayton.com.

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6000 MIDDLEBELT
GARDEN CITY, MI 48135

THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDONED AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON Tuesday November 3, 2009 AT 9:00 A.M. THE AUCTION IS TO BE HELD AT WESTLAND CAR CARE TOWING, 6375 HIX RD., WESTLAND, MI 48185.

PLEASE NOTE: THE BIDDING WILL START AT THE TOWING AND STORAGE CHARGES.

YEAR & MAKE	STYLE	VIN #
1996 CHEVROLET	2D	2G1WW12M4T9149562
1996 FORD	4D	1FALP53S4TA109908
1998 FORD	4D	1FAPF52U4WG217012
1990 MERCURY	4D	2MECM75F6LX615468
1999 PONTIAC	4D	1G2HZ5218XH217212
1993 PONTIAC	4D	1G2WU54T2PF223043
1993 PONTIAC	2D	1G2NE1433PM516247
1995 PONTIAC	2D	1G2WJ12M1SF295899
1999 LAND ROVER	4D	SALTY1244XA215566

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Livonia Schools to discuss possible cuts

BY KAREN SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What if the state doesn't find revenue to rescind cuts to schools, forcing Livonia Public Schools to slash \$10 million from this year's budget?

That's what the Livonia school board will discuss during a committee of the whole meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9.

"The state is broke," Trustee Steve King said Monday at the school board's first meeting since Gov. Jennifer Granholm announced surprise cuts in per-pupil funding last week. "What are we going to do as a board?"

He said parents need to know what their children's education will look like if the funding is not restored.

Trustee Patrice Mang agreed, adding the board needs to take "a tough look in the mirror" and decide which cuts would impact student learning the least.

"We're going to have to have what-if discussions," she said.

But Trustee Robert Freeman said such discussions are premature. He said someone at the state level will cave in the political fight that has put Michigan's public school students in the middle. "Certainly the sky is falling, but it's not Armageddon," he said.

Supt. Randy Liepa said administrators would have enough time to gather information for a meeting Nov. 9 after King, Mang and Vice President Gregory Oke said they thought the board should start talking about possible reductions.

On Oct. 19, Granholm vetoed a portion of the public school budget, cutting \$316 per student to Livonia this school year in 20(j) funding. That was on top of \$165-per-

student cuts that had already been announced.

Three days later, she cut another \$127 per student for all districts. That cut will take effect in the Dec. 20 school aid payment unless legislators agree to raise taxes within 30 days.

For Livonia, the cuts total \$10 million, the equivalent of more than 100 teachers or more than the district spends per year on its entire transportation department. Livonia has a \$160 million budget.

In the meantime, Liepa urged parents to continue contacting state lawmakers with the message, "Do not play politics with our children."

The superintendent said he hopes a supplemental appropriations bill is approved to

cover both of last week's cuts.

Both state Rep. John Walsh and state Sen. Glenn Anderson attended the Livonia school board meeting Monday.

Walsh said state income is down 23 percent this year and is projected to be down another 20 percent next year because of people losing their jobs and businesses closing.

He said other state budgets, like human services, were cut as much as 30 percent, compared with the school aid budget, which was cut 3 percent. "There's very little room to move," he said.

He said lawmakers are looking at freezing the earned income tax credit, among other revenue generators.

Walsh said he favors using additional federal stimulus

Cuts.

Residents shouldn't worry about the wording of their e-mails, letters or phone calls, school board Trustee Daniel Lessard said at Monday night's school board meeting.

"Even if they don't get it right, get it there," he said.

The school district Web site (www.livoniapublicschools.org) has a petition that can be downloaded and circulated for signatures. The petitions can be turned into local schools or the board office, and they will be forwarded to Lansing.

Following is contact information for key elected officials:

Gov. Jennifer Granholm — phone: (517) 373-3400, fax: (517) 335-6863, web: <http://www.michigan.gov/gov/0,16077,168-21995-.html>

65331--00.html

Speaker of the House Andy Dillon — phone: (517) 373-0857, fax: (517) 373-5976, e-mail: andydillon@house.mi.gov

Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop — phone: (517) 373-2417, fax: (517) 373-2694, e-mail: senmbishop@senate.michigan.gov

Rep. John Walsh — e-mail: JohnWalsh@house.mi.gov

Rep. Richard LeBlanc — e-mail: richardleblanc@house.mi.gov

Further information on the campaign will be updated on a regular basis at www.livoniapublicschools.org.

— By Karen Smith

money to offset the school cuts this year since school districts are already four months into their budget years. He said most superintendents would rather have use of that money now and then plan ahead for next year. "It's really a question of when do you want to take your pain," he said.

Anderson told the board he is disappointed and concerned by the series of recent blows dealt to K-12 education funding, which he called unimaginable and devastating to Livonia Public Schools. He said he will continue to work with Liepa, Walsh and members of the Legislature on both sides of the aisle to mitigate the funding cuts.

ksmith@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2098

Sock drive to benefit those in need**BELL RINGERS**

FROM PAGE A1

Rose said money collected in the Red Kettles provide 40 percent of the corps budget.

"Our goal is \$160,000 just for Christmas — \$135,000 from the kettles and \$25,000

from mail donations," said Rose, adding the Red Kettle goal last year was \$130,000 with \$10,000 through mailed donations.

The Wayne-Westland Corps services Wayne and Westland along with Inkster, Romulus and New Boston.

The funds raised help support people in poverty who

representatives to coordinate the collection of socks within their building during the month of November. Spinelle has agreed to go to schools within the district, upon their request, to read her story to the children.

In addition, students and parents are invited to enjoy Westland's annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 16, on the front steps of City Hall where Spinelle will read "The Tale of Christmas Stockings" live. New socks will be accepted at the ceremony.

All socks collected will be donated to the Westland Salvation Army which will distribute them to local families in need.

Rose. "We pray and use what God wants us to have whether it's more or less."

For more information about bell ringing for the Red Kettle Campaign or other Salvation Army programs, call (734) 722-3660 or go online to www.salmich.org.

irogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

DENTISTS

FROM PAGE A1

the Veterans Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Morris and Simmons bought

the practice in 2006 — it had been in operation since 1963. Morris continues to work two days each month as a dentist at the VA Hospital.

"So, I see both ends of it. We had a Eagle Scout who had surplus items and donated

them to the hospital," Morris said.

Neither Witter nor Morris had a guess about how many kids would give up their Halloween candy for cash.

"We sent a letter to all our patient families with kids 3-12

years old — 175 families got the letter," Witter said. "Some of our office staff have kids in day care and passed out the flier. It's word of mouth — we have no idea how many kids we'll get."

irogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, November 12, various items of the City Westland, Special Investigations Unit will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, Belleville, MI, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock	Year	Make	Model	VIN
5932978	1985	CHEVY	CAMARO	1G1FS87HXFL4

Dinner benefit to help GC infant stricken with cancer

Friends and neighbors are organizing a benefit dinner and raffle to support a Garden City family whose eight-month-old baby recently was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer.

Sheila Klemola has taken a leave of absence from her job at Blue Cross Blue Shield to care for her infant daughter, Avery. Her husband, Shawn, continues to work his job at Dunham's to support the family which includes Avery's two older brothers, Austin and Ben.

"Anytime a major illness occurs in a family, it is a great financial strain," said Rhonda Silcox, one of the organizers of the benefit. "For the Klemolas, we are trying to alleviate some of their worries, so that they can concentrate on Avery's progress, and not have to focus on the issues that arise from losing half of their income."

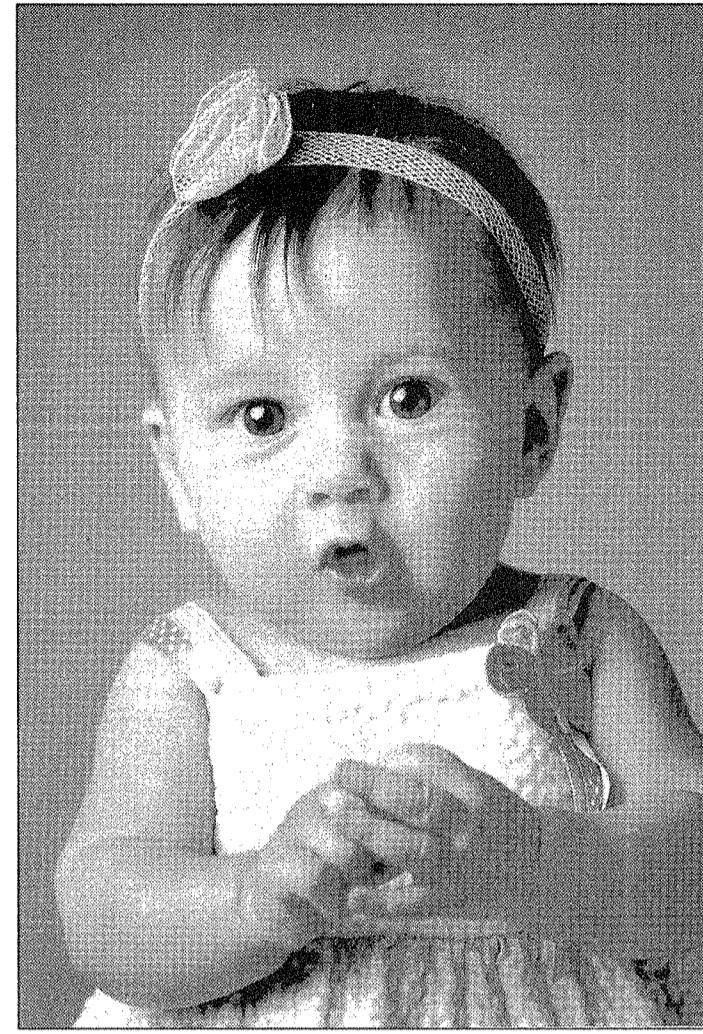
The spaghetti dinner benefit will be 4-9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, at the Bailey Center on Ford Road, west of Wayne Road. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 kids under 14 years and free for toddlers age two and under. Carry-out will also be available at \$8 for spaghetti, roll, salad and a drink.

In addition to the dinner and many raffle prizes, there will be clowns, face painting and games for the kids.

"We are looking for help from the entire community to help this family keep their spirits up and their household operating on one income," Silcox said. "So far dozens of volunteers and business owner have stepped forward to donate raffle items, and help organize the benefit dinner."

Avery is currently undergoing an aggressive clinical trial of chemotherapy in the hopes of shrinking the tumor to an operable size.

"She has had her first round of chemo and is doing pretty good," said Sheila Klemola. "She has been sleeping a lot



Avery Klemola

and they're controlling her pain with two pain medicines. I am just so proud of her. She is so young to endure this, and she staying strong and in pretty good spirits. I hope that everyone will please keep praying for my baby."

Doctors have diagnosed Avery with a stage 4 non-rhabdomyosarcoma cancer. PET and CAT scans have shown two lesions on her lungs. The infant has a port to receive chemotherapy four days every 21 days in hopes of shrinking the tumor on my neck so it can be surgically removed. Non-rhabdomyosarcoma is a soft tissue sarcoma that accounts for about 4 percent of all cancers occurring in childhood.

People interested in mak-

ing donations of goods, services or gift certificates for the raffle or to help in any way can contact Rhonda Silcox at (734) 576-3578 or by e-mail at dnr@wowway.com. Donations to the family can be made directly to the family in the name of Avery or Shawn Klemola at TCF bank. People also can go online to www.myhelpinghand.org then, click on Lend Your Hand tab and donate through PayPal or through the PayPal link on her Facebook fan page.

To read more about Avery's day to day life as she fights her battle with cancer, or to leave good wishes or prayers, people can search Avery Klemola on Facebook and become a friend.

People interested in mak-

Association holds Halloween nature walk

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Enjoy the fall colors and learn about local history Saturday at a Halloween Walk sponsored by the Holliday Nature Preserve Association.

The walk will feature a discussion about the shooting of Chief Tonquish. It happened 190 years ago this month: A stolen loaf of freshly baked bread, an armed posse in pursuit, the death of a great Potawatomi chief along a creek that now bears his name in a nature preserve that may hold his bones.

"We do a walk each year, but we've not really combined history and nature before," said Marty Johnson, who edits the HNPA news and runs their Web site. "We did do a hike four or five years ago with the Westland Historical Society. It's Halloween and the 190th anniversary of Chief Tonquish's death, so it was a good time to do it."

The Halloween Walk begins at 10 a.m. at the Holliday Nature Preserve Cowan entrance, on Central City Parkway west of Wayne Road. The program is free and everyone is welcome.

The walk will last about one hour and will cover about a half mile on mostly level ground, Johnson said, adding the area of the walk had once been a road leading to a parking area. The event will be held rain or shine, so participants should dress accordingly and wear sturdy shoes.

"There is also a part along the Tonquish (Creek) that isn't level," Johnson said. "It is scenic and very pretty this time of year."

Holliday Nature Preserve walks draw 5-15 people, he said, so adding the historical element is an effort to attract more people to the walk.

"A lot of people don't realize that five minutes from the Westland mall they can see deer, wildlife and great color,"

Johnson said. "They don't know what a treasure the preserve is and that it's in their back yard. It's really the only nature preserve in Wayne County. The other Wayne County parks are set up for recreation with playgrounds. The point here is to get away from the crowds."

Light refreshments will be served at the program.

HNPA consists of volunteers dedicated to the William P. Holliday Forest & Wildlife Preserve. The group seeks to nurture a greater appreciation of this 500-plus acre local natural resource by hosting walks and working to improve the experience of visitors through maintenance projects conducted in partnership with Wayne County Parks. This is one of three walks scheduled by the group through December.

More information about the walk and the HNPA can be found on the group's Web site at hnpa.org.

lrogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

East/West shirt sales help Stanley family

For more than five years, Judy Nichols and Sue Pichla have been selling East/West clothing, keeping a rivalry between the two former Garden City high schools alive.

Originally used as a fundraiser to support several extracurricular sports programs at Garden City Middle School, it also helped finance Project Graduation at Garden City High School.

This year, the two women have found a new beneficiary of their Wildcats fund-raising — 20-month-old Leiryn Stanley.

"Leiryn is a toddler from Garden City who is currently going through chemotherapy for cancer," Nichols said. "Due to the family hardships, we thought that this was the best way to donate our proceeds."

The Garden City toddler was diagnosed with stage 4

cancer and has been undergoing treatment at Children's Mott Hospital in Ann Arbor. Leiryn's father, Charles Stanley, who is attending Eastern Michigan University to become a teacher, recently gave up one of his two jobs to take care of the family. Her mother Carrie schedules all of Leiryn's treatments.

The women are taking orders for short-sleeved and long-sleeved T-shirts, sweatshirts and hooded sweatshirts for Garden City East and Garden City West high schools.

The clothing is in the two high schools' colors and with a logo of the schools' mascots. Available are long- and short-sleeved T-shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies. The cost for T-shirts is \$14 for S-XL, \$15 for 2X or \$16 for 3X; long-sleeved T-shirts are priced at \$16 (S-XL), \$17 (2X) and \$18 (3X).

Sweatshirts sell for \$22 (S-XL), \$23 (2X) and \$24 (3X). Hooded sweatshirts cost at \$27 (S-XL), \$28 (2X) and \$29 (3X).

Prepaid orders — make checks payable to Wildcats — can be mailed to Sue Pichla, 32635 Dover, Garden City, MI 48135. Be sure to include a name, address, phone number and a list of items, including styles, sizes and quantities.

Orders must be placed by Nov. 18 to insure a December delivery. There is an extra charge for home delivery.

"This is a very special fundraiser," Nichols said. "Leiryn's parents are both graduates of Garden City High School, they have four young children, and had to take a leave from their jobs to help care for the baby."

For more information, contact Pichla at (734) 421-2934 or by e-mail at Spichla@aol.com.

She helps granddaughter with \$100 gift

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Sandra Bedwell was sitting on a bench with her great-granddaughter recently when some people approached to talk with her over the backyard fence.

The visitors weren't there for a neighborly chat — representatives of Co-op Services Credit Union presented Bedwell, a Westland resident, with a \$100 bill. It was part of Project 100, a program in which the credit union gave \$100 bills to 100 people selected at random.

"I was very surprised, no one gives you \$100 for nothing. They said they were giving me \$100 to use as I wanted to help someone," said Bedwell. "I gave it to my granddaughter so she could go to Ohio to get married."

Based in Livonia, Co-op Services Credit Union developed Project 100 to promote the positive aspects of giving in local communities. The recipients are encouraged to continue the effort of giving back.

"We wanted to create a spark that could continue to grow and it appears to be working," said Lisa Fawcett, marketing director for Co-op Services Credit Union. "In fact, I received an e-mail just the other day from a young woman that heard about the project and just wanted to help out. She didn't know how but felt that she needed to do her part to give back. It's truly exciting."

Co-op Services Credit Union has eight full-service



Westland resident Sandra Bedwell shows off the \$100 bill she received from Co-op Services Credit Union. Bedwell was selected at random as part of Project 100 which will give 100 people \$100 which they are encouraged to use to help another person.

branches located in the metro Detroit area. Project 100 has also has Web site www.what-is-project100.com to serve as an educational resource on volunteering and giving back.

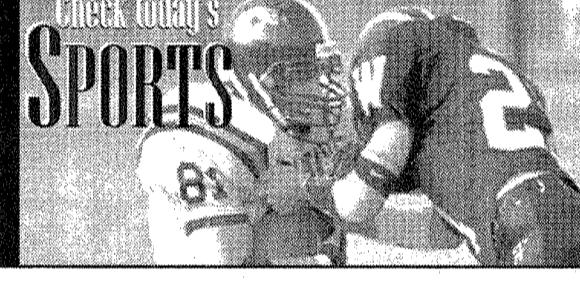
For Bedwell, the \$100 will help granddaughter Brittany Owen, who turns 22 on Halloween, with plans to marry Ernest Parsley when he is home on leave from the

Army.

"He is in Germany now, but is supposed to go to Afghanistan after this. We thought he would be home in August, so I gave my granddaughter the \$100 to get married," said Bedwell. "Instead, he is coming home this month."

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For the location nearest you, call 1-888-889-EYES

PUBLIC SAFETY

Resident loses \$350 in phone scam

Fraud

A resident in the 1100 block of Abby told police Oct. 25 that he had been scammed out of \$350. The man said he had received a call from a man who claimed to work for an insurance company. The resident said the

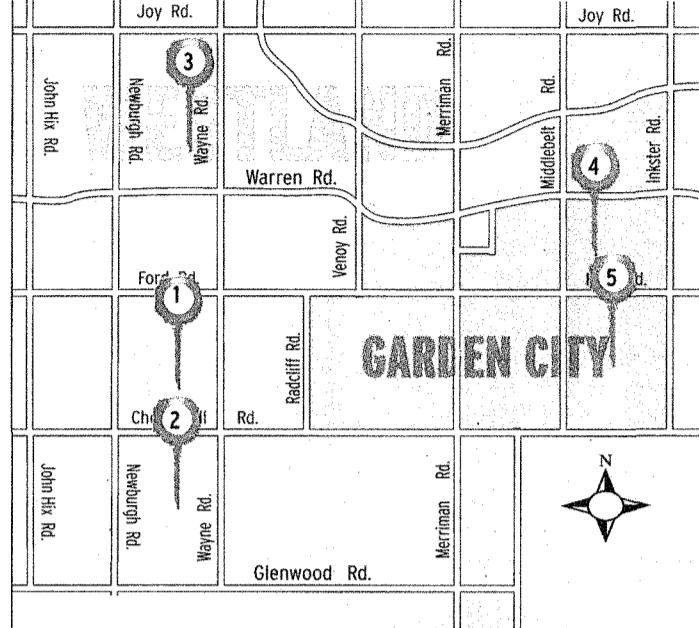
WESTLAND COP CALLS
man told him he had \$1 million coming, but first needed to send out two wire transfers. It was never made clear why the resident was getting \$1 million but the caller promised \$125,000 in cash would be delivered once the wire transfers were completed.

The caller refused to identify the insurance company by name or provide a telephone number, the resident told police. He said he was instructed to send two Western Union wire transfers — \$200 to Jamaica and \$150 to Texas. Although he didn't know the name of the recipient, the resident said he sent both money orders. The cash was to be delivered but the resident said the caller had never got his address.

The resident, 84, told a neighbor about what had transpired and was told to call police. While the resident was making a police report, the suspect called again on his cell phone. The officer answered and pretended to the resident. He said the suspect told him to wire additional money to get the cash payment. When the officer said he didn't have the money, he reported the suspect told him to do the best he could and not to tell anyone about what was happening.

Break-in

An Xbox game system, a laptop computer, a pearl necklace and a pair of orange and black Air Jordans valued



at \$2,000 were reported stolen along with \$40 in cash from an apartment at Pointe West, 36515 Palmer, Oct. 25. The resident reported finding the front door of the apartment had been forced open.

Retail fraud

Police were called to Best Buy, 35100 Central City Parkway, Oct. 25 after an employee reported stopping a man who had shoplifted a 32-inch television valued at \$750. The employee said he recognized the Dearborn Heights man from two prior television thefts and decided to follow him.

After the suspect picked up a television and walked out without paying, the employee said he told the man to put the television down and the man had complied. The man then shoved the employee and ran when asked to come back into the store, the worker said.

The employee followed the suspect and flagged down the officer as he arrived, pointing out the suspect's hiding

spot among some trees. The Dearborn Heights man was arrested for retail fraud. A second Dearborn Heights man had driven the suspect to the store. He told police that the suspect was there to steal a television which he was going to buy from him. The second man was released without charges.

The officer noted that the Dearborn Heights man was also a suspect in a television theft at Target and had a long criminal history.

Vehicle recovered

An Inkster man was arrested for possessing a stolen vehicle Oct. 25 after being stopped for speeding in the 30000 block of Avondale. The man, who had no driver's license or photo identification, gave the officer a false name. The Chevrolet S-10 pickup truck had been reported stolen in Ann Arbor.

Once the man's true identity was established, he was also held for driving with two license suspensions and four warrants.

By LeAnne Rogers

Thieves take beer, cigarettes from 2 stores

Retail fraud

A man left the 7-Eleven store at 2202 Merriman about 9:45 a.m. without paying for a 15-pack of Bud Light. He fled through the parking lot and east on Pardo.

At the 7-Eleven store at 29331 Warren Road, a man

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

and entered a vehicle which was waiting for him. He was last seen wearing a black zipped hoodie and had a tattoo on the left side of his neck.

A man ran off without paying for six, one-dozen bouquets of roses valued at \$9.99 each from the floral department at Kroger on Middlebelt about noon Oct. 21.

The clerk asked if he wanted them wrapped and when she turned to wait on another customer he fled to a car that was waiting for him in the fire lane.

The clerk was able to record the license plate number of the car which was later found to belong to a Westland man.

The suspect is described as white, 5 feet, 10 inches tall, with a stocky build and about 40 years old. He had dark hair and dark facial hair and wore a black and grey coat.

The police arrested a man about 12:30 p.m. Oct. 18 who was wearing a Lansing tether after he tried to steal several razors from the Kmart store at 29600 Ford Road.

Loss prevention officers first saw the man put the razors in a hand basket and then saw him stuff the razors up his sleeves.

The parolee said that he sells the razors for \$5 a piece at Detroit party stores.

In another retail fraud case, police arrested a 48-

year-old Inkster man about 7:30 p.m. Oct. 17 after he tried to leave Kmart without paying for two 22-inch flat screen TVs.

Credit card fraud

A 17-year-old Wayne man, who said that he was

robbed at gunpoint in Wayne, told police about 9 p.m. Oct. 14 that the suspect later tried to use his credit card unsuccessfully at a clothing store in Garden City. The \$300 purchase was rejected, he said.

Minors in possession

A 19-year-old man and a 17-year-old woman, both Garden City residents were arrested as minors in possession of alcohol about 2 a.m. Oct. 23 at Marquette and Central. The man also was in possession of .3 grams of marijuana.

The police had been called to the area on a report of "a large fight," and K9 Deuce located a marijuana cigarette under the driver's seat during the investigation.

Drunk driving

The police arrested a woman about 4:30 p.m. Oct. 17 after finding her asleep and slumped over the wheel of her 2001 Ford Focus. An almost empty vodka bottle was beside her. She registered a .24 blood alcohol level.

Garden City Police arrested a 20-year-old Dearborn Heights man about 2:30 a.m. Oct. 27 after they discovered he was drunk and in possession of marijuana. They found a marijuana blunt in his car.

The police observed him speeding in his 1998 Ford F150 pickup on westbound Ford at Wildwood.

A 20-year-old Westland woman was arrested after police stopped her for speed-

ing in the Merriman and Block area at 6 a.m. Oct. 24. She was driving 50 mph in a 25 mph zone. She also disregarded a stop sign at east-bound block at Merriman.

She registered a .19 blood alcohol level.

A resident in the 29000 block of Bock called police about 6:45 a.m. Oct. 24 after she saw a man parked there for more than an hour.

When the police arrived, they found the 22-year-old Inkster man slumped over with his chin to his chest. It took awhile for the man to regain his composure, police said.

He admitted to drinking four-six beers with the last beer consumed about 4 a.m. He was arrested after he registered .105 blood alcohol, well over the limit of .08.

Larceny

A Devon, Pa., man, who stopped at the Kroger store at 5866 Middlebelt, said that someone took his company-owned laptop with accessories about 8 p.m. Oct. 21 after he failed to lock his 1998 BMW.

Home invasion

A homeowner in the 6850 block of Gilman said that when he returned home about 10 a.m. Oct. 20, he found that someone took a light fixture and a Comcast HD box and modem.

The resident said that someone entered through an unlocked family room window. An outer screen was found lying on the ground. The thief also left a pair of pliers on a chair.

A witness said that he saw a strange F150 pickup truck parked in the driveway for about two hours.

By Sue Buck

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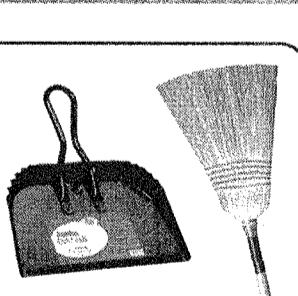
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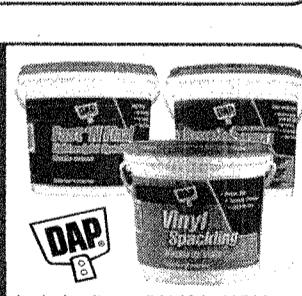
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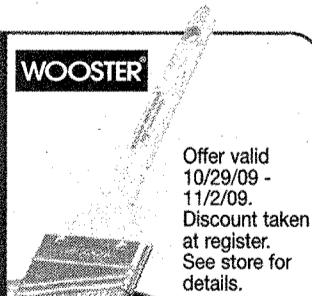
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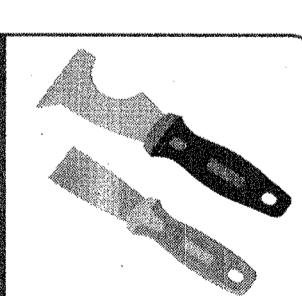
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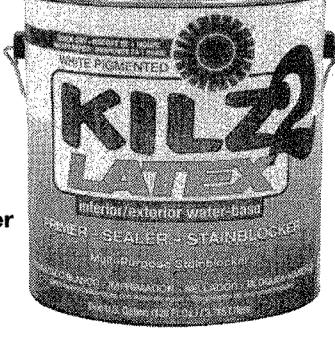
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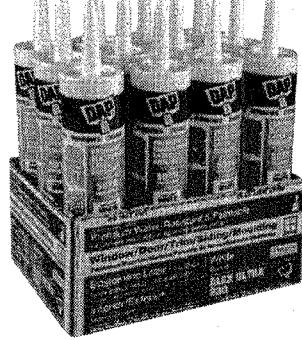
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'Aliens' turn out for Garden City Hospital benefit

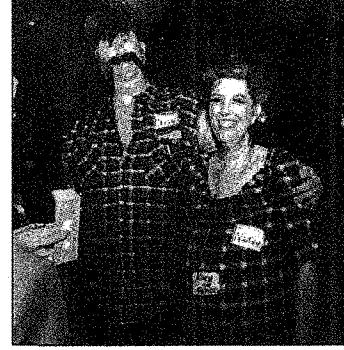
Every where you looked there were aliens ... and with good reason. They're bound to show up when you throw a party that's "Out of this World."

That was the theme of the Garden City Hospital Foundation's annual fall gala, held Friday at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

Guests enjoyed the music of the Sunset Boulevard Band, food stations and made their best offer on 75 items in a silent auction during the 18th annual fund-raiser, known for its creative decorations and themes.

A major fund-raising event for the hospital, proceeds will go toward new endoscopy suites.

Organizers of this year's gala hoped to make a big dent in the \$130,366 the hospital needs to pay for new suites



David and Laura Kehler from Livonia came as alien supporters with an alien on board.

which will be moved into some of the old surgery rooms on the third floor of the hospital.

The suites will gain more room and more privacy in their new location. Outpatient infusion services will move to the former endoscopy department after the new suites are built.



Volunteer Lori Igrisan, a volunteer from Redford, admires the costumes of Dan and Nicole Newhouse of Westland.



Vicki and Ed Kemp from Garden City were among party goers at the fall fund-raiser.



Volunteers Steve and Susan Patterson from Livonia are ready to be beamed aboard with Spock at the fund-raiser.



Julie Carrigan of Plymouth, Cathy MacShara of Commerce Township and Sue Methner of Livonia share a laugh with Yoda, the Jedi master.



Detroit Demolition football player Shannan Schlesler of Redford.

Walking the walk

Celebrities of all sizes shine in suburban league fashion show

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

Trinity Irby shined as bright as the media celebrities in the Redford Suburban League Fashion Show Wednesday at Burton Manor in Livonia.

Her black and silver dress sparked as she made her way down the runway with Nicholas Bair, Emily Cobb and Ian Stammersky. The children were from Burger School for Students with Autism which receives proceeds from the event. In addition to selling more than 350 tickets at \$45 each, the League raised \$6,300 from raffle tickets and over \$3,000 on the craft boutique for the Garden City school, which serves students from throughout western Wayne County.

Parisian at Laurel Park Place in Livonia provided the children's outfits, the Dress Barn in Farmington and Men's Wearhouse in Novi, the men's and women's fall fashions.

Joining the students were Burger teachers Theresa Cook, Joe DeMarsh, and Joey Szypula, and Nicholas's mother Christina Bair.

Cynthia Jamieson only heard positive feedback

about the show. The Redford woman coordinated the celebrity models.

"Everyone loved the clothes," said Jamieson.

Four volunteers from Lasting Impressions in Garden City designed fashions for female models. The smoldering eyes were made up by Danell Ledin of Canton, resident Chanel artist at Parisian and Sue Beydoun, regional artist.

Celebrities Jim Madaus, meteorologist for WWJ-TV CBS 62; traffic reporter Jo-Jo Shutty-MacGregor, WWJ Newsradio 950 and her sister Sharon Shutty-Wright, WMAQ-TV Chicago NBC 5; Audrey Sommers, Catholic Television Network and a Livonia resident; and Joe Gagnon, Appliance Doctor columnist for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* were among the models.

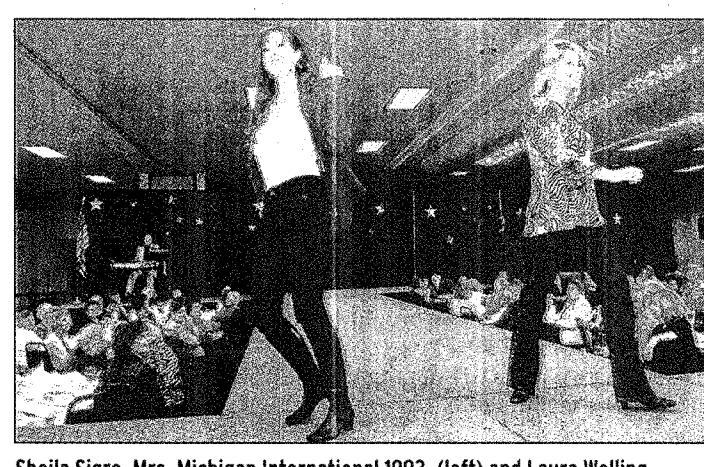
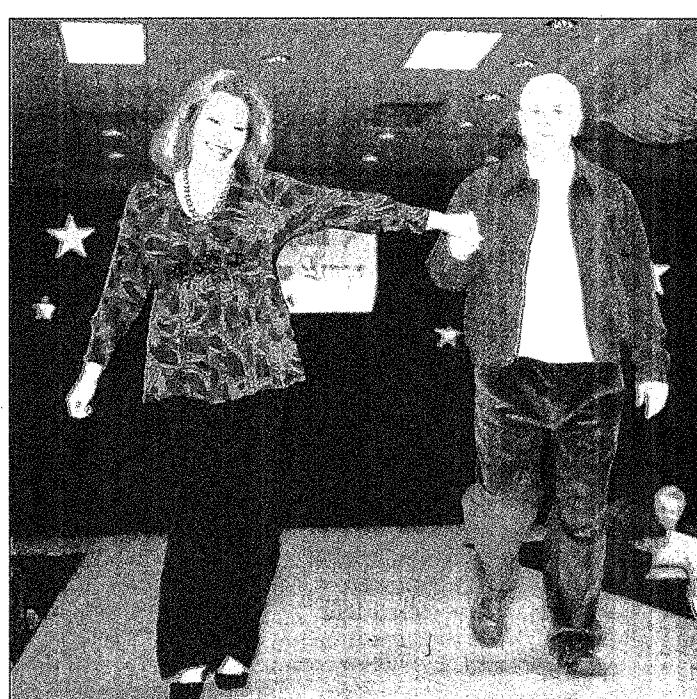
The 36th Fall Festival of Fashion also featured crowd-pleasers Doris Biscoe and Rich Fisher once again as hosts.

Cook, a speech and language pathologist at Burger, admitted to being nervous. She usually sits in the audience so she never fully understood the impact of the experience on student models.

Autism is a neurological



Allison Hollis, speech therapist, and Lynn Sossi, assistant director, at Burger School for Students with Autism, share a laugh during lunch.



Sheila Sigro, Mrs. Michigan International 1993, (left) and Laura Welling Abney, Miss Michigan 1998, strut the catwalk at the Redford Suburban League Fashion Show Wednesday at Burton Manor in Livonia.

Audrey Sommers from Catholic Television Network and Joe Gagnon, Observer & Eccentric columnist, walk the runway.

disorder that causes social, behavioral and communication challenges. Proceeds will go to purchase communication devices which give nonverbal students and those with limited verbal skills the ability to tell a teacher when they need a drink of water or to go to the bathroom.

"It's a real challenge for Ian to try something different," said Cook. "This is a big thing with our students. The unknown is scary. He wanted to tell me it was the best day of his life. He liked the fact he was a model. It was exciting and fun. He said he learned trying something new can change your life forever."

Trinity's favorite part was getting dressed up.

"The first thing Trinity

wanted to do this morning when she walked into the classroom she wanted to show her teacher how she walked down the runway. How proud Trinity was of herself. This was a great experience for me. I was stretching my own comfort level. I was scared. If I'm scared just imagine these students. They did very well with everything and it helped them with their self esteem."

THURSDAY
October 21,
2009

Page, A6 (W)

Sue Mason, editor
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LOCAL OPINION

online at hometownlife.com

 GANNETT

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

OUR VIEWS

Yes on 2 LPS tax proposals

Residents of Livonia school district, which includes a portion of northern Westland, will vote on two tax proposals Nov. 3. We encourage them to vote YES on both.

One is for operations — .63 mills for primary residences and 18.4568 mills for all other property, including businesses. The other is for the sinking fund — 1.12 mills for all property. The sinking fund is used mostly for building repairs. Both are renewals for five years each.

Some in the community say the school district is top-heavy with administrators and the board inappropriately approved the use of sinking fund money to build a soccer complex for use by a private company, among other criticisms. However, the operational millage generates about \$30 million a year, 20 percent of the district's general fund budget. That's about 350-400 teachers.

The current operational millage expires in 2010; the sinking fund millage expires this year. The sinking fund generates about \$6 million annually for maintaining the district's schools, which average 40 years old.

Some say the board may have followed the letter of the law, but not the intent, in approving \$1 million of its current sinking fund for developing the former Cooper School site into a soccer complex to be leased by a private company.

We supported the decision because it was a positive reuse of the property, a former landfill later found to be contaminated. We believe the school district is fortunate to have an interested lessee in this economy, especially given the property's history.

We don't think it makes sense to turn down the sinking fund proposal because of disagreement over the soccer complex decision. The district's buildings are worth \$500 million, and they need to be maintained. The longer needed repairs are put off, the more costly they will be to complete.

Critics say the district doesn't properly manage its resources and that's why they will vote against the two millage proposals. But unnecessary special elections and deferred building maintenance are also a waste of the district's resources.

Vote Yes on charter issues

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, Westland voters will be asked to approve two charter amendments. The first would allow city candidates to pay \$100 in lieu of filing a nominating petition for an election. The second would change the city's filing deadline to 12 weeks prior to the election.

Neither one is an earth-shattering change to the city charter. They're more like housekeeping issues, changes that should be made to update the document.

Letting candidates pay \$100 instead of gathering signatures to get a spot on the ballot is a good idea. Currently, the City Charter requires candidates to file nominating petitions signed by a minimum/maximum number of registered voters. The minimum is 1 percent up to a maximum of 4 percent of the votes cast in the city at the last election for Secretary of State. With the amendment, they could gather the signatures or pay the filing fee.

We see no problem with the change. The filing fee in lieu of petitions is already available to candidates in school board elections. It makes filing easier for both the candidate and city clerk who must verify signatures. Something like this would have made it easier on candidates this year. An early filing deadline left them scrambling to gather the needed number of signatures - between 266 and 1,063 - to have their names appear on the ballot.

And that's what the second ballot addresses, the change in the deadline for filing petitions. Candidates this year lost five weeks for gathering signatures when it was discovered the city charter wasn't in agreement with state election law.

Currently the deadline for filing for elective office in the city is seven weeks before the primary election date. However, state law sets the deadline as the 12th Tuesday before the primary election. The amendment would bring the charter in line with that law.

We urge residents to take the time to vote YES on the two amendments. They are changes whose time has come.

WESTLAND OBSERVER

 GANNETT

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Executive Editor
/ Publisher

Grace Perry
Director of
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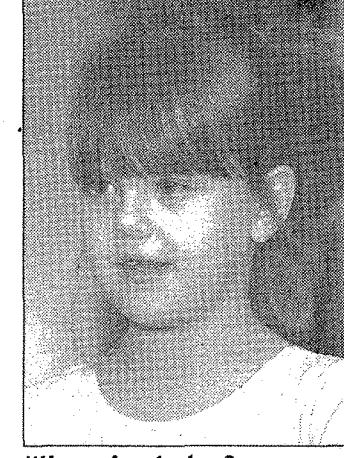
LOCAL OPINION

online at hometownlife.com

COMMUNITY VOICE

What do you plan to be for Halloween?

We asked this question at Dance Express at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.



"I'm going to be Snow White."

Alyssa Roy
Westland



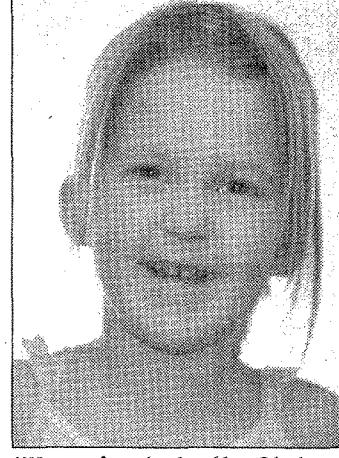
"I'm going to be a devil."

Robin Groves
Garden City



"I'm going to be a princess... Cinderella."

Jill Patterson
Garden City



"I'm going to be the Statue of Liberty, I have a squishy torch and crown."

Lucy Demers
Garden City

LETTERS

Bryant is experienced

I agree with letters recently written about the importance of the upcoming election and voting. Everyone must vote, if they want to see their candidate elected. I am very disappointed to see that negative attacks toward candidates seems to be the focus. Our city does not need to run negative attacks to get your favorite candidate elected.

The negative information I've read about Mrs. Bryant is inaccurate to say the least. So, if you are not sure about what you are putting in print you should call and get the correct facts. I have seen Mrs. Bryant at many events in our city as far back as when her mother was on council. If I am not mistaken, for all the years that Judge Cicirelli was our mayor, the charter would not allow an appointment for Mrs. Bryant to our boards or commissions. So, give her credit for helping our city move forward without needing kudos along the way for participation.

As I have talked and researched the backgrounds of our candidates, I have learned that Mrs. Bryant has worked since she was 16 years old and has always excelled as a leader in her jobs, even at a young age. Mrs. Bryant taught at a Christian schools for eight years before receiving her degree. This meant that not only did she work while being a "homemaker," but she also finished her schooling while doing all this, and now is teaching right here in our backyards with Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

So not only does she have real life management experience but she also knows what it is like to work hard and stay dedicated to succeeding despite the odds against her.

I'm not sure why it is such a problem for some people that Mrs. Bryant is related to Sandra Cicirelli. Many modern women keep their maiden names. So many of our skills we learn from birth to adulthood come from our parents. Judge Cicirelli did a great job for our city and I am excited to know that much of that experience and dedication will still be around, if Mrs. Bryant is elected. She is endorsed by several retiring council members, so Mrs. Bryant will have great sources to turn to for appropriate advice, if necessary.

This gives me comfort in her abilities. I am not so comfortable about several of the other candidates, however.

Donna Osborn
Westland

Bryant is dedicated

I want to say up-front that I am Christine Cicirelli Bryant's neighbor and friends. We were neighbors before we were friends. I have read the unfair attacks in the letters to the editor.

Before Christine worked for the Wayne-Westland schools, she was a preschool teacher for seven years. She also taught upper elementary and middle school grades at a church school for one year. She has a lot of teaching experience.

Now that the only woman on the city council is retiring, we need another woman on council. Christine is a very hard worker. She worked part time, went to college and took care of her family all at the same time. She has a college degree and is a public school teacher. She has plenty of teaching experience.

Westland would be lucky to have such a dedicated and hard worker on its council. If elected, Christine Cicirelli Bryant would represent Westland families well.

Allison Hutton
Westland

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Submit letters via the following formats.

Web: www.hometownlife.com

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

False advertising

I was stunned and extremely angry when I read my October issue of the Action Shopper Stopper Saturday Oct. 24. The last page had a full size ad for Meriem Kadi falsely stating: "The only candidate serving the community for over 10+ years."

Council candidate Ken Mehl has more community involvement than ALL the candidates!! Ken Mehl's Westland community involvement includes: Past member, Westland Dad's Club; Westland Youth Athletic Association; council member for 12 years, including six years as council president; Westland Planning Commission member for six years, including three years as chairman; Westland Festival Committee member for more than 30 years, 10 as chairman; chaired the committee that brought the Vietnam Moving Wall to Westland in 2006; chairman of the Westland Veterans Association; trustee of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Romanowski Post 6896, Westland.

I believe that adds up to well over "10+ years."

Another candidate not having has many years of Westland Community involvement as Ken Mehl still has more than Kadi's "10+" years.

Kadi's ad states in very small print that the ad was paid for by "Family and Friends of Meriem Kadi." Did she approve this before it went to print? Is she not reading what her committee is putting in print for the public? Is this what we can expect if she makes it on council?

Kadi is not the only candidate with false hoods. Adam Hammons keeps touting his experience. The fact is he was an alternate for only a month and a half on the Zoning Board of Appeals. What experience is that?

I'm tired of the lies that some candidates say and put in print. What happened to just telling the truth.

Renee Wyrybkowski
Westland

Vote yes for LPS tax requests

As former Livonia school board trustees with a combined service of 27 years, we were distressed by what we read in the *Observer* article about the upcoming millage proposals on the Nov. 3 ballot and by the discussion of the Cooper School property.

With regard to the Cooper School site, it has been considered a toxic wasteland for 18 years. When the current board voted to approve upgrading the site so it could be used for a soccer dome, it was necessary to do so by Sept. 30 to avoid losing a grant of approximately \$1 million from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to clean up this property. Those living near Cooper have

had to wait a long, long time for this problem to be corrected.

The more important issue is the renewal of the millages. If they are rejected, it would have a devastating effect on our schools and on our whole community.

Rejecting the operating millage would cost the district \$30 million, which represents 20 percent of LPS operating costs. It is equivalent to the salaries and expenses of almost 300 of the total 1,100 teachers we have in Livonia Public Schools. Severe layoffs and program cutbacks would be inevitable and our schools would be crippled. Our kids don't deserve this.

The Sinking Fund millage, if rejected, would cost an additional \$6 million. If these funds (which can only be used for repairs and renovation of buildings and sites) are not available, it would mean our facilities could deteriorate significantly. An emergency roof repair might then force dipping into operating funds, which could mean further layoffs of teachers and staff.

Gov. Granholm's line-item veto of the public school budget bill on Monday, Oct. 19, was the latest bombshell for our schools, making the situation even more dire. The *Detroit Free Press* on Oct. 20 wrote:

"Hardest hit by Granholm's veto would be the Livonia and Dearborn school districts, each losing \$4.9 million in state aid — on top of the \$165-per-pupil reduction affecting all Michigan districts approved by the Legislature earlier this month."

Renewing the Livonia Public School millages will NOT increase current tax rates. They are critically important for our community and our children. Please vote to renew these millages in the Nov. 3 election.

Pat Tancill
Carol Strom
former trustees
Livonia Public Schools

Vote no on millages

Disaster has become the common talking point during the debate over the sinking and operating millages for LPS. In other words, vote yes or all is lost. I disagree.

There is a reason that Mr. Liepa scheduled the millage vote this early — because he knew people were angry enough at his waste to vote it down. So he gave himself enough time to go back to the voters two more times.

A no vote would send two powerful messages. First, rewrite the sinking fund request so that the money can only be spent on school buildings. No more \$1 million soccer domes.

Second, all district employees will need to make concessions (that means teachers, administrators and AFSCME), and we can no longer be a job fund for the friends and family of the administrators and board members. Do we really need 43 employees making \$100,000 in this economy?

The only way Mr. Liepa and the board of education members will give up on the intolerable waste in this district is if we withhold the money until they are forced to do so.

That is why I am asking you to join me in voting no on both millage requests.

Loyd A. Romick
Livonia

Motor City, motor style

a2z Racer Gear appeals to car buffs and beyond

BY WENDY VON BUSKIRK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

To Patrick Parke, car-themed clothing seemed a natural fit for Detroit. That's why the Bloomfield Hills businessman brought a2z Racer Gear to town.

"The catchphrase I like to use is 'Motor City, motor style,'" Parke said.

Parke, of Bloomfield Hills, is the exclusive Michigan rep for a2z Racer Gear, a retro apparel line inspired by racing legends Steve McQueen and Carroll Shelby.

Parke discovered a2z Racer Gear three years ago while traveling through Napa Valley, when he complimented a stranger on his jacket.

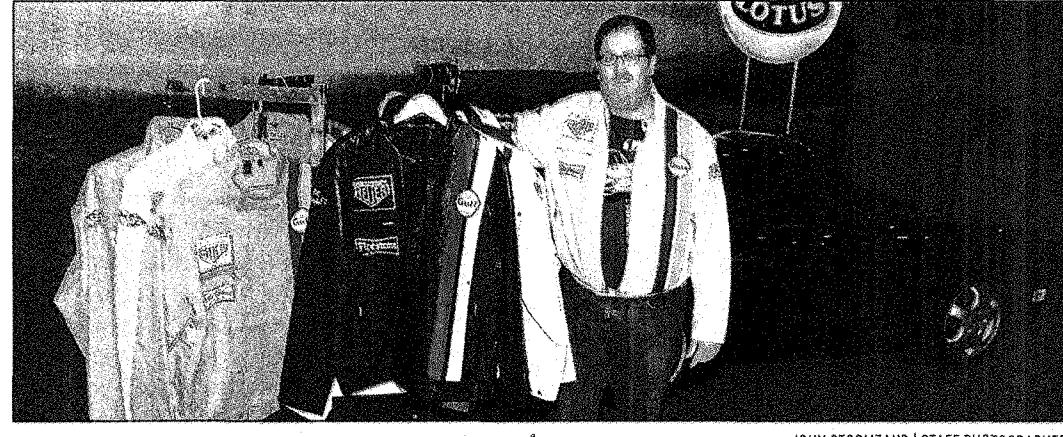
It turned out the man was the coat's creator himself, Norm Silverman, a vintage car buff and long-time clothing manufacturer.

"We started talking and I said 'you need to bring this stuff to Detroit for the Dream Cruise,'" Parke explained. "He didn't know anything about the Cruise, he's a California guy, but he called me a month or two later."

Silverman developed a2z Racer Gear in 2004 along with internationally-known race car driver Tony Adamowicz, and the pair secured licensing rights to use Shelby and McQueen's endorsements on their clothing and accessories.

The company's signature item is a replica of the white racing jacket McQueen made famous in the 1971 movie *Le Mans*. Adamowicz, whose storied racing career included a third place finish in the 1971 24 Hours of Le Mans, appeared in the film.

a2z Racer Gear also has a full line of products celebrating Shelby,



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Patrick Parke wears a2z Racer Gear's signature 'Le Mans' jacket, modeled after the racing coat Steve McQueen wore in the 1971 movie of the same name. \$350 in leather, \$125 in cotton.

a record-setting driver and influential automobile designer, known in part for his custom Ford Mustang Shelby Cobra.

FROM CAPS TO SHOES

Offerings include a Team Shelby stadium jacket (\$200), tees and caps with the Shelby Cobra logo (\$20-\$30), hip suede driving shoes in brown, black, blue and red (\$99), and a luggage set designed to fit Shelby Mustangs.

The company recently introduced a line of trendy graphic tees by classic car artist Nicolas Hunziker. All the products have a vintage feel influenced by the early '70s.

Primarily for men, a2z Racer Gear is popular with car culture enthusiasts and McQueen fans, and rugged enough to be worn racing or working on cars.

But Parke confessed he's not a gear head himself.

"I'm a moderate car enthusiast. It's not my passion, I just like the look of this stuff," Parke said. "It's got a real style aspect to it."

HIGH FASHION CROWD

Parke has sold the line at three Woodward Dream Cruises and two Autoramas. He also participated in Birmingham's Day on the Town where he ran into Joe Faris, a Troy-based clothing designer who appeared on last year's *Project Runway*. The chance meeting led to Parke sponsoring a booth at Faris' Fashion In Detroit event, staged earlier this month at the Detroit Zoo. The move, which targeted the high fashion crowd, was part of Parke's goal to broaden his customer base.

"If you just appeal to car enthusiasts then you've limited your market," he said. "I'd like to get it in front of a younger audience. It seems like a lot of kids and young adults have really taken to it."

a2z Racer Gear is available at Street Legal Customs in Royal Oak and Auto Europe in Birmingham, both on Woodward Ave., as well as through Patrick Parke's Lathrup Village office by appointment. You can also find it online at www.a2zracergear.com and www.amazon.com. For 10 percent off purchases, contact Parke at (248) 225-6007 or patrickparkee@yahoo.com.

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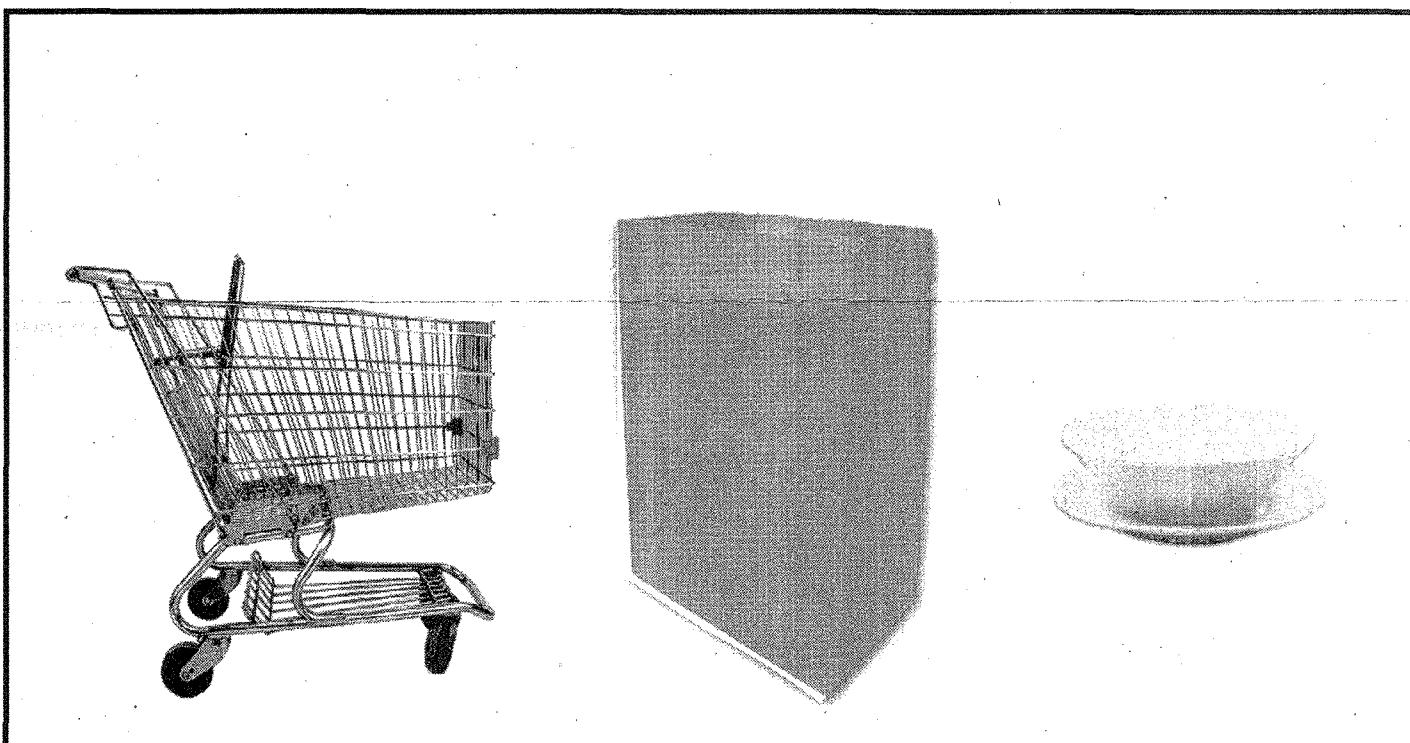
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To find a location near you, visit www.firstplacebank.com.

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Member FDIC



Runners, walkers and bicyclists will get to enjoy the Wayne County Lightfest as part of the light show's opening events.

Sign up now for annual Lightfest Fun Run/Walk

Time is running out to sign up for the 13th annual 13th annual Wayne County Lightfest 8K Fun Run/Walk Tuesday, Nov. 17.

Runners and walkers will have an opportunity to travel the Lightfest display route on foot beginning at 7 p.m. Bicycling enthusiasts will have a chance to Bike through the Lights at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18.

Participants will be among the first to view the wonder-

ful displays, which include an enchanting Celebration of Lights arch, Cecil Magic Dragon, a large waving polar bear with cubs, an animated Old Glory, animated snowflake arches and more.

There will be post race food for both events, along with free long sleeve T-shirts and glow necklaces. Registration prior to October 31 is \$18. After that, the fee is \$20 in advance for adults and \$25 on race day. High school students and

younger pay \$12.

Both events will take place in the Hines Park-Merriman Hollow area at Merriman and Hines Drive in Westland. Registration forms are available online at www.wayne-countyparks.org or can be picked up at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland or Total Runner store in Southgate.

For more information, call the Wayne County Parks events at (734) 261-1990.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smsan@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at fax at (313) 223-3318. For more information, call (313) 222-6751.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Earth Angels

Details: Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/ performance non-profit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.

Contact: www.earthangelsontour.org or by e-mail to eangel1986@comcast.net

TOPS 869 meetings

Time/date: Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Location: Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.

Details: The group is for people age 18 and older.

Contact: The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

American Legion Post 251

Time/date: 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month

Location: 1217 Merriman Road, between Avondale and Palmer, Westland.

Details: All veterans, male and female with a honorable discharge

are welcome to join.

Contact: www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607

St. Dunstan craft show

Time/date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 7

Location: St. Dunstan Church, 1515 Belton St., south of Ford, west of Inkster Road in Garden City

Details: There will be more than 40 tables of crafters/vendors. Cash-and-carry items will be available. Admission is only \$1 which includes a free raffle ticket for the door prizes. Bake sale, snacks and food will be available for purchase throughout the show. There also will be hourly 50/50 drawings for a cash prize in addition to the door prize raffle of items donated by all the vendors and crafters). All proceeds will be donated to the newly created St. Dunstan School Scholarship Fund.

Contact: Sherryll at vendorshow@gmail.com

Fish Dial-A-Ride

Location: Garden City, Livonia and Westland

Details: Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation.

Contact: The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

Contact: Call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Higher Rock Cafe

Time/date: 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Fridays of the month.

Location: Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.

Details: Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live

bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands.

Contact: www.tsas.higerrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660

ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of Eloise

Time/date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December)

Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland.

Contact: Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

Writing Group

Time/date: 7 p.m. the second

Wednesday of every month

Location: Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne

Details: The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses

on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle's National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free.

Contact: www.storycircle.org or send an e-mail to shepny@yahoo.com

TOPS M128

Time/date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland

Contact: Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879

Garden City Democratic Club

Time/date: 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June)

Location: Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City

Contact: Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344

Citizens for Peace

Time/date: 7 p.m. on the second

Tuesday of each month

Location: Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

Details: The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome.

Contact: Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

In Harmony

Time/date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays

Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland

Details: For men interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting

Contact: call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal

Veteran's Haven

Location: Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne.

Details: Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate-donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays.

Contact: (734) 728-0527

Silver Strings Dulcimer

Time/date: 7:30 p.m. the first and

third Thursday of the month

Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Details: Musicians and listeners are welcome to stop by and visit a traditional music jam. Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concertina, autoharp, recorder, pennywhistle, ukulele and upright bass.

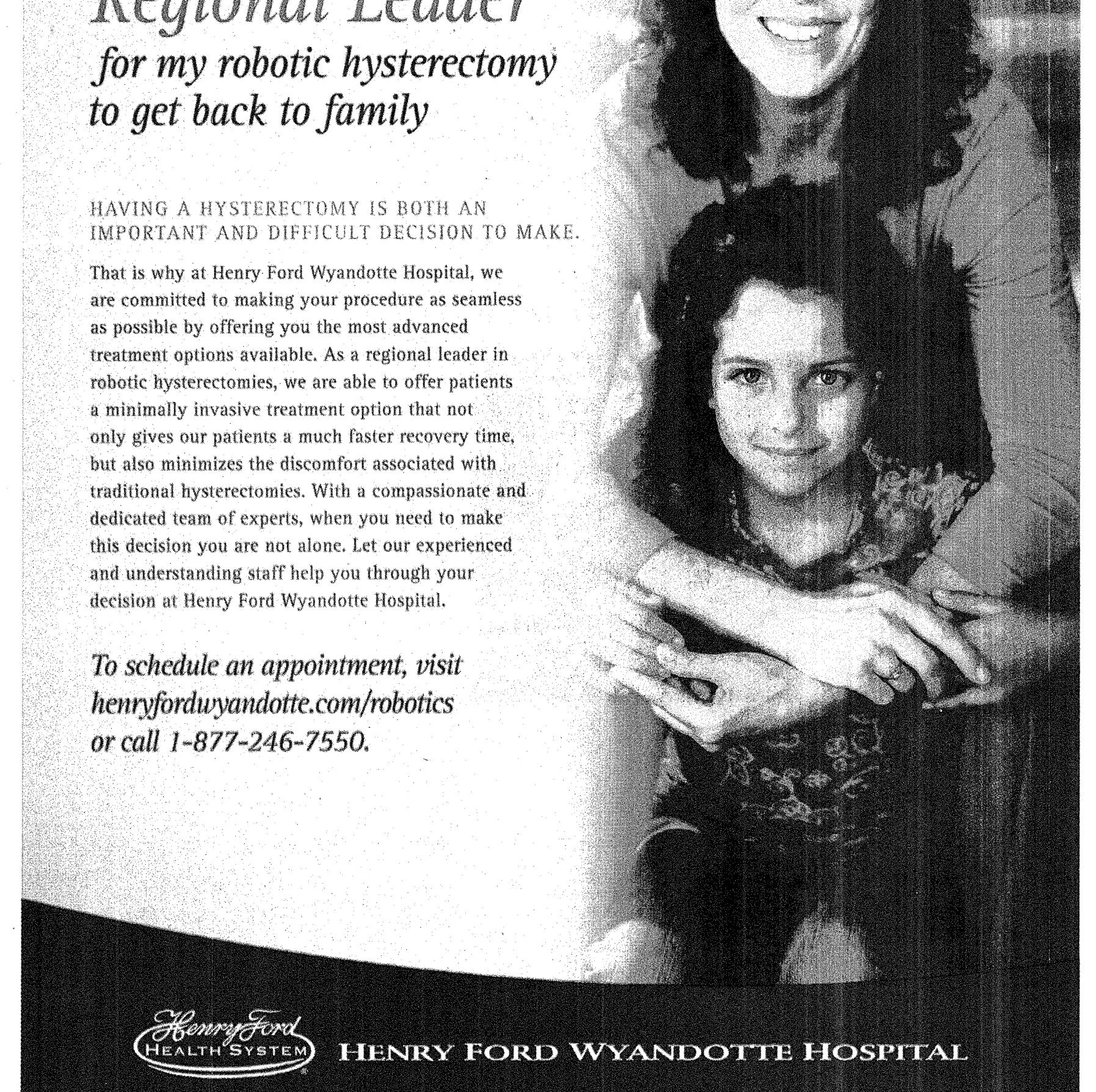
Contact: (734) 482-2902, <http://geocities.com/ssdsociety>

Garden City Kiwanis

Time/date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays

Location: Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City

Details: Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to bettering the world one child and one community at a time. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.



THURSDAY
October 29,
2009

SECTION B
(WL)

Brad Emmons, editor, (313) 222-6851
bemons@hometownlife.com

Learn to prepare dazzling holiday dinners - Food & Wine, B8

SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

HOMETOWN LIFE

Churchill girls eye title test

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Churchill will be making a return trip for the Kensington Lakes Activities Association volleyball championship.

That's because the state-ranked Chargers posted six straight victories Saturday, capped by a convincing 25-19, 25-10 win over Novi in the Kensington Conference finals hosted by Wayne Memorial.

Churchill, now 47-4 overall, will travel

PREP VOLLEYBALL Thursday

to face the Lakes Conference champion White Lake Lakeland, 29-11-3, in a rematch of last year's final. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

"We played well all day and had an exceptional match against Novi," said Churchill coach Mark Grenier, whose team is the defending KLAA champion. "The kids really competed and I'm really proud of them."

In pool play, Churchill downed Livonia Stevenson (25-15, 25-15), Westland John Glenn (25-22, 25-8) and South Lyon East (25-7, 25-6).

The Chargers then eliminated John Glenn in the quarterfinals, 25-17, 25-12, and Stevenson again in the semifinals, 25-17, 25-12.

Junior setter Cory Urbats was the catalyst with 136 total assist-to-kills on the day, while Taylor Kerr paced the defense with 27 digs and added six ace serves.

Other contributions came from Sarah Suppelsa (70 kills, 13 digs); Cierra Yetts (44 kills, eight digs); and Darcy DeRoo (15 kills, 13 digs, nine assists).

Kara and Nicole Kempinski, along with Kristi Walter, combined for a total of 85 digs and 11 aces.

"Those three played three defense and did a lot of the dirty work," Grenier said.

Stevenson goes 3-3

Livonia Stevenson, splitting a total of six matches,

Please see VOLLEYBALL, B2

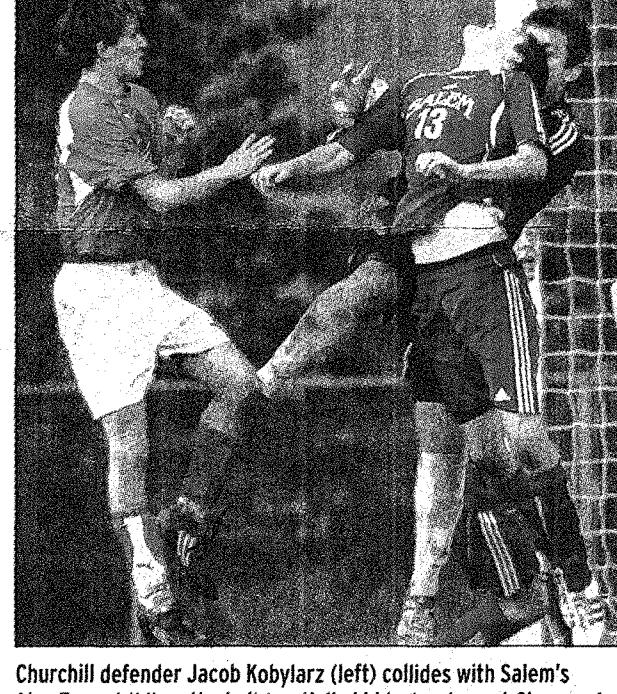


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem players celebrate as Churchill's Tim Devine (15) comes to the realization that the game and season are over as the Rocks upended the state's top-ranked team in Division 1 for their first loss, 3-2.

'Say it ain't so'

Salem spoils top-ranked Chargers' dream season, 3-2



Churchill defender Jacob Kobylarz (left) collides with Salem's Alex Tramel (14) as the ball (partially hidden) gets past Chargers' goalkeeper Bryan Bartig in Saturday's Division 1 district final.

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Urging his players to be on target with their passing, Salem boys soccer coach Ed McCarthy shouted, "Get it and connect," early in Saturday's Division 1 district final against top-ranked Livonia Churchill.

His message also connected because, within seconds, his team had done the unthinkable — twice — with back-to-back goals in 36 seconds to shock the undefeated Chargers and spark the Rocks to a 3-2 victory at Northville.

When one last-second header in front of Salem senior goalkeeper Sasa Miskovic drifted over the top of the goal, the Rocks flew out onto the pitch to leap into each other's arms.

Nearby were several Churchill players prone on their backs, with their hands on their heads in disbelief.

The win enabled the Rocks (15-4-4) to repeat as district champions and earn a spot in Wednesday's regional semifinal at Livonia Stevenson.

"This was a very crazy game, lots of emotion," McCarthy said. "I've never seen a district final that had this many goals and had two penalty shots called in it. It was an exciting game."

Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said a recent trend of starting slowly in contests finally caught up to the team (19-1-1).

"The last two weeks, we've been really struggling the first 10 minutes," he said. "We gave up six goals all year, and in the last three or four games we should have given up a goal in the first 10 minutes."

"Today, same story, but Salem's a good enough team where they capitalized on their chances."

The wild first half ended with

Please see CHARGERS, B2

Glenn faces talented Jungaleers

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland John Glenn's first trip to the football state playoffs since 2004 will have a slightly different twist due to a surprising draw.

Despite an 8-1 regular-season record, the Rockets will be going on the road for their Division 1, Region 4, District 1 first-round opener.

Making their 17th playoff appearance in school history, Glenn will take on a formidable 8-1 Detroit Southeastern team beginning at 3 p.m. Saturday at Detroit Renaissance.

The winner will face either Dearborn Fordson (9-0) or Detroit Cass Tech (5-3) in the district final. If Fordson wins, Glenn will be on the road again. Meanwhile, another 9-0 team

(Sterling Heights Stevenson) is lurking in the third round.

"I was a little bit surprised," Glenn coach Tim Hardin said of his first-round matchup. "Originally I thought we'd end up where (Livonia) Franklin was (Region 2, District 2), or they'd be where we were."

"You never know. You see all the different possibilities, but we really didn't stress what would happen."

Southeastern is coming a season-ending 19-13 win over Birmingham Brother Rice after forfeiting a victory in Week 8 when it was discovered the Jungaleers used an ineligible player, costing them a spot in the Detroit Public School League championship game.

Please see GLENN, B2



Westland John Glenn senior running back Jeremy Langford has 2,020 yards rushing in just eight games entering the playoffs.

JOHN HEIDER | GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Northville.

The Mustangs earned a postseason spot with a 23-14 victory last Friday in the regular season finale over Walled Lake Northern.

On Sept. 25, Stevenson blanked the Mustangs, 31-0, in a KLAA Central Division game.

Ironically, the last time the Mustangs toppled the Spartans was 2004, which just happens to be the last time the

Mustangs made a playoff appearance.

"It looks like they tweaked some things, but a lot of the personnel is similar for both teams," Stevenson coach Tim Gabel said. "Offensively, they'll run a multiple formation out of the 'T' and work into a spread team from that."

"Defensively, they'll use a 3-3-5 (alignment), which is the modern odd-man

Please see SPARTANS, B2

Underdog Pats await stingy CC

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At least on paper, it looks like a colossal mismatch.

Undefeated Novi-Detroit Catholic Central enters Saturday's Division 1, Region 2, District 2 first-round playoff game

FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

against 5-4 Livonia Franklin with five shutouts.

The Shamrocks, who captured the Catholic League title last Saturday against Orchard Lake St. Mary, 7-0, boast a vaunted defense that has allowed a meager total of 23 points.

And CC coach Tom Mach knows how to win state championships.

In 34 years, he has led his Shamrocks to 10 titles, including three in a row in 2001-03.

"One game at a time," Mach told the Novi News. "We can't look past Franklin. They're in the playoffs. That means they're a serious threat."

Franklin coach Chris

Please see PATS, B2

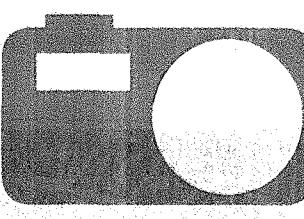


Photo galleries

Online at hometownlife.com

SIDELINES

MU spikers upset

Despite 19 kills from Mary McGinnis and 18 from Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Player of the Week Liz Dempsey, the Madonna University volleyball team suffered a blow to its WHAC title hopes Tuesday night as visiting Aquinas College earned a 3-2 victory.

Mollie Lounds and Chelsea Phillips each had 20 kills as Aquinas rallied for a 23-25, 18-25, 25-22, 25-22, 15-11 win over the 20th-ranked Crusaders.

MU, which falls to 30-5 overall and 11-2 in the WHAC, also got 14 kills from Karie Altman and 62 assists from Inta Grinvalds.

Amanda Koszela had a team-high 18 digs, while Megan Fricke added 10.

Indiana Tech (23-8, 12-2) now has a two-game lead on MU in the conference standings.

Westland bowler first

Brianne Schmansky of Westland captured the girls division title of the Metro Detroit USBC Association Junior Masters held Sunday at Country Lanes in Farmington.

Schmansky downed defending champion Aleksandra Hudak of Taylor, 257-206, to avenge a loss to Hudak in last year's event.

She also defeated Kristen Marcis in a roll-off, 203-190, for the top seed after leading the qualifying with 1,100.

Schmansky earned a \$200 scholarship for her efforts.

In the boys division, Livonia's Daniel Jordan reached the stepladder finals, narrowly beating Nicholas Cooper of Davisburg, 203-202, before losing to eventual runner-up Matthew Papais of Sterling Heights, 214-204. Jordan earned a \$150 scholarship.

Collegiate notes

• Grand Valley State junior Megan Maceratini (Livonia Churchill) earned runner-up individual honors as she helped the Lakers to the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference women's cross country championship Saturday hosted by Saginaw Valley State.

Maceratini averaged 5:47 per mile in posting a 4-kilometer time of 21:33.1 as Grand Valley took five of the first six places and scored 20 points en route to the title.

Team runner-up Ferris State (67 points) got a first-place finish from junior Tina Muir, who was clocked in 21:20.2.

Grand Valley also captured the men's title with 21 points, followed by Saginaw Valley and Hillsdale College with 53 and 90, respectively.

Hillsdale senior Timothy Howse (Churchill) took 15th overall in 25:35.1 in the 8-kilometer race.

• Despite 102 yards rushing and two touchdowns from Pat Clasgens (Stevenson), the Olivet College football team fell to 0-8 overall and 0-4 in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association with a 42-23 setback Saturday at Alma College.

CHARGERS

FROM PAGE B1

all five goals in the books, each team scoring on a penalty kick (by Salem's Mohammad Pourmandi and Churchill's Adam Bedell).

Salem set the tone early, registering goals by senior forward Sal Savage at 8:01 and senior midfielder Evan Antich in a scrum around Churchill goal-keeper Bryan Bartig at 8:37.

The chip shot by Antich followed a header by Salem senior mid-fielder Lachlan Savage (two assists) was just the eighth goal scored against Churchill all season.

But Bedell made it 2-1 at 23:48 with his penalty kick. A Churchill player had been pushed inside the box, according to officials.

Perhaps as a makeup call, Salem also was awarded a PK at the 34:57 mark. Making good on the try was Pourmandi.

Churchill's Nick Wood then drilled a sharp-angle shot just under the crossbar at the 39-minute mark.

With the Chargers in control over the final 20 minutes of the half, McCarthy had another message to deliver at halftime, to quell the expected continuation of Churchill's onslaught.

"The focus was to make sure everyone was calm," he said.

"It was to get the players to take a deep breath and relax and to say, 'If we told you (at Friday's team dinner) that you were going to be up by a goal at halftime, would you have taken up? That kind of put guys at ease.'

From there, it was hold-the-fort time for 40 minutes with a wall of defenders continuously blocking and clearing the ball.

Leading the charge were senior co-captains Lachlan Savage (two assists) and Miskovic.

Salem players knew what they had to do to stay in front of Adam Bedell, Max Washko (playing on a recently sprained ankle) and the rest of the Chargers.

"In order to keep the goal lead," Savage said, "we knew we had to lock it down and focus on every little, do every little thing right. We were laying out, we were getting everything done, doing anything we could to help the team."

Perhaps the best Churchill bid to tie the match came with about 10 minutes left. Miskovic dove to his left to block a shot by Washko.

"We felt like we were in it (at halftime) and we created a lot of chances and we just didn't finish them," Friedrichs said. "We had four or five chances there on the 18-yard line and ... we just put them over the net."

tmsmith@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2637

VOLLEYBALL

FROM PAGE B1

reached the semifinals of the Kensington Conference tourney and wound up fourth overall in the 12-school field.

In pool play, Stevenson defeated John Glenn (25-16, 29-27) and South Lyon East (25-13, 25-18), while losing to Churchill (25-15, 25-15).

The Chargers then eliminated Plymouth in the quarterfinals (25-27, 25-18, 15-9) before falling to Salem in the semifinals (25-19, 25-16).

Stevenson, now 26-20-2 overall, got a team-high 44 kills from Kelly Vellucci, who also added 20 assists, 20 digs and 11 aces.

Renia Tyl added 26 kills, while Monica Rudis collected 14.

Digs leaders included

Shelbie Wilson (50) and Jorden York (44), while Claire LeBlanc led in assists (30). Coley Favaro and Kristen Balhorn combined for 32 blocks.

Patriots finish 2-3

Livonia Franklin stands 9-22-2 overall after going 2-3 on the day and placing 10th overall in the Kensington Conference tourney.

The Patriots posted wins over South Lyon (26-24, 25-22) and South Lyon East (25-20, 25-23), while losing to Salem (25-19, 25-13), Canton (25-13, 25-22) and South Lyon in a consolation rematch (25-19, 25-18).

Top attackers for the Patriots included Amanda Borieo (29 kills), Chelsea Williams (25 kills) and Liz Hollaway (24 kills).

Hollaway also had 11 digs and six aces, while Nicole Williamson added 29 digs and four aces. Rachael Garza had 18 total digs.

It kind of ended the same way it

Madonna gets early jump on '09-10 season

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's still only October, but let the games begin for the Madonna University men's basketball team.

MU opens its 2009-10 season Friday night in the Jamieson-Allen Insurance Agency Tip-Off Tournament hosted by Spring Arbor University.

MU is coming off a 12-19 season as former Crusader standout Noel Emenhiser takes the helm in his first full season as coach.

Emenhiser served as

MEN'S BASKETBALL

an assistant under Chuck Henry, who resigned midway through last season. Henry was replaced in the interim by Myron Brown, who did not return.

The Crusaders were picked sixth in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference preseason poll. They lost the team's leading scorer Cedric Sims, an All-WHAC and NAIA Division II Honorable Mention All-America, to graduation.

Three starters return including 6-foot-7 senior forward

Leroy Allen (Detroit), who averaged 10.9 points and 6.4 rebounds per game; along with Westland's Bryan Slaughter, a 5-10 junior guard; and 6-7 junior center Ryan Waidmann (Canton).

Allen was named to the 11-member All-WHAC preseason team by the coaches.

Meanwhile, promising red-shirt freshman Kevin Henry, a 6-4 guard from Toledo (Ohio) St. Francis de Sales, is also

penciled into a starting spot.

The fifth starting position is up for grabs between 6-8 junior center Geoff Gaylor (Roscommon) and 6-0 sophomore guard Josh Gay (Woodburn, Ind.).

Two freshman, 6-6 forward Fred Williams (Berkley) and 6-5 guard Dragan Bijelic (Utica Eisenhower) could also vie for playing time.

Depth could be a concern as returnee Tyler Coker, a 6-4 sophomore forward from Whitmore Lake, is out until Christmas with an injury.

bemon@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

Otieno sparks Madonna win over Siena Heights**COLLEGE SOCCER**

Moses Otieno figured in all three goals Saturday as the Madonna University men's soccer team upended visiting Siena Heights, 3-0, in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference men's soccer match at Livonia Stevenson High School.

Otieno had a goal and two assists as the Crusaders improved to 3-6-3 overall and 3-4-2 in the WHAC.

Siena Heights falls to 5-8-3 overall and 3-7-1 in the WHAC.

Jacob Rosiek had two of MU's three goals, while Cayle Lacken contributed an assist.

Goalkeeper Steve Besk, who made

women's soccer tam, 1-0, in a match played at Stevenson.

Bridgette Scott assisted on the game-winner as the Saints improved to 12-2-2 overall and 9-0-1 in the WHAC.

Brittany Warner (Plymouth) played the first 62 minutes in goal for the Crusaders before Chelsea Gregg (Livonia Clarenceville) came on to finish out the match. The two combined for six saves.

Haley Mancini did not face a shot on goal in posting the shutout for the Saints.

The loss drops MU to 5-11 overall and 4-6 in the WHAC.

PREP GRID PICKS**Pre-districts**

Friday, Oct. 30

Northville (6-3) at Livonia Stevenson (7-2), 7 p.m.

Plymouth (6-3) at Canton (8-1), 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 31

Redford Thurston (7-2) at Detroit King (7-2), noon

Farmington (6-3) at Farmington Harrison (6-3), 1 p.m.

Livonia Franklin (5-4) at Novi-Detroit Catholic Central (9-0), 1 p.m.

Westland Glenn (8-1) at Detroit Southeastern (8-1), 3 p.m.

Last week**Overall**

Brad Emons

Stevenson

Canton

Dan O'Meara

King

Harrison

Catholic Central

Southeastern

Glenn

11-2 (.846)

12-1 (.923)

92-25 (.786)

Tim Smith

Thurston

Harrison

Catholic Central

Southeastern

7-6 (.538)

92-38 (.675)

Jim Toth

King

Harrison

Catholic Central

Southeastern

13-0 (1.000)

93-24 (.795)

Lutheran Westland drops season finale, 26-12

The football season for Lutheran Westland ended in much the same fashion as it began - too many mistakes at inopportune times.

The Warriors committed five turnovers, yielded three scoring plays of 21 yards or better and wound up on the short end of a 26-12 count Friday night on the road at Detroit Urban Lutheran.

It kind of ended the same way it

began," said Warriors coach Paul Guse, whose squad finished 3-6 overall. "We just made too many mistakes and got exploited in certain areas once again."

The Warriors trailed 14-0 at the half as the hosts scored on a 42-yard touchdown toss, a 21-yard TD run and a safety.

Following a scoreless third quarter, the game got tighter as Lutheran Westland

found the end zone for the first time on a 6-yard run by junior Derrick Mozham.

The Warriors closed to 14-12 moments later when senior quarterback Ethan Haller carried in from 5 yards out.

But that would be as close as the Warriors would get as Urban Lutheran (3-6) added two more scoring plays to seal the victory.

SPARTANS

FROM PAGE B1

front that people are using or going to ... and that's what makes it unique. The rules are changed and broken a bit. It takes work to get ready for that and hopefully they've learned from it."

Stevenson comes into the game averaging 30.6 points per game, including a 42-10 triumph last Friday over rival Livonia Churchill. In that win, the Spartans rushed for 420 yards, led by Austin White's 211 on just 15 carries.

Meanwhile, Stevenson's offensive line is anchored by a quartet of returning start-

ers with Final Four playoff experience, led senior center Dave Bogart (5-10, 270), junior guard Jon Aneed (6-1, 238), senior tackle Joe Swingle (6-3, 225) and senior tight end Jordan El-Sabeh (6-4, 206).

Rounding out the blocking unit is senior guard Charlie Crockatt (5-9, 176) and junior tackle Anthony Sharp (5-11, 259).

After losing their first two games, including a season-opening 21-7 setback to Livonia Franklin followed by a 28-14 loss to Howell, the Spartans' offensive line went back to the drawing board.

"We had high expectations coming into the season," Gabel said. "But it got a little frus-

trating early on and things came slowly. But those guys kept working and stayed focused in practice. It's the most improved aspect of the team. Our first-string defense has been the strength of our team this year and they've pushed them hard.

"They (the offensive line) kept the focus on improvement and it's good to see the hard work pay off."

Playoff tickets available

Pre-sale tickets will be sold during all three lunch periods from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Friday in the North Cafeteria for the first-round playoff game at Stevenson vs. Northville.

Tickets, all \$5, will also go

on sale at 5 p.m. game day at the Les Anders Stadium. (Game time is 7 p.m.). No passes will be accepted.

Auxiliary parking for spectators will also be available behind the visitor bleachers on game day. To access, take Farmington Road north and make a left on Curtis to the Day Care school. Enter the far west side and enter the lot and drive through the gate onto the grass (follow the orange cones).

You can also purchase tickets behind the visitor bleachers.

Tailgating is permitted, but no alcoholic beverages or smoking allowed on school grounds. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

GLENN

FROM PAGE B1

The Jungaleers are led by 6-foot-7, 250-pound linebacker/tight end William Gholston, considered the state's top college prospect and committed to Michigan State.

In 1999, Glenn faced another player of similar stature — Eric Knott of Detroit Henry Ford — that Hardin remembers all too well.

"He (Gholston) reminds me of Eric Knott, very similar, but

only bigger thinking back to that Henry Ford game," said Hardin, who was an assistant on Glenn's staff when the Rockets prevailed, 27-23.

Gholston is not the only talented Jungaleer player the Rockets will have to deal with.

Quarterback Edward

District ready

Lutheran Westland spikers dominate HVL quad

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tuesday turned into a little tweaking time for the Lutheran High Westland girls volleyball team.

The Warriors, who have their sights set on a lengthy run in postseason play that tips off next week, got some valuable playing time for pretty much everyone on the roster in a quad meet hosted by neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

Kevin Wade's squad proved nearly invincible as the Warriors managed to defeat all three opponents.

Only Huron Valley was able to steal a single game from the Warriors.

"We had a successful night," said Wade, whose team defeated Livonia Clarenceville (25-22, 25-20), Auburn Hills Oakland Christian (25-21, 25-20) and Huron Valley (25-20, 25-27, 15-8). "I was able to mix the lineups up and give everyone a chance to play as we get ready for districts."

"We have some things to work on during the next week to get us ready. We need to be able to play a focused game from start to finish. That is our goal in the upcoming days. If we can do that, we will be alright."

Rachel Storck and Emilie Freeman again registered outstanding performances to key the wins.

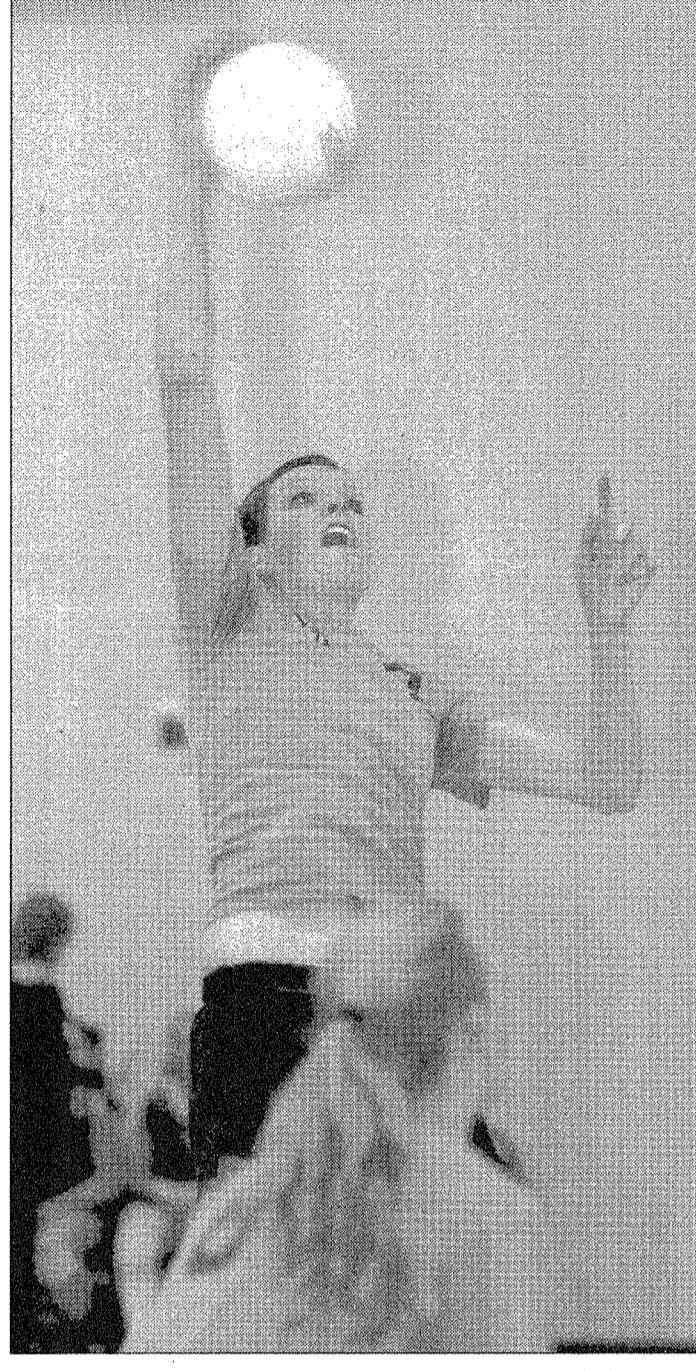
Storck recorded 24 kills, came up with 20 digs and went 29-for-30 serving with four aces. The 6-foot-3 Freeman contributed 27 kills, three solo blocks and 12 service points.

Nicole Zehel collected 22 digs and finished 28-for-30 serving with 16 points, while Lauren Switzer dished out 56 assists and served up three aces. Taylor Wiemer chipped in with 10 digs and 12 service points.

The Warriors, 27-9-1 on the season, also received strong performances from Emily Wilson, Alyssa Shirkey, Jamilyn Preece, Jacquie Schwartz and Mary MacKenzie.

Meanwhile, the host Hawks defeated Clarenceville in two games, 25-16, 25-21, while losing to Lutheran Westland in three (see above) and Oakland Christian in two, 11-25, 21-25.

Senior Kelly Kubinski had



Emilie Freeman of Lutheran High Westland goes high for the spike in Tuesday's quad event hosted by Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

a team-high 15 kills on the night, while junior Leah Miller added 11. Sophomore setter Paige Schmidt finished with 35 assist-to-kills.

Weekend tournament

In Saturday's U-M Dearborn Tournament, Lutheran Westland finished 2-1 in pool play scoring wins over Ferndale (25-23, 25-21) and Melvindale (25-16, 25-15) before suffering a loss to Anchor Bay (25-27, 14-25).

The Warriors' day ended with a 25-22, 20-25, 14-16 defeat at the hands of Goodrich in the Gold Bracket quarterfinals.

"We are a bit disappointed we

couldn't finish late in the game against Goodrich, but we had a good day overall," said Wade, who guided the Warriors to the Division 4 state finals last year. "We are working on some of our weaknesses and hopefully we get better as we head into districts."

Storck and Freeman led the hitting attack with 27 total kills apiece, while Wilson added 21.

Switzer served up seven aces on the day to go along with 58 assists, Zehel had four aces and 25 digs while Freeman tallied three aces and had eight solo blocks.

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First-ever City Tourney to aid area foodbank

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Four Wayne-Westland girls volleyball teams will be out to fight hunger as well as play for the first-ever City Championship beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday at John Glenn High School.

Teams from Wayne

Memorial, Westland Huron Valley Lutheran and Lutheran High Westland will join host Glenn to compete for bragging rights and raise awareness while helping to benefit the Gleaners Community Foodbank.

"There is a lot of good volleyball played in our community," said tourney organizer and Glenn coach Julian Wargo. "The downturn in the economy

has really impacted our families. We all know some one who is struggling to make ends meet and put food on the table. Things like this are bigger than sports."

Last season, Glenn volleyball players spent a morning performing community service at the Gleaners Foodbank warehouse located in Taylor.

"They were affected by how many local families are served by the Gleaners," Wargo said. "And I am sure that the numbers have only increased since our visit."

I want to use volleyball as way to promote the good work of the Gleaners and to let families know that there is help out there," he said. "I'm really excited to see all four of our area high schools coming together for a great day of competition in the name of a worthy cause."

Admissions is \$5 (for ages kindergarten through 62), or you can bring four canned goods. Doors open at 8 a.m.

PCA's second-half surge ousts Warriors

BOYS SOCCER

er Jordan Allen and defender Ethan Walker collided.

"We told them (Eagles) that their attack was good, and even though Lutheran Westland's goal came from a silly mistake, we knew that they would continue to rebound," PCA coach Larry Machonga said. "We also told them that we are not bound to our history in that we are 'doomed to fail.'

What Machonga was referring to was PCA's string of defeats in the district final in

recent seasons.

The Eagles returned to the pitch more relaxed and inspired by responding with four unanswered goals, including two by Don Mullett.

Blair Robinson's goal tied the match, while Jordan Machonga also scored.

Lutheran Westland (10-7-3) cut the lead to 4-2 with about 10 minutes remaining when senior Gage Flanery's low shot to the right corner beat Allen.

The Eagles advanced to the district final with a 7-0 win Thursday over Westland Huron Valley Lutheran, which ended its season at 7-11 overall.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Host MU posts 3-1 mark in Classic

The 18th-ranked Madonna University women's volleyball team closed out the second day of the Crusader Classic with a pair of wins Saturday to improve to 30-4 overall on the season.

MU downed Indiana Wesleyan in the tournament finale, presented by BLT Sportswear and Apparel, 25-14, 25-20, 25-23, as Mary McGinnis recorded 14 kills and Westland's Liz Dempsey (Livonia Franklin) added 10 kills and 10 digs.

Senior setter Inta Grinvalds had 40 assists, while Amanda Koszela paced the defense with 19 digs.

Kellie Ziegler led Indiana Wesleyan (9-28) with nine kills.

Earlier in day, MU outlasted Walsh (Ohio) University in four sets, 32-30, 25-18,

21-25, 31-29, as Dempsey recorded her fifth straight double-double with 25 kills and 15 digs.

McGinnis and Altman added 15 and 14 kills, respectively, while Grinvalds handed out a season-best 65 assists.

Koszela and Megan Fricke

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

paced the defense with 20 and 13 digs, respectively.

Natalie Borland and Julianne O'Donnell finished with 21 and 20 kills, respectively, for the Walsh (23-5).

Dempsey made the all-tournament team along with sophomore Karie Altman, who posted 52 kills and eight blocks over the four-match stretch. Dempsey finished with 65 kills, 58 digs and five aces.

Earlier in day, MU downed Embry-Riddle (Fla.) in four games, 25-22, 25-5,

22-25, 25-19, as McGinnis led the hitting attack with 14 kills.

Altman and Dempsey added 14 and 11, respectively, while Grinvalds contributed 44 assists.

Koszela paced the defense with 21 digs, while Dempsey and Grinvalds contributed 12 and 10, respectively.

Embry-Riddle (18-6) got 20 kills from Abby Hall, 37 assists from Adriana Vazquez and 29 digs from Julia Frassetto.

the first two games, 25-19, 26-24, before Taylor stormed back to win the final three games, 25-17, 29-27, 15-10.

Jackie Geile added 13 kills, while setter Betsy Brown had 58 assist-to-kills. Courtney Hershberger added 22 digs.

McGinnis paced MU with 23 kills, while Dempsey and Katie added 19 and 15, respectively.

Grinvalds finished with 63 assists, while Dempsey and Amanda Koszela each had 21 digs.

Earlier in day, MU downed Embry-Riddle (Fla.) in four games, 25-22, 25-5, 22-25, 25-19, as McGinnis led the hitting attack with 14 kills.

Altman and Dempsey added 14 and 11, respectively, while Grinvalds contributed 44 assists.

Koszela paced the defense with 21 digs, while Dempsey and Grinvalds contributed 12 and 10, respectively.

Embry-Riddle (18-6) got 20 kills from Abby Hall, 37 assists from Adriana Vazquez and 29 digs from Julia Frassetto.

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

NAIA GREAT LAKES CHALLENGE

INVITATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

OCT. 24 AT RIVERSIDE PARK (GRAND RAPIDS)

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS (23 SCHOOLS): 1.

CEDARVILLE (OHIO), 59; 2. SPRING ARBOR, 76; 3. INDIANA

WESELEYAN, 105; 4. AQUINAS COLLEGE, 107; 5. ST. XAVIER

(ILL.), 165; 12. MADONNA UNIVERSITY, 313.

INDIVIDUAL WINNER: KATIE GILLESPIE (CEDARVILLE),

17:41.87 (5,000 METERS).

MADONNA FINISHERS: 5. SARAH SHERWOOD,

18:45:23; 57. KARI SAARELA, 20:03:93; 67. CASSIE

YARNELL, 20:15:09; 91. EMMA ZAPLICKI, 20:50:73;

93. EMILY BAMBOCH, 20:53:15; 126. DEVAN WALTER,

22:15:33.

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS (25 SCHOOLS): 1.

AQUINAS COLLEGE, 57; 2. SHAWNEE STATE (OHIO), 58;

3. CEDARVILLE (OHIO), 121; 4. OLIVE NAZARENE (ILL.),

124; 5. SIENA HEIGHTS, 169; 6. MADONNA UNIVERSITY (NO

TEAM SCORE).

INDIVIDUAL WINNER: ZACH RIPLEY (CORNERSTONE),

25:07.5 (8 KILOMETERS).

MADONNA FINISHERS: TIM BOES, 29:07:43; DAN

PRATT, 29:33:34; LUKE MION, 20:36:8; MITCH CESIAC,

31:38:04.

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Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. For a complete listing online, go to hometownlife.com.

OCT. 29-NOV. 4**All saints**

Video commentary, sung scripture prayer, candlelight procession, reception afterward, 7-8 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 1, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. (734) 425-5950

Breakfast and Mass

Widowed Friends invites widowed men and women to celebrate Mass together at 11 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 1, at St. Colette Church, 17600 Newburgh, between Six and Seven Mile roads, in Livonia. The first two pews will be reserved for Widowed Friends. Meet after Mass in the gathering space for directions to a nearby restaurant to enjoy breakfast and conversation. For more information call Sandy at (734) 591-6780.

Class

"Caught in the Act of the Apostles: The Spirit the Church and the World," taught by the Rev. Michael Van Horn, 5 p.m., Sundays, starting Nov. 1, at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia. (734) 425-2800

Concert

"Jewish Calcutta through Music and Memory," with Rahel Musleah, 4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 1, at Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. Musleah is an award-winning journalist, singer, speaker and educator. She weaves a rich tapestry of heritage and culture and memory of the Indian Jewish community, whose population has dwindled to around 5,000 today. Free. For more information call Nancy Kaplan at (248) 737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net

Craft show

9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 4, St. Edith School, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. \$2 admission. For more information, contact Kristen at (734) 632-0264.

Dancing

Ballroom dance lessons will be held from 6-7 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 22 at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia. Learn Swing and Rumba. A dance party will be held from 7-9:30 p.m., Nov. 22. Light refreshments will be served. Cost for each lesson is \$6 and the dance is \$6. Combined cost for the dance and lesson on Nov. 22

is \$10. Pay at the door in fellowship hall. All proceeds will go to various committees within the church. (734) 422-0494.

Food drive

Kenwood Church of Christ, 2020 Merriman, Livonia, begins taking reservations Monday, Nov. 2, for its Thanksgiving food distribution. Interested parties should call the church (248) 476-8222 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday to set up a reservation and time to pick up food on Nov. 21. The church is collecting food items from members and the community through Nov. 15. Items include instant potatoes, noodles, canned corn, peas, green beans, cranberry sauce, gravy, biscuit mix, jello, and boxed cookie mix. Community members can leave items at any time in the donation box under the canopy at the church's front entrance.

Hallelujah festival

Canton Christian Fellowship invites the community to its 8th Annual Hallelujah Festival, 5-8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 31, 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton. Children may wear costumes — please no ghost, witches or other scary attire. Games, prizes, food and candy. (734) 404-2480

Holidays and grief

Ron Gries, a speaker, author and hospice volunteer, will speak at a program called "Getting Through the Holidays While Grieving" after the 6:30 p.m. Mass, Monday, Nov. 2, at St. Michael the Archangel parish, 11441 Hubbard, immediately south of Plymouth Road, between Farmington Road and Merriman, in Livonia. (734) 261-1455, ext. 200

Jews for Jesus

A presentation on the Jews for Jesus organization will be held at 10 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 1 at The Crossing Church, 31590 Grand River Ave., Farmington. (248) 306-0661

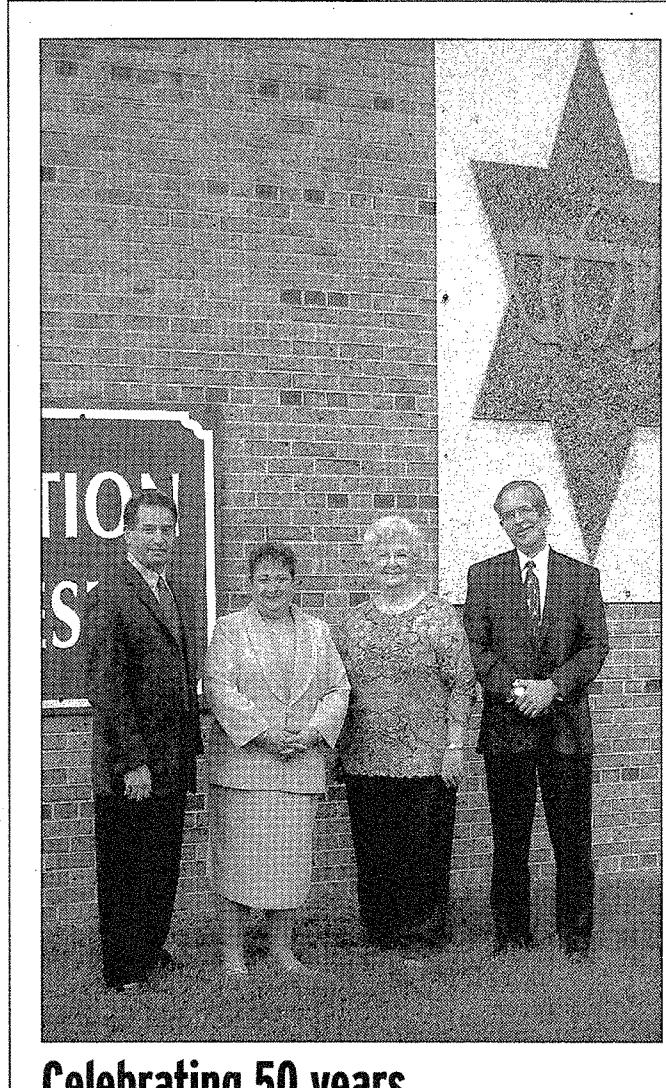
Rummage sale

■ 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday-Friday, Oct. 29-30 and 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 31, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 20850 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. Gently-used items, lunch, bake sale, \$3 bag day on Saturday. Interested in donating items? Call the church at (248) 474-0675 or CherylAnn at (734) 560-9278 or e-mail nalyrech@yahoo.com. No large furniture items will be accepted.

■ 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 31, at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren Road, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. Includes bake sale. (734) 414-7422

Movie night

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., film starts at 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 30, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. "Fireproof" is an action-packed love story about a firefighter, his wife and a marriage worth rescuing. In

**Celebrating 50 years**

Congregation Beit Kodesh in Livonia marked 50 years of "observing their Jewish religion, traditions and values" with a special luncheon and program, Oct. 25 at the synagogue, 31840 W. Seven Mile. The only conservative synagogue in western Wayne County, Congregation Beit Kodesh is led by officers (from left) Jeffrey Kirsch, of Farmington Hills, first vice president; Sally Stein, of Livonia, president; Phyllis Lewkowicz of Livonia, recording secretary; and David Gross of Milford, second vice president. Not pictured are treasurer Michael Schmall and trustees Daniel Kirsch, Melvin Marsch and Nathan Weiser. More than 90 people attended the special celebration which featured presentations by U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter and Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey. The congregation's 39 families live primarily in Livonia, Farmington Hills and Redford. Others come from Canton, Northville, Milford, Oak Park, Southfield and West Bloomfield. The congregation began in 1958 and was incorporated in 1959. For more information on weekly and holiday services, Sisterhood, social action and other programs, call (248) 477-8974 or visit www.beitkodesh.com.

This feature-length movie the main character explores God's design for relationships and marriage. Free. (734) 522-6830

Pasties

Newburg United Methodist church is making and selling Cornish pasties as a fund-raiser in November. Pasties are \$4 each and can be ordered by calling into the church office at (734) 422-0149. Orders will be taken 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Monday-Tuesday, Nov. 2-3. These are call-in orders only. Any faxed, e-mailed or phone voice mail orders will be ignored.

Pick up times are 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 12, and 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 13. The church is located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Order early — only 1000 pasties will be made.

Tea and fashions

1 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 1, at Sacred Heart Church's Banquet & Conference Center, 29125 W. Six Mile, Livonia. The cost is \$30 per person, which includes a gourmet luncheon provided by Thomas's Catering, as well as a fashion show of clothing from The Clothing Cover of Milford. There will be raffles, a silent auction and door prizes. Seating is limited to adults and teens only. For more information or to buy tickets, call the parish banquet and catering center at (734) 261-8560 or Jean Parent at (248) 755-1777.

Trunk or treat

6-8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 30, at Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia. Safe trick or treat environment with coffee, cider and doughnuts available.

Weekend fun

A weekend of fun and learning events at Lighthouse Worship Center in Livonia starts with a performance by Istereo, a Christian rock band, at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 30, at the church, 1982 Middlebelt. Trunk & treat for youngsters from 4-9 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 31. Decorated trunks will be filled with candy and other goodies. There will be story time,

TAMMY J. SMITH

October 27, 2009 Age 46 of Westland. Dear wife of Charles. Loving mother to Jonathan and Sarah. Beloved sister to Nancy (Donald) Martin and Ted (Becky) Winekoff. Funeral services from The Uhl Funeral Home, Westland, Thursday 1pm. Visitation was at the funeral home Wednesday from 5-9pm. Burial will take place at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, Westland. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhfh.com.

BERNARD C. YELCHO

Age 73, of Farmington Hills, MI, passed away October 23, 2009. Arrangements: Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

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.)

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or toll free

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ask for Char or Liz

DE08658429

ETHEL FELICIA KROLIKOWSKI-KELLER

Age 104, Livonia's oldest resident. Beloved wife of the late Anthony F. (1962) and Joseph (1995). Loving mother of Marie (Walter) Bobrowski, Arlene Williams (Farris Thomas). Proud grandmother of 18 and great-grandmother of many more. Also survived by many other loving family and friends. Preceded in death by her son Anthony (1921) and daughter Frances Szakaly (2005). Member of The Daughters of Isabella-Tekakwitha Circle #924, Life Long Member of the Felician Sisters, and Female Auxiliary for VFW Woodrow Wilson Post 6896, Polish Legion of American Veterans #2545, worked 35 years for the International Co-op Restaurant, Detroit. Funeral Service Thursday St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh Rd., Livonia. Instate at 10am till time of Mass 10:30am. Memorial Contributions to Donor's Choice. Arrangements were provided by Fred Wood Funeral Home (Rice Chapel), 36100 5 Mile Rd., Livonia. Please visit on-line guestbook www.fredwoodfuneralhome.com

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

to the

Life of

Your

Loved One

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ask for Char or Liz

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REMEMBER THE SACRIFICES OF AMERICA'S VETERANS

The Observer & Eccentric will be publishing a special Veteran's Day page honoring the service of Veteran's past & present.

This is the perfect opportunity to honor the Veterans in your life who have served our country so bravely.

Publication Dates:

Thursday, November 5th in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers - Sunday, November 8th in all the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers

Deadline: Friday, October 30th

We join the rest of the nation on Veterans Day in remembering the sacrifices of America's veterans and expressing our appreciation of their service.

Prices start at \$15 for a Photo Tribute or Photo in Memory ad

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

games, a rock-climbing wall and a food court. Worship service starts at 11 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 1. Guest speaker will be Bishop Mitchell Corder. A distribution of food boxes to families that need a "helping hand" will follow. (248) 476-7933

Women's expo

Home-based businesses and crafters will come together in one place to exhibit their products, and to pamper guests, noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1, at All Saints Catholic School, located on Warren Road between Beck and Ridge, in Canton. The sponsor, Polish National Alliance, is looking for vendors. Call Gloria at (734) 422-1731 or e-mail to g-l-o-r-i-a@sbcglobal.net.

NOV. 5-11**Christmas bazaar**

9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 7 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 20850 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. Gifts, cookies, cakes and breads, door prize drawings. Free. For more information or for table rental sign-up, call CherylAnn at (734) 560-9278 or e-mail nalyrech@yahoo.com. Or leave a message at St. Paul's Lutheran Church at (248) 474-0675.

Classes

The Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington continues its series of learning forums, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 5, with these topics: Groundswell: Using Technologies to Get the Things You Need. Inspired by the best-selling book "Groundswell," this session will cover the personal and business uses of social media networks; "Sun of God" will explore the numerous astrological elements that comprise so much of the Christian story; and "Beyond the Paw Print: A Support Group for those Grieving the Death of a Pet," will appeal to those grieving the death of a beloved pet or animal companion. Refreshments at 7 p.m., with forums from 7:30-9 p.m. No advance registration is necessary. A \$5 donation is suggested. The church is located at 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills.

Speaker

Rev. Dr. Phil Hemke, director of Church Relations for Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, will speak

Basketball brings neighborhood kids closer to church



Teens and youngsters play basketball in the parking lot at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Redford.

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A group of friends in Redford with nowhere to play basketball learned a lot about the Bible and the sermon didn't come in church.

Redford's Aldersgate United Methodist Church Rev. Jeff Nelson sent what he considers God's message by putting up a basketball hoop in the church parking lot on Beech Daly between Plymouth and West Chicago.

"The Methodist church as a whole is in a decline in membership and wondering why people are no longer interested in what we are doing and I think we haven't shown an interest in what the people in the neighborhoods are doing," Rev. Nelson says. "It doesn't take much to say, 'What can we do to be in service with you?' It's a cool thing for a predominantly white church in a changing neighborhood. We want to be a neighborhood church whether they want to worship here or not."

The boys who wanted to play basketball often had to find a ride to the State Fair Grounds on Eight Mile and a long way from home. The hoop at the church means, "we have somewhere to play basketball in our community," explains Mike Grissett, 18.

"I really thank them for doing it," Grissett says.

Nelson says he's already seen the "fruit" of giving some 25 kids a place to play b-ball and shoot hoops.

"It's making our church a better place, by offering hospitality and it gives the boys an opportunity to be leaders in the neighborhood," Rev. Nelson says.

Grissett has lived in the church neighborhood for 10 years and played on a basketball league until he was too old to be eligible. The guys took the game to a home that abuts the church, but, every time a car passed, the game stopped.

REACHING OUT

Rev. Nelson, who became a pastor at the church in July, invited the kids to roll the hoop into the church parking lot.

"The church is in a neighborhood with a lot of families with a lot of kids who are just kind of hanging around with not a lot of places to go and not a lot of things to do," Rev. Nelson says.

"The congregation has wondered how we can reach out to these kids. There's a lot of concern that young people aren't coming to church and if they are in the parking lot we are trying to connect with them outside our door."

"It's given me a great opportunity to say, 'My name is Pastor Jeff,' find out their names and ask them their story. Early on it was hard to make that relationship with the kids. They were more interested in playing basketball."

SETTING RULES

The relationship hasn't been all easy sailing, though.

One recent Monday morning, Rev. Nelson came to the church and saw that the basketball hoop was broken and laying on the ground. He decided the boys had to take responsibility for the hoop and the area. That meant the trash had to be picked up. So, he took away the hoop and put up a sign that said, 'No more basketball until you talk to the pastor Jeff.'

Six boys were waiting at his house at the end of the day asking what they needed to do to get the basketball hoop back.

Rev. Nelson wanted a meeting and the boys needed to elect a president and five members to be on a basketball association. Grissett agreed to be the top job and the boys came up with rules that would govern the space.

"They are the exact same rules I would have had, but they're their rules," Rev. Nelson says. "They are good young men. That's for sure."

Grissett says everybody follows the rules.

"If they didn't respect it and trashed the place we wouldn't have nowhere to play basketball," Grissett says.

The boys asked if they could represent the church among area church basketball teams. A basketball tournament is being planned and there is talk about raising money for permanent hoops.

"Now we are starting to get this really great relationship and that this church and this pastor really care about them and want to provide a safe environment for them to do the kinds of things they enjoy," Rev. Nelson says. "This basketball hoop has given us entry to these kinds of conversations. I have a feeling that the day is coming where the basketball players and skateboarders find their way inside the church."

Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Tridentine Latin Mass
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
38100 Five Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200
Mass Schedule:
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
First Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. OEOB626544

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church
St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7:30 a.m., Wed., Thurs. 9 a.m.,
Sat. 4 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.
St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a.m., Fri. 8:30 a.m.,
Sat. 6 p.m., Sun 9 a.m. OEOB626544

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZAREN
45601 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 455-1525
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER
(734) 455-3196 OEOB626528

LUTHERAN-ELCA

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA
Farmington Hills 23225 Gill Rd. 248-474-0584

SATURDAY WORSHIP • 5:30 PM
Sunday Worship &
Sunday School
9:00 AM TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE
10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES
11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
NURSERY AVAILABLE
BILL & LAUREN KIRSH-CARR, PASTORS
OEOB6265065

Timothy Lutheran Church
A Reconciling in Christ Congregation
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Jill Heather, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
(Nursery Available) OEOB626555

UNITED METHODIST

Redford Aldersgate
United Methodist
10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sunday School
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org OEOB626548

ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills
www.orchardumc.org 248-626-3620
Worship:
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages
Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter
OE0B659897

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA
25350 West Six Mile Rd.
Redford (313) 534-7730
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm
Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Rev. Paul S. Bousquette OEOB626548

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
(734) 422-0494
Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am
Traditional Service 10:30 am
Visit www.rodedalegardens.org
For information about our many programs OEOB646763

GREEK ORTHODOX

NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI
Sunday Services
Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
Rev. Fr. George Vaporis
Parish Office 734-420-0131
Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
www.nativitygochurch.org OEOB626419

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830

Sunday/Bible Class
9:45 am
Early Childhood Center
Phone 734-513-8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Senior Pastor: Rev. Dean Davenport
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden
OE0B626507

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY
313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor
OE0B626017

Risen Christ Lutheran
David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (at Hwy W. of Shetler)
(734) 453-5252
Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30
Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are.
www.risenchrist.info OE0B659960

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

St. Paul's Ev. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-360
WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

CONGREGATIONAL

North Congregational Church
36520 12 Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted)
(248) 848-1750
10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School
Faith - Freedom-Fellowship
Ministers
Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron
OE0B659967

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire
Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road
Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org OEOB626511

For Information regarding this Directory,
please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

Westland-Garden City Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Co-owner Mo Elfakir has a smile for all who walk through the door of Biggby's Coffee on Ford Road in Westland.

Biggby's: It's more than a coffee shop

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of service and/or products you feature.

Biggby Coffee offers a wide variety of beverages for the coffee and non-coffee drinker alike. We compliment to our beverages with meals and light snacks. We have a fresh, daily selection of specialty cookies and pastries, fruit cups, yogurt parfaits, bagel sandwiches, salads, and wraps to choose from.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Our business is special because we are not just a coffee shop. Customers become our friends, and people describe the atmosphere at our business

BIGGBY COFFEE

Business name: Biggby Coffee

Address: 37644 Ford, Westland

Your name and title: Mo Elfakir, co-owner, Al Elfakir

Hometown: Livonia

Store opened: October 2007

Number of Employees: 8

Hours: 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday

and 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday

Business phone/Web site: (734) 326-1468 or www.biggby.com

as the most fun they have. We strive to deliver the best drinks and over-the-top service. We genuinely love what we do

and the public responds with excellent enthusiasm.

Observer: Why did you chose Westland?

After careful consideration, my family chose Westland because of the proximity to main roads, a new plaza, excellent demographics, willingness of city officials, staff and chamber to offer guidance and helpful insight. Great people all around!

Observer: How did you decide to open your business?

Al and I are brothers and we each owned our own retail stores previously. We genuinely enjoy interacting with the public and we have been told that the public - our wonderful customers - really like us.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Halloween at the Mall

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 31

Location: Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road at Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Join Radio Disney AM 190 in celebrating Halloween and trick or treat through the mall from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a costume parade 2:20 p.m., followed by a costume fashion show at 2:20 p.m. From 3 to 4 p.m., there will be games and chances to win prizes. Enter to win a Nintendo Wii and a Disney HSM 3 Sing It! game. The event is sponsored by Co-Op Credit Union Services and Rock Star Savers.

Contact: Call (734) 421-0291 for more information.

Hunting Widows Party

Time/date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21

Location: World of Fitness Dance Studios, Warren/Venoy Plaza, 32669

Warren, Suite 6, Garden City

Details: Cost is \$10 or wear camouflage and bring a case of water and a dish to pass. There will be fun, music, refreshments, pole play, Zumba, networking and more.

Contact: (734) 306-0909 or www.poledancefactory.com

Sunday Brunch

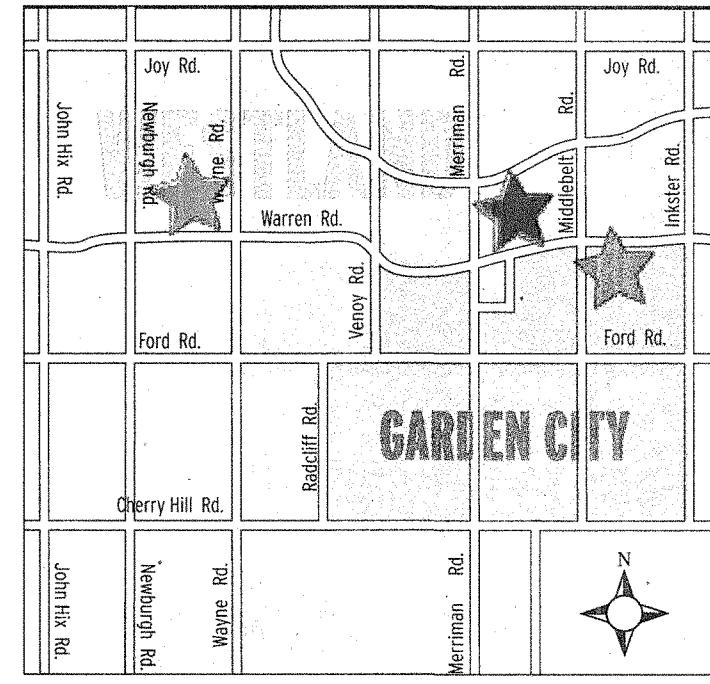
Time/Date: Served from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

Location: Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman, east of Warren Road, Westland

Details: Choose from Hawthorne's vast breakfast and dinner menus. Cost is \$8.95 for adults and \$5.95 children under age 12. Children age 3 and under, free.

Contact: (734) 422-3440

BUSINESS MILESTONES



Swap Meet

Time/date: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1

Location: The Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grad River, Novi

Details: Three very cool motorcycles will be featured at the Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet. The first bike is the award winning GL Special, crowned "The Canadian Cup Champion for 2009" at the North American International Motorcycle Super Show.

The second bike is Deuce's Wild which has a reverse flowed hand crafted motor with a glass sided oil tank and the third one is a production bike called Black and Chrome. All three were designed and built by Steve Broyles of Stevenson's Cycle in Wayne.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-12. Parking is \$5.

Contact: For more in the show, go online to www.motorcycleswap.com. Information about Stevenson's Cycle is available at www.stevensoncycle.com.

Holiday Farmers/Gift Market

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7 and Thursday, Nov. 14

Location: Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt, north of Ford, Garden City

Details: Hosted by Garden City Schools, Garden City Chamber of Commerce and Garden City Maplewood Community Center, Parks and Recreation, the Hometown Holiday Farmers/Gift Market will feature Crafts, baked goods, plants, jewelry and much more.

Admission is free.

Contact: Garden City Chamber at (734) 422-4448

Bakery tours

Details: Teachers, parents or troop leaders who are looking for a fun and educational event for a group of children, make your reservations today for a field trip to Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland. The cost is \$7 per child which includes a tour, demonstrations, hands-on cake decorating and free goodies.

Location: Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, 8036 N. Wayne, Westland.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 261-3680 or (888) 715-4479.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Helping out

The Westland Fire Department recently had the opportunity to train on some test vehicles donated by the Ford Motor Company.

Over the years, the department has been given plenty of opportunity to practice extrication on old vehicles prior to them going to the crusher. However, with the rapidly changing technology in airbags and structural metals, there is nothing like working on a new vehicle.

According to fire officials Ford's donation of test vehicles let firefighters use the equipment and build their skills on the next generation of vehicles. Westland Car Care also helped by providing a pickup and delivery and pickup service.

DFCU stimulus package

DFCU Financial, Michigan's largest credit union, has declared its fourth consecutive Special Patronage

Dividend of almost \$19 million dollars. Since 2006, DFCU Financial has given to members more than \$70

million.

"The reason we are able to issue the dividend is because DFCU Financial is well-capitalized, high performing and consistently one of the most successful credit unions in the entire nation," said Mark Shobe, president and CEO of DFCU Financial. "We're gratified to be such a financially sound credit union

because it enables us to give back to members during these economically stressful times. We often refer to the special dividend as our own economic stimulus package because it has helped so many of our members."

The dividend is calculated based upon the member's total relationship with DFCU Financial - the greater the relationship, the larger the dividend. Qualifying members will receive a 0.5 percent dividend on their average loan and deposit balances, with each eligible member receiving at least \$50. This includes all savings accounts and loan balances. People can visit payoutstobelong.com to estimate how much they would receive, if they moved

DFCU Financial currently operates 12 full-service branches in metro Detroit area, including one at Merriman and Warren Road in Garden City. To join, call (888) 336-2700 or visit www.dfcufinancial.com.

CHAMBER CHAT

WESTLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

November will be a busy month for the Westland Chamber which has three events planned for members.

First up is the November luncheon. Mark your calendar. This luncheon will be Tuesday, Nov. 10, at the Wayne-Westland Community Schools William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

Chef Tony and his culinary students will be preparing lunch for members. If you have never eaten lunch there then you are really missing out. It will be a great treat. Plan to be there at 11:30 a.m.. The cost for lunch is \$15 per person. Space is limited, so RSVP quickly by calling (734) 326-7222.

Next is the Coffee Connection at Panera Bread. Chamber members will be meeting at Panera Bread 8-9 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, from 8-9 a.m.

If you have not attended one of our Coffee Connections then you are missing out. A Coffee Connection is an informal gathering of chamber Members over coffee. No need to RSVP, no need to sign in when you get there. Just bring plenty of business cards and a couple of bucks for breakfast. It's a great way to meet other busy business owners and still get some work done. It is a great way to get new leads on customers.

Even better Buffalo Wild Wings will be having Power Hour starting at 8 p.m. which mean \$1 on selected bottles of beer.

For more information, call the chamber office at (734) 326-7222.

Brookellen Swope
president and CEO

and network. After Hours is a great way to meet and get to know your fellow business people. Times are tough for everyone, so find your way to Buffalo Wild Wings (on Wayne Road just north of Hunter) and do yourself a favor - unwind from the day and still get some work done. It is a great way to get new leads on customers.

Even better Buffalo Wild Wings will be having Power Hour starting at 8 p.m. which mean \$1 on selected bottles of beer.

For more information, call the chamber office at (734) 326-7222.

BOOST YOUR LOCAL ECONOMY... SHOP LOCAL

What kind of community do you want to live in?

How we spend our money makes a difference in the wellness of our residents and the overall success of our businesses.

Each time you shop, your decisions will impact your local economy. Choose locally owned businesses that are truly invested in your community's future!



OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

Online at www.hometownlife.com

The Observer, Eccentric & Hometown Newspapers proudly supports this message.

