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CLASSIFIED, SECTION C



**HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE**  
USA WEEKEND



**Stuff a Bus**

If you're out shopping, grab an extra gift or two to help the Wayne-Westland Community Schools' Transportation Department, Wayne-Westland Fire Department and Westland Kmart Stuff a Bus to help those in our community who are in need.

School buses will be in the Kmart parking lot at Cherry Hill and Wayne Road 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1.

Stop by and "Stuff the Bus" with new toys, new or gently used clothes, personal items, school supplies, anything to assist the Westland and Wayne Goodfellows provide a happy holiday season for those in need.

**Lunch with Santa**

Youngsters can spend some quality time with the big guy at Lunch with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne.

Festivities get underway noon. The cost will be \$4 for Wayne and Westland residents and \$5 for non-residents. Children age 2 and under are free. The cost includes pizza, salad, bread sticks, arts and crafts, and face painting. Photo packages with Santa will be available.

Tickets are limited. For more information, call (734) 728-2900.

**Dear Santa**

Youngsters can be sure Santa knows what they want by writing a letter to Santa and sending it to the Observer which will print them in our Thursday, Dec. 20, issue.

Letters should be e-mailed to smason@hometownlife.com. Parents, be sure to include a photo of your child in a jpg format, with their name, age, address and phone number. Only your child's name and age will be published.

Letters can also be mailed to Letters to Santa, c/o Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

The deadline for all Santa letters is Monday, Dec. 10.

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**WAYNE-WESTLAND**  
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**Wayne council OKs Ford Stamping Plant expansion**

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

Ford's Wayne Stamping Plant is expanding.

The Wayne council voted Tuesday to approve a site plan for a 78,000-square-foot addition to the plant. To be called Wayne Stamping Press Line 6, the new facility will be added to the southeast corner of the existing building on Van

Born. The addition will include 48,000 square feet for the additional stamping line, said Clerk/Planning Director Matthew Miller, with the remaining 30,000 square feet used for materials handling.

Representing Ford, architect Mike Abraham of Gala and Associates said that he had no problem with the seven conditions set by the Plan-

ning Commission as part of the site plan approval. The conditions were standard requirements, such as submitting engineering plans and completed inspections prior to a certificate of occupancy being issued.

"Each time I see your face, I'm happy," Mayor Al Haidous told Abraham. "I know there will be more investment in Wayne."

Later in the meeting, Haidous noted that like Ford, a few other Wayne businesses have been expanding in a big way.

"The city's success is due to the community's support," said Haidous. "They let us hear about certain issues. In the end, they always support what is good for the community."

Wayne is a great community, he said, but there

is still room for revitalization.

"For some communities, there is no light at the tunnel," said Haidous.

The Stamping Plant has more the 1,300 employees and is part of the Michigan Assembly Plant which produces the Ford Focus.

rogers@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-5428



Teri Staton of Redford, Brittany Bell and Sherri Bell, both of Garden City, take a break from shopping to share some holiday cheer with cards for U.S. troops.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Shoppers make time to send holiday cheer to troops**

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

Michael Wisniewski Jr. had a heartfelt message for U.S. troops serving in harm's way. He thanked them for their courage and bravery.

The Romulus resident was among shoppers who stopped to sign a holiday card that will be sent to the troops.

"I hope other people come and do this, our troops need more of this," said Wisniewski,

who was at Westland Shopping Center Friday with his daughter, Kati Wisniewski. "My stepson is in the Army. He went to Virginia Tech for two years to study diplomacy. He's been to Moscow four times and will go to Russia four times. He's a translator and will go over to Russia. He's an awesome young man, I'm very proud of him."

This is the sixth year the Westland Jaycees have had Cards for Troops tables at the mall on Black Friday, offer-

ing shoppers a chance to send a message of support on cards they provide. Initially, the effort spanned two days, but over the years, the Jaycees pared the time down to 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday.

"It's a good time to get shoppers," said Debi Goetz, who is chairing the project. "Ninety percent of the shoppers have been receptive. We're hoping to get around 1,500 cards, that's a

Please see CARDS, A2

**Westland library begins restoring services**

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

With the approval of an additional mill in August, Westland's William P. Faust Library is starting to move forward with restoring cuts made to balance the budget.

As part of that process, the council recently approved a \$1.37 million budget amendment that will cover 17 additional staff members, salary and benefit increases, supplies, restoring the library's concert program, replacement of the catalog system and replacement of the heating/cooling controller system and other items.

The library continues to operate on a five-day schedule but effective Nov. 1 expanded the hours it's open on those five days.

"We got some complaints from residents. It was assumed that we would go to our full hours now that the millage was approved," said Library Board President Mark Neal. "We won't get

Please see LIBRARY, A2

**Westland council OKs redevelopment district**

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

Commercial property along Wayne Road in Westland's Downtown Development Authority will now have an extra

incentive to spur development.

The council voted Monday to establish a Commercial Redevelopment District, which can include tax abatements, from Glenwood to Cher-

ry Hill.

"We've had some recent success in the (Westland Shopping Center) mall area with MJR (Theater) and Tim Horton's," said Westland Economic Development Director

Lori Fodale. "We need to bring that attention in the Wayne Road DDA area. It's an incentive to reinvest in the community."

Redevelopment projects in the new district could qualify for up to a

12-year tax abatement. The property value would be frozen at the level prior to improvements being made.

"There would be no

Please see DISTRICT, A2

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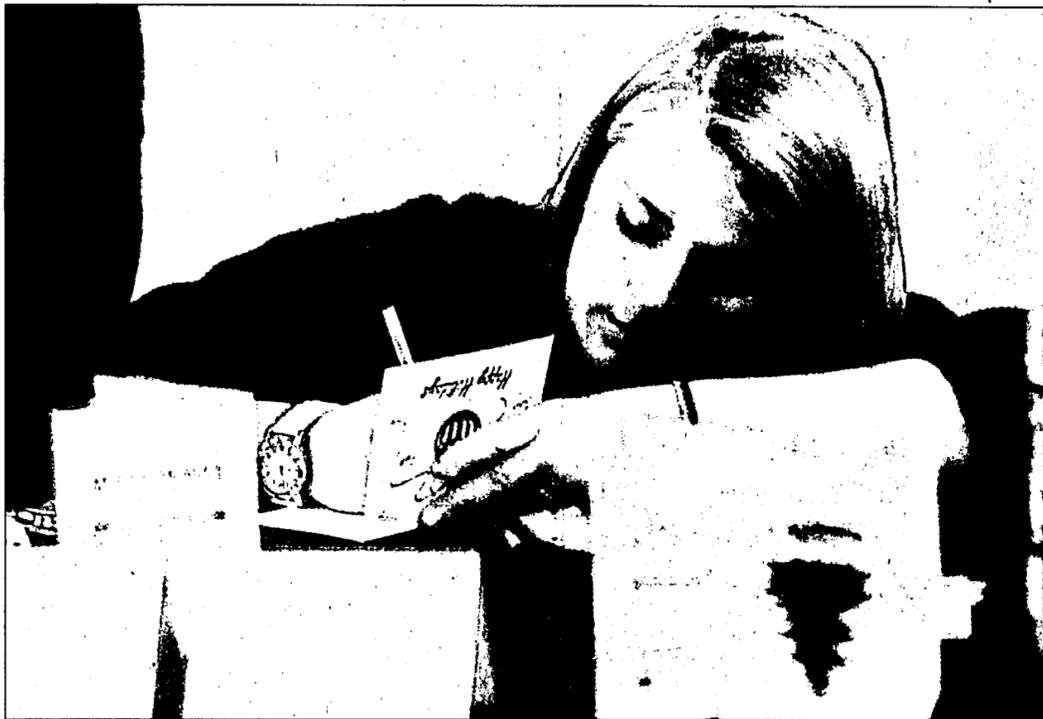
Continued from page A1

good number.”  
The Jaycees were working in shifts to keep the table manned on the busiest shopping day of the holiday season. On their table was candy for those who sign cards, donated by Paul Visingardi of Vizzy's Pizza Palace.

“He has a cousin who's on his seventh tour,” said Goetz.  
The Jaycees also were collecting donations to the cost of shipping care packages to the troops. Goetz uses donations to buy travel-size toiletries to send to the troops. Last year, the Jaycees were able to send four boxes overseas, and in July received a thank you card from the Kandahar USO. The note was framed and sitting in a place of honor on the table.

“People actually have been very generous with their donations,” said Goetz. “We're hoping we can send more things this year.”

The Jaycees also will be collecting items to send with their care package. On their list of needed items are:  
• Phone cards, the No. 1 most-requested item



Katie Neu of Westland, fills out a holiday card for the troops being collected by the Westland Jaycees.

so they can phone loved ones.

- Visa and MasterCard gift cards, the No. 2 most-requested item. It gives them maximum flexibility in spending.
- Wet Wipes, individually wrapped in foil packets (not gel bottles).
- Lip balm, floss, tooth-

brushes and disposable razors – men's and women's.

• Breath mints, candy and gum.  
Cards and personal care good items also can be dropped off at Men on the Move, 39101 Webb Drive, Westland.  
The Cards for Troops

tables were set outside the inside entrance to Kohl's the busiest store at the mall, and a steady stream of shoppers going in and out stopped to sign cards. Among them were Terri Staton of Redford, Brittany and Sherri Bell of Garden City and Brian Gerhardt of Redford.

“I told them, ‘You guys and gals rock,’ and wished them a merry Christmas and happy New Year,” said Gerhardt. “This is my first time doing this. I'm glad I did.”

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**LIBRARY**

Continued from page A1

our full funding yet — it will be on the winter tax bills.”

That means the library will continue to be closed Sunday and Monday until late February or early March.

“We also can't go to the full hours until we recall or rehire people. Unfortunately, most of the staff we laid off have got jobs elsewhere,” said Neal. “We're interviewing (to fill positions) but we can't spend all the money yet.”

Since the list of projects that would be covered by the budget amendment includes some big ticket items like replacing the HVAC controller and the catalog system, Neal said a study session to go over those items would be scheduled with council.

“I want to thank the council, the mayor and the good citizens for their continued support of the library,” said Neal. “By supporting the millage, we have been able to secure the future of the library for a minimum of a decade. We will be able to make improvements.”

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**DISTRICT**

Continued from page A1

decrease in property taxes but it could freeze the property taxes for up to 12 years,” said Fodale. “It will give us a leg up in redevelopment with no loss to the DDA recapiture.”

The city attorney is

developing a policy for the council that would be used to determine the length of abatements to be granted based on the amount of investment in the particular project.

Development of vacant property in the district, as opposed to redevelopment of existing businesses, would qualify for a 50 percent tax abatement for up to 12 years.

Westland already has its first request for a commercial rehabilitation project.

In fact, the city was prompted to establish the Commercial Rehabilitation District in response to a request from Arif Motorwala, who owns a 9,000-square-foot office building at 2066 Wayne Road. The property was undergoing renovations

when it was damaged by fire earlier this year.

Now vacant following the fire, Motorwala said he expects to invest about \$250,000 to make improvements to the building.

Each project seeking a tax abatement will require council approval.

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To My “Guardian Angel” Jonah,

As I'm sitting here writing this letter to you, so much is flashing through my mind.

How a man that I've never met, let alone know, took me under his wing and carried me through all that I have. How do you tell someone thank you that has done so much for you!

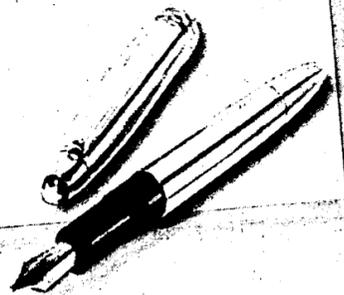
Jonah, I am humbled and I am overwhelmed! I thank you so much for all that you have done. I wanted to make sure you would be proud of me! I worked hard in Therapy. Thank you for helping me through my healing process, with my nursing care, medicine, feeding, physical therapy, occupational therapy and administrative needs. I want you to know that from my heart, you have done so much for me! I'm succeeding in my goal of healing in my total hip replacement. I also want you to know while I was at Westland Nursing & Rehabilitation Centre, so many people were so kind and caring. It was a wonderful place to go to heal and recuperate from an injury.

The administrative office, doctors, nursing, CNAs, therapy department, kitchen and staff, maintenance, grounds keeper, etc... everyone was so kind and helpful. Mr. Jonah, you have a wonderful establishment and a great staff of people working for you! They care about the people they care for. You are a wonderful man, with a heart of gold and a soul that will be rewarded over and over! Each day I thank God that he has his Earth Angels here on earth looking out for those who are in need. I am overwhelmed and thankful for all that you have done for me. A friend forever in my heart!

Always and forever,

*Darline Woodard*

P.S. My “Earth Angel” will always be in my prayers! I'm walking better each day.



**Westland Nursing & Rehabilitation Centre**

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Youngsters will have a chance to enjoy cookies and hot chocolate, plus visit with Santa, at the William P. Faust Public Library on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

## Westland ushers in holidays

Mayor William Wild has put out an invitation for residents to join him in ushering in the holiday season in Westland.

Westland's Holiday Celebration will include the annual tree decorating ceremony, tree lighting ceremony and cookies and cocoa with Santa, all on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Scout troops and groups of students are being asked to make biodegradable ornaments to decorate the trees behind Westland City Hall at the tree decorating ceremony which will begin at 4:30 p.m. To participate and reserve a tree, call the mayor's office at (734) 467-3200.

At 5:30 p.m. join the mayor on the front steps of City Hall for the annual tree lighting ceremony.

Highlights include a sing-a-long, the arrival of Santa and the lighting of the trees. Santa will have a mailbox in front of City Hall so youngsters can bring their letters which he will take to the North Pole with him.

Then join Wild and Santa for cookies and cocoa at the William P. Faust Public Library on Central City Parkway at 6:30 p.m. Guests also will be treated to the reading of holiday stories by Westland City Council members.

"This is a long standing, highly anticipated tradition in our All American City," said Wild. "The kids are very excited to see Santa and participate in all of the fun events."

The city also will be accepting donations to benefit the Wayne County

Family Center. The Wayne County Family Center provides emergency and transitional shelter for homeless families where residents are provided a safe and comfortable shelter stay while they partner with case management staff members to secure housing.

In addition, residents also are provided job counseling and placement, financial literacy support, licensed child care, family activities, laundry facilities and daily meals and snacks.

Visit the City of Westland's Facebook Page for a complete list of items needed by the center or call (734) 721-0590 or email [apila@lssm.org](mailto:apila@lssm.org).

Call the mayor's office at (734) 467-3200, if making a large donation.

## Collaboration reviewed by 4 communities

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

City officials from four western Wayne County communities are continuing to meet to discuss possible collaboration with hopes of cutting costs and increasing revenue.

Westland Mayor William Wild, Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey, Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy and Dearborn Mayor Jack O'Reilly met Nov. 15 in Livonia to discuss sharing services, purchasing or sharing equipment, marketing strategies and other topics.

"Our goal is to find things that we can do together. This was our second big meeting but the mayors have been meeting in between to keep it going," said Wild, who is chairing the Department of Public Services/Public Works committee.

The communities met to discuss increasing efficiencies, particularly with Gov. Rick Snyder's push on incentives, granting more aid to communities that show smarter uses of resources through shared services or consolidation.

"It's a good working example. The meetings are our opportunity to work on a smaller scale to get them to work together," Kirksey said the group was not examining the elimination of jobs to cut costs, but to share resources.

Each mayor chaired a committee. As chair of the DPS/DPW committee, Wild said each of the four communities brought their Capital Improvement Plans.

"We looked for any potential large purchases. We wanted to see if we were all on the same page," Wild said. "They

lined up pretty well. All of the Capital Improvement Plans had gathered some dust over the years. We'll try to freshen those up."

One area getting some discussion was water meters. Some communities have newer water meters while others like Westland have older units, Wild said.

"Within in the next year or so DTE will have smart meters installed in our communities," he said. "We want to see if there is a component for reading water meters."

The committee is also looking at joint bidding for large items, such as sewer lining, concrete patching, street sweeping and outfitting police cars — the vehicles themselves already purchased on a statewide bid.

The communities decided to review current contracts and check their expiration dates to align future joint bidding opportunities.

Major capital purchases/projects will continue to be examined for opportunities of joint purchasing, bidding and/or contracting.

"We're also looking at best practices. We can shadow each other's community if they are using new techniques," said Wild.

Kirksey chaired a group that discussed the operations of the eight golf courses in the four communities.

The committee found that the communities probably could not lend primary equipment for maintenance or operations because all the facilities would need them at the same time during golf season, Kirksey said. Golf course managers are hesitant to let "customers" know about the availability of other courses in other communities.

"They looked at ways to do some regional marketing, for someone who wanted to rent a golf course, and talked about creating a website," Kirksey said, about the regional approach to marketing the courses.

The committee also discussed creating a package to allow customers to purchase a pass to play the eight golf courses at a discounted price that could be sold to the entire customer base of the eight courses.

O'Reilly led an IT committee. That group discussed shared services and equipment purchases.

That group also discussed partnering to co-develop and/or share applications, systems and networks, and creating Centers of Excellence, which may become a provider of shared services to other agencies.

LaJoy chaired the human resources committee. That group discussed the training areas of supervisor training, conflict management/resolution, and customer service.

The group agreed to research a high-level training program that covered these areas. With four communities contributing to pay the cost, the goal was for the communities to be able to afford high-quality training for all communities.

The group discussed sending two individuals to be certified as trainers, who then could train staff in all of the communities, and potentially generate revenue by offering the training to outside groups or communities.

Staff Writer Ken Abramczyk contributed to this story.

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"2012~  
No Child  
Without a  
Christmas"

The Westland Goodfellows is holding a toy and food drive. Donations of toys, hats & gloves, and non-perishable food items can be dropped off at any of the following locations. All donated items will be distributed to Westland families this Christmas.

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# Pies fly in celebration of successful sale

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

It was all about pies at Douglas Elementary 4-5 Campus Wednesday as students lined up to throw them at teachers.

It wasn't a case of civil unrest, but a celebration of a successful Market Day pie sale that helped raise money for student activities, specifically scholarships for youngsters to go on a field trip to Lansing.

"The fall was challenging with the testing that was done, this was a nice activity so the kids could have fun," said Principal Kip O'Leary, who was on the receiving end of pie tosses as the event's "guest celebrity."

"They told me a month ago that oh, by the way ..." said O'Leary about being one of the targets.

Students squealed with delight as the pies, made of whipped topping, were tossed at five teachers — Kelli Siwik, Laurie Kempisty, her student teacher Adam Boyd, Renee Selix and student mentor Heather Swan.

"The teachers are good sports, it's never hard to find teachers to do this," said Selix.

The teachers dressed in ponchos and wearing goggles, were lined up on the stage. Students one by one joined them, selecting their favorite "target." Even Boyd got splattered.

"He had no clue what he was getting into," Kempisty said.

O'Leary wore a bright green frog shower cap and plastic bags for his time on stage.

Youngsters were encouraged to sell the pies as a fundraiser for the school which got a portion of the proceeds based on the number sold. The students sold 233 pies,



Douglas Principal Kip O'Leary encourages student Danielle Bigelow to move closer to throw a pie at him.

with the school receiving 35 percent of the money.

Students who sold five pies got to throw one at a teacher, while those who sold 10 pies got to take aim at O'Leary. About 40 youngsters qualified for the event, however, not all of them were on hand to throw them.

And the very last pie was made extra special for O'Leary with a heaping helping of whipped cream.

"It was good," said O'Leary, who took a taste after getting hit with it square in the face. "This was a fun group."

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751



Kimberly Mussen adds an additional four inches of whip cream to the last pie to be thrown at Douglas Principal Kip O'Leary, much to the delight of teachers who took their turn getting hit with pies.



Student teacher Adam Boyd and teacher Renee Selix are splattered with whipped topping after being pined by students.

## 'Motor City Shakedown' author to speak at Madonna

Two-time Michigan Notable Author D. E. Johnson will present his book *Motor City Shakedown* at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Madonna University Library, as part of the school's "Meet the Author" series.

Set in Detroit in 1911, *Motor City Shake-*

*down* is a tale involving crime, mystery, and history. The sequel to Johnson's first Michigan Notable Book, *The Detroit Electric Scheme*, this novel follows protagonist Will Anderson as he deals with the murder of his best friend; placing him in the center of Detroit's criminal world of

corruption and mobsters.

Johnson, a graduate of Central Michigan University, has been writing fiction for the majority of his life, but he didn't publish his first novel until 2010. His books have been recognized by the Library of Michigan, Booklist, and the House of Crime and Mystery.

The third and most recent book of the series is also earning positive reviews. *Detroit Breakdown* takes the characters

to the Eloise Insane Asylum located near Detroit.

Johnson will have books available for purchase and signing. "Meet the Author" events at Madonna are free and open to the public. The Library is on the second floor at the Kresge Hall entrance.

Contact the Madonna University Library at (734) 432-5703 or visit <http://library.madonna.edu> for more information.

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## Home for the Holidays

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# NFL's Triplett talks football at Westland Library

Longtime Detroit resident Wally Triplett, 86, has a special place in football history. Triplett was the first African-American to be drafted and sign with an NFL team in 1949.

Triplett will be speaking at the William P. Faust Public Library at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27.

Veteran sports broadcaster Raymond Rolak will introduce Triplett and address perseverance in sports. Rolak also will share some Wayne State University sports history and some humorous anecdotes from the new All-Hawaii full length comedy, *Get a Job*, in which he was an associate producer.

Triplett, a 1948 graduate of Penn State, will reminisce about his life



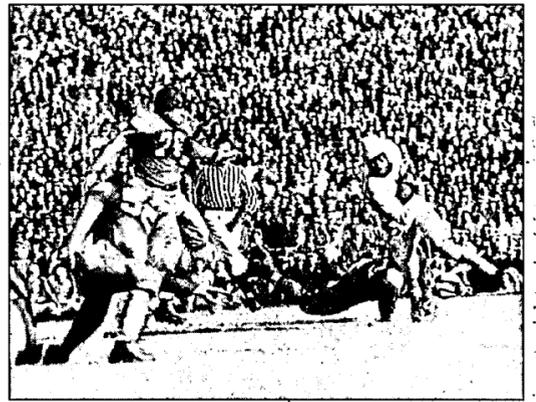
PHOTO COURTESY OF CLEAR CHANNEL

Raymond Rolak and Wally Triplett will speak about some special Detroit sports moments and historical memories on Tuesday Nov. 27, at the William P. Faust Public Library.

journey and football experiences. The evening will also include

accounts of some of the rich athletic history of Detroit. Most fascinat-

ing will be some never before heard narratives by Triplett regarding



Wally Triplett gains yardage in the 1948 Cotton Bowl before a crowd of 47,000 people in Dallas, Texas.

Paul Robeson and Jackie Robinson.

This special event is sponsored by the Friends of the Westland Library and is free. Pre-registration is required. Call (734)

326-6123 or go online to [www.westland.lib.mi.us](http://www.westland.lib.mi.us).

The William P. Faust Public Library is at 16123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road, Westland.

## Tickets going fast for Taste Fest

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

It's a dining extravaganza fit for the King.

And rest assured Elvis will be the house for the Westland Chamber of Commerce's annual Holiday Taste Fest Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, east of Newburgh.

The event will bring together 14 of the city's best known eating establishments and caterers under one roof for a gourmet adventure that costs just \$25 per person. Only 200 tickets remain of the 500 available for the event.

"It's usually a sell out," said Brookellen Swope, Westland chamber president and CEO. "We have 200 available and I believe they will be gone this week. Sales are really

going well."

The Taste Fest will 6-8:30 p.m. and feature popular Elvis impersonator Fred Wolfe. For the first time in the history of Taste Fest, the chamber is partnering with the Westland Rotary Club which will handle the silent auction.

"The Rotary is really strong with silent auctions, we'll bring the food and have a good community event," said Swope, adding that Elvis was added to the program last year at the spur of the moment thing. "People liked it, so we decided to be more focused this year."

New to the event are Char House, one of Westland's newest restaurants, Buffalo Wild Wings and Rio Barbbq of Canton which participated in Westland's second annual Blues, Brews and Barbe-

cue in September.

Awards will be given for the best food and most creative display related to the theme, Christmas with Elvis.

For tickets or more information, call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at (734) 326-7222, or stop by the office at 36900 Ford Road, south of Wayne Road. They're also available from Jeff Juenemann at Juenemann Insurance at 33652 Ford Road, east of Wayne Road.

Tickets are on sale now at the chamber office on Ford Road, east of Newburgh.

A portion of the proceeds will go to Westland Chamber of Commerce, Westland Rotary Charities and Joseph Benyo Scholarship Fund.

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## Attention WWII Veterans and Defense Workers!!



John Glenn High School students are interviewing WWII veterans and defense workers as part of an oral history project. These interviews will be videotaped and submitted to the Library of Congress. Participants will also receive a copy at the WWII USO Dance on May 8<sup>th</sup> to share with their families. To have your story preserved for posterity please contact Michele Anderson at 734 419-2300 or [AndersonM@wwcsd.net](mailto:AndersonM@wwcsd.net)

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The Wayne Westland WWII USO Dance and Oral History Project is made possible in part by a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

# Shoppers find bargains, 'nice people' on Black Friday

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

A continuation of last year's trend to open stores at midnight had people flocking to Westland Shopping Center's major retailers Friday, but by 8 a.m., the crowds had thinned out somewhat.

But that didn't mean there weren't deals to be had.

"The \$10 jeans at JC Penney, that's been the best deal by far," said Dominique Payne of Farmington who had been out shopping with Gioia Massey of Ypsilanti since 6 a.m. "That's actually what I went out for."

The two women, who were loaded down with shopping bags, had mapped and planned out where they wanted to go. This year's route include stops at Target, Radio Shack, Meijer and Walmart.

They added that their start time was "late for us, we're usually out by 3 a.m."

"One year we left after Thanksgiving dinner and didn't get back until 6 p.m. Friday, we didn't sleep," said Massey. "Every year we say we're not going to be out that long, but we are."

"We'll stay out until we run out of money," said Payne.

Dearborn Heights residents Katlin, Anne and Vince Macari were resting at a table by the Coffee Beanery, pondering their next move. Their shopping excursion started at midnight at Parisian where Katlin nabbed a pair of \$80 boots for \$20.

"It was a madhouse there, we got there an hour before it opened



The \$10 jeans at JC Penney had Dominique Payne of Farmington and Gioia Massey of Ypsilanti at Westland Shopping Center on Black Friday.

because of the line," said Katlin Macari.

Unlike some shoppers who were pulling all-nighters, the Maca-

ris went home and sleep briefly before heading out to Westland Shopping Center at 6 a.m.

"They didn't believe

me when I set the alarm for 5:15 a.m.," said Anne Macari. "I can't tell you the expletives that came out of his mouth



Vince and Anne Macari, of Dearborn Heights take a break from their shopping expedition. Vince's job is to wait in line while Anne and daughter, Katlin Macari, find the items on their list.

when it went off."

Vince Macari said his job on the shopping trip was to stand in line while his wife and daughter shopped and "collecting all the credit card receipts." Oh, and also carrying bags. He had two heavy-looking ones on the floor by his feet.

"The lines haven't been bad this year," he said.

According to Katlin Macari, Black Friday shopping is worth it. They look at the newspapers to see where they want to go. They saved a lot of money,

but by 8:30 a.m. they were ready to call it a day.

"We're going to go for some breakfast and then head home, we're done for now," said Katlin Macari. "Our mission is accomplished."

Brianna Foley had the job of sitting with shopping bags while her mother and sister were in Bath and Body Works.

"My mom made me sit here, I think she's in there buying a gift for me," said the Livonia resident.

Please see SHOPPERS, A7

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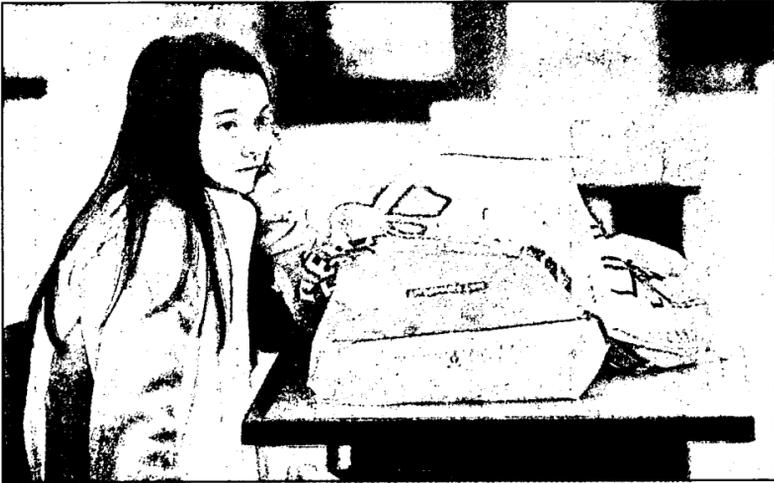
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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Brianna Foley of Livonia waits for her mother and sister, Colleen and Jenna Foley, while they shopped in Bath and Body Works.

**SHOPPERS**

Continued from page A6

"We just got here," said her mother, Colleen, who also had daughter Jenna with her. "Brianna woke me up."  
They'd already made stops at JC Penney and Aeropostale where they picked up things for the girls' father and a cousin.  
"I like doing this," said Brianna.  
As for her mother leaving her at the table, she said, "She's trying to make it a secret, but it's obvious."  
Bath and Body Works employee Carmen Coipel had been at the mall since midnight. An hour and a half before then end of her shift, she was standing outside the store, introducing customers to the VIP bag. Filled with \$100 worth of products, shoppers who spent \$40 could get the bag for \$20.  
"I've got a couple to buy it going in and a lot are coming out with it," she said.  
Shoppers come from all over to the mall, and



Carmen Coipel, who works at Bath and Body Works offers potential customers a Black Friday VIP bag for \$20 and filled with \$100 in products.

Ingrid Garneau and Trish Mandris are proof of that.  
The two women are from Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. They came across the board on Thursday to visit a cousin in Livonia.  
"We came over to celebrate your Thanksgiving, we have Thanksgiving, but it's not as spectacular as yours," said Garneau.  
The group started out at 6:30 a.m. — "We didn't want to do last night," said Garneau. — and had found some good buys. They had Nya Evans of Redford as a helper.  
"She our guide, she

helps us and keeps us from not getting lost," said Garneau.  
"It's been fun, helping them pick out stuff," said Evans.  
The group had an unusual way for determining when they would stop shopping.  
"We'll shop until we get hungry or run out money," said Mandris.  
Shoppers found plenty of Black Friday bargains, but they also found something else, according to Payne.  
"It's been a lot of fun and the people have been so nice," she said.  
smason@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-6751

**Services remember loved ones who have passed**

Families who have lost loved ones will have an opportunity to honor and remember them at services of remembrance at the R.G. and G.R. Harris Funeral Homes and Cremation Services of Garden City and Livonia Saturday, and Sunday, Dec. 1-2.  
This is the 22nd year R.G. and G.R. Harris has held a service of remembrance. At the services, family members will be invited to place an angel with their loved one's

name on a tree where it will remain until after January 1, 2013. A popular Children's Table is available for the kids to design their own angel ornament to help them express their feelings. Helpful thoughts on getting through the holidays after a loss will be given and a carol will be sung before all the names are read.  
Refreshments and fellowship will be indoors following the service.  
The service at the R.G.

and G.R. Harris Funeral Home — Livonia Chapel will be 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1. The chapel is at 15451 Farmington Road, just north of Five Mile, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-6720.  
The service at the R.G. and G.R. Harris Funeral Home — Garden City Chapel will be 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2. The chapel is at 31551 Ford Road, just west of Merriman, Garden City. For more information, call (734) 425-9200.

**GARDEN CLIPPINGS**

**Cookie Walk**

The First United Methodist Church will hold a Cookies Walk and Crafts 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 8, at the church, 6443 Merriman Road, Garden City.  
A variety of homemade cookies, candies and breads will be for sale along with homemade crafts. The event is sponsored by the women of the church.  
For more information, call (734) 421-8628.

**Healing Hearts**

Do you have a loved one in prison?  
Know that you are not alone. Confidential support group meetings are held at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland, 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The meetings are free.  
For more information contact Bonnie at Hope 4 Healing Hearts at (734) 646-2237.

her office hours beginning this September in the communities of Garden City, Dearborn Heights and Redford Township.  
Webb's office hours during this period will be as follows:  
• The second Monday of each month in Garden City at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, at 10 a.m.  
• The third Monday of each month in Dearborn Heights at the Berwyn Senior Center, 26155 Richardson Road, at 10 a.m.  
Office hours at the Eton Center, 4900 Pardee, are by appointment only. Call to schedule a meeting.  
• The fourth Monday of each month in Redford Township at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, at 10 a.m.  
The hours are scheduled to provide constituents the opportunity to discuss important issues and express concerns in a comfortable setting with Webb.  
For residents who are unable to attend daytime office hours, Webb will host evening hours by appointment only. Call (313) 224-0930 to reserve an evening hour meeting.

**Cougars Cafe**

The Garden City Public Schools holds its monthly the Cougars Care Cafe on Saturdays at Henry Ruff School. Upcoming cafe dates are Dec. 15, Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, April 20 and May 18.  
The free hot lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the gymnasium of the school, located at 30300 Maplewood at Henry Ruff. The goal is to serve to serve a hot lunch once a month throughout the 2012-13 school year.  
For more information or to donate, call Dorothy Wood at (734) 762-6311.

**Tutoring**

Members of the Key Club are once again offering tutoring 3:30-4:40 p.m. Wednesdays.  
Any middle school and elementary students can get some much-needed help with their studies at tutoring, offered 3:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday in Room 118 at Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt.  
For more information, contact Myrna Hathaway at the high school at (734) 762-8350 or at hathawm@gardencityschools.com.

**District hours**

Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb, District 9, has announced

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- Mon., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> noon-2pm
- Tues., Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> noon-2pm

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# Living trust spells out specifics on asset allocation

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

**Q:** Dear Rick: I read your column a few weeks ago about estate planning and how to treat children with different economic backgrounds. I am a widower and my children do not need my money. What I would like to do is to set up a fund that would be used by friends who aren't as fortunate. I figure they can use the money and then when they die, whatever is left can go to charity or to my kids. Can you tell me if what I want to do is legal and what I need to accomplish what I want? I have a simple will and I assume I would have to amend it to reflect these changes.



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom

**A:** What you want to do is admirable and legal. The fact that you want to help your friends who are not as fortunate as you is a very nice thing to do. However, there are some things that you would have to do to accomplish your goal.

I recommend that you have a living trust drafted. In your situation, the benefit of a living trust is that you would not need court supervision with regards to the maintenance and distribution of money to your friends. If all you had was a will, the Probate Court would retain jurisdiction over your assets until the money was distributed to a charity. This would mean that your trustees would have to report to the court every year and incur significant costs until final distribution of your assets.

I believe the more you keep judges, courts and lawyers out of family affairs, the easier things are. That is why I recommend a living trust.

Within your living trust one key question is who do you want to be the trustees? They would be the individuals who would manage the money within the trust and supervise its distribution. You have a number of different options to consider. You can name family and friends or a professional (an attorney or even a bank).

You can also have a combination of a family member and a bank to serve as co-trustees. In that regard, in order to have a checks and balance system, my recommendation would be that you have at least two trustees.

One thing to consider is how the money is going to be distributed. You want to help your friends but you have to have some sort of methodology to monitor the distributions. If you said that the trustee should pay whenever a friend has a request, then you may run into the situation where some of your friends are abusing the trust. If distributions are based on need, you must establish some rules for the trustee to follow.

One last thing to decide is which one of your friends the trust is meant to benefit. If you say any, that could cause all sorts of problems. Identify which friends should benefit from the trust.

When it comes to estate planning, no one should tell you what you should do with your money. You worked hard for it

and you're entitled to do with it as you choose. The key is to make sure that you leave the proper instructions as to how to carry out your final wishes.

One last issue that deals with what you plan to do with the money after your friends are no longer around. You mentioned at that point you will either leave it to your kids or to a charity. If you decide to leave it to a charity, then you need to be sure that whoever drafts your trust disinherits your children. This will prevent potential legal issues.

You can also state in the document the reasons why you're choosing not to leave something to your children, but you don't have to. Furthermore, it's up to you whether you tell your children before your death what you are doing. This is always a touchy issue and you probably are the best to judge what makes sense in your individual situation.

In today's ever-changing world, when it comes to passing money upon death, just about anything and everything goes. The key is to always make sure your final wishes are properly documented. Unless you dot the i's and cross the t's, you may find that a good portion of your money doesn't go where you want it to go, but rather, to legal fees, and that is something that everyone should try to avoid. Good luck.

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like Bloom to respond to your questions, please e-mail him at [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

# American House ornaments offer Holiday Hope for Seniors

Three American House Senior Living Communities in Westland will join in celebrating the fourth annual Holiday Hope for Seniors campaign, beginning with a community-wide tree lighting ceremony 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29.

Beginning at the tree lighting events and throughout the holiday season, paper ornaments will be sold at American House Westland Hunter at 35700 Hunter; American House Westland Joy at 39201 Joy Road and American House Westland Venoy at 1660 Venoy, with 100 percent of every donation going directly to senior citizens in need this winter.

Donations will range from \$5 to \$20, but any amount will be greatly appreciated. The Holiday Hope for Seniors campaign began with ideas from residents at local American House communities wishing to help their less fortunate neighbors: seniors helping seniors.

Coupled with a charitable spirit and festive holiday music, the 25 American House communities will set aside time to light their giving tree, and begin efforts to provide 710 local senior citizens with basic necessities like soap and toothpaste this winter.

Since its inception, the Holiday Hope for Seniors program has helped more than 650 seniors in need, including 350 seniors last year alone. The campaign is run by the nonprofit organization American House Foundation. Founded in 2007, the foundation's mission is twofold: investing in outreach for older adults in need of assistance, and investing in research opportunities through a partnership with the Institute of Gerontology at Wayne State University.

Proceeds raised during fundraising initiatives like Holiday

Hope for Seniors do not go toward American House residents themselves, but rather senior citizens in need, identified by partner nonprofit organizations. This year, the program has partnered with Lighthouse of Oakland County, The Senior Alliance, The Information Center, Adult Well-Being Services, and The Luella Hannan Memorial Foundation to identify 710 seniors in need of personal items this holiday season. The hope is to raise \$50,000.

"Each year, the scope of Holiday Hope for Seniors becomes bigger, and the impact becomes more noticeable," explains Rob Gillette, chief operating officer of American House. "We are excited about the opportunity to provide dignity and hope for senior citizens outside of our own American House walls, and help individuals in the community."

Holiday Hope for Seniors corporate sponsors include RED-ICO, CONTINUUM, Spectrum Home Care, Cole Taylor Mortgage, The Medical Team, Stokas Bieri Real Estate, National Wholesale Printing and Proforma.

For more information about Holiday Hope for Seniors, or to pledge a donation, contact Danielle Bruce at [dbruce@americanhouse.com](mailto:dbruce@americanhouse.com) or (call 248) 203-1800.

The American House Foundation is a nonprofit organization 501(c)3 investing in immediate relief and long-term solutions for the aging population. Created by American House Senior Living Communities, in partnership with the Institute of Gerontology at Wayne State University, its mission is to help find simple solutions to the complex problems of aging. For more information, visit [www.americanhouse.com/foundation](http://www.americanhouse.com/foundation).

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# Attorney announces first lawsuit in Webster School abuse case

Read internal report online at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

By Karen Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

An attorney representing a special-needs preschooler allegedly abused by a former Livonia Public Schools teacher said he would file a lawsuit Tuesday in U.S. District Court seeking in excess of \$75,000



for physical and emotional injuries the boy suffered. The lawsuit is the first of at least three expected to be filed on behalf of children in the Webster Elementary School class taught last school year by Sharon Turbiak.

LPS Superintendent Randy Liepa said parents have a right to seek a grievance through the court system. "If that's what they wish to do, I certainly understand that's an option for them," he said.

An internal report recently released by LPS includes witness statements saying Turbiak slapped and yelled at the children, let them fall and laughed about it instead of supporting them when they moved to the floor or a chair, and put a boy confined to a wheelchair in the bathroom for timeout for 15 to 20 minutes. The report says a parapro in the classroom spanked a child. The first documented complaint against Turbiak was dated Oct. 24, 2011, the report says.

### Grabbed by head

Attorney Ven Johnson of Detroit, who represents Jayden Gohl of Plymouth, said a social worker saw Turbiak on March 5 grab Jayden by the top of his head and jerk it backward and yell directly into his face, "You need to listen to me."

Jayden was born with hydrocephalus, has had seven brain surgeries and has a shunt in his brain. Any severe head movement and/or injury is potentially life-threatening to Jayden, Johnson said.

The social worker reported the incident to the principal, Shellie Moore, who in turn reported it to LPS human resources chief Cindy DeMann. But none of them reported it to Child Protective Services as

## Parents call lawsuits 'sign of failed culture'

By Karen Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

Parents of other students in the classroom spoke at last week's school board meeting, including D.J. Hurula, whose daughter Katelyn was in the class and whose wife, Becky, is a 17-year LPS teacher.

Hurula said the abuse Katelyn and the other children in the classroom suffered was "perpetuated by the incompetence and inaction of teachers, therapists, building administrators and staff at central office."

He said the district failed his daughter.

"The one thing a school district exists to provide, a safe and productive learning environment for its students — all of its students, yes, even the special-needs kids — you failed to provide," he said.

Lawsuits like the one already filed are a sign of

a failed culture, he told the board: "You have the responsibility to initiate the kinds of reform that will be required to fix the culture and climate at Livonia Public Schools."

Resident Brad Wolkan said the board needs to resolve the Webster issue before asking voters for a construction bond of more than \$200 million. He said it needs to fix LPS culture and environment and remove Liepa. "How can you, our representatives, ask us voters to trust a morally and financially irresponsible administration with that amount of public funds when they have already proven they cannot be trusted with the most precious thing we have, our children?" he asked.

Parent Terri Roeder of Ypsilanti also called for Liepa's firing. "Your employee, Randy Liepa, and his administration, have caused irreversible

harm to these defenseless children and went to great lengths to cover up this despicable situation," she told the board.

Eileen McDonnell, the only school board member parents said cared enough to respond to their emails, said Monday she could remain silent no longer. She said until the board realizes the seriousness of the potential lawsuits, she cannot and will not continue discussions about a possible bond.

"Our priority needs to be about these special children and their families," McDonnell said. "This board needs to hold all those involved accountable for their actions or non-actions. I really believe that we have not lived up to our community's expectations on this issue."

School board member Colleen Burton said she would not comment on

the lawsuit until she sees it. She said she has no intention of firing Liepa or not going forward with discussion on a bond proposal.

She said Liepa has been a superintendent for many years with the district, has several responsibilities and consistently gets good performance reviews.

"This was turned over to the prosecutor's office and they refused to go any further with it. Mr. Wolkan is not the final say on this matter," she said.

Burton said the board is required to multitask, being responsible for almost 16,000 students and 2,000 staff members.

"We can't choose one group to take of," she said. "It's our job to take care of all the students. We have to take care of Webster and the other kids, not one or the other."

Liepa said Wolkan and the others have a right

to their opinion, including saying they want him fired. He said the district took the issue extremely seriously.

Among other actions, the board:

- Replaced the principal at Webster (Moore has since retired).

- Added cameras to the preschool and kindergarten program at Webster.

- Met with Wayne County prosecutors to update training on reporting requirements for suspected abuse.

- Added training for special education staff on handling students.

At previous school board meetings, parents have spoken both for and against the action the board took against Turbiak.

"As you know, there are a lot of opinions out there," Liepa said.

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(313) 222-2098

required by law, Johnson said, and Turbiak was allowed to return to the classroom and endanger more children.

Named as defendants in the lawsuit are LPS, Wayne RESA Center, Turbiak, Liepa, Moore, DeMann and Nancy Rospondeck, the parapro. The class was part of a Wayne RESA center program serving students from multiple districts. All 12 of the children who were in the class are cognitively impaired and some also have physical impairments.

Mark Schultz, the district's public safety administrator and a former police officer, reported the issue to Livonia Police Department on April 24, the day after he began the internal investigation.

Turbiak was placed on leave in April, and the school board voted June 18 to recommend the state tenure commission terminate Turbiak's employment. Turbiak then resigned, effective March 31, 2013, and the Michigan Tenure Commission dismissed the case against her. She remains on paid administrative leave until March 31, 2013. The school board fired the parapro June 13.

Livonia police sought

warrants from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, but those warrants were denied and the case was closed.

Turbiak has not returned calls from the *Observer*.

Johnson said his client's rights were violated and he suffered physical

pain and suffering, mental anguish, embarrassment and humiliation. The lawsuit seeks punitive damages and reasonable expenses of medical care, treatment and services.

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# Merger blends organizational cultures to create sustainable future

According to Mayor William Wild, the merger of the Wayne and Westland Fire departments is "a common sense service consolidation that provides the confidence to the citizens of both cities that regionalization efforts can occur and be successful."

"The transition has gone smoothly and the attention to detail paid off with no interruption to services and at no additional cost to our taxpayers," said Wild. "It is turning out to be a positive regional collaboration effort and this is an excellent example of how consolidations can actually improve the level of service to our residents while actually saving some serious tax dollars."

## How it happened

With shrinking budgets and the tough decisions that accompany them, many fire departments and their communities around the country are struggling to make ends meet. And, unlike other city services, fire departments are in a position

to do more regionalized work since most already train together in mutual aid agreements. As a result, the discussion was well received.

"The fire unions from both cities have been at the table with their respective elected officials throughout the years, helping to figure out how to work with the tight budgets we have faced, due to the sluggish economy and erosion of property values, so bringing them into the discussions early on made perfect sense," said Wayne Mayor Al Hadius.

Collectively, the group created a three-step approach focused on creating a fully operational consolidated fire service. Step one provided for a single fire chief for the participating cities; step two focused on the consolidation of the headquarter command functions and reduce administrative duplication by taking advantage of expected retirements and attrition. Step three consolidated all fire operations.

The decision was made

to move forward and the steps were implemented quickly. The group put together a proposal within 30 days. That proposal showed an annual savings to both communities of approximately \$320,000. Plus, the new department would absorb every employee with no layoffs.

"For communities that are looking at budget deficits, this successful public safety consolidation could serve as a blueprint for significant cost savings," said Hadius.

## What will change

The merger will present each community with four-five additional firefighters each day, moving from 71 full-time personnel to 90 - Westland's 71 and Wayne's 19 - while improving response times. Acting as a unified department, firefighters are already wearing uniforms with the Wayne-Westland Fire Department logo.

Other changes will include the elimination of duplications in management, equipment and supplies, future employ-

ee costs, including lower health care and pension costs, and the sharing of a fire chief, which transpired on July 1, 2012. These changes are also tied to the \$320,000 in cost savings that both communities will see annually.

As an extra incentive, the Wayne-Westland Fire Departments applied for funding through a state program, called the Competitive Grant Assistance Program (CGAP), designed by Gov. Rick Snyder to provide incentive-based grants to offset costs associated with mergers, inter-local agreements and cooperative efforts.

The Wayne-Westland Fire Department was awarded \$791,787 to offset the costs of implementation and the consolidation of equipment, facilities and staff and personnel training, and the merging of information technology.

"I credit both mayors for their leadership and council members of both cities which ratified the merger unanimously and, of course, the unions, for

without their support and agreeing to come to the table, this merger would not have been possible," said the Wayne-Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy. "For other communities that want to accomplish something like this, you've got to bring the unions to the table early on. Give your members a voice so you can get the necessary buy-in. Many mergers have failed because this critical step was missed."

## Key supporters

Not only did this merger receive full union endorsement, it also received two thumbs up from Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley who was the keynote speaker during the Wayne-Westland Fire Merger ribbon cutting ceremony earlier this summer.

At that time the Calley said, "The new Wayne-Westland Fire Administration headquarters represents a new way forward for local governments to reduce costs through consolidation while continuing to meet their critical public safe-

ty duties. As Gov. Snyder outlined in his special message on public safety, intergovernmental agreements can overcome challenges through collaborative, comprehensive and long-term approaches, and we applaud Wayne and Westland for setting a great example. It's this type of teamwork that will help reinvent Michigan."

"The City of Westland is proud to be a leader in the consolidation of services with other cities, we look forward to having one of the most modern full-service advanced life support fire departments in the State of Michigan to protect our residents while operating in the most cost effective manner, said Wild. "I want to personally thank Gov. Rick Snyder, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, the City of Wayne, the Wayne and Westland City Councils and the Western Wayne Professional Firefighters Union for their ongoing support of this important and historical endeavor and, of course, my good friend, Mayor Al Hadius."

## AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

### Goodfellows Party

Wayne city employees and friends are being invited to the 26th annual Goodfellows Party slated for 5:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis.

Tickets are \$15 each and include two drink tickets, appetizers and door prize. There also will be prizes, raffles and auctions throughout the evening, DJ Steve with Swat Karaoke and juggling bartender Andy Bro.

Proceeds will benefit the Wayne Goodfellows' "No Child Without a Christmas Program." For tickets or to donate, call (734) 722-1111.

ets or to donate, call (734) 722-1111.

### Christmas Celebration

Tickets are on sale now through Dec. 3 for the Christmas Celebration that will be held at the Westland Friendship Center noon-3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7.

Tickets are \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. The menu consists of ham, roast beef, whipped sweet potatoes, peas, au gratin potatoes, cranberry relish, tossed salad/dressing, rolls and butter and dessert.

The Friendship Center is at 1119 Newburgh Road, south of Ford. For more information, call (734) 722-7628.

### Cookie Walk

The First United Methodist Church of Wayne will hold a cookie walk 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 8, at the church, 3 Town Square, across from the Wayne Office, in Wayne.

Homemade holiday cookies and candies will be available. Cookies will be sold by contains, candies by the pound. For more information, call (734) 721-4801.

## Enjoy a cup of tea while helping local charities

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

Think of it as a chance to channel your inner Martha Stewart and share a girls night out while raising money for charity.

It's the annual Ladies Cup of Christmas Tea hosted by Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation and Wayne Business and Professional Women. This year the tea will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Wayne Community Center.

"We provide the tea, coffee and entertainment. The hostess decorates the table," said Sue Honke, an administrative assistant at parks and recreation. "Each hostess hosts a table of eight to 10 people."

The hostess also pro-

vides tea cups and plates along with a dessert and a small gift or ornament for their guests.

"We usually have 24 tables and 220-250 guests. It's all women — we only invite women. That may sound bad, but it works best for us," said Honke, who coordinates the Christmas tea with Wayne Library Director Paulette Medvecky.

The tea has become a family affair for Honke, whose daughters host two mother and daughter tables.

"It's open to ages 12 and up. They have a great time. My mom and sister host three tables," Honke said.

The entertainment changes annually and has included a performance by a bell choir, sing-alongs and an author talk.

This will be the 13th year for the tea, which for the last three years has raised an average of \$3,000. The proceeds are divided between a BPW scholarship fund for women returning to work outside the home and Wayne youth programs.

Tickets are \$10 per person for guests, but money is also raised through gift basket raffles. Guests also bring donations for Toys for Tots and non-perishable foods for St. Mary of Wayne's food pantry.

Hostesses are still needed. Sign up for the Christmas tea by Dec. 3. For more information, call Honke at (734) 721-7400, ext. 1303.

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**CITY OF GARDEN CITY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, December 13, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on a request to rezone the property located at 32940 Cherry Hill from O-1 Office District to C-1 Local Business District.

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

Publish: November 25, 2012

AT870076 - 3x3

**Local Horologist Repairs  
Hard-to-Fix Timepieces**



Miller has over 28 years experience with watches and timepieces, and received his degree in horology at Houston Technical College before relocating to southeast Michigan.

Over his expansive career, Miller has seen his share of unique cases. "One of the most interesting cases I worked on was an English Grandfather clock from the 1590's. The owner wanted it restored to working order, and rewired for battery operation," said Miller.

"Another difficult request was hand-cutting a triangular crystal for a special-edition Masonic pocketwatch by Rolex," Miller continued. There's good reason over 172 jewelers in the area rely on Triple Crown and Miller for those hard-to-fix assignments. "I enjoy the challenge of restoring unique timepieces to their original functioning state. It is as much an artform as it is pure mechanics, and it is extremely rewarding to see these old pieces correctly keeping time again."

Triple Crown is located at 1940 E. Maple Rd. (at John R.) in Troy. In addition to repairing watches, straps, batteries and winding boxes, Triple Crown has a large amount of battery operated and wind up pocket watches.

For more information, stop by Triple Crown at 1940 E. Maple (15 Mile) just west of John R., visit [www.triplecrownwatchcompany.com](http://www.triplecrownwatchcompany.com) or give them a call at 248-585-2777. They will make sure you stay on time in 2012!

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# Keeping tabs

## Eight-year collection goes to charity

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

Canton resident Allan Levy has spent eight years collecting 108,870 aluminum can pull tabs.

But who's counting? He is. Levy, a University of Michigan alumnus, started his collection for charity, and he chose to try to help U-M beat rival Ohio State as the two schools battled to collect the most pull tabs before Saturday's football game in Columbus.

It's a friendly competition benefiting Ronald McDonald Houses in Ann Arbor and Columbus, and Levy was planning to drop off his pull tabs in maize and blue country by Saturday's deadline.

Not only do the Ronald McDonald Houses collect and cash in the scrap pull tabs, but Coca-Cola Co., has pledged to donate \$1,000 to the charity house that draws the largest collection.

"I like contributing to good causes," Levy said.

Levy has been collecting pull tabs from pop, tea, soup and beer cans — any cans, really — and he's had help from sources such as softball and baseball teams he's involved with in the Detroit area and around the country.

"I've even forged relationships with opponents," said Levy, who played baseball when he attended U-M.

Levy also has received help from airline flight attendants and groups such as the U-M Club of Ann Arbor. He's a member of the club's Board of Governors.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Allan Levy says he spent eight years collecting 108,870 aluminum can pull tabs, and turned them in this weekend to benefit Ronald McDonalds Houses.

Levy has stored his collection in boxes and plastic bags, and it's not the first time he has collected pull tabs for charity. This time, however, he and others are helping Ronald McDonald Houses provide housing for families whose children are being treated at places such as U-M's Mott Children's Hospital.

According to the Ann Arbor Ronald McDonald House, families need help with housing for time periods ranging from two weeks to a year or longer. Levy has long had a charitable heart, and he has more time now that he



Allan Levy has stored his collection in boxes and plastic bags, and it's not the first time he has collected pull tabs for charity.

has retired from Macomb Community College, where he taught speech, English and business management. He also was the college's director of public relations and publications.

Levy plans to continue collecting his can pull tabs for charity, and he's asking for help from others.

Joe Alli, owner of the Auto-lab of Canton South, said he will use his business as a drop-off point for the pull tabs.

"We'll see if we can help him," Alli said. His business is located

at 44744 Michigan Ave., between Canton Center and Sheldon.

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"The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Wayne Masonic Temple Association, a Michigan non-profit corporation, will be held at the corporate office at 37137 Palmer Rd., Westland Michigan on Tuesday December 11, 2012 at eight o'clock P.M. for the election of officers and such other business as may properly come before said meeting."

Publish: November 25, 2012

**ORDINANCE NO. 258**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 50, ARTICLE II OF THE WESTLAND CITY CODE TO ADOPT SECTIONS 50-40 AND 50-41 TO REQUIRE ON-LINE REPORTING FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL INSPECTIONS AND TESTING CONCERNING LIFE SAFETY SAFEGUARDS, CERTIFICATION OF PRIVATE INSPECTORS, AND REQUIREMENTS FOR ON-SITE FIRE INSPECTIONS AS AUTHORIZED BY THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, AS AMENDED, AND TO AMEND CHAPTER 46, SECTION 46-1 OF THE WESTLAND CODE TO ADOPT REGISTRATION FEES FOR PRIVATE INSPECTORS AND FEES FOR SITE INSPECTIONS AND NON-COMPLIANCE.**

**Section 1.** That Chapter 50, Article II, Section 50-40 of the Westland City Code is hereby adopted to provide as follows:

**"Sec. 50-40. Non-residential inspections, testing and on-line reporting concerning life safety safeguards.**

(a) The owners of all non-residential businesses and structures shall be required to provide timely, on-line reporting, in accordance with the system, format and procedures as determined by the Fire Marshal, of all inspections, testing and maintenance records of life safety safeguards as defined in Section 107 of the International Fire Code, as amended.

(b) The inspections, testing, maintenance records and reporting as required by paragraph (a) of this section shall be performed and provided at the cost of the owner of the business or structure, by private inspectors who are registered and certified by the City in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section.

(c) The first instance of non-compliance with paragraph (a) of this section will require the owner to pay a non-compliance fee, as specified in Westland Code Section 46-1, to cover the costs of follow up efforts necessitated by the non-compliance. Thereafter, any further non-compliance shall constitute a misdemeanor offense.

(d) In order to be certified by the City, private inspectors for such life safety safeguards shall be required to apply to the Fire Marshal, pay a registration fee as specified in Westland Code Section 46-1, and meet such testing and other requirements as determined by the Fire Marshal.

(e) The City shall not assume any liability to any person or entity by reason of the inspection or certification of private inspectors required by this ordinance."

**Section 2.** That Chapter 50, Article II, Section 50-41 of the Westland City Code is hereby adopted to provide as follows:

**"Sec. 50-41. Site inspections of non-residential businesses and structures.**

(a) For qualifying businesses and structures, the site inspections authorized by Section 106 of the International Fire Code, as amended, may be performed by fire department personnel or they may be performed in accordance with such procedures and requirements of a "self-inspection" program. The qualifications for such businesses and structures and the procedures and requirements for the "self-inspection" program shall be as determined by the Fire Marshal.

(b) The fee for non-residential site inspections as performed by fire department personnel, and the fee for participation in the "self-inspection" program shall be as specified in Westland Code Section 46-1."

**Section 3.** That Chapter 46, Section 46-1 of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to add paragraph (73), to provide as follows:

**"Fire Inspection and Reporting**

(73) Non-compliance fee under section 50-40(c) ..... \$200.00

Registration and certification fee for private inspectors under section 50-40(d) ....\$79.00 certification valid for two years.

Annual Site Inspection fee provided by Fire Department personnel under section 50-41:

(Inspection and One re-Inspection)	
0-3,000 SF	\$210.00
3,001-6,000 SF	\$270.00
6,001-9,000 SF	\$330.00
9,001-12,000 SF	\$420.00
12,001-20,000 SF	\$540.00
20,001-50,000 SF	\$690.00
50,001-100,000 SF	\$990.00
100,001-250,000 SF	\$1290.00
250,001-500,000 SF	\$1890.00
500,001-1,000,000 SF	\$3090.00
Over 1,000,000 SF	\$4590.00

Annual "Self-inspection" program fee under section 50-41:

(Self-inspection and One Inspection review)	
0-3,000 SF	\$150.00
3,001-6,000 SF	\$150.00
6,001-9,000 SF	\$150.00
9,001-12,000 SF	\$150.00
12,001-20,000 SF	\$150.00
20,001-50,000 SF	\$150.00
50,001-100,000 SF	\$200.00
100,001-250,000 SF	\$225.00
250,001-500,000 SF	\$250.00
500,001-1,000,000 SF	\$300.00
Over 1,000,000 SF	\$350.00"

**Section 4.** That all other provisions of Chapters 46 and 50 of the Westland City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 5.** Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

**Section 6.** Repeal. All other Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such inconsistencies, hereby repealed.

**Section 7.** Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

**Section 8.** Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

Adopted: November 19, 2012  
Effective: November 29, 2012

Publish: November 29, 2012

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# Photographs let children share their hopes and dreams



Ajanae Watts enjoys pizza served at the "Picture of Hope" party.



Youngsters from Lighthouse Path of Oakland County who participated in "Pictures of Hope" wait with Linda Solomon to see what their cards look like.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

It's said that a picture is worth a thousand words. But in the eyes of acclaimed photographer Linda Solomon, they are worth much more, especially when they are taken by children.

For a second year, the Bloomfield resident was at Gordon Chevrolet in Garden City for the unveiling of "Pictures of Hope" — photographs taken by 15 youngsters whose families are being served by Lighthouse Path in Pontiac.

"It's been an honor to work with these chil-

dren," Solomon said. "They've been dealt difficult hands, but we can show them their dreams matter. We can show them their dreams are respected."

Lighthouse Path, which provides transitional housing for families for up to two years, selected the 15 children, ranging in age from 5-14, for the project. Solomon provided tutoring on picture taking, then gave cameras to the children, who were told to turn their hopes and dreams into photographs.

She then selected a photograph for each child, which was turned into one of the notecards that are on sale at Gordon Chevrolet and Lighthouse Path. One hundred per-

cent of the proceeds will benefit Lighthouse Path.

"We're very proud and very blessed to be a part of this," said Susan Ianni, general manager at Gordon Chevrolet. "I was a single mom years ago. I can look at single moms and understand their struggles. I have a soft spot in my heart for them. Anyone who reach-

es out, I'll help."

This is the second year Solomon has partnered with Chevrolet to introduce "Pictures of Hope" to children living in shelters in 12 cities around the country. She chose Lighthouse Path to "show the problem of homelessness in Oakland County." "These children come from broken homes,

or their parents lost their jobs or they've been evicted from their homes," Solomon said. "Their hopes and dreams might be something they can't strive for. They don't have the same funds as those with a normal life."

It wasn't hard to figure out 8-year-old Donovan Ward's dream. His photo-

graph was of a fire truck, his hope and dream to be a firefighter like his father, who is in Indianapolis, Ind. His mentor was Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard, who took him to a fire station to capture his dream on film.

"I went to the fire sta-

Please see PHOTOS, A13

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PHOTOS

Continued from page A12

tion and asked if I could take a picture. I took pictures of a fire truck and a house," Donovan said.

Fourteen-year-old Sianna Wahs's hope is to go to college and to play basketball. Her mentor was Teri Fenner, vice president of the board of Lighthouse Path, who tapped into her network of friends and took her to meet the athletic director at Oakland University. Sianna now has four tickets for four OU basketball games, so that she, her mother, twin sister Samaria and a Lighthouse Path staffer can attend.

Her photograph is the OU sign.

"I want to be a basketball player and study to be a pediatrician," said the teen, who has been in transitional housing with her family for 1½ years. "It helped me to get closer to my family, including my twin sister."

Other dreams included making their mother proud, stopping racism, getting all A's and hope.



Linda Solomon talks about her excitement in unveiling the children's "Pictures of Hope" cards at a party at Gordon Chevrolet in Garden City.

Lighthouse Path provides fully furnished apartments for families for up to 24 months. The average stay is 18 months. The goal of each woman at the shelter

is to be self-sufficient and move into their own

home and have sustainability.



Among the hopes expressed on the cards is that of 12-year-old Antane: "My dream is to teach"

Tia Cobb, Lighthouse Path executive director, was "overjoyed and excited" about her agency being selected for "Pictures of Hope." It's a great opportunity for the children.

"For a child to be given the opportunity to see their hope and dream they strive for and visualize a path to achieving them," Cobb said, "this is exposure they have never gotten before. It's an opportunity that lets

them realize they can have anything anybody else has."

"The hope to go to college is number one in all of the cities," Solomon said. "That's something we take for granted."

"They reflect their true values in the these cards. These are really specific things that they have. This tells them we hear you, we care about you."

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# SPORTS

## Spartans look good with 3-0 hockey record

Stevenson trounces Churchill, remains on early-season tear

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's hockey team doesn't want to get ahead of itself, but the Spartans are looking very formidable during the early going of the 2012-13 season. That was no more evident than Wednesday night at Edgar Arena as Stevenson skated to an impressive 9-2 win over rival Livonia Churchill in a Kensington Conference crossover.

"It was a night where a lot of bounces went our way and a night where a lot of things went our way," said Stevenson coach David Mitchell, whose team is 3-0 overall and has outscored its first three opponents by an aggregate of 22-4. "It was a good night for us."

Junior forward Dominic Lutz enjoyed a five-point night with three goals and two assists. Junior linemate Tyler Irvine and senior forward Blake Battjes each added two goals and two assists.

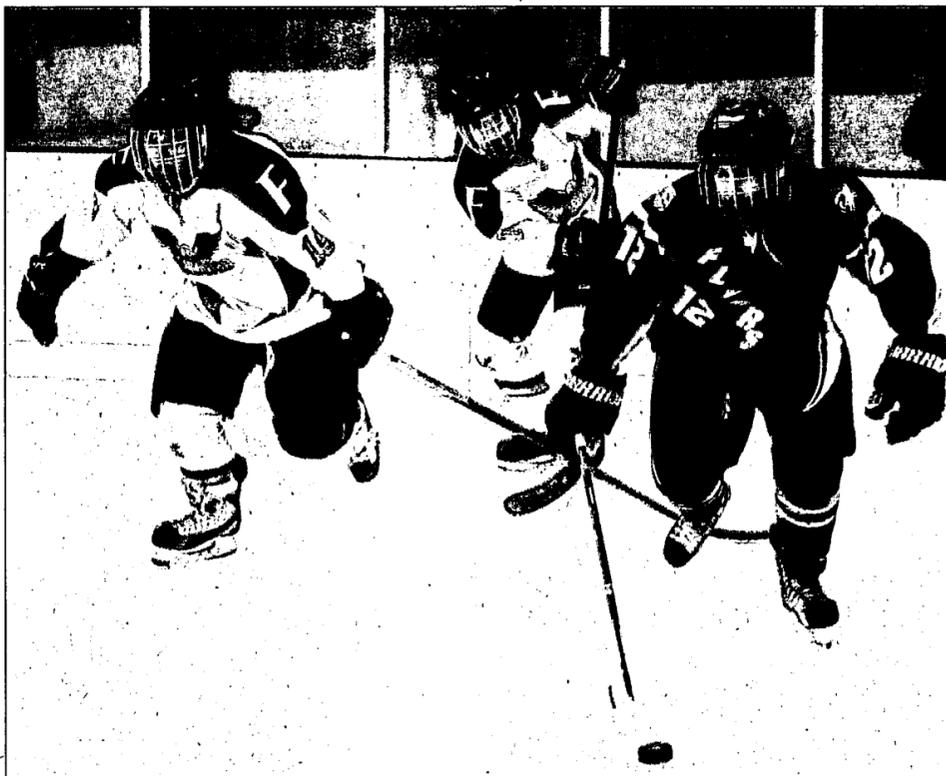
Lutz scored just 16 seconds into the first period from Devin Kelly, who finished the game with two assists.

"We came with a lot of energy," said Mitchell, whose team led 3-0 after one period. "This is a group that has been working extremely hard. And so far, practices have been outstanding. Our work ethic in practice has carried over to the games and it's nice to see."

Freshman Ben Kowalske and  
Please see SPARTANS, B5



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Stevenson's Tyler Irvine (9) and Churchill's Tommy Carey (22) battle for possession of the puck in Wednesday's game at Edgar Arena.



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

North Farmington-Harrison junior Stephen Coulter advances the puck as Farmington senior Marc Nahat gives chase.

## Flyers zip past Falcons

North-Harrison dominates pre-Thanksgiving game

By Dan O'Meara  
Observer Staff Writer

City rivals North Farmington-Harrison and Farmington have played some exciting, nailbiting hockey games in their annual Thanksgiving Eve series, but the 2012 event was not one of the classics.

In one of the more one-sided meetings, the unified Flyers outshot the Falcons, 48-17, and skated away with a 3-0 victory Wednesday night at Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

"Our guys did a great job," North-Harrison coach Ken Anderson said. "We knew we had to move our feet constantly against these guys, and we were able to do it. We were able to control the play because of it."

Senior defenseman Reede Burnett figured in all three goals, assisting on the first by senior Eamon Devlin and scoring the last two with help from senior Eric Stanis and juniors Stephen Coulter and Kyle Witherspoon.

A scoreless first period was clean and even until the Falcons took the first penalty with 1:03 remaining. With 57 seconds left on the power play to start the second period, Devlin scored a half minute into it.



Senior Reede Burnett scored two goals and had one assist.

Farmington goalie John Lethemon left the goal crease to play the puck, but he didn't get a handle on it and it slid behind him. He couldn't recover in time to stop Devlin from tapping the puck into the open net.

"It's a tough goal to give up," Falcons coach Mark Vellucci said. "I know he feels bad about it, but those things happen. We have to keep his spirits up, because we're going to need

him for the long haul."

The Flyers (2-1) were on the power play again later in the second period when Burnett whipped a slapshot from the point that hit a player and bounced into the net to make it 2-0.

"He's our captain; he leads us on the ice and off the ice," Anderson said. "Tonight was a big game and he stepped up. He, Stanis, (senior TJ) Zak and Devlin needed to step up and they did it."

Early in the third period (13:31), Burnett took a centering feed from Stanis, quickly moved the puck to his right and slipped it behind Lethemon for the third goal.

He drew an unsportsmanlike penalty following the play and put Farmington (0-3) on the power play for the next minute. The Falcons took four more penalties and gave North-Harrison an almost continuous power play for the duration of the game. There was no more scoring, but the Flyers might've had twice as many goals as they did.

"I told my guys that," Anderson said. "We thought we outplayed them enough. But that's what happens in a rivalry game. You have to keep working hard,

Please see FLYERS, B4

## Naubert gets WHAC award

Madonna University junior point-guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) was named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference men's basketball Player of the Week (ending Nov. 19) after averaging 29 points, 6.5 rebounds, 5.5 assists and 1.5 steals as the Crusaders went 1-1.

Naubert scored a career-high 31 points in a 100-81 setback Nov. 14 at Goshen (Ind.) College and followed with a 27-point, eight-rebound effort in a 75-61 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference triumph Nov. 17 at home over No. 25-ranked Indiana Tech.

## Kubicki, Boes finish season

Madonna University had two representatives in the NIAA Men's and Women's National Cross Country Championships Nov. 17 at the Fort Vancouver (Wash.) Historical Site.

Sophomore Bianca Kubicki (Canton), making her second straight appearance, finished 84th among 320 runners with a 5,000-meter time of 19 minutes, 17 seconds on a soggy course following two days of heavy rains. She was only three seconds off last year's time.

Meanwhile, MU senior Tim Boes (Westland John Glenn) made program history when he became the first Crusader to compete in the NAIA's finishing 115th among a field of 309 in 26:16 (8,000 meters). He broke the 8K school record twice this season.

Boes, majoring in social work, along with women's runner Kayla Daugherty (Brighton), a journalism and public relations major, were also named as 2012 Daktronics NAIA Scholar-Athlete team for carrying a 3.5 or better grade-point average.

## Clinic topic is baseball

The Warriors Baseball Club of Michigan invites all school and summer baseball coaches to attend the first Metropolitan Detroit Baseball Coaches Clinic and Vendor Show at Farmington High School from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8.

The event will feature presentations by the head baseball coaches from several state universities.

More than 25 vendors also are expected to participate. The cost is \$50. Participants who pre-register will be eligible for numerous door prizes.

For additional information, or to pre-register for the clinic, please contact the Warriors Baseball Club of Michigan at (248) 842-7044 or WarriorHQ@aol.com.

## Wildcats rout rival Chiefs in 9-0 romp

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

At the annual "Toys for Tots" game hosted by Canton, it was the Plymouth Wildcats opening up a box — filled with goals.

Behind five power play goals, the Wildcats romped Wednesday night to a 9-0 victory in a KLAA South Division boys hockey game halted after two periods due to the eight-goal mercy rule. The game was played at Arctic Edge Arena.

"It's extremely discouraging," Canton coach Jeremy Majszak said. "You should step up for a game like this and we didn't."

He pointed to a lack of team play, particularly after the Wildcats

jumped in front at 4:04 of the first period on an even-strength goal by senior forward Jordan Lopetrone on assists from junior forward Conor Browne and senior defenseman Dean Gunther.

"We're just not playing with a lot of heart right now," Majszak said about his 0-2 team. "We're running around; that's all there is to it."

"We're not playing team hockey. That's what we play, that's what we stress every year and this group's just not getting it yet."

Lopetrone (two goals), Browne (two assists) and Gunther (two goals, two assists) were among seven Plymouth players to chalk up multiple points.

Please see WILDCATS, B5



Vying for the puck during Wednesday night's contest at Arctic Edge are Plymouth's Joe Burke (No. 19) and Canton's Matt Cox (No. 16).



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# Chargers roast Monarchs in pre-holiday victory

By Ed Wright  
Observer Staff Writer

The Crestwood/Garden City Unified hockey team's game Wednesday night against Allen Park Cabrini had all the ingredients of a Thanksgiving leftovers sandwich for the Chargers.

The middle period was a turkey, but the first and third were as sweet as corn bread.

After bolting to a 4-0 advantage after the opening 17 minutes, the Chargers overcame a Monarch surge to ultimately knock the stuffing out of their hosts, 8-3.

The first-year contingent improved to 2-0 overall and 1-0 in the Southeastern Hockey League's Gold Division. Cabrini slipped to 0-2 and 0-1, respectively.

Despite the one-sided final result, the Chargers' performance gave head coach Steve Popp a slight case of indigestion.

"Even though we got off to a quick start, and it looked good on the score-



PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT

Crestwood/Garden City Unified defenseman Jimmy Stevenson clears the puck during the second period of Wednesday night's 8-3 victory over Allen Park Cabrini.

board, I thought we struggled," Popp said. "I didn't think we played well at all as a team. Talent-wise, we're much more advanced than (Cabrini), but we didn't play like it."

"We weathered the storm, though, and did enough at the end to win. Since it was the first league game for us, it was an important win."

The Chargers' first two goals were delivered by Garden City students Johnny Segasser, a sophomore forward who one-timed the puck in the net from the door step just 68 seconds into the contest, and Scott Bleim, who flipped home a rebound four minutes later after Matt Sandburg's shot was stopped by Cabrini fresh-



Crestwood/Garden City Unified forward Johnny Segasser stretches for the puck during the second period of Wednesday night's 8-3 victory over Allen Park Cabrini.

man goalie Justin Varhol. Crestwood/GC upped its lead to 4-0 thanks to goals from Jacob Noel (from Corey Hahn) and Justin Sims (from Matt Kirunchyk and Segasser), but the hosts stormed back with two quick goals from Alis Solis and Sheldon Varhol early in the second period — forcing Popp to call a tempo-changing timeout.

"I told them they needed to pick up the intensity," Popp said, recounting his message during the time-

out. "We were hesitant going into the corners for the puck. We needed to step it up, and to the guys' credit, we did."

Chargers goalie Chris Greco — who turned in a spectacular effort — stemmed the Monarchs' momentum midway through the second period with back-to-back stellar saves within a 20-second span.

Crestwood/GC expanded its advantage to 5-2 with 13:31 left in the game, when Kirunchyk

tipped in Steve Bennett's initial effort.

The Monarchs drew to within 5-3 with 11:47 left when Christopher Sukel ripped a shot through Greco's five-hole, but the Chargers turned on the after-burners down the stretch, scoring on goals by Bennett, Bleim and Joey Testane.

"I thought Steve Bennett played really well on defense for us," Popp said. "And Johnny Segasser was tough all the way around."

# Pats notch first win of the season vs. Kettering

Seniors Elijah Grimm and Adam Stadler each had four-point nights to lead Livonia Franklin to a 6-2 boys hockey win Wednesday over visiting Waterford Kettering in a game played at Edgar Arena.

Grimm finished with a hat trick and one assist, while Stadler assisted on four goals as the Patriots, who unloaded for 39 shots on goal, evened their record at 1-1 overall.

Senior captain Mike Diaz scored the first two goals as the Patriots led 2-0 after one period.

Sophomore Justin Makowski also added a goal for the Patriots, while Corey Ferrer chipped in with three assists and Josh Dudek finished with one.

Franklin sophomore goaltender Matt Monendo stopped 13-of-15 shots.

Kettering (0-3) got second-period goals from Kyle Soncrainte and Christian Ketterben, but still trailed 5-2.

"It was great to get our first win, but I understand Kettering was short-handed and missing some key players," Frank-

lin first-year coach Dennis Gagnon said. "I was proud of the effort. We've got a lot of learn, but we're excited to move forward."

**STEVENSON 6, G.P. SOUTH 1:** Junior Dominic Lutz and senior Travis Harvey each tallied a pair of goals Friday as Livonia Stevenson (4-0) downed Grosse Pointe South (1-2) in the first round of the Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Thanksgiving Tournament.

One of Lutz's goals was short-handed. He also drew an assist as Stevenson outshot the Blue Dev-

ils, 38-19. Austin Stevens and Tyler Irvine had the other goals for the Spartans, who led 2-0 after one period and 3-0 after 34 minutes.

Andrew Bigham scored in the final period for South to spoil the shutout bid by Stevenson senior goalie Connor Humitz, who made 18 saves.

The Spartans will face the host Cranes, a 3-1 winner Friday over Grosse Pointe North, in the title game beginning at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Cranbrook.

**NOVI 3, SALEM 2:** The visiting Rocks (0-1, 0-1) fell short in a comeback

bid Wednesday night at Novi (1-2, 1-0) in the KLA Central Division opener for both teams.

Novi led 2-0 after one period and 2-1 after two, following Salem's goal by first-year sophomore Noah Willer (assisted by Justin Katulski and Colin Pietron).

Willer collected a stretch pass up the middle and broke in on Novi goalkeeper Pat Carney for the marker.

In the third, the Rocks scored on a power play goal by first-year sophomore Noah Saad (from Alek Zultowski and Jake Sealy). Salem peppered Car-

ney trying for the equalizer but could not equal. The goalie stopped 28-of-30 shots.

"While we are not happy with the end result, we played a solid game and controlled the game for long stretches," Salem head coach Ryan Ossenschlager said.

**CHELSEA 7, CANTON 2:** On Nov. 16, the visiting Chiefs were defeated in their regular season opener.

Scoring single goals for Canton were Brad Ceci and Christian Flack.

Jacob Dugan and Justin Kolbicz divided the goal-keeping duties.

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subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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# All-Observer soccer team a 'goal-den' class of players

## FIRST TEAM

**Bobby Budlong, Canton:** The senior co-captain returned after missing the 2011 state championship season due to knee surgery and had a huge season.

Budlong scored 14 goals and added 20 assists to spark the Chiefs to a 16-4-2 record including a 10-0-0 mark in the KLAAs South Division.

That performance landed him a spot on both the Michigan High School Coaches Association's "Dream Team" and first team.

His all-around efforts also earned him all-KLAA, all-district and all-region honors.

"Bobby has been a true gift to the Canton High School soccer program," coach George Tomasso said. "He has led on and off the field for four years. Bobby is a player that will never be replaced in any program."

**Dan Ovesea, Canton:** Having scored the goal that won the D1 championship in 2011, Ovesea entered this season with a lofty standard to live up to and he didn't disappoint — despite the Chiefs losing in the district semifinals to KLAAs champion Salem.

Ovesea tallied 19 goals and 12 assists to team up with Budlong for a potent offense. The four-year varsity starter finished with 84 career goals and the co-captain was rewarded by being named to the all-conference, all-district and all-region squads as well as to the MHSAs first all-state team.

"Danny is a goal-scoring legend in the Canton soccer program," Tomasso said. "His 84 career goals speaks loud and clear. He proved how special of a player he is by scoring a goal in the (2011) district final, regional final and (by scoring) the game-winning goal in the state championship game."

**Chandler Olah, Plymouth:** The senior forward and co-captain was a force all over the pitch as Plymouth won the first D1 district championship in its history.

Olah tallied 22 goals and 13 assists for the 11-8-0 Wildcats, who upset No. 3-ranked Salem 1-0 in the district final. His hat trick enabled Plymouth to edge Livonia Churchill in a district game.

For his efforts, Olah was selected to the all-KLAA, all-district and all-region teams as well as earning a spot on the MHSAs all-state second team.

"Chandler was a great team player and leader that did whatever the team needed him to do," coach Jeff Neschich said. "That includes scoring a hat trick in our 3-2 overtime victory over Churchill in the first round of the districts, or defending all game as he did in the district finals."

**John D'Agostino, Stevenson:** The senior defender and forward served as the Spartans' captain where he had 11 goals and eight assists en route to all-KLAA and Division 1 first-team, all-state honors.

D'Agostino is undecided about his college choice. "John was an impact player at whatever position we played him at," coach Ken Shingledecker said. "We got into a rhythm of him scoring the goal to give us the lead, and then moving him to the back to help preserve the lead."

"I have never been around a player that can change a game with one opportunity like him. His explosiveness and speed were awesome to watch. For as an excellent player as he is, he is an even better teammate and person."

**Luke Hazen, Salem:** A senior co-captain for the KLAAs Central Division, Kensington Conference and association champion Rocks, Hazen had a major role in limiting opponents to 0.65 goals per game — crucial to the team's overall 16-3-4 record.

He was named to the all-KLAA, all-district, all-region and MHSAs all-state (second team) squads as a show of recognition for his consistency and excellence.

"Luke was responsible for taking nearly all of our defensive re-starts," coach Ed McCarthy said. "He is one of the top passing defenders in the state and has outstanding vision."

**Collin Hewett, Salem:** One would be hard-pressed to find a high school goalkeeper with as much range and athletic ability as Hewett, who seemed to be everywhere when the Rocks needed him en route to a successful ride that went all the way to the heart-breaking, 1-0 district final loss in penalty kicks to Plymouth.

The rangy and lanky Hewett posted a dozen shutouts and was named to the all-conference, all-district, all-region and MHSAs all-state teams, the latter as an honorable mention.

"Using his size and quickness, he is able to dominate the 18-yard box," McCarthy said. "He is able to make difficult saves seem effortless. Collin is the key reason our team had 12 shutouts this year."

**Donald Payne, Farmington:** The senior midfielder was a four-year starter for the Falcons, who were 9-6-5 the past season while competing in the Oakland Activities Association's top division (Red). Payne, an all-state honorable mention in Division 1, was outstanding at controlling and distributing the ball, and he had a knack for scoring goals, too. Payne had eight goals and four assists this year, and he finished his high school career with 36 and 27, respectively.

"Donald has been a big part of our success the last four years," coach Luke Juncaj said, adding the Falcons had a winning season each of those years. "He's a great player, he's a playmaker."

"He's also a player who can take over a game and win it for us. He did that many times in his four years at Farmington. He's one of the great players that Farmington has had in the last 20 years. We're definitely going to miss him."

## 2012 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS SOCCER TEAM

### FIRST TEAM

Bobby Budlong, Sr., MF, Canton  
Dan Ovesea, Sr., F, Canton  
Chandler Olah, Sr., F, Plymouth  
John D'Agostino, Sr., D, Liv. Stevenson  
Luke Hazen, Sr., D, Salem  
Collin Hewett, Jr., GK, Salem  
Donald Payne, Sr., MF, Farmington  
Kyle Kansman, Sr., MF, N. Farmington  
Luai Fakhoury, Sr., MF, Farm. Harrison  
Alex Isaevski, Sr., MF, John Glenn  
Tyler Fosdick, Sr., MF, Salem  
Ma Sambou Jatta, Sr., D, Clarenceville  
Dominic Sabatini, Sr., MF, Liv. Stevenson  
Matt Wisniewski, Sr., GK, Garden City  
Connor Shennan, Sr., D, Canton

### COACH OF THE YEAR

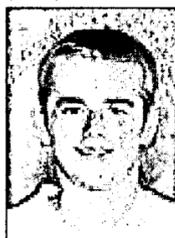
Ed McCarthy, Salem

### SECOND TEAM

Ronnie Basin, Sr., MF, N. Farmington  
Michael Murphy, Sr., MF, Liv. Churchill  
Colton Robison, Sr., GK, Liv. Churchill  
Bobby Mason, Sr., F, John Glenn  
Ernie Babon, Sr., F, Luth. Westland  
Connor Cole, Jr., MF, Salem  
Griffin Parks, Jr., F, Canton  
Lucas Albrecht, Soph., F, Ply. Christian  
Lewis Ellis, Sr., F, Redford Union  
Hayden Steinman, Jr., D, Liv. Franklin  
Tom O'Brien, Sr., D, Liv. Stevenson  
Joe Trombley, Sr., MF, Farmington  
Josh Brunett, Jr., D, Farm. Harrison  
Viet Nguyen, Jr., MF, Plymouth  
Jeff Okerstrom, Jr., MF, Redford Union  
Christian Stombaugh, Sr., MF, Garden City  
Martin Ballah, Sr., F, Wayne

### HONORABLE MENTION

**Redford Union:** Joe Griffin, Nate Longman, Justin Ruffner, Ryan Ruffner; **Garden City:** Toyosi Kuforiji, Matt Castaneda; **John Glenn:** Tyler Simpson, Ryan McCarthy, Carlos Santiago, David Isaacs; **Wayne:** Zak Hamden; **Stevenson:** Ben Stromberg, Billy Werthman, Zack Verant, Ryan Schifano, Brian Smith; **Franklin:** Matt Freed, Nick O'Brien, Jordan Bickham; **Churchill:** Nathan Bradford, Brian Cavicchio, Matt Koepke, Tim DeYoung, Andrew Smutek; **Lutheran Westland:** Walter Gembarski, Jordan Williams; **Huron Valley Lutheran:** Justin Howell; **Clarenceville:** Evan Gregg, David Vanderkerckhove, Ian Bunker, Cameron Fyffe, Matthias Hoffman; **Canton:** Scott Piwowar, Nick Tomei, Ian Wingate, Cody Widlak, Jack Zemanski; **Salem:** Chris Dierker, Brady Cole, Grant McKinney, Andriy Pelekh; **Plymouth:** Vikas Kanneganti, Jeff Pattison, Do-Hyung Kim, Teddy Phillips, Chris Lebioda, Mario Gruszczynski; **PCA:** Jacob Bailey, Matt Read, Jayme Putney, Adam Powlus; **Farmington:** Brandon Schulz, Alex Arlin, Dom Hajdu, Alexander Budd, Sam Fleck; **N. Farmington:** Will Clisham, Christian Beckwith, Matt Diekmann, Nate Bur, Zach Lumley; **Harrison:** Brenden Tatomir, Moussa Zaat, Eimil Hennes.



Bobby Budlong  
Canton



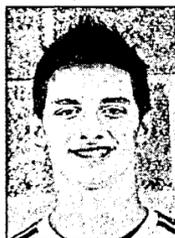
Dan Ovesea  
Canton



Chandler Olah  
Plymouth



John D'Agostino  
Stevenson



Luke Hazen  
Salem



Collin Hewett  
Salem



Kyle Kansman  
N. Farmington



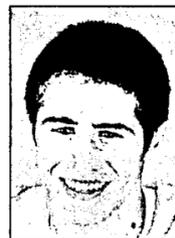
Donald Payne  
Farmington



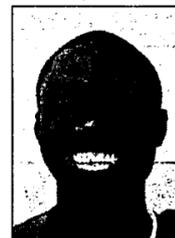
Luai Fakhoury  
Harrison



Alex Isaevski  
John Glenn



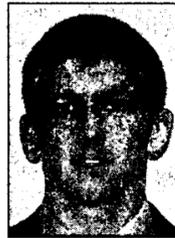
Tyler Fosdick  
Salem



Ma Sambou Jatta  
Clarenceville



Dominic Sabatini  
Stevenson



Matt Wisniewski  
Garden City



Connor Shennan  
Canton



Ed McCarthy  
Salem coach

late-season improvement. He did a great job of organizing our team, and he was a terrific captain. Luai's influence on his teammates was invaluable."

**Alex Isaevski, John Glenn:** The senior midfielder helped propel Glenn to its best season ever, finishing with 26 goals and 14 assists on his way to all-KLAA and all-district honors. Isaevski was also a dual-sport athlete, serving as Glenn's kicker and punter in football.

"Alex is very fast and technically skilled," coach Brian Tomlinson said. "Alex is a playmaker. He is able to create offense from center midfield as well as outside fullback. He's an ambidextrous shooter and dribbler. His high work rate and terrific fitness make him a complete player."

**Tyler Fosdick, Salem:** The senior co-captain gave all he had on the pitch and more to provide essential leadership and clutch playmaking for the KLAAs champion Rocks.

His efforts did not always translate to the stats sheet, but his peers thought enough of him to vote him to the all-conference, all-district, all-region and MHSAs all-state teams, the latter as an honorable mention.

"Tyler is an excellent defensive midfielder," McCarthy said. "He is good in the air and is one of our conference's top players at helping keep possession."

**Ma Sambou Jatta, Clarenceville:** The 6-foot-3 senior played every position except goalkeeper, leading the Trojans with 11 goals and five assists. Jatta's primary position was sweeper.

"Ma Sambou is a fierce competitor," coach Trevor Johnson said. "Even in games that we were on the wrong end, coaches would praise him, many pointing out that he was clearly the most complete player on the field."

"He was also a very good sport, well received by competitors, and a clean player. He was invaluable to my team, and he was also the kicker on the football team, balancing both with no issues. I have a hard time believing that any

player in the area meant more to his team than Jatta meant to mine."

**Dominic Sabatini, Stevenson:** The senior center midfielder ended up with four goals and eight assists earning both all-KLAA and Division 1 all-district honors for the 11-4-5 Spartans.

"Dom was an outstanding leader on and off the field," Shingledecker said. "He's extremely crafty on the dribble and an outstanding passer. He did the job offensively and defensively for us at attacking center midfielder all season. He also played an important role in making my first year a seamless transition; for that I will always be grateful."

**Matt Wisniewski, Garden City:** Wisniewski put the wraps on an outstanding high school soccer career by registering 222 saves — many coming from close range. Athletic and acrobatic, the three-year starter kept the Cougars in many contests with his sharp skills in front of the net.

"Matt made the greatest saves I have ever seen from a high school goalie," said Garden City coach Jeff Szypula. "He is the top goalie to ever play at Garden City High School. He has the career-best mark at the school for saves. He brought his best effort to every practice and every game."

**Connor Shennan, Canton:** Another sturdy pillar of Canton's soccer program, the defender excelled again for the Chiefs despite dividing time between the soccer and varsity football teams.

Shennan was named a member of the all-conference, all-district, all-region and MHSAs all-state squads (the latter as an honorable mention) and provided all-around strong play for the KLAAs South Division champions, scoring against Plymouth to clinch the title.

"Connor has demonstrated his athletic superiority by playing two varsity sports with soccer and football," Tomasso said. "He was a huge part of a state championship defensive line (in 2011) and he propelled our team this year."

Tomasso added that Shennan leaves the Chiefs "as one of the best center defenders to ever play" at the high school.

**COACH OF THE YEAR Ed McCarthy, Salem:** The only thing missing for this season's Salem Rocks was a Division 1 state championship. McCarthy's standout team — in the top-10 all year — finished 16-3-4 overall, capturing the KLAAs Central Division (7-1-2), Kensington Conference and association titles.

The Rocks might have taken a serious run at the title if not for an unbelievable job in goal by Plymouth's Mario Gruszczynski in the D1 district final, won 1-0 on penalty kicks by the Wildcats.

That loss bumped Salem down a peg or two from the No. 3 ranking in the state, but it was still a stellar season for the veteran coach and his squad.

Salem featured a solid, balanced offense (39 goals, led by junior twins Brady Cole and Connor Cole along with junior midfielder Andriy Pelekh and senior forward Chris Dierker) and a stingy defense that gave up just 0.65 goals per contest.

The stellar work of junior goalkeeper Collin Hewett, senior defender Luke Hazen and senior midfielder Tyler Fosdick were key components of that defensive excellence.

"Our team success is primarily due to great players, a high work rate and a rare balance of high level players in all 11 positions," McCarthy said. "We defended well, had excellent goalkeeping, our possession in our midfield was among the best in the state and ultimately we had timely scoring with a balanced attack."

Although the loss to Plymouth put a disappointing cap on the season, McCarthy underlined another big team accomplishment.

"One defining achievement this year is a program-first, four wins over an outstanding, state-ranked Canton team," he said.

Among those was a D1 district semifinal win.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
**Monday, Nov. 26**  
N. Farm. at Lakeland, 7 p.m.  
**Tuesday, Nov. 27**  
HVL at Macomb, 6:30 p.m.  
L. W'sld at Crestwood, 7 p.m.  
Southfield at C'ville, 7 p.m.  
RU at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
Edsel Ford at Stevenson, 7 p.m.  
Wayne at Garden City, 7 p.m.  
Farmington at Harrison, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, Nov. 29**  
Frankel at HVL, 6 p.m.

Inter-City at C'ville, 7 p.m.  
N. Farm. at Avondale, 7 p.m.  
Salem at F.H. Mercy, 7 p.m.  
Farmington at Novi, 7 p.m.  
**Friday, Nov. 30**  
Franklin at Garden City, 7 p.m.  
Wayne at Belleville, 7 p.m.  
Powers at Ladywood, 7 p.m.  
Harrison at Oxford, 7 p.m.  
**PREP HOCKEY**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 28**  
Franklin vs. Country Day, Churchill vs. Howell

at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.  
Farmington vs. Canton at Arctic Edge, 6 p.m.  
N'ville vs. N. Farm.-Harrison, at Farm.Hills Ice Arena, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, Nov. 29**  
Stevenson vs. South Lyon at Kensington Valley, 6 p.m.  
**Friday, Nov. 30**  
Churchill vs. Plymouth at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.  
**Saturday, Dec. 1**  
Franklin vs. Brighton at Kensington Valley, 4 p.m.  
Ladywood vs. A.A. Pioneer

at Arctic Pond, 8 p.m.  
**(at Farm. Hills Ice Arena)**  
Farm. vs. Howell, 5:30 p.m.  
Oxford vs. NF-Harrison, 7 p.m.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 28**  
Kellogg at S'craft, 5:30 p.m.  
Madonna at Lourdes, 8 p.m.  
**Friday, Nov. 30**  
**(Muskegon CC Classic)**  
S'craft vs. Muskegon, 7 p.m.  
**Saturday, Dec. 1**  
Madonna at Concordia, 3 p.m.

**(Muskegon CC Classic)**  
S'craft vs. Lansing, 3 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 28**  
Kellogg at S'craft, 5:30 p.m.  
Madonna at Lourdes, 6 p.m.  
**Friday, Nov. 30**  
**(Muskegon CC Classic)**  
S'craft vs. Cincy State, 1 p.m.  
**Saturday, Dec. 1**  
Madonna at Concordia, 1 p.m.  
**(Muskegon CC Classic)**  
S'craft vs. Muskegon, 5 p.m.

# Area women will try to win another title for Lakers

Grand Valley to play UC San Diego in NCAA soccer semi

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Forgive Alyssa Mira for being a little greedy. The senior midfielder for Grand Valley State University women's soccer team has played on two NCAA Division II national championship teams and is going for number three when the 20-1-3 Lakers travel Thursday to Evans, Ga., to face UC San Diego in the semifinals.

The Livonia Churchill grad also has company when it comes to national titles in Kayla Kimble, a junior defender from Livonia Stevenson who was a member of last year's national runner-up squad and the 2010 championship team as a freshman.

Mira, the team leader in assists (9), never lost a match on her home field during her four-year career as the Lakers are 49-0-3, a streak which currently ranks second all-time among NCAA Division II women's soccer teams.

That, however, appeared to be in jeopardy last week when Grand Valley needed two overtimes and a shootout following a 2-2 draw with Minnesota State in a national quarterfinal.

The Lakers, who squandered a 2-0 lead during the last 10 minutes of regulation, won 5-4 on penalty kicks to stay alive in

the tournament.

"That was probably one of the most emotional games I've ever played," said Mira, who logged all 110 minutes. "When we gave up two goals at the end I still had complete faith that we could still pull it off. When we went to the shootout, I said, 'This is it, this is the last game on this field.' I had confidence in our shooters and our goalie. I was so happy I won that last game on that field."

Ironically, it was a little used freshman from Livonia Ladywood who factored heavily in the final outcome.

Kelly Capoccia, a native of Farmington Hills who appeared in just 11 games and has seen only 128 minutes action all season, came in cold off the bench score in the sixth round of the shootout, which ultimately set up Taylor Callen's game-winning PK to make it 5-4. "We've been taking penalty kicks every single practice," Capoccia said. "I didn't know until five minutes before the second overtime was over. I was pretty shocked. That was my first one. I was nervous, but I just knew needed to stay calm, relaxed and composed. I put it in the lower right side of the net."

And Mira was one of the first to congratulate her. "I told Kelly after the

game of how proud I was of her," the senior physical therapy major said. "It's not about minutes for her. She was able to sit through that whole game and still have the composure to bury a PK at the end when the team needed her."

Mira recently earned her second straight All-Region nod, while helping GVSU record 18 shutouts. She was also named Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Year in 2011, while also earning a spot on the Daktronics All-America third-team.

"She's (Mira) been a great example of somebody who puts everything she has into it as a student and an athlete balancing that with the same amount of energy, success and care," Grand Valley coach Dave DiIanni said. "She's kind of a lead by example, not by voice kind of girl. But she's learned that there are times when she has to speak up because they have so much respect for her."

"She's putting everything into her senior year and tried to stretch outside her normal comfort zone. She's been wonderful. She's played three different positions for us, all because we needed that from her and she's been successful in all those positions. You couldn't ask for a more



Kayla Kimble Alyssa Mira Kelly Capoccia

consummate teammate."

After winning its eighth straight GLIAC crown, Grand Valley ousted University of Wisconsin-Parkside, 2-0, and Rockhurst (Mo.), 3-1, to reach the Elite Eight.

Kimble has started 15 of 17 Lakers' games this season and played all 110 minutes in the victory over Minnesota State.

Like Mira, Kimble earned both All-GLIAC and All-Midwest Region honors this season.

"I think that we've gotten better as the season has gone on," Kimble said. "We're growing together as a team. It just shows that on Sunday, the harder we worked, the better the outcome. I think we're growing as a team and working good, so hopefully we'll pull together for the national championship."

Despite playing in 21 games, Kimble was plagued during her freshman year with Compartment syndrome, which required postseason surgery.

This season she's battled dislocated tendons in her ankles, which will also require postseason

surgery.

"She's (Kimble) has been a little banged up in her career, but when healthy she's been an exceptional player for us primarily at center back," DiIanni said. "She's very tactical and has a very high soccer I.Q. I think some of that comes from playing for her dad (Jim), who was a soccer coach as well (with the Livonia Hawks and Stevenson) a long time."

"She's starting to learn not only to lead by example, but also by voice. Because of the nature of the position, we've three great center-backs that have come through that program and now she has an opportunity to add to that list. She's been a wonderful addition after being injured."

Meanwhile, DiIanni said he wasn't afraid to throw Capoccia into the fire at critical time.

"Not everybody has that comfort level to be able to handle that pressure," the 10th-year Grand Valley coach said. "We asked her and she said she wanted to be part of it and give her the opportunity 10 minutes to warm up after the (sec-

ond) overtime was over.

"Obviously give credit to one of her club coaches Eric Scott, who is a Livonia guy and done a great job with her mentally, in terms of being mentally strong and giving her the nuances of the game of soccer. She has a high soccer I.Q., so I give her confidence doing that. She's not afraid of the moment and that's a lot of respect she garnered from her teammates."

Kimble also admired Capoccia's mental toughness.

"That was really great for her to come in and kick one for the team," the junior business and marketing major said. "I was the next one to shoot, so I was a little nervous."

Capoccia, a former All-Stater from Ladywood, has remained patient throughout the process.

"It's been kind of up-and-down," the freshman business major said. "I've learned a lot throughout the whole first season. I came in with high expectations."

As far Mira, she likes the team's chemistry heading into the Final Four.

"We all work for each other," she said. "We all know what the main goal is. As much as it's about the team and stuff, we have everyone working to keep our senior class going. We've had set goals from the beginning of the season and we've knocked off every one of them. To win a national championship is our last one."

## FLYERS

Continued from page B1

which we did, and we came out on top. "The team play was there. Everyone worked

together. We worked hard in the defensive zone and moved out from there into the offensive zone. We created chances together, and it was a nice team victory." North-Harrison senior goalie Hunter Myers got

the shutout. He was tested by Farmington's Nick Gensheimer, Nick Hefron and others, but not near as much as Lethem was by the Flyers. Vellucci said the Falcons will go back to the draw-

ing board and, hopefully, have a different outcome when the teams play again on Saturday, Dec. 22.

"I think we'll be a better team by then," he said. "We had a big crowd tonight, and it was just a little disappointing. We had 12 returning guys, and I thought that experience would have factored in.

"We told the guys, 'We need to look in the mirror and regroup. We have to keep going back to the basics and fundamentals.' One of the boys said, 'Coach, we're not executing.' Executing means passing, shooting, skating, and we're just not doing that on all cylinders right now."

"We changed the lines

around a little to try to get a different look. With (Cooper) McLean, Hefron and Gensheimer out there, they had a bunch of chances. We had a couple breakaways and didn't get a shot off. That's the way it went tonight. We didn't get the breaks, and we didn't make the breaks either."

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## WILDCATS

Continued from page B1

All told, 11 skaters picked up at least one point.

### Golden touch

"It's not the way these games usually go," said Plymouth coach Jerry Vento, whose team is off to a 4-0 start. "It's just that everything we touched seemed to turn to gold today."

"Sometimes you're on the right end of those games and sometimes you're on the wrong end. We'll take it and move forward to the next game."

Vento hopes the team saved something for that one, a game at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 28 at Arctic Edge against defending state champion and still-stacked Brighton.

The Chief competed fairly well for the first half of the opening stanza before Plymouth power play goals within 1:24 opened up a 3-0 lead.

With 7:13 left, junior forward Mike Schultz (one goal, three assists) walked out of the left corner and threaded a pass in front to senior forward Nick Schultz (two goals, one assist), who one-timed the puck past Canton starting goalie Justin Kolbicz.

Plymouth's third goal of the period was scored by senior forward Joe Burke (two goals), who sent a knuckling wrist shot from the right circle inside the left post.

The Wildcats added to the lead at 49 seconds of the second. Gunther skated the length of the ice down the left wing and centered a pass to Burke for the slam dunk.

With 14:32 remaining in the period, a shorthanded marker padded the edge to 5-0. The Schultz brothers teamed up again, with Nick Schultz finishing the scoring play.

"They (Mike and Nick Schultz) definitely seem to have a chemistry," Vento said. "Our power

play was clicking today. We're very happy with the way things worked out."

That goal marked the end of the night for Kolbicz, with senior Jacob Dugan taking over.

"I thought Justin played really well," Majszak stressed. "The only reason I pulled him is I'm not going to let him get shelled if the team in front of him doesn't want to play."

However, Dugan also found himself in a tough spot as the Wildcats scored four times (three with the extra man) over the final 10:41 to widen the gap to mercy-rule proportions.

The first two goals Dugan allowed were collected by Gunther followed by single tallies by Lopetrone and Mike Schultz.

Senior forward Spencer Godin earned his second helper of the night on the Lopetrone goal.

### Cool and calm

At the other end, Plym-

outh sophomore netminder Jared Maddock was a cool customer. He handled everything that came his way with confidence.

"He did what he had to do," Vento said. "He was pretty calm before the game and I think it showed on the ice."

When the game was 1-0, Maddock turned aside a backhander by Canton forward Colin Smith.

Late in the second, he made back-to-back stops against senior forward Charlie Steslick to keep his shutout going.

For the Chiefs, the best part of the night was hosting the annual game to collect new toys for those in need.

Those who brought toys (to be donated through Toys for Tots) received discount coupons for an oil change at Dick Scott Dodge in Plymouth (co-sponsor of the event).

There also was a raffle and Dick Scott-hosted "Score-O" where fans took a shot from center ice at a 2013 Dodge.

# S'craft guard duo powers by Edison

The one-two punch of Richmond Jackson and Jonathan Campbell proved to be too much Tuesday as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team downed host Edison Community College, 89-77, in Piqua, Ohio.

Jackson, a sophomore forward, poured in a game-high 29 points hitting 11-of-22 shots from the floor along with 6-of-9 free throws. He also pulled down 10 rebounds.

Campbell, a first-year guard from Livonia Stevenson, added 24 points hitting 4-of-7 from three-point range and 10-of-12 foul shots.

Center Terrance Coles also posted a double-double with 17 points and 11 rebounds, while Zinovy Pelekh came off the bench to score 10 points and dish out four assists.

The victorious Ocelots, who led 34-33 at the half-time, improved to 3-2 overall.

Edison (2-1) got 10 points from guard Jordan Taylor, while Brandon Ervin posted a double-

double with 16 points and 11 rebounds. The Chargers also got 15 points from Eric Beckstedt.

**MADONNA 92, MARYGROVE 42:** Eleven of 12 players scored Tuesday night as host Madonna University (5-1, 2-0) romped to a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference triumph over Marygrove College (0-6, 0-2).

Junior guard Travis Schuba paced a balanced MU scoring attack with 15 points, while Zach Wedesky came off the bench to add 13.

Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson), Fred Williams and Zak Lewis chipped in with 10 apiece for the Crusaders, who led 45-23 at the half.

MU shot 56.7 percent from the field (34-for-60), including 14-of-25 from three-point range (14-of-25).

Marygrove got 10 points off the bench from Diante Taylor.

The Mustangs shot only 17-of-64 from the field (26.6 percent).

## SPARTANS

Continued from page B1

sophomore Alex Hunt each added a goal for the Spartans, who led 6-2 after two periods.

Both Churchill goals came in the second period by junior defenseman Drew Kushes, the first from Jimmy Carey and the second from Matt Sinclair and Nick Misiak.

"These games are always emotional games," Churchill first-year coach Jasor Reynolds said, "And you always want to try and put your best foot forward in an emotional game like this."

"Obviously we had an unfortunate 15 seconds when they jumped on us early. And I think from there we got a little too wrapped up in the emotion of the game. That

led to some poor penalties on our part. And give Stevenson credit, they're always prepared with a potent power play. They've got a lot of great offensive talent on their team. They came ready to capitalize on the mental breakdowns that we had."

Churchill started Alec Calvaruso in goal. The freshman faced 34 Stevenson shots.

"I'm trying to prepare this guy for the future," Reynolds said. "There were a couple of instances there where we thought maybe we could pull him out and give him a little bit of relief, but then on the other hand, we as a team fully need to do more than what we're doing. I certainly couldn't put it all on his shoulders."

The loss dropped the Chargers to 0-2 and 0-1 in

the KLAAs South Division.

"We had some mental lapses out there," Reynolds said. "I think defensively we still need to get stronger. It's going to be an ongoing process for us this year. We have a schedule this year that consists of a lot of tough teams. The schedule is built for a good playoff run. We're going to take it one game at a time and we're going to continue to improve defensive and continue make those mental notes against these good teams. We'll come back and be more ready for these guys in January."

Meanwhile, Stevenson was flying up and down the ice with reckless abandon. The Spartans had a pair of power play goals and also had two short-handed goals.

"The line of Lutz, Irvine and Devin Kelly - was very good for us," Mitch-

ell said. "They seemed to click together. This was kind of a run-and-gun game and we definitely had breakdowns, and Connor Humitz (26 saves) came up big for us. It's nice to have a senior goalie between the pipes who has been there before."

The Kensington Conference crossover win puts the Spartans 1-0 in the KLAAs Central.

"We still have a long way to go and a tough road ahead of us, but I like where we're at at this point of the season," Mitchell said. "But we have a big Thanksgiving tournament coming up at Cranbrook with Grosse Pointe South on Friday night, then either Cranbrook or Grosse Pointe North (Saturday). We have a long way to go, and a lot of good hockey, and a lot to improve upon for sure."

# Madonna spikers to meet top-10 foes

The Madonna University women's volleyball team will face a pair of top-10 ranked teams during pool play in the 2012 NAIA Volleyball National Championship, which starts Tuesday in Sioux City, Ia.

The Crusaders, 34-7 overall, were placed in Pool C with No. 3-

Columbia College (Mo.) and No. 10-ranked Oklahoma Baptist, along with Carroll College (Mont.).

Madonna comes in ranked 15th overall following their 3-1 victory Nov. 17 at home over St. Xavier (Ill.) in the NAIA opening round after claiming both the Wolver-

ine-Hoosier Athletic Conference regular season and tournament championships.

Beginning at 4:15 p.m. (CST) Tuesday, the Crusaders face Oklahoma Baptist (32-4) before taking on Columbia (37-1) at 2 p.m. Wednesday before wrapping up pool play at 2 p.m. Thursday against

Carroll (25-9).

The top two teams in each pool advance to the single elimination round of play that begins on Friday.

Madonna is 26-23 in its 12 appearances in the NAIA Nationals and is making its first championship appearance since 2008.

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## Seasonal tradition

### Couple decorates, bakes for Christmas House Walk

By Sharon Dargay  
 O&E Staff Writer

Every ornament, every Christmas heirloom, every handmade keepsake in Mike and Jane Cuba's house tells a story.

From the early 19th-century New Year postcards that Jane inherited from her grandmother, to the handmade clothespin figures hanging on the hibiscus plant, the cherished family treasures all commemorate events, individuals and places close to their hearts.

"I could give you stories about everything in the house," said Jane, a retired teacher who taught second grade in Southfield.

"She's got an ornament that's a piece of cardboard with a rubber band on the back," added Mike, a retired Detroit high school chemistry teacher. "We hang that sucker up every year."

The simple cardboard



Homemade ornaments from a friend refer to their major addition built on their home. Jane Cuba holds the roll of blueprints and Mike Cuba holds a tumbling stack of bricks.

creation — a gift from a second grader long ago — and dozens of other ornaments will hang from the branches of a freshly-cut Christmas tree in the couple's family room when guests visit during the 24th annual Livonia Christmas House Walk, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1.

The Cuba residence is one of five houses that will be decorated for the holidays and open to ticket-holders. Jane likes to keep the decorations simple

and traditional in the 1938 colonial. Roping of artificial greens with lights and bows adorn the stairway bannister, a mirror and other locations throughout the first floor. Antique postcards that were sent to Jane's grandmother from 1908-1903, along with Santa figures and stockings decorate the fireplace mantel. Holiday art hangs on the walls and Christmas cactus blooms in a sun room.

"If people are coming for cutting edge ideas, this is



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike and Jane Cuba, reflected in the hallway mirror. Jane places fresh greens arrangements, like the one on the table, throughout the house during the Christmas season.

the wrong house," Jane noted. "It's very traditional. There will be fresh greens, picked from the backyard. I'll have out 10 arrangements. I'll have poinsettias."

#### Tasty twist

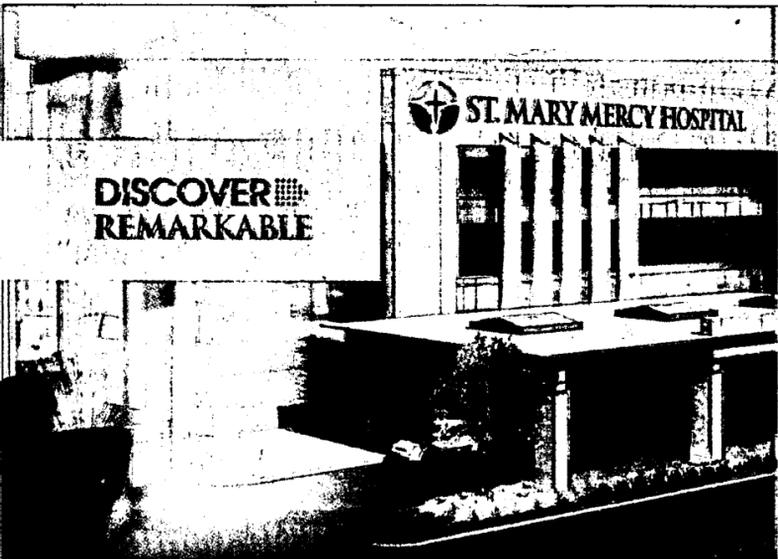
When she agreed to par-

ticipate in the Christmas Walk, Jane told its organizers that the couple would decorate the house as they normally do for Christmas. "Nothing more. Nothing else."

But because they participated in the 2007 Walk, just

five years ago, the couple wanted to add a new, special twist — without going overboard on decorations. "To make it a little different for people who have been here, we and some"

Please see TRADITION, B7



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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jane Cubi knits Christmas presents at the kitchen table.

## TRADITION

Continued from page B6

friends will be baking cookies nonstop," Jane said.

Visitors will get a chance to taste a cookie or two as they walk through the kitchen, which was part of a major addition, along with a family room and master bedroom suite in 2006.

The Cubas will use recipes from the new Angela Hospice cookbook, *Where the Butter Flies*, which Mike compiled for the organization. (See the Thursday, Nov. 29 food page in the *Observer* for recipes and a story about the book.)

### Volunteering together

Both Mike and Jane are long-time volunteers for Angela Hospice. She knits lap blankets and visits with patients in their homes. He crochets lap blankets and pitches in with cooking and special projects, such as the cookbook.

Jane began volunteering for Angela Hospice 18 years ago, after her father died.

"They were there for my family," she said. "I said, I'll do it (volunteer) for a year, give back. Well, 18 years later..."

Angela Hospice cookbooks will be available for purchase at their home during the Christmas Walk.

Although only the main floor will be decorated for Christmas, visitors will be allowed to see the upstairs master bedroom, which was part of the 2006 addition, and check out Mike's basement-level "man cave," where he builds the model airplanes that he flies with Detroit Aero Modelers.

Along with the wood skeleton of an airplane that's under construction, visitors may notice a "magic mirror," a dove on a string and a sign for "Ruby's Place" in Mike's work room. All are props that have been used by Spotlight on Youth, Spotlight Players or Still Got It



Mrs. Brown sits on a holiday table runner in Mike and Jane Cuba's family room.

## 24TH ANNUAL LIVONIA CHRISTMAS HOUSE WALK

**What:** Presented by the Friends of Greenmead to benefit Greenmead Historical Park

**When:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1

**Details:** Walk through five private homes, all decorated for the holidays, in Livonia. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served on event day at the Quaker House at Greenmead

**Admission:** Tickets are \$9 before the walk and \$10 the day of the walk. Buy tickets at all three Livonia libraries, at the Quaker House at Greenmead, located at Newburgh and Eight Mile, and weekdays at Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive

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Players in Canton.

"I like building. I build plastic models. I build wood models. If someone says 'I need a left-handed framitz for a play, I'll try to come up with something,'" he said.

Both he and Jane are active in Spotlight Players. Mike, who regularly acts, directs and helps backstage, will direct dinner theater, *The Reunion at Hippie High*, in early

2013. Jane also acts and helps behind the scenes.

Look for handmade Christmas ornaments on their tree that commemorate Mike's role as Scrooge and their many years as "big head" and character marchers in the America's Thanksgiving Parade in Detroit.

For more information about the Livonia Christmas House Walk, call (248) 477-7375.

# Furnace requirements could be costly

By Joe Gagnon  
Guest Columnist

er was perfected to withstand some longevity.

I would like to know how many organizations there are that control and set policies on energy consumption in this country. I think every person should be singled out and how much money directed to each specific group should be identified.

I want to know because I'm tired of not knowing who is responsible for the thousands of dollars that cost Americans right out of their pockets for the new ideas that come out of Washington. Who is it that has the right to dictate to homeowners that you can no longer purchase an 80 percent furnace and must install the 90 percent-plus as a replacement? Under mandate of law, the heating company of your choice will no longer be able to sell them. Many consumers will be shocked at the increase in price for having a new furnace installed.

This law goes into effect in the early months of 2013 and it reminds me of when the Energy Department got involved with the toilet issue that turned out to be one big mess. Don't get me wrong, I believe in saving the planet, recycling and all the other things that can be called normal, but I'm strictly against the rip-offs that get mixed into the methods of getting things done. Let me give you just a few examples of how change which caused some very adverse expense results.

In 1982 the manufacturers of gas ranges had to change the method of ignition on their stoves. They had to go from a pilot light to an electronic ignition system. The old system worked great but it wasted gas which we had plenty of and still have an abundance to feed us for the next 200 years. This move had to cost the manufacturers many millions of dollars in new design. It didn't take very long for them to get a return on investment. The igniters were just a pure piece of junk back then and many range owners had to buy a new one every year at a cost of near \$100. It was several years before the ignit-

### Furnace changes

The same picture is true of furnaces. Most people who purchased a new furnace 20 years ago with the new ignition system had to replace several igniters during the first few years of operation. I know, I've replaced five of them in my furnace, which is still operating like a champ. But now comes the big decision I have to make along with several million other homeowners. I simply don't want to replace my furnace at this time. My old one works great and I might get another 10 years out of it. If I do decide to replace it now, I don't want one of the higher efficiency units. I don't believe that the extra expense of installation and extra cost is feasible to recover in my remaining years. It just doesn't work for me and I'm not alone.

To sum it up, I either purchase an 80 percent furnace now or I wait until my current one goes bad down the road and I buy what is available and the 90 percent furnace is shoved down my throat.

### Costly changes

Now let's say that I am really concerned about energy savings and have the new energy-saving furnace installed now. I figure that I might save a lot of money compared to what it will cost me a few years from now. Keep in mind that it is not just the extra cost for the product but the additional amount of money I'm going to spend to have holes drilled through the side of my house for the new venting requirements on this new furnace. Thank God I don't live in the center unit of a condominium or I'd be spending more for venting than I would for the furnace. I think I spent \$1,400 for a furnace 17 years ago and today it would cost around \$3,000. I expect that next year it would cost around \$5,000 and who knows what the price will be in the next few years.

I would like to know who the people are that have never held a screwdriver and make these decisions for me. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to [appldr@twmi.rr.com](mailto:appldr@twmi.rr.com).



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

Get into the holiday spirit with this classic movie

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### Best of Show



Allen Brooks, a photographer from Livonia, recently won the top award at the Pontiac Creative Arts Center Photography Exhibition. The piece, "Waiting for Moses," will be on display through Jan. 10, 2013 at the Center, 47 Williams, Pontiac.



PHOTOS BY JULIE YOLLES  
Ron Bucker (left) of Sterling Heights is Sunshine (left) and O.K. Ron Kwiatkowski of Plymouth is O.K.

## Hob Nobble Gobble draws together parade supporters for fun

By Julie Yolles  
Social Scene Columnist

There was quite a festive, colorful group gathered at the 50-yard line at Ford Field Friday, Nov. 16. There was just one Detroit Lion — Roary the Mascot — but hundreds of children, several Compuware Elves, unicorns, marching bands, dancers and a whole lot of clownin' goin' on. The 23rd Annual Hob Nobble Gobble brought nearly 2,000 supporters to the "D." The event, along with the Distinguished Clown Corps (DCC) and the Big Heads Corps, help raise needed funds to produce America's Thanksgiving Parade which just celebrated its 86th year Thursday, Nov. 22. "The Parade is integral to our city and brings tremendous goodwill," said Eric Larson, incoming chair for the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation, and a Bloomfield Hills resident. "Continuing the cycle is so important for our legacy." Larson ought to know. His kids are third-generation Distinguished Clowns. Following in the clown-shoes of his parents, Larson has been a member of the Distinguished Clown Corps for 15 years. This Thanksgiving parade marked the first year that Larson's wife, Kathy, and their daughter Makenzie planned to be Clowns together. Their daughter, Paige, celebrated her third year in the Parade.



Christina Brenner (left) of Westland is an instructor at Tina Marie School of Dance. Two of her dancers, Caitlin Kurmas of Shelby and Alix Deloof of Warren, performed at the Hob Nobble Gobble and on the Art Van float at the Thanksgiving Day Parade.

For consideration of coverage in this column, please send event happenings, including invitations and press kits, to Julie Yolles, Social Scene columnist, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 371 Greenwood, Birmingham, MI 48009. Contact her at jyolles@comcast.net or (248) 642-9465.

## Shop crafts at museum, with dog rescue coming weekend as yule nears

Mark your calendars for the Plymouth Historical Museum's annual juried Craft Bazaar and Open House on Saturday, Dec. 1, and Better Life Canine Center's Santa Paws Winter Bazaar on Sunday, Dec. 2. The Museum craft show, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. is free and open to the public. It will feature crafts, such as knit, ceramic, jewelry, and recycled art. Santa will be on hand during the event and visitors may explore the Museum's special exhibit for free that day. A bake sale also is planned in conjunction with the craft show. The Museum needs donations of baked goods, including cookies, cakes, candy, breads, pies, sweet rolls and bars. Cookies and bars should be bundled in packages of

6 or 12. Label treats and drop off the goodies at the Museum kitchen from 1-4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main, Plymouth. Questions? Call Heidi Nielson at (734) 455-8940. The Santa Paws event will run 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 2 at Healthy Paws Veterinary Medical Center, 38150 Ford Road, Westland. Vendors will sell handmade ornaments, jewelry, knitted items, dog collars, hair bows and more. The event will include a refreshment stand, "Smooch a Pooch Booth," Photos with Santa for kids and dogs and raffles. Admission is \$2 per person or \$6 per family. For more information, visit Better Life Canine Center on Facebook.

# 2012 CHRISTMAS TREE GUIDE

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**Benefit**



Jan Krist will sing at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia. Audience members may bring diapers to the concert for donation to the Detroit Area Diaper Bank.

**METROPARK CALENDAR**

General: 2011 annual parking and boat launch permits are available at the park office. Vehicle entry permits are \$25; senior citizen \$15. Boat launching permits are \$30; senior citizen \$15. The HCMA and Oakland County Parks permits, valid within both park systems, are \$48. Daily entry fee is \$5.

**Kensington**

**Note:** For information for registration, call the Kensington Park office at (248) 685-1561 or (800) 477-3178. The Nature Center office phone number is (248) 685-0603. Pre-registration required for programs and a \$2 fee per person unless stated otherwise. Park hours 6 a.m.-10 p.m. daily.

**Nature Center**

**Brownies Try-It - Hiker:** Saturday, Dec. 1, 2 p.m. All requirements for this badge will be met during this indoor/outdoor program. Fee: \$5 per Scout.

**GARDEN & NATURE**

Send garden and nature information and photos to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

**Greens sale**

The Dearborn Heights Garden Club will sell fresh wreaths, swags, centerpieces, wreath stands, hanging baskets, baked goods and more, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 6-7, at the Canfield Center, 1801 N. Beech Daly, south of Ford Road, Dearborn Heights. The annual fundraiser benefits scholarships for students who plan to study horticulture-related subjects in college. For more information, call Robert Cairns at (313) 278-2337.

**Hill and Dale Garden Club**

Sally Oulette will guide participants in making their own wreath centerpiece, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13 at the Spicer House, located in Heritage Park, off Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Visit hillanddalegc.org for more information.

**Plymouth Nursery**

• Santa will be on hand 10 a.m.-2 p.m. weekends through Dec. 9 at Plymouth Nursery, 9900 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Customers can pose for a free photo with Santa, visit a petting farm, campfire and enjoy refreshments. A percentage of proceeds from the sale of fresh-cut trees and wreaths will benefit the Make A Wish Foundation.

• Girls Night Out will run 6-8 p.m. Nov. 30. The first 50 women will receive a free goody bag. The event will include vendors, door prizes, sales and fun. Call (734) 453-5500 for more information.

**English Gardens**

The store is accepting donations to provide fresh-cut Christmas trees to U.S. troops and military families. For each \$30 donation, English Gardens will give one tree to a military base in the US or overseas.

• A fundraiser for THAW, the Heat & Warmth Fund, will run 5-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29 at the Royal Oak store and will include demonstrations in LED holiday lighting, decorating tips, visits with Santa, family and pet photos with Santa, live music, pizza, hot chocolate and cookies. Tickets are \$15 per family (maximum six individuals) in advance and \$20 at the door. Each family will receive a \$10 English Gardens coupon. All ticket sale proceeds will benefit THAW. Get tickets in advance at www.englishgardens.com.

• Make a Christmas floral arrangement at a "Make It and Take It Workshop" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13 at stores in Dearborn Heights, Royal Oak and West Bloomfield.

Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506.

**Tell us about your Christmas traditions**

Got a favorite Christmas tradition? Maybe it's an annual caroling party or ethnic-inspired Christmas Eve supper, ornament-making with the kids or a cookie exchange with the neighbors. Perhaps you assist at a soup kitchen on Christmas day or volunteer at an animal shelter, head north to hit the slopes or south to bask in the sun. Whatever your holiday tradition is, we'd love to find out more.

Send us a few paragraphs about your Christmas tradition — include a photo if you'd like — and tell us why it's a mainstay in your holiday celebrating. We'll share it with readers in an upcoming *Observer* edition.

Include your name, phone number, e-mail, and city of residence. E-mailed photos should be jpg attachments. E-mail to Sharon Dargay by Friday, Dec. 14, at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Or mail them to her at 615 W. Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226.

**Arthritis Today**

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**FIBROMYALGIA IN FALL**

Lupus worsens in the summer and improves in the winter; psoriatic arthritis does the opposite.

Fibromyalgia also changes with the seasons. Fibromyalgia flares in the transition from winter to spring and it expresses the same feature in the change from summer to fall. What is unusual is that the change from fall to winter does not cause a similar flare in joint and muscle pain.

It is important for people with fibromyalgia to understand that weather change that others consider fine is likely a bad turn of events for them. That others are looking forward to the morning, when the person with fibromyalgia feels dread, make someone with fibromyalgia feel only more alienated from friends and family.

Furthermore, the worsening of pain brings up the question for more medication or raises the issue that the current regimen of medication and exercise is inadequate.

However, physicians know from experience that the worsening is temporary; the end is in sight even when the greater pain comes on. The best medical advice the patient receives is to wait out the present flare.

Why the change in seasons exerts a bad effect in fibromyalgia is unclear. Going from warm weather of summer to the cool of autumn could make it more difficult for muscles to lose their stiffness. But the transition from autumn to winter does not yield the same result. Why the change from winter's cold to spring's warmth causes a problem has no explanation.

What patients with fibromyalgia should remember is to brace themselves for a temporary worsening in fall, but realize it will pass.

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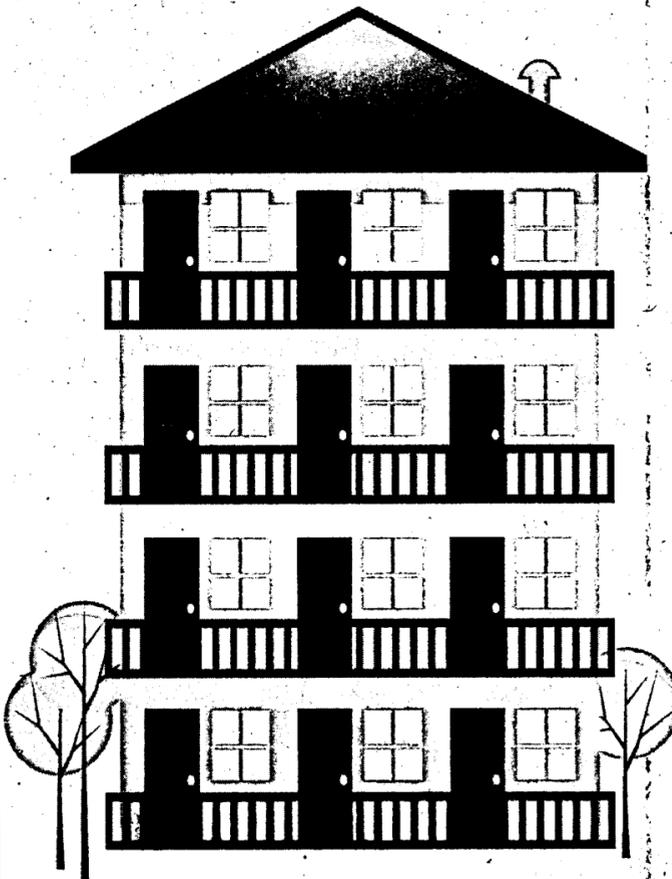
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**Recycle This Newspaper**



Michael Symanow, Melissa King, and their daughter, Elizabeth King

**King-Symanow**

Melissa Ashley King and Michael Charles Symanow announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Duane David King of Westland and Heidi Lynn Taylor of Ypsilanti, is a legal assistant at West & Hurley Attorneys and Counselors at Law, in Springboro, Ohio. Her fiancé, son of David and Carolyn Symanow of Plymouth, is employed by the Department of Defense in Dayton, Ohio. An April 2013 wedding is planned at Church of the Divine Child, Dearborn.

**Milestones**



**Hamilton-Boyko**

Kayla Ann Hamilton and N. Andrew Boyko announce their engagement. The couple met during their first year at Cornerstone University. The bride-to-be, daughter of Orville and Pamela Hamilton of Decatur, graduated from Grand Valley State University with a bachelor of science degree in exercise science. She is employed as a certified wellness specialist at Borgess Hospital in Kalamazoo. Her fiancé, son of Nicholas and Cathleen Boyko of Farmington Hills, graduated from Grand Valley State University with a bachelor of business administration degree. He is employed in sales and marketing at Plastipak, in Plymouth. An April 2013 wedding is planned in Decatur.

**Passages**  
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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

**CRAMER, MELVIN A.**

Age 87, of Livonia, November 2, 2012. Beloved husband of the late Marjorie. Loving father of Melvin H. (Mary Lu), Frank (Janette) & Paul (Judy). Dear grandfather of Stephen, Mark, Jennifer & Ryan. Great-grandfather of Allison, Stephanie, James & Emily. Memorial service will be held on Sat., Dec. 1st. Visitation with family at 9:00 am until mass at 10:00 am, at St. Genevieve-St. Maurice Catholic Church, Livonia.

**KIELING, PATRICIA**

A long-time resident of Livonia died on November 15, 2012 at the age of 46. Patti is the loving wife of Max and the beloved mother of Melani Elizabeth, Mikala Elayne and Madilynn Emma. She is also survived by her parents Donald and Emma, brother Donald Jr., sister Cassandra and many aunts, uncles and cousins. Friends may visit Patti's family during a visitation in her honor on Friday November 23, 2012 at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile in Livonia, Michigan 48152. Visitation will be from 1 pm until 4 pm in the afternoon, then 5 pm until 8 pm that same evening. Her funeral ceremony will be on Saturday November 24, 2012 at 11 am at the funeral home with visitation starting at 10 am. Harry J. Will is located on the north side of W. Six Mile Road, east of I-275 and Newburgh Road. Patti's family asks that attendees of her visitation and funeral service wear something with pink on it. Her family kindly suggests that memorials be made in her honor to the Michigan Cancer Research Fund. For more information, or to share a memory with Patti's family, please visit: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



**STREET, FLETCHER D., Jr.**

Born June 26, 1908, died November 16, 2012, age 104. Formerly of Philadelphia. A graduate of Philadelphia Textile College and employee of Collins & Aikman for 24 years. He was a textile engineer for General Motors Styling Division. He served as a U.S. Army Captain in WW II, and was a member of the Birmingham Masonic Lodge #44 F & A.M.; former treasurer of the Birmingham Senior Men's Club and an Elder at First Presbyterian Church-Birmingham. Beloved husband of the late Bernice L. for 62 years. Father of Richard L. and Shirley E. Grandfather of Hannah D. A Memorial Service was held on Friday, November 23 at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: DesmondFuneralHome.com

**DEO, THELLEN**

Born June 1, 1923. 89 years old, passed away at Garden City Hospital on October 26, 2012. Preceded in death by husband, Edwin Deo, a builder in the City of Wayne. Cremation by Uht's Funeral Home, Wayne, Michigan. No services were held.



**DICKS, PAUL M.**

62 of Farmington Hills, November 20, 2012. Paul was survived by his beloved daughter, Melany (Wallie) Newsted; his cherished grandchildren, Carlos, Madison, Rodney and Joseph; his father, Richard (Lillian); his siblings, Leonard (Clare) Dicks and Lorie Tackett; and many loving nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother, Florence (d.1998) and his brother, Marvin (d.1967). Paul's family will receive guests on Tuesday, November 27th, from 4:00-8:00pm at the Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., N. of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Memorial tributes suggested to the charity of the donor's choice. heenev-sundquist.com

**DIVEN, JEAN D.**

Age 90, passed away November 22, 2012 at her home surrounded by her loving family. She was born on June 18, 1922 in Flint, daughter of the late Ernest and Mary Potter. Prior to moving to South Lyon in 1990, Jean resided in Redford Township for many years. She is survived by her loving children: Paul (Jan), Carl (Carol), Jane, Keith (Cindy), Kurt (Julie) and Pat (Brad) Parks. She is also survived by 13 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and many loving friends. She was preceded in death by her husband Charles in 1997. Visitation was held on Sunday, November 25 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon, MI. Funeral Mass celebrated on Monday, November 26 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church. Online guestbook at www.phillipsfuneral.com

**DOMINICK, JOSEPHINE**

Age 88, November 18, 2012. Beloved mother of Patricia (Bill) Jordan, Marlene (Bob) Smith, Sandy (Dave) Woodruff, Kathy (Steve) Kent, and Cheryl Roberts. Loving Grandmother of 10 and great grandmother of 11. She was deeply loved and will be dearly missed. Visitation Friday 2-8 pm with a 7pm Rosary. Funeral services Saturday 10 am at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 N. Inkster Rd., Garden City (Between Ford Rd. & Cherry Hill). Family suggests memorials to Angela Hospice. www.santeiufuneralhome.com

**McKEEHAN, LOWELL G.**

Age 84, of Livonia, passed away November 19th, 2012. Born Feb. 13th, 1928, in Rockholds, Whitley County, KY. Husband of Mary M. McKeehan, beloved father of Brenda (Harold) Todd, Donald McKeehan, Dennis (Donna) McKeehan, and was predeceased by youngest son Raymond "Ray" McKeehan in 2004. Survived by sisters Azalene (Elmer - dec.) Teague of Chattanooga, TN, Wilma (Harold) Faulkner of Williamsburg, KY, and Joy (James - dec.) McCormick of Hendersonville, TN. Predeceased by brother William "Bill" McKeehan (Freddie Mae - dec.) of Detroit, in 2008. Also survived by 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Mr. McKeehan proudly served his country in the Korean War, and received the Purple Heart military award for injuries sustained. He was a lifelong member of the Disabled American Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Masons. His very active D.A.V. affiliation included serving as the Michigan State Commander for the term 1992-1993, National Executive Committeeman for the 10th District (Michigan) 1994-1996, and as a National Service Officer. Mr. McKeehan also served as a Board Member on the Michigan Veteran's Trust Fund for several years, was commissioned an honorary Kentucky Colonel by the Governor and Secretary of State of Kentucky, and also enjoyed membership with the Kentuckians of Michigan social organization for many, many years. Memorial service to be held Sunday, 11-25-2012, at 1:00 P.M., at the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 114 Hall, 30905 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI, 48150. Interment to be private for family members, at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, MI at a later date. Family requests all donations please be made to: D.A.V. Chapter 114, 30905 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150.



**WERTH, PHYLLIS A.**

November 22, 2012 age 54 lost her seven year battle to colon cancer. Loving care giver to her brother Christopher. Loving sister to Susan (Norma), Pauline Bedwell (David), Paul Jr. John (Nancy), Jerry (Tammy). Loving Aunt to David Bedwell (April), Meagan, Sammantha, Jessica, Ashley Bedwell, Tyler, Brandon, Kaitlyn and Paul III. Great Aunt of Clare Bedwell. Preceded in death by her loving parents Paul and Dorothy, and her nephew Nicholas. Phyllis was a devoted Vice President Banking Center Manager at Comerica Bank for 38 years. Visitation Sunday 2-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. In-state Monday 10:00 AM until the Funeral Mass at 10:30 AM at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 N. Territorial Rd, Plymouth at Beck). Entombment at Riverside Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Services to Enhance Potential, Northwest Unit (S.T.E.P.), 32229 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

**In Memoriam**



**LOU ANN (GISNER) BOUCHIE**

Daughter of Oscar and Marie Gisner. Born on July 6, 1937 and passed away on August 10, 2012 in her home on Pine Island Cove, St. James City, Florida. Leaving behind her son, Russell, and two grandsons, two sisters. There will be a memorial on December 2, 2012 at Calvary Baptist Church in Plymouth, Michigan. This will be at 2:30 for more information call 734-674-8666, her sister Alice.



**WILKIE, DAVID SEATTER**

Age 66, November 18, 2012. Beloved husband of Linda. Loving father of David (Amy Jo) and Michael (Julie). Dear grandfather of Jacob, Nicholas, Jessica, Wyatt and future granddaughter Libby Lou. Dear brother of Leonard (Maureen) and Irene (Donald) McDougall. David was a U.S. Navy Vietnam Veteran and 30 year veteran of the Livonia Police Department. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Tuesday from 1 p.m. until Funeral Service at 7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to DAV. Please share a memory of David at: www.rgharris.com.

May you find comfort in Family and Friends

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

**RELIGION CALENDAR**

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

**November**

**CONCERT:**

**Time/Date:** 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25  
**Location:** Zion Lutheran Church, located at Woodward Ave., and Albany, south of Nine Mile, in Ferndale  
**Details:** Twelfth Night Singers, an a capella choral group, will present its Christmas concert. The singers, under the direction of Mimi Gass, will perform secular and sacred works, including several celebrating the joy and cheer of the Christmas season. A free-will offering will be taken. The group, now numbering 39 voices, was founded in 1980. Members perform in Renaissance costume at churches, for service agencies and institutions  
**Contact:** (248) 544-4631

**December**

**ADVENT SERVICES**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, 12, and 19  
**Location:** Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford  
**Details:** The meditation them is the beginnings of the Gospel of St. Matthew, St. Luke and Revelation  
**Contact:** (734) 968-3523

**CONCERT**

**Time/Date:** 4 p.m. Dec. 9  
**Location:** St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** 31st annual concert featuring the St. Aidan Adult and Children's Choirs, and the St. Aidan Contemporary Ensemble. Minimum donation is \$5, along with two non-perishable food items. All proceeds will go toward food baskets for the needy  
**Contact:** (734) 425-5950

**CONCERT**

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7  
**Location:** St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon, Canton  
**Details:** Detroit Lutheran Singers perform. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 for seniors and students, 12 and over, free for children under 12  
**Contact:** www.detroitlutheransingers.com

**CONCERT**

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8  
**Location:** Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., Birmingham  
**Details:** Bernard Woma Ensemble performs on African percussion instruments, bridging Western orchestral music with the rhythms of African dance. Admission is a suggested donation of \$20 and will include the concert, followed by desserts, wine and conversation with the performers  
**Contact:** (248) 647-2380

**CONCERT**

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8  
**Location:** Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Detroit Lutheran Singers perform. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 for seniors and students, 12 and over, free for children under 12  
**Contact:** www.detroitlutheransingers.com

**CONCERT**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9  
**Location:** Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Jan Krist will perform. The church is partnering with the Detroit Area Diaper Bank for the performance and is encouraging guests to bring infant or adult diapers to the concert for donation to the Bank. Admission is a suggested \$10 donation at the door.  
**Contact:** (734) 425-2800; www.trinity-churchoflivonia.org

**COOKIE WALK**

**Time/Date:** Doors open at 10 a.m. with an early bird sale starting at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 15  
**Location:** Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia  
**Details:** 6th annual cookie walk will offer cookies at \$7.50 per pound, along with other baked goods. Early bird admission is \$2

**Contact:** (734) 427-2290

**GRIEF SUPPORT**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3  
**Location:** Room C-319 of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, just west of Haggerty, in Northville; park in the "C" parking lot  
**Details:** "Hope for the Holidays" seminar is for adults who are grieving and for those who would like to help them. The seminar will include a "Time of Remembrance" candle lighting ceremony  
**Contact:** New Hope Center for Grief Support at (248) 348-0115

**GRIEF WORKSHOP**

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. Dec. 14 and 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Dec. 15  
**Location:** Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth.  
**Details:** "Grieving with Great Hope" workshop. Speakers will include the Rev. John Riccardo, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization. Registration forms are online at www.goodmourningministry.net or call OLCG  
**Contact:** (734) 453-0326; olgparish.net

**WIDOWED FRIENDS**

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. dinner, Wednesday, Dec. 12  
**Location:** Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, three blocks west of Inkster Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Cost is \$15 and includes buffet beverage dessert, tax and tip. Pay at the door (cash only) with the exact amount. Stay for cards games and conversation until 9:30 p.m. Reservations by Dec. 5  
**Contact:** Call Cookie at (248) 357-2183

**Ongoing**

**CLASSES/STUDY**

**Men's Bible study**  
**Time/Date:** Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.  
**Location:** Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township  
**Contact:** John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491  
**New Life Community Church**  
**Time/Date:** Jobs seminar, 8-9 am. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays.

**Location:** 42200 Tyler, Belleville  
**Contact:** (734) 846-4615  
**Nicole's Revival**  
**Time/Date:** 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday  
**Location:** YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford  
**Details:** KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer  
**Contact:** (313) 531-1234

**Our Lady of Loretto**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday  
**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford  
**Details:** Scripture study  
**Contact:** (313) 534-9000  
**St. Michael the Archangel**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesday.

**Location:** School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Catholic author and bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of the Gospel of St. Luke. The sessions are open to all, regardless of their faith or parish affiliation  
**Contact:** (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniastmichael.org  
**Ward Presbyterian**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Mondays

**Location:** Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville  
**Details:** Learner's Bible study is held  
**Contact:** (248) 374-5920  
**CLOTHING BANK**  
**Canton Christian Fellowship**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m. second Wednesday  
**Location:** 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty  
**Details:** Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need  
**Contact:** (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org

## With bells on

### Ladywood students run, walk for Arthritis Foundation

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Ladywood High School students will be out in force Saturday, Dec. 1 for the Arthritis Foundation's annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis in Northville.

"It's a holiday tradition at our school," said Tracey Mocon, principal. "When you're walking, everywhere you look there's a Ladywood. They are out there raising awareness for a great cause."

Mocon, a 1993 Ladywood graduate, recruited students for a run/walk team eight years ago, when she was an English teacher at the school. Both of her parents have arthritis. Her mother has rheumatoid arthritis and her father suffers from osteoarthritis.

"We had a smaller group that first year — 40-45. But it has become a tradition and we've just continued to grow. These are wonderful young ladies. They really care, they give back and they live out the Felician core values," she said.

Ladywood is an all-girl, Catholic college-preparatory high school in Livonia,



Ladywood team members include Tracey Mocon, (left, back row), the school's principal, and Sabine Hutter, a junior, Brigid Jacob, (left front row) a junior, and Sarah Wojnarowski, a senior.

founded by the Felician Sisters. The Jingle Bell Run/Walk is just one of a myriad ways that Ladywood students, following the Felician tradition of Christian service, give back to the community.

Parents, friends and family join the student walkers and runners, making the Ladywood team the biggest and most supportive contingent in the Northville event. The group has raised approximately \$4,500 annually and often draws more than 100 participants.

#### Festive event

Students wear their Ladywood T-shirts, varsity jackets and sweat-shirts and sometimes dress in holiday costume as Santas, elves and gift boxes, for the event.

#### JINGLE BELL RUN/WALK

**What:** A festive 5k run or walk to raise funds for the Arthritis Foundation and awareness of arthritis

**When:** 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 1

**Where:** Northville Downs Race Track, 301 S. Center, Northville

**Details:** Early registration is \$30. It's \$35 the day of the event

**Contact:** Download a registration form from [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org) and click on the Northville walk

Everyone dons jingle bells.

Brigid Jacob, 16, of Livonia, wore jingle bells around her ankles and dressed in layers for her first Jingle Bell walk/run last year. The Ladywood junior said she "ended up loving" the event and now helps recruit other students to participate.

"It's a great cause and it's fun to have everyone

together and just hanging out," she said. "I feel like everyone is more aware now. You see people come together and you see how many people are affected by it (arthritis)."

#### No cure

According to the Arthritis Foundation, the disease is the leading cause of disability in the United States, striking one in

five adults. In Michigan, it affects more than 2.5 million adults and 10,300 children.

Osteoarthritis, the most common form of arthritis, is a progressive degenerative joint disease characterized by the breakdown of joint cartilage. Risk factors include being overweight, having a history of joint injury and age. It affects nearly 27 million Americans, most over the age of 45.

Rheumatoid arthritis is a systemic disease characterized by the inflammation of the membrane lining the joint, which causes pain, stiffness, warmth, swelling and sometimes severe joint damage. It also causes inflammation throughout the body and affects the heart and other organs. An estimated 1.5 million individuals have rheumatoid arthritis in the United States.

Arthritis consists of more than 100 different diseases or conditions that destroy joints, bones, muscles, cartilage and other connective tissues, making physical movement painful and difficult. There is no cure.

Mocon said her parents feel the painful symptoms of the disease "every day."

"But if you didn't know them, you'd never know it because they continue living life and they are very active," Mocon said. "They have a very positive outlook."

She said her parents also draw inspiration from the Ladywood Jingle Bell team.

To participate in a Jingle Bell walk, Dec. 1 in Northville or Dec. 15 in Bloomfield Hills, visit [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org).

### MEDICAL DATEBOOK

#### November

##### ALZHEIMER'S AND ZUMBA

In observance of National Alzheimer's Month, Lenore Wengert will sponsor a ZUMBA event, 7 p.m., Friday, Nov. 30, at World of Pole, 32669 Warren Road, Suite 6, Garden City, to benefit the Alzheimer's Association. The cost is \$10 in advance, or \$15 at the door. For more information contact Wengert at (734) 765-5448 or Patty at the World of Pole at (734) 306-0909.

##### LUPUS SUPPORT

The Lupus Alliance of Michigan will hold a support group meeting 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 28, at Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Meetings are free and designed to assist people with lupus and their family and friends to get connected with one another, and to get a better understanding of this disease and how to fight it. For more information visit [www.milupus.org](http://www.milupus.org), or call (800) 705-6677.

#### December

##### NEUROPATHY SUPPORT

The Southeast Michigan Neuropathy Support Group's next meeting is 7 p.m. Dec. 18, at the Civic Park Senior Center, Five Mile and Farmington Road, in Livonia. The group meets the third Tuesday of the month. The group is aimed at individuals with any kind of neuropathy. Questions? Call Len McCulloch at (248) 474-2763 ext 22.

##### THYROID CANCER

Thyroid Cancer Support meets monthly and is free for all thyroid cancer patients and survivors as well as their family and friends. Its next meeting is 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 1641 Charlevoix Drive, Troy. For more information, contact Gwynne at (248) 515-0348. Or visit Thyca.org

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