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HOLIDAY LIGHTS: Visit the Wayne County Lightfest through Dec. 31

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2013 • hometownlife.com



ENTERTAINMENT, B6
SILK UNDER MY HANDS
 lessons in pottery

Councils approve fire chief sharing

By LeAnne Rogers
 Staff Writer

An agreement for the Wayne-Westland Fire Department to share a chief with Inkster for the balance of the fiscal year — the first step in assessing whether a three-way merger is feasible — has been approved. The Westland and Wayne

councils approved the agreement, which ends with the July 1 start of the fiscal year, earlier this week. The Inkster council approved the agreement last month.

This was the same process used prior to the Wayne and Westland fire departments merger, Wayne-Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy said. The agreements do not combine fire

departments — only the chief's services are shared.

"This allows me to get over there, manage the place and see if it is feasible to bring them into discussions (about merging)," Reddy said.

Supports agreement

Noting the agreement, plus an employment agreement with Reddy, had been discussed at

an earlier study session, Westland Councilman Dewey Reeves said he supported it.

"In essence, it gives the chief the ability to do a deep audit, look at staff levels and determine the levels of manpower and equipment," Reeves said. "We have been assured by Inkster that the funding is in place. This doesn't cost the City of Westland a dime."

Financial questions about Inkster — under a financial consent decree with the state — also came from Wayne Councilwoman Susan Rowe. She asked for updated report every two months.

"In talks with the new (Inkster) city manager, they have their bills, and the Fire Department

See CHIEF, Page A2



Santa Claus joins Wayne Mayor Al Haidous and members of the city council in singing "Silent Night" during the city's annual tree lighting ceremony Tuesday evening. PHOTOS BY KATHY HANSEN

WAYNE KICKS OFF HOLIDAY SEASON

By LeAnne Rogers
 Staff Writer

Arriving in a fire truck, Santa Claus made his annual appearance to light Wayne's Christmas tree Tuesday evening.

"It was weird. We were singing a song — *Here Comes Santa Claus*. How could Santa Claus come in a fire truck," said Jay Henley, 7, who was enjoying cookies after the program.

The crowd gathered outside of Wayne Historical Museum was greeted by Wayne City Clerk Matthew Miller and Wayne Mayor Al Haidous.

"This is one of my favorite events just because of the chocolate and sweets," Haidous said. "At this time of year, people put their differences aside in the spirit of the holiday. We have a lot to celebrate in Wayne despite our problems."

It was a relatively warm evening and rain from earlier in the day had stopped.

The St. Mary's of Wayne Youth Choir led the crowd in Christmas carols before and after Santa Claus arrived.

It was the first time at the Christmas Tree Lighting for Kathy Elswick and her granddaughter Elycia Guajardo, 5, both of Wayne.

"Santa was so funny. He asked if I wanted a loose tooth," Elycia said.

Santa was apparently making a reference to the song about a youngster requesting two front teeth for Christmas. Elycia herself was missing some front teeth.

During her visit with Santa, Elycia said she had asked for a new Barbie doll, a teddy bear and a pair of Minnie Mouse tennis shoes.

Elycia was looking forward to marching with her Taft Elementary School classmates in the Rotary Lighted Parade which starts at 6 p.m. Friday.

After the program outside, there were visits with Santa inside the museum. The Wayne Beautification Committee provided cookies, hot chocolate and coffee.



Matt Noel (left) of Wayne, carries 2-year-old Trent Miller of Ypsilanti on his shoulders while Jennifer Savitskie of Taylor hoists 4-year-old Matthew Drouillard of Westland on her shoulders so they can see the annual tree lighting ceremony.

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School employees ready for Stuff a Bus

By Sue Mason
 Staff Writer

School buses will be lined up and waiting to be filled Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Westland Kmart Store. But they won't be loading students.

Instead members of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Transportation Department will be filling the buses with toys, clothing and nonperishable food for the Wayne and Westland Goodfellows annual No Child without a Christmas.

This is the fifth year the department has held its Stuff a Bus event in the Kmart parking lot at Wayne Road and Cherry Hill in Westland and the second year the Goodfellows will benefit from the collection.

"We filled three buses last year and had a ton of stuff," said Sherice Rourke, the district's transportation director. "We're going to have three buses again, but we hope to do four this year. We'll see what we can do. We'll have people standing by, if we need a fourth bus."

The 78-passenger buses will be in the Kmart parking

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Fundraiser set to benefit the Marvaso family

By LeAnne Rogers
 Staff Writer

In over 20 years operating their family business, George and Mary Marvaso could be counted on to support community events and fundraisers.

Now a fundraiser has been organized to financially aid the couple, whose Electric Stick/Marvaso's Italian Grille was destroyed in the May 8 fire that killed Wayne-Westland Firefighter Brian Woehlke.

"My fiancée Jan Crawford brought it to my attention that George and Mary have financial struggles after all they did in the community," said Dennis LeMaitre, one of the fundraiser organizers.

The benefit is scheduled for 5-8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9, at the Westland Charhouse, 35613 Warren Road, Westland. For those attending the event which will have food, beer and wine, a minimum donation of \$40 is requested.

"We've been having a fairly good response, the news story didn't help," said LeMaitre, referring to news last week that the fire has been ruled arson and Woehlke's death a homicide.

The fundraiser was already

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PRICE: \$1

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Silver Sneakers comes to Wayne Community Center

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

If you're at least 65 years old, you may be eligible for the Silver Sneakers Fitness program that provides a free membership to the Wayne Community Center.

"Silver Sneakers is covered by most health care. It covers membership to an exercise club," Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Adams said.

The Wayne Community Center exercise facilities began participating in Silver Sneakers on July 1.

"I had been trying to qualify for Silver Sneakers for many years. I think we got lucky," Adams said. "Curves was a Silver Sneaker facility. The Curves in Wayne closed."

The community center offers many more amenities than a facility like Curves, Adams said.

"We're slowly hitting the market. For many years, we were not part of Silver Sneakers. I used to hear all the time, 'Why aren't you Silver Sneakers?'" said Adams, who expects enrollment to increase.

Participants in Silver Sneakers are issued a membership card and the community center reports monthly on usage for reimbursement.

To determine their Silver Sneakers eligibility, seniors can visit the community center service desk, my.silversneakers.com or call 888-423-4632.

In addition to Silver Sneakers, seniors can also get a subsidized recreation center membership through HAP Senior Plus or Alliance Medicare. Seniors who exercise at the center at least three times a week can get a \$20 a month reimbursement.

Call HAP Senior Plus at 800-801-1770 or Alliance Medicare PPO at 888-658-2536.

Community Center offers winter fun

If wintry weather is cutting into your walking or running routine, Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation has a winter deal for you.

Special Winter Passes to the Wayne Community Center are being offered. The passes can be used through March 31. The cost is \$25 for 10 passes or \$30 for 15 passes for

residents; or \$35 for 10 passes or \$40 for 15 passes for non-residents.

"It started out as a walking pass for people who walk or run outside," Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Adams said. "But we've added open swim and ice skating to appeal to a different demographic."

The Winter Passes are half the regular cost of a day pass, Adams said, and can be used as wanted until the expiration date March 31.

People can buy the passes for themselves, or as a gift of fitness, Adams said.

Pass users must be 16 years old to participate without an adult. Young-

sters ages 11-15 years must be accompanied by adult. The passes allow use of the indoor walking/running track anytime, along with open swim and open skate.

Call the Wayne Community Center for more information at 734-721-7400.

By LeAnne Rogers

CHIEF

Continued from Page A1

ment, in order," said Reddy, who expects to have a report back to the councils by April when budget preparations begin.

For Wayne Councilman James Henley, the staffing at the Inkster Fire Department was a concern. He noted the department has 13 firefighters — fewer than Wayne but with a larger

population at 28,000.

"The beauty of this is that we'll see if they need to be redeployed, see the number of runs they do, their down time and a sense of their call volume," Reddy said. "In a short time, I'll have information coming back to council."

If Reddy finds merging Inkster not to be feasible, the agreement would expire at the end of the fiscal year and Inkster would then need to hire a fire chief.

Combined dispatch

Earlier this year, a joint emergency dispatching center was opened at the Westland Police Department to serve Westland, Inkster, Wayne and Garden City.

Longer term, the Wayne-Westland Fire Department may transition into a Western Wayne Fire Department that could add Garden City along with Inkster into the department. City officials see it as a more

cost-effective way to operate and offer enhanced services.

State funding was received to facilitate the Wayne-Westland merger making sure equipment was compatible and other needed transitions. Reddy said a merger with Inkster, if that moves forward, would also be expected to qualify for state money.

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BUS

Continued from Page A1

lot from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Transportation employees will be there throughout the day to load the buses and a variety of costume characters will be on hand, including Santa and Mrs. Claus. Roarke is hoping the Wayne-Westland Fire Department will also make a repeat appearance.

The Wayne and Westland Goodfellows are spearheaded by members of the fire department. Last year they showed up with a fire engine and were giving youngsters rides around the parking lot.

"It was really great. They had the lights on and people saw them and were stopping by," Roarke said. "They were so happy to get

the stuff."

People can drop off unwrapped new toys, new and gently used cold weather clothing like hats, gloves, clothes and boots, as well as nonperishable food.

Transportation employees held their first Stuff a Bus in 2009 and were able to fill one bus. The next year they did two and the effort has been growing ever since. Each bus has 26 seats, and Roarke is confident that all of the 78 seats on the three buses will be filled — and with good reason.

Her employees have already been collecting items.

"The employees are pretty good about it," Roarke said. "We used to collect the stuff and give it to one of the schools. This way we can help the whole community."

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FUNDRAISER

Continued from Page A1

in the planning stages when the Michigan State Police announced they were investigating the fire as arson and Woehlke's death.

'Moving forward'

"I'm just amazed by the whole thing. We're just moving forward," LeMaitre said. "George and Mary need help. Waiting until January or February or March (for the fundraiser) didn't seem a good option."

In comments last week, George Marvaso expressed surprise that the fire had been ruled an arson. With the investigation open and now the fire ruled an arson, he said he has received no insurance settlement for the business — he doesn't own the building.

"We're broke as a joke. Our kids are helping me with the condo payment," Marvaso said. "They (LeMaitre and other fundraiser orga-

nizers) have been very good to us."

While Marvaso said he's been trying to negotiate a lease for a temporary charity poker room, LeMaitre is focusing on meeting shorter term needs.

'Will be vindicated'

Unanswered questions about the fire have kept some people from aiding the fundraiser, LeMaitre said.

"They (the Marvasos) will be vindicated in the end. It'll all work out," he said. "In the last year, the business had been doing really well. I have every faith and confidence that the person who set the fire will be caught."

All donations will go to the Marvasos, LeMaitre said. To reserve a spot or get more information, contact LeMaitre at 734-260-4682 or email keygraphicsolutions@yahoo.com.

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Student artist group holding holiday sale

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

A community of student artists is offering its first Student Art Sale at the Michigan Art Center in Garden City.

The sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, and Friday, Dec. 13, at the center at 32129 Block.

"This will be the first of hopefully many holiday sales," said Mike Kuhn, owner and teacher. "April 15 will be our first-year anniversary."

Almost 40 students will display their artwork of ceramics, pottery and glass fusion. More than 300 pieces will be offered for sale. They range in price from about \$5-\$80. The majority are \$20-\$50.

The students will keep the proceeds minus 15 percent of the sale which will go to the center to cover some of the overhead.

"If they were selling things in a gallery, galleries charge 50 percent," Kuhn said.

The holiday sale is student driven.

"These students aren't beginners," Kuhn said. "This is beautifully and professionally made art. It's gorgeous. This is top quality stuff."

Some of the students have been practicing ceramics for more than 10 years, and "they have become quite accomplished at their art," Kuhn said.

Student work

Linda Worthington, a Livonia resident, created necklaces, ornaments and some leaf platters for the sale. Some of Worthington's work reflects her experiences when she lived in Africa. She returned to the area in 2012.

Her husband, Ben, an engineer for Ford Motor Company, was assigned to work at a plant in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

Worthington brought her love of nature and time spent on about 40 safaris back to the United States in her memory and re-creation in her art and photography. She has a love of wild life and nature.

"I had to do an extension into pottery," Worthington said.

Some of her ornaments are giraffes which she saw up close.

"We had lions and leopards and giraffes," she said. "It depends where you went. The elephants were just out-of-this-world beautiful. I'm still trying to develop some patterns with elephants."

Worthington studied the pottery in South Africa which she described as different because of the techniques used.

"Certain things are not as precise," she said. "They use a lot of beading when they do their art work," she said.

Kuhn added that much of the African work is more rustic, and the residents push the pottery wheel with their feet.

Lamp for sale

Frank Florance, a Northville resident, is offering a lamp that he made for the sale.

"The base was thrown on a wheel," Florance said. "The parts in between, which are hexagon-shaped, were extruded."

Don Oakley, a Redford Township resident, will sell about 20 pieces of his artwork. He has vases, bowls and covered jars. He has also produced drums.

Jan Wilkiemyer, a Northville resident, especially enjoys making bowls. She also enjoys sharing them with guests. "Have a bowl," she tells them as they get to select their choice.

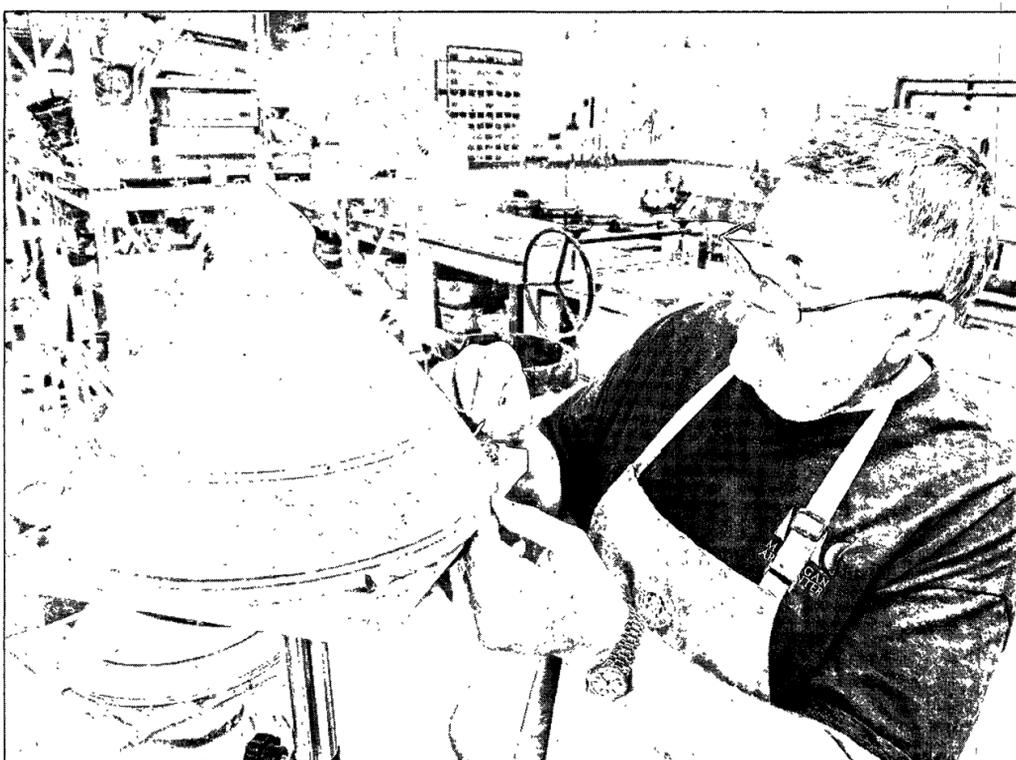
Shoppers who come to the student art sale can have a chance to try out the pottery wheel at the Michigan Art Center.

"We will give them a quick lesson and allow them to make something," Kuhn said.

Children also have a chance to enjoy an art project. For \$5, they will be given a pendant and instructions on how to make a necklace for their mom or grandmother.

The Michigan Art Center is at 32129 Block, north of Ford and west of Merriman. The center is the third and last building at the end of a driveway in a semi-industrial area.

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Don Oakley of Redford creates a Tajine, a traditional Moroccan cooking vessel, for a friend. Other works by Oakley will be offered for sale. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Artist Linda Worthington, a Livonia resident, displays her work, a state of Michigan ceramic ornament.

Instructor Mike Kuhn talks about a student's work.

NOTICE OF MEETING
The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Wayne Masonic Temple Association, a Michigan non-profit corporation, shall be held at the office of the corporation at 37137 Palmer Rd., Westland, Michigan on the Tuesday December 10, 2013 at 8:00 PM for the election of directors and such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

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WESTLAND COP CALLS

Larceny from a vehicle

Two laptop computers and a water meter reader were reported stolen from a vehicle parked in the 36000 block of Schley on Nov. 21. The resident said he is working for a New Jersey firm which owned the equipment.

The resident told police he left the vehicle locked but there was no damage found.

Larceny

A Westland man told police he was working in the garage at his mother's home in the 34000 block of Caspian Court until about 5 p.m. Nov. 20.

The following morning, he said his mother noticed the garage side door was open.

The side door had been kicked open and the frame damaged. Numerous drawers were found open.

The man reported a laptop computer, crescent wrenches of various sizes, a battery jumper, a hand-held

grinder, impact drills and a diagnostic machine valued at \$7,380 stolen.

Since there were broken tools not stolen, the man told police he suspected it was someone he knew who had broken into the garage.

Break-in

A Grass Lake man told police Nov. 20 that someone had smashed the sliding glass door of a home in the 30000 block of Burlington. He said the copper plumbing was stolen along with several tools.

The house is vacant and being renovated, the man said.

Vandalism

On Nov. 23, a Bay City man told police he arrived to work on a home he had recently purchased in the 31000 block of Hazelwood and found someone had thrown a brick through the side door window.

The home is empty and nothing appeared to have been taken. The owner said he had been at the home last

Nov. 16.

Larceny

An employee of the Washington Center strip mall, 2651 S. Wayne Road, told police Nov. 20 that someone had stolen two air conditioning units from the roof along with all the copper plumbing.

Taken some time since Nov. 15, the stolen items were valued at \$100,000.

Larceny

A resident in the 34000 block of Caseville Court told police on Nov. 25 that someone had stolen a 60-pound propane tank from his driveway. It was valued at \$60.

Larceny

An 88-year-old Westland woman told police Nov. 24 that someone had stolen her wallet the previous day while she was shopping at Heartland Market, 34414 Ford.

The woman said she had left her purse in the shopping cart and had her back

turned while she was looking in the frozen department.

She said she had canceled her credit cards.

Vandalism

A Wayne woman told police someone slashed a tire on her 2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee while it was parked overnight in the 38000 block of Hyman.

On Nov. 24, a resident in the 7500 block of Cardwell told police he parked his 2000 Ford Taurus in front of his home overnight. The next morning, he said the driver's side rear window was shattered.

The officer noted the window appeared to have been shot with a BB gun.

A resident in the 7600 block of Woodview told police that she had been away for two weeks and she returned to find a large scratch along the entire passenger side of her 2012 Ford Fusion.

By LeAnne Rogers

Over 500
probationers
pass court's
random
alcohol test

Forty-nine probationers will have to explain to the judges of Westland's 18th District Court why they failed to show up for random alcohol testing on Wednesday, Nov. 27.

In an effort to protect the public and ensure compliance with probation orders, 577 probationers were scheduled for the testing between 6-11:30 p.m. Those selected for the test were individuals who have been placed on probation for an alcohol-related offense and have a strict no-alcohol consumption clause in effect.

Of those 577 probationers, 528 appeared. All of those who showed up for the testing registered .000 on a PBT test.

The probation department, under the leadership of the Judges Sandra Ference Cicirelli and Mark McConnell, has performed the tests because the night before Thanksgiving is known to be one of the busiest bar nights of the year.

According to the probation department, those probationers who did not appear, or were not previously excused, will have to appear for a Show Cause Hearing in front of their presiding judge to explain their absence. At that hearing, they could be ordered to serve jail time, get additional work program days, be assessed additional fines or have their probation term modified.

"The 18th District Court has been conducting random testing on Thanksgiving Eve for the past 12 years," Cicirelli said. "This program has proven to be a good deterrent against drinking and driving and also a good way to rehabilitate those individuals who have alcohol addictions."

"We hope this program served as an incentive for our probationers to stay away from alcohol that day," McConnell said.

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

Suspended license

Garden City Police arrested a 21-year-old Dearborn Heights man about 11:45 p.m. Nov. 29 after they reportedly followed his erratic driving from Farmington east to Grand.

The arresting officer said he observed the driver weaving on Ford about five times.

When stopped, the man could only produce a Michigan identification card, police said.

He told police that his driver's license was suspended/revoked because of a manslaughter arrest, according to the police report.

The officer said that the man displayed no signs of intoxication.

Fraud

A resident in the 32000 block of Manor Park went to the police station Nov. 29 to report that she was a victim of fraud.

She said that someone fraudulently used her debit card to make \$236 of purchases at a Meijer store in Southgate. The woman added that she doesn't know how anyone got her number nor does she know who could have committed the fraud.

A Garden City woman who lives in the 31000 block of Rosslyn came to the police station lobby Nov. 20 to report that someone fraudulently used one of her checks.

She obtained a copy of the check for \$1,643 from Chase Bank at Cherry Hill

and Merriman.

The police obtained the identification of a 25-year-old Detroit man as the suspect and are investigating the matter.

Theft

The manager of My Cleaners, 32600 Cherry Hill, reported money missing about 2 p.m. Nov. 28.

He said the alarm was set about 2 p.m. Nov. 28. Police said Guardian Alarm did not indicate any activation of the alarm after it was set. Police are investigating.

Property damage

Two residents on Alvin Street reported recent spray paint damage to their vehicles.

A resident in the 32000 block of Alvin reported

Nov. 30 that someone spray painted both sides of his 1994 Ford Escort station wagon which was parked in the street.

Another resident in the 32000 block of Alvin said that on Nov. 30 someone spray painted the passenger side of his vehicle which was parked in the driveway.

A resident in the 33000 block of John Hawk said that she looked out of her window about 9:45 a.m. Dec. 1 and saw that all four of her Firestone tires on her vehicle were slashed.

When she checked further, she observed that there was a quarter inch deep slash on each of the four tires. All of the tires were flat.

By Sue Buck

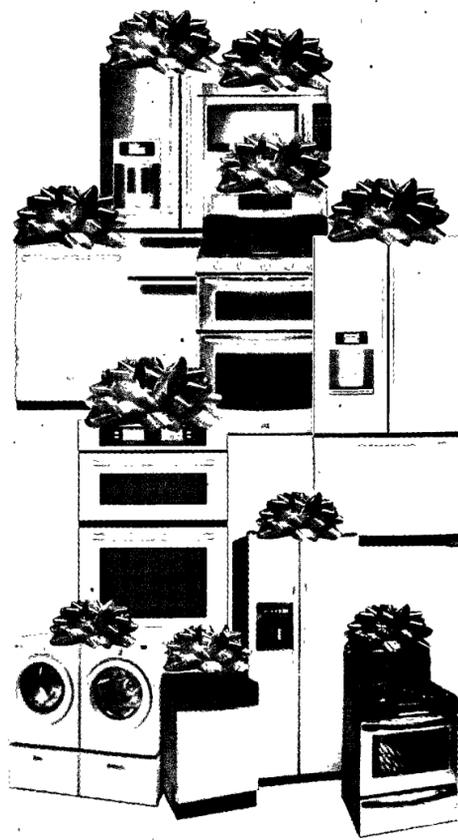
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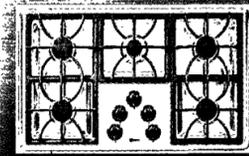
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Gene Lemberg has launched an effort to raise funds for top-of-the-line wheelchairs for disabled veterans. He's pictured here leafing through a scrapbook from his years serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Disabled veterans get helping hand

By Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

Our soldiers returning home from the battlefield paralyzed or missing limbs gave their best for us and deserve the same in return — but aren't getting it, says Gene Lemberg of Farmington Hills.

So now the 80-year-old Korean War veteran is determined to do something about it. His mission: Raise funds to equip disabled veterans with top-of-the-line wheelchairs to "give them not only respect, but to give them help."

"I think everybody is forgetting these guys," Lemberg said. "That's not the way I was raised. That's not the America I knew."

Lemberg said he's "irked" — to put it mildly — when he sees on TV or reads newspaper articles about the number of U.S. military personnel who've suffered traumatic limb or spinal cord injuries, but aren't provided state-of-the-art mobility assistance.

For months, Lemberg said, he "mull[ed] the thought in his head," but just recently decided to take action.

"I don't like what's going on, so I thought to myself 'Is there anything you can do about it?'"

Through a bit of research, Lemberg discovered high-tech, all-terrain "Active Track"

wheelchairs cost a minimum of \$15,000 and get pricier as they are customized to accommodate a user's specific disabilities.

But that's nothing compared to what the disabled soldier has given, he said.

Seeking support

To drum up support — and perhaps resources — Lemberg is reaching out to state politicians, members of the U.S. Congress, business owners, friends, associates and others to contribute to the effort.

He's also establishing a partnership with Paralyzed Veterans of America in Novi, a nonprofit 501(c)3. That way, funds collected will go into a special account created by PVA and will be tax-deductible.

So far he's received plenty of positive feedback on his idea. Now, he has to put a plan into action. Along with monetary contributions, he's also seeking assistance from people who will spread the word and help market and promote the fundraising effort through social media and other avenues.

"If you ask enough people, you're going to find people to step forward and help. If we end up only getting one wheelchair, than at least that's one veteran that is being helped," he said.

Lemberg said he was

fortunate not to see military action while serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean War — and to come back home without injury. But to know that others have suffered a different fate, and then don't receive the best equipment, care and assistance possible; is something he just can't let go.

"This (raising funds) is about the only thing I can do — and to get it out there," he said. "There are a lot of veterans, people with veterans in their family, retirees who are personally touched by this. If I get it all to click, I don't see how this can miss."

Michael Harris, PVA executive director, said while Lemberg's plan is still in the early stages, it's a good one. Providing disabled vets with an Active Track chair — whether given to an individual or making it available for shared use at a recreational site, for example — can be instrumental in helping them get back to activities they loved before they were injured.

"It shows them there is life after disability, and that they can again lead a very productive life and enjoy the outdoors," Harris said.

To get involved with Lemberg's cause, contact him at 248-661-1209.

awingblad@hometownlife.com
248-933-4054

Friends decorate Nankin Mills for holidays

Wayne County Parks and the Friends of Nankin Mills are inviting families to the annual Family Holiday Fest and Mill Lighting 3:30-5:15 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.

There will be several holiday crafts, games and prizes for children in the center, followed by a short outdoor ceremony with the mill lighting and singing-a-long, ending at 6

p.m. Children can visit Santa and enjoy refreshments after the mill lighting.

There is no charge to for the mill lighting and Santa visit, however, the cost is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult for Wayne County residents and \$7 per child and \$3 per adult for non-residents to participate in crafts and games. Limited space available is available, so preregistration is required.

Families also can celebrate the season during the 20th anniversary of Lightfest 7-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6-10 p.m. Friday through Sunday through Dec. 31. Lightfest is closed Christmas Day. Visitors enter Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman Road in Westland and exit onto Warren Avenue near Telegraph Road in Dearborn Heights. There is a \$5 fee per vehicle.

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Santa Claus rides into Garden City in a sleigh "pulled" by his reindeer. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

Annual parade welcomes Santa to Garden City

Mother Nature provided a beautiful day for the crowds that gathered along Ford and Middlebelt on Saturday morning for the 53rd annual Downtown Garden City Santaland Parade.

"The streets were lined with people," Garden City Councilwoman Jaylee Lynch said.

She congratulated everyone who was involved with the Santaland Parade at Monday's city council meeting.

"Every year, it seems to get better and better," Lynch said.

The parade also had some new floats this year, said Councilwoman Patricia Squires, who for years has also served on the Santaland Parade Committee.

Several floats took honors and were presented plaques. Garden City Hospital took first place. The Garden City Youth Athletic Association, known as GCYAA, took second place and Rockstarz was the third-place winner.

The parade kicked off at 10 a.m., led by two grand marshals — 89-year-old World War II veteran George Leland of Garden City and 2014 Miss Michigan USA Elizabeth Ivezajv.

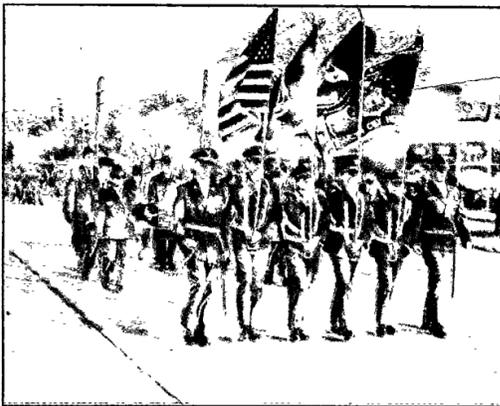
Leland received six bronze battle stars dur-

ing World War II while serving his country and Ivezajv is a contestant in the 2014 Miss USA pageant.

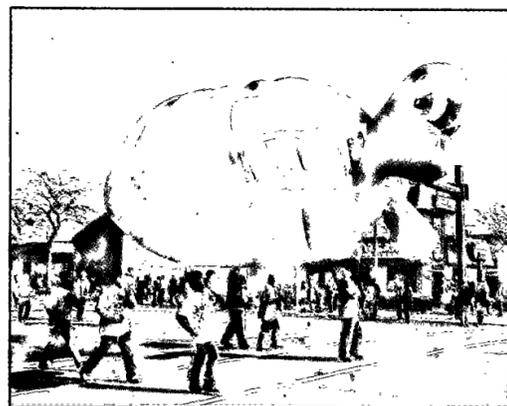
The parade started at Garden City High School and traveled south on Middlebelt to Ford before ending at the site of the Farmers Market in the Garden City Town Center parking lot, where the Garden City Downtown Development Authority held its annual post-parade event.

Entertainment, hot chocolate and other goodies was provided by Rockstarz and their sister business Nom Nom's Cupcake Factory of Westland. Kids had the opportunity to spend time with Santa and give him their Christmas lists. Santa also received the key to the city from Mayor Randy Walker.

The parade featured three high school marching bands from Garden City, Livonia Franklin and Taylor Kennedy high schools, as well as the Taylor Shiners Tin Lizzies, the American Legion Riders, the Redford Township Unicycle Club, Harmony Acres Arabian Parade Horses and two giant parade balloons carried by the Garden City Cougars varsity football team and Bethel Community Church.



The Garden City High School JROTC carries the flags at this year's parade.



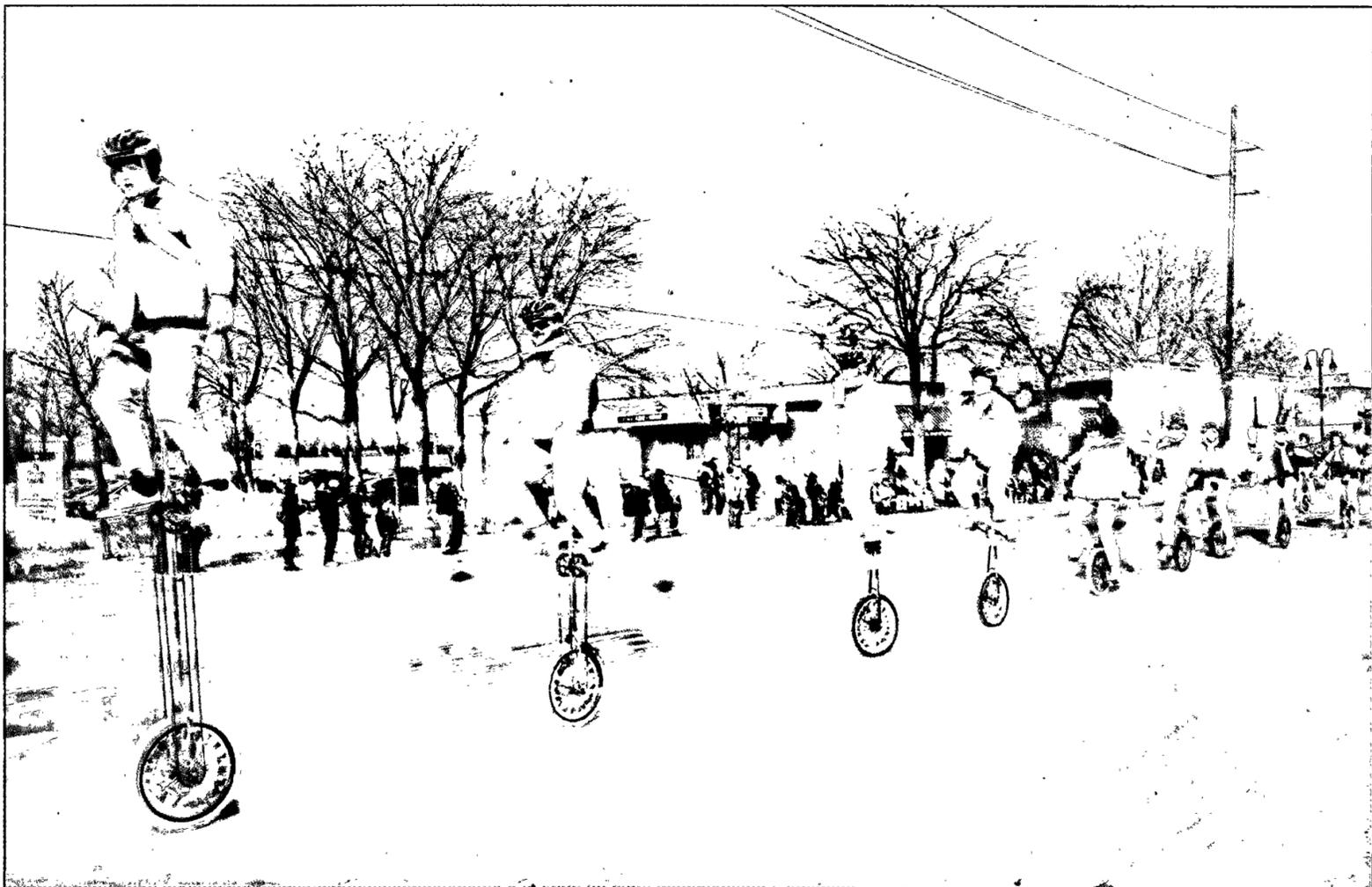
The Garden City High School football team members guide the giant turtle float at this year's Santaland Parade



Adam Bogenshultz of Garden City and son, Derek, enjoy a beautiful day at the Santaland Parade.



Three-year old Carson Brown of Plymouth is thrilled to meet Santa.



The Redford Unicycle Club was among local groups entertaining parade goers.

Irish dancers get into step at Redford AOH

By Beth Jachman
Staff Writer

You don't have to have the luck of the Irish or even be Irish to learn Irish dancing.

Especially after the popularity of Riverdance and Lord of the Dance, people of all nationalities are interested in learning the traditional steps, according to John Heinzman of the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance which holds classes locally.

Classes are offered on Tuesday evenings at Redford's Ancient Order of Hibernians location on Five Mile east of Beech Daly.

Heinzman, who began dancing at age 5, has been teaching dance in Redford for 15 years as he also taught at the old AOH building at Seven Mile and Grand River. The AOH bought the Five Mile location from the Knights of Columbus about a year ago.

The AOH in Redford offers a brand-new step dancing class, which is an intricate form of Irish dance made popular in Riverdance and Lord of the Dance and it requires a good deal of athleticism and footwork, Heinzman said.

Currently, three boys ages 5, 6 and 10 are in the step class, Heinzman said.

About 20 people attend the adult ceili folk dancing class, which is country dancing that has been going on in Ireland as far back as there is recorded history, Heinzman said.

"It originally told the history of the Irish people," he said.

The local classes had been in flux during the transition to the new building.

The kids step dancing class was moved to the Taylor location and the Ceili class went to downtown Detroit temporarily, Heinzman said.

Back in Redford

But now the classes are back in Redford.

The new location is an improvement, Heinzman said, calling it nice and clean and well-maintained. "It's larger than the old location and a much nicer building," he said.

His mom, Kitty Heinzman, teaches ceili classes. Ceili is primarily an adults class made up of people in their 50s, 60s and 70s. Ceili has far less impact than step dancing.

Step dancing is more athletic, and attracts younger people, but Heinzman said he works with one step dancer who is nearly 60.

Before Riverdance in the 1990s, this type of dancing only attracted the Irish and those of Irish descent. Also only eight countries sent teams to participate in the world championships, but since Riverdance roughly 40 countries participate, Heinzman said.

The Ardan Academy of Irish Dance has grown to more than 10 locations throughout Michigan, Ohio, and Ontario, Canada.

Teaches all over

Heinzman himself teaches in Michigan, Ohio and Canada and also teaches private lessons for those looking to refine their skills.

His school teaches both recreational and competitive dance. Some dancers take classes just once a week while others take them up to six days a week. "It depends on how much they are willing to invest in their classes and their training," Heinzman said.

This weekend, the school is hosting the regional championships in Grand Rapids, which draws about 4,000 from all over the Midwest. Events include step dance, ceili dancing, teacher choreography and dance drama.

"In our school we make a very big effort to merge the generations - young people, middle age people and older people," he said, as they put on events such as dances and a Christmas party.

Those interested in dance classes can sign up at any time, Heinzman said.

The AOH in Redford is at 25300 Five Mile. Phone: 734-762-0997.

For more information on the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance, visit www.ardanacademy.com



Four-year-old Finnegan Moran of Royal Oak practices the "Leg up" with instructor Megan Holton of Livonia and brothers Clark and Harvey Smith of Livonia at classes held in Redford. THOMAS BEAUDOIN



Willie Cushing of Ann Arbor and Mary Kay Hicks of Livonia keep in step as they dance at the AOH in Redford during the Irish dance class. THOMAS BEAUDOIN



Pat Dillon-Quinn of Grosse Pointe Farms and Jimmy Maye of Livonia enjoy the Irish dance class held at the AOH Hall in Redford. THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Funeral home holds annual Service of Remembrance

The R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes and Cremation Services of Livonia and Garden City will be holding its 23rd Annual Service of Remembrance on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7-8, for families who have lost a loved one during this last year and in the years past.

At the service, family members will be invited to place an angel with their loved one's name on a tree where it will re-

main until after Jan. 1, 2014.

A popular Children's Table is available for 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 can be enjoyed indoors following the service.

The service at the

R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home-Livonia Chapel, 15451 Farmington Road, just north of Five Mile, will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. Call 734-422-6720 for more information.

The service at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home-Garden City Chapel, 31551 Ford Road, just west of Merriman, will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8. Call 734-425-9200 for more information.

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Get your Michigan food fix with Mitten Crate

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

ROYAL OAK — Andrew Chmielewski and Cory Wright have traveled all over Michigan and tasted some of the best food products the state has to offer.

But one thing they noticed on their travels is the items they found in different regions of the state were restricted to that area.

"We noticed a lot of great small products but it's really regionalized," Chmielewski said. "Unless you are within that 30-mile radius, it was hard to find new products."

The two Royal Oak residents then put their heads together to come up with an idea that would not only give consumers across the state the ability to try food products they are missing out on, but also open up avenues for the small business owners that create these products to expand their reach.

Mitten Crate, which models the subscription box service, started in August and in just three months sales have tripled. They sold 60 boxes in the first month and are expecting to do more than 350 for December.

Each month subscribers receive a box of four-to-six Michigan-made, artisan foods from around the state. A subscription is \$35 per month including shipping and handling, but single boxes also can be purchased for \$35 and a \$7 flat rate shipping fee. Boxes also can be



Royal Oak residents Andrew Chmielewski, left, and Cory Wright created the Mitten Crate subscription box in an effort to showcase some of the many unknown food products made in Michigan. NATHAN MUELLER | STAFF WRITER

shipped out of state, with Wright noting that about 30 percent of sales so far have come from outside Michigan.

Chmielewski said the value of the box is between \$40-\$45, and the items and theme change every month.

It's also a surprise, as the food products are not announced in advance.

"Primarily, 99 percent of the time, it is going to be filled with products from companies people have never heard of," Chmielewski said. "And that is the fun part."

Wright said the goals of Mitten Crate are to showcase great Michigan products and have a positive impact on the community.

"Our main focus is for small producers to get as much exposure as possible," he said.

Mitten Crate also has

formed a partnership with Gleaners Community Food Bank where money donated from every box sold accounts for three meals for people in need. The business donated almost 900 meals last month.

"This is your commitment to Michigan if you will," Chmielewski said. "We love this place and we are proud to help people be a part of that."

Chmielewski and Wright also will be guest bartenders at the Bartending for Gleaners event on Dec. 19 at Lily's Seafood in downtown Royal Oak. All tips and auction proceeds will go to Gleaners Community Food Bank.

For more information or to purchase a Mitten Crate, visit www.MittenCrate.com.

nmueller@hometownlife.com
586-826-7209

Twitter: @SOKeccentric

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Reservation please

It's easy to find Beaver Creek Tackle and Beer in Westland these days. Just look for the blue lights.

For a second year, co-owner Steve Hazerian has transformed two sides of the popular Westland restaurant into dazzling display of blue LED lights.

Beaver Creek is at 1609 N. Wayne Road, south of Ford in Westland. It's currently taking reservations for dinner on Christmas Eve. The restaurant will be open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Call 734-722-5330 or visit beavercreektackleandbeer.com.

Travel and Tour Show

Seniors interested in one-day and multiple-day tours are invited to a senior travel and tour show from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, at the Wayne Community Center.

Bus tours, plane and

cruise tours will be presented during this evening. There also will be raffles for trips and gifts at the end of the night. There is no cost.

No children are allowed at the event and reservations are required. Space is limited. For more information and free tickets, call 734-525-9777.

Shop and Dine

The City of Westland has officially kicked off the fifth annual Shop and Dine Westland Holiday Campaign.

Shop and Dine is a six-week multifaceted marketing campaign which promotes Westland's premier shopping district as a location that bears "Everything you need" for everyone's holiday season shopping list.

Westland's Shop and Dine district is anchored by the Westland Shopping Center and is surrounded by more than 160 wonderful shops,

restaurants and services, making it Wayne County's premier shopping and dining destination.

The city has TV commercials that began airing the week of Thanksgiving, starring local resident and 2008 Miss Michigan Ashlee Baracy. The commercials are running on popular cable stations like Food Network, TBS, Bravo, E!, FX and History Channel.

The commercials highlight and encourage shoppers to spend the day in Westland and enjoy the large selection of retail stores, restaurants and the state-of-the-art MJR Theater.

Radio ads will also be hitting the metro area air waves, and the city will utilize billboards on major freeways.

"Small businesses are a crucial part of the success of our fantastic shop and dine district," said Mayor William Wild, "so when you visit Westland this holiday season, tell them the city of Westland sent you!"

Help for the holiday



CentiMark Corporation's Westland office staff of Mike Buchanczenko (from left), Jill Wozny, Slavco Stamenkovic, Jason Hahn, Rob Marinkoski, Don Graham, Jeff Mollard, Chris Bisson show off the food they donated to the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps for Thanksgiving. The office's efforts were part of a nationwide food drive for CentiMark's Gives Thanks program. CentiMark's offices nationwide collected and donated food to support their local community food banks for Thanksgiving.

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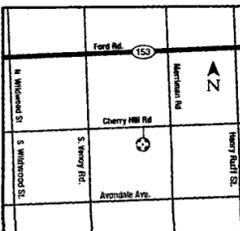
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Westland American House facilities help seniors

Residents of American House Senior Living communities will begin their annual Holiday Hope for Seniors campaign to help area senior citizens.

All are welcome to attend an annual tree lighting kick off ceremony from 6-8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5, at every southeastern Michigan American House, including American House Westland Hunter Senior Living on Hunter west of Wayne Road, American House Westland Joy Senior Living on Joy west of Newburgh, and American House Westland Venoy Senior Living on Venoy south of Cherry Hill.

Holiday Hope for Seniors begins with seniors at American House wanting to do their part to help their less fortunate peers during the

holiday season.

In addition to pledging their dollars to help those in need, many also pledge their time by helping hand pack personal items, which are then delivered to local area senior citizens in need.

"It's heartwarming to see our senior residents so passionate about helping their less fortunate peers," said Rob Gillette, chief operating officer of American House. "Age is not a barrier — they still want to do their part to make an impact in the community."

Holiday Hope for Seniors is expected to provide aid for more than 800 seniors in need, none of whom are residents of American House Senior Living communities.

During the tree lighting celebrations, orna-

ments will be placed on the trees with a senior's name, age and their holiday need. Residents and guests at the ceremonies will buy the ornaments, which range between \$5 and \$20 with 100 percent of the donation going directly to the seniors in need.

To identify senior citizens in need, the American House Foundation has partnered with Lighthouse of Oakland County, The Senior Alliance, The Information Center, Adult Well-Being Services and The Luella Hannan Memorial Foundation.

For more information about Holiday Hope for Seniors, or to pledge a donation, contact Danielle Bruce at dbruce@americanhouse.com or 248-203-1800 or visit www.americanhousefoundation.org.

Being good listener is valuable

Today's sunny subject pertains to sales. Of course, we're all selling something, whether we call ourselves salespeople or not. And in the process we often make a key mistake — talking too much.

Talk less; listen more. Being a good listener is a valuable skill. Listening also involves asking relevant questions and follow-up questions, showing genuine interest in the other person and learning what's important to them.

This advice pertains just as well to personal relationships, where listening is also critical to success. (At least that's what all the love



Clarity
Newhouse
A SUNNY
NOTE

gurus seem to say!)

When trying to drum up business, if you find yourself doing a lot of "telling" then you're probably not "selling."

Happy selling and have a sunny day!

Clarity P.S. "To listen closely and reply well is the highest perfection we are able to attain in the art of conversation."

Francois de La Rochefoucauld
French author & Moralist
(1613 – 1680)

P.P.S. I always enjoy hearing from you and I thank you for sharing Sunny Notes with others. You can help spread the sunshine by inviting others to subscribe to Sunny Notes at www.joinsunnynotes.com.

Clarity Patton Newhouse is president of Sunny Media Group Inc., located at 39209 Six Mile, Suite 165, Livonia. She writes "A Sunny Note" to brighten the day with encouraging insights for business and life. "A Sunny Note" also is published online at ASunnyNote.com for readers across America and beyond. To reach her, call 734-855-4728 or find her on Facebook at facebook.com/sunnynotes.

Go prowling for owls at Maybury State Park

Maybury State Park and the Friends of Maybury invite young and old alike to bundle up for the Owl Prowl at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7.

Participants should meet at the concession building, taking the Eight Mile Road entrance just west of Beck at 5 p.m. for s'mores around a bonfire. After a brief presentation by the Friends of Maybury naturalist, participants will embark on a hike through the woods. Owls will be called and hopefully participants will either hear or spot one over-

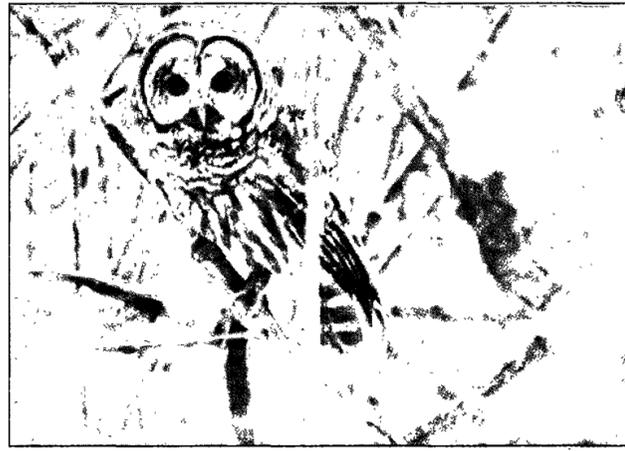
head.

After the hike, guests can return to the bonfire, chat about owls and share nature stories. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes, dress for the weather (events will take place rain or shine), and bring something to drink, a camp chair, a flashlight or miner's light and a great outdoor or nature story to share around the fire.

This program is free to attend, however, a Recreation Passport is required for all vehicles entering the state parks

and recreation areas. Owl Prowls are being held state-wide; a complete listing is available at www.michigan.gov/stateparks.

More outdoor fun and exercise ideas are available through the DNR's Recreation 101 program, which provides expert instruction to budding outdoor enthusiasts by offering free, hands-on training in over 100 different activities. Learn about participating or becoming an instructor at www.michigan.gov/rec101 or www.michigan.gov/freshfit.



Maybury State Park and the Friends of Maybury invite young and old alike to bundle up for the Owl Prowl at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. Participants should meet at the concession building, taking the Eight Mile Road entrance just west of Beck.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

COOKIE WALK

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 14.

Location: Sts. Constantine and Helen Church's Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, Westland.

Details: Helen's Philoptochos will have a huge assortment of cookies and Greek pastries for sale at \$8 per pound.

Contact: For more information, call 734-525-6789.

COOKIE WALK/BAZAAR

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 7.

Location: St. Raphael School Activities Center, 31500 Beechwood, west of Merriman and north of Ford, Garden City.

Details: Purchase a container and fill it with all the homemade holiday treats you can fit. Pick up some Christmas gifts at the in-house local vendor bazaar.

Contact: For more information, contact Janet Kosta at 734-968-5375 or at janetkosta@gmail.com or Julie Ryan at 734-673-2121 or julryan77@hotmail.com.

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11.

Location: Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, west of Inkster Road, Livonia.

Details: Widowed Friends, a peer group of the Archdiocese of Detroit, invites widowed men and women of all ages to attend a 5 p.m. social hour (cash bar) and an Italian dinner buffet served promptly at 6 p.m. Cost is \$15 and includes a buffet, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay at the door (cash only) with the exact amount. Stay for cards games and conversation until 9 p.m.

Contact: Must RSVP by Dec. 8 to Cookie at 248-357-2183, Pat at 248-545-8348 or Carol at 248-924-3677.

TOY SHOW

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1.

Location: Livonia Elks on Plymouth Road east of Merriman in Livonia.

Details: Admission will be \$4, with children under age 12 free for a toy show, featuring Hot Wheels, comic books, games, Star Trek and Star Wars items, movie, TV and music memorabilia, posters, beer signs, GI Joes, non-sport cards, Pez, Lunch Boxes, etc., will be sold at the toy show.

Contact: For more information or for tables, call Joe at 586-790-6290.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

SAFE PLACE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursdays.

Location: Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.

Details: A Safe Place is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program.

Contact: Russ Weathers at 734-422-1995.

ADULT DAY SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays.

Location: 570 S. Main St., Plymouth.

Detail: A structured weekday alternative for adults in need of supervision. Program provides activities and discussions to meet social, recreational and personal needs unique to dependent individuals.

Contact: Laurie Krause at laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com and 734-956-2600.

METRO FIBROMYALGIA

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, just west of Ford in Garden City.

Details: The first meeting has a speaker, the second meeting is open to discuss living with our fibromyalgia.

Contact: Ruthann at 734-981-2519.

MENOPAUSE & MORE

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month.

Location: Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia.

Details: A support group for women, no registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge.

Contact: 734-655-1100.

COUNTERPOINT

Details: Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families.

Contact: 734-563-5005.

TOUGHLOVE

Time/Date: 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

Location: Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington, Livonia.

Details: Support group, newcomers welcome.

Contact: 734-261-7880 or 248-380-7748.

LIFECARE

Time/Date: 7-9:15 p.m. Thursday.

Location: 570 S. Main St., Plymouth.

Details: LifeCare is a care/

support/recovery groups for everyone facing life's challenges.

Contact: Lillian Easterly-Smith at info.lifecarecc@gmail.com or 734-956-2109.

EDUCATION

WILLOW CREEK

Location: 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland.

Details: Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool offers a Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4-year programs.

Contact: 734-326-0078.

ST. DAMIAN

Location: 29891 Joy, Westland.

Details: St. Damian Catholic School offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8.

Contact: 734-427-1680, www.stdamian.com.

YWCA PRESCHOOL

Details: The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available.

Contact: 313-561-4110, Ext. 10.

ST. MARY

Location: St. Mary Catholic School, 34516 Michigan Ave., Wayne.

Details: St. Mary School offers pre-K 3 and 4 and kindergarten-eighth-grade. St. Mary has been recognized as a School of Distinction.

Contact: For more information, call the school office at 734-721-1240.

ORGANIZATIONS

FRIENDS OF ELOISE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the months of February, April, June, September and November.

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

Contact: Pat Ibbotson at 734-331-9291 or pibbotso@aol.com or Jo Johnson 734-522-3918.

WESTLAND ROTARY

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

Location: Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland.

Details: Community Service programs and planning. Catered lunch; visitors welcome. Check www.westlandrotary.com for more information about meetings, programs and events.

Contact: Jeff at 734-261-5010.

FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Monday of the month.

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth.

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family mem-

bers and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Streett at 734-629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS - SPOUSES

Time/Date: 1 p.m. second Tuesday of the month.

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth.

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for a spouse age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Streett at 734-629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS - WESTLAND

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the third Thursday of the month.

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland.

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Helen Streett at 734-

629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

WIDOWED MEN

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursdays of the month.

Location: Steve's Family Restaurant, 15800 Middlebelt, Livonia.

Details: The Men's Group of Widowed Friends, a peer group of the Archdiocese of Detroit, invites you to meet with other widowed men for breakfast. Many topics are discussed, including those that may be pertinent to your own situation. Also, ideas are presented to help you become involved in the activities of Widowed Friends.

Contact: Call Dick at 313-534-0399.

BURROUGHS OLD TIMERS

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. on the last Friday of the month.

Location: Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.

Details: Any former employees of Burroughs/Unisys are welcome to join us to socialize or renew acquaintances. There is no cost to join or to attend. A cash bar and a fish buffet are available but not mandatory.

Contact: John Kusch 734-751-9765 or kuschjt@yahoo.com.

LIONS CLUB

Time/Date: 11:45 a.m. the second Monday of the month and at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month.

Location: Big Boy Restaurant at Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland.

Details: The Westland Lions Club holds lunch and dinner meetings on Mondays.

Contact: For more information, call Debbie Dayton at 734-721-4216.

TOASTMASTERS

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. every Thursday.

Location: Warriors 3 Comics & Games, 35613 Michigan Ave., Wayne. Enter from parking lot entrance.

Details: Wayne-Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club provides a supportive environment where members can overcome the fear of speaking in public. The membership is a diverse group from different walks of life.

Contact: For more information, call Curt at 734-525-8445 or Luddie at 734-414-0034 or visit westlandeasytalkers.toastmastersclubs.org.

EARTH ANGELS

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

Contact: Visit www.earthangel-sontour.org or email earngel1986@comcast.net.

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Oakwood helps people understand, enroll in marketplace

With the deadline for the initial Affordable Care Act (ACA) enrollment period rapidly approaching, Oakwood Healthcare is doing its best to help the uninsured get the answers they want and the insurance they need.

The healthcare system is hosting two community education forums and enrollment opportunities Monday, Dec. 9, at Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center in Dearborn, where Gov. Rick Snyder signed the Medicaid Expansion bill earlier this year.

Called "Understanding the Health Insurance Marketplace," the seminars are a cooperative effort among Oakwood, the Centers for Medicare and

Medicaid Services, Enroll America and the ACCESS Community Health and Research Center, which is based in Dearborn.

There will also be opportunities to meet with navigators to enroll in insurance coverage to be effective in 2014. The sessions will take place from 2-3 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.

"It's really about education, not just enrollment," said Adnan Hammad, director of ACCESS. "Our community at large lacks information, lacks knowledge of what the Affordable Care Act is all about."

Part of that is due to misconceptions and a general lack of understanding in media reports. Additional confusion

was caused when healthcare.gov crashed soon after it "went live" in mid-October and was plagued with glitches. Those issues have since been fixed.

Erin Knott, director of Enroll America for Michigan, said she shared the frustrations of consumers and promised they would soon be a thing of the past.

"Each day we're getting reports that there have been improvements," Knott said. "We're encouraging people to be patient, to keep trying."

"We understand that there are a lot of questions about this process," said Mary Zatina, senior vice president of government relations and corporate communications for Oak-

wood. "We want to make ourselves available, like we always have, as a resource where the community can get those answers. Improving access to quality health care is what we are all about."

In order to have coverage in January, interested consumers must enroll by Dec. 23. Knott said that, despite the initial challenges, the Affordable Care Act would be a historic benefit for about 1 million uninsured and underinsured people in Michigan.

"The Affordable Care Act is much more than just a website," Knott said. "The ACA brings unprecedented improvements in many aspects of health care, including insur-

ance reforms that make exclusions for pre-existing conditions a thing of the past. Women will no longer pay higher premiums than men. And all of the plans in the marketplace now must provide 10 essential benefits some of which were only available for the more generous coverage plans."

Oakwood has also dedicated a Web page to the Affordable Care Act: www.oakwood.org/affordable-care-act. The page includes, among other information, a subsidy calculator consumers can use to determine how much assistance they qualify for.

For more information, visit www.enrollamerica.org or www.healthcare.gov.

AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

WCGH reunion

The 29th Annual Wayne County General Hospital reunion for former employees and retirees will be held in the party room at the Hibachi Grill Supreme Buffet at 6539 N. Wayne Road, Westland, 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10.

The cost of the buffet is \$10.59, with a senior discount available.

Cookie Walk

Stock up on holiday cookies and pastries at the St. Helen's Philothochos Cookie Walk and Greek Pastry Sale from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 14, at Sts. Constantine and Helen Church's Hellenic Cultural Center, 6375 Joy, Westland.

There will be a huge assortment of cookies on sale for \$8 per pound.

No Coffee Hours

Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc and State Rep. David Knezek, D-Dearborn Heights, will not hold their normally scheduled Coffee Hour event in December. Coffee Hours will resume again in January.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, also will not host his monthly coffee hours in of December. Coffee hours will resume in January.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with the senator may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909, by phone at 866-262-7306, or email SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

gan.gov.

Youth Assistance

The Westland Youth Assistance Program and the Taylor Teen Health Center is hosting a "Be Proud! Be Responsible!" workshops for youth. "Be Proud, Be Responsible!" is a pregnancy and HIV/AIDS prevention program for adolescent youth ages 12-18. It is interactive, fun, and most importantly, it works.

The workshops will take place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Dorsey Center 32715 Dorsey, south of Palmer, Westland. All participants will get a free snack in the morning, free lunch and free prizes.

For more information or to register, call the Westland Youth Assistance Program at 734-467-7904.

Christmas Party

The Wayne Golden Hour Club and Senior Services Office will co-host its annual Christmas Party on Thursday, Dec. 19. There will be a punch reception at 11:30 a.m., with lunch served at noon. There also will be entertainment, raffle, "steal a gift" and club's famous rendition of the 12 Days of Christmas.

Tickets are \$10 and are available at the Senior Services Office located in the Wayne Community Center at Howe and Annapolis in Wayne.

Full slate of holiday activities on tap

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Santa Claus has already arrived in Westland and Wayne to receive the keys to the cities but that doesn't mean an end to holiday festivities.

The Wayne Rotary will hold its 38th annual Christmas parade at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6 in downtown Wayne. The big changes are a move to an evening lighted parade for the first time.

The theme this year is Holiday Parade of Lights. The parade lines up at Sims and Second, heads north on Second to Glenwood, west on Glenwood to Wayne Road, then south to Michigan Avenue and west to Newberry. It takes approximately 90 minutes for the parade.

The Rotarians are also collecting canned foods at the parade for donation to the John Bolde Food Depot at St. Mary's Catholic Church, which in turn will distribute them to needy families. Canned goods can be dropped off at the parade line-up check-in area.

Also at 6:30 p.m. Friday Dec. 6, the 27th annual Goodfellows of Wayne Christmas Party will be held at Wayne Tree Manor. Tickets are \$25 per person and are available at Henry's Auto Service Center. For more information, visit www.downtownwayne.org.

Santa Claus will be visiting the Octagon House at the Westland Historic Village Park from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. There is no charge and hot chocolate and cookies will be provided. Bring your camera to take photos.

Tours of the Octagon House will be available upon request. The Westland Historic Village Park is located on Wayne Road

just south of Marquette.

Lunch with Santa at the Wayne Recreation Center is set for 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. The cost is \$5 per person for residents, \$6 for non-residents. Children two and under are free.

Included are pizza, salad, bread sticks, arts and crafts, face painting, and visits with some of your favorite cartoon characters. Photo packages with Santa will be available. Tickets are limited.

"We can take 215 kids and will be sold out. We've offered this for 20-plus years," Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Adams said. "Predominantly, we get kids 8 years old and younger."

Register for the program at the recreation center or www.ci.wayne.mi.us. Call 734-721-7400 for more information.

On Saturday, Dec. 21, the Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Department is hosting A Jolly Kids Night Out. The event will be from 6-10 p.m. and offers parents a night out without the kids.

Children ages 6-13 are welcome to come join a night of fun, filled with pizza, pop, swimming, games and more.

"It's cheaper than a babysitter and we keep them active," Adams said. "We always have this event the last Saturday of the month. We change up the program. In October, there was a Halloween theme."

The cost is \$13 per person for Wayne and Westland residents or yearly recreation center members, \$16 for non-residents. Add a \$3 charge for registrations after Dec. 20.

Call 734-721-7400 for more information.

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Detroit Zoo offers 'greener' events, materials

The Detroit Zoological Society is dreaming of a green Christmas ... and Hanukkah ... and Kwanzaa by incorporating elements of its Greenprint sustainability plan into Detroit Zoo events and operations this holiday season.

After nearly a decade, the Zoo has brought back Wild Lights, a holiday light display featuring more than 2 million LED lights on buildings, animal sculptures and trees. The event had become too costly and was not energy efficient to run; however, the increased use of LEDs on holiday lighting has provided an eco-friendly alternative. A 100-bulb string of traditional lights uses the same electricity as 42 100-bulb strings of LED lights.

"We're very excited to bring back Wild Lights and even more so to do it in a green way," said Ron Kagan, DZS executive director and CEO.

The LED lights will illuminate trees, buildings and animal sculptures on a half-mile trail through the front of the Zoo. Wild Lights will be held Dec. 6-8, 13-15, 20-23, 26-30, 2013; and Jan. 2-5, 2014. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will remain open until 9 p.m. weeknights and Sundays and 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Cost is \$8 per person in advance and \$10 at the gate for ages 2 and up (under 2 free); parking is \$5 per car. Tickets are available online or at the main admissions gate.

In addition, the Detroit Zoo has recycled and refurbished many of the light sculptures from previous Wild Lights. The Zoo last held the event in 2004.

Service Systems Associates — operator of concessions and retail services at the Detroit Zoo — is using eco-friendly products and sustainable solutions in its holiday catering and retail operations. Holiday decorations — including animal-shaped ornaments made from recycled materials and one filled with wild-flower seeds to be planted after the holidays — are available at Zoofari Market as well as Santa's Toy Box in the Ford Education Center during Wild Lights.

The DZS's animal care staff utilizes recycled materials such as boxes, bags, wrapping paper rolls and other items for holiday enrichment for the animals. In addition, unused, untreated Christmas trees are provided for the bears and great apes, who enjoy eating, tossing, carrying and rolling the trees.

The Detroit Zoological Society offers these tips for keeping the holidays green at home:

» Use LED lights instead of traditional lights.

» In lieu of buying decorations, deck the halls with natural materials such as gourds, branches and berries.

» Purchase locally sourced food and produce for holiday meals, and compost scraps such as vegetable and fruit peels, coffee grounds and eggshells.

» Take reusable bags for holiday shopping.

» Combine errands into one trip to reduce emissions.

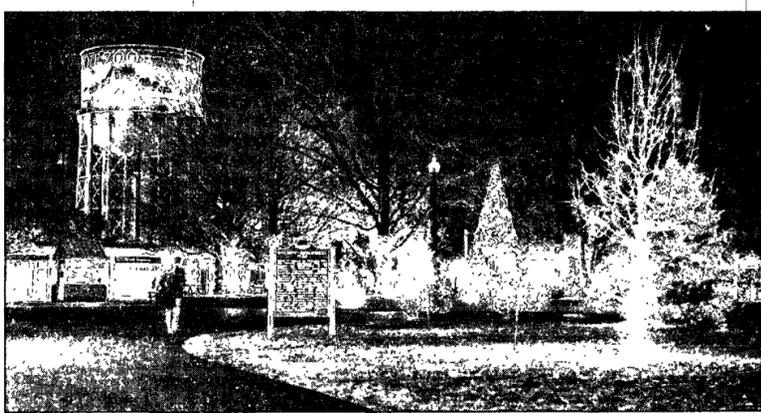
» Send holiday greetings electronically.

» Reuse ribbons, bows and wrapping paper, or make wrappings with magazines, newspapers or cloth.

» Give something green that will last the whole year, such as a plant or seeds.

The Greenprint is the DZS's plan to refine and improve daily practices and facilities, develop new policies and programs and improve green literacy in the community. To learn more, visit detroitzoo.org/about/greenprint.

The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that oper-



The illuminated Detroit Zoo water tower offers a backdrop to the zoo's Wild Lights display that runs throughout the holidays. PHOTO BY MARK M. GASKILL

ates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. Situated on 125 acres of

naturalistic habitats, the Detroit Zoo is located at the intersection of 10

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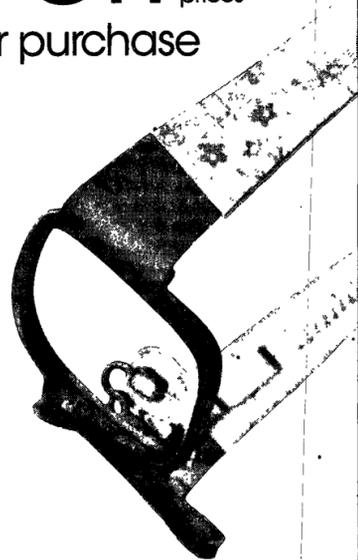
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I've noticed when paying for a purchase, the cashier asks about signing up for the store's charge card. As an enticement, a discount ranging from 5 to 20 percent is offered on the initial purchase.

Although I am a believer that wherever you can save money you should, I'm not so sure it makes sense in many situations to sign up for these charge cards. Yes, you are saving some money but, in the long run, it can cost you.

How good are these store charge cards? Typically, these types of charge cards carry higher interest rates than a major charge card. In addition, the grace period (the period you have to pay your bill without paying interest) is sometimes not as long as with other charge cards. Store cards are generally not as consumer-friendly as other charge cards.

Some people sign up for any charge card they can in order to take advantage of the discounts. This sounds like a good strategy, but it can backfire. Whenever you apply for credit, it adversely



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

affects your credit scores.

Credit score

Taking a hit on a credit score can be costly, particularly if you are planning to refinance a home or apply for a car loan. In addition, it is important to recognize that in today's world, credit scores can be used for more than just obtaining credit. Auto insurance companies use them to set rates and employers are beginning to use credit scores when it comes to hiring.

Credit cards are an important financial instrument. Obtaining a new charge card should not be a spur-of-the-moment decision.

Every so often, consumers need to review their charge cards to make sure they have the right ones for their individual situation. How many charge cards do you need? I don't know. However, it is important

to recognize that not all charge cards are the same. Not only can interest rates be different, but in addition, such things as grace periods, annual fees and rewards you receive can all be significantly different.

Selecting the right card depends on how you use your charge card. For example, if you pay your bill on time, then the interest rate is not as much a factor as is the grace period. If you carry a balance, the interest rate is more important than the grace period. The bottom line — having the right charge card can be a money saver.

As you continue your holiday shopping and every store in town offers you a charge card, my advice is, ignore them. I recognize that savings can be significant; however, having the wrong charge card can cost substantially more. Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

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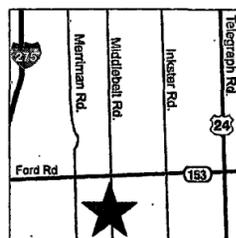
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OUR VIEWS

Get Involved

Citizens input needed to help solve Wayne's fiscal woes

Last month, Wayne residents let their voices be heard at the ballot box. A majority of those who voted in the November general election said no to paying more in taxes to fund a police and fire retirement plan.

Facing a projected \$2 million revenue shortfall in the 2014-2015 budget year, city officials had hoped voters would understand that shifting pension costs to Public Act 345 pension plan and using a tax levy of up to 7 mills to fund it, would free up money to preserve city services.

Even the specter of a possible bankruptcy and an emergency manager wasn't enough to squeeze out a yes vote. Residents looked in their wallets and decided enough is enough. More and more of the costs for such things as road repairs and street lighting, have been shifted to them. They see the amount of taxes levied at a level that has them worried about their impact the day property values begin to rebound.

The vote should not be construed as residents not caring about their community. It's obvious they do. It's an indication of the effect the protracted economic downturn has had on them. Like the city, they, too, are being squeezed financially. Job loss, stagnating wages and escalating costs have them struggling.

But by saying no, they now leave city officials with the task of finding ways to cut expenses to address the revenue loss. Certainly spending can be curbed for the remainder of the current fiscal year, but that savings will be small in comparison to what needs to be done.

The city council is taking the first step toward addressing the problem by holding a study session Dec. 10 to reach a consensus on the process going forward. They also plan to hold a series of town hall meetings to gather public input on the financial crisis.

Residents had their say in November, but they need to say more. They need to become an active participant in resolving the city's fiscal problem. That no vote isn't the end, it's the beginning.

Residents need to speak up about what it is they want and about what it is they're willing to give up to save their city. And they need to be realistic. There is no longer room in the budget for everything, something has to give.

We believe residents need to get involved in the process. Government in this country is of the people, for the people and by the people. Now is the time for that happen in the City of Wayne.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What's the best thing that has happened to you in 2013?

We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"I'm behind on my utility bill and Consumers Power gave me extra time, so the best thing that's happened to me is I haven't gotten a shutoff."

Barbara Gray
Westland



I got my first baby, a boy named Chiagozia Noel, and my mother-in-law gets to visit and see him."

Paulinus Ngwa
Nigeria



"A job, I got my first new job."

Candace Council
Westland



"She (Candace Council) came home from college."

Chiquita Morris
Westland

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OUR VIEWS

Vigil a tremendous source of support

Chances are, even if you haven't lost a child suddenly, you know someone who has.

If you're looking for a way to support those parents - or to just help others facing something you'd hate to face - Sunday's Candlelight Vigil conducted by the Compassionate Friends' Western Wayne County Chapter would be a good way to do it.

The vigil, meant to honor children lost too soon, starts at 7 p.m. in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth. Families will gather near memory trees specially decorated with the names of children who have died too soon.

The event features poetry readings, songs and the reading of names of children (to register your child, call 734-778-0800 or email tcfcandlelight@yahoo.com). There are trees bearing ornaments honoring the children and the event fills Kellogg Park every year. Candles are provided



The annual Compassionate Friends candlelight vigil, set for 7 p.m. Sunday in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, is always an emotional event.

and the lighting of them is always an emotional moment. The theoretical idea is for every chapter in the world to hold its vigil at the same time, creating a "circle of light" to honor the children.

For the parents who've lost loved ones,

it's a tremendous show of support, a vast demonstration that they're not alone, that others face the same emotional upheaval. It's one of the truly blessed things about The Compassionate Friends, providing a network of help as parents, families and

friends work through the grief.

For the parents who haven't lost a child, the event provides an honest "There, but for the grace of God, go I" moment.

If you haven't experienced the emotion, Sunday's a good chance to feel it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Another merger?

The city of Wayne has a financial problem. The city of Westland doesn't, thanks to Mayor William Wild's campaigns to consolidate the fire, recreation and emergency services for the two adjoining cities.

Gov. Rick Snyder and his administration have been campaigning for three years to make local governments more efficient.

Why shouldn't Mayor Wild go one step further and have the state (or a private management consulting company) study the merger of the two cities? There are lots of pluses and few negatives.

First, the new name would be, simply, Wayne-Westland, just like the name of the school district. In this way, no one's community ego would be bruised.

Second, Westland would gain the two large Ford plants.

Third, Wayne would gain Westland Shopping Center and the adjoining retail business properties.

Fourth, it makes no sense for separate city governments when one has a population of an estimated 85,000 and the other has only 20,000.

SEND US YOUR VIEWS

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Wayne-Westland and Garden City Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: 313-223-3318

Email: smason@hometownlife.com

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

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

Fifth, the two cities, despite their legal boundaries, are essentially a single economic unit created by the main roads, Wayne, Merriman and Newburgh.

Sixth, area school districts have merged in past decades under state procedures.

Seventh, possible the state will pay for the

consultant's fees as merging public services is a priority of the governor.

Leonard Poger
Westland

Buying votes?

Gov. Snyder recently signed a Republican-sponsored bill under the heading Tax Break Legislation. Under the bill, any car sold in Michigan that has a trade in, the 6 percent sales tax would not be applied to the value of the trade-in up to \$2,000 or a "tax break" of \$120.

I think everyone would appreciate spending less for a new car, but in the long term this legislation may prove to have a negative effect.

In Michigan, a major portion of our school budget comes from the sales taxes generated. The potential loss of \$120 for each car sold will surely cause yet another reduction in public school funding. What have the legislators offered as a replacement for the short fall? You guessed it — nothing. There has been a lot of talk about the need to improve school funding yet what is about to happen is another round of reductions in per-pupil funding. You cannot expect a reduction in a funding source to result in an increase in education.

Perhaps the so-called "tax break" legislation will be used, by the candidates, as reason to gain your support for their next election bid.

Jim Brenner
Redford

Needless deaths

The United States has become the land of the fearful where violence and killing are rampant. Laws based on racial and ethnic biases have allowed a cowboy mentality of the "Wild West" to flourish. Citizens have died in many locales: a neighborhood in Florida, a movie theater in Colorado, a mall in Arizona, an elementary school in Connecticut, a college in Virginia, several city streets in major cities. One of the latest tragedies happened on a porch in a large city in Michigan.

Various types of guns are poorly regulated plus are easily accessible. Mental health issues and problems are neglected. People act rashly without thinking.

When will citizens get involved to pressure representatives and other leaders to make changes to help save needless deaths? When will reason and sanity prevail?

Hannah Provence Donigan
Commerce

GUEST COLUMN

GOP railroads citizens, democratic process

Whether the reason was for allegations of a pending legal case regarding the way the Legislature behaved during the 2012 lame duck session (violating the Open Meetings Act by locking people out of the Capitol) finally being heard or trying to protect Governor Snyder's "NERD Fund" from any challenges, the Republicans railroaded through at lightning speed Senate Bill 652, which completely removes the Court of Claims from the 30th Judicial Circuit Court and places exclusive jurisdiction within the Michigan Court of Appeals.

This move stacks the courts in the Republicans' favor and would allow them to quickly pass controversial legislation, obtain a governor's signature, and create laws without constitutional concerns or even



Rep. Phil Cavanagh

receiving a hearing. This includes many claims, demands, and counter-claims against the state or any of its departments, commissions, board, institutions, arms or agencies and puts undue burdens on people filing Freedom of Information Act or Open Meetings Act claims against the state.

Republicans claim this bill brings fairness to the judicial system by having this heard in a court where the judges are all elected by the citizens of Michigan instead of a court with county-elected judges. But this is blatant move by the Republicans to rig the judicial system against the people allowing a political party in

power (currently Republicans dominate all three branches of government) to hand-pick the judges who hear cases against the State of Michigan. This move stacks the Court of Claims in the Republicans' favor, making it harder for citizens to hold our government accountable for its actions or misactions.

Whether Republican or Democrat, we are all elected to serve by people who hope and pray that we will protect and uphold their constitutional rights. Everyone should be allowed a fair process through the judicial system. This bill makes a mockery of our constitutional designated separation of powers by allowing the Legislature to meddle in the affairs of the court. The Republicans, by passing this strictly on party lines, scream the message to citizens that we will make it difficult for citi-

zens to hold their government accountable.

I came up to Lansing to address real issues facing our great state. Not once have I had anyone say to me that we need to remove the Court of Claims, a trier of fact and original jurisdiction, and place exclusive jurisdiction with the Michigan Court of Appeals. This was a self-serving act that will diminish the public's faith in government, our judicial system, and lead many around the state to believe that corruption doesn't just lie within the City of Detroit and Wayne County's borders, but instead has spread like a poisonous rash over our great state.

State Rep. Phil Cavanagh, D-Redford Township, represents the 10th District, which includes Redford and a portion of Detroit. He can be reached at 517-373-0857 or philcavanagh@house.mi.gov.

Working families can't afford another shutdown-style crisis

Last month, we saw Washington at its worst. Republican leaders including Rep. Kerry Bentivolio, driven by the tea party, recklessly shut down our government and brought our nation to the brink of default. Ignoring voices of reason from working families across Michigan, some of our leaders in Congress



Richard Trumka and Karla Swift

listened to shouts of "shut it down" and inflicted unnecessary damage to our economy.

The shutdown cost 120,000 jobs in the first two weeks of October and will reduce economic growth by at least 0.25 percent in the fourth quarter.

And here in Michigan it directly impacted 27,693 federal workers.

Thankfully, reason prevailed, Republican leaders relented and Congress appointed negotiators to work on a new budget agreement.

Now it's on to the next fight in Washington. But before we get caught up in another news cycle where extremists convince us we shouldn't invest in our future, it is worth noting that a congressional budget is a vision. It is a blueprint that outlines our priorities as a nation.

A good budget invests in America. It doesn't rob our government of the resources it needs to succeed. A good budget properly funds its obligations and promotes the creation of well-paying jobs. It doesn't bargain away protections for our seniors and it isn't balanced on the backs of working families.

As Democrats and Republicans, including Rep. Bentivolio, spend this month negotiating how to avoid another government shutdown, it is important to remind Washington politicians about what working families need.

The recovery is still being dragged down by the repeated budget crises manufactured by Republicans in Congress. Budget austerity in the tea party Congress has already slowed annual economic growth by 0.7 percent, cost 1.2 million jobs, and increased the unemployment rate by 0.8 percent, according to Macroeconomic Advisers.

First, Congress should repeal the sequester it created, not replace it. The sequester's arbitrary across-the-board cuts have hurt everything from education to child care to medical research.

Repealing the sequester would generate 800,000 jobs by this time next year, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). The next budget should undo this painful damage — and not replace it with other harmful cuts.

Most importantly, policymakers in Washington must reject proposals to cut Social Security, Medicaid, or

Medicare benefits. They should avoid deficit hysteria promoted by billionaires and the 1 percent. Instead of terrifying our parents and grandparents with threats to cut Social Security and Medicare benefits they've earned, politicians should protect these vital programs that have shielded the elderly and vulnerable from poverty for generations. Our nation's safety net should be strengthened, not weakened, because working people need more economic security, not less.

Instead, Congress should look to raise new revenue by repealing the tax subsidies that encourage corporations to send jobs overseas and ending special tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans. When the average CEO's salary for the first morning on the job is the same amount the average worker makes in a year, it's clear that the wealthiest Americans and corporations making record profits can pay their fair share.

Ending undeserved and wasteful tax breaks would allow us to invest in our workforce and create the well-paying jobs millions so desperately need. By rebuilding our infrastructure, education, and manufacturing base, we can create good jobs with good benefits and provide relief to our struggling working and middle class.

Richard Trumka is president of the AFL-CIO. Karla Swift is the president of the Michigan State AFL-CIO and a resident of Livonia in Michigan's 11th Congressional District.

Time to clean up 'dark money' haunting politics

Three weeks ago, before the political life of Michigan got interrupted for important things (Thanksgiving, turkey, football) we were treated to a bombshell from Secretary of State Ruth Johnson.



Phil Power

Responding to a request by the State Bar of Michigan to require public disclosure of donors who sponsor millions in so-called "issue ads" in judicial elections, Johnson (a GOP officeholder elected in 2010) proposed to issue a new rule outlawing anonymous spending on all political ads, whether or not they actually use words of express advocacy — vote for, vote against, and so forth.

That shook up her Republican colleagues, big-time. The very next day — after an emergency sudden closed-door recess — the Republican-dominated Committee on Local Government and Elections committee adopted, without any public discussion, a bill that would gut Johnson's proposed reporting requirement.

The full Senate, more than two-thirds of whose members are also Republican, agreed within less than 24 hours — remarkably "deliberative" body.

Money has long been recognized to be the mother's milk of politics, and it is clear that many of those feeding are unwilling to be weaned. A top state elected Republican official gets slapped down by an alarmed Republican-dominated state Senate.

What will House do?

The question now is: Will the Michigan House of Representatives — still Republican, but by a

much narrower margin — pass this bill? And if they do ... will Snyder sign or veto it?

In a column published Nov. 24 in *Bridge Magazine*, Rich Robinson, executive director of the nonpartisan, nonprofit Michigan Campaign Finance Network, asserted that "The statistical truth is that Michigan has become swamped by dark money."

By "dark money," Robinson means anonymous contributions to the astounding number and variety of political advocacy organizations, including: candidate committees, party election committees, 501(c)3 and 501(c)4 nonprofit committees.

What is indisputable is that we certainly live in an era when a ton of money — we simply don't know how much — that is spent on elections comes without any public disclosure. And that, in turn, opens the door to all kinds of citizen skepticism about who in the dark of night is paying for all that political campaigning. You don't have to be very sophisticated to know they expect something for it.

Lansing wags immediately labeled the Senate bill designed to stop Ruth Johnson the "vampire amendment," since vampires do their bloody business in the dark of night.

Fixing the problem

As long as millions of dollars in dark money is sloshing around Michigan — much of it from

anonymous, out-of-state donors — most citizens are perfectly justified in figuring that the only reason to keep this stuff secret is that something corrupt or scandalous is going on. And the only way to fix this problem is to require public disclosure for all campaign contributions.

For years and years, we've heard argument after argument about campaign contribution limits and reporting. At both the federal and state level, well-intentioned reformers keep making various proposals to tighten up the rules.

Solving the campaign contribution problem is simply not going to be done by adopting ever tighter and more prescriptive rules; the candidates, their advisers and the sharpies who want to finance them are much smarter and much, much more nimble than any rule-making public body.

The real solution is very simple: Take all limits off any campaign contribution of any sort — finishing a process the U.S. Supreme Court started in its Citizens United decision in January 2010.

But in return, require immediate public disclosure of all contributions — something the nation's highest court also said was perfectly acceptable. Only if we do that will we clean up the secret dark money mess that has haunted Michigan politics for decades.

Former newspaper publisher and University of Michigan Regent Phil Power is founder and chairman of the Center for Michigan, a nonprofit, bipartisan centrist think tank. The opinions expressed here are Power's own and do not represent the official views of the center.

Santa Claus is coming to NOVI TOWN CENTER



Santa Claus will be at the Performance Bike shop in Novi Town Center every weekend in December from 11am til 3pm.

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Look for the inflatable Santa in front of the Performance Bike store.

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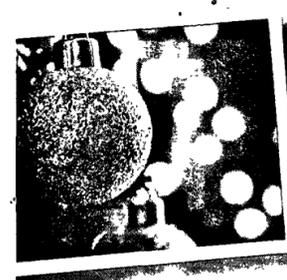
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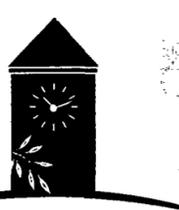
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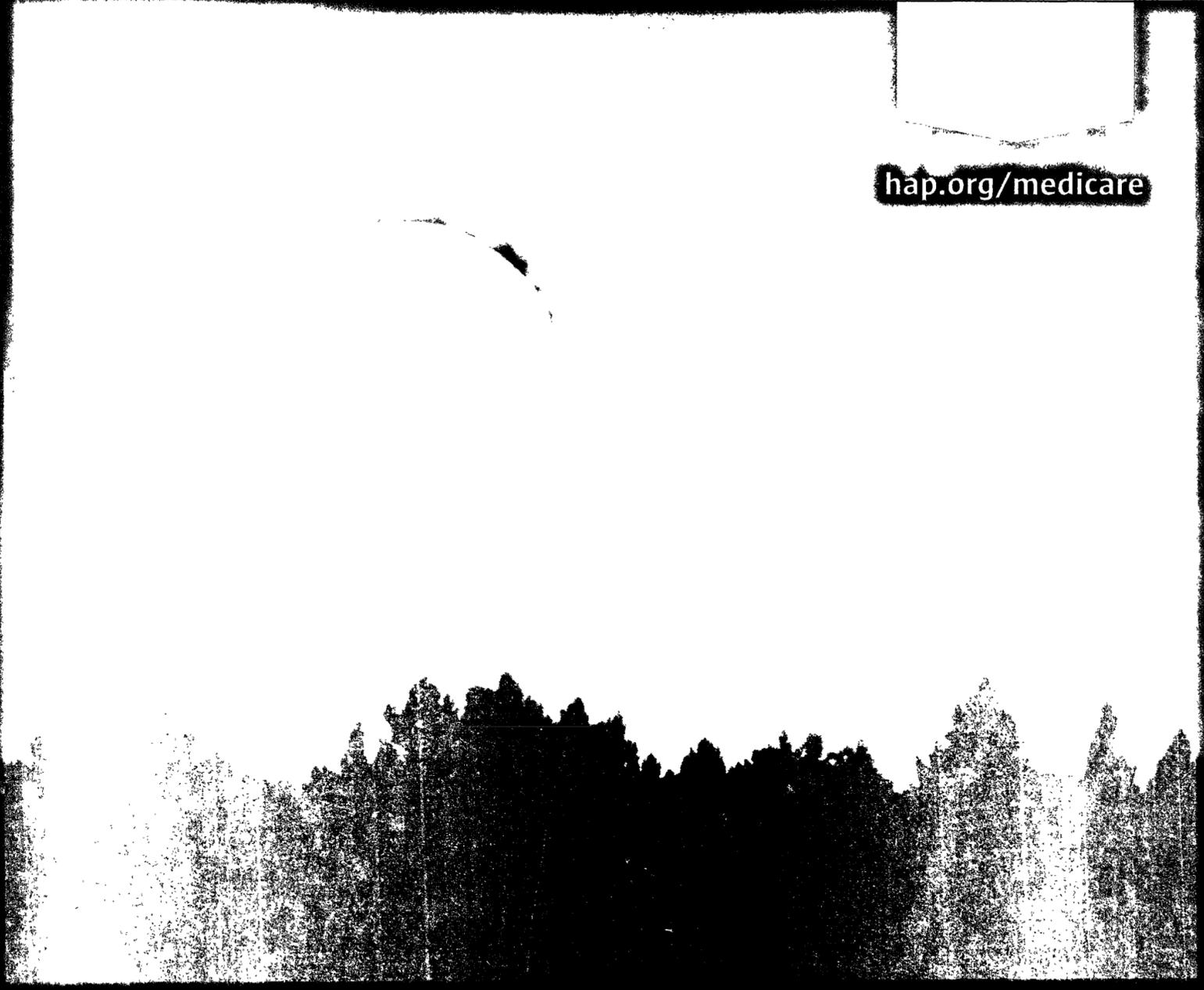
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As Medicare open enrollment comes to a close on December 7, we're staying open late for you.

In the midst of all that's going on during this time of year, HAP wants to make sure you know the final day to enroll or change your Medicare plan is coming up fast. With significant changes to some Medicare plans this year, we're here to help answer your questions. For instance, how much will you have to pay if you go outside of the approved network of doctors and hospitals? Or do you have a limit on emergency care outside of the U.S.? Will you pay for anything during the first 20 days in a skilled nursing facility? Will you pay more for outpatient surgery or hospital outpatient visits?

HAP is here to help with extended hours before and on December 7, the last day to enroll or change your Medicare plan. **Our phones will be open Monday through Sunday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., and 8 a.m. – midnight on December 7.** Call HAP and make sure you have the plan that's right for you.

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Call toll-free at (800) 219-4129 or TTY/TDD (800) 649-3777

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PREP WRESTLING PREVIEW

John Glenn's Brandon still fueled after finals defeat

Grappler plans on making amends during senior year

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn's Jordan Brandon doesn't know where he'd be today without wrestling. "I didn't like school a lot, then wrestling came and I found something I was actually good at," said Brandon, who was the Division 1 state runner-up last year at 215 pounds. "That's how I was going to get through school. If it wasn't for wrestling I wouldn't get through school. It gave me something to do in life."

As a senior linebacker and guard this fall, Brandon also excelled on the football field as he helped the Rockets to a 6-4 record and a berth in the Division 1 playoffs.

He was the team's captain and play caller on defense where he led Glenn with 62 solo tackles, 49 assists and three fumble recoveries.

And although Brandon likes football, wrestling is where it's at for the senior, who has compiled a 103-21 record in his three varsity seasons.

"He's definitely one of the most talented, athletic, big guys that I've ever seen," Glenn wrestling coach Bill Polk said. "Usually you don't get heavier guys that are that fast, that athletic in some of the things that they do. He's got a lot very good natural ability."

"He's very mentally tough. When he was younger he was figuring things out, but the last couple years he's really been determined and dedicated himself 110 percent to his sport, so I think the results will be good this year."

Brandon's freshman year could only be described as going through proverbial "School of Hard Knocks."

"I was off the tracks," Brandon admitted. "I used to fight all the time. I fought people on the street a lot. I stopped fighting and got into wrestling. This and football, this is what it did."

Brandon was encouraged by Glenn assistant wrestling coach Eric Schambers to give wrestling a shot. He also followed in the footsteps of his older brother Jesse, who was member of the Rockets' squad last year and graduated last June.

"Coach Schambers was the football coach my freshman year and he's another one who told me I should wrestle," Brandon said. "My grades were bad my fresh-

See BRANDON, Page B3



John Glenn senior wrestler Jordan Brandon was Division 1 runner-up with a 55-5 record last year. BRAD EMONS



Franklin grappler Jordan Atienza, who went 58-1 a year ago, will start the season at 171 pounds. BRAD EMONS

Pats' Atienza hunts for an elusive prize

Franklin wrestler returning for senior year after going 58-1

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

When he's away from the wrestling mat, Jordan Atienza calls himself a "big outdoorsman."

But make no mistake, the senior from Livonia Franklin who loves to hunt and fish has other bigger targets on his mind.

Atienza, who enters his senior year with a 159-18 career record, nearly reeled in a Division 1 state title at 152 pounds last March at the Palace of Auburn Hills, only to suffer his first loss in 59 matches when he was pinned by Clarkston's Nick Vandermeer 17 seconds into the third period.

"Last year, no doubt in my mind, I wanted to be a state champion," Atienza said. "When you think about something like that all year long, and it's the only thing going through your head during practice, and you come up short, it hurts a lot. I was real down for a week after the state tournament. I was real upset with myself, disappointed ... that just turned into more fuel to win it this year. That's what is really driving me ... coming up short is what is keeping me going to win a state title for this year."

Franklin coach Dave Chiola has coached a number of All-State wrestlers in his 14 seasons, but Atienza has separated himself from the rest.

"He's got a great work ethic, but I mean he's also constant," Chiola said. "He puts another full season in the off season. If you

come up with how many practices he goes to and how many matches he gets ... this is basically his eighth season at Franklin. He does so much on his own and he just has a helluva work ethic. There's nothing where you can teach that."

And it's Atienza's leadership qualities which also make him unique.

"Other than the best wrestler I've probably ever had, he's also the best captain," Chiola said. "He really commands so much respect from the other wrestlers. He runs the practice, he runs the pre-meet warmups ... he's like another coach on the team. I feel I should pay him. He does everything. And he's a nice kid, too. He's got just enough cockiness as a good wrestler needs to have, but he's pretty humble when everything is stripped away. He's a pretty good kid."

Atienza had a busy off season wrestling for a Michigan team in a dual meet tournament last May in Virginia Beach, Va., along with a freestyle event in Fargo, N.D.

But his summer was interrupted when he injured the bursae in both knees, which ballooned to the size of softballs. He missed nearly six weeks before returning to the Super 32s in Greensboro, N.C., earlier this fall as a 160-pounder.

Atienza viewed it only as a minor setback.

"Little injuries like that you can't let get in the way of the big picture," Atienza said.

See ATIENZA, Page B3

Bedell eyes MLS Draft

University of Detroit Mercy senior Adam Bedell (Livonia Churchill) has competed in his collegiate soccer career, but professional soccer is a realistic aspiration especially with the latest rankings for the Major League Soccer SuperDraft places Bedell at No. 89 among the top 100 prospects. The MLS SuperDraft will be held on Jan. 16, in Philadelphia, Pa.

The rankings were conducted by TopDrawerSoccer.com. Bedell was named to the first-team All-Horizon League for the second straight season in 2013.

In 2012, Bedell captured the Horizon League Player and Offensive Player of the Year honors, while helping the Titans their first Horizon League regular season tie since 2005.

He finished his Titan career amongst the leaders in several major statistical categories that include sixth all-time in career points (67), goals (23), and assists (22).

He finished his Titan career amongst the leaders in several major statistical categories that include sixth all-time in career points (67), goals (23), and assists (22).

Kimble gets new award

Grand Valley State senior defender Kayla Kimble (Livonia Stevenson) was recently named the 2013 Daktronics Midwest Region Player of the Year.

Kimble, who was also named the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Year this season, helped the Lakers' backline post 20 shutouts, including 13 straight to start the year, which is the second longest streak in NCAA Division II history.

She has been the clear-cut leader of a defense that has yielded just three goals and held nine opponents to four shots or less.

This is the third time Kimble has been a Daktronics All-Midwest Region selection.

The Lakers (22-0-1), coming off a 2-1 win over Minnesota-Duluth, is making its fifth straight appearance in the NCAA Division II Final Four where they'll face American International in Thursday's semifinal in Evans Park, Ga.

Pompon workshop

The annual Livonia Churchill varsity pompon workshop (ages 6-14) will be from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the high school gym, located at 8900 Newburgh (between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail).

Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$30 per person (includes T-shirt, music C.D. and snack).

Workshop participants will be invited to perform at half-time of a Churchill varsity boys basketball game, which will begin at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9. (Admission for fans is \$5.)

For more information, email Denise Antongiorgi at aada525@aol.com; or call 734-788-9861.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Falcons buzz by John Glenn

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

New Westland John Glenn coach Derrick Jordan is still in the "getting acquainted" stage with his girls basketball team.

Jordan got a late start and the Rockets, Class A state semifinalists from a year ago, showed plenty of inexperience and rust in a 51-31 season-opening setback Tuesday at home against state-ranked Dearborn Divine Child.

The Falcons roared out to a 26-5 first-quarter lead and never looked back as University of Detroit Mercy signee Nicole Urbanick led the way with 17 points.

R'Mani Garrard, a senior forward, tallied 11 points for Glenn.

"No. 1, I give Divine Child a lot of credit," Jordan said. "They are a very well-coached team. They're a good team and they've been playing for awhile."

"We got to get in better shape and we just

have to keep plugging along. The girls fought hard I thought. R'Mani and India (Glaspie-Perdue) being seniors really, really went out there and played their hearts out. We just got to get in the gym and get better. We got a late start. A lot of teams are going to have an advantage in that area because we're just starting to put things in. We've had three weeks to get girls going completely. Once we get some stability, we'll be fine."

The Rockets, who went 24-2 last year, lost four of their five starters to graduation. They still awaiting the return of three-year senior point-guard Kaira Barnes, who is expected back soon after suffering a knee injury during last season's state tournament run.

"She's pretty much cleared now," Jordan said. "It's just a matter of working her back in when she's mentally comfortable to go full speed. She should be good to go very,

See ROUNDUP, Page B2



Glenn's Victoria McCloud (21) turns the corner on a dribble drive against a Divine Child defender. DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Crusaders rally for win in NAIA opener

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

It didn't come easy Tuesday for the Madonna University women's volleyball team during the opening round of the NAIA Championships held at the Tyson Event Center in Sioux City, Iowa.

The fourth-seeded Crusaders, who improved to 39-0, survived a stern test from 25th-ranked Rocky Mountain (Mont.) by rallying for a 22-25, 25-19, 25-27, 25-9, 15-13 victory.



Abraham

Five MU players notched kills in double figures led by senior Stacey Catalano's 17 in a Pool D match that lasted one hour and 53 minutes.

Emilie Freeman (Livonia/Lutheran High Westland), Kayla Vogel and Samantha Geile added 16 apiece, while Katie Breault chipped in with 12.

Senior setter Evia Prieditis finished with 61 assists, while Amanda Obrycki paced the defense with 25 digs. Other digs leaders for MU included

Catalano (18), Prieditis (13), Breanna Geile (11) and Payton Maxheimer (11). "It was a battle," MU coach Jerry Abraham said. "That was the fourth seed in our pool and they (Rocky Mountain) looked as good as anybody. Our seniors came through and had a great match."

Yang Yang paced Rocky Mountain (25-7) with 16 kills, while setter Tori Bertsch finished with 35 assists.

Digs leaders for Rocky Mountain included Brooke Myers (21) and Jennifer Donaldson (18).

"We knew we had to control Yang in the middle because she's such a great player," Abraham said. "For most of the match we controlled the tempo, but they just kept battling back. That third set we gave up that lead, but it was only because they wouldn't let it go. It was a heck of a match. The kids pulled through and won a battle at the end. They're excited and playing well."

MU was scheduled to play No. 16 The Master's College (Calif.) in the second round of Pool D beginning at 2 p.m. Wednesday (CST).

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page B1

very soon. The target date is after the New Year for our first KLAAG game, but she may make it in right after Christmas."

STEVENSON 59, EDSSEL FORD 39: A 17-5 third-quarter spurt carried Livonia Stevenson (1-0) to a season-opening win Tuesday at Dearborn Edsel Ford (0-1).

Senior guard Rachel Wilkinson led the way for Stevenson with 13 points, while senior center Charlesann Roy added 12 points, nine rebounds and four blocks.

Senior guard Abby Knoph also tallied 12 points, while junior guard Kyra Johnson contributed nine points and 10 boards.

"I think we had some opening game litters, we were throwing the ball around like crazy," said Stevenson coach Jen Knoph, whose team trailed 10-9 after the one quarter. "We settled down in the second quarter. We got good pressure and our offense came from that."

Kennedy Rankin paced the Thunderbirds with 15 points.

SKYLINE 76, WAYNE 47: On Tuesday, host Wayne Memorial (0-1) dropped its season opener to Ann Arbor Skyline (1-0) as Mea Morris scored 18 points and Anita VanderMeulen added 17. Shukelina Willis and Ashley Bland tallied 12 and 11, while Honia Williams added nine for the Zebras, who trailed 24-11 after one quarter and 42-19 at the half.

POWERS 61, LADYWOOD 28: A 20-0 first-quarter run carried Flint Powers Catholic (1-0) to a season-opening win Tuesday over visiting Livonia Ladywood (0-1).

Mick Coury scored 12 points and Sara Rusterforer added 11 for the Chargers, who led 32-4 at halftime.

Freshman Maggie Shirk scored 13 for the Blazers.

"They (Powers) pressured us a lot and we did not handle their press," Ladywood first-year coach Amber Culloty said. "We had 16 turnovers the first half and 18 for the game."

MILFORD 55, CLARENCEVILLE 24: Maddy Kurtz tallied 15 points and Elise Gustafson added 11 Tuesday lifting the host Mavericks (1-0) past Livonia Clarenceville (0-1) in the season opener for both teams. Milford led 32-17 at halftime and 45-23 after three quarters.

Erica Katz had six points and eight rebounds in a losing cause, while Ayanna Buckley added five points, 11 rebounds and four blocks.

Jordan See and Mikala Kiefling also had five points apiece.

LUTHERAN NORTHWEST 47,



John Glenn's India Glaspie-Perdue (4) probes the Divine Child defense. DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 36: Katie Rasmussen scored 18 points Tuesday to lead host Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (1-0) past Lutheran High Westland (0-2) in a nonconference game.

The Warriors, who couldn't overcome a 20-8 first quarter deficit, got 20 points and 11 rebounds from senior Leah Refenes.

Sabrina Morrison added eight points and seven boards as the Warriors shot 30.4 percent from the floor (14-of-46) and 47.1 percent from the foul line (8-of-17).

INTER-CITY 48, HURON VALLEY 26: Junior forward Kayla Thounne scored 17, while senior forward Alyssa Saenz added 15 Tuesday propelling host Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (1-0) past Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (0-1).

Senior Dayna Schroeder scored nine and freshman guard Samantha Golchuk added six for the Hawks, who trailed 26-11 at halftime and 38-18 after three quarters.

"We had way too many turnovers (22) to be successful on offense," HVL coach Kris

Ruth said. "Inter-City's height hurt us defensively and we did not fight for good position. Our offense seemed sluggish and we did not shoot the ball well. It was good to get the first game in and see what we need to really focus on."

ANNAPOLIS 40, LUTHERAN WESTLAND 28: Leah Refenes scored 17 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, but it wasn't enough as Lutheran High Westland (0-1) dropped its season opener Monday at Dearborn Heights Annapolis (1-0).

The Warriors shot only 10-of-43 from the floor (23.3 percent) and committed 22 turnovers.

"Glad to have the first game under our belts," said Lutheran Westland coach Sandi Wade, whose team trailed 15-10 at halftime before cutting to three in the third quarter.

The Warriors found themselves down 30-19 after three quarters as the Cougars caused some untimely turnovers. Elise Sibert and Dawnielle Dixon tallied five and six, respectively, for Annapolis.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Coles tallies 43 points as Ocelots rule tourney

Terrence Coles put on a monster performance and was clutch down to the stretch Saturday in leading the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team to the Muskegon Community College Thanksgiving Classic title with an 86-84 win over the host Jayhawks.

Coles, a 6-foot-4 forward from Redford Thurston, poured in a game-high 43 points and grabbed 16 rebounds as the Ocelots improved to 6-3 overall.

Coles scored the game-winning basket on a layup with only 12 seconds left after tying the game at 84-all with another layup with 1:23 remaining.

Muskegon's Jake Anderson's three-point attempt with only one second left missed the mark and Schoolcraft held on for the win.

Devonta Riley chipped in with 11 points and 12 assists, while Terrell Sewell (Canton) chipped in with 13 rebounds and six assists as the Ocelots fought back from a 45-34 halftime deficit.

Coles, who shot a blistering 19-of-27 from the floor, might have a 50, but struggled at the foul line going 5-of-13.

Tyiwan Jones scored 31 points, while Marquise Hatter and Rashad Dooley chipped in with 19 and 18, respectively, for Muskegon (5-2).

MADONNA (MEN) 84, TRINITY (ILL.) 60: Junior forward Jeff Schmitz (South Lyon) led a balanced scoring attack with a career-high 15 points Saturday as Madonna University (6-4) earned a victory over Trinity International (2-8) in the St. Xavier Thanksgiving Classic held at the Shannon Center in Chicago.

Eleven of 13 scored for the 17th-ranked Crusaders, who led 41-33 at halftime.

Senior point-guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) added 13 points, eight assists and seven rebounds, while backcourt mate Travis Schuba had 11 points.

MU shot 51.7 percent from the floor (31-of-60), including 7-of-17 from three-point range.

Exekiel Odonkor, Jared Jones and Logan Vos each tallied 11 points for Trinity.

MUSKEGON (WOMEN) 80, SCHOOLCRAFT 45: Krystal Geers scored a game-high 27 points and yanked down 12 rebounds Saturday to power host Muskegon Community College (4-1) to a Thanksgiving Classic win over Schoolcraft College (3-5), who led 40-20 at halftime.

Alexis Smith (Livonia Franklin) paced the Lady Ocelots with 10 points, while Jessica Parry pulled down 11 rebounds. Schoolcraft shot only 25.8 percent from the floor (17-of-66).

THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Friday, Dec. 6
Churchill at Crestwood, 7 p.m.
Franklin at A.A. Skyline, 7 p.m.
Garden City at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at Berkeley, 7 p.m.
Ladywood at Grosse Ile, 7 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Saturday, Dec. 7
Stevenson vs. Brighton at WMU's Lawson Arena, noon.
Franklin vs. Salem at Ply. Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m.
Churchill vs. Pt. Huron Northern at McMarran Arena, TBA.

PREP WRESTLING

Saturday, Dec. 7
Waterford Mont. Inv., 8:30 a.m.
Glenn Rocket Duals, 9 a.m.
Garden City Tourney, 9:30 a.m.
Blissfield Invitational, 10 a.m.
Ypsilanti Invitational, TBA.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Friday, Dec. 6
Livonia Blue vs. Milford-Lakeland at Hartland Bounce, 6:30 p.m.
PREP BOWLING
Saturday, Dec. 7
N. Farmington Tournament at Drakestire Lanes, 9 a.m.

GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER

Saturday, Dec. 7
Novi Fire Up Invitational, 9 a.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS
Saturday, Dec. 7
Madonna at Cornerstone, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS
Saturday, Dec. 7
Madonna at Cornerstone, 1 p.m.
Schoolcraft at K'zoo Valley, 1 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Friday, Dec. 6
Soo Greyhounds vs. Ply. Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 7
Guelph Storm vs. Ply. Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.
TBA - time to be announced.

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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS HOCKEY

Cranes stymie Stevenson's top line

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson suffered its first hockey setback of the season Saturday as host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook won its own tournament in a battle of state powers at Wallace Arena.

The Cranes, who improved 5-0 overall, took a 2-1 first period lead on goals by Boston College commit Christopher Brown (from Miami of Ohio commit Austin Alger and Jack

Blumberg at 4:42 followed by Blumberg's power play goal at 10:11 from Brown and Alger. Stephen Olschanski tallied the Spartans' long goal from Ray Chartier at 5:56 into the first to make it 1-1.

After a scoreless second period, Cranbrook put it away on Alger's goal from Blumberg and Brown at 12:26.

Cranes goaltender Spencer Applebaum made 25 saves, while Stevenson's Andrew Rozenbaum had 29 saves. "It was a very high tempo,

skilled high school hockey game for sure," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "Cranbrook has some great high end players and are extremely well coached and prepared. I thought we skated with them and we definitely had some chances, putting a few off goal posts. We had a few breakdowns and they capitalized.

Cranbrook outshot the Spartans, 32-26, and kept Stevenson's Production Line of Dominic Lutz, Devin Kelly and

Tyler Irvine off the board.

The Cranes, defending Division 3 state champions, boast three NCAA Division 1 commits on their squad including Brown, Alger and Sam Miletic (University of Michigan).

"They put the three of them together and played them against the Irvine, Lutz and Kelly line ... it was a great matchup for sure," Mitchell said. "We hit goal posts with Lutz having two or three himself and missed open nets. Their goalie, as did ours,

played well. It was a real exciting, high-level high school hockey game."

The defeat drops the Spartans, the defending Division 2 state champions, to 4-1 overall.

"Not thrilled with loss, but was a solid experience for our players and program," Mitchell said. "We thank Cranbrook for having us in their tournament and look forward attending again in future seasons."

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PREP WRESTLING CAPSULE OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

Head coach: Marty Altounian, 17th year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).

Last year's dual meet record: 5-6.
Notable losses to graduation: Manny Haddad (first-team All-Area, 275); Jon Locklear (second-team All-Area, 125); Jake Hale.

Leading returnees: Josh Perez, Sr. 125-130 (second-team All-Area); Zac Leck, Soph., 145; Nathan Dietrich, Jr., 171; Jake Merceda, Jr. 285; Zac Smith, Jr. 130; Chase Gardner, Soph., 152; Alex Lemmoncelli, Soph., 189; Colin Engelhart, Soph., 152; Ryan Delep, Soph., 160; Beauker Hadwin, Jr., 189.

Promising newcomers: Josh Mussen, Fr., 112; Brian Walrod, Fr., 135; Ethan Englehart, Fr., 125.
Altounian's 2013-14 outlook: "Our season will definitely depend on how quick the sophomore, class develops and fills in the lineup. We have a very young team with some good leadership from the upperclassmen that should be a very solid team by the end of January. The team is working well together putting in extra time to get to where they need to be with the sophomores a large part of it. Josh Perez will help ease the loss of Manny (Haddad). He is a tireless worker who wants nothing more than to be the best. His work ethic will hopefully rub off on some of our young wrestlers."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Head coach: Dave Chitola, 14th year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington (South Division).

Last year's dual meet record: 20-7.
Titles won last year: Wayne County, Livonia City and Division 1 district champions.

Notable losses to graduation: Allen Steele (first-team All-Area, 189, sixth, Division); Jack Neua (second-team All-Area, 103, state qualifier); Danny Martinez (first-team All-Area, 125); Bret Thrushman (third-team All-Area); Tyler Solnikowski.
Leading returnees: Jordan Atienza, Sr. 160-171 (first-team All-Area, 152, state runner-up, 59-1); Nick Frazier, Sr., 152-160 (third-team All-Area, 145); Nick Robertson, Jr., 125-130 (third-team All-Area, 119); Dan Huber, Jr., 189 (third-team All-Area, 171); Jeremy Nelson, Soph., 119-125.

Promising newcomers: Nathan Atienza, Fr., 125-130.
Chitola's 2013-14 outlook: "We have some solid returns this year, but we have some major holes. Unfortunately quite a few of our wrestlers all weigh either 130 or 189, so we are going to have some talented kids on JV, and some others wrestling out of weight class. It will give us some depth at certain weights, while other weights we will not have a backup. This is the smallest team we've had since my first year here, but I like the work ethic of everyone we have. This is probably the best route to the state tournament we've had since I've been here, but that's such a long way off. It's going to be hard to tell just how competitive we can be until the season starts. A lot of guys will be wrestling varsity for the first time, so that's always a big adjustment. I think we'll struggle early on, but hopefully we'll be where we need to be by the end of the year."

LIVONIA STEVENSON

Head coach: Dan Vaughan, 10th year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington (Central Division).

Last year's dual meet record: 11-10.
Notable losses to graduation: Kody Roy (second-team All-Area, 145, state qualifier).

Leading returnees: Marco Lytwyn, Jr., 112 (third-team All-Area, 112); Majdi Hatem, Sr., 152; Connor Vaughan, Jr., 189; Brad Scott, Jr., 215; Devonte Austin, Jr., 135; Derek Gillsbach, Jr., 160-171; Jake Tennis, Jr., 140-145; Zach Saleh, Jr., 285; Justin

Betke, Jr., 160-171; Trevor Demers, Soph., 130; Sandro Lytwyn, Soph., 135-140; Tyler Statham, Soph., 140-145; Tyler Denski, Soph., 285; Jacob Oesterwind, Soph., 112; Taylor Droste, Soph., 119.

Promising newcomers: Ethan Bidoul, Jr., 152-160; Will Eckerle, Fr., 112; Sam Gibbs, Fr., 103; Jack Sullivan, Fr., 103; Parker Nowak, Fr., 215; Devlen Kuschel, Fr., 285; Tarik Alcodray, Fr., 125.

Vaughan's 2013-14 outlook: "I'm very excited for this team to step on the mats for the 2013-14 season. During the past few seasons I have had to wrestle a large number of ninth and 10th graders with only a few upperclassmen in the varsity lineup. This year's team is different because every weight class returns some experience. The veterans are really doing a nice job mentoring the young guys. I hope we stay healthy and have a fun year that starts with the Ypsilanti Invitational (Dec. 7)."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

Head coach: Bill Polk, 14th year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington (South Division).

Last year's dual meet record: 21-10.
Titles won last year: KLAAS South, Observerland and Division 1 district champions.

Notable losses to graduation: Travis Mann (first-team All-Area, 145, state champion); Kyle Gillies (first-team All-Area, 112, state runner-up); Brett Quinn (second-team All-Area, 130); Dylan Morantes (second-team All-Area, 285, state qualifier); Quinn Dupraw, Herbie Taylor, Deandre Moore.

Leading returnees: Jordan Brander, Sr., 215 (first-team All-Area, 215, state runner-up, 55-5); Chase Spanos, Jr., 119 (third-team All-Area, 103, state qualifier, 251-6); Kevin Huynh, Sr., 130 (second-team All-Area, 119).

Promising newcomers: John Stemas, Fr., 103.

Polk's 2013-14 outlook: "The nucleus of our team worked diligently over the summer season to prepare for the 2013-14 season. We have no secrets to success. Work hard and dedicate yourself and you will be a winner. Several guys did just that and I expect it will pay off. We hope to continue our successes in the KLAAS district, and if all goes well, the regional (both team and individual). The goal is always gold and if we continue to strive for that we will always be happy with our efforts. Every year is a challenge in different ways, this year is no exception. Our guys - from the ninth-graders to coaches - understand what John Glenn wrestling is all about. We all look forward to taking on challenges and turning them into championships."

WAYNE MEMORIAL

Head coach: Steve Vasloff, ninth year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington (South Division).

Last year's dual meet record: 16-4.
Titles won last year: Garden City Christmas and Wolfpack Alumni Invitational champions.

Notable losses to graduation: Allen Parker (first-team All-Area, 140, eighth in Division 1); Sam Ekman (first-team All-Area, 171, eighth in Division 1); Tyler Casteels (third-team All-Area, 215); Mike Nicholson, Marcus Jordan, Lucas Hofbauer.
Leading returnees: Tim Wey, Sr., 130 (third-team All-Area, 125); Aaron Mauldin, Sr., 285 (third-team All-Area, 285); Jack DeLack, Soph., 112; Tyler Mulligan, Sr., 130; Dom Sanders, Jr., 135; Brad Bowley, Sr., 140; Tim Flores, Sr., 145; Aaron Heinonen, Jr., 152; Kevin Marz, Sr., 160; James Hjeltress, Sr., 160; Zak Nichols, Sr., 171; Shamen Hall, Sr., 171; James Pomeroy, Sr., 189.
Promising newcomers: Austin Mauldin, Fr.,

135; Jamon Higgins, Jr., 152; DeAngelo Johnson, Sr., 160.

Vasloff's 2013-14 outlook: "We should have a mature team this season, loaded with upperclassmen. We will have some holes to fill in the lineup. Luckily our numbers are still up, which gives us a lot of mobility. It will be nice to be able to move our lineup around against opponents. Last year, we finished third at Observerland and in our division, and I'd like to see us perform better this year. We have the talent, so it will simply boil down to the work ethic and attitude of my wrestlers this year."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE

Head coach: Nick Flam, second year.
League affiliation: Western Wayne Athletic Conference.

Last year's dual meet record: 19-11.
Titles won last year: Summit Academy Team Invitational champs.

Notable losses to graduation: Aaron Bibik (first-team All-Area, 160, fifth in Division 3); Mikey Weiss.

Leading returnees: Dominick Slagle, Jr. 145 (42-11); Alan Baumgardner, Sr., 135 (20-15); Joey Walker, Sr., 130 (27-5); Cameron Fyffe, Jr., 160 (18-9); Ryan Groves, Sr., 285 (14-0).
Elam's 2013-14 outlook: "I'm very excited for the start of the new conference and to be back in a league setting. We have a very solid core of returning wrestlers and have a great group of hard working underclassmen that are fast learners and will help tremendously throughout the year. We have finally have all the weight classes full, and barring injury, will not have to give up points every meet before it even starts. We did graduate seven 4-year wrestlers, but have a strong group of returning guys that are eager to fill their shoes and have an increased amount of mat time."

LUTHERAN WESTLAND

Head coach: Joe Schmidt, fifth year.
League affiliation: Independent.

Last year's dual meet record: 21-10.
Titles won last year: Division 4 district champions.

Notable losses to graduation: Jacob Richter, Martin Kemp, Adam Seta, Alex Reardon, Cullen McNamara.

Leading returnees: Zach Francis, Sr., 135 (first-team All-Area, 125, fourth in Division 4, 51-3); Caleb Richter, Jr., 140 (third-team All-Area, 135); Doug Laviolette, Jr., 103; Connor Even, Jr., 145; Thomas Krueger, Jr., 215; Manny Rankine, Soph., 112; Garrett Harper, Soph., 130; Wes Warren, Soph., 145; Kole Niemi, Sr., 152; Newman Harper, Sr., 152; Jonah Linedup, Sr., 171; Nick Gamber, Jr., 189; Jacob Bayol, Jr., 140; Jishua Kuhn, Jr., 171; Andy Cross, Soph., 152.

Promising newcomers: Andy Faith, Fr., 119; Mitch Klein, Soph., 285; Zachary English, Fr., 285; Joey Seta, Fr., 125; Mitch Myers, Jr., 152; Austin Olson, Jr., 160; Nick Glenn, Fr., 189-215.

Schmidt's 2013-14 season outlook: "Our numbers are the best they have ever been the starting lineup will be full of juniors and seniors. This off season was the most active we have ever been. The number of new upperclassmen is high which will help with our depth also a lot of freshmen lined up. I've been very impressed with the leadership of the upperclassmen as they lead by example and their work ethic is showing on the novices. I look forward to every practice as this is the nicest group of kids I've ever had and I'm very proud of their success already off of the mat. One of my seniors (Newman Harper) has already been awarded a chancellor scholarship to the University of Michigan. I'm excited."



Francis

SPORTS ROUNDUP

WYAA volleyball

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association girls volleyball (ages 9-17) is under way.

Games and practices will occur mainly at Marshall Upper Elementary School. League age-groups include 9-11, 12-14 and 15-17.

To register, visit wyaa.org. For more information, email wyaaovolleyball2013@comcast.net.

Churchill softball camp

The Livonia Churchill Chargers holiday hitting camp for girls in grades 3-8 will be from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 21, at the high school field house.

Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$25.

For more information, email

Churchill varsity girls softball

coach Steve Gentilia at Churchillsoftball@gmail.com or call 734-776-1716.

Pitchers-catchers camp

The Hawks Camps for Champs, a five-week pitcher and catcher progression camp will be from 1-2 p.m. (ages 6-12) and 2-3 p.m. (ages 13 and up) each Sunday beginning Dec. 1 at the Henry Ford Community College Athletic Memorial Building.

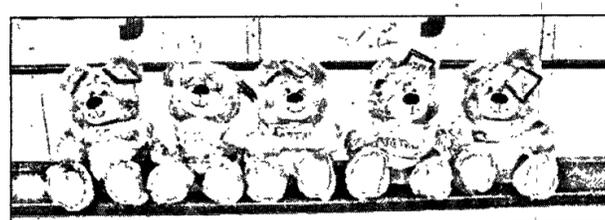
Camp dates include Dec. 1, 8, 15; Jan. 12, 19, 26; Feb. 2, 9, 16 and 23.

The cost is \$30 for each session or \$100 for five pitching or catching sessions.

To register online, visit www.henryfordcamps.com.

For more information, call Steve Brown at 313-657-3200 or email sjbrown@hfcc.edu.

COMMUNITY-MINDED WHALERS



At Saturday's annual "Teddy Bear Toss," cuddly stuffed toys such as these will be launched onto the Compuware Arena ice.

Teddy Bear Toss on deck for Whalers fans

When the Plymouth Whalers host the Guelph Storm 7 p.m. Saturday at Compuware Arena, they'll be asking fans to bring a furry little friend along to help support a great cause.

Saturday is the Whalers 14th annual Teddy Bear Toss. The first time the Whalers score in the contest, fans are encouraged to throw their stuffed animals on to the ice.

Once the stuffed animals are collected, Plymouth Community United Way will find great homes for the comforting toys.

Last season, Plymouth left wing Matt Mistele scored at 11:21 of the first period to trigger the rain of stuffed animals out of the crowd and onto the ice surface.

After the Whalers' most successful Teddy Bear Toss last season, Plymouth is enlisting the help of WDIV's Chuck Gaidica and local corporate sponsor Family Heating Cooling & Electrical Inc. to try to top last season's Teddy Bear Toss.

"We're always very excited and a little anxious to see the first Whalers goal," said Dawn Frey, senior vice president of advertising for Family Heating, Cooling & Electrical Inc. "But when the stuffed animals come raining down, there's nothing but smiles in the building."

When fans arrive at the game, they'll be invited to purchase one of Gaidica's Cuddle Alert Bears for just \$5 to throw on the ice. They also have the option to bring a new stuffed animal to the game.

Saturday's game is also Plymouth's 11th annual Salute to Heroes Night. Veterans and current armed forces members will receive a complimentary ticket (with ID), while family members can purchase tickets for \$10.

Tickets are still available on www.plymouthwhalers.com, or call the Plymouth Whalers box office at 734-453-8400. Military and their families are encouraged to call the box office early for tickets.

ATIENZA

Continued from Page B1

"The main goal is to win a state title. Nothing can deter me from that."

Atienza, who was born in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, comes from a wrestling family. His father, Armand, wrestled along with his uncle Audie Atienza, who was an Ohio prep champion in 1989 before going on to compete at Edinboro (Pa.) University.

He also has a younger brother Nathan, a freshman at Franklin, who will wrestling at 125 and 130.

"He's going to be good," Jordan predicts of his middle brother.

Not only has he mentored

Nathan along the way, he's always there for his teammates in the Franklin wrestling room as well.

Jordan takes on the responsibility with open arms.

"I feel the guys learn a lot from me and I'm a good motivator and I just feel like they want to work hard when they hear me say something," he said. "I feel I not only make myself better in here, but everyone else better and I think that's what sets me apart."

Franklin opens the season Saturday at the Rocket Duals hosted by Westland John Glenn. The individual state finals are Feb. 27-March 1 at the Palace, and Atienza certainly has those dates circled on his calendar.

The ultimate goal is to get

to the finals and pull in that big fish.

"Mental toughness is the big thing," Atienza said. "I've got all the tools to be great, just a matter of putting it together in my head."

So what lies in store in a year from now?

Atienza, who carries a 3.4 grade point average with his favorite subjects being A.P. English and language arts, has other aspirations. He'd also like to bag an athletic scholarship.

"Wrestling at a Division I university, don't know where, though," he said. "I want to win a state title first, then figure out where I'm going to wrestle. University of Michigan would be real cool."

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BRANDON

Continued from Page B1

man year, so I was ineligible. That's why I only had nine matches. That's why I was 5-4. I wasn't the best my freshman year."

Brandon got his act together his sophomore year and thrived, going 43-12.

But he even had a better junior year going 55-5 overall and reaching to the state finals at 215, only to lose a controversial 5-4 overtime decision to season-long nemesis Brandon Sunday of Temperance Bedford last March at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Jordan Brandon was up 3-2 with only 10 seconds remaining in regulation when he was penalized a point for stalling in the championship match.

The one-point setback motivates the Glenn grappler to this day.

"I think about it a lot," Brandon said. "If I could have rolled him ... if I could have ridden him that last 30 seconds, it would have been a lot

different. I fuels me. I don't like to lose. I refuse to lose."

Brandon, who bench presses 250 pounds and squats 550, traveled all over the eastern half of the U.S. during the off season going to tournaments.

"The way that whole thing happened it really put a bad taste in everyone's mouth and Jordan took it personal and basically he said, 'I'm not going to let it happen again,'" Polk said.

"He was finding every tournament, every team and traveling all over the place all summer long, which we encourage all our kids to do. Sometimes I didn't know where he was."

Competing in the 220-pound class at the Junior Olympics held last July at Detroit's Cobo Arena, Brandon went 14-1.

He finished 79-3 overall for the summer with two of his losses coming in freestyle, while another came against Michael Boykins (Coatesville, Pa.) one of the nation's top-ranked prep wrestlers and the Class AAA Pennsylvania state champion at 220 pounds.

The 5-foot-10 Brandon played football at 242 pounds and will wrestle this season as a heavyweight until he gets down to 215. Right now, he tips the scales at 230.

"We'll try and put him against the best kids 215 or heavyweight all year long," Polk said. "He wrestled all summer long and pretty much wrestled all the best talent in the country, so we've got to try and maintain that the best we can."

Brandon, meanwhile, would like to continue his wrestling career beyond high school. Olivet College has shown a lot of interest.

And now with more of a commitment to his academics (his favorite subject is history), Brandon also has a couple of career interests in mind.

"I'd like to study criminal justice or go into the military," he said.

And if it weren't for athletics like wrestling and football, Brandon doesn't know where he'd be.

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Gaels rule tourney



The Livonia St. Michaels Gaels JV 2 girls basketball team, coached by Laura Wilson and Casey Conwy, captured the second annual Bob Cipriano Thanksgiving Tournament with a 13-9 double-overtime victory Sunday over Bloomfield Hills St. Hugo at St. Fabian in Farmington Hills. Members of the Gaels, made up primarily of fifth-graders, include (from left to right, starting with the top row): Emma Myers, Natalie Conn, Adria Mroz, Courtney Ostrowski, Alison Nold, Jordan Chlebek, Mackenzie Wilson, Danielle Villahermosa, Emily Koch, Jodyan Conway and Madison Myers. The tournament raised nearly \$5,000 for the Cipriano family's continued medical expenses. L. WILSON

All-Observer spikers able to cover all angles

FIRST TEAM

Katie Tomic, Sr. OH, Liv. Stevenson: The 6-foot-1 outside hitter, who has signed with Miami of Ohio, made first-team Class A all-state honors for the state quarterfinalists.

Tomic also made all-KLAA, all-district and all-region honors, as well as being a four-time academic all-state selection.

She finished with a school-record 658 kills to go along with 103 blocks and 363 total digs.

"Katie has held up to all the challenges I have given her to be one of the standout players in the conference, region and state," Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "She has the capacity to be a total team player, help the younger girls out and is an amazing on-and-off the court leader. She is the type of kid you would want to be able to have just one of in your career. She has been one of those kids. I am very thankful that I have had the opportunity to have such an amazing player be a player of mine these past four years."

Sasha Cucuz, Sr. OH, Canton: One of the powerhouses up front for KLAA South Division champion Canton was the 6-1 senior Cucuz, who registered 268 kills and 41 solo blocks.

Cucuz, a left-handed hitter who recently signed to play Division I volleyball at the University of New Hampshire, also chipped in with 79 defensive digs as she helped the Chiefs build a 31-13 record.

Her efforts earned her selection to the all-KLAA first team.

"Sasha has and will continue to be an inspiration to the younger kids in our program," coach Steve Johnson said. "I have enjoyed coaching her the past several years, and appreciate her abilities on the court."

Olivia Beyer, Jr. MB, Plymouth: The junior, in her third season with the Plymouth varsity, continued to add to her sparkling legacy.

Already verbally committed to play at Louisiana State University, the all-KLAA first teamer dominated across the board for the 28-15-2 Wildcats with 420 kills, 95 solo blocks, 338 digs and 34 aces.

Beyer made just nine errors in 179 receptions and was successful in 90.3 percent of her serves.

"Olivia has been our go-to player all year long," coach Sarah Marody said. "She was our offensive and blocking leader in the front row and a reliable defensive presence for us in the back."

"Her team-first attitude, work ethic and positive leadership were extraordinary and contagious to those around her."

Jenna Lerg, Jr. Libero, Mercy: The junior libero is a three-year varsity player and repeat member of the all-area first team. Lerg, who helped her club team win an AAU national championship last summer, is committed to play at Michigan.

She can do much more than just play defense. She started the season as the Mercy setter and can help in the attack when needed. Lerg was instrumental in the Marlins compiling a 41-16-2 record and being a Class A regional finalist.

"She has great vision on the court and a very good understanding of the game," coach Loretta Vogel said. "She's just a special athlete. You only get so many of them. I've been very, very fortunate."



Katie Tomic Stevenson



Sasha Cucuz Canton



Olivia Beyer Plymouth



Jenna Lerg Mercy



Jenna Reinhold Mercy



Ayanna Buckley Clarenceville



Madison Kietly Canton



Amanda Hawkins Stevenson



Abigail Whitehead Stevenson



Lexus Medina Huron Valley



Jen Malcolm Ply. Christian



Izzy Porada Ladywood



Leah Refenes Lutheran Westland



Mackenzie Hamill Churchill



Jessica Austin Harrison



Haylee Weber Plymouth

2013 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

FIRST TEAM

Katie Tomic, Sr. OH, Liv. Stevenson
Sasha Cucuz, Sr. OH, Canton
Olivia Beyer, Jr. MB, Plymouth
Jenna Lerg, Jr. Libero, F.H. Mercy
Jenna Reinhold, Sr. OH, F.H. Mercy
Ayanna Buckley, Sr. MH, Clarenceville
Madison Kietly, Sr. Libero, Canton
Amanda Hawkins, Sr. MH, Stevenson
Abigail Whitehead, Sr. OH, Stevenson
Lexus Medina, Sr. OH, Huron Valley
Jen Malcolm, Sr. MH-Setter, PCA
Izzy Porada, Jr. Libero, Liv. Ladywood
Leah Refenes, Sr. OH-S, Luth. Westland
Mackenzie Hamill, Sr. OH, Churchill
Jessica Austin, Sr. OH, Farm.

Haylee Weber, Sr. Libero, Plymouth
Hannah Staples, Sr. OH, John Glenn
Michelle Begovic, Sr. MH, Farmington

SECOND TEAM

Chelsea Janice, Sr. Setter, Canton
Emily Burkman, Sr. OH, Plymouth
Shanleigh Conlan, Jr. Setter, Mercy
Kayla March, Soph. OH, Ladywood
Megan Damico, Sr. DS, Liv. Churchill
Meghan Hurley, Sr. OH, N. Farm.

THIRD TEAM

L. Covington, Sr. MH, Harrison
Taylor Saumeyer, Jr. OH, Farmington
Yess Ganich, Soph. OH, Salem
Madison Dest, Jr. OH, Huron Valley
Kennedy Gossett, Sr. Lib., Garden City

FOURTH TEAM

Jessica Rieckhoff, Sr. OH, F.H. Mercy
Lauren Schomack, Jr. OH, Canton
Shayla Smalls, Sr. Setter, Plymouth
Ariana Gregory, Sr. OH, Red.

FIFTH TEAM

Rachael Fuller, Sr. OH, Ply. Christian
Allison Lynn, Soph. OH, Garden City
Val Ernat, Jr. Libero, Westland Glenn
Lauren Fallu, Jr. Libero, Liv. Churchill
Julia Yancy, Sr. Libero, Luth.

SIXTH TEAM

Christa Greenwood, Sr. MH, Mercy
Olivia Mady, Jr. OH, Ply. Christian
Becca O'Connor, Sr. OH, Farmington
Lauren Caverly, Sr. Libero, N. Farm.
Katie Conrad, Jr. Setter, Harrison
Nicole Kurdzial, Sr. Setter, C'ville
Jamaya Dixon, Sr. MH, Redford

COACH OF YEAR

Kelly Graham, Livonia Stevenson

HONORABLE MENTION

Garden City: Taylor Bejma, Holly Sawyer; Redford Thurston: Hannah Ondayko; Farmington: Kat McAllister, Liz Nahat, Alexa Tipton, Shannon Seeger; North Farmington: Haley Qasawa, Mykaela Ross; Farmington Harrison: Jessica Khoury, Stefanie Jankiewicz, Amari Eadie, Mikael Coleman, Teresa Malaj, Alexis Artis; Farmington Hills Mercy: Kayla Fisher, Jaclyn Ruffolo, Kelli McDonald, MaryBeth Robert, Monica Shuk; Livonia Clarenceville: Sarah Curvin, Kelsey Griffin, Christine Hurmiz; Livonia Churchill: Gabby Beck, Natalie Panek, Rayna Yettis; Livonia Franklin: Mikayla Sienkiewicz; Livonia Stevenson: Sarah Soave, Carmen Dieler, Taylor McLeod; Livonia Ladywood: Haley Moores, Tess Laurentius, Lindsey Wagner; Westland John Glenn: Bri Robinson; Wayne Memorial: Deja Tamlin, Paige Chalmers; Westland Huron Valley Lutheran: Dayna Schroeder, Ann St. John; Lutheran High Westland: Alle Lange, Sabrina Morrison; Canton: Haley Diedrick, Courtney Kurkie; Plymouth: Daniella Barile; Salem: Nikki Manser, Kelly Whalen; Plymouth Christian Academy: Callie Morby.

nate; I've had quite a few, including her sister (Lindsey) and Maddy Doyle. I put Jenna in that category, too.

"She does everything. She can be an outside hitter, and she can set when we need her to do that. Jenna has had a defensive role on our team since she was a freshman. That's pretty impressive, especially for a Class A player."

Jenna Reinhold, Sr. OH, Mercy: The 5-foot-11 senior led a balanced attack with her consistent and effective play. A two-year varsity player, the left-handed Reinhold complimented Mercy's other hitters with her powerful hits from the right side.

"Jenna is one of the most improved athletes we've had, from last year to this year and throughout the season," Vogel said. "Jenna continued to add more to her game. She created more shot selections. I think her knowledge of what to call

and when to call it enhanced our offense.

"She became our No. 1 person to go to. Her hitting percentage was always extremely high, which meant very few errors by Jenna, which indicates she is a go-to player. I think her final season at Mercy was her best season."

Ayanna Buckley, Sr. MH, Liv. Clarenceville: The 6-foot senior middle and outside hitter, bound for Ferris State, was a four-year varsity performer who is a two-time team MVP, all-region and Class B third-team all-state honoree.

Buckley finished with 338 total kills and 124 blocks, along with 183 digs (second on the team).

"Ayanna is an all-around player," Clarenceville coach Wendy Merschman said. "Her back row play is as good as her front row play. Most teams thought about serving to her, but soon found out she was up for the challenge is one of the best passers one our team. Her elbows easily go over the net and she can be very intimidating."

"She has grown so much as a volleyball player and continues to get better every time she steps on the court, which is amazing to see. Ayanna has no limits and I have no doubt she'll excel at the highest level."

Madison Kietly, Sr. Libero, Canton: With a mix of senior savvy and never-say-die aggressiveness, Kietly sparked plenty of Canton's considerable success in 2013.

The first-team all-KLAA selection chalked up 660 digs and on serve receive made only 40 errors in 439 chances. She also was stellar from the service stripe, with a success rate of 92 percent along with 45 aces.

"Madison is a true model of what the sport of volleyball encompasses," Johnson said. "She is not only a good player, but she puts as much effort into her IQ of the game as well as the physical conditioning it takes to be successful."

"We will miss not having the Kietly name that has been prevalent here for the past eight years."

Amanda Hawkins, Sr. MH, Liv. Stevenson: The 6-foot middle hitter finished the year with 269 kills and a team-best 222 blocks en route to all-KLAA, all-district and all-region honors.

"Amanda with each season has grown so much in terms of leadership, court dominance and confidence," Graham said of the three-year varsity player and all-

academic selection. "It has been a pleasure to have been able to have her be a part of our team these past three years. She has truly contributed and helped our team gain the success we have had in her career her at Stevenson."

Abigail Whitehead, Sr. OH, Liv. Stevenson: The three-year varsity player, headed to Siena Heights University, had a total of 252 kills, 100 blocks and 212 digs as she made all-region, and honorable mention all-KLAA.

The scholar-athlete and academic all-region honoree was one of big reasons why the Spartans won 41 matches, along with Class A district and regional titles.

"Abby has been a part of the success we have had in her three years as a varsity athlete," Graham said. "On the court, she is a true competitor."

Lexus Medina, Sr. OH, Huron Valley Lutheran: The senior recorded 260 kills, 30 solo blocks and 100 digs in 73 sets for the district champion Hawks.

The 5-foot-10 Medina made both all-MIAC and all-region honors, along with second-team Class D all-state.

"Lexi is a very physically gifted athlete," HVL coach Mike Dest said. "She is one of the top 10 outside hitter at any high school level in the state. It looks like she'll be playing at a Division I school next year."

Jen Malcolm, Sr. MH-Setter, Ply. Christian: Whether hammering home points or expertly setting up teammates in the front row, Malcolm was a complete team leader who played a key role in Plymouth Christian Academy's post-season run to the Class D regional finals.

The senior, in her second year as PCA captain and fourth season on the varsity, led the Eagles in assists (361) and blocks (72) while contributing 110 kills.

"Jen is a great leader on the team," coach Katie Decker said. "She's always dependable in tight games and the team really relies on her."

Izzy Porada, Jr. Libero, Liv. Ladywood: The junior captain started the season hitting outside and had 63 kills before going back to her true position at libero where she recorded a team-best 413 digs en route to Class B honorable mention all-state honors.

"Izzy was asked to take on a huge load this season," Ladywood coach Erin Craggs said of the all-Catholic League pick. "She is the kind of kid

you want on your team. She's loud, she's aggressive, and she holds her herself and her teammates to a very high standard. She wants to make everyone around her better and she wants to win no matter what."

Leah Refenes, Sr. OH-Setter, Luth. Westland: The senior outside hitter and setter finished with a team-best 338 kills and 312 assists go along with 181 digs.

Refenes, an all-MIAC selection, also served at an 87.3 percent clip with 70 aces.

"Leah epitomized what it meant to be a leader," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "She helped shaped a mold our team and get them to perform to their best by showing that in her heart and emotion on the court. She made everybody better and her drive and determination was second to none, and it was a true joy coaching her."

Mackenzie Hamill, Sr. OH, Liv. Churchill: The four-year varsity performer and senior captain was adept at playing either middle or outside hitter.

Hamill finished with a team-best 309 total kills, while adding 46 blocks, including 16 solo.

"As a coach, I saw her transform about halfway through the season where she played with confidence and passion," Churchill's Anna Gatt said. "Mackenzie was a go-to player during the season."

Jessica Austin, Sr. OH, Harrison: Austin had a big senior year for the Hawks, helping them win a share of the OAA White Division championship. A quarterfinal presence at the outside hitter position, she had more than 200 kills with a 47.5 percent ace and 50 blocks. Austin was an all-round player and a leader in aces and digs, too.

"She was our dominant outside hitter," coach Michael Love said. "She was the go-to player when we needed it the most. She was a senior captain and everybody looked up to her as somebody to look for when everyone else was down."

Haylee Weber, Sr. Libero, Plymouth: Plymouth's team captain had an excellent third season on the varsity, demonstrating a combination of senior leadership and all-out excellence at libero.

Weber, named to the all-KLAA first team, tallied 565 digs (to lead the Wildcats) and augmented that with a high success rate (95 percent) from the service stripe, where she also contributed 56 aces.

She added 33 assists and made just 32 errors in 390 receptions.

"Haylee was asked to fill some big shoes for us this year and she more than rose to the challenge," Marody said. "Her never quit attitude led our team to some amazing comeback victories and consistently kept us in a position to

win every night. "Haylee improved in her all-around game and was the one we hoped to be at the service line when the game was on the line."

Hannah Staples, Sr. OH, Westland Glenn: The two-time all-KLAA and all-region player showed her versatility for the Class A district champions by ending the year with a total of 262 kills, 403 digs, 92 assists, 51 blocks and 422 perfect passes.

"Hannah is a natural libero, but is capable of playing all positions as demonstrated this year," Glenn coach Krista DePoy said of the academic all-stater. "We were plagued by injuries this year and Hannah stepped up and filled the void playing outside, right-side, middle, setter and libero while still managing to lead the team in stats and keep them focused."

Michelle Begovic, Sr. MH, Farmington: Begovic was a three-year starter in the front row for the Falcons, who were OAA White Division co-champions this year. The 6-foot middle had 183 kills but did much more for her team. She was an all-round player who also had 249 digs, 52 aces and 142 perfect serve-receive passes.

Begovic was either first or second in every major statistical category for Farmington. Over the past two seasons, she had 360 kills, 513 digs, 91 blocks, 122 aces and 240 perfect serve-receive passes.

"Michelle was one of our senior captains and a player the rest of the team leaned on in big games," coach Mike Scott said. "Michelle is a hard worker who played six rotations for us."

"She was thrown into multiple positions in the front row all season and never once complained about her role. She's a sweet girl whom I would welcome back in the gym anytime."

COACH OF YEAR Kelly Graham, Liv. Stevenson: The 20th-year coach guided the Spartans to a 41-13-2 overall record and their second Class A regional title in three years before losing to Temperance Bedford in a five-set quarterfinal battle.

"This season has been one of many challenges for these girls," said Graham, an Indiana University grad and former All-America high school hurdler from Westland John Glenn. "They never gave up and I think going into the end of the season they truly believed in themselves and knew they were a very good team. I can't remember all the times they fought back and turned things around."

After finishing third in the KLAA Central Division, Stevenson won the regional with a comeback victory over Farmington Hills Mercy and captured its third straight district title.

"I was so very proud of them on battling back, but the quarterfinal was just as intense," Graham said. "Even though we did not end up on the positive side winning, I was again so very proud of them for never giving up. They battled and gave it everything they had. How can I not be positive on what they have done this season. My seniors did a terrific job as leaders."

"This season was the second team in my history to reach 41 wins, which is a great memory for them. Plus, our fans were so very amazing this season and they also gave us that extra boost."

Player of Week Miki Djerisilo stars as Waza Flo thaws Freeze in 8-7 PASL victory

The only thing frigid about Saturday night was the temperature as Detroit Waza Flo melted the Cleveland Freeze, 8-7, in a Professional Arena Soccer League match held at the Melvindale Civic Arena.

Waza Flo, now 2-1 in the Eastern

Conference of the PASL, overcame an early fourth quarter 7-6 deficit as former Madonna University standout Victor Otieno tied it at 7-all at 7:23 followed by Ricardo Lopes game-winner at 11:05.

PASL Player of the Week Miki Djeri-

silo scored three of his five goals during the first half as Waza led 4-1. (Drew Ducker also had a goal in the first half for Waza.)

The Freeze (3-2) tied it at 4-all in the third period and went ahead 7-6 on Stefan Ostergren's goal at 1:11 of the

fourth. Waza Flo goalkeeper Joey Kapinos made 12 saves.

WAZA Flo's next match is 7:05 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, vs. Chicago at Melvindale Civic Arena. For tickets, visit www.detroitwaza.com.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

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CLOSE, DORIS I.

Age 94, of Northville, passed away peacefully November 30, 2013. She was born May 14, 1919 in Plymouth, Michigan; daughter of Harold and Olive (nee Roberts) Compton. She was a graduate of Plymouth High School in 1937. Doris was united in marriage to Donald "Mike" Herrick on December 2, 1940, who passed away April 13, 1973. Doris was then united in marriage to Richard Close on May 1, 1977; they spent 18 loving years together until his death in 1995. Doris worked as a seamstress and designer for Cadillac Drapery in Plymouth, doing freelance seamstress work as well. She has been a resident of Northville since 1990; formerly of Union Lake and Plymouth. She and her husband Richard enjoyed many summers on Round Lake in the home they built together. Doris sang in the church choir for most of her life. She began while a member of the First Baptist Church of Plymouth, and continued her love of singing with the First United Methodist Church of Northville after becoming a member in 1970. She was very active with FUMC throughout the years; her involvement included co-founding the Youth Club program, serving on the Youth Club Board, the FUMC Scholarship Fund, as well as the Christian Education Department. Doris also served as a co-crew leader using her building expertise for the Appalachian Service Project, making homes in that area warmer, safer, and drier. It was a passion she shared with her family, especially granddaughter Kelly. Doris was caring, resourceful, and brilliant. Following her mother's death when Doris was 14, her father taught her and her sisters how to be inventive and creative. She instilled in her own children how to be respectful, goal oriented, and independent; without question her family was raised the right way. She loved to dance, even participating in amateur ballroom dancing competitions with her husband Richard at Arthur Murray Dance Studio; in fact, she and Richard met while dancing.

Doris is survived by her loving children, Judy (Russell) Doré and Nick (Judy) Herrick; her step-daughter, Barbara Close; her grandchildren, Patrick (Karen) Calhoun, David (Cathy) Doré, Kelly (Greg) Moore, Jay (Roseanne DiPonio) Herrick, and Kevin M. Herrick; and her great-grandchildren, Anna and Russell Calhoun, Alice, Charlotte, and Claire Doré, Sophie Moore, and Julianna Herrick. She was preceded in death by her husband Donald "Mike" Herrick and her parents; her step-son, Dale Close; and her sisters, Helen Wallace, Catharine Sherrick, and Jeanne Mettetal. Visitation will be held Friday, December 6, 2013 from 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. A Funeral Service will be held Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 1 p.m. with visitation 12 noon until 1 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile Rd., Northville 48167. Doris will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Appalachian Service Project or FUMC Scholarship Fund. Online condolences at: www.casterlinefuneralhome.com

CASTERLINE
FUNERAL HOME, INC.

Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.



DEMING, MARGARET J.

Age 94, of Novi, died November 28, 2013. She was the devoted mother of Nancy (Michael) Becker, Terry (Susan) Deming, Irene (David) Rochette; grandmother of eight and great-grandmother of 21. Margaret was preceded in death by her husband, Max; sons, Timothy and Daniel; and siblings Maynard, Raymond, and Kathleen. Memorial Service Thursday, Dec. 5, Visitation 11 a.m., Service at 12:30 p.m. at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Memorial tributes suggested to Angela Hospice angelahospice.org or Nardin Park United Methodist Church nardinpark.org. Arrangements entrusted to Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home heenev-sundquist.com

HEENEV-SUNDRQUIST
FUNERAL HOME



KNIGHT, RICHARD ALAN

Also known as "Chip", passed away at the age of 58 on November 27, 2013 at Providence Park Hospital in Novi after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was a Livonia native and Franklin High School graduate. He worked as an electrician for Shaw Electric in Livonia and retired after 25 years of service. He loved golfing, country music and Friday night concerts in Downtown Plymouth. Chip was also an active member of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia. He was a devoted father and an extremely caring individual who loved helping others. He is survived by his daughter, Danielle McAfee (Ryan), son Tim Knight (Julie), two grandchildren, Tori and Miles with another grandchild on the way and his brother, Phil Knight. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on 5 Mile Rd. between Middlebelt and Inskster roads in Livonia. The service will be on Thursday, December 5th at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: Michael J. Fox Parkinson's Foundation, (1800)708-7644, www.michaeljfox.org.

Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.



LOVE, REVEREND JEAN

Age 66, of Novi, a longtime United Methodist Minister, died November 29, 2013. Reverend Love was the former Pastor of Warren United Methodist Church, Oak Grove United Methodist Church, Clarenceville United Methodist Church, Calvary United Methodist Church, Holly, and Bad Axe United Methodist Church. She served on the Board of Ordained Ministries in the Detroit Conference for over 12 years. Reverend Love is survived by her siblings, Katharine Cary and Ronald Love; nephew and nieces, Reverend Michael (Tami) Cary, Diane Cary, Stephanie Love and Brooke Love (Sam) Adame; great-nieces, Kimberly Cary, Mikayla Cary, Rachel Cary, Ava Adame, Emma Adame and Brenna Adame. Visitation Thursday, Dec. 5, 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m., at the Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btwn 9-10 Mile Rds., just N. of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Funeral Service Friday, Dec. 6, 11 a.m. (in state 10 a.m.), at Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia. Private burial at Burr Oak Cemetery, Burr Oak, Michigan. Memorial tributes suggested to Clarenceville United Methodist Church, clarencevillechurch.com, Angela Hospice, angelahospice.org, Color of Joy Foundation, colorofjoy.org, heenev-sundquist.com

HEENEV-SUNDRQUIST
FUNERAL HOME



MAHON, CATHERINE

A very loved Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother. Survived by husband Ralph, son's Michael, Pat, Ted, grandchildren Kim, Pat, Rachel, Pat, great grandchildren Sydney, Gillian, Zachary, Palmer, Megan, Ethan, Emily, and Rebecca. Step mother to Claudia, Chip Brian, Helen. A service will be held Tuesday December 10, 2-4 p.m. R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Livonia.



MILLER, BARBARA A.

Aged 65, passed away Monday, November 25, 2013, in Farmington Hills, Michigan. She was born December 23, 1947, to James and Virginia (Petre) Orton, in Stuart, Florida. She married Isaac Miller in 1969 and enjoyed a long and loving marriage. They were best friends who loved and cared for each other through many difficult times. Barbara loved to cook and enjoyed feeding the family as well as friends. She adored her family and pets and took great pride in taking care of them. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her three daughters, Niki (Jack) Honoyoust; Jayme and Barbara Miller and her three grandchildren, Samantha, David and Mathew. Also mourning her loss are many nieces, nephews and a host of friends. Arrangements were entrusted to Husband Family Funeral Home in Westland. Donations to The Botsford Foundation, 28050 Grand River, Farmington Hills, MI 48336 or <http://tinyurl.com/jwlocua>

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



SOUBLY, GERALD "GERRY"

Age 75, December 1, 2013. Longtime resident of Bloomfield Twp, retired to Canton. Beloved husband of the late Sharon Ann for 50 years. Loving father of Michelle (David) Soubly-Jackson, Diane Soubly and Janet (John) Slominski. Proud grandfather of Lyndsey, Tyler, Devin, Paige and Anna. Special companion of Mile and Zoey. Also survived by Gerry's special lady friend Terry Swierb. Funeral services have been held. Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Vincent & Sarah Fisher Center. www.mccabefuneralhome.com

MAINER, JOAN

(Randolph) was born on June 6, 1943, in Cincinnati, Ohio to Samuel and Alberta Randolph. Joan was the fourth in line of eight siblings. Joan graduated high school from Our Lady of Angels High School in 1961 and later married on July 14, 1962 to Walter Clarence Mainer III. Joan was the proud grandmother of four, Christopher Dawson (1992) (through marriage), grandchildren, Erik Dawson (1994), Halley Dawson (1996), and Nicholas Dawson (1998) and loved dotting on them. Joan was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She leaves to cherish her loving memory three children, Anthony Mainer, Lisa Mainer and Brenda Lovett (Greg) and five of her siblings, Carole M. Ellis (Jimmie), Lillie Randolph, Michael Randolph and Benita Gutter along with her nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews and grandchildren. Joan's daughter, Cheryl Dawson, and three of her four brothers, Robert, James and Samuel Jr. Randolph have preceded her in death. Joan passed away on November 27, 2013 at the age of 69, in Westland. Visitation will be Friday December 6, from 5-7 p.m. with services beginning at 7 p.m. at the Gwen Mooney Funeral Home (513-853-1035).

MADDEN, BETTYE

December 2, 2013. Loving wife of the late Isaac. Dear mother of Judy (Mike) Flynn, Tim (Fay), Terry (Jill) and Gerald. Sister of Treva Labelle. Also survived by seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Visitation Saturday at L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 8809 Wayne Rd. (at Joy Rd.) 1 p.m. until time of service at 7 p.m. share a memorial tribute with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com.

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<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p>	<p>Rosedale Gardens PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 8:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs AT 100018181</p>	<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD A Church for Seasoned Saints OPEN ARMS CHURCH Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Wednesday 7 pm Pastor Grady Jensen & Music Minister Abo Pazzini 33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Merriman Across from Jojo's Produce 248.471.5282 Church As You Remember It! AT 100018181</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p>
<p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 48801 W. Arm Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196 AT 100018181</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p>	<p>St. Paul's Ev. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA (734)261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES Sunday: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. Wednesday: 8:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org AT 100018181</p>	<p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org AT 100018181</p>

For Information regarding this Directory,
please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247
or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

CERAMIC ARTISTS OFFER A HANDS-ON LESSON IN THEIR CRAFT

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

The wet, smooth clay feels like silk under my fingers as it spins slowly on the pottery wheel.

The wheel's motor, operated by a foot pedal, whines like my sewing machine at home.

But I quickly discover that making a pot from slippery, pliable clay is nothing like stitching fabric. I know where to place my hands on a sewing machine, but need a lot of coaching behind the potter's wheel.

And that's exactly what I got recently, when I visited with four area ceramic artists, Jan Bostwick of Royal Oak, Carol Fitzpatrick and Ruth Rycroft of Farmington Hills and Dave Albrecht, of Farmington.

They're among 135 potters who will sell their works at the 38th annual Potters Market, Dec. 5-8, in Madison Heights. Bostwick and Fitzpatrick enjoy making functional pieces, such as dishes, plates and serving ware. Albrecht focuses on sculpture and Rycroft makes a variety of items, including cottage-style buildings called "spirit houses."

I'd be happy to make anything — functional, decorative or merely identifiable. I'm inspired by all of the artists — and their beautiful works — at the Potters Market and dream about joining their ranks. Every year I vow to try my hand at pottery.

Ceramics lesson

This year, Fitzpatrick challenged me to keep my promise and get a behind-the-scenes look at Potters Market.

That's how I've ended up in Bostwick's studio, gingerly touching a dome of spinning clay that she has centered, so it wouldn't wobble on the wheel.

38TH ANNUAL POTTERS MARKET

When: Preview sale is 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8
Where: UF & CV Union Hall, 876 Horace Brown Drive, one block south of 13 Mile, between 1-75 and John R

What: Sale features 135 potters offering nearly 35,000 pieces of pottery ranging from pots, vases, platters, tiles and mugs to bird baths, jewelry, ceramic framed mirrors, sculpture, lamps, tile-topped tables and just about every product possible in clay. Artists include those who have regularly offered their wares at Potters Market, as well as potters statewide, from individual labs to Oakland Community College studios at Orchard Ridge and Royal Oak. No strollers are permitted.

Admission: \$10 on Thursday preview night; free Friday-Sunday; parking is free
Contact: 248-554-5570; the-pottersmarket.com

I'm encouraged knowing I can use ready-made clay after Albrecht tells me that in the "good old days" — when he first began learning the process — the artists made their own medium.

"This is the easy way, just buying it," he explains. Bostwick says the process of transforming the clay into a pot will be fun. "It doesn't have to be easy or hard. You just practice."

Giving it a whirl

Under her guidance, I push my thumbs into the center of the spinning clay and a pot start to take shape. She shows me how to push the side of the



Artist wannabe, Sharon Dargay, gives a thumbs up after creating a bowl on the wheel, with the help of Jan Bostwick (right) and support of artists, Carol Fitzpatrick (left), and Ruth Rycroft of Farmington Hills and Dave Albrecht, of Farmington. PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

pot out toward me, to enlarge its shape. It takes a few tries, but after both Fitzpatrick and Bostwick tell me to brace my hands to make them steady, I finally manage to mimic the movements.

Fitzpatrick also shows me how to make a dish, using hand-building techniques rather than the wheel. Her rolled clay looks like dough that's ready for cookie cutters when she drapes it over a Styrofoam tray that will serve as a mold. We press various "found objects," including braided wire and pine cones, into clay to create textures, a fun process.

Rycroft says that for most potters, creating also is relaxing.

"It's a passion. It's a passion for everybody. It gets in your blood," Rycroft notes. "And you never stop learning."

Adds Albrecht, "Even if you're having a tough time throwing that cylinder (on the wheel), the rest of the world goes away. That's what we love to do."



Sharon Dargay puts gentle pressure on the sides of her bowl, which is taking shape on the wheel in Jan Bostwick's studio in Royal Oak.

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Barbershop Christmas show



The HarmonyTown Chorus is gearing up for its fifth annual holiday concert, set for 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, in the Livonia Public Library auditorium, located on Five Mile just east of Farmington Road, in Livonia. "It's the Most Wonderful Time" will feature Christmas standards, contemporary tunes, including the Beach Boys' *Little Saint Nick*, and a sing-along with the audience. Octavia, a high school boys ensemble from Plymouth Canton Schools, also will perform. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$3 for students, 12-18, and free (ticket required) for children under 12. Order online at WeSingBarbershop.com or call 734-743-1764 for more information.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ART & CRAFTS GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, during public performances, or by appointment, through Dec. 28

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Ohio artist Mary Gaynier exhibits her intricate paper cuts.

Contact: 734-394-5300

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Dec. 14

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: Visit two exhibits, Small Works, an all-media juried exhibit, and Through the Lens: A Northville Camera Club Exhibit. The Small Works show is "cash and carry," meaning buyers may take the art home with them immediately after purchase. The Through the Lens exhibit will feature photos of nature, animals, family, culture and architecture. Many will be for sale.

Contact: 248-344-0497; <http://www.northvillearts.org>

UPPER HALL GALLERY

Time/Date: Through Dec. 7; pub hours are 3 p.m. to mid-

night Monday-Thursday, 3 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, and noon to midnight Sunday

Location: Liberty Street Brew Pub, 149 W. Liberty, Plymouth

Details: Amy Lockard exhibits photos of Michigan's Upper Peninsula

Contact: 734-207-9600

THREE CITIES ART CLUB

Time/Date: View exhibit 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday, through Dec. 29; reception, 1-4 p.m. Dec. 7

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: "The Gift of Art" exhibit will include two-dimensional styles from traditional to impressionistic to abstract as well as photography. Most will be for sale

Contact: Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939

AUDITIONS BAREFOOT PRODUCTIONS

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 9-10

Location: 240 N. Main, Plymouth

Details: Actors interested in

auditioning for the dark comedy, *The Twilight of the Golds*, should prepare a one-two-minute dramatic monologue and bring resumes and headshots if available. Auditions also will include cold readings

Contact: www.justgobarefoot.com

COMEDY JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 5-7 and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Ms. Pat from Atlanta, Ga., performs. Tickets are \$22 with dinner, \$12 without on Thursday and \$32 with dinner and \$20 without, Friday-Saturday

Contact: 734-261-0555

MUSIC BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month through May

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Contact: Scott Ludwig at BFSpresident@aol.com



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COMFORT FOODS BRING FAMILY TOGETHER

ew dishes have a way of pleasing taste buds and gathering the family together like comfort foods. It's always best to have a repertoire of these classic, tried-and-true recipes on hand.

Whether you prefer a creamy plate of macaroni and cheese or a steamy bowl of chicken noodle soup, nothing warms the senses and takes you back to simpler times quite like your favorite comfort foods. This winter, try new dishes that include nutritious greens, such as kale and collards, to your list of favorites. They'll feed the need for a comforting meal and provide vitamins A, C and K, as well as several minerals, including potassium, iron and manganese. For more great recipe ideas, visit www.rawl.net.

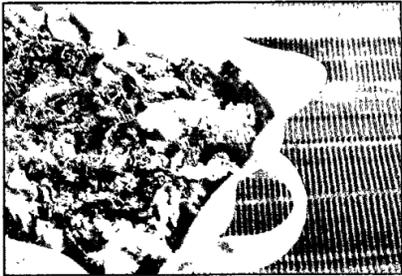
Courtesy of Family Features

VEGGIE, SMOKED SAUSAGE AND CHEESE BAKE

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 50 minutes
Yield: 12 to 15 servings

1 cup water
1 (14.5 ounces) can fat-free chicken broth
1 (1 pound) bag kale or collards
8 ounces rotini pasta
12 ounces Italian-style smoked chicken sausage
1 tablespoon extra light olive oil
4 ounces diced yellow onion
2 teaspoons garlic
15 ounces part skim milk Ricotta cheese
1 teaspoon fine sea salt
½ teaspoon pepper
1 cup reduced-fat Parmesan cheese

Pour water and chicken broth in large pot and bring to boil over high heat. Add kale or collards into boiling mixture and cover. Reduce heat to medium and cook for 20 minutes, stirring often. Drain greens after cooking and set aside. Cook pasta until tender according to package directions. Drain pasta after cooking and set aside. While pasta and greens are cooking, chop sausage into tiny pieces and set aside. Heat large skillet to high and pour olive oil into skillet. Reduce heat to low; spoon onion and garlic into oil and sauté for 2-3 minutes or until onion is transparent. Add sausage pieces and cook for 5 minutes, stirring often. Pour cooked sausage mixture into large bowl; stir in cooked greens, cooked pasta, Ricotta cheese, sea salt and pepper. Spoon greens and sausage mixture into prepared 13- by 9-inch casserole dish. Sprinkle Parmesan cheese over greens and sausage mixture. Bake at 400°F for 30 minutes or until brown on top. Cool for 10 minutes before serving.



KALE AND FETA CASSEROLE

1 (1-pound size) bag of kale
1 (14-ounce size) can vegetable broth
1 cup water
1 cup uncooked brown rice
2 eggs
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon pepper
½ cup feta cheese, crumbled
1 cup Parmesan cheese

Cook kale in vegetable broth and water until desired tenderness. While kale is cooking, cook rice according to package directions. Cool both kale and rice. When kale and rice are thoroughly cooled, mix together and add eggs, salt, pepper, feta, and ½ cup Parmesan. Put mixture in a 9- by 11-inch lightly greased casserole dish. Sprinkle remaining Parmesan on top and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until hot and cheese is browned on top.



GREENS TOPPED GRITS

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 2 ½ hours
Yield: 8-10 serving

2 tablespoons extra light tasting virgin olive oil
6 slices low-sodium bacon
2 teaspoon garlic salt
1 teaspoon smoked paprika
1 teaspoon cumin
2 ½ pounds Boston butt pork roast, trimmed of excess fat
1 ½ cups barbecue sauce
2 cups instant grits
2 cups reduce fat cheddar cheese
1 (1-pound bag) collards, cooked

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a large skillet, cook bacon in olive oil over medium heat until crisp. Remove bacon to paper towels to drain, reserving drippings in pan. Crumble bacon and set aside. In a small bowl, stir together garlic salt, paprika and cumin. Rub mixture evenly over pork roast. Cook pork in hot drippings for 3 minutes per side or until browned on all sides. Transfer pork to oven proof baking dish. Pour 1 cup sauce over pork and sprinkle with crumbled bacon. Cover and bake for 2 hours or until pork is tender. Meanwhile, prepare grits according to package directions. Stir in cheese until melted. Keep warm. Remove pork, discarding pan juices. Pull pork using 2 forks. Toss remaining ½ cup barbecue sauce with pulled pork. Serve collards over grits; top collards with pulled pork.

KALE SOUP WITH CANNELLINI BEANS

Serves: 6-8

2 tablespoons olive oil
1 medium onion, diced
3 cloves garlic, minced
12 cups chicken stock-divided
1 (1-pound bag) kale
1 15-ounce can diced tomatoes
1 15-ounce cans cannellini beans-drained and rinsed
3 carrots, peeled and sliced
1 tablespoon Italian seasoning
2 tablespoons dried parsley
2 teaspoon pepper
3 tablespoons cornstarch
1/3 cup water

In large stock pot, heat olive oil on medium heat; add onion and garlic. Cook until onions are clear about 3-5 minutes. Add 1 cup chicken stock and kale. Cover and cook until wilted about 3-5 minutes. Add remaining chicken stock, tomatoes, cannellini beans, carrots, Italian seasoning, parsley and pepper. Bring soup to boil on medium high heat, turn down to medium low and simmer for 25 minutes. Place cornstarch and water in jar and shake. Bring soup to boil on medium high heat slowly add cornstarch mixture and stir to thicken soup.

GREENS, SAUSAGE, AND POTATO SOUP

Yield: 9 cups

1 (1-pound size) bag Nature's Greens Trio
3 tablespoons olive oil
½ (8-ounce size) container Versatile Veggies Diced Yellow Onions
2 teaspoons minced garlic
6 cups chicken broth
4 large potatoes, cut into ½-inch cubes
1 (14-ounce size) package smoked turkey sausage, thinly sliced
½ teaspoon fresh ground pepper
2 tablespoons smoked paprika
2 teaspoons salt
1 cup fat free half and half

In a Dutch oven, sauté onion and garlic in oil. Add broth and potatoes. Bring to a full rolling boil. Cover; reduce heat to simmer and cook for 20-30 minutes. Add sausage, pepper, smoked paprika, and salt. Simmer for 15 minutes. Increase heat to boiling and add greens. Boil for 5 minutes; reduce heat to medium and cook for 25 minutes. Stir in half and half and serve.



SAUTEED COLLARDS WITH PASTA

Yield: 6 large servings

1 (1-pound size) bag collards
6-8 slices bacon, diced
1 large onion, diced
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 red bell pepper, diced
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon black pepper
¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper (hot)
2 cups whipping cream
1 (1½-ounce size) package Parmesan cheese, divided
1 (12-ounce size) package angel hair pasta, cooked and drained

Cook greens in water (may season to taste) for 10-15 minutes. Drain and set aside. Cook bacon in large skillet or large saucepan until crisp. Remove and drain on paper towels. Reserve 2 tablespoons drippings in skillet. Sauté red bell peppers, onion, and garlic in drippings until tender. Add greens, salt, pepper and crushed red pepper. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, for 15 to 20 minutes or until greens reach desired tenderness. In a small sauce pan, warm cream over medium heat. Add all but 2 tablespoons of the Parmesan cheese and stir until melted. Toss cream and Parmesan mixture with the pasta. Put pasta mixture on plate and top with greens mixture. Crumble bacon over the top and sprinkle with remaining Parmesan cheese. Serve immediately.

Laurel Park building gains kudos, commercial real estate leaders feted

The Building Owners and Managers Association of Metro Detroit held its annual awards program, The Outstanding Building of the Year (TOBY) and Leadership Awards Presentation on Nov. 15 at the MotorCity Casino Sound Board, Detroit.

The program honors outstanding leaders and commercial properties in the local commercial real estate industry. The TOBY Awards, now in its 29th year, is the most prestigious and comprehensive program of its kind in the commercial real estate industry, recognizing excellence in office building ownership and management. Judging is based on community impact, tenant/employee relations programs, energy management systems, emergency evacuation procedures, building personnel training programs and overall quality indicators. A team of expert industry professionals conducted comprehensive building inspections.

"The winners of this year's TOBY Awards have shown exceptional achievement in their respective categories," said Paul S. Magy, president of BOMA of Metro Detroit. "They are remarkable professionals that provide superior accommodation to Michigan business through their building quality and excellence in property management on par with the best in class



Laura Marble from U.S. General Services Administration received the Outstanding Service Award. She is pictured with Bill Wylonis, BOMA Immediate past president, and Paul Magy, BOMA president.

across the country."

With a sold-out crowd of nearly 300 people in attendance, honored were: Kimberly Heslep of Equity Office, Property Manager of the Year; Jon Brach, Newark Grubb Knight Frank, Facility Manager of the Year; Tom Bartkowiak of REDICO, Building Engineer of the Year; Moylan Energy Management, Inc., Service Provider of the Year; and Neal Hopkins of Mr. Kleen Maintenance, Inc., Supplier Member of the Year.

Dan Kuchersky of PIC Maintenance, Inc., Emerging Leader; Laura Marble of U.S. General Services Administration, Outstanding Service Award; and

Scott Milligan of REDICO, the President's Award.

Detroit properties the m@dison, and Chase Tower; Southfield property Southfield Centre; and Laurel Park Place Office Center in Livonia all took first place in their respective square footage categories as Building of the Year. Detroit's Coleman A. Young Municipal Center was first in the Historical Building class and the Chrysler House first in Renovated Building. Oak Tech Professional in Auburn Hills took the top award in the Medical Office category, and Dearborn's Corporate Crossings top bill as Corporate Facility. The Bingham Office Center in Southfield was recognized in the Suburban Office Park Low-Rise grouping.

Local TOBY winners advance to regional competition and then move on to international competition at the BOMA International North American Real Estate Congress and the Every Building Show in Orlando, Fla., in June 2014.

For additional information on the 2013-2014 TOBY and Leadership Awards, visit www.bomadetroit.org.

Founded in 1908, BOMA of Metro Detroit is a professional, nonprofit trade association whose nearly 400 members either own or manage commercial real estate, or provide goods and services to the industry.

Amsterdam residents often rent

Q: Do you think it is better to buy or rent a home in Amsterdam since I want to live there during the summer?

A: I think that is a no brainer since only 20 percent of the houses in Amsterdam are purchased while 80 percent are rented. It costs you five euros an hour to park in town and eight euros a day outside of the city center, and they will give you a tram ticket to get into town. Obviously, there is an incentive on people to live outside of the metropolitan area. There are approximately 600,000 bikes in Amsterdam with only 800,000 inhabitants. You may be best off renting.



Robert Meisner

Q: How do we deal with a board member of our condominium association who doesn't think we need an attorney? We have no one on retainer now and the management company has recommended that we get an attorney, but this board member doesn't want to spend any money. What are your comments?

A: You are running a business. You are a member of the board of directors of a corporation. You have legal issues that come up including the obligation to collect assessments, enforce the bylaws, pursue claims against contractors and/or developers, deal with fair housing issues, FHA certification, procedures to implement your collection and bylaw enforcement policies, and a myriad of other issues that an attorney can assist you on irrespective of whether you have a pending legal problem. Your board member should be apprised of her legal liabilities and the probability of her to be sued. Perhaps she will get her act together at that point in time and overcome her naiveté.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit rmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of July 29 to Aug. 2, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

16933 Beechwood Ave	\$245,000
16975 Locherbie Ave	\$190,000
32811 Old Post Rd	\$370,000
31850 Verona Cir	\$410,000
31231 W Chelton Dr	\$365,000
31404 Waltham Dr	\$370,000

BINGHAM FARMS

32949 Bingham Ln	\$500,000
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BIRMINGHAM

647 Bennaville Ave	\$145,000
444 Chester St # 416	\$124,000
615 Emmons Ave	\$295,000
1943 Graefield Rd	\$119,000
728 Hanna St	\$390,000
663 Harmon St	\$455,000
600 Henrietta St	\$625,000
1471 Humphrey Ave	\$137,000
2263 Manchester Rd	\$211,000
833 Mohegan St	\$905,000
963 N Old Woodward Ave	\$270,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

1510 Groton Rd	\$375,000
1850 Pine Ridge Ln	\$212,000
490 Fox Hills Dr N # 5	\$61,000
6721 Inkster Rd	\$238,000
6487 Maple Hills Dr	\$120,000
345 Martell Dr	\$875,000
4250 Sedgewood Ln	\$420,000
3635 W Bradford Dr	\$239,000
4041 W Maple Rd # E104	\$59,000
960 Westview Rd	\$313,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

2795 Ayershire Dr	\$265,000
2990 Courville Dr	\$240,000
670 E Fox Hills Dr	\$69,000
1902 Eagle Pointe	\$190,000
5253 Fairmont Hill Ct	\$375,000
1769 Golf Ridge Dr	\$188,000
1159 Hillpointe Cir	\$220,000

2375 Mulberry Sq # 69	\$73,000
2743 Plum Brook Dr	\$220,000
1429 Ravineview Ct	\$190,000
1190 Rolling Acres Dr	\$183,000
1560 S Hill Blvd	\$115,000
542 S Spinningwheel Ln	\$190,000
3895 Top View Ct	\$310,000
4043 W Maple Rd # D203	\$83,000
328 Wadsworth Ln	\$190,000
42353 Woodward Ave	\$100,000
5744 Woodwind Dr	\$428,000
6425 Worlington Rd	\$660,000
2633 Indian Mound S	\$735,000

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP

1833 Applebrook Dr	\$50,000
6061 Balmoral Way	\$399,000
6133 Birchcrest Ln	\$382,000
8656 Bucksin Dr	\$160,000
3525 Buell Ct	\$330,000
2261 Calibouge	\$40,000
4690 Cooley Lake Rd	\$210,000
3348 Edgewood Park Dr	\$1,200,000
515 Farr St	\$101,000
8030 Flagstaff St	\$459,000
2415 Ivy Hill Dr	\$275,000
5726 Lancaster Ln	\$440,000
2633 Lauryl Dr	\$190,000
2834 Lauryl Dr	\$136,000
3675 Loch Bend Dr	\$558,000
8888 Orrick St	\$305,000
4998 Parkgate Dr	\$50,000
5026 Parkgate Dr	\$50,000
4665 Vandalia St	\$173,000
1455 Vanstone Dr	\$850,000
4853 Waldon Woods Dr	\$285,000

FARMINGTON

23077 Farmington Rd	\$190,000
22418 Hawthorne St	\$131,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

37614 Avon Cir	\$265,000
37659 Avon Ln	\$252,000
27900 Berrywood Ln Unit 26	\$56,000
27248 Bramwell St	\$100,000
32370 Dunford St	\$223,000
30236 Essex Dr	\$275,000
31070 Evergreen Ct	\$294,000
29913 Fox Club Dr	\$301,000
25905 Kilreigh Dr	\$143,000
30083 Kimberly Ct	\$255,000
30197 Mayfair Dr	\$260,000
29526 Medbury St	\$122,000

29926 Mirlon Dr	\$185,000
29982 Muirland Dr	\$285,000
29255 New Bradford Dr	\$302,000
21535 Orchard Lake Rd	\$92,000
21420 Parklane St	\$240,000
29625 Pendleton Club Dr	\$52,000
29638 Pendleton Club Dr	\$13,000
23088 Purdue Ave	\$162,000
34424 Quaker Valley Rd	\$335,000
30465 Ramblewood Club Dr	\$208,000
30484 Ramblewood Club Dr	\$180,000
25987 Ridgewood Dr	\$186,000
33481 Stocker St	\$150,000
30707 Turtle Crk	\$285,000
30090 Valley Side Dr	\$195,000
28811 Village Ln	\$305,000
32600 W Wayburn St	\$195,000
25576 Wessex St	\$210,000

FRANKLIN

26656 Carol Ave	\$575,000
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MILFORD

400 Burns Rd	\$231,000
1719 Indian Garden Ln	\$193,000
534 Union St	\$223,000

NORTHVILLE

44211 Chedworth Dr	\$445,000
21345 E Glen Haven Cir	\$130,000
22240 Lujon Dr	\$353,000
894 McDonald Dr	\$380,000
581 Morgan Ct	\$275,000
940 New Haven Ct	\$131,000
21734 Taft Rd	\$225,000

NOVI

31239 Barrington Dr	\$195,000
24407 Bellingham Dr	\$561,000
28322 Clymer Dr	\$450,000
39515 Country Ln	\$125,000
24058 Elizabeth Ln	\$440,000
44639 Ellery Ln	\$202,000
44641 Ellery Ln	\$198,000
47477 Greenwich Dr	\$412,000
44410 Gwinnett Loop	\$143,000
26513 Mandalay Cir	\$190,000
25811 Mulberry Ln	\$379,000
41050 N McMahon Cir	\$121,000
22425 Plaisance Blvd	\$315,000
25616 Portico Ln	\$180,000
22773 Renford St	\$58,000
45306 Sedra Ct	\$351,000

47298 Sunnybrook Ln	\$525,000
27364 Victoria Rd	\$288,000
22138 York Mills Cir	\$447,000

SOUTH LYON

1096 Appaloosa Ct	\$256,000
24482 Brompton Way	\$335,000
24556 Brompton Way	\$333,000
1042 Cantor Ln	\$278,000
178 Easton Dr	\$258,000
824 Glen Meadows Dr	\$300,000
54902 Grenelefe Cir W	\$309,000
948 Hearthside St	\$152,000
815 Huntington Dr	\$270,000
204 Maplewood Ct Unit 7	\$50,000

SOUTHFIELD

1040 Paddock Dr	\$221,000
58874 Peters Barn Dr	\$73,000
28015 Pontiac Trl	\$200,000
22205 Quail Run Cir Unit 2	\$124,000
24431 Ravine Dr	\$490,000
52277 Red Cedar	\$302,000
24488 Ridge Pole Ct	\$350,000
60648 S Lyon Trl	\$300,000
23464 Sawgrass Ct S	\$382,000

WHITE LAKE

28102 Brentwood St	\$49,000
28890 Brooks Ln	\$160,000
17627 Cornell Rd	\$80,000
17250 Dorset Ave	\$104,000
16129 E Bedford St	\$145,000
29984 Evergreen Rd	\$137,000
26360 Franklin Pointe Dr	\$44,000
24125 Martha Washington Dr	\$60,000
17670 New Hampshire Dr	\$78,000

26962 Pebblestone St	\$148,000
16131 Pennsylvania St	\$113,000
18602 W Nine Mile Rd	\$88,000
29732 Westbrook Pkwy	\$77,000
21230 Winchester St	\$159,000
4300 Beacon Pointe	\$365,000
1100 Clearwater St	\$560,000
8735 Eastway Dr	\$347,000
10219 Lakeside Dr	\$225,000
10280 Lakeside Dr	\$152,000
9480 Marina Ct	\$71,000
892 Moldovia Dr	\$339,000
659 Plainfield Dr	\$315,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 19-23, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

50569 Amberwood Rd	\$77,000
7541 Andover Dr	\$445,000
2495 Barkhill Rd	\$362,000
1935 Briarfield St	\$154,000
3930 Brighton Ln	\$167,000
1948 Brookfield St	\$174,000
48826 Central Park Dr	\$430,000
7525 Chichester Rd	\$242,000
8772 Columbia Cir	\$255,000
48854 Crescent Dr	\$310,000
48469 Eastbridge Dr	\$215,000
8760 Eastham Dr	\$340,000
2036 Echo Woods Dr	\$270,000
50792 Federal Blvd	\$77,000
43154 Hadley Ct	\$180,000
50191 Harding St	\$305,000
7363 Hillsboro Dr	\$181,000
48859 Ivybridge Way	\$460,000
1963 Knollwood Dr	\$130,000
43051 Lancelot Dr	\$200,000
45193 Lothrop Rd	\$345,000
48389 Manor Bridge Dr	\$122,000
5836 Meadowview Dr	\$355,000
837 Morning Dove Ct	\$225,000
4489 Pond Run	\$236,000
45044 Prestbury Rd	\$168,000
745 Princess Dr	\$155,000
408 Princeton St	\$179,000
47501 River Woods Dr	\$323,000
1875 S Pennfield Ln	\$77,000
44845 Seabrook Dr	\$325,000
42738 Woodbridge Dr	\$146,000
46533 Woodside Dr	\$336,000

GARDEN CITY

6916 Arcola St	\$85,000
28420 Bock St	\$9,000
31333 Bock St	\$83,000

33620 Bock St	\$80,000
29444 Florence St	\$100,000
30720 Florence St	\$58,000
32532 Kathryn St	\$61,000
30776 Krauter St	\$69,000
6516 Lathers St	\$77,000
30950 Pardo St	\$35,000
27636 Windsor St	\$82,000

LIVONIA

14373 Barbara St	\$174,000
32329 Barkley St	\$120,000
19085 Boulder Dr	\$395,000
37479 Bristol St	\$161,000
16358 Country Club Dr	\$198,000
14359 Cranston St	\$195,000
19496 Deering St	\$76,000
38063 Donald St	\$175,000
9804 E Clements Cir	\$132,000
15743 Edgewood St	\$210,000
20345 Ellen Dr	\$250,000
14660 Garden St	\$164,000
20641 Golf Ridge Cir	\$30,000
32629 Greenland Ct	\$190,000
30409 Hathaway St	\$160,000
14112 Henry Ruff St	\$190,000
29747 Jacquelyn Dr	\$95,000
39077 Jamison St	\$180,000
9121 Lathers St	\$135,000
27604 Lyndon St	\$132,000
38321 Mason St	\$182,000
39078 Meeting House Ln	\$212,000
9555 Middlebelt Rd	\$207,000
37637 Newburgh Park Cir	\$240,000

14307 Nola St	\$172,000
35449 Oakdale St	\$260,000
29141 Oriole St	\$160,000
17855 Parklane St	\$277,000
20235 Parkville St	\$87,000
37749 Pickford Dr	\$250,000
14734 Richfield St	\$165,000
16559 Riverside St	\$175,000
36066 Schoolcraft Rd	\$171,000
9860 Seltzer St	\$85,000

15956 Sunbury St	\$160,000
14124 Sunset St	\$99,000
15753 Swathmore Ln	\$210,000
31065 W Chicago St	\$137,000
17230 Wayne Rd	\$218,000
9392 Westwind Dr	\$108,000
9392 Westwind Dr	\$149,000

NORTHVILLE

51025 Belmont Park Ct	\$511,000
18301 Blue Heron Pointe Dr	\$449,000
42219 Bradner Rd	\$321,000
17947 Farmcrest Ct	\$365,000
48808 Freestone Dr	\$385,000
18874 Grande Vista Dr	\$115,000
320 Linden St	\$203,000
48067 Manorwood Dr	\$1,200,000
19733 Marilyn St	\$270,000
17500 Oak Hill Dr	\$675,000
49704 Parkside Dr	\$453,000
17409 Rolling Woods Cir	\$550,000
49118 Running Trout Ln	\$395,000
725 Spring Dr	\$250,000

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted - General

FORK LIFT DRIVER
Must be dependable, on time and here every day. Must be able to lift 70lbs repeatedly and without assistance. 2yrs. experience is required and must be flexible with schedule/hours. Be able to load and unload trucks in a timely manner also be able to get on and off hi-lo all day long. Must be able to pass a pre-employment screening and random drug testing.

Please contact via email: jobs@wvictorypackaging.com

Help Wanted - General



KFC
Kentucky Fried Chicken is seeking experienced **RESTAURANT MANAGERS**. Must be goal-oriented, positive role models, motivated to be successful, hands-on leaders, having a passion for the business. If you possess drive and determination to be "award winning", let's talk.

For interview call **248.353.7600 ext.214**

Help Wanted - General

RECEPTIONIST
Fast-paced CPA firm seeks Receptionist. Duties include answering phones, scheduling appointments, assembling tax returns and other administrative duties. Full time during tax season and part time after. Experience using Word and Excel is necessary. CPA firm experience a plus!

Email resume: Box 6004 oerum@hometownlife.com

Help Wanted - General

FURNITURE INSTALLER
Office furniture installation business in Wixom is looking to fill **FULL-TIME INSTALLER** positions. We are looking for **RESPONSIBLE, DEPENDABLE** and **PRESENTABLE** individuals. You must be able to travel for out of town projects; be able to work weekends and evenings, have reliable transportation with a valid driver's license. Tools required. To be considered for this position, apply in person: Synergy Installation Solutions 29988 Anthony Drive Wixom, MI 48393

PROPERTY MANAGER
Ann Arbor, large full service community mgmt company interested in hiring an experienced FT portfolio Manager, certified credentials helpful. Excellent benefits, please send resume to: charles@kramertrud.com Attention: Community Manager

TRUCK DRIVER
Office furniture installation business in Wixom is looking to fill **FULL-TIME TRUCK DRIVER** positions. We are looking for **RESPONSIBLE, DEPENDABLE, PRESENTABLE** individuals. You must have a valid driver's license, CDL license a plus, be able to travel for out of town projects and work weekends and evenings. To be considered for this position, apply in person: Synergy Installation Solutions, 29988 Anthony Dr., Wixom, MI 48393

METRO DETROIT AREA GOURMET MARKET
Accepting applications for:
• **Deli Manager**
Experience required in large volume deli including ordering, scheduling, budgets, and merchandising. Send resume, salary history to: livoniamarket@yahoo.com

O&E Media Classifieds
Just a quick call away...
800-579-7355

Help Wanted - Medical

COOK/UTILITY POSITION
Must be reliable, personable, detail oriented. Rotating weekends. Apply in person Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm at: Plymouth Inn Assisted Living, 205 Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Pediatric office in Livonia. Exp req approx 30 hrs/wk **734-591-0220**

AUTO PORTER
One of the nation's largest Ford dealers seeks an auto porter. A good driving record is required. We offer Blue Cross, dental, vision, matching 401(k), life and disability insurance and a five day work week.

Apply in person at: **5600 Telegraph Road Redford, MI**

CHIEF ENGINEER
for an independent company in Plymouth, MI engaged in the development of powertrain systems with internal combustion engines as well as instrumentation and test systems. Requires a Bachelor's degree in Engineering, a Physical Science or related field and 7 years experience planning and delivering powertrain base engine design and development programs for gasoline engine calibration and gasoline combustion applications for automotive customers including defining project engineering activities, milestones and staff requirements; meeting with customers and staff engineers to determine engineering project specifications; developing and planning schedules, budgets & finances; identifying and resolving project performance issues according to customer specification requirements; serving as liaison with customers to provide project status reports and ensuring customer needs are met; coordinating preparation and delivery of project deliverables and managing & supervising engineering staff. The position is located in Plymouth, MI with 25% travel. Send resume to AVL Powertrain Engineering, Inc., Attn: Jacqui Kern, 47603 Hatyard Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170-2438. Please indicate CE2 in subject line.

COPIER & PRINTER REPAIR TECH
Experienced only. Top pay, plus commission. Call 248-591-4310

DIRECT CARE: Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, meeting places etc. Many locations & shifts! Must be at least 18 yrs old, have valid MI Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, 0#

DIRECT CARE STAFF
needed to work with adults with DD in the Westland/Canton/Livonia area. Must be at least 18yrs old with diploma or GED, valid Driver's license/acceptable driving record & clean criminal record. CLS, MORC, or NSO training pref'd. \$8.19/hr to start. Call 248-661-8795 or Fax resume to 248-788-0264.

DME Biller
Seeking applicant for Canton & West Bloomfield Locations to coordinate all Aspects of DME equipment requests. Send resume to: jobs@savondrugs.com

ESTABLISHED COMPANY IN BRIGHTON
Is seeking quick learners for sorting and inspecting automotive parts, no exp. necessary. Paid training provided. Must have own transportation. Please call 810-225-6053 btwn 9am-3pm. Mon-Fri

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Observer & Eccentric Media
The Observer and Eccentric is looking for an **Auto Account Executive** to cover the suburban Detroit area. This position will work out of the Sterling Heights, MI location.

This position is responsible for all sales and related activities to advertisers within an assigned geographic territory. Will mainly be servicing auto businesses with the opportunity to sell into the Observer & Eccentric publications and DMP products. Primary responsibility is managing the territory to achieve sales quotas and developing new auto business. The Auto Account Executive will develop strategies, make presentations to new and existing advertisers and be responsive to customer needs. Sales orders, reports and documentation are prepared for management's review.

An Associate's degree and two years of sales experience and/or equivalent. Auto sales experience a plus. Bachelor's degree preferred. Professional communication, presentation and organizational skills are required. Must be highly motivated, analytical, detail-oriented and able to work under deadline pressure. Proficiency using a personal computer is required. Use of personal vehicle, valid driver's license, state mandated auto insurance and good driving record are required.

Gannett is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunity for all persons.

Observer & Eccentric Media, a Gannett company, specializes in community-based information on a variety of platforms - print, web, mobile and video. Local is what we do best. Come join our team!

To apply; Email your resume to Frank Cibor at fcibor@hometownlife.com or apply on Careerbuilder.com and look for O&E Media Auto Executive position.

LV-2388349-01

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Observer & Eccentric Media
A Gannett Company

Observer & Eccentric Media specializes in community-based information on a variety of platforms - print, web, mobile and video. O&E Media publishes 13 individually edited newspapers, a website and more than 75 special sections and specialty products annually. The staff includes more than 40 journalists, 25 advertising account executives and other key support personnel in circulation and production. O&E Media - Because local matters. Come join our team.

Observer and Eccentric Media is looking for an Account Executive for the South Lyon, MI Territory. This position will work out of the South Lyon, MI location.

RESPONSIBILITIES: This position is responsible for all sales and related activities to advertisers within an assigned geographic territory. Will mainly be servicing businesses with the opportunity to sell into the Hometown Weeklies, Observer & Eccentric publications and DMP products. Primary responsibility is managing the territory to achieve sales quotas and developing new business. The Account Executive will develop strategies, make presentations to new and existing advertisers and be responsive to customer needs. Sales orders, reports and documentation are prepared for management's review.

REQUIREMENTS: An Associate's degree and two years of sales experience and/or equivalent. Bachelor's degree preferred. Professional communication, presentation and organizational skills are required. Must be highly motivated, analytical, detail-oriented and able to work under deadline pressure. Proficiency using a personal computer is required. Use of personal vehicle, valid driver's license, state mandated auto insurance and good driving record are required.

Our Company
Gannett is a media and marketing solutions company with a diverse portfolio of broadcast, digital, mobile and publishing companies. Gannett provides consumers easy access to the things that matter most to them - any way and anywhere.

Gannett's portfolio of trusted brands helps business customers connect with these highly engaged audiences through its industry-leading marketing services, customized solutions and national-to-local-to-personal reach.

The company's 82 U.S. daily newspapers, including USA TODAY, reach 11.6 million readers every weekday and 12 million readers every Sunday, providing important news and information from their customers' neighborhoods and around the globe. USA TODAY, the nation's No. 1 newspaper in print circulation, and USATODAY.com reach a combined 6.6 million readers daily.

The Broadcasting Division's 23 TV stations reach 21 million households, covering 18.2 percent of the U.S. population. Through its Captivate subsidiary, the Broadcasting Division delivers news, information and advertising to a highly desirable audience demographic on 9,500 video screens located in elevators of office towers and select hotel lobbies in 25 major cities across North America.

Newsquest is one of the U.K.'s leading regional community news providers and its digital portfolio of newspaper and online-only brands attracts nearly 7.5 million unique users each month. It has a portfolio of 17 daily paid-for newspapers and more than 200 weekly newspapers, magazines and trade publications. Newsquest owns a successful online publisher called s1, which is a leading recruitment site in Scotland. Gannett is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunity for all persons. Email resumes to: lvon@gannett.com. Attn: Sales Please specify the territory you are interested in on the subject line of your email. EEOC

Observer & Eccentric Media
hometownlife.com
A GANNETT COMPANY

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Propane holder
5 Deep trench
9 Gotcha!
12 Mishmash
13 Comics pooch
14 Some bout enders
15 Downy fungi
16 Field mouse
17 Genre
18 Kyoto rite (2 wds.)
21 Young goat
22 Phone button
23 Skipper's OK
26 Help
28 Uncertain
32 Wishes one hadn't
34 Once named
36 Dramatic intro (hyph.)
37 Flabbergast
39 Prefix for classic
41 My, my!
42 Email provider
44 Noisy dispute

DOWN

46 Joiner
51 Drum, as fingers
52 What Ali stung like (2 wds.)
53 Huff and puff
55 52, to Livy
56 Very, to Yvette
57 Footnote abbr. (2 wds.)
58 Larry King's channel
59 Right, on a map
60 Small fishing boat

Answer to Previous Puzzle

O	A	F	S	E	L	F	M	I	C	A	
A	D	E	C	O	A	L	O	D	O	R	
K	A	T	M	A	N	D	U	S	A	L	K
S	M	E	A	R	E	B	B	S			
	N	F	C		B	Y	R	O	N		
L	O	P	S	E	E	L	S	E	C	O	
O	G	E	E	L	E	I	A	N	T	E	
B	L	T	I	L	K	S	I	D	O	L	
S	E	E	D	S	A	B	S				
	A	M	M	O	A	L	C	O	A		
O	D	I	N	O	V	E	R	E	A	T	S
B	U	L	K	C	A	V	E	S	T	A	
I	D	L	E	S	L	E	D	H	O	N	

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6 Hound's trail
7 Felt under par
8 Bristled with
9 Like
10 Grail descriptor
11 Say please

19 Government org.
20 Make a day —
23 Fido's reply
24 "Futureworld" name
25 Want-ad abbr.
27 Family room
29 High-tech scanner
30 McMahon and Sullivan
31 Shaggy-haired ox
33 Glide like an eagle
35 Strangest
38 Take turns
40 Diddy's rider
43 Zodiac scales
45 Carried on
46 Twinge
47 Neat as —
48 Average grades
49 W. Hemisphere alliance
50 Russian emperor.
51 Gentle treatment
54 Layer

Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

							1		
2								4	
	8	7							
4	9		5						
				3		6	1		
		5							8
	3	9		5				7	
				1				3	
8		1	7				9		

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

HOLIDAY WORD SEARCH

WORDS

APPRECIATION GATHERING
ATMOSPHERE GIFT
BOXING DAY GUESTS
CANDLES INVITATION
CELEBRATION JANUARY
CHANUKAH KITCHEN
CHEER KWANZAA
CHILDREN MUSIC
CHRISTMAS NEW YEARS DAY
COCKTAILS PARTY
COOKING PRESENTS
DANCING SHARING
DECEMBER SOCIALIZE
DECORATIONS SONGS
DESSERT SURPRISES
FAMILY THANKFUL
FEAST TREE
FRIENDS WINTERTIME

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

9	6	3	6	8	4	1	7	2	5
5	7	2	9	1	6	8	5	3	4
6	3	9	8	5	4	2	7	1	
8	6	9	7	2	4	9	8		
7	2	8	4	3	6	9	5	1	
4	5	8	1	7	2	3			
1	8	7	2	4	5	9	6		
3	9	6							
2	6	3	1	9	8	5	4	7	
9	5	4	3	6	7	1	8	2	

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Word Search

APPRECIATION GATHERING
ATMOSPHERE GIFT
BOXING DAY GUESTS
CANDLES INVITATION
CELEBRATION JANUARY
CHANUKAH KITCHEN
CHEER KWANZAA
CHILDREN MUSIC
CHRISTMAS NEW YEARS DAY
COCKTAILS PARTY
COOKING PRESENTS
DANCING SHARING
DECEMBER SOCIALIZE
DECORATIONS SONGS
DESSERT SURPRISES
FAMILY THANKFUL
FEAST TREE
FRIENDS WINTERTIME

JOBS

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IMMEDIATELY HIRING!
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•BARTENDER Exp. a must.
Apply in person: Starting Gate,
135 N. Center St., Northville.

Help Wanted - Domestic
ASSISTANT / HELPER
To provide transportation
and care taking services for
an active disabled person in
and around community.
\$11.50/hr. Seeking personable,
high-energy individual.
734-718-6928

Position Wanted
SANTA CLAUS FOR HIRE
Book Early for Christmas, Co
Parties & Weddings. Contact
Santa Chuck: 588-879-6319

RENTALS

apartments.com -
HomeFinder.com
Apartments For Rent
FARMINGTON HILLS
ANNIE'S APPTS.
FREE HEAT! 1 bdrms from
\$520. 9 Mile/Middlebelt
248-478-7489

NORTHVILLE: Spacious 3
bdrms, 2 bath. Great location.
6 Mile/275/M14. Patio, yard,
garage, W/D hookup. No Pets.
\$1100/mo. (330) 806-2815

WESTLAND:
Westgate Tower
to new accepting applications
for our beautifully renovated
one-bedroom apartments! Rent
is based on 30% of income.
Heat/water is included.
Call or visit Westgate Tower
at 734-720-2900;
34567 Elmwood,
Westland, MI 48185
for an application &
to our waiting list.

WESTLAND/NORTHWAYNE:
3 bdrms duplex with big
backyard, fenced, 2 car
private drive, 248-982-3281

Homes For Rent
CANTON-1628 Brookline 3 bd
1.5ba, appl's, bsmt, 1393sqft,
no pets or smoking, \$975
\$1600/dep. 734-231-5278

FARMINGTON HILLS-3 br, 2
ba, crpt, remod, appl, a/c, 2
car gar, deck, fenced, no pets,
\$1000+ sec. 248.655.8138

GARDEN CITY 3 br, 1 ba,
refridg, stove, immediate Dec
\$700 + sec. 29132 Bridge .
248-910-3695

LIVONIA: 1,000 sq. ft. 3 bdr/1
beautiful ranch, appliances,
nice neighborhood, fenced
yard, \$990/mo. 248-342-0314

LIVONIA: 3 bdrms ranch, c/a,
great schools, best neighbor
hood, 2.5 car gar. This one has
it all! \$1050. RENTED

REDFORD: Open Sun. 2-5.
17713 Northmoor. 3 bdrms brick
bsmt, appls inc. \$800 + sec.
Taking apps. 734-624-5311

Rooms For Rent
LIVONIA: Furnished, kitchen
privileges, cable, washer &
dryer, all utilities. Retired male
preferred. \$380/mo + \$100
deposit. 313-889-3766

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Annual Braun and
Helmer Auction
Extravaganza
Large Auction featuring:
Coins * Guns * Antiques
* Toys * Tons more!
Saturday December 7th
@ 10:00 am
Washtenaw Farm
Council Grounds
Ann Arbor, MI
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Ann Arbor Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI
10% buyer's premium.
Complete details w/pics
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homestownlife.com
Drywall
COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
Plaster Repair. All jobs well
completed. Lic./Ins. Free Est. 30
yrs. exp. Mark: 313-363-9738

Electrical
FAMILY ELECTRICAL
City cert. Violations corrected.
Service changes or any small
job. Free est. 734-422-8080

Hauling - Clean Up
A-1 HAULING
Move scrap metal, clean base-
ments, garages, stores, etc.
Lowest prices in town. Quick
service. Free est. Wayne/Oak-
land. Central location.
248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

Housecleaning
QUALITY CLEANING SVC.
Commercial & Residential.
25 yrs. exp. insured.
Call Peggy: 734-761-2330

Paint Decorating Paper
COMPLETE PAINTING SRVS
•All Home Repairs •Paper Re-
moval •Drywall •Plaster. 27
yrs. John's Call: 313-587-7836

PAINTING BY ROBERT
•Wallpaper Removal •Int
•Ext •Plaster/Drywall Repair
•Staining. 25 yrs exp. Free est.
248-349-7489, 734-464-8147

Roofing
Leaks, Repairs, Flashings
Valleys, 30 Yrs Exp. Lic./Ins.
Member BBB. 248-346-4321

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Advanced Placement Social
Studies Tutor. 16 years public
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AP classes.
\$40 hr. Meet at your home or
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BUY & SELL

Antiques & Collectibles
ANTIQUE Round Dining
Room Table: Tiger oak,
4' diameter, 4 oak chairs, good
cond. \$245. 517-458-4800

Estate Sales
LIVONIA: Hugo Estate Sale!
Everything must go in the whole
house. Dec 5, 6, 7, open 10 to 5
35928 Barkley.

Garage/Moving Sales
PLYMOUTH ESTATE SALE:
48688 Meadow Dr. Sat. 9-4pm
& Sun. 10-2pm. Furniture,
misc. household items,
old tools, play structure,
patio furn, yard tools, etc.

CANTON: HOLIDAY SALE
Dec 4-8th. 10-4pm.
47232 Larchmont. N. of Ford,
E. of Beck. Dept. 58 Dickcens
& North Pole, Hallmark orna-
ments, many holiday items,
winter clothing, Goody Disney
Collection. Much more!

Holiday Shopping Event
Brookfield Academy
38945 Ann Arbor Rd.
Livonia, 48150. Sat. Dec. 7,
Noon-3pm. You're invited to
shop at a fundraiser gather-
ing of vendors that include:
Pampered Chef, Cutesy,
Discovery Toys, Party Lite,
Thirty-One, Mary K, Premier
Designs, Princess House &
Tupperware.

MOVING prices neg. china
cabinet, table & 4 chairs, fam-
ily room furniture, kitchen table
& chairs. 248.469.9119

PLYMOUTH MOVING SALE
AWESOME FINDS! Must down-
size! 292 Holbrook, S. of Main,
E of Mill St. Dec. 6-7, 9-5pm.

Clothing
Flaws N All Ladies Boutique
Sizes 2-26
Women's Clothing and Acces-
sories
Black Friday Sale and Beyond
Support your local small bus-
ness starting
10am-6pm Nov 29-Dec 31
\$10 off a single item or 30%
off your total order with this ad
#2724. Southfield Rd. Suite 3
Lathrup Village off I-696 in the
Lathrup Office Center
(248)809-6970
www.flawedname

Household Goods
Computer Desk/Oak
62L, 25.5 D, 29.75 H,
\$300. Wood Filing Cab
18 W, 21 D, 28.5 H \$125.
517-546-5588 after 5pm

Crate & Barrel King Size
Suede Beige Headboard.
Matching bench w/dark wood
legs. \$350. 249-202-5191

KITCHEN/DINETTE TABLE
55 long x 40" wide w/round-
ed corners. Also 18" leaf, oak
turned legs & oak apron. Oak
pattern formica top/rim. Good
cond. \$125. 517-466-4800

Walled Lake MOVING SALE
Dec 6 & 7 9a-5pm. Antiques,
Furn., household items, Feather
or weight Sewing machine,
Norman Rockwell Figurines,
stained windows. 599 Ridge
Rd. btw 14 MI & Maple W Of
Decker. Lakeland Hills Estate.

Misc. For Sale
6 burial plots for sale in Glen
Eden Lutheran Memorial Park,
located at 35687 Eight Mile
Rd., Livonia MI. We will sepa-
rate into groups of 2 if neces-
sary. We are asking \$850 per
plot and that's a savings of
\$200 if you purchase these.
These will go fast so call
quickly to receive this savings.
(841)725-4200
s2agpsys@aol.com

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Misc. For Sale
"MARY KAY" BLACK FRIDAY
SALE!!!
Taking place November 25th-
November 29th
Buy between 12 a.m. - 7:59
a.m. and receive a 30% dis-
count.
Buy between 8 a.m. - 9:59
a.m. and receive a 25% dis-
count.
Buy between 10 a.m. - 12:59
p.m. and receive a 20% dis-
count.
Buy between 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
and receive a 15% discount.
In home appointments can be sched-
uled by appointment only.
(313)333-7403
Jen_dunn@me.com

Yuletide Marketplace -
Craft & Vendor Show
Saturday, Dec. 7 - 9-4
Calvary Baptist Church
43069 Joy Road, Canton, MI
48187 (734)455-1132
d-dtravelplus@comcast.net

Musical Instruments
CHICKERING PIANO FROM
1932. Mahogany, tiger wood
finish, juke box, radio, ground-
ing made in Germany, Jig Saw,
and Lath all in good cond. good
price \$13,599.699 Livonia

CLARINET (ARTLEY)
Very Good Condition.
Asking \$400.
734-455-7683

Wanted To Buy
1940s to 1980s car
entireties, badges, hood
ornaments, horn buttons,
nameplates, and trim, prefer
excellent condition, all
makes. Call Dan:
248-202-9465

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homestownlife.com

Cats
CATS (2) each approx.
2-3 yrs. old. Vet checked.
No fleas. Good health.
To good homes. Milford/Wixom
area. 248-898-9241

Dogs
12 Week Old Pure Bred Basset
Hound Puppies Ready to
Go! Mom & Dad on prem-
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perament! Perfect Early
Christmas Gift! \$150
(734)855-5267

Mastiff/Neo AKC PUPS
14 wks, vet checked, health
guaranteed. Shots, wormed.
X-mas gift! 734-871-5324

SHIH TZU, AKC, P UPPIES
Vet Checked, shots, cute,
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\$450. 734-699-9525

Household Pets
Adopt A Baby Bunny!
Five friendly rabbits available
for loving homes. \$25 each.
Owner has final decision in
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FORD F-150 S/CREW 2004
XL, full power, cloth, fully
inspected & warranted!
\$10,999
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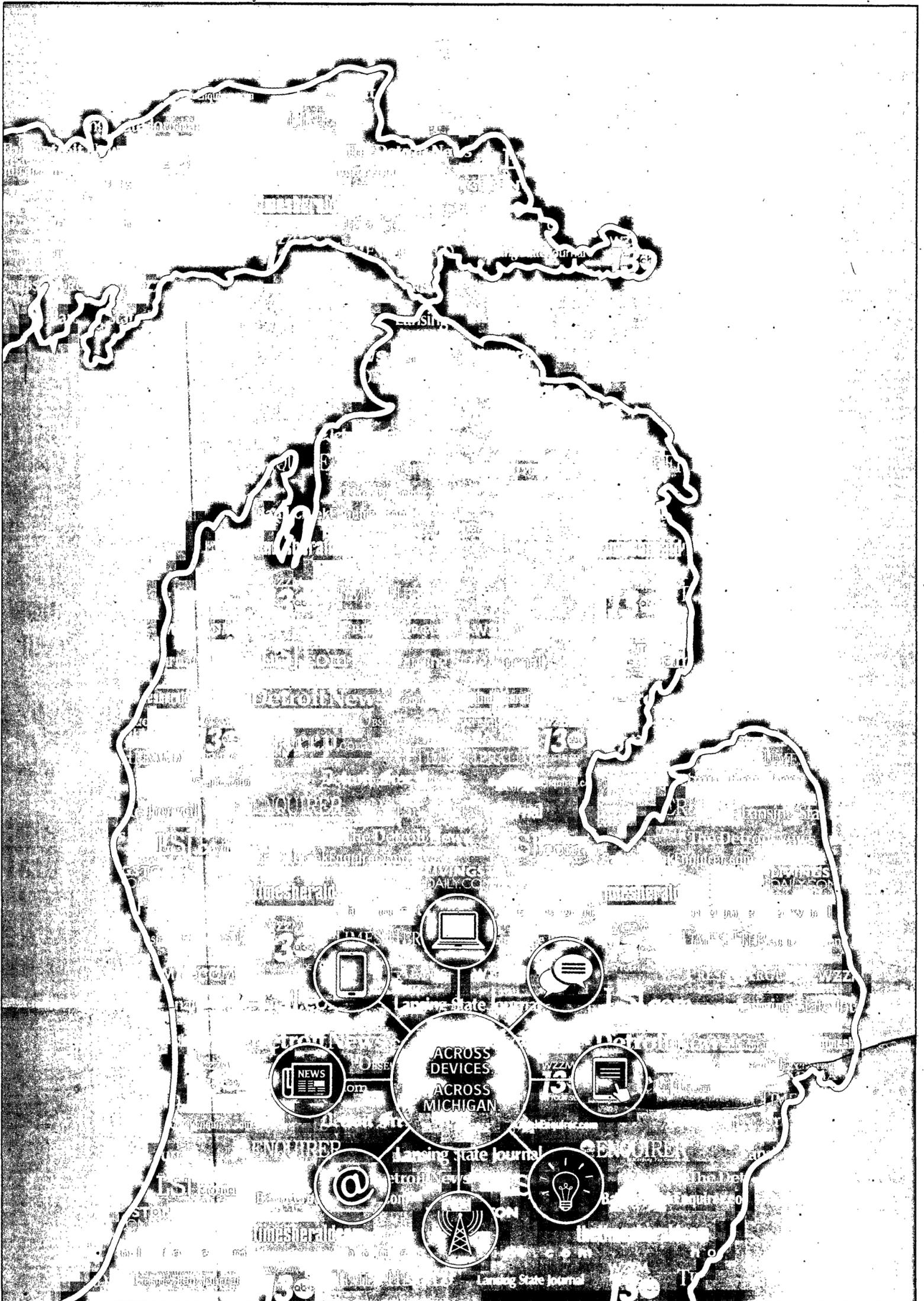
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