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Tuesday, July 1, 2008

Letters: Your opinion

Cancer move applauded

I applaud Gov. Jennifer Granholm on her recent decision to allow Beaumont Hospital to build a proton beam cancer treatment center. She defied the Certificate of Need Commission and correctly decided to allow this life-saving treatment to come to Michigan in an expedited manner.

Randy Feldman, D.P.M.

West Bloomfield

Stop coddling kids

I agree with Betsy Hart about today's kids needing opportunities to learn to be independent. ("Overprotected kids need to experience life," June 20.) I'll always remember a story told to me by an acquaintance I greatly respected. He and his wife took their son (maybe about 10 years old) on a family camping trip. Their family campsite was at a lower elevation in the mountains. They helped their son to pack the things he would need for a solo expedition. They pointed up the mountain to a particular spot which would be his destination. From there he could look down and see where his family was -- and signal them if he had any sort of emergency. Otherwise, he was on his own to manage his own affairs. And he did!

Mary Walden

Wolverine Lake

More aid for defenders

The report that public defenders are underfunded is no surprise to those in the legal community ("Report: Public defender offices underfunded," June 18). Does anyone honestly think judges (who set the fees in many counties) or county commissions care one whit about the quality of representation? In the county in which I practice, fees have not been altered since 1988.

My guess is this report will be "studied" until the cows come home but nothing will be done unless the suit by the American Civil Liberties Union is successful.

John L. Lengemann

Imlay City

Reconsider runway

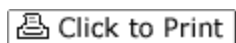
Maybe the airport authority at the Detroit Metropolitan Airport should reconsider their plans for adding another runway in view of the high cost of fuel, the elimination of some routes to save costs and the layoffs of pilots and airline personnel. ("Airport board postpones runway decision," May 23.) Why destroy the hundreds of homes, churches and businesses for something that may never be needed?

Mona L. Peltier

Clinton Township

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