

USA WEEKEND

Everyone loves Fido. But do Americans share the same fond feelings for our felines? Inside today's Observer



SUNDAY July 6, 2008

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Canton's swimming sensation Schmitt headed to Beijing



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHÖTOGRAPHER

Canton High School graduate Allison Schmitt qualified for the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China, by finishing runner-up in the 200-meter freestyle.

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

Canton has its own version of a pool shark.

It's 18-year-old Allison Schmitt, who earned a spot Wednesday night on the U.S. Olympic women's swim team with a second-place finish in the 200-meter freestyle, clocking a personal best 1:55.92 in Omaha, Neb.

Schmitt, headed next month to Beijing, China, will also be given an opportunity to swim a leg on the 4 x 200 freestyle relay, where former Livonia Stevenson High and University of Georgia All-American Sheila Taormina captured a gold medal at the 1996 Atlanta Summer Games. (Taormina is also making history of her own this summer competing in her

fourth Olympic Games in the

modern pentathlon after quali-

fying twice in the women's tri-

rise through the world swim

rankings after graduating a

semester early from Canton

High. She has been doing high-

performance training at Club

Wolverine in Ann Arbor, the

Schmitt has made a meteoric

athlon.)

only high school swimmer that Bob Bowman, Michael Phelps' coach, has guided among his elite women's group. After finishing one place

After finishing one place out of earning a spot Monday night with a third place in the 400 freestyle, Schmitt came back Wednesday night at the Olympic Trials and qualified in the 200 freestyle by shaving two seconds off her semifinal time, only to be edged out at the wall by the meet's star, Katie Hoff, of the North Baltimore (Md.) Aquatic Club. Hoff, who captured her third and fourth Trials events Wednesday night, was clocked in an American record time of 1:55.88, breaking her own mark of 1:56.08 set back in February.

Schmitt, a 4.0 honor student bound for the University of Georgia, is a twotime MHSAA Division 1 state champion in the 200- and 500yard freestyle for the Chiefs. She is the current Division 1 state record holder in both events.

For a more on Schmitt's memorable night, see today's sports section or visit www. hometownlife.com.

A new era begins

New superintendent hits the ground learning

TONY BRUSCATO OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Craig Fiegel laughed out loud when asked if he had reservations leaving his job Tuesday as superintendent of a 1.900-student elementary district in Illinois and taking over Wednesday as the CEO of Plymouth-Canton's nearly 19,000-student district. "It's a little overwhelming," said Fiegel, the new superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Schools. "You certainly think about that as you're leaving familiar surroundings and getting hugs and tears and realizing I won't be back tomorrow. "It's felt comfortable, it's felt like the right time and the right place," he added. "It's good to stretch yourself



Former PCA teacher gets 3-15 years

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Stephanie Ann Stein was sentenced to a minimum of three years in prison Thursday for having a sexual relationship with a teenage boy she met while she was a teacher at Plymouth Christian Academy.

Please see SCHOOL, A3

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

New Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Craig Fiegel works with executive secretary Elizabeth Adams on Thursday afternoon.

Heavenly relief

Rose Hance, of Canton, fills her car with discount gas Friday afternoon at the Plymouth Super Center on Ann Arbor Road. The 30-centper-gallon discount was courtesy of Living Word Church. For several hours a steady stream of cars twisted



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Koet

around the SuperCenter parking lot, as the congregation donated enough money to sell 10,000 gallons of gas at the reduced price of \$3.89 per gallon. Church members also helped customers by washing their windows. Micki Nguyen, 38, of Canton and her daughter, Ryan, 12, were handing out church literature. "We always look for practical ways to reach out to the community and show in practical ways God's love," said Micki Nguyen. "It's about doing kind things for others. I don't know if people realize that doing simple acts of kindness would make them happy, as well."

Teen driver charged for role in fatal accident

A 17-year-old Plymouth girl has been charged with negligent homicide, a two-year misdemeanor, in the April 22 crash that killed motorcyclist Diane Arlene Eickmeyer.

Elizabeth Ann Koet's preliminary exam is scheduled for Aug. 8 and she was released on a \$5,000 personal bond.

Canton Sgt. Rick Pomorski said Koet was traveling in a minivan south on Ridge Road when she came to Ford Road, stopped, and

then proceeded through the intersection. She apparently did not see Eickmeyer, 48, of Gregory, Michigan.

Eickmeyer died of her injuries April 25.

Pomorski said alcohol, drugs or speeding weren't factors in the accident. Tiffany L. Parks



commit a crime and 16 months to two years for one count of distributing obscene material of a sexual nature to a minor. The sentences will run concurrently.

Stein

Stein, who has two young children, spoke during her sentencing hearing and apologized to the mother of the boy, now 16.

The township woman previously rejected a deal from the state to serve 30 months to 15 years in prison if she pleaded guilty to one count of third-degree criminal sexual conduct.

"I thought justice was done," Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Lora Weingarden said of the sentencing.

When addressing the court, Stein said that she had made mistakes and made no mention of the suggestion that the teen, whose identity is not being published, forced himself on her.

During the trial, Stein's lawyer Todd Flood called the teenager, who was 15 when he had sex with Stein, a computer hacker who manipulated his way into a relationship and said that not all rape victims resist.

Weingarden countered that if the teenager was so horrible, why did Stein continue her interaction with him, choose names for their future children, Aidan for a boy and Ava for a girl, and wear the ring he gave her.

"There is a reason why the state Legislature has drawn the line at 16 (being the age for sexual consent)," Weingarden said. "Teachers know this, they are taught this and they need to follow the law."

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Coming Thursday

with Art in the Park

AROUND CANTON

Family camp-out

Canton's will hold its annual Family Camp-Out on July 11 and 12. Area families will be able to spend the night in Heritage Park, located west of Canton Center Road and south of Cherry Hill Road. Participants can begin pitching tents at noon on Friday, July 11 around the amphitheater. Activities will begin at 6 p.m., including games, à night hike (bring a GPS if you own one), children's crafts, a climbing wall, inflatable attractions and live entertainment. All activities lead up to a movie under the stars featuring "Surf's Up," which will begin at dusk. Hot dogs, candy and refreshments will also be available for purchase.

All participating families should bring a family tent and camping equipment. Trailers and mobile homes are not. permitted. In case of severe inclement weather, the movie will be shown that evening in the Summit gymnasium.

There will be a camping fee of \$10 per tent, which includes wristbands that are required for all activities, and must be paid on site the day of the event. If you would like to take part in the activities and movie, but are not interested in camping-out, wristbands will be on sale for \$3 per participant. For more information, call (734) 394-5460.

Ice cream social

Canton Leisure Services is inviting area residents to attend an ice cream social at the Cherry Hill School, located at 50440 Cherry Hill Road, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 16.

The Canton Concert Band will perform during the event, which will feature old-fashioned ice cream with toppings for \$1 per person. This ice cream social is one of many events scheduled as part of a month-long celebration to recognize July as National Recreation and Parks Month. Pre-registration is not required and all ages are welcome.

For more information on this summer celebration, visit leisure.canton-mi.org or call (734) 394 - 5460.

Gubernatorial appointment

Governor Jennifer M Granholm recently reappointed Canton resident Guozhen Lu, Ph.D., who is a tenured professor with the Wayne **State University Mathematics** Department, to the Advisory Council for Asian and Pacific American Affairs.



This is just a test

Canton was one of several communities to take part in a regional water system emergency preparedness exercise last week to ensure the protection of the drinking water supply. Here Canton Emergency Planner Kathy Rich (from left), Township Engineer Tom Casari, and Municipal Services Director Tim Faas meet in Canton's Emergency Operations Center during the exercise, which lasted one hour and ended with a round table discussion in Dearborn between officials from different communities about the effectiveness of the exercise. It was part of an effort by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department's (DWSD) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to better prepare the region in the event of a major water distribution system emergency, and was a trial run for a full-scale regional exercise in September. The TAC has been working on procedures to improve emergency communications since the black-out of August 2003. "This exercise closed the first loop on communications between multiple agencies. The exercise was a huge success with regard to testing our capabilities to talk to one another under a stressful condition," Faas said.

Senior Alliance golf outing

The Senior Alliance will host its 8th annual Golf Classic fund-raiser on July 25 at the Woodlands of Van Buren Golf Course. Registration is at 8 a.m., with a shotgun start at 9 a.m.

The event will feature an 18hole scramble with golf cart, continental breakfast at registration, lunch at the turn, buffet dinner with raffle prizes. Prizes will be given for longest drive, closest to the pin, and the Ficano Cup, which will be awarded to the winning foursome.

The Senior Alliance has been providing services such as meals on wheels, holiday meals, care management, prescription drug assistance, MMAP (Medicare, Medicaid Assistance Program), chore services, information and referral and many others to individuals with disabilities and older adults in the community for over 28 years.

There are more than

Design excellence nominations

Canton's Committee for **Community Excellence is** currently accepting nominations for their annual Design excellence awards, which promote excellence in landscape, architectural, and environmental design. The deadline to submit a nomination is July 15 and all entries must include a street view photograph. Entries submitted without a photo will be disqualified. Judging will take place July through August and awards will be presented at an appreciation ceremony in October.

Nomination forms are available on Canton's Web site at www.canton-mi.org, the Summit on the Park, Canton's Administration Building, and in the June Focus Newsletter. Completed forms must be sent to: Canton Design Excellence Award Attn: Amy Colligan 1150 Canton Center Road South Canton, MI 48188 The Design Excellence Awards are sponsored by Canton's

are now available for pickup at the Chamber Office. If you're interested in volunteering your time to help out during this event, contact Lisa at (734) 453-4040 or e-mail eventscoordinator@cantonchamber.com.

Memorial golf outing

Dave and Lvnn Garr of Canton will hold the Seventh Annual Vanessa Grace Garr Memorial Golf Outing on July 12 at the Links of Novi. The outing, a memorial to their daughter Vanessa, will benefit the Oakwood Program for **Exceptional Families which** is located in Allen Park and serves children with all types of disabilities.

Vanessa passed away in 2001 due to complications from cerebral palsy, a brain defect which occurred at birth. In the past six years, the outing has raised more than \$150,000 for disabled children's charities in and around Metro Detroit.

"This is a wonderful organition with a truly caring staff

The outing, which costs \$125 per golfer or \$50 for dinner only guests, features lunch, golf, dinner, three hours of open bar, silent and live auctions and lots of door prizes. To support the outing either by playing or by contributing, please contact Dave Garr at (734) 542-6800.

Paul Todd concert

Christian musician Paul Todd will perform one of his unique concerts at 7 p.m., Sunday, July 13 at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church,

Doors open at 6 p.m. A critically-acclaimed and prolific writer, entertainer, composer and singer since the age of 14, Todd has played at clubs and opened for celebrities including The Pointer Sisters, Rich Little, The Gatlin Brothers, and Joan Rivers. He wrote the theme songs for the Marine Corps League "Toys for Tots" program and the Make A Wish Foundation, which was recorded by Crystal Gayle. He has also contributed his talents to numerous charities.

Tickets are \$20 and available at the St. Thomas a'Becket office, 555 S. Lilley Road (just south of Cherry Hill). Todd's CDs will also be available for purchase at the show.

For more information about Todd, visit his Web site at www.paultodd.com.

Christmas in July

Canton Leisure Services and the Canton Goodfellows are joining forces to coordinate this year's "No Child Without a Christmas" project. To kick-off the undertaking, donation jugs have been setup at the Summit on the Park, as "Christmas in July - A Million Pennies from Heaven" collection gets underway.

This year, donations will be collected in the Senior Center and in the Summit lobby, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, until National Make A Difference Day on Oct. 25. On this national day of doing good, volunteers will be on hand to count and sort these collected donations. Area scout troops and other organizations will also be coordinating drop-off donations on this date.

Last year, Canton community groups and individuals donated nearly \$7,000 in pennies nickels, dimes quarters

For more information on

this community project, con-

tact Pat VanDusen at (734)

pvandusen@canton-mi.org.

Salem pom golf outing

The Salem High School

hosting its 8th annual golf

Rockettes pom squad will be

394-5193 or via e-mail at

and paper money.

outing Saturday Aug. 10 at® Fox Hills Golf Club, 8768 North Territorial Road, in Salem Township. For additional information call Bryan Cornell (734) 536-2185.

'Hello, Dolly' auditions

The Spotlight Players will be hosting auditions for their production of "Hello, Dolly!" at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill on July 21-22 starting at 7 p.m. (registration begins at 6:30 p.m.). Show dates are: Sep. 19-20, Sep. 26-28, Oct. 3-5. The Village Theater is looated at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, at the corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge roads in Cherry Hill Village. For more information, visit

www.spotlightplayers.net.

Farmers market

The Bartlett-Travis property in Cherry Hill Village is the site of the Canton Farmers Market every Sunday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. through Oct. 26. Admission is free. The weekly event features entertainment, as well as vendors selling fresh produce, baked goods, plants, crafts and more. For more information, call the market master at (734) 394-5323.

John Glenn reunion

John Glenn High School Class of 1988 will hold its 20 year reunion on Saturday, Aug. 23 at Roma's of Garden City. Tickets are \$30 per person. Deadline is July 31. For tickets and more information please visit the Web site jghs88reunion.com.

Grief support group

The Sharing & Caring Coffee Hour is an ongoing grief support group for widows and widowers hosted by Heartland Hospice. The group is held 10-11 a.m. at Heartland Healthcare Center, 4701 N. Lilley Road, Canton. The focus of the group is on the later stages of grief, with an emphasis on learning to live with the loss. This group is held the first and third Wednesday of the month and is open to anyone grieving the loss of a spouse. There is no charge.

For information, contact Ann Christensen, toll-free at (888) 973-1145.

American Legion meets

The Plymouth American Legion Passage-Gayde Post #391 conducts its monthly meeting the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Knights of Columbus Hall on Mill (next to the railroad tracks) in Plymouth Township. All interested military veterans should contact Commander Mike O'Malley, (734) 459-7890, for more information.

The term will expire April 30, 2012.

Get on the ball.

Joe

Read today's

170,000 people over the age of 60 that live in the Senior Alliance service area of southern and western Wayne County.

For more information, call (734) 722-2830, e-mail info@ tsalink.org, or visit the Senior Alliance Web site at www. aaalc.org.

coverage

Committee for Community Excellence. For questions or more information please call (734) 394-5164.

Chamber Grub Crawl

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is now selling tickets for its annual Canton Grub Crawl, which is scheduled for July 22. Grub Crawl T-shirts

Canton Township Board

The township board will

of Trustees

that puts a lot of blood, sweat and tears into helping the children that come into their office," said Dave Garr of the Oakwood program. "In fact, Dr. Susan Youngs, who runs the program, was the only one of Vanessa's doctors to show up at her funeral. That shows you what kind of people they have there."

ON THE AGENDA

hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m., on Tuesday at the Canton Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

for Nabil Fawzi, who recently stopped a bank robbery. Authorize sponsorship

agreement with Huntington

Agenda items will include:

Consider increasing purchase order to Heaney General Contractors for Lower Rouge River Trail head and associated

Consider increasing blanket purchase orders for fleet services.

Authorize contract for preliminary architectural & engineering work for the renovation to the cell block and booking area at the police station.

Canton Planning Commission

The planning commission will meet on Monday, July 7, at 7 p.m. on the first floor of Canton's Administration Building. Items on the agenda include:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Sahota rezoning: Consider request to rezone from O-1 Office to C-3 Regional Commercial. Property is located north of Michigan Avenue between Sheldon and Morton Taylor roads.

ESt. John Neumann Church addition: Consider request for site plan and special land use approval for a religious institution. Property is located north of Warren Road and west of Sheldon Road.

SITE PLANS

Canton Center Office: Consider request for site plan approval. Property is located south of Joy Road and east of Canton Center Road.

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PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR July meeting Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tape of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling

> Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary Plymouth District Library 223 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170 734-453-0750 X217

Publish: July 6, 2008

the following:



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NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 2008 SUMMER TAXES Summer taxes are due July 1, 2008 and payable through August

10, 2008 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF PLYMOUTH.

Payments can be made at City Hall during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office, temporarily located on the 2nd floor near the elevator. After hours, payments can be placed in the DROP BOX located in the Church Street lobby of City Hall or use the DROP BOX located next to the book return behind the Library.

Teresa Cischke, CPFA City Treasurer

Publish: July 3 and 6, 2008

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name ty at the native ingless of Man 32. Phonesh Statesh (20) selected WWW, barone for judge, com

Sports Nightline.

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP SENDS OUT WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Plymouth Township Water and Sewer Department has sent out its annual drinking water quality report to consumers.

Among other things, the report discloses the amount of various materials in the water, including microbial and inorganic contaminants, and pesticides and herbicides.

The annual report has been required by law since the U.S. Congress passed the 1996 Safe Drinking Act Amendments.

Most of the Detroit metro area, including Plymouth Township, gets its drinking water from the Detroit River. The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department operates the water treatment facilities and pumping stations that supply water to the township, which operates the pipeline infrastructure and acts as the retailer to area businesses and residents.

Residents or business owners who have not received the report or have

further questions can contact the Plymouth Township Water and Sewer Department at (734) 354-3270.

Publish: July 3, 2008 & July 6, 2008

trails project.

....(734) 591-7279 ..(734) 953-2104 ..(734) 582-8363

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Observer

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Zarbo running like he's Prasad: 'On the inside, new kid on the block I can help Canton'

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Just consider him the new guy

Karl Zarbo, who is wrapping up his sixth year as a Canton Township trustee, said he has approached his reelection campaign as if it were his first time on the ballot.

"I'm not making any assumptions," he said. "I am running as if I'm the new kid on the block."

Well, the new kid that has helped transform Ford Road into a "mall without a roof."

Zarbo, 59, is the director of operations for Konover South, which owns the Livonia Mall. said he has brought his professional skills to the township.

"Collecting rent money from (retailers) is not dissimilar to collecting tax dollars," he said.

Zarbo was tapped to replace Phil LaJoy on the board for two years after LaJoy became a state representative. Before that, the New York native and 22-year township resident was on the Canton Planning Commission for nine years.

"That's Canton 101," he said of being on the commission.

Zarbo, whose campaign literature promotes him as being

"instrumental in bringing \$130 million in new investment to Canton in the last three years and more than 1,000 iobs," said hav-Zarbo ing a hand in

the Ford Road boom has been a treat.

"All of the things done at malls, we are doing in Canton," he said, noting that he introduced the township to the International Council of **Shopping Centers convention** about nine years ago. "At the time, we were the only township going and now it's one of their larger growth segments."

Zarbo, who was inspired to enter politics because of longtime Township Supervisor Tom Yack, is complimentary toward Yack and acknowledges the criticism that some have leveled at the board for its seemingly lack of debate and disagreement.

"The way we do business is a little different and in a way, it's a back door compliment,' he said, adding that by the time feel pretty fortunate," he said. resolutions are voted upon, they have been hashed out at study sessions. "I don't dispute (734) 953-2170

that we look like we have our ducks in a row, but I don't believe one person put us there - seven of us did.

With Yack retiring and two trustee seats open, Zarbo said preserving some continuity on the board will be beneficial and cited business retention and residential retention as crucial elements to Canton's future.

In speaking with homeowners, Zarbo said the condition of the township's roads are always a main concern and points to the creation of the Intersection Action Committee and 2008 Local Road Maintenance Program as successes. Being that Canton is a township and not a city, its roads belong to Wayne County but Zarbo has approved the township's financing of intersection improvements and road repairs.

Saying that he hopes to continue his service on the board, Zarbo said he's committed to preserving Canton's quality of life.

"I don't know how many people get to (combine) their work with their hobby, but I

tlparks@hometownlife.com

BY TIFFANY I PARKS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Jaldhar Prasad feels he's been an outsider to the inner workings of Canton Township long enough and is ready to take an active role in the community's future as a township trustee.

"If I'm on the inside, I can impact a situation but from the outside, you can't do much," he said, adding that in his 12 years in Canton he hasn't hesitated to call the office of Township Supervisor Tom Yack to voice a concern.

One of the more recent times that Prasad, 75, contacted Yack, who used to be his son's teacher in Wayne-Westland schools, was during the relocation proposal of the Hindu Temple on Cherry Hill Road east of Canton Center.

Prasad, who is an active member of the Temple, said he believes that comments made by former Planning **Commissioner Catherine** Johnson regarding public urination have no place at township meetings. Yack ultimately asked for Johnson's resignation.

"Fifty percent of my decision to run was based on that

(situation)," said Prasad, a founding member of the Bhartiya Temple of Troy. "I don't want us to have controversy because

of religion."

Prasad, who has been mar-

ried to his wife, Pushpa, for

dren and is a civil engineer

for the Detroit Water and

Sewage Department in its systems control division.

45 years, has three adult chil-

If elected to the board, the

former Westland Rotary Club

president, believes his career won't be a conflict of interest

"I'm in a unique place to

understand the city and the

suburbs and I think I can be

a great help to both," he said,

adding that he would work

to explain water rates and

DWSD funding to township

Prasad, who is the direc-

Civil Engineers, said he would

like to work on five things if

elected: "Encourage Friends

of the Rouge to provide

tor of the Michigan chapter

of the American Society of

but an asset.

residents.

Prasad

necessary input related to environmental and ecological impact directly affecting the Canton Township; define solutions to relieve traffic congestion in the vicinity of Ford Road and Haggerty intersection; encourage new projects which will create a financial base for the township without any adverse effects on the environment or daily life in Canton; improve the traffic flow on Palmer and Lotz roads and Palmer and Sheldon roads, and discourage further accumulation of waste material on Hannan Road between Michigan and Ecorse Road and define the most updated procedure for treating the existing waste material."

(C) A3

meeting residents and is distributing his campaign literature to voters.

"The thing that inspires me is that Canton is a growing community and you can find people of different ethnicities living beside you," he said.

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FROM PAGE A1

and do more unfamiliar things and grow from that."

In his first two days, Fiegel has begun interviews to hire a new business manager and learn the administrative systems in place at P-CCS.

"I'm not coming in with sweep-ing changes, just learn what we do and why we do them," Fiegel said. "Realistically, you get involved right away, but it takes a year or two to truly understand all that goes on.

"It's a big system, but there are a

lot of good people here and they've been very helpful in helping me understand what we're doing," he added.

As a former assistant superintendent of business in Lawrence, Kan., where he worked on tight budgets, Fiegel said he understands the concerns from some who question why the Board of Education paid \$195,000 to hire him during tough economic times. And he knows there will be many eyes watching to see how he handles Plymouth-Canton, a district nearly 10 times the size of Evergreen Park.

"I think time will have to prove

that out," Fiegel said. "I'm hoping they will understand the same things that happened in Evergreen Park happen in Plymouth-Canton, just more of the same things because it's larger.

"You have some different things, but you see new things everywhere,' he added.

Fiegel said he and his wife, Lisa, plan to buy a home within the district. However, like many homeowners, he will have to wait until he can sell his home in Illinois.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2172



Fiegel







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LOCAL NEWS

CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

U-M staff member honored

Stacie Edington, of Canton, was one of seven University of Michigan College of Engineering staff members honored May 2 for their creativity, commitment and dedication. They received the 2008 Excellence in Staff Service Awards.

Edington, the academic programs coordinator in International Programs with five years of service at the college, earned an Excellence in Staff Service Award, given to staff members who have made vital contributions to the College of Engineering's success.

Local franchise wins award

Greg Longe, co-president of Dryer Vent Wizard (DVW), Dry Clothes, Safe Homes, announced the award of Most Valuable Player to Larry Butterfield of Canton, a former automotive engineer who services Wayne, Washtenaw, Lenawee and Monroe counties. The Most Valuable Player/Franchise of the Year is awarded to the local franchise who demonstrates exceptional customer service, growth in sales and willingness to help fellow franchisees.

DVW services prevent dryer fires, keep dryers functioning properly and provide energy savings through dryer and dryer vent maintenance, cleaning, repair, replacement and alterations. According to Butterfield, consumer response to DVW services has been positive. "When consumers find their dryer taking more than one cycle to dry a load, they assume it's mechanical when the real problem is lint accumulation in the dryer vent causing the dryer to work inefficiently and become susceptible to a dryer fire," he said.

According to the U.S. Fire Administration there are an average of 15,000 drver fires in the U.S. with an approximate \$88 million in property, damage 15 deaths and 400 injuries annually. "Failure to clean" was cited as the leading factor contributing to clothes dryer fires in residential buildings.

For more information call (866) 498-SAFE, or visit www.dryerventwizard.com.

Kindermusik story time

Evola Music of Canton will preview its Kindermusik programs with free Summer Story Times at local businesses. Kindermusik educators Karen Schanerberger and Michelle Shrewsbury will present interactive programs featuring music, movement, stories, songs,

Larry Butterfield

instrument play and the latest research on musically enhancing your child's development. Free Kindermusik Story Times are:

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For more information, visit www.kindermusikatevola.com or call (734) 455-4677.

Comerica achievement award

Canton residents Yvonne Alford, Mark Pierzecki, Jodi Bello and Jason Abate all received the Chairman's Outstanding Achievement Award from Comerica Bank. Chairman Award recipients are honored for making outstanding contributions to Comerica in the areas of connectivity, leadership, quality excellence and sales performance.

Alford, vice president and manager of insurance operations at Comerica, joined Comerica in 2006. Pierzecki, vice president and lender of Healthcare & Education at Comerica, joined Comerica in 1998.

Bello, vice president and private banker at Comerica, joined Comerica in 1997. Abate, vice president at Comerica, joined Comerica in 2004. Each received \$5,000 and one week of paid vacation, and they will be recognized at a special dinner.



Michigan Avenue getting its own cruise

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

What the Woodward Dream Cruise is to Woodward Avenue and Oakland County is what Don Nicholson sees his Cruisin' Michigan becoming.

On July 12, the Westland resident plans to have cars of all shapes and styles cruise Michigan Avenue from Hannan Road at the Canton line with Wayne on the west to Southfield Road in Dearborn on the east.

"It's two weeks after the Downriver Cruise and two weeks before the Woodward Dream Cruise," Nicholson said. "It's almost as long as the Dream Cruise, it's 12 1/2miles.'

Nicholson, through his Don Nicholson Enterprises, is organizing the cruise and promoting other groups that will put on car shows along the route. He has permission to use the former Wayne County Eloise property for parking Model A's and Model T's during the cruise.

He also has been lining up sponsors for the show, and has Jack Demmer Ford in Wayne as a major auto sponsor. He's also working the chambers of commerce in the five communities – Wayne, Westland, Inkster, Dearborn Heights and Dearborn - the route goes through and with charities and nonprofits that he wants to be vendors along the cruise route. In an effort to attract the support of businesses, he has walked the entire route letting merchants know about the cruise.

"In these economic times, all businesses can use a

boost," Nicholson said. The cruise will be held from noon to 8 p.m. Cruisers are being asked to use to the outside two lanes and not do burnouts, according to the cruise Web site, www. cruisinmichigan.com.

In addition to vendors and car shows along the route, Six Foot Poles will perform in front of the US-12 Bar & Grill at 34824 W. Michigan Ave. in Wayne. There also will be a wrap-up party after the cruise at the US-12. There also will be a jazz fest taking place in Inkster July 12-13.

Nicholson has gotten the support of the Wayne County Commission which passed a resolution sponsored by Commissioners Ronaele Bowman, D-Westland, and Kevin McNamara, D-Canton Township.

"This event will provide significant economic benefits for the businesses located along Michigan Avenue," Bowman said. "Local service organizations such as the Kiwanis, Rotary and other clubs will be able to sell merchandise to support their missions."

"Michigan Avenue has a tremendous automotive endowment and heritage,' McNamara said. "The corridor includes the world headquarters of the Ford Motor Company and many other automotive facilities, factories and museums."

Even the state has gotten on board. Lawmakers have passed a resolution declaring For more information on Cruisin' July 12 as Cruisin' Michigan Day.

"We're hoping to draw in 50,000-plus cars for the event. We have 400-500



state for this," Nicholson said. "We have people coming from Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana, and the SS Badger is promoting the event in Wisconsin."

Nicholson is no stranger to car shows. He's been in the business for 20 years. He started the Burger Car Show, now known as Autos for Autism, and ran it for seven years for the benefit the Burger School for Students with Autism in Garden City. He now does a car show for the Western Wayne Skills Center, which raised \$7,000 last year. He hopes to co-promote it with the cruise and raise \$10,000 for the center this year. He also runs the Don Nicholson Charity Car Show and the EnjoyWayne.com Charity Car Show.

Nicholson also has used his expertise to try to raise money to restore the old Wayne Theater. The effort failed and the building, which is on westbound Michigan Avenue just west of Wayne Road, is scheduled to be torn down.

Wayne Mayor Al Hadius wanted to keep it around, that's where the cruise came from," Nicholson said. "This the inaugural event and there's definitely room for growth."

Michigan, cruisers can call Nicholson at (734) 658-5296 or email don@donnicholson.net.

smason@hometownlife.com



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Workin' on some night moves

Couple bring Bob Seger's wheels to Grand Cruise

BY SUE BUCK **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The song Night Moves has a special meaning for **Farmington Hills residents** Dennis and Mary Koss.

Their 1961 Pontiac Catalina Convertible bears a front license plate with the song title, which is only appropriate considering where they acquired the car.

"We just bought the car from Bob Seger," Dennis said.

Night Moves is the title song from the ninth album by Ann Arbor rocker Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band, released in 1976.

"We have loved Seger forever and loved the car," Dennis said. "We had to get it."

Mary loves the fact that she sits in the same seat where Seger sat.

"It feels really good," she said.

She also loves that the car has an automatic transmission because she can't drive a car with a "stick," a manual transmission.

But, best of all, the car brings back memories.

"This brings you right back to your youth," Mary said.

We had cars just like this from the time we started dating," Dennis said. "We had a 1966 Pontiac GTO when we dated."

The Kosses are regulars at the Cruisin' The Grand Cruise-In Car Show.

Every Monday they head out for the show that starts at 5 p.m. and goes until dusk. The show will continue through September on Grand River, east of Farmington. In addition to the Seger

parking lot in Farmington. Catalina, The Kosses also own a Royal Pontiac Bobcat. They keep the classic cars in a

heated garage.



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Abraham of Redford takes a look under the hood as he walks along the cars on display during the Cruisin' the Grand Cruise-in Car Show Monday night.



Car enthusiasts stroll among the classic cars on display during the Cruisin' the Grand Cruise-in Car Show held Monday night in the Village Commons

For their daily jaunts around town, they drive twin, silver 2008 Hummers.

The June 30 show featured live entertainment by The Copycats who played '60s and 70s rock and pop hits.

The cover band is known for its harmonies. They feature everything from Johnny Cash to Led Zeppelin to The Beatles.

The show is located in front of Bellacino's on Grand River.

Gerald Moore, left, and Marian iannello take a look at a 1948 Chevrolet on display at the Cruisin' the Grand Cruise-in Car Show Monday night in Farmington.

Bellacino's co-owners Joe Takla, a Farmington resident, and Keith Valcom, a Plymouth resident, have helped to organize the show with Harvey Ettinger, who invites the car owners to participate.

The restaurant offers 15 percent off the food bills of those who participate and come in for dinner.

'The show is good for all the tenants in this plaza," Takla said. "It's great to see the community stopping by to see the old cars and to see the parking lot full. It's a good time. You see all ages.



Lean Boneless

Spectators browse the rows of classic cars during the Cruisin' the Grand Cruise-in Car Show Monday night.





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

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LOCAL NEWS

Www.hometownlife.com

Red Wings goalie

Chris Osgood,

with wife Jenna

and daughters

Mackenzie and

Sydney, said

Plymouth is

hometown.

comparable to

Medicine Hat, his

British Columbia

Some place like home

Ozzie compares Plymouth to his own B.C. town

BY TONY BRUSCATO OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A6

(C)

Detroit Red Wings goalie Chris Osgood said living in Plymouth reminds him of the small British Columbia town in the Rocky Mountains he grew up in, only bigger.

"It feels like home in Canada," Osgood said, getting some recuperating time after weeks of activity following the Red Wings' Stanley Cup victory. "It has the same old streets with big trees hanging over them, like in Medicine Hat; lots of parks with kids' playgrounds; you can walk downtown and the school (Bird Elementary, where one of his two children attends) is close. And the downtown is



THE OSGOOD FILE

Who: Chris Osgood Job: Detroit Red Wings goalie Where: Lives in Plymouth with wife, Jenna, and daughters Mackenzie and Sydney Notable: Three-time Stanley Cup champion

Home cooking: Osgood favorably compares Plymouth with the small, British Columbia town he grew up in

nice here.

'This is the best area I've lived in around here," added Osgood, 35, who has lived in Farmington Hills, Birmingham and Northville. "Plymouth has a lot of character."

As a three-time Stanley Cup champion, one might figure the well-known Osgood would be recognized so much it might be better to just stay at home rather than never having a moment away from well-wishers and those seeking autographs.

"People here generally leave me alone." Osgood said. "After we won the Cup, they were all fired up. My neighbor put sheets on the house and there was a Stanley Cup with lights around it. It was a crazy time, but that's good, I didn't mind it."

In fact, the soft-spoken



Osgood's wife, Jenna --who grew up in Westland and admits to being one of those teenagers who used to gridlock downtown while cruising Main Street -- agreed they live in relative obscurity.

"A lot of people know where we live, but it's really awesome, no one really bothers us," said Jenna Osgood, 38. "Plymouth is very familyoriented, and that's what we wanted when we moved here. Even when Chris picks up the kids, he's just like a normal guy.

"Of course, as soon as the banner was put on our house with 'Way to go Stanley Cup Champs,' everybody knew where we lived," she added. "People drive by and beep, and then get disappointed when it's just me.

The Osgoods like being the neighbor next door, and more times than not there are kids in and out of the huge backyard that borders Tonquish Creek, where there's a tennis court-turned-hockey rink.

"It never really stays cold for a long period of time to keep it an ice rink," Chris Osgood said. "The kids who come can't skate anyway, so I just leave it like this so every-

body can play. "Sometimes we have tournaments, but I don't play," he added. "The neighbor kids play, that's what it's for." For his relaxation. Chris has a small cabin next to the

> stove. "In the winter, I put wood

relax and watch Hockey Night in Canada," he said. Jenna and Chris met about

10 years ago in Farmington Hills after being introduced by a roommate of Jenna's.

"I really wasn't into hockey at the time," Jenna said. "But now I love it and I watch a different game. I don't watch in the center, like most people. I watch goalie and goalie. Even the defensemen's wives watch the game differently .. vou focus on the position."

The Osgoods' basement is decorated with Red Wings memorabilia, and there's a 'bubble" hockey game.

'When we met, the first three games I played Chris, I beat him," Jenna is quick to point out.

In the off-season, there is plenty of time to spend with their two children – 7-yearold Mackenzie and 3-year-old Sydney – who, as most kids, like playing at the fountain in Kellogg Park.

"When Chris is gone and I'm trying to be creative with stuff to do, they just want to



go to the park," Jenna said. Mackenzie is just learn-"And they like Gabriala's ing hockey, and Sydney is too young to understand her because they love Webkinz. And we just love Music in the dad is a three-time Stanley Cup champ. That's OK with

Osgood. Chris said he likes spending "It's good, maybe they can time in the backyard with his girls, with as much attention do their own thing," he said. as they will afford him. "As long as they have fun "We play soccer and kick when they go to the games, ball, I teach them how to play that's all that matters to me. hockey," he said. "After about Mackenzie did know what a half-hour, though, they want was going on in the playoffs, to do girl things and resort back to the fort and play with

A classical Indian

she was fired up. She talked to the kids at school about it and thinks it's pretty cool, now."







Chris Osgood, in the backyard of his Plymouth home.

rink with refrigerators, a flatscreen television and a wood

in the stove and light it up,

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Park."

their dolls or play in their cars

... or in the creek."

dance performance Lavanya Rao, who graduated from Salem High school last month and will be attending University Of Illinois - Urbana Champaign in the fall, performed an Indian classical dance called Bharatanatvam on June 28, at Washtenaw Community College's Towsley Auditorium. Her solo performance was the culmination of her graduation from her dance school, and she was awarded a graduation certificate by her teacher, Roopa Shyamasundara. She performed along with live musicians from India. She danced 10 items which tested her skills in different technical areas. Lavanya was a president of the National Honor Society at her school and vice-president of student congress among other activities.

Get on the ball. Read today's coverage!



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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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Sunday, July 6, 2008

(C)

OUR VIEWS

Time running out to register to vote

Who among us hasn't griped at one time or another about our political leadership, whether it be at the local, state or federal level?

When things aren't going well economically, or when government does something you don't agree with, our elected leaders are easy targets, and sometimes they deserve to be. In such cases, "Throw the burns out," is a general consensus.

In some places around the globe, in Zimbabwe for example, there is nothing that can be done about corrupt or incompetent government officials - save for a military coup.

Fortunately, in our style of government, we don't have to take up arms to install new political leaders. We elect them in the voting booth. It is a right that countless soldiers have fought to maintain for all Americans -apertinent point considering there are American soldiers engaged in two wars as you read this.

Unfortunately, not enough Americans take advantage of that right. Too many of us stay home during elections, and therefore have no say about the people who ultimately dictate the policies that govern much of our lives.

The Aug. 5 primary election is quickly approaching. Depending on where you live, the election will determine many important local and state races. If you are not registered to vote, it is not too late to participate in the election. But you don't have much time. The deadline to register is tomorrow (July 7). You can do so at all Secretary of State branches or at your local clerk's office.

To register, you must be at least 18 years old by Aug. 5 and be a U.S. citizen, You must also be a resident of Michigan and of the city or township in which you wish to register.

Additional voting information is available on the Department of State Web site at www.Michigan.gov/sos. Michigan residents can also visit the Michigan Voter Information Center at www.Michigan.gov/vote, where they can find information on voting by absentee ballot, using voting equipment and contacting their local clerk. The site also includes maps to local polling places.

If you're not registered, don't miss this opportunity to be a participating member in our democracy. It isn't enough to complain about the leaders you don't like. Voting speaks so much louder.



Arts provide value to Canton's quality of life

arlier this spring, my fourth-grader looked up at me with that loving puppy face he uses when he really wants something and asked, "Mom, do you care if I fail my music test?'

"What," I gasped in horror. "Why would you think music is not important?" "All the other parents said they didn't care if their kids flunked the test," he said. "Besides, music should be free. It should be something you do to take a break from Linda J. Obrec math, not something you

have to take a test on." Of course, I followed up by asking him when he had a chance to talk with all his classmate's parents to find out their kids were told they could fail the test. Then we had a discussion of the importance of the arts. But my immediate reaction was to think what a shame it is that some of us may still have a mentality that the arts don't add value.

When the Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage was first formed four years ago, I jumped at the chance to be appointed to the group. I am also a charter member of the Canton Partnership For The Arts and recently studied the economic impact of the arts on local economies through the Leadership Detroit program.

When considering the impact and value of arts in Canton, we could consider facts published by experts in the arts and economic development industries, including Detroit Renaissance, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Education Association, Angelou Economics, Michigan Future Inc., Cultural Alliance of Southeastern Michigan and the College for Creative Studies. Here are just a few fast facts for

us to keep in mind:

■ In general, children experience a positive correlation between grade-point average and the inclusion of the arts in their studies.

The most valued resource to economic growth is talented people. That means people who are educated and creative (creative meaning a way of thinking, not necessarily artistic).

The greatest predictor of our own economic prosperity is the attraction and retention of talent.

In Michigan, the economic impact of the arts is about \$2 billion annually. This is more than is generated by professional sports, including years when we have the Super Bowl or All-Star Game in town.

Cultural tourism is a major part of Michigan's \$65.7 million in annual tourism revenue, because cultural tourists spend more and stay longer.

Creative jobs are a huge opportunity for economic growth in our region. Detroit ranks ninth nationally in the total number of artists in the labor force, and has the sixth highest number of designers of all U.S. cities with strengths in advertising, media, and design.

So how can we quantify a piece of this value for our little township of Canton and what can a resident do to help? There are three easy things we can all do.

First, please complete an audience survey if you are approached at any event this year in Canton. Through Canton Township Leisure Services, the Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage has contracted with Americans For the Arts to study the arts and economic prosperity in our local economy. Approximately 1,000 people will be randomly interviewed at various events throughout the year. The data will then be analyzed using a proven national model

and the value of arts will be quantified for Canton.

Second, vote for pro-arts candidates this election year. Ask the candidates you are considering voting for how they value the arts in Canton. This means public art, performing arts and visuals arts everywhere around us. And yes, some of the arts we enjoy do receive a tiny fraction of tax revenue consistent with most townships and cities that provide high-quality programs and venues.

Third, help preserve our home values by supporting the arts. Long-time residents of Canton may remember the high vacancy rates during the economic downturn of the early 1980s. Perhaps the development of arts and culture in Canton has helped families decide to stay in Canton because this is a better place to live than elsewhere.

Finally, let's ask ourselves what the value of the arts is in our own personal lives. Can we honestly say to ourselves that the painted bowling pins along Ford Road didn't welcome 44,000 women bowlers and encourage their credit cards to jump out of their purses? Can anyone walk in front of The Village Theater and not feel a sense of community pride? Doesn't it cause a smile inside when our evening walk takes us by an open window with the sounds of a youngster practicing an instrument?

All these experiences of the arts and more is the foundation that creates a sense of connection and belonging we all want to feel while living in our little township of Canton.

Linda J. Obrec is a Canton resident and president of Front Line Resources, Inc. of Canton. She is also a member of Canton's Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage and can be reached via e-mail at obrec@comcast.net.

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm

Send correspondence to P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909, or call Constituent Services at (517) 335-7858. The fax number is (517) 335-6863.

U.S. Sen. Carl Levin

His Washington, D.C. mailing address is 269 Russell Office Building, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-2202. Call him at (202) 224-6221. The fax number is (202) 224-1388. He also has offices in Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Ave., Room 1860, in Detroit. The local phone

number is (313) 226-6020, TTY (800)

851-0030 and fax at (313) 226-6948.

He also has a Web site - levin.senate. gov,

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow

In Washington, D.C., the address is 133 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Call her

there at (202) 224-4822, TTY (202) 224-2066, or e-mail her at senator@ stabenow.senate.gov. In Detroit, her office is at 243 W. Congress, Suite 550. Call (313) 961-4330. She also has a Web site - stabenow.senate.gov.



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Co-signing for a loan could have serious consequences

tions where a little knowledge can cause lots of trouble. Your nephew is correct. The bank's options against him are limited. However, if he



Rick Bloom

bankruptcy (because he is the primary signature on the loan), he is incorrect.

If there is a default on the loan and your nephew files for bankruptcy, the bank does not have to go through bankruptcy proceedings against your nephew. It can go after you for the full amount of the loan.

In the majority of loan documents, there is nothing that requires the bank upon default to go after the primary debtor. The bank can seek to collect the debt directly from you. If that happens, you have a claim against your nephew. However, if he has filed for bankruptcy, you are still subject to the bankruptcy court's jurisdiction.

Before co-signing on a debt, vou need to understand your responsibilities to the lender, which are typically outlined in the loan document. You will realize that those loan documents are drafted by the bank for the benefit of the bank. It is also important to recognize that there is a reason why the bank wants a co-signer. The individual who is borrowing the money, in the bank's view, may not have the financial wherewithal to repay the debt. It gives the bank additional security that the debt will be repaid.

I don't recommend people co-sign for a loan. However, I do recognize that the reason people do co-sign for loans is to either help a family member or a friend in need. Obviously, we shouldn't make every decision based upon dollars and cents. But before you co-sign, consider the consequences of the default before signing on the dotted line.

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



Schoolcraft men's basketball adds recruits B2



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

Canton's Schmitt seizes Summer Games slot

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER**

Canton High's Allison Schmitt has punched her ticket to the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

The 18-year-old swimmer secured her spot on the U.S. squad Wednesday night by finishing runner-up in the 200meter freestyle, touched out by only 0.04 seconds by Katie Hoff, who captured her third and fourth events of the U.S. Olympic Trials meet being held in Omaha, Neb.

Hoff, a 19-year-old from Towson, Md. representing the North Baltimore Aquatic Club,



Schmitt own mark of 1:56.08 set

back in February in Columbia, Mo.

Hoff built a lead over the first 100 meters, but Schmitt closed the gap dramatically following the turn on the final lap.

"I think it took a lot of heart, it could have gone either way," said Hoff afterwards in a USA



Representing Club Wolverine, Schmitt was clocked in 1:55.92, just 4-10ths off Australian Laure Manudou's World Record time of 1:55.52, set in March of 2007 in Melbourne. Schmitt shaved exactly two seconds off her semifinal heat clocking of 1:57.92 and was seeded second going into the finals.

"Tonight I was just racing, get to the wall first and go as hard as I possibly could," Schmitt said. "I was racing

Katie side-by-side. I saw her the last 15 meters. I put my head down and reached for the wall.

"I just went into the race thinking I can't control what others do, it's just how I place and finish. There's nothing I could do other than work as hard as I could and I went in with the attitude that I'm excited to be here."

Schmitt, who will also be ticketed to swim a leg of the women's 4 x 200-meter freestyle relay in Beijing, got a congratulatory hug afterwards from her parents, Ralph and Gail, who were in attendance with her two aunts, an uncle,

and family friends. "We went out dinner, came

back to the hotel and now I have to get ready for my heat tomorrow (11:30 a.m. Thursday) in the 100 (freestyle)," said Schmitt, who went 55.87 (26th overall) and will also compete Saturday in a 50 freestyle prelim heat.

On Monday, the University of Georgia-bound Schmitt was seeded second going into the finals of the 400 freestyle and finished third behind Hoff (4:02.32) and 20-year-old Kate Ziegler (4:03.92) of Great Falls, ٠Va.

Please see SCHMITT, B6



, a 1981 Livonia Bentley High grad, shows his form in free-nistol shooting John Zurek

USA SHOOTING PHOTO





The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Sunday, July 6, 2008



GC All-Star softball

Division 1 state champion Garden City will have three representatives in the Michigan High School Softball Coaches Association All-State game Saturday, July 19 at Holt H.S. (starting times will be announced at a later date).

Coach Barry Patterson, who guided the Cougars to a 32-6 record, will be joined by two of his players, pitcher Hallie Minch and Kristina Susalla.

Patterson, now in his 22nd season, surpassed the 500-victory plateau.

Minch, headed to Madonna University, went 28-3 with an 0.76 earned run average and hit .440, while Susalla, the senior class valedictorian, batted .419 and is headed to Wayne State as a walk-on.

Boxing benefit

Westland's Dynamic Boxing Club will stage its first annual Bowling for Boxers benefit starting at 7 p.m. Friday, July 11 at Garden Lanes, located at 29145 Warren Road, Garden City.

The cost for the

Redford runner Macks qualifies for AAU Juniors

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER**

Redford's Daniel Macks started running at age 4 and quickly got the nickname "Bugaloo" from his coach Greg Dukes of the Motor City Track Club.

Five years later, 9-year-old "Bugaloo" is still going strong, advancing to the 2008 AAU Junior Olympic Games, which will held throughout the Detroit area beginning next month.

Macks, who is home-schooled, captured a highly-contested subbantam division 800-meter race Saturday at Southfield High School for his second state AAU title.

Macks won in a photo finish with a time of 2:52.84, nipping second-place finisher and last year's state champion Cameron Cooper of Detroit, who was clocked in 2:53.09. It was the first time Macks beat his nemesis and it ancees nim a spor to compete in the AAU Junior Olympic Games track and field competition, which is scheduled to start Monday, July 28 at Eastern Michigan University's Olds-Marshall Track.





Daniel Macks, 9, of Redford will be competing in the 2008 AAU Junior Olympic Games.

Gave it his best shot '81 Livonia Bentley grad Zurek just misses Olympic berth

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER**

Most Olympians are well past their prime by the time they turn 40.

For 44-year-old free pistol shooter John Zurek, Jr., he now believes he has enough ammunition to continue pursuing his dream well into his 60s.

Zurek, a Livonia native now residing in Chandler, Ariz., agonizingly finished one place away from pulling off an upset to earn a spot on the U.S. Olympic team, which is headed to Beijing next month for the 2008 Summer Games.

Jason Turner (Rochester, N.Y.) and Saginaw's Daryl Szarenski, both twotime Olympians, garnered the two available berths with the 1981 Bentley High grad narrowly behind in third place.

Szarenski, who won by a razor-thin margin, is in the marksmanship unit and stationed in Fort Benning, Ga., which hosted the U.S. Olympic Trials in mid-May.

The three-day Trials featured a total of 200 shots, 50 meters away while competitors aim for a target the size of a silver dollar.



John Zurek, formerly of Livonia, just missed out making the U.S. Olympic squad in free pistol. He currently resides in Chandler, Ariz.

In the 10-shot finals, Zurek scored a 7.8 on his ninth attempt, while Szarenski overhauled him with a 10.7 on his final shot. Shooters at the Trials are not notified about their final standing

until the event is completed.

The 6-foot-2 Zurek, who works as a contractor, turned in a performance which surprised many. He was eighth in air pistol at the 2004 Olympic Trials and took 11th in the same event during the Trials last March in Colorado Springs.

"It still hurts a month later that I was only 1.4 points and one shot away from going to the Olympics," said Zurek, who trains at the Phoenix Rod and Gun Club. "It came down to the last two shots. It was a good match and Daryl (Szarenski) had to work for it.'

Zurek's competitive gun odyssey began at age 16 when his mother Bernice, now residing in Evart, bought him marksmanship junior rifle for his 16th birthday. He took an introductory class in smallbore rifle at the Livonia Sportsman's Club, which was housed inside Eddie Edgar Arena.

"I did really well, we shot from the full-prone position," Zurek recalled. "I worked my way up the levels and I kept going back."

Please see ZUREK, B6

und-raiser for youth boxers is \$25 (includes three games of bowling and shoes).

There will be a raffle for prizes and a 50-50 drawing for cash. Spots are limited. To reserve a spot, call Paul Soucy at (734) 422-3277.

Wolter sweeps

Plymouth's Kyle James Wolter was the Boys 9-10 age-group winner last week at a pair of Meijer Junior Players Tour events.

On Tuesday, Wolter carded a nine-hole round of 42 to edge Canton's James Piot by a stroke at Tanglewood Country Club.

In the Girls 13-14 age division, Kelsey Murphy of Plymouth took first with an 18hole round of 91. Meanwhile,

Plymouth's Brandon Duprey tied for runner-up honors in the Boys 13-14 with an 18hole round of 80. On Monday, Wolter

shot a 43 to win the Meijer Tour stop at Edgewood Country Club.



LOCAL SPORTS

B2

(*)

www.hometownlife.com

Schoolcraft basketball coach Henry adds quintet of recruits

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER**

After suffering through at 3-24 inaugural season as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball coach, Randy Henry believes defense will be the key entering the 2008-09 campaign.

'We're trying to get better on the defensive end." Henry said. "We have to have more of a defensive presence."

Henry has four holdovers from last year's squad - son Eric Henry, Ryan Matthews, Greg Leavell and Larry Wilson (Livonia Churchill) - and has been busy this summer coaching in the St. Cecelia League and wrapping up his recruiting efforts.

After signing second-team All-Observer pick Stefan Marken, a 6-foot-4 swingman from Westland John Glenn earlier this spring, Henry has been able to secure five more commitments.

The Ocelots will have more of a inside presence with the addition of 6-8, 250-pound Bruce Watson of Detroit Southwestern along with 6-6 Corey Hughes, who played at Detroit Rogers two years ago and graduated from Detroit Frederick Douglass.

"Hodges is a tremendous rebounder, a guy who is going to get you 12 every night and he'll try to play defense," Henry said.

"Watson has a soft touch around the basket and has good footwork. It's a matter of him get-

ting into shape." Damon Butler, a 6-4 small forward from Public School League champion Detroit Northwestern, is also in the fold along with 6-foot point-guard Kraig Amerson of Oak Park Academy and 6-3 guard Will Dargent of Douglass.

"Damon is really strong, he brings toughness," Henry said. "He held Paul Willians (All-Stater) from Renaissance to 14 points in the City Championship game. Amerson needs to get stronger, but he has quickness and good leadership qualities. He'll run the offense.

"Dargent is a combo-type of guard who will also guard you. This summer we've been running threeguard front and those three guys are relentless. They'll play the whole 94 feet of the court."

Henry said he plans to add one or two more scholarship players before the summer ends.

Meanwhile, he has been impressed this summer with Marken's play.

The Glenn swingman averaged 14 points, while shooting 40 percent from three-point range, to go along with eight rebounds per game for the 19-3 Rockets.

"He's just not a three-point shooter, he'll guard you and go into traffic to snag rebounds," the Schoolcraft coach said. "He's going to be in that starting lineup.'

bemons@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2123



Bowler Jones lauded

Livonian Pam Jones (right) was recently presented the Meritorius Service Award by the Metro Detroit U.S. Bowling Congress. Jones was recognized for her efforts as the varsity boys and girls bowling coach at Clarenceville High School, running and organizing youth leagues, along with her work for charitable causes including raising funds to find a cure for breast cancer. Earlier this season, Jones bowled her fifth career 300 game while subbing in a league for her friend Kathy Lay, who was diagnosed with breast cancer. Jones will be walking 60 miles, both in Cleveland in August and September in Michigan, in a three-day breast cancer awareness walk. Jones, general manager at Country Lanes in Farmington, was presented the award by Mark Martin (left), secretary of the Metro Detroit USBC. "Pam is a fine example of the type of people who are involved in our sport of bowling," Martin said.

Salem wrestling camp

The Salem wrestling program will be hosting a summer camp for all experience levels Monday through Thursday, July 14-18, at the high school.

For more information, visit www.wrestling.salemrocks.com.

Salem football camp

Kids between the ages of 7 and 13 are invited to attend the annual Salem Youth Football Instructional Camp, which will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 12 at the high school.

The camp is open to all Plymouth and Canton residents, regardless of where they will be attending high school.

Individuals who register prior to July 7 are required to pay just \$10. Registration at the camp will cost \$20.

The camp will be held at the PCEP varsity turf field. Players are encouraged to where football cleats (rubber spikes) and gym shorts with no helmets.

For more information, visit www.football.salemrocks.com.

Franklin boys basketball

The Livonia Franklin boys basketball camp for grades 4-9 (fall of 2008) will be from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., Monday through Thursday, July 21-24, at the high school.

Included in the \$65 registration fee is a camp T-shirt and red, white and blue basketball. The camp also features contests, awards, skills and games.

For more information, e-mail franklinbball@gmail.com; or to obtain a printable brochure for mail-in registration, visit franklinbasketball.googlepages.com. (Walk-ups also welcome for \$75).

Sports development

Redford Parks & Recreation is presenting a one-week camp, Monday through Friday, Aug. 11-15, for youngsters ages 3-7, to help teach them basic motor skills necessary to play organized sports while working one-on-one with their parents.

Skills include throwing, kicking, catching and batting.

The program fee is \$25, and

concludes.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS/CLINICS

Pearson is located on Beech Daly between Eight Mile and Grand River. For more information, call (313)

387-2650n.

Future Stars wrestling

The Livonia Franklin Future Stars wrestling clinic for those entering grades 1-9 will be from 5-7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, July 22-23, in the mat room (second floor of the fieldhouse).

No experience is necessary. Basic to advanced moves will be covered. Groups will be based on age, weight and level of experience.

The cost is \$35 (includes T-shirt if registered by July 8). Walk-up registrations will be accepted.

For more information, call Franklin wrestling coach Dave Chiola at (248) 752-2340; or email chiola44@yahoo.com.

MU women's camps

The Madonna University women's basketball coach Carl Graves will stage a series of summer camps including: super outh (gra

jabraham@madonna.edu. Hoop Stars camps

Hoops Stars Basketball Camp will stage two sessions for boys and girls ages 7-15 including:

9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, Aug. 4-8, both at the Bailey Recreation Center in Westland (cost \$110 per session or \$200 for both); also from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, Aug. 11-15, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center (cost \$125 LCRC pass holders; \$150, resident; \$175, non-resident).

For more information, call the Bailey Recreation Center at (734) 722-7620; or the Livonia Parks and Recreation at (734) 466-2410. You can also call Ron Levin.

camp director, at (248) 496-3268; or visit www.hoopstars-basketball.com.

Churchill camps

Livonia Churchill High School is offering a series of 2008 summer camps including:

Boys football (grades 3-8) - 6-8 p.m., Monday through av Inly?

Glenn football camp

The Westland Senior High football camps for any student entering grades 9-12 for the 2008-09 school year will be from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Monday, July 7; Wednesday, July 9; and Monday through Friday, July 21-23, at John Glenn High School.

For camp fees and registration information, call camp director Tim Hardin at (734) 419-2329.

RU Wing-T football camp

Redford Union is hosting the Panther Wing T-camp for football players entering high school this fall from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, July 29, through Friday, Aug. 1.

For more information, call Miles Tomasaitis at (313) 575-4753.

HIGHVELOCII

SUMMER CAMPS

Full-Day Camp: (9am-4pm)

ardian parti uent/g is required. Classes will be at Pearson Education Center, located on Beech Daly between Eight Mile and Grand River.

For more information, call (313) 387-2650.

Pre-beginner soccer

Kids ages 3-7 with little or no previous experience playing soccer are invited to take part in the oneweek camp, slated to take place 12:30-1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 14-18, at Pearson Education Center.

The camp fee is \$25 per participant.

The Redford Parks & Recreation Department staff will teach fundamentals of the sport. Parents are required to attend in order to reinforce proper techniques and skills after the camp

Monday through Friday, July 14-18; guards-n-bigs (grades 7-12), July 21-25.

Cost ranges from \$50 to \$160. For more information, call Sandi Wade at (734) 432-5606; or e-mail cgraves@madonna.edu. You can also visit www.madonnacrusaders.com.

Madonna hoops camp

Madonna University men's basketball coach Chuck Henry has announced the 2008 All-Star Basketball Camp for boys ages 8-15 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, July 28 - Aug. 1, at MU.

Among instructors is camp founder Bernie Holowicki.

The cost is \$175, with checks pavable to All-Star Basketball Camp, 42183 Woodcreek Lane, Canton, 48188.

Call (734) 398-5975, (734) 432-5591 or e-mail to nemenhiser@ madonna.edu.

MU volleyball camps

Madonna University will offer a defensive specialty camp, Monday through Thursday, July 7-10.

For more information or to secure a spot, call (734) 432-5612 or (734) 254-0698. You can also email MU coach Jerry Abraham at



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Boys football (grades 9-12) -9 a.m.-noon, Monday through

Thursday, July 28-31 (cost \$60); Hockey skills (grades 9-12) - 9-10:30 a.m., Monday through Friday, July 21-25 and 7-8:30 p.m., July 28 - Aug. 1, at Eddie Edgar Arena (two-week cost \$182; includes T-shirt). Enrollment limited to 45 skaters and five goalies.

For more information, call Livonia Community Services at (734) 744-2602.

Suspeck Memorial Camp

The 13th annual Jeff Suspeck Memorial Foundation free basketball camp, open to boys and girls ages 9-14, will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 19 at Schoolcraft College, located at 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia (between Six and Seven Mile roads).

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and lunch will be provided from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., courtesy of White Castle Systems, Inc.

The camp is in memory of the former Dearborn Divine Child High standout and Orchard Lake St. Mary's College career scoring leader who passed away in 1994 at age 24.

Call (248) 363-7151 (between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.); or to obtain registration material, e-mail jsuspeckcamp@hotmail.com.

Schoolcraft camps

Schoolcraft College will offer a series of summer sports camps including: ■ Boys and girls soccer: 9

a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday, July 7-10; 14-17, 21-24; 28-31.

■ Boys basketball: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday, July 14-17.

Girls basketball: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday, July 21-24. Girl volleyball (all-skills): 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through

Thursday, July 7-10 and 28-31. Each camp session is \$175 (includes T-shirt). Optional swim-

ming will be from noon to 12:50 p.m. Call the Schoolcraft Athletic

Department at (734) 462-4804, Ext. 3; or e-mail athletic director Sid Fox at sfox@schoolcraft.edu.

Baseball signee

A.J. Kaseta, a center fielder from Dominion Christian High School in Marietta, Ga., recently signed an NAIA letter-of-intent to play baseball at Tennessee Temple University in Chattanoga where the Crusaders are coming off a 16-32 season under coach Gus Hernadez. The 6-foot-3, 175-pound Kaseta, who resides in Acworth, Ga., was captain his senior year for the 21-7 league champions, batting .369 with one homer, seven doubles, 31 RBI, 22 runs scored and 14 stolen bases. His father Tony, the all-time pitching wins leader at the University of Detroit, and mother Kim, are both graduates of Livonia Franklin High School. He is the grandson of Wanda Kaseta of Livonia and Martha Scarpace of Westland.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

WYAA football signup

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

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

The cost is \$175-\$195. Nonresidents are welcome at no extra fee.

You must provide a current photo and new players must have a copy of their birth certificate. The age cut-off is Sept. 1 of the current year and there are weight restrictions for each age level.

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

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

PC Pride needs coaches

The PC Pride girls fastpitch softball organization is accepting coaching applications for the 2008-09 season. Applications, due Aug. 1, can be downloaded on the Pride

Web site at www.eteamz.com/ pepride. The Pride offers three levels of play for 10-, 12-, 14-, 16- and 18-and-under divisions for Western Wayne County, **Community Travel and Premier** travel leagues.

For more information, call Rick Hayes at (734) 367-2557.

WYAA cheerleading

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

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

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

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

You can also call the WYAA's Lange Compound during regular business hours at (734) 421-0640 or visit www.wyaa.org to inquire about the 2008 cheer for free program.

Week of 7/7 & 7/21

BUY ONE CAMP, GET ONE 50% OFF! Offer includes siblings and multiple weeks of camp. Discount applies to an equal or lessor camp. No discounts apply to Lindsey Hunter camp.

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Paralyzed weight lifter turns tragedy into worthy triumph

BY DAN O'MEARA **O&E STAFF WRITER**

John McKinney is today a champion athlete.

That's something he never thought he would be four years ago when tragedy struck and changed his life.

The 33-year-old Farmington Hills man had played football in his youth and was an avid athlete until he was paralyzed by a stray bullet.

Through the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan, he found he could still compete in sports and has become a champion weight lifter.

McKinney won a gold medal in the bench press at the Michigan Wheelchair Games in May, and he finished third in the national competition last month in Edmond, Okla. After some reluctancy, McKinney became a member of RIM's SportsAbility Team for athletes with disabilities in 2007.

As part of his rehabilitation, McKinney was required to do weight training, something he had weren't far from you. We turned to done as a football player at Detroit

Cody High School and later Graceland College in Iowa. But competitive lifting didn't

interest him at first, and it was

ing to be a wheelchair athlete.

"It was something I didn't

think I wanted to get involved in," McKinney said. "I always liked

lifting weights. Once I realized it

was OK, it wasn't that bad; it was pretty fun. It's competition; vou

get to compete, and I really took

a liking to it. "I personally believe

that if I had never gotten involved

be a homebody. Wheelchair sports

has definitely changed my life in a

On the day he was injured in

gone to Rouge Park after work

to play basketball when gunfire

see two cars chasing each other

and they're shooting," McKinney

said. "At first, when you see some-

thing like that, you're like 'Wow!'

"The next thing the bullets

take off, and one struck me right

The next thing you know we

positive way."

erupted.

in sports after my injury I would

just last year that he began train-

in the back. A female happened to catch one, too, in the leg? McKinney said the injury

and how it impacted his life was beyond devastating.

"You're getting off work; you're not expecting anything like that," he said. "It's a major blow to your life. You think Tll never be able to do anything again."

McKinney credits his wife, Karla, for pushing him to do more in his rehabilitation and getting involved in competition for disabled athletes. The couple has a 12-year-old daughter, Jakyla.

"(Karla) really promoted it to me, to get into it," McKinney said. 'I would work out but, after that, for the rest of the day, I'd stay 2004, McKinney and a friend had home and sit there.

> "She'd say, You need to keep going and to do something more.' Well, I worked out.' 'No, you need to do more.' Once I did, I was glad that she did (encourage him).'

McKinney, who is paralyzed from the waist down, set a state record with a 350-pound bench press in the Michigan games. He lifted 385 at the national level. At the present time, he com-



TOM HOFFMEYER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

· (CP)

B3

Farmington Hills resident John McKinney trains on the cable press as his friend, Leroy Pearson, stands ready to lend a helping hand if needed during a workout at the Powerhouse Gym in Farmington Hills.

petes only in the one lift. Each athlete gets three lifts and is overseen by a three-judge panel. "First, you take it off the bar

and hold it till the judge tells you to bring it down," McKinney said. "When it touches your chest, you have to hold it steady, to make sure you have control of it. Then, you go straight up with the lift until your arms lock out."

McKinney competed against 30 others at the national meet and nearly twice that many in the state

competition. Before his injury, McKinney said he played a lot of basketball, and he might look into the possibility of adding wheelchair basketball to his activities.

In the meantime, he looks forward to attempting to defend his state title in weight lifting, and he hopes to qualify again next year for the national event.

"The judges said they were really impressed with me," McKinney said. "They said I could probably lift a little more. You really have to

have a technique to judge you on. I was freestyling and working out on my own.

"One of the judges wanted to send me a workout plan. If I started on his plan, he said I would really improve my bench."

McKinney was the 2008 recipient of the RIM's Tim Codd SportsAbility Fund, which provides financial assistance to local athletes with disabilities and made it possible for McKinney to attend the national competition.

Michigan Open is moving venue to Orchard Lake

The Michigan Open golf tournament is coming to the Lakes Area. The 2009 and 2010 events will be played at historic. Orchard Lake Country Club.

Orchard Lake CC played host to the Michigan Open in 1944. That event was won by Sam Byrd, a PGA Tour player who also played professional baseball for the New York Yankees. 'This move will certainly

make it more convenient for a

large number of professionals and amateurs to participate," said Michigan PGA Executive Director Kevin Helm. "The Detroit area provides a greater number of players the opportunity to play more affordably and famous British Architectural to be closer to home and work. "These elements along with

an outstanding golf course should really generate a lot of interest and excitement for the Michigan Open."

Golfers will face an entirely different golf course than what they've tried to conquer on The Bear.

Orchard Lake CC is a classic golf course designed by the firm of Colt and Alison and opened in 1927.

"The players won't find many flat spots that's for sure," said Brian Dice, Head Professional at Orchard Lake CC. "The

course covers rolling terrain and we are continually complimented on having PGA Tour quality greens."

The course will play close to 7,000 yards and Dice said most players will need to play every club in their bag.

One of the state's longest running events, the Michigan Open began in 1916. It's been played at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa, in Acme, for the past

27 years. The tournament has been played on the The Bear, a Jack Nicklaus designed course, since 1985.

An expanded field allowed the use of Grand Traverse Resort and Spa's Wolverine Course, designed by Gary Player, the past two years.

"I've seen the past 20 of the 28 years Grand Traverse Resort and Spa has been host to the Michigan Open, and it has

been a wonderful experience" said Tom McGee, the resort's Director of Golf Operations. We've seen many changes through the years and have watched the Michigan Open grow into what has become a multi-course four-day event. ... I am confident the Michigan Open will continue to be a successful event and we wish the Michigan PGA and all future sites the very best."





good oral health involves removing daily accumulations of plaque, the sticky, bacteria-laden layer of film that coats teeth. This entails not only brushing teeth regularly, but flossing between teeth to get to the places where the toothbrush cannot reach

Under normal circumstances, flossing does an adequate job of scraping away plaque and accumulations of food that collect between teeth. However, patients who have bridge work may find it difficult to get the floss directly into the crevices where it needs to go. The use of floss with a "floss

threader" is usually recommended to clean under bridges. Dentists often recommend that patients with crowns, bridges, and implants use a dentai water jet oral irrigator to effectively clean hard-to-reach areas with a concentrated stream of water,

Carefully performed home oral hyglene can be the deciding factor in keeping your mouth and teeth healthy. We'll be happy to demonstrate good brushing and flossing techniques as well as inform you about products that we know wlli help you maintain a healthy smile between routine dentai checkups.

For an appointment for family dental care, please call us at 734-453-9413. Our full service dental office is conveniently located at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth.

P.S. Dental water jet oral irrigators stimulate the gums and make them less likely to bleed and become inflamed. OE0861068

Michigan Eye Doctor Helps Legally Blind

says Dr. Smith. "That's

how powerful and

convenient they are.

reading glasses and

Telescopic glasses

primarily focus on

Special prismatic

microscopes help make

distance objects like TV,

scenery. Telescopes can

computers. "Telescopes

requirement" Dr. Smith

Michigan is one of 46

states that allow bioptic

Mr. Leo Hakola, age 85

Macular degeneration,

double vision were causing

prescribed a complete low

included telescopic glasses

of Livonia, Michigan saw

telescopic glasses for

Dr. Smith last May.

cataract, stroke and

reading and driving

problems. Dr. Smith

vision system which

for driving and special

reading. The entire cost

was \$2789. Leo said "the

telescopic driving glasses

really help me see traffic

reading is much easier and

special reading glasses. I

am glad I found you, Dr.

spectacle vision aids, Dr.

Smith offers training to

help people accomplish

rehabilitative training

Visual aids help patients

use their remaining vision

to its fullest capacity while

their daily activities.

lights and street signs

down the block. And

single now with these

In addition to the

prismatic glasses for

the driver vision

explained.

driving.

also be adapted to closer

tasks like playing cards or

can even help people meet

passing neighbors or

reading a little easier.

Dr. Sheldon Smith fits use during operations," special glasses to help those with macular degeneration and other eve conditions keep reading and driving.

By Elena Lombardi

Most of us take things like reading, watching TV or playing cards for granted. But poor vision from conditions like macular degeneration. glaucoma, diabetes or cataracts makes these tasks difficult or even impossible. When people have insufficient vision to do the things they want to do, they have low vision.

Today Michigan Optometrist Dr. Sheldon Smith has the answers many of these people have been seeking. Dr. Smith, a Low Vision Specialist, helps people with these types of eye diseases see better. A Fellow of the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists, Dr. Smith is one of a select group of doctors serving the visually impaired.

"People don't know there are experienced doctors who can help them with specialized low vision care," says Dr. Smith. "Many people are told by their own doctors that nothing more can be done for their eye condition, but there are ways to improve vision" says Dr. Smith. "We fit special devices to help patients meet their various visual goals."

Patients often end up using weak, clumsy handheld magnifiers trying to help themselves see better. Conversely, Dr. Smith prescribes hands-free devices that are easier to use. "We use the same telescopic devices surgeons improves the patient's

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Smith."



Leo Hakola wearing telescopic driving glasses

ability to carry out necessary independent activities. And of course safeguarding present vision levels is crucial. Sun filters and nutritional supplements can improve vision and prevent further loss.

"Each patient has a unique amount of vision and their own goals," says Dr. Smith. "I am committed to helping patients do what matters most to them and improving their quality of life."

Special reading glasses start at \$600 and custom telescopes can cost from \$1800 to \$2,500.

If you or someone you know is struggling with their vision, call Dr. Smith to find out how low vision care can help. There is help available. You just need to know where to find it.

You can reach Dr. Smith and Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at

1-877-677-2020. Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, Warren, Shelby Township and the Lansing area.

Visit Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at suburbaneyecare.com or find out more about the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists at ialvs.com.



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Cutting edge The latest advances in treating heart disease

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN O&E STAFF WRITER

While most people dread cleaning, Josephine Herndon loves being able to do her housework again. Until recently the 77-yearold Rochester Hills woman was too fatigued to vacuum. Earlier this year doctors diagnosed Herndon with mitral valve prolapse or a leaky heart valve. Afraid to undergo open heart surgery, Herndon opted instead to be the first patient in Michigan to receive a MitraClip as part of a study. The latest advances in treating heart disease are restoring patients' quality of life.

Herndon went into Beaumont Hospital on Wednesday and was home by Friday.

"It just scared me to death because I'd always been told I had a great heart," said Herndon, who retired in 1994 after 40 years at Chrysler. "It was a hard decision to make but the other procedure is open heart surgery which I probably would have had if they didn't have the clip."

Dr. George Hanzel hopes to eventually have 15 patients volunteer for EVEREST II which compares MitraClip to traditional surgery to repair leaky valves. EVEREST I found the device safe and feasible. EVEREST II is for mitral valve prolapse patients with severe leakiness or regurgitation which causes blood to flow back into the heart. For more information, call (248) 898-5589.

"One of the key issues is this going to be durable," said Hanzel. Beaumont's director of valvular and congenital heart disease and principal investigator for the study. The gold standard is surgery for regurgitation. Older patients have a higher risk for surgery. The hope is with the clip to have a safer procedure and a quicker recovery. Typically surgery patients are in the hospital five to seven days and it's four to six weeks before they're back to activity. With the clip they're out in one to two days and back to full recovery in five to seven days." Hanzel says researchers like himself continue to study new technology with the goal of developing less invasive treatments. In addition to EVEREST II, he's involved with a study looking at closing holes in the heart to prevent migraines. Another study will determine if closing holes in the heart can prevent strokes. "My hope is we're able to continue to do cutting edge research in structural heart disease," said Hanzel, a cardiologist who lives in Birmingham. "It's a new field of cardiology looking to fix valves and holes and other structural defects minimally invasively." It won't be long before John



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Josephine Herndon received a minimally invasive procedure instead of open heart surgery on April 30, and is already able to tend the plants around her Rochester Hills condominium



he's feeling pretty good and anxious to get back to his old schedule including walking nearly two miles a day.

"The problem in his case if we'd used a shorter stent one end of the stent would have been placed in the middle of a plaque. There's some evidence from pathology and autopsy studies that may be disadvantageous because stents don't heal as well when placed in a vulnerable plaque," said Dixon, director of the cardiac catherization labs and co-director of cardiovascular research at Beaumont Hospital, and a Birmingham resident. "Some of the plaques are stable. Some are lipid or cholesterol rich and more likely to rupture and cause heart attacks and sudden death. There are enormous efforts under way to best both identify and treat vulnerable plaques with the hope of reducing sudden death. There have been dramatic advancements for many years in cardiology and some therapies have been shown to improve survival for heart patients. Sudden death still remains a problem each year in the U.S." For more information about LipiScan, visit www.beaumonthospitals.com or call (248) 898-4163.

Take some precautions to minimize mosquito bites

The Oakland County Health Division is urging individuals to take ings. common-sense precautions to minimize mosquito exposure and protect themselves from West Nile Virus and other mosquito-borne diseases especially during outdoor events such as picnics, concerts and fairs.

The best way to reduce the risk of getting West Nile Virus is to prevent mosquitoes from biting you.

Spray clothing and exposed skin with insect repellent. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention recommends using insect repellents containing active ingredients registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Two products that borne virus that can cause inflamhave shown a high degree of effectiveness are DEET and Picaridin. Always follow manufacturer's directions carefully, especially when using people who are infected with the on children.

Minimize activities where mosquitoes are present such as shaded areas.

Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants outdoors.

Maintain window and door screen- develop.

ing to keep mosquitoes out of build-

Eliminate standing water in your yard. Mosquitoes thrive in stagnant water.

Empty water from mosquito breeding sites such as flower pots, pet bowls, clogged rain gutters, swimming pool covers, discarded tires, buckets, barrels, cans and similar items in which mosquitoes can lay eggs.

Report dead birds to Oakland County Health Division's Environmental Health Services Unit at (877) 377-3641.

West Nile Virus is a mosquitomation and swelling of the brain.

Mosquitoes are infected by biting a bird that carries the virus. Most virus have either no symptoms or experience mild illness such as fever, headache and body aches.

In some individuals, particularly the elderly, a much more serious disease affecting brain tissue can

Educational seminar to focus on natural hormone replacement

Yearly checkups and blood tests are a first step to good health. The detection and treatment of conditions such as high cholesterol has become common, but the use of specific tests to diagnose potential underlying causes has not. As a result, the best course of treatment may be overlooked.

"Conditions such as high cholesterol, diminished energy levels, depression and even infertility can sometimes actually be the result of thyroid hormone imbalance," said Dr. Sultana Mustafa of the Fibromyalgia and Fatigue Centers. "Thyroid hormone is a key regulatory hormone for temperature control, metabolism and neurological function. Many patients may have a thyroid gland that is not functioning properly, yet blood work completed by a primary care physician shows nothing out of the ordinary." These misleading results are sometimes due to an actual error at the lab, but more likely are due to a lack of performing the proper additional tests to check for thyroid conditions. "Numerous tests need to be performed since many times even if the hormone levels are normal there are other inhibitors of thyroid hormone that are not usually checked," said Mustafa. There are several symptoms of low thyroid including cold intolerance, worsening pain in colder weather, increased cholesterol levels, diminished energy levels, depression, poor hair growth, menstrual abnormalities including infertility, diminished metabolism with weight gain, and swelling in the ankles/feet.

THYROID SEMINAR

What: Dr. Sultana Mustafa will educate people on potential causes of common ailments and effective treatments When: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 15 Where: Fibromyalgia & Fatigue Center of Detroit, 5877 Livernois, Suite 105, Trov Information: Free and open to the public. Call (866) 443-4276 or visit www.fibroandfatique.com

human body produces a wide variety of hormones or natural chemicals produced by various glands,

These chemicals must exist in

Josephine Herndon, 77, received a Mitraclip instead of undergoing open heart surgery for a leaky valve and is back doing her own housework.

Mifsud is back to swimming and doing aerobics at a local health club a couple of times a week. On May 8, the 70-yearold Garden City man received the first InfraReDx LipiScan, a laser imaging device that determines the composition of plaque deposits on artery walls. Mifsud's coronary artery was 80 percent blocked. As a result of findings of the LipiScan imaging system, Beaumont Hospital cardiologist Dr. Simon Dixon was able to use a longer stent to prevent future problems. Last week Mifsud said

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An improperly functioning thyroid is not the only potential cause of health problems. Throughout life, the p.m. Tuesday, July 15.

quate and balanced amounts for the body to maintain proper health and normal functioning.

Most men and women are aware that hormone levels drop as they age. For women, it is particularly reproductive hormones, such as estrogen and progesterone, during the menopausal or perimenopausal stage of life. In men, smaller amounts of hormones, particularly testosterone, are produced as they enter the midlife. When levels are extremely low, symptoms can be severe and cause serious health problems. Patients can successfully reverse hormone deficiencies with natural hormone replacements many times allowing them to forgo additionally prescribed medicines. Even when a low thyroid condition is established, it is essential for the correct hormone to be given.

Mustafa is hoping to educate more people on potential causes of common ailments and the most effective treatments at the Fibromyalgia & Fatigue Center of Detroit's free monthly seminars.

The next one takes place 6:30-8:30

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Sept. 5. Volunteers are needed for a variety of activities including responsibilities in the Emergency Center, surgical lounge, pediatric department, gift shop, and visitor services as well as duties in the areas of spiritual care, transporter, clerical, patient greeter. Must be age 18 and older and able to work a minimum of one, four-hour shift per week. To request a volunteer application packet, call (248) 465-4096 or send e-mail to volunteerservice@stjohn.org.

UPCOMING

Summer camp

The Health Exploration Station at St. Joseph Mercy Health Center in Canton brings back its Amazing Me camp to teach second to fourth grade students about the human body and how to keep it healthy 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 4-8. Cost \$169. For information, call (734) 398-7518.

PGA hospitality experience

To raise money for the National Multiple Scierosis Society's Michigan Chapter, tournament runs Aug. 4-10, at Oakland Hills Country Club. A 3,200 sg. ft. home overlook the 10th and 17th greens, and 11th and 18th tees is available per day. For information, call (800) FIGHT MS #2 or visit www. nationalmssociety.org/mig.

Donor registration/fund-raiser A special organ, tissue and eye donor registration event and fund-raiser for Donate Life Coalition of Michigan is being held at the Tigers vs. Toronto Blue Jays game 7:05 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11. Tickets \$22 with a portion going to Donate Life. Call (248) 770-5172 or (248) 701-2323.

Lupus support meeting

6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, in Adray D at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. For more information, call Lisa Muson at (313) 581-2937.

Active older adults workshop

Learn about issues such as medical considerations, orthopedic concerns and the normal effects of aging on exercise and health 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. To register, call Julie Burt at (734) 394-5460 or online at www. netafit.org.



2-8 p.m. Monday, July 7, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon,

JULY

Red Cross blood drive

Plymouth. Call (734) 455-5395 to make an appointment or just drop in. Divorce support group Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, July 8, attorney Patricia Kasody-Covie will be available to answer questions in a private setting on

a first come first served basis, in room 225 of the McDowell Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443. Alzheimer's support group

The next Alzheimer's Support Group meeting is 5:30 p.m. Thursday, July 10, at Marycrest Manor Nursing Home, 15475 Middlebelt, Livonia. The group meets every second Thursday of each month in the Conference Room. It is open to all persons in need of a support. For more information, call Brenda or Cynthia at (734) 427-9175.

Volunteers needed

For the new Providence Park Hospital in Novi which is scheduled to open

Zurek joined the Marines following high school and served four-and-half years of active duty stationed in Camp Pendleton, Calif. where he continued his shooting. Zurek also gained spot on the Marine pistol team competing at a national level.

"I trained marines in marksmanship training in the secondary unit," Zurek said. "After I got out I wanted to re-enlist at the Quantico (Va.) base, but I suffered a fall rock climbing (in California) and shattered my right wrist.

"Being the team captain I had to shoot with my left hand and I was not there mentally. I had a hard time doing it."

Zurek put his guns down and spent three years in Christian ministry before re-enlisting with the Marine Corps Reserves.

"They said 'come shoot with us in San Diego," Zurek said. "I hadn't shot in three-and-a-half years and it did not affect my wrist. I shot really well."

Zurek competed nationally and internationally for six years (1988-94) before taking a hiatus.

"I really liked the international part," he said. "But then California changed its guns laws and I could not own my Olympic caliber rapid-fire guns. I gave up my dream in 1996."

Zurek found a new life, however, when he moved out of the California to "more gun friendly Arizona" in 2001.

'My dreams went unfulfilled, but I always had a burning desire," said Zurek, who earned a spot on the 2003 USA Shooting Team in air pistol.

Zurek, who works in the construction remodeling business, took time off of work before the 2008 Olympic Trials to train exclusively.

"I have to regulate the work I do before a competition," he said. "No construction for a month. When you run a saw and use a hammer, your hands swell up. I also use swimming as a tool for shooting."

During the three-day Trials in Fort Benning, Zurek went through a roller coaster ride. He tinkered around with a new gun and unfamiliar trigger points, but was able to persevere.

With a new gun my mind was little befuddled," he said. "I was working hard on each shot. When you step to the line you give everything you've got. All that matters is to push hard."

Despite missing an Olympic berth by just over a point, Zurek plans to get started shooting once again after he returns from a summer-long trip to Alaska with his wife Cathy.

"I'm changing my attitude," he said. "I'll start practicing in September and compete in the (Arizona) state championships in October. I want to be more

active. It (shooting) was a low priority, but this year it's higher. I want to compete (internationally) in the Bavarian Air Games in January?

His shooting career his been revitalized by 1980 Olympic team member Steve Reiter, a five-time national champion who serves a valuable mentor.

"He comes down and shoots every month in Phoenix, he's shot free pistol at our club," Zurek said. "He's been able to help me out. We've shot shoulder-to-shoulder and it's really amazing how a champion thinks and how to win a match. It's different when you talk to a champion. He had me believing (at the Trials) that I could walk away winning the whole thing.' And it doesn't hurt as well

that Zurek's wife Cathy is in his corner.

"She's been very supportive and helps me stay focused when I'm down," Zurek said. "She's been fabulous."

Zurek, meanwhile, seems more determined than ever to reach his Olympic dream, which is four years away in London (2012).

"I think I have two more Olympics in me," Zurek said. "I'll continue into the next Games. I'll change my strategy, be more active internationally. Steve Reiter is 65 and he's still going strong. I think I can go until I'm 65.'

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"The race started out at a scorching pace with the leader running the first 200 meters in 36 seconds," said Harold Macks, Daniel's father. "Daniel was dead-last at the 200 running it at 43 seconds. At 400 meters he was still in last place coming around at 1:26, but passed the eight other contestants by the 600-meter mark running 2:09. From 700 meters to the finish line was a dead heat with Daniel and Cameron pulling ahead in the final meters.

"Both my wife and I couldn't tell who run. He was locked in to 43-second splits and he ran the perfect race. He had never beaten him before."

Daniel Macks just finished his baseball season with the Rangers in the Redford-American Little League. He also plays football and basketball.

"It's hard, but I like track the best," said Daniel, who competed last summer in the AAU Junior Olympics in Knoxville, Tenn. "I like to go to the track with different people. The Junior Olympics is fun."

Daniel is following in the footsteps of his older brother Josh, who will be an eighthgrader this fall at Southfield Christian. Josh, who now concentrates on football, was a state bantam champion in the 800 and 1,500 and competed in the 2004 AAU Junior Olympics held in Des Moines, Ia.

Daniel Macks normally trains five days per week under the guidance of his father.

"Two days we'll do cardio, speed work doing stuff like 1,000-meter repeats," said Harold, who played football and coached at Royal Oak Shrine before moving over to Southfield Christian two years ago. "The third day is an easy day, usually a couple of miles at his own pace. We take one or two days off a week, but he normally trains five

> early from high school in January, has been training

with Bob Bowman's high per-

formance group in Ann Arbor.

Bowman, who coaches U.S.

men's star Michael Phelps,

recently left Club Wolverine

and returned to his original

Schmitt credits her training

and the support from her Club

Wolverine teammates, such as

Katie Carroll, a 2007 graduate

of Notre Dame and a native of

Toledo, Ohio who reached the

semifinals of the 200 freestyle

"It (the training) has been

very intense and the people I

train with all have the same

and placed 15th overall in

1:59.85.

club in North Baltimore.

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days per week.'

Daniel Macks has modest goals when he hits the track at EMU for the AAU Junior Olympics.

"I'd like to come in the top 50," he said.

Area venues host

Competition for the 2008 AAU Junior Olympic Games in Detroit get underway Thursday, July 24 with boys basketball competition hosted by Lutheran High Westland and next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran. Action continues through Monday, July 28 with the finals.

Football will also be on the docket Friday through Sunday, July 25-27, at the Livonia Junior Athletic League's Bentley Field adjacent to the Livonia Community Recreation Center.

Baseball will also be featured July 26-Aug. 2 at Redford's Capitol Park. Other sites for baseball include Henry Ford Community College, Lincoln Park, Saline, Chelsea, Flat Rock and EMU's Oestrike Stadium.

The Rock Financial Showplace in Novi will host cheerleading (July 27-28); gymnastics (July 24-26); jump rope (July 30-Aug. 2); karate (July 26-27); powerlifting (July 26-27); table tennis (July 24-26); TaeKwonDo (Aug. 1-2); trampoline and tumbling (July 30-Aug. 2); weight lifting (July 26-28); and wrestling (July 28 - Aug. 1).

Also scheduled is baton twirling, July 29 - Aug. 1 at Novi Middle School; dance, July 28-30, at Allen Park Center for the Arts; field hockey, July 30-Aug. 2, Ann Arbor Huron H.S.; girls basketball, July 25-31 at Lake Orion H.S., Scripps M.S. and C.E.R.C; multi-events, July 26-27, at EMU; swimming, July 29 - Aug. 1 at EMU's Jones Natatorium.

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common goal," Schmitt said. "There's eight of us. We push each other and all go through the same pain."

With her Olympic spot now secured, Schmitt can now relax. She has been placed in the same 50 freestyle heat with Hoff and 41-year-old Dara Torres, who has been to four Olympics winning nine medals including four gold.

"I'm not really expecting anything, just be competitive and do my best," said Schmitt, who is seeded 15th in the 100 freestyle and 47th in the 50 freestyle.

「小学生」の「「「「「「「」」」

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U-37 BEAGON HYDRO PLAN BOAT ON DISPLAY JULY 9TH AT

FROM PAGE B1

Ziegler knocked three seconds off her semifinal time to beat out Schmitt for the Olympic berth.

"I put it behind me because Katie Hoff and Kate Ziegler are really good and deserving swimmers, and overall I was really happy with my performance," said Schmitt, who posted a personal best of 4:05.05. "I was just a little bit disappointed to get third, but I knew I would have some more events in the meet."

Schmitt, who graduated

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B6





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Finding 'me' time, and the right school

Why do my kids (and husband) always need me when I am in the bathtub? It's gotten so bad at my house that I haven't had a decent bath in months. Sue, Canton

Why do my kids interrupt me whenever I'm talking to someone?

April, Redford

My daughter always needs to ask me a million questions when she's supposed to be in bed. She calls me to go into her room for an hour before she finally goes to sleep. What's going on with her? Worried, Livonia

The answer to all of these questions is the same: the children want your immediate and undivided attention. Most children, as any parent can attest, are used to being the center of attention and when this attention is removed, or at least put on momentary hold, the child will act to regain their central position in the universe. This action can take the form of interrupted baths, bugging you while you're on the telephone and seeking connection well after bed-time. Usually children will grow out of this need to be the



Chat Room

Terry

Wilamowski

children that never seem to be comfortable relinquishing their central role or the desire for undivided and undiluted parental adoration and concentration. Sometimes these children go on to become great actors or

celebrities ... but more

often than not they simply make it hard for you to get a moment's peace.

To help your children overcome this dependence on your attention you will find it necessary to help them develop a sense of self-efficacy. Simply stated, this is the belief one has regarding him or herself as a successful, independent and capable person. Any parenting in which they learn to rely on themselves and resolve their own issues, with parental guidance available but not imposed unless necessary, will help them develop selfefficacy and rely less on direct and undivided maternal focus and effort. It's a win-win situation for all involved.

Are private schools better than public schools? John, Garden Citv How do you feel about home schooling? Carmen, Redford is a montessori sci school program? Sara, Livonia



Knockturne plays the Music From The Garage series on July 26. The concerts are sponsored by the Livonia Arts Commission.



Only three bands played on each concert last summer. This year five groups take to the stage in Music From The Garage.



Arts commission music series targets youth BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN **O & E STAFF WRITER**

Graham Liddell doesn't care if his band Knockturne is paid for their gigs, he just wants to play for an audience. While practicing in the garage or basement helps hone their sound, they don't receive any feedback except from the amplifiers.

Young up-and-coming bands like Knockturne are always looking for venues to showcase their talent.

When Frank Petersmark's son was looking for somewhere to play three summers ago,



MUSIC FROM THE GARAGE

What: Livonia Arts Commission sponsors a series of concerts featuring local up-and-coming bands When: 7 p.m. Saturdays, July 12 and 26, and Aug. 16 Where: Livonia Civic Center Park, Five Mile and Farmington roads

Admission: Free. For more information, visit www. musicfromthegarage.com and www.myspace.com/ musicfromthegarage

groups playing rock, oldies, bluegrass, classical music, and a Moody Blues tribute. All concerts take place in Livonia's Civic Center Park except for the Livonia Symphony Orchestra concert Aug. 28, at the Livonia Recreation Center. The arts commission gives budding classical musicians of the Livonia Youth Philharmonic the opportunity to play Aug. 14. 'We wanted to broaden the reach to give younger bands and kids, teens from tweens to twenty somethings, something to do and to play, to gather and enjoy music by, in most cases, kids they know in bands," said Petersmark, a Livonia Arts Commissioner

It depends on the child.

Each type of program offers something unique that may benefit the potential student at the same time that they may be unable to provide some other service or quality. For example, a parochial school may offer the opportunity for religious instruction but may not be able to offer an extensive athletic program. A home schooled child may gain from the individual and liberal lesson plans but miss out on the social aspects of a more traditional school experience.

In order to make these kinds of educational decisions, a parent and student need to assess their academic needs and desires

Once this is completed, a search of programs can begin until the most appropriate school can be identified. This process can take a while and may get frustrating, but in the end, you will stand a better chance of locating the program that best suits your goals.

You will find that the key to a positive educational experience is the interaction between student and teacher and environment. Some teachers are too rigid to allow for freedom of self-expression and some are too liberal to provide appropriate guidelines and limits.

Terry Wilamowski is a clinical therapist specializing in the treatment of children, adolescents and their families at Heron Ridge Associates in Plymouth, Questions and comments should be sent to terrywilamowski@yahoo. com.

he decided to create a second series of summer concerts sponsored by the Livonia Arts Commission. Now in its second full year, Music From The Garage takes over the stage in Livonia Civic Center Park on Saturdays July 12 and 26, and Aug. 16, featuring five bands at each show. The good news for bands is they'll receive \$150 each for playing 20 to 30 minutes for an audience that gets in for free.

Music From The Garage is an offshoot of the Livonia Arts Commission series Music from the Heart which begins 7 p.m. Thursday, July 10, with the soul/blues band Union Avenue and continues with established

Please see BANDS, C3

Evening introduces audiences to Shakespeare

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN **O & E STAFF WRITER**

If you know very little about the work of William Shakespeare or wondered how it could remain popular with audiences for four centuries, Geoffrey Kopp has the ticket for you. An Evening of Shakespeare is a quick review of more than a dozen scenes from the dramatist's 38 plays.

The original intent was to produce a Shakespeare Festival with two full length plays that would run in rotating repertory for two weeks but the concept was scaled back when Kopp, the artistic director, realized the magnitude of the project. Instead he and the cast opted to spotlight two evenings of poetic language by the English writer

AN EVENING OF SHAKESPEARE

When: 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 1-2 Where: In the Biltmore Studio at Village Theater of Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill at Ridge, Canton Tickets: \$5. Call (734) 394-5300

Friday-Saturday, Aug. 1-2, in the Biltmore Studio at Village Theater of Cherry Hill in Canton. On Monday evening they were well on their way to memorizing their lines as Kopp directed them in technique.

The actors will be dressed in black and will add a hat or coat. It's going to be simply done so the focus is on the language," said Kopp who serves as the narrator in addition

Please see SHAKESPEARE, C4



Richard Holland (left), Rick Eva III, Geoffrey Kopp, Susan DeStefanis, Mark Henke, and Lisa Brawley stand outside the stage door at the Village Theater of Cherry Hill in Canton.



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Bowling for dollars

Fund-raiser benefits breast cancer 3-Day Walk

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Melissa Compton doesn't care if she has to sell pink rubber duckies or light-up lapel ribbons of the same color. The Canton woman is determined to raise enough money so her team can participate in the 3-Day Walk to fund breast cancer research through the Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Although the event isn't until late September, she and the other four members of Team Believers need to raise \$2,200 each.

On Saturday, July 12, they're inviting family, friends and the public to a bowling benefit at Merri-Bowl Lanes in Livonia. In addition to the \$20 ticket, everyone can help by purchasing raffle tickets for a chance to win baskets of goodies and gift certificates, or bid on silent auction items including a dining set donated by Chris Furniture in Livonia. For those unable to make the benefit, Compton asks they make a donation by visiting www.the3day.org and clicking on Team Believers.

"We're all very passionate about this," said Compton of Canton. "I have family members who are survivors. I wanted to do it when my daughter was born, but always found out about it too late. This year I heard about it early enough. In the past I worked at my children's preschool fund-raisers. My dad is Sen. Glenn Anderson (D-Westland) so I have a lot of phone experience and working with people.

"It's very important to all of us because every single one of us has been touched by breast cancer or cancer and would like for there to be a cure

Publish: June 29, 2008



Melissa Compton (left), Tricia Ulman and Amanda Richmond sold pink rubber duckies at the Canton Liberty Fest. The money goes to pay fees so the five members of Team Believers can participate in the Komen 3-Day Walk to raise money for breast cancer research through Susan G. Komen For The Cure.

because everyone deserves a lifetime."

Chris Newell, owner of Chris Furniture, is doing her part to raise money. When a customer bought the first set she donated, Newell promised to write a check for the \$3,600 purchase price plus donate another dining set.

Tricia Ulman is not only helping with fund-raisers but walking as one of the Team Believers Sept. 26-28, along with Compton, Amanda Richmond and Jennifer Sauceda of Canton, and Tracy

OE08609851-2x4.5

Dennis, Chelsea. That's no easy task because over 3 days they'll walk 60 miles.

"The best way to train for a 60-mile walk is to walk," said Ulman, a Livonia resident who works 40 hours a week at the YWCA Head Start program in Inkster. "This is the first time for all of us. We get a virtual trainer sent to us through our e-mail and I've mapped out 5 and 10 mile walks in evenings and weekends."

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TEAM BELIEVERS BENEFIT

What: A bowling fund-raiser to raise money for breast cancer research and treatment When: 6:30 p.m. Saturday, July 12 Where: Merri-Bowl Lanes, 30950 Five Mile, Livonia Tickets: \$20, includes two games of bowling, pizza, pop. Shoe rental is an additional 99 cents. Tickets must be purchased by July 7, Call (248) 721-2705

Somemoinine

away from the kids?



Chris Newell, owner of Chris Furniture in Livonia, has donated this dining room set for the Team Believers fund-raiser on July 12:

FORECLOSURE NOTICE This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Larry A Russell, A Single Man to Household Finance Corporation III, Mortgagee, dated April 24, 2006 and recorded May 1, 2006 in Liber 44603 Page 1000 Wayne County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Seven Thousand Eighty-One Dollars and Twenty-Five Cents (\$67,081.25) including interest 8.98% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, Circuit Court of Wayne County at 1:00PM on July 31, 2008. Said premises are situated in City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 522 of B.E. Taylors Kenmoor Subdivision of part of Northeast one quarter of Section 8, and part of Southwest one quarter of Northwest one quarter of Section 9, Town 1 South, Range 10 East, Lying South of Grand River Avenue, Redford Township, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 37, Page 39 of Plats, Wayne County Records. Subject to building and use restrictions and easements of record. Commonly known as 18486 Five Point Ave, Detroit MI 48240 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later. Dated: JUNE 28, 2008 Household Finance Corporation III Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 08-94532 ASAP# 2804205 06/29/2008, 07/ 06/2008, 07/13/2008, 07/20/2008

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Spotlight Players to hold auditions for 'Hello, Dolly!'

Spotlight Players will hold auditions for Hello, Dolly! 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, July 21-22 (registration begins at 6:30 p.m.) at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill at Ridge, Canton.

The musical comedy tells the story of a gregarious widow,

Dolly Gallagher Levi, a matchmaker who secretly has designs on one of her customers for herself.

Hello, Dolly! was first produced on Broadway by David Merrick in 1964, winning the Tony Award for Best Musical plus 9 other Tonys.

It was nominated for 7 Academy Awards for the 1969 film version that starred Barbara Streisand.

A fairly large cast is needed for the production. For more information, call (734) 480-4945 or visit www.spotlightplayers.net.



FROM PAGE CI

who played in bands in junior high and high school.

"The cool thing is we made T-shirts for the show last year and listed all the bands' names and made laminated passes from them. For the kids, they might as well be playing Madison Square Garden."

Petersmark with the help of son Chris, used MySpace. com to get the word out about the series and connect with the bands.

"The band had to be a serious band with original music and couldn't have just gotten together yesterday," said Petersmark. "They had to send me an e-mail with MySpace sites which had three to four of their songs loaded. We tried to focus on Livonia or local bands. We have bands from Farmington, Ann Arbor, East Lansing, St. Clair Shores, and many other surrounding communities."

Although Chris, 19, isn't playing this year because he's between bands, Petersmark did reach dozens of 16- to 24year-olds like Liddell, who writes all of Knockturne's originals with band mate Blake Morgan.

The two have been friends since seventh grade at Riley Middle School where they discovered both were really into music and started playing together. By 2005 they were performing in coffee

houses. At the time they had an acoustic sound but wanted to go electric so they added Teddy Roberts on drums and Matt Ryan on bass.

Morgan sings lead vocals and plays acoustic guitar. Liddell is the lead guitarist and does backup vocals. Roberts, Morgan and Liddell will all be seniors at Churchill High School this fall. Ryan is a student at Stevenson High School.

For a listen, visit myspace. com/knockturnemusic.

"As a genre, Knockturne's alternative," said Liddell, 17, of Livonia. "We try to associate different styles of music into it, We really like jazz and Latin music. We try to merge different genres into alternative sounds. Our lyrics come out of experiences we've had, like feeling hopeless and coming out of that.

"A lot of bands right now it's sort of hard to hear their lyrics. They're hard core. I guess we could be called a softer sound for a lot of our stuff and we have acoustic guitar which is different."

So far the group has played at a battle of the bands at NorthRidge Church where Liddell and Morgan worship, an all-nighter at Ward Presbyterian Church for high school youth groups, and the Strawberry Festival in Belleville. Their schedule has been cut back this summer as Morgan is on tour in Europe as part of the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp's International Program.

"We would like to tour with this band over the summer next year. The whole band has been recording in the studio," said Liddell. "We have all the songs in production and it should be done at the end of summer. We're looking forward to playing shows and selling the CD, which is full length with 11 tracks."

Although their religious beliefs are reflected in the music, Knockturne is not a Christian band but named after a verse in Matthew in the Bible.

"Why Knockturne? We thought it sounded cool," said Liddell. "We found this verse 'knock and the door will be open, seek and you will find.' It's like turning the door knob into a new life. Music is a representation of our lives." Last year Knockturne

was scheduled to play Music From The Garage but the power went out so they're especially looking forward to performing July 26.

"I'm extremely excited." We haven't played a show this summer," said Liddell. "Music is our passion. We love playing shows. We're excited to be playing with ShiRock from Nashville, Search the City on a different night, Never Turn Back which is now MePlusYou. It's an opportunity for local bands to come out and anybody into this kind of music. It give us an audience and also gives us a stage."

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 6, 2008

All dogs should be on heartworm preventative

Q: My veterinarian has recommended that my dog be on a heartworm preventative year round, and also a flea and tick preventative during peak seasons. My dog rarely goes outside, only to use the bathroom. Is all this really necessary?

A: The

spend much



Dr. Rebekah Harris, D.M.V.

time outside to be bitten by a pesky mosquito. Also, many of us leave our windows/doors open in the summer inviting little winged friends into our home. As a result, all dogs are at risk for heartworm disease, and should be on heartworm preventative. Heartworm disease is virtually in every state across the U.S. and in parts of Canada.

Heartworm disease is transmitted by the bite of an infected mosquito to a dog or cat. As the name implies, the disease affects the heart and nearby blood vessels of the animal.

Although many advances in the treatment of heartworm disease have been made, prevention is still key. There are not many diseases the veterinary profession handles that are preventable. Heartworm disease absolutely is! A monthly tablet is given to your pet year round to prevent infection. There are many different products on the market with many having broad coverage for your pet. Your veterinarian can help you decide which product is best for your pet. You will also want to make sure that your pet is having a heartworm test done annually to determine that the product has been effective and given correctly.

Flea and tick preventative is also important during peak seasons here in Michigan. With her at, dvmharris@hotmail.com.

Michigan's fluctuating climate, that can be March/April to November/December. Fleas are not only a nuisance to you and your pet, but they can act as a vector for other diseases. Again, many of the products on the market are broad spectrum and can cover both flea and ticks in one application. You also want to do a thorough examination of your pet after having them in a wooded or heavy brushed area. If you find fleas or ticks, you should see your veterinarian. Tick borne disease on the rise and can be prevented with appropriate medications.

The key to the overall success of your pet's health is prevention. There have been wonderful advances in medicine to keep your pets healthy and safe. Please speak with your veterinarian to make sure your pet is protected.

Dr. Rebekah Harris is a veterinarian at Rochester Veterinary Hospital. Email your animal-related questions to



WEDDING

Wojtowicz-Gani

Christian Gani and Meghin Wojtowicz were married April 5, 2008, by Rev. George Charnley in Novi.

The bride is the daughter of Audeen Wojtowicz of Livonia and Ed Wojtowicz of Detroit. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan.

The groom is the son of Bob and Sylvia Gani of Raleigh, NC. He is a graduate of North Carolina State and is employed by AMCI Marketing, Inc.

The bride was attended by Julie Wojtowicz, Jenny Bennett, Tiffanie Barackman, Kristen Szymanski, and Jessie Hrivnak.

The groom's attendants were Ben Gani, Chris Nichilo, Mike Wojtowicz, Bob Nardi, and Steve Broude.

A reception was held at the Italian American Banquet Center in Livonia. The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia. The Ganis are making their home in Novi and Brussels, Belgium.



- To submit a form and photograph online: 1. Go to Hometownlife.com and click on Customer Service
- 2. Under Reader Services you'll find a link to Submit an Announcement, choose the appropriate one and follow the instructions.

3. Photos must be e-mailed in jpg format to photos@ hometownlife.com and must meet our listed requirements.

4. Announcements are all free of charge. To send a form/photo by mail:

1. Mail to The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805



ENGAGEMENTS

Medema-Hoad

Robert and Trudy Medema of Grand Rapids, announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Jean Medema, to Michael Sean Hoad, son of Tom and Laurie Hoad of Beverly Hills, Mich.

Kimberly, also daughter to the late Linda Medema, is a 1998 graduate of Grandville High School and a 2002 graduate of Western Michigan University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in Psychology and English. She received a master's degree in elementary education from Aquinas College in 2006 and currently teaches fourth grade at Vanguard Charter Academy in Wyoming, Mich.

Michael is a 1999 Farmington Harrison High School graduate who earned

Brennan-VanBelle

Robert and Robyn Brennan of Brooklyn, Mich. announce the engagement of their daughter Brooke Brennan of Canton to Ryan VanBelle, son of Michael and Kathleen VanBelle of Livonia. Brooke is a 1999 graduate of Plymouth Christian Academy in Canton. She earned her bachelor's degree in business management from Lawrence Technological University in 2003 and currently works as a branch office administrator at Edward Jones Investments. Ryan is a 1999 graduate of Stevenson High School in Livonia. He earned his bachelor's degree in industrial systems engineering from



his bachelor's degree in business from Grand Valley State University in 2004. He works as a sales representative at Forest Laboratories. The couple will wed in late July in Grand Rapids.



the University of Michigan-Dearborn in 2003. Ryan is an industrial engineer at Ford Motor Company.

The couple plans to wed in August at St. Gerald Catholic Church in Farmington with a reception to follow at the Italian American Club in Livonia. They will honeymoon in Mexico and make their home in Canton.

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Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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E. Maple Road, Birmingham, MI 48009. 2. Oakland County residents should send announcements to Sharon Dargay, or e-mail questions to sdargay@hometownlife.com. Wayne County residents should send announcements to Stephanie Angelyn Casola, or send e-mail to scasola@hometownlife.com. 3. Announcements run in the Sunday Hometownlife sections of the paper and are placed in the order they are received and depending on space restrictions. 4. For more information, visit http://www.hometownlife.com/apps/pbcs.dll/section?Category=CUSTOMER

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JO-ELLEN MASSEY

Was born on August 4,1950 to Joyce Marie and Donald E. Massey in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. She passed away unexpectedly on May 28,2008. Private services were held at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth and Dixboro United Methodist Church in Dixboro. She was preceded in death by her mother, Joyce Marie, in 1993. She is survived by her father Don, brother Don Jr, and sister, Brenda, as well as four children, Melissa Ila-Marie, Charley, Donald Matthew, and Jason. She has nine grandchildren, David, Jesse, Zebb, Austin, Matthew, Stephanie, Melanie Joyce Marie, Deven and Jackey; two nephews, Bo and Aaron, and five nieces, Brittany, Nicole, Natalie, Alisha, and Courtney. She was especially loved by her nephew, Aaron. Jo-Eilen graduated from John Robert Powers finishing school and modeled professionally. She was blessed with much beauty, poise, and a deep appreciation for fashion. She had disarming childlike charm, and enjoyed being a mother, grandmother, aunt, and daddy's girl. Immensely proud of her father's selfmade success in the car business, Jo-Ellen enjoyed collecting and keeping family memorabilia and often recanted humorous stories from the family's colorful southern past. She was her father's steadfast and protective companion after her mother's death in 1993, never willing to leave his side. Jo-Ellen was deeply loved and cher-ished by her family for her humor and frequent anecdotes, and was given many affectionate nicknames by those who loved and knew her well, including Que, Cleo, Aunt Scary, Anya, and Granny. She brought a lightheartedness to her family, loved books, and was sustained by a deep faith in Jesus Christ. " Come Unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28.





LUCILLE WILSON MATTHEWS

June 19, 2008, of Bloomfield Hills, formerly of Anderson, Indiana. She was born November 9, 1914 in Wilkinsburg, PA. She received a bachelor's degree from Smith College. Lucille was the daughter of Charles E. Wilson, former president of General Motors Corp. and Secretary of Defense during president Dwight Eisenhower's administration. She was very active with Detroit area charities and was a former member of the Junior League. Lucille enjoyed gardening, swimming, reading and writing and spending summers at Walloon Lake in northern Michigan. Beloved wife of the late E. Curtis Matthews, co-founder of Matthews-Hargreaves Chevrolet. Dear mother of Mandy Lunghamer (Joseph), Curt Matthews (Linda) and Robert Matthews (Julie). Grandmother of Joe, Jeanne, Julie, Sarah, Joe, Clark, Robbie, Charlie, Genny and John. Great-grandmother of Joe, Kristin, Kelly, Daniel, Breann, Billy, T.J., Amanda, Colin, Katelyn, Jack, Loren, Maxine, Miranda, Charlie and Hugh. Sister of Charles E. Wilson, Jr. (Joyce). Memorial service was held Friday, June 27, 2008 at Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to the American Heart Association, 3816 Paysphere Cr., Chicago, IL 60674 or Beaumont Hospice, 3601 W. Thirteen Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073.



THOMAS COLLIER RICHEY

Age 86, passed away June 30, 2008. He is survived by his wife Virginia, children Diane Hanson of Asheville, NC, James Richey of Clarkston, MI and Joan Richey of Lake Orion, MI six grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. Services will be Wednesday, July 9th, 1:30pm at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 6101 Cortez Rd. W., Bradenton, FL. Arrangements entrusted to the National Cremation Society, Sarasota, FL (941) 923-9535.



KATHRYN LANGE **COULSON** (nee. Foster)

June 28, 2008 peacefully at home in Beverly Hills. Age 57, formerly of Farmington Hills. Administrative Assistant for Cranbrook Academy of Art. Beloved mother of John F., Jr. Dear daughter of Tanya Foster Witmer and the late Thomas G. Foster. Sister of Janice L. Foster and twin sister of Thomas R. Foster, II (Mary Jo). Aunt of Thomas G. Foster, II and Gerald B. Foster. A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, family suggests memorial tributes to the Kathryn Coulson Scholarship Fund at Cranbrook Academy of Art, 39221 Woodward Ave., Box 801, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303 A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 586-826-7318 For more information call: **Charolette Wilson** 586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

to doing scenes from King Lear, Richard III, and The Tempest. "It should be a really fun experience. It's a cross section of Shakespeare plays to give insight to who Shakespeare was. Why do we still read him in school? After the show the audience can ask questions of the actors."

Kopp and cast didn't want to present the plays chronologically or thematically so they tie the historical plays, comedies and tragedies together in an unbroken line. All of the actors remain seated on stage until rising to perform in front of the three-sided audience.

We're creating together as a cast around the theme of identity," said Kopp. "These are actors who are members of the community, not professional Shakesperian actors. They're not going to use British accents. It's an introduction to Shakespeare's plays and is meant for the novice."

Presented by The Village Shakespeare Festival with a grant from Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, the evening includes some of the Bard's more popular works like Romeo & Juliet as well as the lesser known Titus Andronicus. Kopp played Titus in a production by professor James Hartman at Schoolcraft College.

"It's a humble start. We'll reassess for next year," said Kopp who taught drama 8 years at various schools including Plymouth Salem High. "Ideally it would be nice to pull off, but there's a lot of text and poetry to learn.'

Rick Eva III is busy memorizing a scene from Twelfth Night and the role of Falstaff in Henry IV, Part I as various cast members run through their lines with Kopp. The 28year old Canton resident was in Milwaukee working as a stage manager for First Stage Children's Theater when he heard about the festival and returned home. He's been involved in theater since elementary school at Hulsing where he was in The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.

After graduating from Plymouth Salem High School 10 years ago, he went on to earn a bachelor of arts in theater performance from Western Michigan University.

He is also a graduate of the apprentice pro-

"Shakespeare is so simple. It's the simplest type of theater and it's the hardest. It's very truthful," said Eva. "Shakespeare gets to the core of humanity. Plots in Shakespeare plays are as relevant now as they were then: political unrest."

Lisa Brawley likes Shakespeare as well for the plots. The Livonia woman is playing The Nurse in Romeo & Juliet and Titania in Midsummer Night's Dream.

Her first role was in Macbeth in 1993 at Schoolcraft College. Since then she's acted in 15 plays and worked on costumes for a few more. She also has performed with Spotlight **Players in Canton and Barefoot Productions** in Plymouth.

"In fourth grade I read a book of Shakespeare for kids and thought wow these are really great stories," said Brawley. "In high school at Bentley I was in advanced placement English with Mrs. Nancy Mack and read more. The plots are very intricate and not predictable. The stories seems so original compared to somethings you see on TV and the language is beautiful."

Richard Holland agrees "Shakespeare has a real beauty in the language." Until 2006 the Livonia man had never acted except for playing a bear in third grade. He landed a role in Othello so he could spend more time with Brawley. Since then he's appeared with Barefoot Productions, Spotlight Players and Schoolcraft College Theatre.

"Shakespeare's characters are very deep," said Holland. "You have to look at each indi-vidual line and figure out what the character is trying to say."

Susan DeStefanis first read Shakespeare in middle school. Later she studied theater with Kopp at Plymouth Salem High School. Until now the 24-year old Livonia woman had worked behind the scenes as a technician at Plymouth Salem and Schoolcraft College. This is her first time on stage. DeStefanis is playing the female lead in Romeo & Juliet and Cordelia in King Lear.

"If you read a whole sentence it make more sense," said DeStefanis. "It can be pretty. He can be really funny."

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Cheer for the hometeam, read today's ODIIIO section



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Elementary memories Tight-knit Winship School grads plan reunion

BY SHARON DARGAY OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ed Wilson hasn't attended any of his Mumford High School reunions and doesn't care if he ever does.

But the former Southfield resident, who now lives in La Jolla, Calif., wouldn't miss any of his elementary school get togethers.

In fact, Wilson is busy coplanning a 50-year reunion for Winship School's eighthgrade class of 1958, with some of his old school chums back home in Michigan.

"We're getting older and losing some of our classmates, so I figured, I'm going to do it no matter what," he said. "We were a close-knit class. The teachers were like our own family."

Graduates from the K-8 Detroit public school held their first reunion nearly 25 years ago and have met twice since then.

Their fourth gathering is planned for Sept. 5-7 in Bloomfield Hills. Wilson is contacting as many former students and teachers as he can find and calling them personally.

Graduates and faculty members who may have moved since the last reunion can get details about the weekend by contacting Judy Goldwasser at winship58@ comcast.net.

"It will be low-key," said Goldwasser, a Bloomfield Hills resident. "We're searching for a bar to gather on Friday and we'll have brunch Sunday morning at the Centerpoint Marriott." The main event will be Saturday in a cafeteria of an office building where one former student runs a law practice.

Goldwasser, whose essay about the first reunion was published in Monthly Detroit magazine in 1984, said she has "all good memories" about the school, which has since been closed as an educational facility.



didn't work. They were home

making chocolate chip cook-

ies," she said. "It was a time

when people didn't move. We

were together for nine years

lings and parents.

would get involved."

them back on track.

and we knew each other's sib-

The teachers definitely

Some showed at-risk stu-

dents a little tough love to get

Wilson, who was voted

"least to succeed," recalled

basket in the school hallway

standing in a wastepaper

after talking too much in

class. Now the owner of an

is grateful for teachers like

Anne York.

electronics company, Wilson

The Winship school eighth-grade graduating class of 1958.



Winship school in Detroit included kindergarten through eighth grades in 1958. It has since been closed.

The building is located on Curtis, west of the Lodge Expressway, between Outer Drive and Seven Mile, in Detroit.

LIKE FAMILY

"We were very supportive, ' Goldwasser said. "There were two sections and I remember at one point we were sharing desks.'

But Goldwasser, who owned a corporate writing business for years, said students received a good education. in spite of sometimes crowded conditions. She credits teachers and supportive parents.

"It takes a village. And it was a time when mothers

"I was barely making it, but my last year she got a hold of me and said, 'I know you can do better.' I came out with all A's," he said. "We had so much camaraderie. I was living with my father, and they made up for what I didn't have.'

CARING STAFF

Goldwasser remembers one teacher who took students to baseball games. Another loved tennis and taught children to play the game. "I think one of the most

exciting things was having the teachers there at the reunions and they remembered us," she said, adding that she has treated her fifth-grade teacher to lunch.

The district's attendance boundaries split the closeknit class in 1959-62, sending some students to Mumford. some to Cooley and a few to Cass Tech High School.

"Most of us (students) are not close friends now, but when we get together for reunions, it's like nothing came in between," she said.

Wilson said he'll probably re-visit Winship during his visit in September, even though the building is closed. "I remember my old home

on Strathmore, between Curtis and Hubble. I may even go knock on the door."

Berkley High School Class of 1958

Planning a 50th Reunion, Sept. 19-21, 2008. All members of January 1958, June 1958 and January 1959 are invited. At Somerset Inn , 2601 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy. Events include: a Friday evening hospitality party, Saturday afternoon tour of BHS and lunch, dinner Party at the hotel on Saturday evening and brunch at hotel Sunday morning followed by a golf outing.

Contact: csingerbhs58reunion.org for access to the web site; www. bhs58reunion.org or call Jackie. Yorgen Castine, (248) 332-5984.

Bishop Borgess High School Classes of 1970, '71, '72, '73 and 1974

A combined reunion. Oct. 4, 2008, Hellenic Cultural Center, \$60. Dinner Buffet, Open Bar, Midnight Snacks and Music. No ticket sales at door. Contact (248) 442-0946 or bbhsfirstfive.com

Brighton High School Class of 1989

Planning a 20th reunion and searching for classmates. Please sign up at "vahoo groups- brighton high school class of 1989" to get more information

Cherry Hill High School Classes 1962-1987

An All-Class Reunion will be held on 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 26, 2008, at Cherry Hill School of Performing Arts, 28500 Avondale, Inkster, cost is \$15 pre-paid, \$20 day of event.

For additional information and a pre-registration form go to Alumni Association web page: http:// hometown.aol.com/chhsclassof65/ CHHSInksterReunionMain.html.

Clarenceville High School Class of 1988

A reunion is being planned for the summer of 2008. Trying to reach as many classmates as possible. Send contact information to Dale Weighill at resource@gfn.org.

Crestwood High School Class of 1968

A 40th class reunion Oct. 4, 2008. For information, contact Gail Goodall Welch, (313) 937-3477 or e-mail CHS1968Sec@yahoo.com.au. **Dearborn High School** Class of 1963

A 45-year reunion planned Aug. 1, 2008. Father Patrick O'Kelley Hall, Dearborn. Contact Betsy Cushman at (313) 565-5972 or ecushman@ comcast.net.

Dearborn Edsel Ford **Classes of 1958**

The 1958 January and June Classes of Dearborn and Edsel Ford High Schools are having a combined 50-Year

REUNIONS

Reunion on Saturday Aug. 2, 2008, at the Dearborn Country Club, Judy Richards Goerke at (313) 562-9031. Judygoerke@yahoo.com or Shirley Chiado Peters at (248) 348-9443, Shirley.peters@villageford.net may be contacted for further information. Dearborn Edsel Ford

January Class of 1958

A 50th reunion will be held Oct. 3 at the Dearborn Inn. Note the October date and location for the January class reunion. Cail Nancy at (248) 851-5257 or Pat at (734) 427-0256 for further information.

Dearborn Edsel Ford Class of 1968

A 40-year reunion Aug. 2, 2008, at Patrick O'Kelly Knights of Columbus in Dearborn. For more information, contact Janet Wszola Robbins at (313) 277-1418 or Susan Taylor Szalony at (248) 348-6692.

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.

com. Class of 1958

A 50-year reunion on Aug. 2, 2008, at Park Place, Reservations only, For information, please contact Marsha (Duza) Movesian, (313) 277-5624, or Joyce (Anderson) Mechalko, (313) 278-4488.

Class of 1988

A 20-year reunion, Friday, Aug. 22, adult gathering at Avenue Bar & Grill, Dearborn, \$25 per person, Saturday Aug. 23, Family Picnic at Ford Field, Dearborn. \$25 per family. For details and to RSVP see www. freewebs.com/fordson88 or e-mail fordsonclassof88@yahoo.com **Detroit Cass Tech**

Class of 1958

A 50-year reunion, Oct. 11, 2008. For details, call Isabelle at (313) 882-4626 and at casstech58.com.

Detroit Chadsey High School Class of 1957

An Alumni Dinner will be held Saturday, Oct. 11, at American Legion Post No. 32, at 9315 Newburgh in Livonia. Contact Pat at 734-522-1284. **Detroit Chadsey High School**

Class of 1958

A 50-year reunion, Friday, Sept. 19, 2008, at Burton Manor, Livonia. \$55 per person. Contact, Mike Poterala, (248) 548-4829 or mspoterala@comcast.net.

Detroit Christ the King Elementary Class of 1963

A 45-year reunion is being planned for 2008. Searching for classmates. The reunion date has not been set. Contact Dennis Place at (734) 354-0223 or e-mail denplace@bigfoot.



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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, July 6, 2008

C6 (*)

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Xers ENTER NEW CAREER WITH EYES WIDE OPEN



42, stuck in your current job or business. You might have little college, some college, no college or a college degree. Where are bv the jobs? Mildred L. One employer is Culp

taking on a minimum of 29,000 people, full-time, between now and October

1. The organization will fill more than 150 occupations. It's the Army: surprised? What are the backgrounds of some of the people and what will they do?

Samantha Dale, 34, of Portland, Ore., earned her B.S. in Forestry at the University of Florida. She worked as a forester at Georgia Pacific Corp., managing three employees covering 300,000 acres. Unfulfilled, she then bought and managed a logging business for four years, but found weekly payroll tedious and unreliable employees a strain. She put her business up for sale and went looking for purpose in life and for adventure.

After ten years in the same industry, North Lauderdale, Fla., mortgage broker Mario Alejandrino, 36, watched the subprime crisis take his financial future away with his commission-only position in March. He moved into commercial insurance sales, where he received base salary plus commission, but that eventually would convert to 100 percent commission. He wanted security and adventure.

Single mother Barbara Wilson, 37, of Cookeville, Tenn., had You might be as old as been getting to work as a cook at 3:30 a.m. at Thelma's Place, and leaving 10 and one-half hours later. She prepared food, cleaned up, stood over a hot grill for four or five hours, and, for two and onehalf of those hours, served customers -- "long hours, real hot and demanding," she says. She obtained medical coding and billing skills, but kept being turned down for insufficient experience. She wanted to learn something new, including survival skills. Each had options:

- The business owner had her choice of occupations (other than infantry, artillery and armor) and chose medic for purpose. Its bonus: "I'll be jumping out of planes."

-- The cook turned down mechanic and truck driver for financial management specialist. She'll research and resolve problems in paychecks, using her favorite part of her restaurant job - interpersonal contact.

-- The mortgage broker had 20 options. He chose

telecommunications because of its long-term career prospects. All three are doing something unusual for career changers but normal for career changers who join the Army. They are entering one, two or three levels above entry-level. Their particular signing bonuses range from \$13,000 to \$20,000. Base salary for them at entry ranges between \$16,000 and \$21,000. These amounts are low, but they'll receive food, housing, health insurance and medical coverage. When they report to their first duty station, they'll receive:

-- housing or a housing allowance; -- a food allowance based on the size of the family and the area of the country (or world);

-- 9 uniform allowance, and

-- access to recreational facilities on location DIFFERENCES

Joining the Army is one thing; meeting its fitness requirement in your 30s, quite another. Then there's a not-so-small matter called war.

Alejandrino says, "Mentally I'm ready. I know there will be kids and I'll have to do my best to keep up with them. I'm not completely out of shape. The Army gradually gets you where you need to be following its motto: Crawl, Walk, Run. I see basic training as going to the gym . . . After a couple of weeks of doing things over and over, I'm going to adapt." He thinks that the major adjustment will be the structure. "There's a lot of teamwork," he states. "There's ... nothing you can do without getting the approval first. I'm used to doing things on my own. I was in banking. I'm not 18." He adds, chuckling, "My mom hasn't told me what to do for 18 years now."

Dale anticipates a major change in lifestyle. "I don't work out," she says. "It's going to be physically challenging. I try to run every day, but it ends up being four to five times a week. I do a workout with push-ups and sit-ups. Every Thursday I do physical training drills with another future soldier." Wilson is anxious. "I'm not a very big person," she explains. "I've been an outdoor person but not a jock. I've been playing volleyball and softball with the kids. I've been working to prepare myself."

Dealing with reactions from friends and relatives almost seems easier than the fitness challenge. Alejandrino enlisted with his daughter, and a cousin expressed concern about serving in current

and future wars. Alejandrino pointed out that the negatives of the

Business owner and future soldier Samantha Dale of Portland, Ore., has

been running to meet the fitness requirement for the Army, She shines with enthusiasm about her decision to find purpose in her employment by working as a medic.



C7

Army are considerably less than the positives and that not all soldiers who go to war "die or come back damaged," His attitude is this: "It's something new, something different, and I'm with my daughter. What better job can I ask for?"

Wilson heard "Are you crazy?" a number of times. She also heard, "It'll be good for you." But most people asked, "Why?" She told people that she wanted to be physically and mentally stronger and "the best for my family later on, And it's what I can do for my country." She'll have insurance and, like Alejandrino, be taking advantage of the educational benefit. Dale's liberal friends "don't agree with what our government is doing in Iraq and Afghanistan. This is about me -- not politics -- service to country, pride and intangible things."

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.) OE08610103

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5020Help Wanted-	5360Childcare Services-	Michigan's Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our	Providence Park Hospital in	July 10, 2008	Fax: 810-632-2901	didate for approx. 30 hrs/wk.	lilley45@hotmail.com	Facility that offers a benefits package for full time employ-
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Jones home design special, keeps up with your lifestyle

While Jones is a common name, the Jones (407-01) is far from being a common type home. It has a southwestern look with its tile roof and stucco and brick exterior. It is unique in that there is an inner courtyard surrounded by a covered patio. Masses of windows provide light and an air of openness to this large 4,256 square foot home.

A wrought iron gate secures the entry to the Jones. Double doors open into an entry with a great room on the left and the dining room on the right. This entire area has a twostory vault with arched windows



A wrought iron gate secures the entry into the Jones. Double doors open into an entry with a great room on the left and the dining room on the right. This entire area has a two-story vault with arched windows along the roofline. The kitchen is situated between the dining area and the master bedroom. It is U-shaped with an island eating bar in the center.

along the roofline. The kitchen is situated between the dining area and the master bedroom. It is U-shaped with an island eating bar in the center. A garden window over the sink provides an area to grown herbs and spices.

The master bedroom has a gas fireplace in the corner of the elongated room. There are double doors opening into a walk-through closet and bath area. A built-in spa for private use in the master bedroom is one of the many extras of this spacious home.

There is a half bath between the master bedroom and the library.



out yourselfer.

Upstairs are three bedrooms and two baths. One bedroom is large enough to be used as a guest suite with a large walk-in closet and a raised tub. The other two bedrooms share a common bathroom. One bedroom has a wall closet while the other larger bedroom has a walk-in

BRIEFS

closet. The inner windows of these three bedrooms all look out over the courtyard.

For a study plan of the JONES (407-01), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (CODE) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.

Real Estate Agents

Keller Williams Realty is seeking experienced or nonexperienced people in the real estate field. There's a free seminar every week: Tuesday or Saturday, 10-11 a.m. at 27555 Executive Drive (off West 12 Mile and Halsted), Farmington Hills 48331. For details, contact Steve Leibhan, (248) 553-0400, Ext. 2500.

Real Estate Investors

Learn about the resources that are available to individual business owners and to the investment properties that you own from the "Oakland County Main Street Initiative." Sponsored by the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, July 10, at 5:30/9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747 6742, www. REIAofOakland.com.

BIA

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents Green Built[™] Training Introduction on Wednesday, July 9, from 9-10:30 a.m. at 879 Benjamin, Troy 48098 (house built by Wake-Pratt Construction).

Chris Pratt of Wake-Pratt Construction discusses building with materials and methods that result in Green Built™ certification. Building Green offers a change from selling cost per square foot to making a positive environmental statement. This is the first in a series of five trainings. The training is free for BIA members. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.builders.org.

■ The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will host its "Macomb County Golf Spectacular" on Thursday, July 17, at Cherry Greek Golf Club, 5200 Cherry Creek Drive (24 Mile and Van Dyke), Shelby Township.

Registration and continental breakfast will take place from 9-10 a.m. Shotgun start is at 10 a.m. Steak dinner is at 3 p.m. The complete golf package includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, hunch, three drink tickets, dinner, golf competition contests and door prizes.

Registration fees are \$130 for a complete golf package for BIA and Apartment Association of Michigan members, guests and nonmembers or \$45 for dinner only.

For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.builders.org.

If I had a hammer ...

State Sen. Tupac Hunter, Rep. Richard LeBlanc and Rep. Gino Polidori will join efforts of Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County on July 10 in Inkster. They will take up a hammer to help Habitat build a house at 26110 Dunning St.

"Legislative Build 2008 is an opportunity for legislators to see what is going on in the area of affordable housing and community improvement right in the districts they serve," said Alice Dent, Habitat executive director.

The legislators will perform construction work on a house being built for a family with five children.

As part of the Legislative Build 2008, nearly 90 percent of the Michigan Legislature signed on to work on an affordable housing or community development project in or near their district sometime this summer. a da antiga da antig Antiga da an

The Legislative Build 2008 is a partnership between many statewide groups who work for affordable housing, neighborhood improvement and community development. The partners include Habitat for Humanity of Michigan, **Community Economic Development Association** of Michigan, Community Economic Development Association of Detroit, Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness, Michigan Association of Home Builders and Michigan Community Action Agency Association and Michigan Housing Council.





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