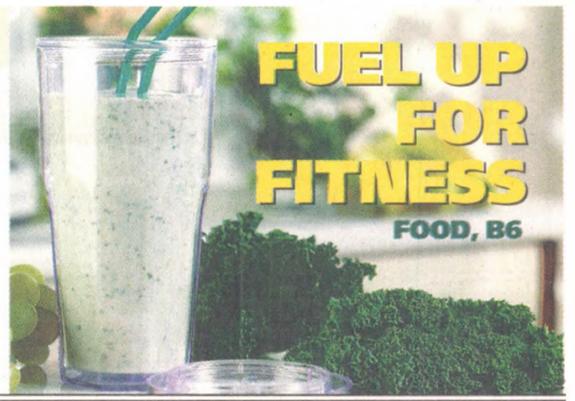


# WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2014 • hometownlife.com



## W-W looks for more energy savings

District partners with Dallas-based company

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

In the almost six years since beginning an in-house energy conservation program, the Wayne-Westland Community Schools has seen a double-digit percentage drop in its gas, electric and water consumption.

Now the district is going to partner with Dallas, Texas-based Cenergistic Energy Conservation. The school board recently approved a five-year agreement with the firm which

builds customized, comprehensive behavioral-based energy conservation programs that help organizations like Wayne-Westland reduce energy consumption even further.

"We've had I-SAVE (Individuals Save and Vie for Efficiency) for six-seven years and made great strides. It worked with the staff and was well-received," said Jim Larson-Shidler, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services. "We saw a savings of 18 percent, but I believe partnering with Cenergistic will take us to the next level."

According to Larson-Shidler, Cenergistic will reimburse the district up to \$60,000 of the

salary from Geno Montayne, Wayne-Westland's supervisor of energy management. It also will provide a part-time employee to train with Montayne and Tony Spisak, the executive director of maintenance and operations. Cenergistic also will provide professional development and training for the district's building and grounds staff.

### Big savings

Larson-Shidler said the district is looking at a savings of some \$350,000 the first year of the agreement with those savings increasing each. In the fifth and final year of the contract, the district could save

\$466,000. The district will split the savings with Cenergistic.

"That's savings that above what we currently have with the I-SAVE program," Larson-Shidler said.

When questioned by board Vice-President John Goci, Larson-Shidler explained that there is a cancellation penalty in the contract. If the district decides to opt out, there would be about a \$200,000 cost the first year. That amount goes down each succeeding year. If the district maintains the five-year agreement Cenergistic "will be with the district for life as long as we have a person in that position."

Larson-Shidler is familiar with Cenergistic. He helped

bring Cenergistic to the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools in 2009 when he was that district's assistant superintendent for business services. He told the Wayne-Westland school board that Plymouth-Canton experienced a more than 30 percent savings or "almost \$2 million in energy savings a year."

He stressed that there is no guarantee of a savings, but the district will not have to pay Cenergistic until Wayne-Westland sees a savings above its base year.

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Rick and Claudia Patry speak with Sarah Ginebaugh about the POW/MIA bracelet. In the background is Sarah's husband Chuck Ginebaugh. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Sarah Ginebaugh, with the POW/MIA bracelet she's had for many years.

## POW/MIA bracelet adds to Teran memorial

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Back in 1972 when Sarah Ginebaugh was 9 years old, she received a POW/MIA bracelet remembering Westland native Refugio "Tom" Teran.

Late last month, Ginebaugh brought the bracelet to the Bova VFW Post 9885 to add to artifacts, including Teran's uniform, that are on display.

"I made a list of 50 fabulous things to do at 50. This was on the list," said Ginebaugh, a Grand Rapids resident. "I didn't know if I would find family. I had no idea. I researched the best place for the bracelet."

A staff sergeant, Teran was a spe-

cialist in the Army's 101st Airborne Division stationed at a support base in South Vietnam. After Viet Cong forces overran his base May 6, 1970 — two days before Teran turned 21 — he was listed as missing in action and presumed dead.

"I wore the bracelet until it broke — probably two or three years," Ginebaugh said. "I always had to pinch it to get it to stay on my wrist."

### Search for information

Through the years, Ginebaugh said she kept the bracelet and in the late 1990s used the Internet to search for

See BRACELET, Page A2

## Winter blasts close schools, delay services in Wayne, Westland

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Things have begun to return to normal after a weekend snowstorm and blast of arctic cold took a toll on residents.

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools closed schools for three days, and residents in Wayne and Westland saw delays in trash collection because of road conditions and wind chills.

Wind chills reaching almost -40 degrees caused problems for the school district, which could only get 20 of its 80 buses started Tuesday. The district also was dealing with problems from boilers and frozen pipes at some schools and was having difficulty clearing parking lots because of blowing snow.

"In the 17 years I've been superintendent, we have never closed schools three days in a row," Baracy said. "It's the first time in my superintendency that we've had these kinds of weather conditions for three straight days."

Road conditions compounded problems. In some cases, neighborhood roads hadn't been cleared and even if the district had gotten buses on the road, they would have been running late.

"We just can't have students out there waiting for buses in these temperatures, especially if buses are running late," Baracy said.

The frigid temperatures continued through Wednesday morning, but temperatures were on the rise, giving way to a warmup.

"Temperatures are supposed to be up by Thursday, and we'll be ready to rock'n-

See STORM, Page A2

## Four face sentencing for robbing Westland teens

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Four men accused of robbing two Westland teens who police say had gone to a Canton party to buy drugs are facing sentencing Jan. 23 after pleading guilty to two counts each of unarmed robbery.

One victim was punched and kicked while the other was struck in the face as the robbery unfolded shortly before 9 p.m. Nov. 2 at The Crossings, an apartment complex near Joy Road and I-275 on Canton's far north side.

Following initial indications a gun may have been involved, four men — Muhedin Danny Turkovic, 17, and Joseph Charles Holland, 18, both



Muhedin Danny Turkovic, Alexander James Shippey, Clary Dejuan Scott Jr. and Joseph Charles Holland are facing sentencing for a robbery at a Canton party. CANTON POLICE

of Canton, Alexander James Shippey, 22, of Livonia, and Clary Dejuan Scott Jr., 17, of Detroit — had been charged with armed robbery.

However, the four men have pleaded to lesser counts of unarmed robbery after 35th District Judge Michael Gerou, citing a lack of evidence linking them to a gun,

reduced the charges during a preliminary hearing in mid-November.

Canton Detective Erik Kaledas has said the Westland victims, both 18, were robbed of belongings such as money and a cellphone amid allegations they had gone to the party to buy drugs.

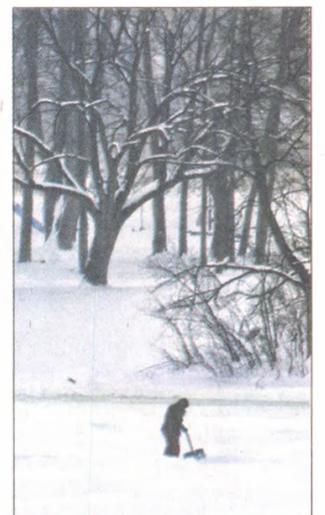
Turkovic, Holland, Shippey

and Scott could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison if they had been convicted of original charges of armed robbery. Their punishment could range from probation to 15 years for the lesser charges.

All four men have been released on bond as they await their sentencing, but they have been ordered not to contact the Westland teens. They also are under court orders not to carry firearms, use drugs or consume alcohol.

The men are expected to face sentencing by Wayne County Circuit Judge Margie Braxton.

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Clearing snow during a squal, perhaps for a game of pond hockey on a Newburgh pond. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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# STORM

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'roll," Baracy said.

## Services affected

Wayne put out an alert Tuesday afternoon that because of the heavy snowfall and mechanical breakdowns due to the extreme cold, Republic Services, the city's trash hauler, delayed pickup of Monday's refuses a second day.

In Westland, trash collection, which took place Monday, was canceled Tuesday because of the weather, delaying the remainder of the week by one day. Curbside recycling pickup also has been delayed one day for the week after Monday's collection was canceled by Republic Services.

Public services workers in each community were working to clear a foot of snow from roads.

"We dropped into the subdivisions early this morning (Monday)," said Westland Department of Public Services Director Benny McCusker. "Our first group of guys hit 16 hours and had to go home — it's state law. The second road crews came in this morning."

The city had nine big trucks and eight smaller trucks working north to south clearing snow on neighborhood streets.

Westland DPS crews also had to repair a large water main break that flooded Cherry Hill and Wayne roads Sunday evening.

"We had to redirect



Wayne and Westland residents dig out, even during late Monday afternoon snow squalls. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

traffic. It took six hours to complete. The hole is still open (Monday) until the gas company can get out," McCusker said.

DPS was also dealing with water-related problems in Norwayne, McCusker said, including a water main break and flooding due to burst pipes in unheated vacant homes.

## Clearing streets

Wayne's Department of Public Works was

plowing neighborhoods Monday after earlier focusing on major thoroughfares.

"We are plowing better than most neighboring communities. We aren't plowing on overtime," DPW Director and acting City Manager Ramzi El-Gharib said. "The storm happened on Sunday. We worked on major streets and Michigan Avenue overnight, now we're doing local streets."

All of the city streets were scheduled to be cleared by Tuesday morning. Both cities have a snow emergency in effect requiring all vehicles be parked off streets to facilitate plowing.

"People have been good about getting cars off the street," El-Gharib said.

The biggest problem, McCusker said, has been the fact that DPS crews have been working long

hours since snow fell on Christmas Eve.

"We had back-to-back snow over the holidays and flooding in between. It's been round the clock since Christmas," McCusker said. "We have not really dealt with a storm this large in years."

Baracy agrees. He believes the district would have to go back 26-27 years to find a time when school was closed three consecutive days.

Under a new state law, districts no longer have snow days, the time off is calculated by hours and days. The district may have to make up the lost time, Baracy said.

"There may be a problem, but we'll have to do the calculations," he said. Staff Writer Sue Mason contributed to this story.

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## AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

### Game Night

The Dyer Senior Center in Westland is holding its monthly game night at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9. Its spaghetti dinner will be 4-6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and dessert for \$6.

The center also has euchre and bingo at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and pinocle is played at 1 p.m. Fridays.

The Dyer Center is at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland. For more information, call 734-419-2020.

### License Plate Meet

The Southeast Michigan License Plate Meet will be held 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday Jan. 25, at the Romanowski VFW Post, 28945 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland.

Tables are \$5 each or six for \$25. Vendors should bring their license plates in through the post's back door.

For more information, contact Scott "Ohawkeye" Olson at 734-421-1599 or at ohawkeye@yahoo.com, or visit the website, vfw6896.com/LicensePlateMeet.html.

Admission will be \$5 per person with children under 12 and veterans with a VFW membership card or VA hospital ID free. Free coffee and doughnuts will be available.

All proceeds go to the veterans, including what is paid for Ohawkeye's license plates.

### District hours

District coffee hours have been scheduled for Monday, Jan. 13, by state Sen. Glenn Anderson, state Reps. Robert Kosowski and David Knezek, and Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc.

The coffee hours will be 9-10 a.m. in the banquet room at Mr. Mike's Grill, 6047 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Constituents who have a question or concern, but are unable to attend may reach either of the elected representatives by mail, phone, or email:

» Sen. Glenn S. Anderson at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909, 866-262-7306 or SenatorAnderson@senate.mi.gov.

» Rep. Robert Kosowski at P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909, 855-600-2625 or RobertKosowski@house.mi.gov.

» Rep. David Knezek at P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909, 888-4KNEZEK or DavidKnezek@house.mi.gov.

» Commissioner Richard LeBlanc at 500 Griswold St., Seventh Floor, Detroit, MI 48226, 313-224-8855 or District12@waynecounty.com.

### Kids Night Out

The Wayne Community Center will host a Kids Night Out 6-10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25. Bring a lined bathing suit, towel and lots of energy. Activities include swimming,

arts and crafts, games, pizza, and pop.

The cost is \$13 for members/residents and \$16 for nonresidents. For more information on any event at the recreation center, call 734-721-7400.

### Trivia Night

Ss. Simon and Jude Parish will hold a Trivia Night Saturday, Jan. 11, at the church, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland.

Doors open at 6 p.m. Trivia will begin promptly at 7 p.m. The cost is \$20 per team of up to four persons and includes 10 rounds of questions, popcorn and one pepperoni pizza for each team. Beverages will be available for purchase throughout the night. There also will be a 50/50 raffle and other items for purchase.

Space is limited to the first 25 teams. No registrations will be taken at the door. To register, visit www.stssimonandjude.com/trivianight. Contact stssimonandjude@gmail.com or call Kathy Hansen at 734-716-4436 for more information.

All proceeds to the Ss. Simon and Jude Building Debt Reduction Program.

### Casino Trip

Join the Wayne Rotary Jan. 11 on its Firekeepers Casino Trip. The cost is \$35 and includes \$20 in slot play and \$5 food.

The bus departs the Banquet Center at 35000 Sims Ave. at 3 p.m. and returns at 10 p.m.

For more information or reservations, call Trish Hampton at 734-890-6934.

## BRACELET

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information on Teran.

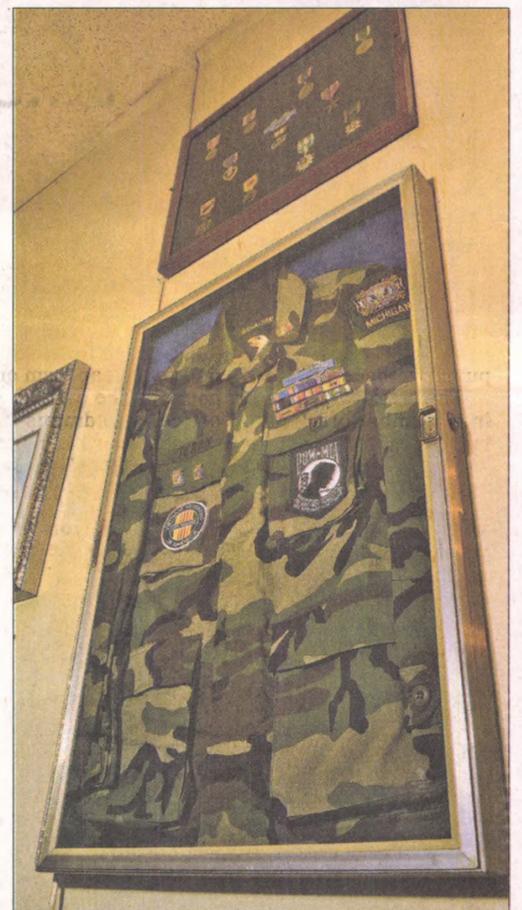
"It was one of my first Internet searches during the age of dial-up (connection). I learned basic information," Ginebaugh said. "His remains had not been returned then. Basically, I learned he died in battle."

The POW/MIA bracelet went back into Ginebaugh's jewelry box until about 18 months ago, she said, when she came up with the idea of including it on the Fabulous 50 list. "I had always wondered about this person," said Ginebaugh, who eventually contacted Westland City Clerk Eileen DeHart Schoof.

It was Schoof who then called Rick Patrny, who chairs Westland's annual POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony hosted by the Bova Post and the Westland Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America 387.

"She (Schoof) knew that I knew the Terans — both his parents have now died," Patrny said. "They would be proud that his name and memory are part of the post. On the POW flag, it says 'Never Forgotten.' This is proof of that."

Teran is a life member of the Bova Post and his uniform with medals is framed on display at the post. His remains were returned and buried at Arlington National Cemetery April 19, 2002 — nearly 32 years after his death. The POW/MIA bracelet will be added



Plans are to place the bracelet in the case with Teran's uniform. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

to the display.

### 'Sense of closure'

"It gives me a sense of closure to return the bracelet. My dad was a World War II veteran. I have huge respect for veterans," said Ginebaugh, who now lives in Rockford north of Grand Rapids.

"I'm amazed at her determination to come across the state to complete that mission," said Patrny, noting heavy snow storm that was underway that day.

A memorial marker between Westland City

Hall and the former Bailey Center remembers Teran. With City Hall relocating next year and the municipal buildings slated for demolition, Patrny said the Teran marker will be moved to the Bova Post.

The memorial will be located behind the post on Hix Road part of larger display that includes a watch tower, said Mike Rokita, post commander.

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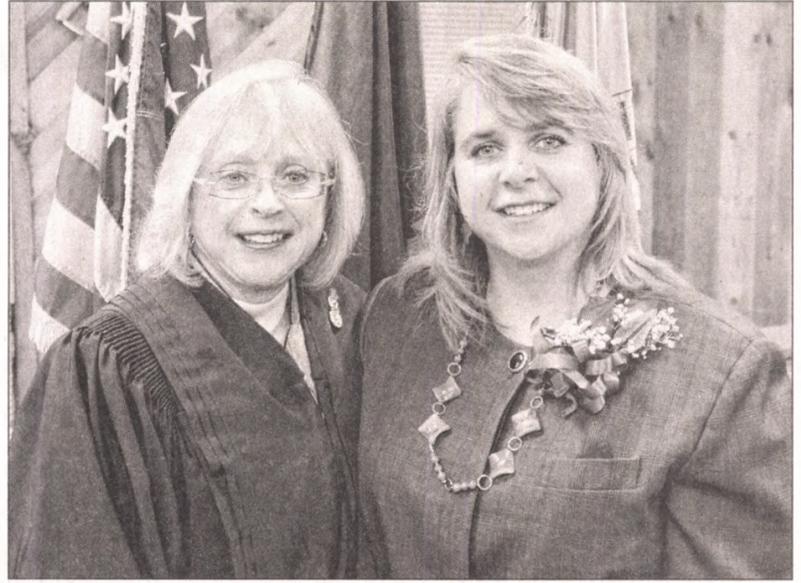
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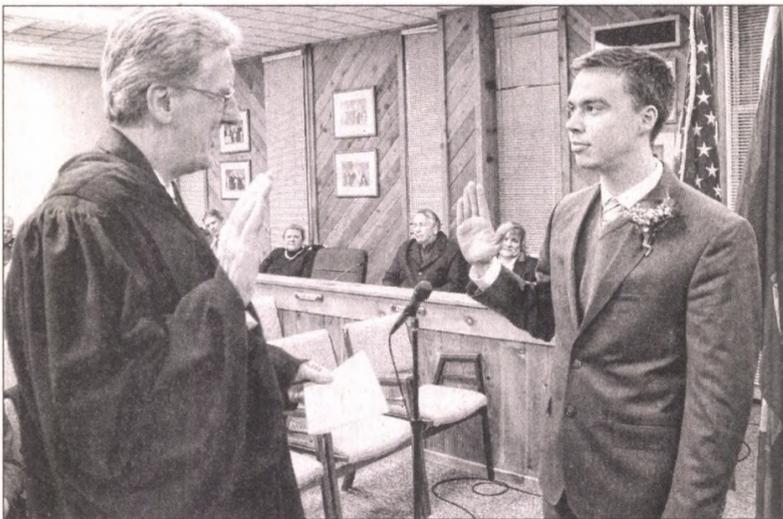
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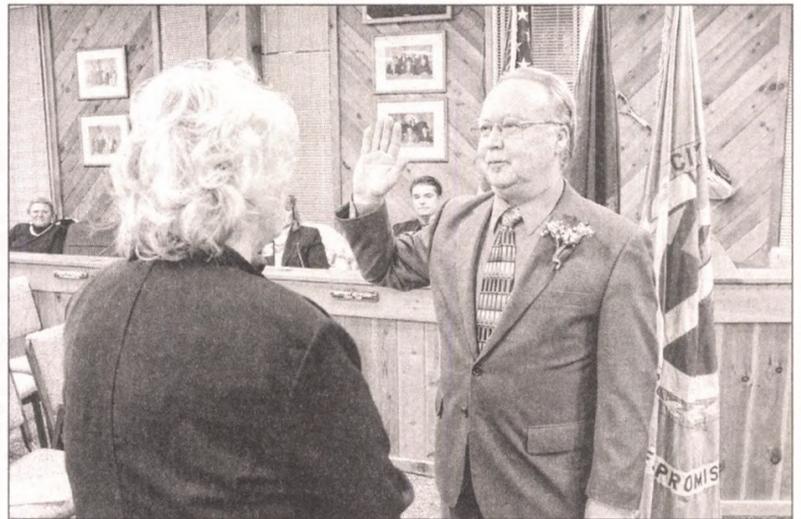
Accompanied by his wife Sherri and daughters Lily and Payton, William Wild was sworn in for a new term as Westland mayor by 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell.



Westland 18th District Court Judge Sandra Cicirelli (left) administered the public oath of office to daughter Christine Cicirelli Bryant, top council votegetter in November's election.



Newly elected Westland Councilman Kevin Coleman takes a public oath of office from Wayne County Probate Judge Milton Mack.



Returning Westland Councilman Michael Kehrer takes the oath of office from City Clerk Eileen DeHart Schoof.

# Westland mayor, council officially take office

Public swearing in ceremony held in front of friends and family

Despite snow and frigid temperatures, friends and family gathered as Mayor William Wild and members of the new Westland City Council took public oaths of office.

The officials elected in November officially took office Jan. 1 and had already been sworn in privately.

Mayor since he was appointed in 2007 and subsequently reelec-

ted, Wild was unopposed on the November ballot.

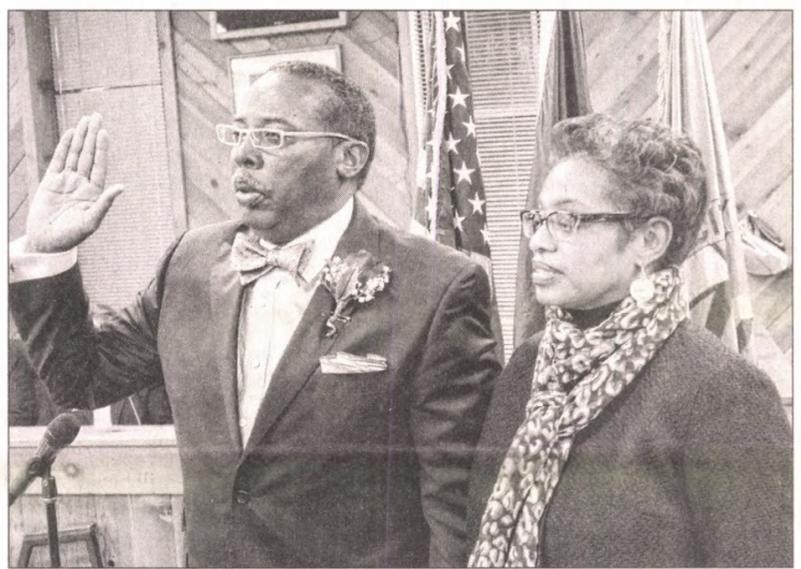
The top vote getter in the election was Christine Cicirelli Bryant, elected for a second four-year term on council. The oath of office was administered by her mother, 18th District Court Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli, who also served as mayor.

Newcomer Kevin

Coleman was also sworn in for a four-year term as was incumbent Michael Kehrer.

A third incumbent, Dewey Reeves, was sworn in for a two-year council term as the fourth-place finisher in the election.

Incumbent Meriem Kadi lost a bid for a second four-year term after finishing in fifth place in the election.



Westland Councilman Dewey Reeves takes the oath of office for a new council term accompanied by his wife Gail.

# Sen. Anderson in England to talk about energy policy

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, is participating in a special energy, environment and climate change delegation that's in London, England, this week for a conference.

The trip is being organized by the U.K. government through the embassy in Washington, D.C. Anderson is one of five

U.S. lawmakers selected to travel to England and confer with U.K. lawmakers and foreign experts on issues pertaining to energy and environmental policy.

The delegation is focusing on sharing different approaches to addressing common policy challenges and serving as an exchange of ideas between countries.

"I am honored to join this delegation and look forward to the dialogue with policy mak-

ers from the United Kingdom on important issues facing both our countries," Anderson said. "This represents a real opportunity to pool ideas and establish relationships that may help us develop superior solutions."

Recognizing the importance of protecting natural resources for Michigan's future generations, Anderson has placed a high priority on environmental protection and renewable energy alternatives during his

tenure in the State Legislature.

He has been an advocate of the need to preserve Michigan's resources, has worked both through legislative action and participation in organizations, such as the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus and National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, to develop solutions to environmental problems. It's because of that work that he gained the attention of the individuals organizing the delegation and received an

invitation to participate.

"We have things that we can learn from and things that we can share with our friends across the pond and I am looking forward to the opportunity to gain as much as possible from the relationships we will be making," Anderson said. "Our delegates will be representing the broader group of U.S. state legislators and when we return, we will be responsible for disseminating the things we learn."



Anderson

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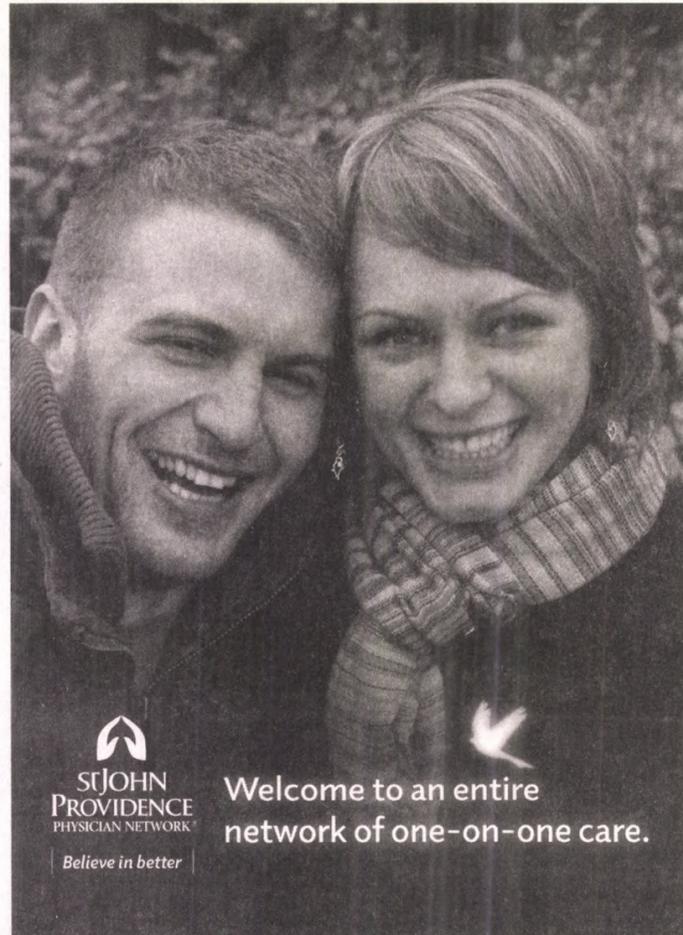
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## WESTLAND COP CALLS

## Stolen license plate

A resident of the 34000 block of Bayview reported that someone removed the license plate from her car while it was parked in the driveway between 8 p.m. Dec. 17 and 10 a.m. Dec. 18. The woman told police there was no other damage to the vehicle and nothing appeared to have been taken.

» A resident of the 600 block of Bedford Drive found her license plate missing from her vehicle Dec. 22. The woman discovered the plate missing when she went to open her trunk. She believed it was on the vehicle when she left for work in Ypsilanti on Dec. 21 and was there when she parked the car that evening.

## Vandalism

A resident of Woodcrest Villa Apartments and a Flat Rock resident reported the tires slashed on their cars overnight Dec. 18. The driver's side rear tire was slashed on one car, and the front and rear driver's side tires and rear tire on the passenger side on the other car were cut.

» Police responding to an alarm found a rock by the front door of Metro PCS, 2645 S. Wayne Road, Dec. 29. The rock apparently was thrown at the door, causing the glass to fracture. According to police, the glass didn't break and no one entered the business.

## Break-in

A resident of the 33000 block of Winchester told police that on Dec. 19 someone stole a snow blower from his unlocked garage. The man said he checked the garage at 8 a.m. and found everything to be OK, but at 9 a.m. noticed the service door pushed open. When he investigated, he found someone opened the broken garage door and took the snow blower, leaving by the service door that had been locked.

» A resident of Blue Garden Apartments, 197 Hubbard Court, reported to police that someone pried open her storage unit sometime between Dec. 7-14. The woman said a

pair of work boots, computer modem, suitcase and the top of a fish aquarium were taken from the unit a week prior to the incident.

» Copper piping was reported stolen between 5 p.m. Dec. 19 and 2 p.m. Dec. 20 from the utility room of a home in the 31000 block Barrington Drive. A rear window on the lower level of the home was broken. The home was vacant and being renovated.

## Stolen vehicle

A resident of the 34000 block of Barton told police she was awakened at 2:41 a.m. Dec. 19 and looked out to see her car turning southbound onto Wildwood. The woman had parked the vehicle in the driveway at 1:15 a.m. She was unsure if she locked it, but told police she had both sets of keys, wasn't behind on payments, and hadn't given permission to anyone to drive it.

## Larceny

The owner of a strip mall at Wayne Road and Stacy reported that copper was missing from a central heating and cooling unit on the roof above the H&R Block overnight Dec. 19. The owner said in November someone also had stolen the copper from the heating units at the Family Dollar which also is in the complex.

» The owner of Nikki's Cleaners, 8331 N. Wayne Road, told police he discovered his credit card reader/printer was missing when he tried to process a charge for a customer at 3 p.m. Dec. 21. The last receipt printed on the machine was at 10 a.m. The wires for the machine were found next to the counter.

» An employee of Diverse Property Solutions told police he went to a home in the 32000 block of Hazelwood on Dec. 18 to do an inspection and found someone had broken open the front door and stole copper plumbing throughout the house. The copper plumbing also was stolen from the air conditioning unit outside the bank-owned home.

## Larceny from a vehicle

Catalytic converters were reported stolen from three trucks parked in the secured lot at Mr. Stor-It, 5235 S. Meriman, between 6 p.m. Dec. 19 and 9:30 a.m. Dec. 21. A surveillance camera showed an unknown person near the trucks around 12:45 a.m. Dec. 20, but the individual could not be seen clearly due to the video quality. An employee also found footprints in the snow near the business's south wall.

» A Westland man told police that someone entered his unlocked car and stole a backpack while he was eating at the Applebee's Restaurant, 36457 Warren Road, Dec. 23. In the backpack was a Macy's bag containing a Sony Vio laptop computer, two bottles of Perry Ellis cologne and a home Breathalyzer machine. He told police the laptop had a Monster energy drink sticker on the cover.

» The in-dash navigation system was reported stolen from a minivan parked at Oakwood Healthcare Center, 2001 S. Merriman, Dec. 27. The owner told police she parked the van at 8:45 a.m. and when she came out at 1:30 p.m. found the driver's side window shattered and the navigation unit ripped from the center console.

» Police were called to the Heather Ridge Apartments, 36951 N. Heather Court, Dec. 28 about a car resting on cement blocks and all four tires missing. The owner, who lives at the complex, was unaware of the theft until notified by police.

## Armed robbery

A Westland woman told police she was walking to her car in the lot of CVS, 28347 Ann Arbor Trail, at 6 p.m. Dec. 29 when someone came up behind her and snatched her purse from her right shoulder. The suspect then ran north across Ann Arbor Trail. The purse contained her identification, bank cards, \$300 in cash and an Apple iPhone.

## WAYNE COP CALLS

## Break-in

Items valued at \$15,350 including two mink coats, a gold and diamond ring, a VCR, two pairs of diamond earrings, a gold tennis bracelet and a wooden jewelry box, were reported stolen Dec. 9 from a unit at the Midtown Square Apartments, 33249 Forest.

The owner told police she left her apartment just after 6:30 a.m. and returned 12 hours later to find the door closed but unlocked. She said she remembered locking the door before she left. Officers found no damage to the door and the apartment had not been ransacked.

## Vandalism

Police were called to a home in the 32000 block of Annapolis on Dec. 31 in response to a family problem. A 2012 Ford F-150 pickup truck was found to have been struck numerous times with a hammer, causing at least 10 dents on the tailgate, fenders and passenger door, police said.

When officers arrived, a man was walking on the sidewalk carrying a tool belt over his shoulder that contained a hammer and other carpentry tools. The man was intoxicated and admitted arguing with his stepfather but denied damaging the truck, police said. The stepfather told police that the younger man was waiting outside to be let in the home but the stepfather refused when he noticed the suspect was intoxicated.

Once the man's mother arrived, she and the stepfather went inside locking the door. The couple reportedly called police when they realized the suspect was damaging the truck.

When he was taken into custody, the officer reportedly located a crack pipe which was confiscated along with a hammer.

## Break-in

A resident in the 3500 block of Hannan told police

Dec. 8 that someone had broken into two storage buildings to steal collectible items valued at \$2,275.

Reported missing from one building were 15 assorted die cast car models and a 40-inch White Star limited edition 40-inch model ship. From the second building, seven sets of Mingo hand-cast lead miniature soldiers were reported stolen.

Officers noted one structure had a dead bolt lock damaged along with a latch and key pad. Entry appeared to have been made through a window on a second building.

## Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 34000 block of John told police Jan. 5 that someone had broken into a 2003 Ford Taurus overnight. The car belongs to her boyfriend and she reported that her wallet was missing from the center console.

The woman said she later found unauthorized charges made with her debit card. A car belonging to her mother was also reported ransacked but nothing was reported missing.

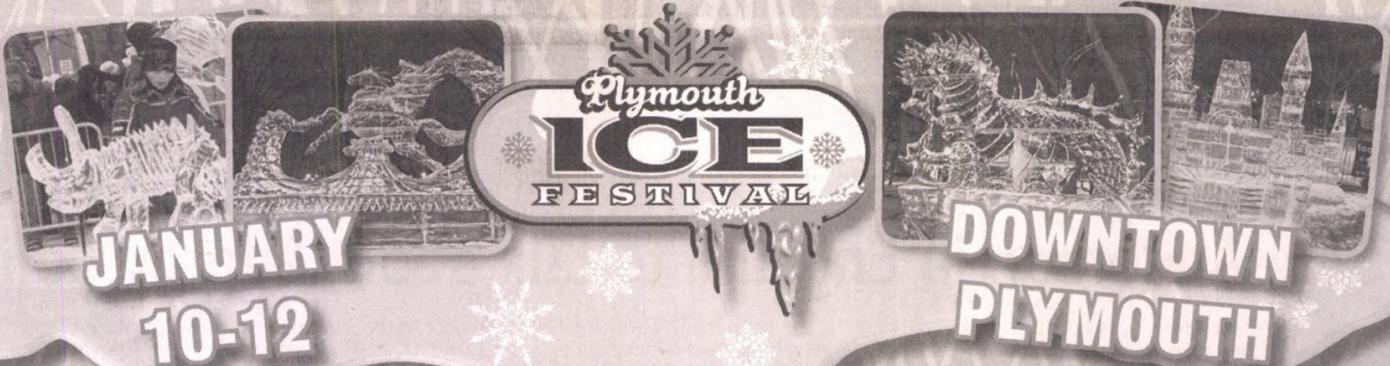
» On Jan. 5 a resident in the 32000 block of Bluebird told police that someone had stolen a large butcher knife with a plastic handle valued at \$20 from her vehicle. She said the knife had been taken to a party to cut a cake and left in the vehicle Jan. 2-3.

## Vandalism

A resident of an apartment at 35700 E. Michigan Ave. told police Jan. 5 that he is being harassed by other tenants since he has gotten his life sorted out. Some of the tenants are spreading rumors that he is a "snitch," he said.

There had been verbal confrontations, he said. On Jan. 5, he told police there was a loud bang on his apartment door. He found graffiti calling him a snitch on the hallway near his door and barbecue sauce thrown on the door and wall.

By LeAnne Rogers



JANUARY  
10-12

DOWNTOWN  
PLYMOUTH

**Friday**  
3PM - 10PM

**Saturday**  
10AM - 10PM

**Sunday**  
10AM - 6PM

## EVENTS

**Opening Ceremonies**  
Friday, 7PM

**Dueling Chainsaw Competition**  
Saturday 7PM

**College Carving Competitions**  
Saturday 9AM - 12 NOON, (Individual)  
Sunday 8AM - 12NOON (Team)

**Awards Ceremonies**  
Saturday 1PM (Individual)  
Sunday 1PM (Team)

**Cross-country skiing**  
for the kids all weekend

**Interactive Ice Carvings**  
Fire and Ice  
Towers @ night

**Ice Throne**  
Ice Bench  
Wood Carving

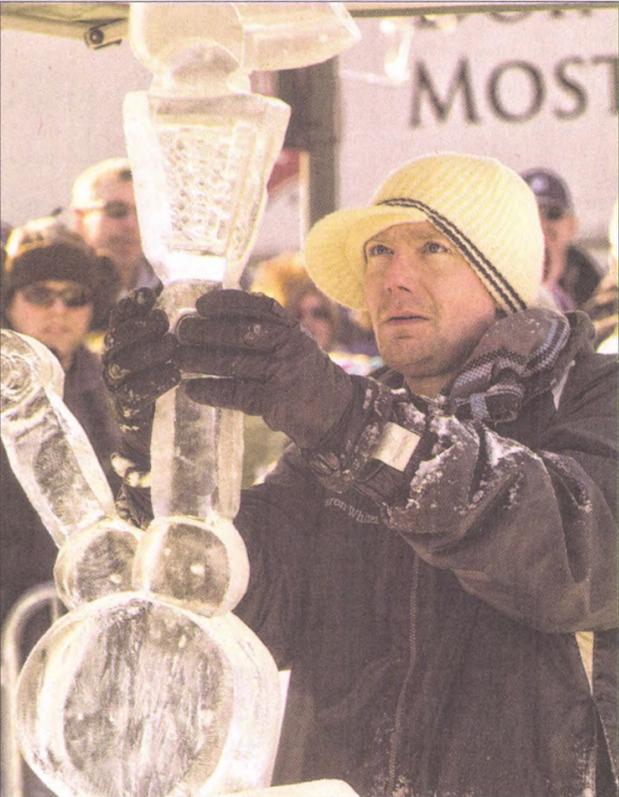
**"Hot Spot"**  
Heated Vendor  
Tent

**Interactive**  
Vendor  
Displays

**Plenty of**  
Food and  
Refreshments

PLYMOUTHICEFESTIVAL.COM

# Retooled festival 'all about the ice'



Ice carver Aaron Whitten eyes the details on the sculpture he carved at the 2012 Plymouth Ice Festival. FILE PHOTO

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

In a year when the Plymouth Ice Festival is going back to basics, organizers of the 2014 festival know exactly who the star is going to be.

The ice. Festival organizer James Gietzen, who replaced Sam Walton as the producer of the festival, admitted his first year running the event would be "something of a rebuilding year," but says visitors — and there are expected to be thousands every day — will like what they see.

The Plymouth Ice Festival, the city's 32nd such festival, kicks off Friday and runs through Sunday, Jan. 12.

"We've adopted the saying, 'It's all about the ice,'" Gietzen said.

"We're trying to do bigger ice sculptures, because the people like to see that.

"Hopefully, we'll have some bigger ice and some better ice."

While visitors will have 24/7 access to the sculptures that dot downtown Plymouth and Kellogg Park, they'll also get the chance to see some of the favorite attractions of the festival.

## College competition

Three colleges — Henry Ford Community College, Oakland County Community College and Macomb Community College — will compete in individual (Saturday) and team (Sunday) carving competitions. The fire-and-ice towers, sponsored by the restaurant E.G. Nick's, will be back, as will the ice throne.

Elegant Ice Creations in Ohio will offer interactive picture taking, while Plymouth's Sun & Snow sports gear shop will bring back its increasingly popular cross country ski trail.

Forest Avenue between Ann Arbor Trail and Wing will have an abundance of sculptures, including three 10-block sculptures sponsored by E.G. Nick's and some of its drink makers: Svedka, Labatt, Jagermeister, Black Velvet and Red Bull.

"It's the most ice that Forest Avenue's ever had," said Frank Agostini, one of the owners of E.G. Nick's.

The restaurant will also have an outdoor Ice Lounge (with portable heaters), with a bar made from blocks of ice, opening at 11 a.m. Friday and Saturday and noon Sunday, Jan. 12, and will reprise its

Party Lot outdoor festivities. The Party Lot tent will open at 7 p.m. both Friday and Saturday and Big Ray and the Motor City Kings will perform in the tent from 8 p.m. to midnight both nights. The Party Lot is not an official Ice Festival event, but has caught on big since E.G. Nick's launched it in 2010.

"It's our fifth year doing the party lot and it's become quite a hit," Agostini said.

## Focus on carving

Other festival attractions tried recently — the snowboarding hill, the skating rink and the dueling chainsaws, for instance — won't return, either because sponsorships couldn't be found or the liability was too great.

"People come to Plymouth to see the ice carving. ... That's where we have to put the money," Gietzen said. "Otherwise, people are going to be upset."

"This is a rebuilding year for the event," he added. "It's going to be more about coming down and looking at the ice than it is about having a lot of great events."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com  
313-222-8899  
Twitter: @bkadrich

## Sculptures, events to keep Ice Festival visitors busy

Here's a list of things to do during the 32nd annual Plymouth Ice Festival, which begins Friday:

### Carving contests

The 2014 Plymouth Ice Festival partners with local colleges and universities to produce the college carving competition, sponsored by Genesis Credit Union, in Kellogg Park. Watch live carving by college student participants as they compete to win a place on the podium in their sculpture category. All judging is done by experienced and professional judges.

» Saturday, Jan. 11 — College Individual Carving Competition  
» Saturday, Jan. 12 — College Team Carving Competition

### Interactive ice

Get your picture taken with some of the most amazing ice creations around. Make sure you see them all. There are a

number of opportunities to take a "selfie" with some remarkable and unique ice sculptures.

### Main Stage

The Community Financial Main Stage features live entertainment, awards ceremonies, presentations and music throughout the weekend of the festival.

### Fire and ice

See two basic elements of our world light up the night sky in downtown Plymouth. Fire and ice are combined to create a dazzling display both Friday and Saturday. Towers are lit at approximately 7:30 p.m. each evening and will burn for approximately two hours.

### Family fun

The Blue Care Network of Michigan Sports Family Fun Zone, presented by Sun & Snow Sports of Plymouth, gives visitors a chance to bring the family down to Kel-

logg Park for the opportunity to try cross country skiing. Seasoned professionals will demonstrate and explain the gear and theory of cross country skiing and then give the kids a chance to try it for themselves. This feature is open during all open hours of the event.

### Hot Spot

The DTE Energy Hot Spot Warming Tent, in The Gathering across from Kellogg Park, allows visitors to warm up in style. The Hot Spot features more than 20 local vendors and businesses, product demonstrations, a sitting area to take a load off your feet and — most importantly — lots of heat. The Hot Spot Warming Tent is open during all the official open hours of the event.

### Festival food

The Ice Festival has more than 15 different options for dining, all conveniently located

within a few steps of the main festival area. Enjoy festival favorites, such as elephant ears, popcorn, roasted almonds and hot chocolate. All food sales on-site can be enjoyed in the warmth of the DTE Energy Hot Spot, where tables and chairs are provided all weekend long.

Looking for a meal indoors? There are so many wonderful options within downtown Plymouth, from fine dining to a quick bite, candy, cookies and ice cream. Check out [www.downtownplymouth.org](http://www.downtownplymouth.org) for a complete restaurant listing.

### Party Trailer

The newest and coolest video games will be available in the MVP Game Party Trailer on Penniman. It's an enclosed (and warm) custom trailer with four 50-inch screens.

### Party Lot

For the biggest party in downtown Plymouth, head to the E.G. Nick's Party Lot on Forest Avenue for cold beer, drink specials and live music. The tent opens at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and Big Ray and the Motor City Kings will perform from 8 p.m. until mid-

night both nights.

Visitors can also hang out on the front patio to catch some heat (from portable heaters) at the Svedka Ice Lounge, featuring a bar made from blocks of ice. The lounge on Forest opens at 11 a.m. Friday and Saturday and at noon Sunday, Jan. 12.

### On screen

The Penn Theatre on Penniman Avenue in downtown Plymouth hosts showings of *Frozen*, at 7 p.m. Friday; 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday; 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12; and 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16. All seats \$3.

## Stave off cabin fever with a hobby

Happy New Year from the Wayne Public Library! January is National Hobby month. To stave off that bit of cabin fever that may start settling in with the bitter temperatures and mountains of snow that we have already experienced, try your hand at a new hobby.

If you need inspiration or how-to guides, visit the library. Whether it is cooking, baking, crafting, sewing, or even planning for that summer garden, the library is full of materials to help you with your new venture.

Do you have a young one that loves trains? Perhaps learning more about model trains would be something fun to do together this winter. A young doll enthusiast might enjoy learning how to make new doll clothes. Folks young and old love crafting; try a new craft with the family or have grandparents teach the kids something they did as children.

The words "I'm bored" may also start flying this time of year. Trying new hobbies will keep everyone amused, even a project that is a total failure can be a fun adventure. In need of a hobby suggestion? Ask the librarians at the reference desk, they can help point you in a new direction.

A new program start-

ing at the Wayne Public Library could also help fight boredom. The Library Kids Club will kick off Jan. 22. The Library Kids Club will offer children the opportunity to explore new book series through games, crafts, and read-aloud activities. The club will focus on the elementary school age children that are too old for storytime and too young for TAG!

In time the library would like to add a Lego week to each session of the Library Kids Club which will allow children to explore their creativity with both free-form building and suggested challenges. In order to add Lego week we need Legos. We are currently seeking donations of new or used Legos which can be dropped off at the library. For more information regarding children's programs or Lego donation, contact Kelly Soerens, children's librarian, at [ksoerens@wayne.lib.mi.us](mailto:ksoerens@wayne.lib.mi.us).

### Upcoming events

**TAG!**, 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15 — All teens and tweens (grades 7-12) are welcome to join the Teen Advisory Group. Share your ideas of library ideas that you would like to see in the upcoming year. Discuss new books and the Summer Reading Program. Snacks will be provided.

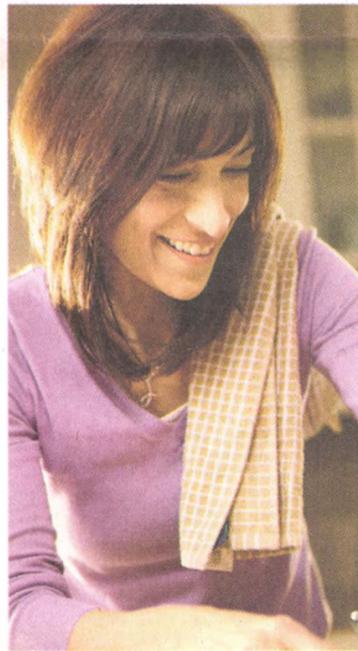
**Storytime**, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, January 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11 and 18 — Multi-age storytime is for the whole family. Join us for stories, rhymes, movement and crafts intended

to engage children and caregivers. An adult caregiver must remain with the child during the entire program. Approximately 30 minutes long. Registration is required. Sign up beginning Jan. 7.

**Library Kids Club**, 6 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19 — Starting Jan. 22 the library will begin hosting Kids Club on Wednesday nights. We will highlight different books through games, crafts, read-aloud, and other fun activities. The club is recommended for children age 7 and up. Parents will be requested to stay for Kids Club as parent participation may be necessary for some of the activities. Registration is required for this free program; sign-up begins Jan. 8. Parents interested in assisting with organizing or planning Kids Club may contact Kelly at [ksoerens@wayne.lib.mi.us](mailto:ksoerens@wayne.lib.mi.us) or 734-721-7832.

**Paddington Bear Party**, 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25 — Come in out of the cold, dreary, January weather and celebrate Paddington Bear! We'll play games, make a craft, read a story, draw for door prizes, and of course eat marmalade! Registration is required for this free program; sign up beginning Jan. 11 at the youth desk.

Information Central was compiled by Kelly K. Soerens, Children's Librarian. The Wayne Public Library is at 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne. For more information, call 734-721-7832 or visit [www.wayne.lib.mi.us](http://www.wayne.lib.mi.us).



Welcome to Oakwood's

## Wellness 101 Series

A-FIB 101

BACK PAIN 101

JOINT CLASS 101

PRIMARY CARE 101

Oakwood's Wellness 101 is a series of FREE classes designed to give you an in-depth understanding of some of the most pressing health concerns in our community.

Have your questions answered personally by Oakwood clinical experts, including primary care physicians, navigators, therapists and surgeons.

Classes are FREE and class size is limited, so please register to attend by calling 800.543.WELL (9355) or visiting [oakwood.org/classes](http://oakwood.org/classes).

**A-FIB 101** helps patients understand atrial fibrillation and how to find permanent relief — including medical management, ablation techniques and the surgical minimize procedure.

**BACK PAIN 101** simplifies the complex anatomy of the spine and discusses the latest treatment options — including medical management, physical therapy, injection therapy and surgery.

**JOINT CLASS 101** discusses common causes and treatment options for shoulder, hip and knee pain — including medical management, physical therapy, injection therapy and total joint replacement.

**PRIMARY CARE 101** explains the new Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and the 10 essential health benefits included in your new coverage. You will learn the importance of annual health screenings and how to choose a primary care physician that is right for you and your family.



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Andrew Malik of Westland takes on the sledding hill at Plymouth Township Park in spite of zero degree temperatures. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# A snowstorm to remember

**I**t was the storm everyone in southeast Michigan was expecting — and then some.

First came the snow that made driving nearly impossible, followed by frigid temperatures that added to the mess and closed schools and businesses, as well as canceling community activities.

Before the snow even hit late Saturday-early Sunday, major roads with grocery stores and gas stations were busy as shoppers stocked up for food, other supplies and gasoline. It was a just-in-case kind of move.

But there were still those who — snow and cold temperatures or not — had to brave the roads that were still being plowed early Monday as frigid weather began to set in.

Most motorists who were out Monday morning reported that the freeways, such as I-275, M-5, I-696 and I-96 were the most treacherous for driving. That didn't stop some residents from wondering when their subdivisions would be plowed.

By Tuesday, though, life in Oakland and Wayne counties was beginning to settle down — except for the arctic-like temperatures that were expected to last through Wednesday morning.



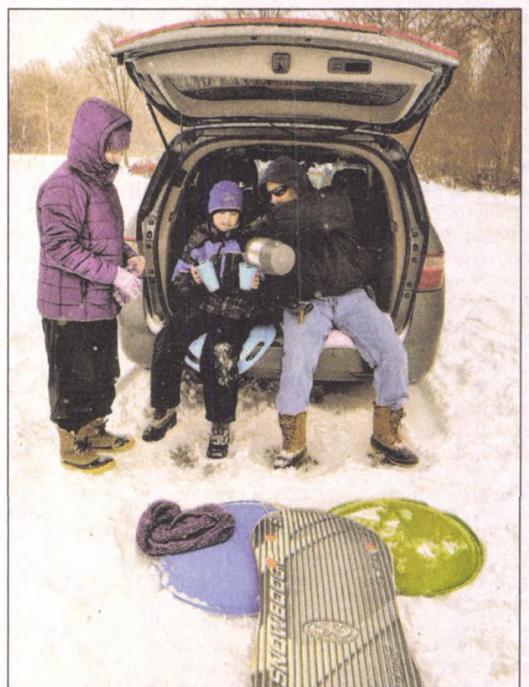
Derek and Claire Moraco, sledding in Hines Park. They are Canton Township residents. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



By 10 a.m. Monday, the winds began gusting across the rolling hills of Heritage Park in Farmington Hills. JOANNE MALISZEWSKI



It was slow going on 12 Mile in Farmington Hills Monday morning. JOANNE MALISZEWSKI



David Moraco pours hot chocolate for his children Derek, 12, and Claire, 13, during a break from sledding in Hines Park. They are from Canton. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## New owner moves franchise forward

The Livonia / Wayne – North franchise of Two Men And A Truck is under new ownership. Michael Stafford, who acquired the franchise Oct. 31, answered the following questions about the business specializing in household and commercial packing and moving services:



Stafford

**Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature.**

Two Men And A Truck is a franchised residential and commercial moving company. Our core purpose is to move people forward, and we are heavily involved in our local communities. We specialize in providing packing and moving

services, as we aim to help anyone's move go as smoothly as possible.

**What makes your business unique?**

We are constantly striving to live out our brand's culture through our tagline, "Movers Who Care." We are in the customer service business and work hard every day to continuously exceed our customer's expectations in value and a high standard of satisfaction.

**How did you first decide to open your own business?**

I had been contemplating business ownership for several years, and I have a fellow Michigan State University alum who is a Two Men And A Truck franchisee who introduced me to the enterprise. Unfortunately, there were no open territories in the area until recently, when the Livonia / Wayne – North



Two Men and a Truck employees follow the company's core values to treat everyone as if they are their Grandma.

franchise of Two Men And A Truck became available. I had been looking for an opportunity to apply my learned business skills to my own business, and I was also

extremely intrigued to own and operate a business that members of my family might one day be able to participate in, so this became the perfect venture.

**How did you decide to locate in Livonia?**

I acquired the assets of an existing franchise that has been located in Livonia for well over 10 years, and I saw the area

as a great opportunity for potential.

**Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?**

One of our core values is The Grandma Rule to treat everyone the way you would want your Grandma to be treated. What most people don't realize is that the company was founded by a family, and the franchisee family continues on with these strong values as an operating arm of the original founders.

Two Men And A Truck, 31037 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, provides moving services seven days a week. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call 734-722-6683 or visit [www.twomenandatruck.com](http://www.twomenandatruck.com).

## BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

### Attorney earns honor

Plymouth attorney Catherine L. Heise has earned the professional insurance designation of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter.

Heise, an attorney with Amerisure Insurance based in Farmington Hills, was awarded this designation by the

CEO of The Institutes, an educational organization that confers CPCU designation on persons who complete eight rigorous courses and examinations to meet its ethics and experience requirements.

All CPCU's are required to maintain and improve their professional knowledge, skills and competence through their commitment to The Institute's CPCU Code of Professional Conduct.

Heise is one of a few attorneys in Michigan with the CPCU designation. In addition to her role at Amerisure, Heise is a member of the Michigan Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery and the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' Policy Advisory Committee.

### New physicians

Garden City Hospital's medical staff is growing. Now with more than 350

physicians in 47 specialties able to serve the community, GCH has become a leader in providing quality health care and service to patients, visitors and staff. Garden City Hospital welcomes the following new medical staff members:

» Dr. Keith R. Barbour has been practicing physical medicine and rehabilitation since 1988. He is board certified by the American Academy of

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Barbour teaches manual medicine classes, and is approved by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork as a continuing education provider Category A. He has offices at Prizm Pain Specialists, 6200 N. Haggerty, Canton.

» Dr. Hadi Berry is board certified in internal medicine. He attended Nova Southeastern University Medical School and completed his residency at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Ann Arbor.

His office is located at American Internal Medicine PC, 2040 Monroe St., Suite 208, Dearborn.

» Dr. M. Salik A. Jahania is board certified in cardiac/thoracic surgery. He attended Sindh Medical College and completed his fellowship program at University of Kentucky Hospital and the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics. His clinical interests include cardiothoracic robotic surgery, surgery endo-



Jahania

vascular, and transplantation. His office is at 18181 Oakwood Blvd., Suite 102, Dearborn.

» Dr. Rossitza P. Pironkova is board certified in pediatrics. She attended Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed her internship, residency and fellowship program at Cohen Children's Medical Center. She has an office at 43380 Woodward, Suite 105, Bloomfield Hills.

### Botsford selects

Botsford Hospital Laboratory staff selected Maureen Olszewski, a nationally certified medical laboratory technician, to receive the Dr. Joseph H. Langnas Memorial Laboratory Enrichment Award.

Botsford's Department of Laboratory Services hosted the award ceremony in December, which was attended by Olszewski's co-workers, the hospital's pathology

staff, members of the Langnas family, and others.

Langnas' family established the award to support the attendance of a Botsford Hospital lab employee at a professional society educational meeting. This award honors Olszewski for outstanding dedication and commitment to patient care and the support of her department for more than 25 years since the day in 1988 when she was hired by Dr. Langnas, who was Botsford Hospital's medical director of Laboratory Services and chairman of its Pathology Department. Langnas passed away in 2005.

At Botsford, Olszew-

ski has performed countless tests on blood samples. For a quarter of a century, she has been instrumental in detecting diseases of the blood and tissues that form blood.

### Gubernatorial appointment

Farmington Hills resident Brenda Donaldson is one of three state residents appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Michigan Board of Acupuncture. Housed within the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, the 13-member board oversees the licensure and practice of acupuncture. Members serve four-year terms expiring June 30, 2017, and their appointments

are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

### New director

Special Tree Rehabilitation System, a leader in brain injury and spinal cord injury rehabilitation, has announced that Westland resident Kate McClain has joined the Romulus-based company as the new director of Workforce Engagement.

McClain was previously the human resources director at Emergency Physicians Medical Group, PC, in Ann Arbor. She is responsible for directing and developing all of Special Tree's employee engagement and workplace development programs.

Open 7 Days a Week, 11-6pm, Wednesdays 11-8pm

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## OCC offers Microsoft certification courses

Oakland Community College is offering a Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate certification course through the Microsoft IT Academy.

The class is for professionals who are already in the field and are looking for additional certifications. Those with Windows Server 2012 (Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate) certification will have Windows Server 2012 skills, which are relevant across multiple solution areas in a business environment to reduce IT costs and deliver additional business value.

A Windows Server 2012 certification qualifies for a position as a network, computer sys-

tems administrator or computer support specialist. The three courses collectively cover implementing, managing, maintaining and provisioning services and infrastructure in a Windows Server 2012 environment. IT experience and general networking and Windows knowledge is a prerequisite to attend MCSA 2012 classes.

The courses include:  
Classes are 6-10 p.m., Monday and Wednesday starting March 3 at the Orchard Ridge Campus.

» Course 20410: Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 (Exam 70-410). Course cost is \$1,580. Class is March 3 through April 2.  
» Course 20411: Ad-

ministrating Windows Server 2012 (Exam 70-411). Course cost is \$1,580. Class is April 7 through May 17.

» Course 20412: Configuring Advanced Windows Server 2012 Services (Exam 70-412). Course cost is \$1,580. Class is May 19 through June 23.

Register online at [www.oaklandcc.edu/ce](http://www.oaklandcc.edu/ce). For more information, call 248-232-4150. Courses are noncredit and offered through the Continuing Education department. Detailed course information is listed on the Continuing Education website under the subtitle: Computer Networks, click on MCSA.

## ProCam offers free camera classes

ProCam is offering two free camera classes at its Livonia facility, 34224 Plymouth Road. "Photography 101: A Crash Course for All

Digital Camera Users," will be offered 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11. A five-part series called "Get to Know Your DSLR Camera" begins 11 a.m. to

2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8. For more information, visit <http://www.eventbrite.com/o/procam-2022> 038881 or call 734-838-6900.

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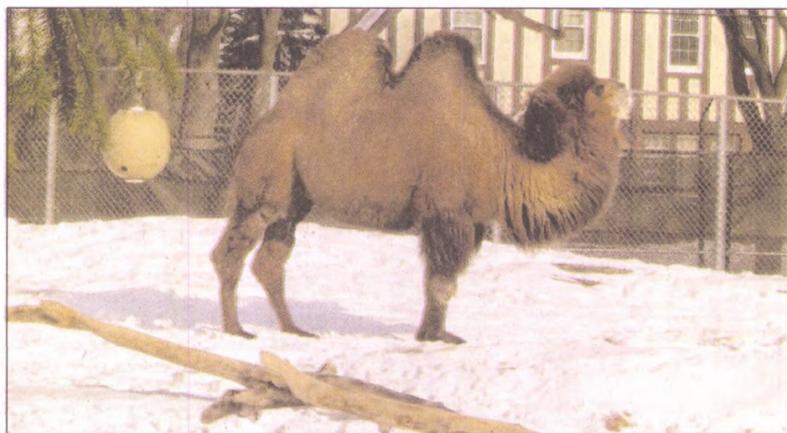
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# Warm up to winter at zoo's wild weekends



This camel at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak may not be the typical neighbor you would chat over the fence with, but you can get to know some of the residents at the zoo during Wild Winter Weekends. SANDRA ARMBRUSTER

Experience the magic of the Detroit Zoo in wintertime during Wild Winter weekends in January, February and March. The annual family-friendly events feature children's music, zookeeper talks, games and crafts. Wild Winter activities take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and are free with zoo admission.

» Wild Winter Arctic Adventure — Jan. 11 and 12

Embrace the arctic chill of winter with arts and crafts and live performances. Watch ice carving demonstrations and learn about the zoo's

arctic animals with enrichment and zoo-keeper talks.

» Wild Winter African Adventure — Feb. 8 and 9

Celebrate African-American history with an African drum lesson and hear stories by Kenyan naturalist and Detroit Zoo education specialist David Gakure. Enjoy live entertainment, arts and crafts, games and educational experiences.

» Wild Winter Safari Social — March 8 and 9

Escape the winter "blahs" with hot drinks and cool treats. Ice cream and hot cocoa

will be available for purchase at a discount. Animal arts and crafts, face painting, enrichment, zookeeper talks and a winter safari scavenger hunt add to the fun.

The Detroit Zoological Society is a non-profit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. Situated on 125 acres of naturalistic habitats, the Detroit Zoo is located at 10 Mile Road and Woodward Avenue off I-696 in Royal Oak. For more information, call 248-541-5717 or visit [www.detroitzoo.org](http://www.detroitzoo.org).

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by email at [smason@hometownlife.com](mailto:smason@hometownlife.com), 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

#### WIDOWED FRIENDS

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24.

**Location:** G Subu's, 20300 Farmington Road, south of Eight Mile, Livonia.

**Details:** Widowed Friends, a peer group of the Archdiocese of Detroit, invites widowed men and women of all ages to attend a social hour at 5 p.m. (cash bar) and family style dinner served promptly at 6 p.m. Stay for cards, games, and conversation until 9 p.m. Cost is \$18 and includes meal, beverage, dessert, tax and tip.

**Contact:** Must RSVP by Jan. 17 to Carol at 313-562-3080, Mary Ann at 313-565-5749 or Joan at 734-331-6866.

#### OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** 11 a.m. to 15 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26.

**Location:** St. Damian Catholic School, 29891 Joy, west of Middlebelt, Westland.

**Details:** St. Damian Catholic School will hold an open house as part of Catholic Schools Week. Take a guided tour of the

school, meet the staff members who will be available to answer questions/concerns or talk to other parents and students. St. Damian has interactive Smart boards in every classroom, Apple iPads and a technology lab. St. Damian also offers a latchkey program, CYO sports, foreign language, music, computers, art and physical education with more than 3 acres of outdoor sports fields. Bus transportation is available for Livonia residents and Westland residents within the Livonia School District.

**Contact:** For more information, call 734-427-1680 or visit [www.stdamianschool.com](http://www.stdamianschool.com).

#### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

**Time/Date:** 1-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2 and March 9.

**Location:** St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia.

**Details:** Widowed men and women of all ages are encouraged to attend this series which helps deal with emotions, loneliness and other issues often experienced after the loss of a spouse. There is no charge for this series which is sponsored by Widowed Friends, a "peer" support group in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

**Contact:** For more information, call Priscilla at 734-591-7879.

#### ELK FOUNDATION

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.

**Location:** Laurel Manor Banquet Center, 39000 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia.

**Details:** Twenty-third annual fundraising banquet for the Southeast Michigan Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

**Contact:** To purchase tickets, call 248-347-7622 or visit [www.rmef.org](http://www.rmef.org).

#### 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](mailto:pibbotso@aol.com) or Jo Johnson at 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. Visit [www.westlandrotary.com](http://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 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.

#### 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 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 Street 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 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 Street 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 and 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](mailto:kuschjt@yahoo.com).

#### LIONS CLUB

**Time/Date:** 11:45 a.m. the second Monday of the month and 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](http://westlandeasytalkers.toastmastersclubs.org).

#### FISH DIAL-A-RIDE

**Details:** Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers and phone messengers. Volunteer drivers, using their own vehicles, designate days, times, and areas they are willing to drive. Volunteer phone messengers arrange client rides with our volunteer drivers one day each week from the comfort of their home. Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is a not-for-profit community service that provides free door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia, and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation.

**Contact:** For more information, call 888-660-2007 and leave a message.

#### EARTH ANGELS

**Details:** Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/performance non-profit group composed of kids ages 9-16 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. 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 as well as some current fare.

**Contact:** [www.earthangelstour.org](http://www.earthangelstour.org) or email [ean-gel1986@comcast.net](mailto:ean-gel1986@comcast.net).

#### CITIZENS FOR PEACE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month.

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

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

**Contact:** Colleen Mills at 734-425-0079.

#### VETERAN'S HAVEN

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

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

#### SILVER STRINGS DULCIMER

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month.

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

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

**Contact:** 734-482-2902 or <http://geocities.com/ssdsociety>.

#### GARDEN CITY KIWANIS

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

**Location:** Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City.

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

#### GARDEN CITY ROTARY

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

**Location:** Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City.

**Details:** Community service planning, lunch and socializing are enjoyed.

#### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

**Details:** The Western Wayne affiliate of Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help with building homes, office duties and fundraising. No experience necessary. Training will be provided.

**Contact:** 734-459-7744.

#### ANNAPOLIS RETIREES

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. the first Monday of the month.

**Location:** Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, Venoy at Howe in Wayne.

**Details:** All Oakwood retirees are welcome to attend.

#### GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. third Monday of every month.

**Location:** Livonia Civic Park Senior Center on Farmington Road, south of Five Mile.

**Details:** Beginning genealogy and computer classes start at 6:30 p.m. Guests are welcome.

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# I-96 shutdown may be delayed until late March

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

The shutdown of I-96 through Redford and Livonia scheduled for this year could be for less time than originally thought.

The City of Livonia published information on its website Tuesday morning stating the seven-mile reconstruction project that would shut the freeway down completely would not begin until either March 24 or 25. The project was originally thought to be starting in late January or early February. It's still scheduled to be completed no later than mid-November.

Diane Cross, spokeswoman for the Michigan Department of Transportation, the agency overseeing the reconstruction project, said no closure date has been announced and the dates in mid-March are still not official.

"I am telling you we have not yet made an official announcement for the date," she said. "It may ultimately be true. We have not picked that as the final date."

Several players involved in the project, including the local municipalities and MDOT, met earlier this week about the project and discussed several facets of the shutdown, but nothing was made official in terms of closure dates,

Cross said.

Dave Varga, director of administrative services for the City of Livonia, said the city believed the information regarding the start date coming out of that meeting was public and only wanted to give as much time as possible for residents, commuters and businesses to prepare as one of the Metro Detroit area's major arteries is shut down.

He said many businesses are planning on moving employees and changing strategies in accordance with the shutdown, and the city wants to give them enough heads-up to plan ahead.

"It wasn't any attempt to get out ahead of MDOT and their announcement. There was a thought that the sooner we get the information out, the better," he said. "It was my understanding, based on our representative, that it wasn't a secret."

"This is the information we heard. We shared it based on the thought that it was public."

The shutdown will close the freeway from Telegraph in Redford Township to Newburgh in Livonia, and will also comprise the repair or replacement of 37 bridges along that stretch.

A final public meeting on the project is scheduled to take place from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. today at

Redford Thurston High School, 26255 Schoolcraft. It is expected that MDOT will announce the official shutdown date as well as the contractor expecting to do the work on the freeway.

Varga said while the city knows the dates could potentially change because of problems or other issues, they still wanted to alert residents and business owners as soon as possible. He said the city understands conditions for the project could change and that MDOT is the one in charge of the decisions for I-96.

"It's always subject to change and some tweaking," he said. "There's different dynamics that might be involved."

Cross said once the contract is finalized, the contractor selected will make a determination on when to shut the freeway down and begin work.

"We have to confirm that all the numbers and details in the contract that they declared they want to do can be done," she said.

"Now, this winning person makes the decision when he or she wants to close the freeway."

More information on the project can be viewed at 96fix.com.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com  
313-222-5379  
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

# Sign holder does his job, no matter the weather

By Jerry LaVaute  
Correspondent

When you first see him, he's a forehead and a pair of eyes peeking above a tall yellow rectangular sign. Often, he wears a red cap on his head.

But as you pass the Livonia Lube Center at 35989 Plymouth Road each day, across from the Ford Transmission Plant, there he is - again.

He moves a bit behind the large plastic sign. Ah, he's standing there promoting the business to passersby.

He is there virtually the entire day. He stands in rain, in snow, in sub-freezing temperatures, in winds that on some days reach gusts of 40 mph, the sometimes-insufferable heat and bright sunlight in July - any and every kind of weather.

It's the high wind that's the worst, he says. He struggles to grip the sign as the wind blows. In cold weather, he wears four layers of clothing on his upper torso. When it rains, he holds an umbrella with one hand, the sign with the other.

Who is he? He is Charles Echols, and in what has to be a record for fortitude and dedication to a tough assignment, he has done this now for well over three years.

Echols, 49, works holding that sign six days each week, Monday - Saturday, from 8 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. each day.

He had the day off Monday of this week following the giant snowstorm, but he was back Tuesday ready to work even though the temperature and wind chill

dropped to record sub-zero lows. "He wouldn't let me out," he said of his boss, adding he wanted to work. "They let me come in for the day."

But he was back holding the sign on Wednesday, coming into the shop for regular breaks. When the snow is deep, like it is this week, he shovels out a spot to stand in.

Echols lives with his mother in Detroit, and supports a 5-year-old stepson who lives with his own mom, also in Detroit. He often rides a bicycle to and from work.

The sign he holds is lettering printed on a thin plastic sheet, its structure reinforced by a frame of attached two-by-fours.

Among the physical realities that affect him every day at work, Echols knows that the bottom two-by-four will eventually wear down the toe box of his shoe, normally a boot but today a black athletic shoe. The boots are worn out, he says.

He pointed to an area in the upper left of the sign that had recently been hit by a stone hurled from Plymouth Road. The stone cracked a small portion of the sign, in what had to feel like a reminder of the danger he's exposed to each day. What if the stone had hit him?

Eddie Beydoun, manager of the Livonia Lube Center, said Echols has been with him since the day he opened. "He's a good guy," he said.

How do people react as they drive by? It runs the gamut, Echols says. Some drivers wave or honk their horns, greeting him each day. A car with three youths that passes by will sometimes swear at him,

and give him the finger. Once, he says, they threw a cup of coffee at him as they drove by. But he's not an angry man, you can see. He is quietly philosophical about his job.

Once, before the holidays, a Ford employee from across the road stopped and gave him a turkey and \$100. Echols was grateful.

Sometimes, he counts the passing cars to relieve the boredom. It's hard to do much else, in addition to holding the sign.

Has he achieved the objective - has he improved the oil change and car wash business by increasing sales volume? He thinks so, saying, "It's picked up a lot."

Echols' fortitude in facing southeastern Michigan's weather each day is noteworthy, perhaps carrying a lesson learned for each of us. In the 42 months since he began, he's held that sign for 10,000 hours.

He's remarkably cheerful about it: "This job is treating me all right," he says, without a moment's hesitation.

Jerry LaVaute is a Belleville-area freelance reporter. This story, added to and edited for the Observer by staff writer Karen Smith, was first published in a newsletter for Ford's Automatic Transmission Design organization. After reading it, several employees stepped forward to purchase Echols insulated, waterproof boots with a plastic toe cap to keep his feet warm on bitterly cold days. They also gave him some cash for Christmas, which he used for a gift for his stepson.

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**ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:** Interested persons may review the application (www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering the filing number. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review (www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. **HISTORIC PROPERTIES EFFECTS:** Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Allie McDavid, Trileaf Corp., 1821 Walden Office Square, Ste. 510, Schaumburg, IL 60173, a.mcdavid@trileaf.com, 630-227-0202.

## OUR VIEWS

# ARCTIC BLAST

### Thank DPW crews for keeping us safe on the roads

As we remain in the grips of a snowy, sometimes downright frigid Michigan winter, there's a group of men and women whom we all need to thank for keeping our roads passable and for keeping us all safe as we go about our work and our lives.

Public works crews in Garden City, Wayne and Westland have had, particularly since New Year's Eve, few hours of sleep or time with their families. Regardless of the hour or weather conditions, crews have arrived at work to man the massive snowplows and salt trucks. And when we're all getting ready for a good night's sleep, the crews are out again making sure the roads are safe for when we awake and head to work and school.

As a community, let's give these hard-working crews a big round of applause, not only for the hours they have spent working on only a few hours of sleep, but for truly caring that the rest of us safely reach our destinations as the snow, wind and cold temperatures pound away.

**Let's give these hardworking crews a big round of applause, not only for the hours they have spent working.**

While we are thanking them, let's also help them. All homeowners and motorists can make crews' work lives easier and safer by remembering some important tips.

Above all, give way when you see a snowplow. They are massive vehicles and cannot stop on a dime. Motorists' lightning fast maneuvers to speed around a snowplow creates distraction and danger. Give the snowplow plenty of room so crews can do their jobs — it's for your safety.

Safe driving for the winter conditions will ensure not only your safety, but others who share the road with you — including the DPS crews. Let's all be mindful of keeping not only ourselves safe, but others, as well.

This past weekend when southeast Michigan was hit with about a foot or more of snow in some areas, Garden City, Wayne and Westland declared snow emergencies. That means everyone must remove their vehicles from the roads to make way for the snow plows. It's difficult and dangerous for the snowplows to make their way around parked vehicles.

When the snow falls, it's hard to resist picking up the shovel or starting the snowblower. Be sure, however, not to move your snow into the road. It just makes it tougher for other drivers and for the DPS crews. While you're at it, be sure your kids are not playing in the snowbanks near roads.

DPS crews are all too familiar with homeowners' complaints that as the roads are plowed, snow piles up at the end of driveways. There's nothing that can be done about that — if you want your roads cleared. Wait until the plow comes through before you start your own driveway clearing. That way, you don't have to repeat your efforts.

Help out the Garden City Fire Department and the Wayne-Westland Fire Authority by ensuring that snow is cleared away from fire hydrants. You will be thankful that firefighters can reach a hydrant, if a fire breaks out.

Let's all pitch in to help each other during severe weather and to make it safe and easier for DPS crews to do their work. We count on them to keep us safe and they should be able to count on us to allow them to do their jobs.



It might look like fun, but plowing the roads isn't easy, especially when motorists are trying to speed around them.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Do ads reflect society?

I was watching the *Wizard of Oz* — the old version — with my family. Suddenly the bottom third of the screen displayed the words *Cold Justice* in white letters on a blood red background. It faded away.

After the next commercial set, the bottom third of the screen displayed the words *Major Crimes* in white letters on a blood red background. It faded away.

During the next commercial breaks one of the coming attractions featured a woman bent over the back of another woman. She had in her hand a clawed carpenter's hammer. The woman raised the hammer and brought the front flat head of it down on the back round head of the other woman.

Then the *Wizard of Oz* recommenced.

In the past few days on television, I have seen brief sets of stories about mobs of lunatics in India burning American flags because their hypocritical and well paid diplomat in New York was arrested. I saw Vladimir Putin defend laws against homosexuality, and, of course, more news featuring our fearless leader President Obama apologizing.

Is it the advertisers? The media? Are these images really reflecting our society at its best?

Alfred Brock  
Wayne

### Expand Fermi 2 evacuation zone

For almost three years now, I have been following the disaster at the Fukushima nuclear station. The Unit 4 reactor is still being stabilized, and the troubles are not over. Our country's West Coast is being contaminated by radioactive materials going into the ocean from that reactor.

Those Fukushima reactors are Mark I's, built by General Electric. Fermi 2 is the largest Mark I reactor in the world, bigger than all four of the Fukushima reactors put together. Mark I's store their waste on upper floors of the reactor building instead of ground level.

One thing we learned from this disaster is that people were evacuated from a 12-mile radius, and farther in wind direction. DTE Energy's evacuation plan for Fermi 2 only covers a 10-mile area. So, what are those of us within a 50-mile radius (which takes in Detroit, Toledo, Windsor, and surrounding communities)

supposed to do in case of a Fermi 2 meltdown and the wind blowing in our direction?

In DTE's Fermi 2 Emergency Preparedness booklet, there are Potassium Iodide (KI) vouchers for people within the 10-mile radius of Fermi 2. KI protects the thyroid gland from radioactive iodine. I'd say considering the size of Fermi 2, DTE should provide KI tablets to everyone with at least a 25-mile radius, if not a 50-mile.

God forbid a disaster would occur at Fermi 2, but to be on the safe side, we should be as prepared as possible. I call on all our political leaders to urge DTE Energy to extend their evacuation zone to a more realistic radius.

Jessie Pauline Collins  
Redford

### No 'surplus' in state budget

The *Detroit Free Press* headline in the Jan. 3, 2014, edition stated that Michigan revenues were up \$1.3 billion over expectations and that state lawmakers were scrambling to put into place a state tax cut for the middle class, not corporations, but for middle-class taxpayers.

This implies that we have a surplus, but we don't have a surplus. It's \$1.3 billion over expectations.

We will not have a surplus until: (1) We return to previous levels of revenue sharing for our cities; (2) return previous levels of state monies to our schools; and (3) stop taxing retirees.

Those stop-gap measures have created untold hardships for our cities, our schools and our citizens. The bottom line is this, Lansing: Stop playing politics by promising tax cuts that in the long run will cause more budget cuts and hardships, and instead use the money that is "over expectations" to ease some of the hardship and get the state of Michigan back on its feet.

Ernest Roy  
Livonia

### Expand domestic energy

On Dec. 5, this newspaper printed a letter, "Fox in hen house." The writer asserted "...our Tea Partying lawmakers have expanded their pool of potential employers to include the Michigan Oil and Gas Association," without providing any evidence or describing what his issue is. One has to do extensive research to determine the basis for his complaint, or are we just to accept his "talking points?"

## GUEST COLUMN

# ENDA's passage honors our founding ideals

This nation began not as merely a plot of land or as a group of people united by language or ethnicity. It began with an idea: "That all men are created equal." Our story since Thomas Jefferson wrote those words has been a story of progress toward honoring what has been called "the immortal phrase."

A few weeks ago, the Senate voted to move our nation one important step forward in honoring the truth of those words by finally passing the Employment Nondiscrimination Act or ENDA. This legislation would ensure that no American is deprived of the opportunity to work — the opportunity to succeed — merely because of sexual orientation or gender identity, just as we have acted to protect that opportunity against discrimination based on age, race, color, religion, national origin or disability.

This legislation is carefully crafted to protect the sincere religious beliefs many Americans hold. It embodies a simple but powerful American ideal: On the job, what matters is your work, not your gender or skin color or faith or your sexual orientation, any other extraneous matter.

There may have been times in the past when the Congress pushed Americans into new and perhaps uncomfortable territory in the march toward equality. But today, the law lags public opinion in this area. Public opinion polls show that roughly seven in 10 Americans believe workplace discrimination against gays, les-



Sen. Carl Levin

*There may have been times in the past when the Congress pushed Americans into new and perhaps uncomfortable territory in the march toward equality. But today, the law lags public opinion in this area.*

bians and transgendered individuals should be against the law. In fact, they think it already is — according to one poll, 80 percent of Americans believe such discrimination is already a violation of federal law.

And support for ENDA is not confined to one region of the country — polls show that majorities in every state in the union support it, including Michigan, where more than 30 municipalities already have local statutes prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation. So passage of ENDA is not some bold social experiment or engineering process. It is what the American people want and are ready for.

That is as true today as it was in 1996, the last time the Senate held a vote on this mea-

But, is this anything like the unions, the teachers associations, the abortionists, the atheists and other special interests owning the Democrat Party?

Senator Colbeck does not pick and choose special interest groups to support; he researches issues that his committee is involved in and legislation he votes on. Both Consumers Energy and DTE Energy in the Lower Peninsula have announced the closure of numerous coal-fired power plants; We Energy is closing a plant in the Upper Peninsula; causing loss of thousands of jobs (coal being the lowest cost source of energy). The cost of energy continues to increase, with the cost of electricity increasing by 42 percent nationally in the last 10 years, as coal is penalized, and as very expensive solar and wind power systems were installed. The majority of solar panels and wind turbines and generators are made overseas at the expense of American jobs.

Extensively researched, there are many misconceptions of energy sources for vehicles: the cost of corn has increased substantially, a major world food source, causing protests in numerous countries as it is also used for the production of ethanol which is added to gasoline (numerous experts claim is a serious mistake). Hydrogen is very costly, being a vapor, has to be pressurized to about 5,000 psi, stored in special tanks and if used in automobiles requires special fueling equipment. The same is true for natural gas which again is a vapor, not a liquid like gasoline, pressurized to about 1,500 psi, also requiring special fueling equipment.

In addition, when in a hydrogen or natural gas fueled vehicle, if one runs out while traveling, expensive special refueling trucks are required to come to you to refuel your vehicle, also very costly. Electric vehicles have limited range, have proven to be expensive, with battery power storage a major problem and would not experience the present sales level without the costly government rebates.

Domestic energy sources, such as hydroelectric power generation, which is very inexpensive, very clean, very reliable and grossly underfunded, as well as clean natural gas for generating electricity need to be expanded.

Michael Hansel  
Canton Township

sure. Even then, a majority of Americans supported it, and just as today, it enjoyed the support of a diverse group of religious and business organizations. Then, as today, American businesses recognized that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity is just bad business.

This is also not a partisan issue. The Senate's bipartisan vote was possible because members of both parties showed principled leadership and dedication.

But the ultimate reason I have supported this legislation for decades now is not related to public opinion polls or endorsement letters from churches and corporations, though those are heartening and welcome. Simply, it is wrong to deny employment to anyone who can do the job, just because of their sexual orientation. "All men are created equal" means giving every American the opportunity to earn what their talents and dedication allow, to provide for themselves and their families. Denying anyone that right is at odds with the ideals on which this country was founded and on which it depends today.

I was proud to vote for this legislation. I have urged the leaders of the House of Representatives to recognize just how far behind the American people they have fallen on this issue and bring the Employee Nondiscrimination Act to the House floor for a vote.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan.

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\*Source: Monthly unique visitors, comScore Multi-Platform Report, March 2013

# Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights



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\* Winner's parents may need to complete a waiver and registration online at skyzone.com before admission.

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 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 \*Parent's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the form and have your parents fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail. It's that easy!

\* Required for Birthday Club

## YEAR IN REVIEW



## When I Grow Up

**Trent Griffith**  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade at Adams Upper Elementary School in Westland

When I grow up, I want to become a chemist. In case you don't know what a chemist is, I'll explain it. A chemist can be someone who develops a synthetic fiber that can stop a bullet, find out how to make hair-gel work better, discover new medicines that cease pain or even cure diseases, or create new processes that solved then world's energy crisis.

As you can see, a chemist can do many things, which is why this career interests me. I enjoy having a choice in what I do. If I become a chemist, preferably, I'd like to work for the CDC (Center of Disease Control) and figure out a cure for the flu or another dreaded disease. Germs seem like an interesting thing to learn about because I think it is fascinating to know how much life is everywhere, yet you can't see it. Also, I would like to hear what others think of diseases and how to make treatments for them. That is why a chemist would be a great job to have when I grow up.

## SHARE YOUR TALENT

Do you write, draw, make crafts, take photographs, or do something else that you would like others to know about?



We may share your extraordinary talent in an upcoming Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

## When I Grow Up



**Brooklynn Crews**  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade at Adams Upper Elementary School in Westland

After sleepless nights of studying at the last minute before a test and years of nearly dozing off on the school desk, my desired occupation is to become an athletic trainer. I realized that continuing a life surrounded by education is not exactly on my favorites list. I've had past dreams of becoming a veterinarian to aid pets but with my hobbies and talents of running and hockey I do day-to-day, I've changed ambitions.

I believe that running and hockey have had the most impact on my change of paths. I can't go through more than 24-hours without putting one foot in front of the other or shooting a puck. How do you expect a young girl who has worked so hard on developing her future dream, to just leave everything behind and do a job that in the end might not work out as planned?

One of my strengths is my agility. I can outrun most girls and boys my age. Also, I'm smaller than other people which gives me an advantage to run faster than they can. With my unflinching determination, I believe I'll have the courage to achieve my future dream.



## BIRTHDAY WISHES

David	Koff	Novi	1	1
Madelynn	Richard	Garden City	1	7
Abigail	Brimwell	Northville	1	11
Bradley	White	Canton	1	12
Hope	Drogmiller	Novi	1	13
Preston	Bognear	Wayne	1	21
Brandon	Lewandowski	Garden City	1	23
Janay	McCall	Redford	1	30

## New Year's Word Find

Just in time for New Year's Day, find the hidden words in the puzzle.

BALL	CONFETTI	NEW PARTY
BALLONS	DANCING	RESOLUTIONS
CELEBRATE	JANUARY	YEAR
CHAMPAGNE	MIDNIGHT	

R	Q	O	F	F	R	P	J	Z	E	M	J
Y	S	Z	M	D	B	A	J	N	T	I	A
P	S	N	L	X	N	X	G	H	A	D	P
H	B	P	O	U	Y	A	V	J	R	N	F
Y	W	A	A	I	P	C	L	S	B	I	B
W	T	R	L	M	T	L	P	X	E	G	K
A	Y	R	A	L	A	U	Q	O	L	H	T
U	K	H	A	B	O	E	L	G	E	T	F
I	C	W	W	P	M	O	M	O	C	R	U
G	N	I	C	N	A	D	N	D	S	A	Q
C	O	N	F	E	T	T	I	S	N	E	W
G	D	S	R	H	C	V	Q	U	N	Y	R

Mail contest entries, birthday forms and talent submissions to: **Scoop the Newshound, Observer & Eccentric Media, 615 W. Lafayette, Detroit Mi 48226 or email your submission to cbjordan@hometownlife.com by January 28<sup>th</sup>**  
 Winning submissions will be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.



## Cassar seizes the challenge

Churchill grad new coach of MLS Real Salt Lake

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

Along way from his playing days as an All-State goalkeeper, Jeff Cassar probably never envisioned taking over one of the model franchises in Major League Soccer.

"Back then I was never thinking of being a professional coach," said the 1992 Livonia Churchill High grad, who was recently named head coach of the MLS Real Salt Lake. "I really enjoyed working with

the youth in the area. When even when I was assisting here I would help out with some club teams in the area. When I picked up a really serious injury to my hip I started thinking, you know, 'What am I going to do when I'm done playing?' When that started to happen and when I started to see that the playing career was going to come to an end, it was something that I always wanted to do. But really had an amazing opportunity with RSL."

After serving seven years as an assistant at RSL, the 39-year-old Cassar takes over the reins from Jason Kreis,

who stepped down to launch a new New York City MLS expansion team owned by Manchester United and scheduled to play in 2015.

Cassar's job is to continue to steer an RSL ship in the right direction. Last season, Real Salt Lake reached the MLS Cup final before losing to Sporting FC Kansas City in a shootout. Real Salt Lake also fell to DC United in the 100th Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup final.

### Talented squad

"We have a fantastic team here at RSL," said Cassar, who

See CASSAR, Page B4

Livonia Churchill High grad Jeff Cassar is the new head coach of the MLS Real Salt Lake. RUSS ISABELLA | USA TODAY



Livonia native Ryan Kesler will be making his second straight appearance on the USA men's hockey team at the Sochi Winter Olympics. GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

## KESLER GOES FOR THE GOLD AGAIN

Canucks center anticipates trip to Sochi Games

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

**R**yan Kesler's resumé when it comes wearing the Red, White and Blue in international hockey competition is pretty darn impressive.

He's represented the U.S. in five International Ice Hockey Federation-sanctioned events winning one World Under-18 Championship gold medal, one World Junior Championships gold medal and the 2010 Winter Olympics silver medal. He also participated in the 2001 World U-17 Hockey Challenge and won a gold as well.

So to nobody's surprise, the 29-year-old Livonia native and center for the NHL's Vancouver Canucks is off next month to Sochi, Russia, to represent Team USA again for his second straight Olympics.

The announcement was made Jan. 1 following the NHL's Winter Classic in Ann Arbor and Kesler will be wearing his signature No. 17.

"I think they did a good job of putting us together," said Kesler, who had two goals in six games in the Vancouver Olympics. "We have a lot of faces that weren't there when we were on the silver medal the last time around. We added some young guys that are playing exceptional this year, so I think you always need that youthful energy to be in the lineup and I think it will help tremendously."



Kesler

### Select company

Kesler, a 2002 Churchill High grad, is only one of three Livonians (Al Iafate, 1984; and Mark Beaufait, 1994) to play for the U.S. men's

hockey team.

Growing up in the U.S. Junior National Team Development program in Ann Arbor, Kesler has played in his fair share of international games, including a couple of stints in Russia.

"We get to play the host country again, so those are always fun games to get up for," Kesler said. "It's going to be a blast. I heard the Olympic Village is extremely nice over there and I'm looking forward to seeing it."

Despite suffering a heartbreaking 3-2 overtime loss to Team Canada in the gold medal game in 2010, Kesler can't get enough of the Olympic atmosphere.

"I think it's great," he said. "The last time in Vancouver those experiences were definitely the best I've had in hockey. It was a ton of fun. The guys were great and we were successful to

See KESLER, Page B3

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## PREP BOWLING

# Glenn girls win Ladywood Holiday title

## Rockets pull out crown by 1 pin vs. Farmington-Harrison

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

It couldn't have gotten any closer to determine the girls team champion of the 2014 Livonia Ladywood Holiday bowling tournament held Saturday at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton.

And when the final count was tallied, Westland John Glenn emerged as the winner by a single pin over Farmington-Harrison, 3,366-3,365.

Canton took third with 3,046 followed by North Farmington (3,020) and Farmington Hills Mercy (2,999) rounding out the top five.

Other area finishers in the field of 20 included Wayne Memorial, 10th (2,766); Salem, 13th (2,634); and the host Blazers, 16th (2,444).

Glenn had a regular three-game total of 2,621, including a Game 3 best of 890. The Rockets posted a four-game Baker set of 745, including a 196 in Game Two.

Farmington-Harrison, meanwhile, had a regular three-game total of 2,690, including a 938 in Game Two, but faltered in the four-game Baker set with a 675.

"It went down to the very last Baker game," Glenn coach Ralph Cabildo said. "This tournament gave all the teams the opportunity to play on the 'Middle Road' oil pattern, which will be the regional and state (finals) oil pattern."

Farmington-Harrison's Candyce Bradley was the individual leader on the day with a 618 three-game series, including a tourney high game of 256.

John Glenn's Olivia Cabildo was runner-up with a 593, including a high of 212.

Other top finishers for Glenn included Julia Huren, seventh (553); Jessica Pate, 16th (519); Emily Dietz, 17th (516); and Ashley Kolb, 41st (440).

Also named to the all-tournament team along with Bradley and Cabildo were Canton's Brianna Bailey (587) and Megan Macunovich (580), along with South Lyon's Morgan Hatton (564).

Gabby Charon was Wayne's top finisher with a 513, including a 202 game. Teammate Christina O'Harris took 23rd with a 502.

Ladywood's Sabine Hutter was 20th with a 512 and led all competitors with a

213 Game Three.

### Canton rules boys division

Canton shot a 3,496 to earn the boys tourney title over St. Clair Shores Lakeview (3,428) and Wayne Memorial (3,418) at the Ladywood Holiday Tournament.

Other area finishers included Salem, fourth (3,401); John Glenn, fifth (3,397); Novi Detroit Catholic Central, sixth (3,396); Farmington-Harrison, 12th (3,184); and North Farmington, 15th (3,044).

Lakeview's Mitchell Cunha was the individual winner with a 663 series including a high game of 273.

Wayne's Kody Wojewski was runner-up with a 644, including a high game of 253.

Also earning all-tournament honors included South Lyon's Tyler Magee (619), Salem's Steve Cadwell (613) and CC's Joe Alvord (602).

Other top finishers for Wayne included John Willet in 13th (557) and Conner Weber in 29th (527).

Glenn's top bowler was Nick Bell, who placed seventh with 582 including a 256 game. Mike Russum added an 11th (557), while Steve Brusseau took 16th (527), including a 227 game.

## PREP WRESTLING

# Shamrock Invitational brings out best

## Lowell dominates for team title; Glenn 10th

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

The competition was stiff as always in Saturday's annual Novi Detroit Catholic Central Invitational wrestling tournament.

Lowell was the runaway team champion in the 18-school field with 220 points with the host Shamrocks (146.5), Hudson (132.3), Toledo Central Catholic (127) and Allegan (127) rounding out the top five.

Westland John Glenn finished 10th overall with 87 points, while Livonia Franklin added a 16th with 62.

Glenn's top finisher was 215-pounder Jordan Brandon, a senior who took second after losing a 3-2 decision in the finals to Lowell's Josh Colegrove.

Brandon, a state runner-up last year at 215, went 3-1 on the day.

Earning thirds for the Rockets included Kevin Hunyh (125), Chase Spanos (119), both going 4-1, along with John Siemasz (103), who went 3-1.

Both Payton Beneteau (130) and Tunde Alawode (140) each added sevenths for Glenn.

Franklin's Jordan Atienza (160) captured four straight matches to bring home the title. Last year's state runner-up at 152, Atienza remained unbeaten this season after scoring a 10-7 decision over Macomb Dakota's Jake Johnson in the finals.

Other top finishers for the Patriots included Nick Roberston (130), sixth; Nathan Atienza (125), seventh; and Kenneth Steele (145), eighth.

### Wyandotte Tournament

Hartland scored a team-high 264.5 points Saturday to capture the 17-school Wyandotte Roosevelt Invitational.

The Eagles finished first in five weight classes and added runner-up finishes in five others.

Belleville (156.5), Dearborn Heights Annapolis (134), Riverview (126) and Utica Ford (123.5) rounded out the top five.

Wayne Memorial, getting a boost from 285-pounder Aaron Mauldin, took sixth with 119 points.

Mauldin pinned Hartland's Josh Charneski in 5:45 to finish 3-0 on the day.

Other top finishers for the Wolfpack included Tim Way (119) and Tyler Mulligan (125), third; Aaron Heinonen (152) and Sam Moody (215), fourth; and Dom Sanders (130), fifth.

Livonia Churchill, led by 119-pounder Josh Perez, scored 61 points to place 10th in the team standings.

Perez, a senior captain, decided on Belleville's Chris Brown, 11-8, in the finals after a 5-1 semifinal victory over Way.

Other placers for the Chargers included Ethan Englehart (112) and Baker Hadwan (189), fourth; and Jake Mercieca (285), sixth.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Churchill Hall of Fame

The 12th annual Livonia Churchill Athletics Hall of Fame induction dinner, put on by the Churchill Athletic Patrons, will be at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 20, at the Italian-American Hall, 39200 Five Mile, Livonia.

Dinner starts at 6:45 followed by the program from 7:30-9 p.m.

Among the inductees will be the 2006 Churchill Division 1 state runner-up cross country team (coached by Sue Tatro); football and baseball player John Stoitsiadis (1986); along with former Churchill Principal Rod Hosman.

Tickets are \$35 each (if purchased by March 1) or \$40 (after March 1).

For more information, call Rob Suida at 313-617-5448 or email rsuida@csmenergy.com.

### MU softball camps

Madonna University women's softball coach Jerry Abraham will stage a fundamentals camp from 8:30-11:30 a.m. along with a pitching camp (all ages) from noon to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, 18 and 25, at the MU Activities Center.

The cost is \$25 per session or \$75 for all three. You can register at the door.

For more information, email Abraham at jabraham@madonna.edu, or call 734-432-5612.

### Free-throw contest

The annual Knights of Columbus Youth Free Throw Championship for boys and girls ages 9-14 will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19, at St. Thomas a'Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton.

Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. and the contest is free.

All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation.

Contestants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

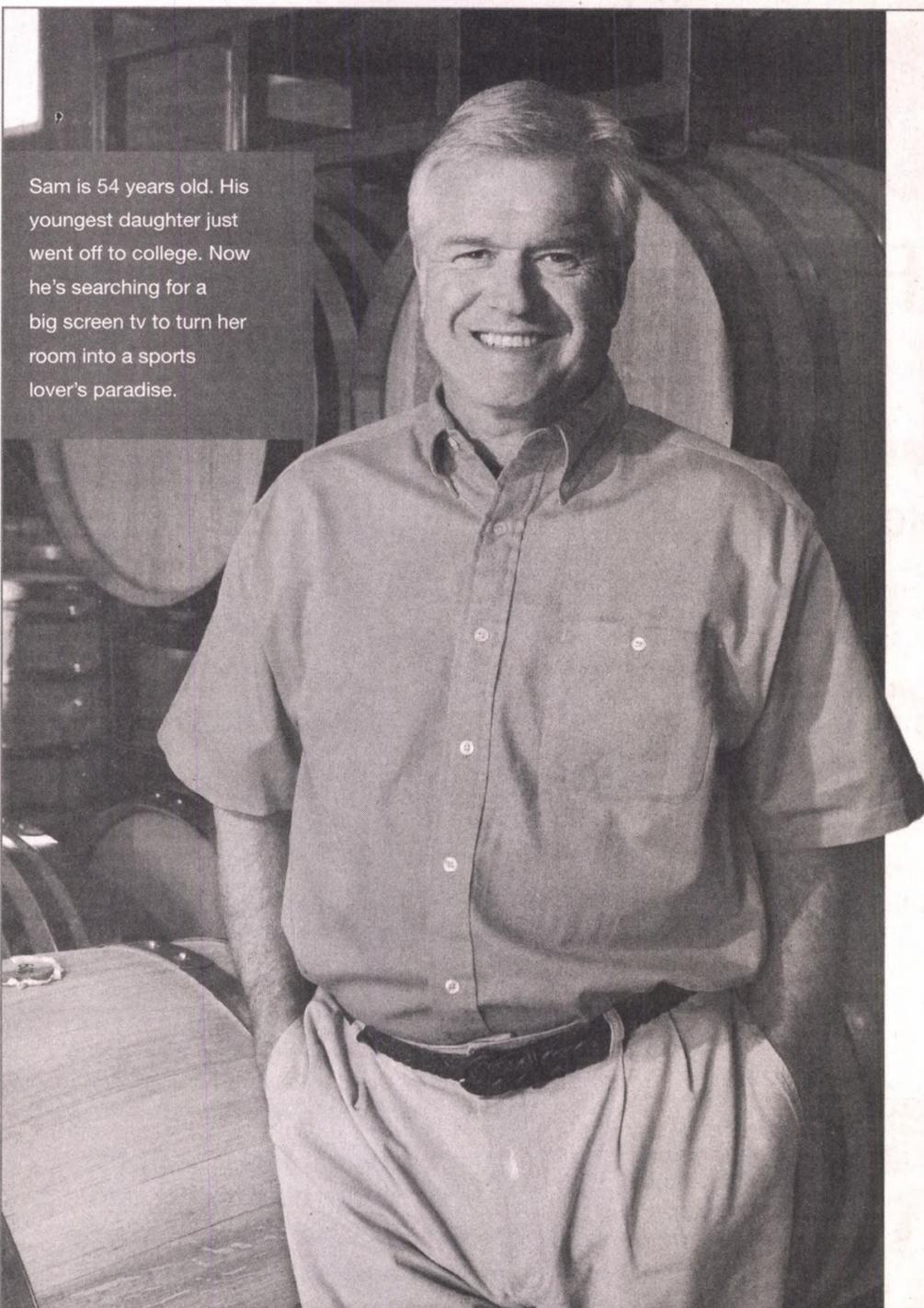
For more information, call David Lengel at 734-516-4930.

### WYAA volleyball

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

Games and practices will be 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 wyaa.volleyball2013@comcast.net.



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BOYS HOCKEY



Stevenson's Devin Kelly had two goals and three assists during Saturday's 9-1 win over Canton. DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

# Spartans skate past Canton, 9-1

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's Production Line accounted for 17 points Saturday night as the No. 1-ranked Spartans made quick work of host Canton, 9-1, in a KLAAs Kensington Conference boys hockey crossover at Arctic Edge.

The defending Division 2 state champions improved to 11-1 overall and 6-0 in the KLAAs Central Division as Dominic Lutz led the way with three goals and three assists.

The senior left winger now has 25 goals and 24 assists on the year.

Fellow senior linemates Devin Kelly (two goals, three

assists) and Tyler Irvine (one goal, five assists) also did their fair share as Stevenson led 5-0 after one period and 7-0 after 34 minutes.

Irvine, a left winger, also has 49 points on the season with 17 goals and 32 assists, while Kelly, the center, has nine goals and 23 assists for 32 points.

The game ended with 12:09 left in the third period on Stephen Olschanski's goal from Dante Seychel and Ben Kowalske.

Drew Hunter also chipped in with a goal and assist, while Alex DeFlorio also had a goal. Other assists went to Ray Chartier Jr., Ryan Frazer and Joe Alcantara.

Canton (1-9, 0-7) got a goal from Cooper Rice at 1:31 of the final period from Matt Eastman and Kurt Snow to spoil Brad Coutts' shutout bid.

The Stevenson goaltender made 14 saves.

"It was a good way for us to start the new year," said Stevenson coach David Mitchell, whose team had been off 13 days. "We didn't want to use the break as an excuse, we stayed committed over break to doing what we needed to do to stay sharp and I think it showed tonight. Our kids did a heck of a job in all three zones. A good, solid road win for us."

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313-222-6851

# Mr. Responsible: Mercer rewarded with 1st OHL goal

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Plymouth Whalers rookie Cullen Mercer's eyes lit up like a Christmas tree Saturday night when talking about his first Ontario Hockey League goal.

Mercer hopes many more soon will follow.

"It was just relief at first to get that first one out of the way, and then I was just so happy," said the 16-year-old about his reaction to scoring, during Plymouth's 4-3 win over Niagara at Compuware Arena. "I love scoring goals and to finally get one in the OHL is just great."

The milestone goal came in his 40th game of the season. Mercer slammed home a perfect feed from linemate Zach Lorentz at 5:55 of the second period to put the Whalers up 3-2.

"It's obviously been frustrating so far to this point," said Mercer, in the Whalers' dressing room following the contest. "But I'm just really glad to get it out of the way and I hope that kind of breaks the dam and I get a few more here going on for the rest of the season."

Before recalling the sequence that resulted in the big goal, a photographer snapped a photo of Mercer holding up the puck used on the play.

He then credited teammates Lorentz and defenseman Nick Malysa for making the goal possible.

"It was a great chip to start off with by Nick Malysa, who just chipped it up there," said Mercer, who attends Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. "Zach Lorentz caught it with speed and I know he's a great playmaker."

"So I just tried to get open for him and he hit me with a beauty pass in the slot, there wasn't really much I could have done to miss it."

According to Plymouth coach and general manager Mike Vellucci, it was good to see the youngster from Exeter, Ont. rewarded for solid two-way play.

"Mercede has had good chances and I played him like a veteran (against Niagara),"



Whalers forward Cullen Mercer holds the puck he scored his first OHL goal with. RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

Vellucci said. "He started play in the overtime, he's penalty killing. If you're responsible defensively a coach is going to play you and he's responsible defensively."

"I think he's going to score, right now he's just making sure he's good defensively. When you get older and stronger and more comfortable I think the offense is definitely there."

Mercer said his overall game is starting to round into shape, evidenced by Vellucci using him in such important situations as overtime and killing penalties.

"I think I'm just getting more and more comfortable with the speed and my coaches are trusting me in more situations here," Mercer continued. "So, I just try to be as strong as I can defensively so I get lots of time and hope my offensive chances come."

One of the first things Mercer said he planned on doing Saturday night was calling sisters Carly and Caylee Mercer — players for Clarkson University's women's hockey team in upstate New York.

"I can't really razz them, they've been scoring their fair share," he said, smiling. "But I will let them know I scored and they'll be very supportive about that."

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Whalers forward Francesco Vilardi (No. 7) scores one of two goals Saturday against the Niagara IceDogs at Compuware Arena. Unable to stop the shot is Niagara goalie Blake Richard. RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS

# Whalers elude Niagara in OHL shootout, 4-3

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

It hasn't been an easy season for the Plymouth Whalers, who at the start lost power forward Tom Wilson and defenseman Connor Carrick to the Washington Capitals of the NHL.

But the team is beginning to make strides as the second half of the schedule unfolds, with youngsters such as forwards Cullen Mercer and Francesco Vilardi showing coach and general manager Mike Vellucci they are players to be counted on.

Saturday night at Compuware Arena, Mercer tallied the first goal of his Ontario Hockey League career, while Vilardi scored twice as Plymouth earned a 4-3 shootout victory over Niagara.

"We were on the bench saying one of our 16-year-olds was going to score tonight," said Vellucci, whose team has won four out of its last five games. "I thought (forward Bryce) Yetman had a chance to score, too."

Mercer scored with 14:05 left in the middle period to put the Whalers up 3-2.

Defenseman and captain Nick Malysa moved the puck up to forward Zach Lorentz in the right circle and Lorentz dished it in front to Mercer. The 16-year-old from Exeter, Ontario, snapped the puck past IceDogs goalie Blake Richard.

That stood as the game-

winning goal until the IceDogs scored a power-play goal with 28 seconds to play in the game. Left winger Brendan Perlini drove a low shot through a screen that beat Plymouth goalie Alex Nedeljkovic (39 saves).

Niagara (12-21-2-4) actually had a two-man advantage with Richard pulled for the extra attacker.

Vellucci shrugged off the late penalty that set up Niagara's tying goal, especially since his team went on to get the extra point anyway.

"That happened to us the game before, where we pulled the goalie and scored on the power play," Vellucci said, referring to Thursday's game against Sault Ste. Marie. "So as long as we got the two points, I'm happy with it."

The Whalers (15-21-0-4) poured it on during the overtime period, outshooting Niagara 7-3 and coming close on shots by defenseman Josh Wesley, forward Matt Mistele and Vilardi.

In the shootout, Plymouth won 2-0 with right winger Connor Chatham going top shelf against Richard and Lorentz converting his forehand-backhand bid.

At the other end, Nedeljkovic denied Billy Jenkins and Perlini.

### Vilardi starts it off

Plymouth opened the scoring at 2:10 of the first, when

Vilardi — who turns 18 Thursday — tipped in Mistele's shot with the Whalers on the power play.

After Niagara's Eric Ming made it 1-1 at 7:42, the Whalers regained the lead a minute later, when Vilardi scored his second of the game and seventh of the season.

"You know what, the second one was a dirty goal," Vellucci said. "Those are the kind of goals he's got to get. He got in front of the net and got the rebound. He played well and scored two big goals."

Early in the second, the IceDogs tied it up again when defenseman Luke Mercer hammered a shot from the left circle that cleanly beat Nedeljkovic.

The Whalers needed just 1:42 to go back up again, on Cullen Mercer's milestone goal.

Plymouth now has the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference with 34 points.

Still, Kitchener and Sarnia aren't too far behind, so Vellucci wants his squad to keep grinding out as many points as possible.

"We've been at home a little bit and that always helps," he said. "The guys are playing real hard and competing and that's the key. If you compete and make mistakes, that's all right. But if you don't compete, that's when I have a problem."

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# KESLER

Continued from Page B1

a point. It makes things more fun when you're successful and we had a good time those two weeks."

The 6-foot-2, 202-pound Kesler, who can also play right wing, will once again bring his versatility to the table.

### Similar scenario

"I envision a similar role than what I had last time ... a little bit of everything," Kesler said. "As the tournament goes on I think things change and lines change, but I see myself being a big part of this gold medal team."

"I definitely think the pace is faster. It's a bit of a different game with the bigger ice. There's more room width-wise, but the offensive zone is smaller. We have to figure out how to play on that ice right away. And the coaches did a good job in the summer making us aware of that and telling us what to do."

After suffering through an

NHL lockout and two injury-plagued seasons, Kesler is on a bit of a renaissance this season with the Canucks, who stand 23-13-8 (fourth in the Western Conference's Pacific Division).

Kesler leads Vancouver with 17 goals and has added 12 assists in 44 games.

He is slowly regaining the form that earned him the 2011 Selke Trophy for NHL's best two-way forward.

### Regains form

"It's been a couple of years," said Kesler, who has 174 goals and 205 assists in 622 NHL regular season games. "I got a summer of conditioning under my belt and I'm happy where my game is at, but I still figure I can expand and improve. I'm looking forward to the challenge."

In 57 NHL career playoff games, Kesler has 12 goals and 26 assists.

Kesler was one of the major reasons the Canucks reached the 2011 Stanley Cup Finals before falling to Boston in Game 7.

Kesler, who was a first-round pick (23rd overall) by the



Canucks forward Ryan Kesler (left) tries to jam the puck past Anaheim goalie Jonas Hiller. CHRISTOPHER HANEWINCKEL | USA TODAY SPORTS

Canucks after playing a season at Ohio State, has also adapted to a new coach in Vancouver as John Tortorella (formerly of the Rangers and Tampa Bay) replaced Alain Vigneault.

"He's good," Kesler said of his new coach. "He expects a lot out of each individual. I have a lot of respect for him. He's hard on you at times, but

all he wants is winning and we're all pulling in the same direction. And you can see how passionate he is about that."

"I think he's really big on defense first. And the goals will come from your defense. I think this year he's expanded my game tremendously. I only scored goals one or two ways, but now there's a lot of differ-

ent options I can use to put the puck in the back of the net."

### Family support

With a wife and three young children at home, Kesler will more than likely go it alone when it comes to Sochi.

His father, Mike, currently a scout and former player at Colorado College, might be the only family member to make the trip. (Mike coached Ryan's Bantam team in the Livonia Hockey Association before he moved up to play for Honeybake, Compuware and Caesars in the Major Midget ranks.)

"There's only so much they can do over there," Ryan said. "If I said yes, my dad would be the only one."

And as his second Olympics draws closer, Kesler won't speculate on what his specific role might be under coach Dan Bylsma (Pittsburgh Penguins).

"I haven't talked with any coaches," Kesler said. "I'm sure they're still trying to figure it out, and once they do, I'll be the first to know."

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## MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Schoolcraft overcomes mistakes for 68-67 victory

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College men's basketball coach Randy Henry knows his team got away with one on Saturday.

The Ocelots were able to overcome 29 of their own turnovers to beat visiting Delta College, 68-67, thanks to Terrence Coles' game-winning free throw with only 1.2 seconds left in the MCCA Eastern Conference opener for both teams.

Schoolcraft got a game-high 30 points from 6-foot-5 sophomore forward Terrell Sewell (Canton) to improve to 8-3 overall and 1-0 in the conference.

Meanwhile, Delta (5-7, 0-1) scored 24 points off Schoolcraft turnovers, but couldn't capitalize for the win.

"It was freaking ridicu-

lous," Henry said. "We had 16 (turnovers) in the first half. They only had five. That's why they were still in the game. We dropped eight passes under the basket where we should have scored with it. We very fortunate to win today, but 29 turnovers usually constitutes a loss."

Schoolcraft, sloppy with the ball much of the first half, still managed to lead 39-37 at the break thanks to Basel Ibrahim's 3-pointer at the buzzer.

In the second half, Schoolcraft made a late spurt going up 62-54 with 4:15 left on a dunk by Sewell, who was called for a technical foul after hanging on the rim.

The Pioneers eventually caught Schoolcraft at 67-all with a pair of free throws with only 1:17 left.

Schoolcraft then played for the last shot and Coles got

fouled going to the rim after taking a pass from point guard Devonta Riley.

"Because the shot clock was off and it was 30 seconds less in the game, we wanted to take a shot with seven or less, and get a tip," Henry said. "Good penetration by Devonta (Riley). On the penetration Terrence is probably the best to catch and turn, and he got slapped on it."



Sewell

Coles, a 6-4 forward from Redford Thurston, made the first of two at the line to break the deadlock and then missed the second intentionally to keep Delta from setting up a play out of bounds.

But that scenario became moot after Sewell gobbled up his own miss as time ran out.

"I didn't want him to make it because with 1.2 (seconds) they might throw it down and get a prayer," Henry said. "But he missed intentionally and followed it. Sometimes better be lucky than good."

Coles added 12 points and 10 rebounds for the Ocelots, who shot 45 percent for the floor (27-of-60).

Andrew Mapley also grabbed a team-high 11 rebounds, while Riley dished out seven assists. Freshman Olushakin Cole (Livonia Franklin) came off the bench to score seven points in 11 minutes.

Sewell went 12-of-24 from the floor, including a pair of three-pointers, and 4-of-7 from the foul line.

"Terrell was fantastic," Henry said. "He shot 50 percent. He carried us the first half. He was the only guy who

came to play in the first half because it was not a typical game for Terrence."

Nineteen of Sewell's 30 points came during the opening first half.

"After a made a couple I just didn't think about the scoring," Sewell said. "I really just wanted to win."

Riley, a speedy 5-8 point-guard from Inkster, created most of the offense for the Ocelots.

"That's a good point guard," Sewell said. "I look for him to just find me. When he gets the ball and penetrates, I just go with him."

Bernard Whitehead had 14 points and five assists to lead Delta, while Tre Johnson and Chris Chrzan added 13 and 12 points, respectively.

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## SALEM NAMES INTERIM COACH

## BIG SHOES TO FILL

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

The job started by legendary Salem basketball coach Fred Thomann is Lindsay Klemmer's to finish and she is honored for the opportunity.

Thomann's sudden death at age 71 on Dec. 27 created a temporary coaching void.

But Klemmer — a star point guard for Thomann's Rocks from 1997-2000 who went on to a fine career in the backcourt at Madonna University — last week accepted the job as Salem's interim varsity girls basketball coach.

She joined Thomann's staff in November as an assistant coach, primarily working with players on their defense.

"He had called me and found out I wasn't coaching (as an assistant at Concordia University) and asked me to come help him out," Klemmer said.

Klemmer, 31, will have to wait until Thursday night for her first game in charge because Tuesday's scheduled home game against Northville was postponed due to sub-zero temperatures.

Still, it has been a whirlwind of emotions and activity for Klemmer and her team.

Last Friday, Klemmer scouted the Canton Chiefs in their game against Grosse Pointe South. It was one of many parts of the coaching job that Thomann relished.

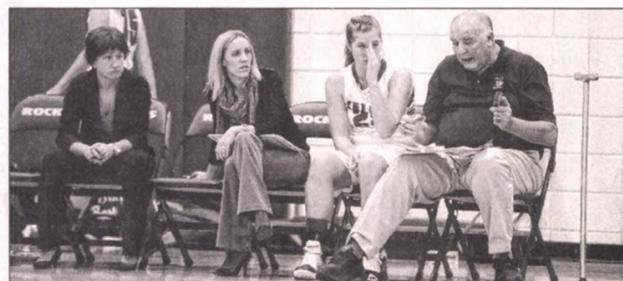
The previous day, she met with the players to help them continue grieving and to talk about picking up where the 5-1 team left off in the last game under Thomann (Dec. 19 against Westland John Glenn).

"We can't control what happened to Fred," Klemmer said. "But now we can move on and we can play in his honor."

"We can play for him. We know that he's always watching and we know he's always with us in heart all the time."

## Never forget

Klemmer stressed that the girls "move forward" — while never forgetting the man who touched many lives over the



Lindsay Klemmer (second from left) succeeds Fred Thomann (far right) at the Salem helm. Also shown are assistant coach Kelly Jascot (far left) and player Kelly Whalen. PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

past four decades at Salem.

To that end, a special tribute to Thomann is planned for Tuesday, Jan. 14 before the Salem home game against Livonia Stevenson.

As of late last week, more than 20 former Salem players planned on attending (the ceremony is at 6:30 p.m. with the game to follow) and they will be introduced at halftime.

Those interested in taking part should RSVP via e-mail to Klemmer (coach-klem3@gmail.com). They should include the years played for Thomann and when they graduated.

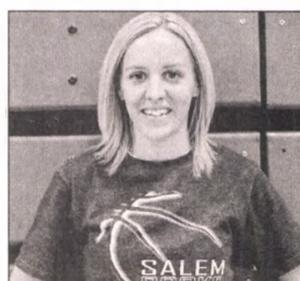
Also that night, a plaque honoring Thomann will be unveiled, players will begin wearing blue wristbands with the initials "F.T." as a further tribute to his memory and a "white-out" is planned.

"We are doing a white-out and asking everyone to wear white in his honor as we come together as a community," she noted.

Tuesday's festivities will continue an "overwhelming" outpouring of support that has overwhelmed Klemmer since news broke of Thomann's passing.

"I have heard from people I haven't heard from in 15 years," Klemmer said. "I've heard from coaches I've never met. I've heard from parents I've never met."

"The community itself, you can tell it's one big family. It shows you how much he affected people's lives on a daily basis."



Lindsay Klemmer is a 2000 Salem grad who brings college playing and coaching experience to the Rocks.

## Job to finish

Of course, Klemmer knows there is work yet to be done on the basketball court despite Salem's strong start this season.

"This season we've made a lot of strides, and a lot of progress," Klemmer noted. "I came in specifically to work on defense, and that's going to be one of my biggest things is changing our tempo on defense."

"We're going to be a lot more intense, and that's not going to change. That's what Fred wanted me to do. So I told the girls this is why I'm here, this is why he brought me in and this is what we're going to stick with."

Klemmer would like nothing more than to fulfill Thomann's dream for the season, that the Rocks contend in the KLAA Central Division and enjoy postseason success.

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## COLLEGE BASKETBALL WRAP

## Crusader men garner victory against Saints

Three players posted career-highs in points Saturday as the Madonna University men's basketball team held off a furious second-half charge by host Siena Heights to post a 93-83 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory.

Senior All-America point-guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) posted his third double-double of the season with 22 points and 10 assists to go along with two steals.

Senior forward Derek Lennen and junior Donald Owens each added a personal-best 17 points with Owens pulling down nine rebounds.

Senior guard Travis Schuba and sophomore Zak Lewis chipped in with 13 and 11 points respectively to round out five MU players in double figures.

For Lewis, he also established a career-best in points. MU, now 10-6 overall and

6-2 in the WHAC, led 46-31 at halftime and led by as many as 16 in the second half before the Saints (6-11, 2-7) went on a 19-4 run to pull within one, 61-60.

The Crusaders then responded with an 11-0 run stem the tide and hold on for the victory.

**SIENA HEIGHTS (WOMEN) 78, MADONNA 55:** Madonna University (6-9, 4-4) shot 21.9 percent from the floor in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference setback Saturday at Siena Heights University (11-5, 5-4).

Alexis Knamlein came off the bench to lead the Saints with 17 points.

Others chipping in for Siena Heights included Sierra Calhoun (16 points, 12 rebounds); Najee Brazzle (11 points); Jenn Jasinski (10 points) and Grace Howrigan (10 rebounds).

Rachel Melcher and Tori Duffey tallied 13 and 10 points, respectively, for the Crusaders, who trailed 33-23 at halftime.

MU shot only 14-of-64 from the floor, including 7-of-28 from three-point range.

**DELTA (WOMEN) 80, SCHOOLCRAFT 57:** On Saturday, a 21-2 run to end the game gave visiting Delta College (10-2, 1-0) the MCCA Eastern Conference victory over Schoolcraft College (4-7, 0-1).

Champagne Arthur led the victorious Pioneers with 23 points, while Taylor Mantyla came off the bench to add 19.

Dy'Mond Perry added 17 points, while Danielle Warner contributed 11 points and nine rebounds. Jessica Parry and Tabitha Mann tallied 12 and 10 points, respectively, for the Ocelots.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

## BOYS BASKETBALL

**Thursday, Jan. 9**  
Canton at John Glenn, 7 p.m.  
Calvary at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.

**Friday, Jan. 10**  
Churchill at John Glenn, 7 p.m.  
Franklin at Plymouth, 7 p.m.  
Northville at Stevenson, 7 p.m.  
Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.

Clarenceville at Crestwood, 7 p.m.  
Luth. Westland at HVL, 7 p.m.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

**Thursday, Jan. 9**  
Calvary at Luth. Westland, 5:30 p.m.  
John Glenn at Canton, 7 p.m.  
Ladywood at Divine Child, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Jan. 10**  
Luth. Westland at HVL, 5:30 p.m.  
Crestwood at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.  
John Glenn at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
Stevenson at Northville, 7 p.m.  
Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.

## PREP HOCKEY

**Thursday, Jan. 9**  
Ladywood vs. G.P. South at Arctic Pond, 5:30 p.m.

**Friday, Jan. 10**  
Churchill vs. Salem, Franklin vs. Stevenson at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.

## PREP WRESTLING

**Saturday, Jan. 11**  
Ladywood vs. Mercy at Arctic Pond, 5:30 p.m.  
Stevenson vs. Salem at Plymouth Cultural Ctr., 8:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 11**  
Bay City Western Duals, 8:30 a.m.  
Luth. Westland Tourney, 9 a.m.  
Stevenson Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Wayne Tournament, 9 a.m.

Garden City Novice, 9:30 a.m.  
Warren Woods Tower Inv., 10 a.m.

## BOYS SWIMMING

**Thursday, Jan. 9**  
Canton at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.  
Franklin at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.  
Wayne at John Glenn, 8:30 a.m.

**Friday, Jan. 10**  
Salem, Stevenson at A.A. Pioneer, 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 11**  
Lakeland Invitational, 1 p.m.

## GIRLS GYMNASTICS

**Thursday, Jan. 9**  
Livonia Red vs. Waterford Unified at Churchill H.S., 6:30 p.m.

## PREP BOWLING

**Thursday, Jan. 9**  
Ladywood vs. Warren Regina at Bowl One, 3:45 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 11**  
Plymouth Tournament at Super Bowl, 1 p.m.

## GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER

**Thursday, Jan. 9**  
Luth. Westland at MIAC, 6 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 11**  
Ladywood Invitational, noon.  
Stoney Creek Invitational, 3 p.m.

## PREP SKIING

**Thursday, Jan. 10**  
Ladywood Giant Slalom at Alpine Valley, 3:30 p.m.

## MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

**Saturday, Jan. 11**  
Madonna at Aquinas, 3 p.m.  
Schoolcraft at Henry Ford, 3 p.m.

**WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**  
**Saturday, Jan. 11**  
Madonna at Aquinas, 9 p.m.  
Henry Ford at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.

## CASSAR

Continued from Page B1

has been a player and coach since the MLS's inception in 1996. "The guys in the locker room are unbelievable. Our ownership and management are fantastic. In that part there are no worries at all. I'm just finishing putting my staff together of assistant coaches and I really feel strong about the individuals that I've brought in. And they're going to help me and challenge me to be a better coach and a better person. I'm really excited about that."

Cassar spent 11 seasons between the posts for three squads from 1996 to 2006 before retiring to become FC Dallas's goalkeeper coach in January 2007.

During his career with Dallas (1996-97, 2003-06), Miami Fusion FC (1998 to 2001), and the MetroStars (2002), Cassar made 79 appearances (76 starts), posting a 1.76 goals against average, a 28-36-10 record, and recording 13 shut-outs. Prior to his entry into the college and professional ranks, the Livonian appeared numerous times for the U.S. Un-

der-18, U-20, and Olympic National Team programs.

As a junior, Cassar was part of a talented Churchill team that reached the 1990 Class A state final before losing to Warren DeSalle, 2-0. He went on to play at Florida International University (1992-95) and was a first-round pick (eighth overall) by the MLS Dallas Burn.

## MLS lifer

"He is RSL through and through," RSL team owner Dell Loy Hansen said. "Every training session, strategy and game for the last seven years has had Jeff's mark on it. He was loyal to Jason and prepared every year to reach this moment. Preparation has met opportunity, and opportunity is today for Jeff to lead this team."

Cassar said he is currently putting the finishing touches on assistant coaching contracts. Training camp starts Jan. 25 in Casa Grande, Ariz. Cassar will also attend the upcoming MLS Combine, which features the nation's top 50 college seniors.

Real Salt Lake's MLS season opener is March 8.

"I'm really excited about the challenge," Cassar said.

"We've made it to two finals this year and came really close, but came up short. I'm excited to put that challenge in front of the players and the staff, too. We're very good, but I think we can be even better."

"I believe in these guys. I believe in the core players we have, the leadership, the character. It's unbelievable. I believe in the young talent we have on this team. The future is very bright for RSL."

Not only do Cassar's MLS roots run deep, he has also spent time with English Premier League sides Ipswich Town and Bolton Wanderers following the 2002 season before returning to Dallas in the summer of 2003.

## Ex-teammates

And one of Cassar's biggest supporters is a former MLS teammate and now his boss.

"He was a much better goalkeeper than I was," RSL general manager Garth Lagerwey cracked at the team's introductory press conference for Cassar. "He's a good person. He's good with the guys. He's really hungry."

Team president Roy Manning also believed Cassar was the most natural fit to replace Kreis.

"It seems, we're not starting over again," Manning said. "Having the talent we have and Garth being in sync with the new head coach is critical to the organization."

Cassar said he'll take a dose of coaching philosophy from just about every one he's been in contact with all the way back to his playing days with the Vardar Soccer Club.

"I've really taken so much from all of them," Cassar said. "You take the positives from them, even the negatives, and learn, which is really beneficial as well. They've all played significant roles in different parts of my life. Rocco — it's a Bulgarian name — was my coach growing up. He taught me the technical side of the game, the passion."

"Then you move on to somebody like Mark Christensen, who coached me later on and he taught me how to be a man. There was a time where I was being called into national team camps and he really kept me level-headed. Brian Borde was my goalkeeper coach and he taught me so much, and Gary Parsons. The list goes on and on of people that have really shaped me into that I am today. And I really owe so many thanks to so many coaches in

Michigan."

## More visibility

Real Salt Lake's third head coach in team history, Cassar now finds himself more under the microscope.

"My parents back home, my brother and my sister, they're just really soccer fans," Cassar said. "The first thing my mom said is that she'll see more of my face, since normally she only sees half my face on the TV. But now she's going to see my full face. She's really excited about seeing me more since I don't get to see her all the time."

Cassar lives in Sandy, Utah, with his wife, Jennifer, and three children (daughters Sloan and Dylan, along with son Luke).

"My family here (Sandy, Utah), my wife, and three kids are really excited for me," Cassar said.

"They know there's going to be some more demands on me and asked of me. My wife has been unbelievably supportive. We have very close friends here in Utah that have so supportive. We're really looking forward to it."

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## STAGELAB24

Theater group races time to create,  
stage a show in 24 hoursBy Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Maureen Paraventi will write — and polish — a one-act play in less than 10 hours this weekend.

Leanne Young will rehearse and memorize a script in less than five hours on Saturday.

And Linda Pohl will make sure the fast-track writing, auditioning, and rehearsing, all leads to a public performance Saturday night at the Biltmore Studio at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, in Canton.

Paraventi, a novelist and playwright from Redford Township, and Leanne Young, an actress from South Lyon, are among more than 50 participants, including writers, actors, directors and technical crew, who will collaborate and stage eight-10 original one-act plays at StageLab24, which runs from 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, and 10-8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, at the Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road.

Pohl, and her fellow founders of TLC Productions, Tim Chanko and Christopher Tremblay, have been planning the experimental theater event for months. They received a grant from the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities to offset costs and will be on hand the entire 24 hours to make sure everything runs smoothly.

"Bringing original productions to the stage is what we like to do," Pohl said. "We don't buy scripts. We bring in originals or write our own. This was another way of doing some-



Chris Tremblay, Linda Pohl and Tim Chanko are the founders of TLC Productions, in Canton.

thing original."

TLC Productions created two one-hour musicals, *Behind the Curtain* and *FONTS! A Type of Musical*, since they began working together in 2008. The group staged its first Canton One Acts Festival in 2011 and again in 2013.

For StageLab24, TLC reached out to writers and directors in the theater community across the state and got commitments from eight directors, eight writers and one writing team who plan to participate in the event. They also allowed potential cast members to "sign up" online at [tlcproductions.org](http://tlcproductions.org) for auditions on Saturday. Walk-ins are welcome, too.

**Tight schedule**

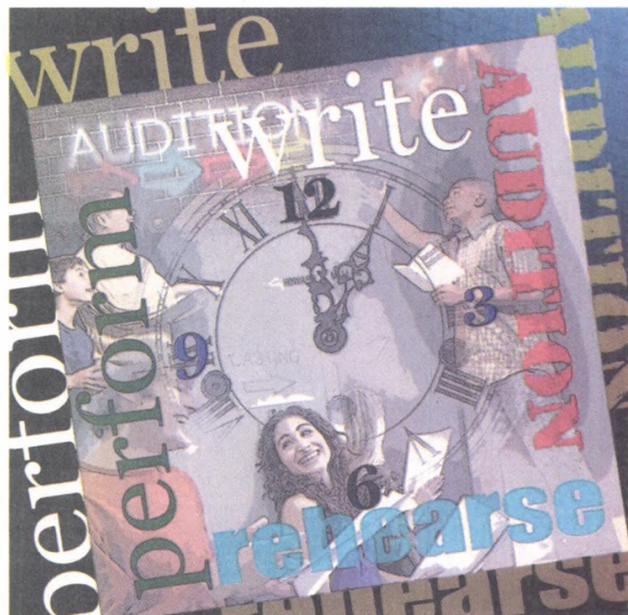
Pohl said authors will arrive at 8 p.m. Friday for an orientation and then will work overnight on their one-act, 10-minute plays. The directors,

who have been paired up with a writer, will meet at 7 a.m. Saturday to look at the new script and get prop, set and lighting requests ready. Actors will audition from 9-11 a.m. with a one-minute, prepared monologue. After the directors choose their casts, they'll rehearse for four-five hours.

Technical work will start at 4 p.m. and the performances will start at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and available from [tlcproductions.org](http://tlcproductions.org) or at the door. The Biltmore Studio seats 80.

The public may drop in to watch the writing, auditioning or rehearsal process, but are limited to an hourlong stay. A videographer will be on hand to record the event and create a finished piece by performance time.

Pohl said StageLab24's short time commitment of 12-24 hours is appealing to busy actors and directors who may be involved in other projects at



the same time.

**Challenging event**

Paraventi and Young both hope to stretch their creative abilities during the event.

"I never completely polish something in one night," said Paraventi, who has written plays and novels. "I have a few ideas in my head, but I'm not going to cheat and write anything out ahead of time."

"I think this will give me more confidence ... it will be a wonderful adventure."

Young, who teaches English at Farmington High School,

said her biggest challenge, if she's cast, will be memorizing dialogue. Pohl said actors may hold their scripts during the performance, but Young said she and other actors likely would memorize their lines.

"You either know your story or not. Everyone will be testing their mettle, seeing what they can do at their craft. I'd like to think I'll be pushing my limits a little. There's no time for stage fright or overthinking it. I'm excited."

## GET OUT! CALENDAR

**ART & CRAFTS****FARMINGTON HILLS CITY GALLERY**

**Time/Date:** Gallery hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Jan. 22

**Location:** Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** "Elements: Sky, Water, Land," features the paintings, drawings and three-dimensional mixed media works of Martine MacDonald

**Contact:** 248-473-1856

**GALLERY@VT**

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, during public performances, or by appointment

**Location:** 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

**Details:** Glass sculpture by JB Wood is on display through May

**Contact:** 734-394-5300

**NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE**

**Time/Date:** Gallery hours, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Feb. 1

**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville

**Details:** "Altered Perceptions" features paintings by abstract expressionist artist, Jan Brown

**Contact:** 248-344-0497; <http://www.northvillearts.org>

**AUDITIONS****FARMINGTON PLAYERS**

**Time/Date:** 12:30 p.m. registration, 1 p.m. audition, Sunday, Jan. 19

**Location:** Farmington Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** *Rumors*, by Neil Simon will be staged in late April through mid-May

**Contact:** [rumors@farmingtonplayers.org](mailto:rumors@farmingtonplayers.org)

**FARMINGTON HILLS YOUTH THEATRE**

**Time/Date:** Noon to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 25-26

**Location:** Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** *Camp Rock - The Musical*, will feature a wide variety of roles, at all performance levels. Auditions are on a drop-in basis. Participants should bring a recent school photo. Preliminary materials will be available for review beginning Jan. 8 at [fhgov.com/YouthTheatre](http://fhgov.com/YouthTheatre)

**Contact:** 248-473-1859

**MOTOR CITY PLAYERS**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Jan. 14-15

**Location:** Motor City Theatre, 27555 Grantland, Livonia

**Details:** The musical production of *The Lady Pirates of Captain Breer* has roles

for 10 men and one woman. High school students may audition for roles as understudies and chorus. Vocal auditions held for solo roles only

**Contact:** 313-535-8962; [nancy@mcyt.org](mailto:nancy@mcyt.org)

**FILM****PENN THEATRE**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10 and 16; and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 11-12

**Location:** 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

**Details:** *Frozen*, admission \$3

**Contact:** 734-453-0870; [www.penn-theatre.com](http://www.penn-theatre.com)

**REDFOUR THEATRE**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Jan. 17 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Jan. 18

**Location:** 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit

**Details:** *Amadeus*, 2002 director's cut

**Coming up:** *True Grit*, 8 p.m. Jan. 31 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 1

**Contact:** 313-537-2560

**SENATE THEATER**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11

**Location:** 6424 Michigan Ave., Detroit

**Details:** *Bringing Up Baby*, the 1938 comedy starring Katharine Hepburn and

Cary Grant; \$5 admission

**Contact:** 313-894-0850

**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

**Details:** The event includes open mic performers and featured musicians. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and include free admission.

**Contact:** Scott Ludwig at [BFSpresident@aol.com](mailto:BFSpresident@aol.com)

**BLUES@THE ELKS**

**Time/Date:** 7-10 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month

**Location:** Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

**Details:** The Bobby Murray Band will perform Jan. 14; \$5 donation at the door

**Contact:** 734-453-1780

**CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11

**Location:** Seligman Performing Arts Center, located on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, 13 Mile at

Lahser, Beverly Hills

**Details:** The Jasper String Quartet in collaboration with pianist Christopher O'Riley and cellist Matt Haimovitz, plays quartets and quintets by Haydn, Mozart and Schubert. Tickets range from \$15-\$24 for students and \$30-\$60 general admission, available online at [chambermusicdetroit.org](http://chambermusicdetroit.org). Student rush tickets priced at \$10 also are available at the box office beginning at 6 p.m. on concert night.

**Contact:** 248-855-6070

**TRINITY GOURMET THEATRE**

**Time/Date:** Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

**Details:** Timothy Monger, Jan. 10; Floyd King and the Bushwackers Old Time Gospel Show with Campfire Compadres, Jan. 11; Red Tail Ring, Jan. 17; Billy Brandt and the Sugarees, Jan. 18; Ronny Cox, Jan. 19; Jeff and Mike Karoub, Jan. 24; Sweethearts of the Yellow Room Gang, with Jan Krist, Kitty Donohoe and Annie Capps, Jan. 31. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted.

**Contact:** 734-464-6302

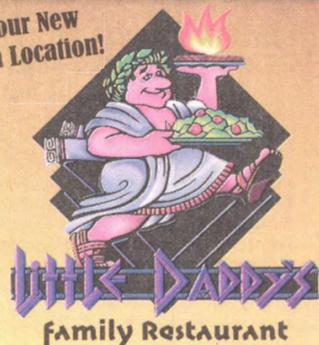
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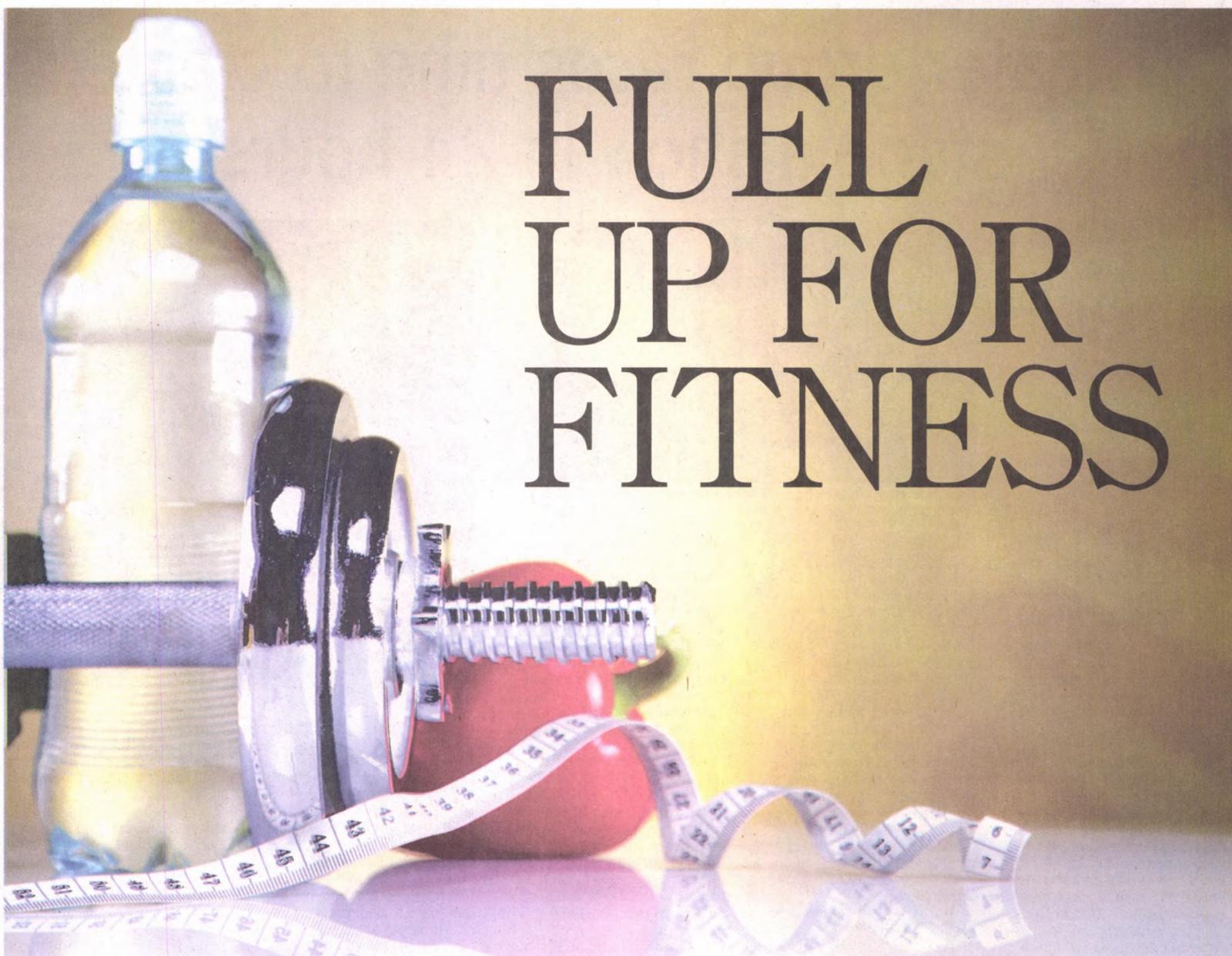
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# FUEL UP FOR FITNESS

Sports nutrition isn't just the domain of professional athletes — for a good workout and quick recovery, everyday athletes need the right diet, too.

"A good workout is draining and can lead to fatigue and sore muscles," said Michele Macedonio, R.D., C.S.S.D., L.D., a veteran sports nutritionist and team dietitian for the Cincinnati Reds. "The right combination of foods helps restore energy and nutrients used during exercise, and prepares your body for the next workout."

Keep these tips in mind when fueling up to stay fit:

» Make friends with fat: Fat is an important

energy source for athletes, but it's important to choose healthy fats. Canola oil, for example, provides a valuable source of unsaturated fats, including monounsaturated and omega-3 fats.

» Pump up protein: Maximize muscle growth with a snack that contains carbohydrates plus 10 to 20 grams of protein consumed within 15 to 30 minutes after a workout, when muscle is most receptive to growing.

» Don't ignore complex carbs: Athletes need healthy carbohydrates, the preferred source of energy for active muscles. Whole grains, beans, vegetables and fruit

are good sources.

» Feed the furnace: Running on empty? Your body needs consistent fuel to function. A small pre-workout snack may improve your workout performance. Liquid foods such as smoothies digest more quickly than solids, which makes them ideal pre- or post-workout for energy, hydration and restoring nutrients.

Dishes such as these from CanolaInfo contain less than 300 calories and provide complex carbohydrates, fiber and protein with nutrition-packed ingredients including whole grains, beans, nuts, fruits and plenty of vegetables. For more great recipes, visit [www.canola.info](http://www.canola.info).

Courtesy of Family Features



## SKILLET QUINOA WITH BLACK BEANS, CILANTRO AND FETA

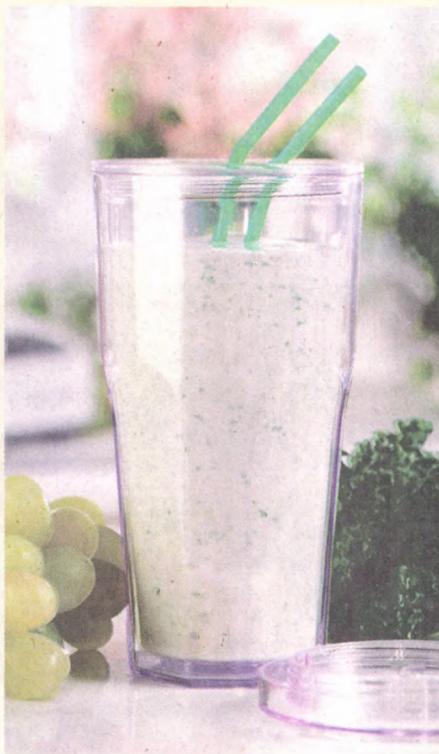
Yield: 6 servings  
Serving size: 1 cup

1 tablespoon canola oil  
1 cup onions, diced  
2 cups red bell pepper, diced  
1 ½ cups water  
¾ cup quinoa, uncooked  
1 can (15 ounces) reduced sodium black beans, rinsed and drained  
¼ cup chopped walnuts  
2 teaspoons chili powder  
½ cup crumbled, reduced-fat feta cheese\*  
¼ cup fresh cilantro, chopped  
1 medium garlic clove, minced  
½ teaspoon salt

In large, nonstick skillet, heat canola oil over medium-high heat. Add onion and pepper. Sauté 5 minutes or until onions begin to brown on edges, stirring occasionally. Add water and quinoa. Bring to boil over medium-high heat, reduce heat, cover and cook on medium-low for 12 minutes or until water is absorbed.

Remove from heat, stir in beans, walnuts, chili powder, feta, cilantro, garlic and salt. Cover and let stand 2 minutes to heat through and absorb flavors. \*Vegetarian option: Replace feta with vegan cheese or tofu.

Nutritional analysis per serving: 230 calories; 8 g total fat (1.5 g saturated fat); 10 mg cholesterol; 31 g carbohydrates; 7 g fiber; 3 g sugars; 10 g protein; 360 mg sodium; 445 mg potassium



## POWERHOUSE GREEN SMOOTHIE

Yield: 1 serving

Serving size: 1 ½ cups

¾ cup seedless green grapes  
½ cup ripe banana slices  
¼ cup chopped kale  
¾ cup nonfat plain Greek yogurt  
1 ½ teaspoons canola oil  
½ cup ice cubes

In blender, combine all ingredients. Blend for about 30 seconds to 1 minute or until desired smoothness is achieved.

Nutritional analysis per serving: 290 calories; 7 g total fat (0.5 g saturated fat); 0 mg cholesterol; 42 g carbohydrates; 3 g fiber; 31 g sugars; 17 g protein; 75 mg sodium; 502 mg potassium



## CHUNKY CHICKEN, VEGETABLE AND ROSEMARY STEW

Yield: 6 servings  
Serving size: 1 cup

2 tablespoons canola oil, divided  
12 ounces boneless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch pieces  
1 medium onion, cut in 8 wedges  
3 medium carrots, quartered lengthwise and cut into thirds  
1 medium celery stalk, cut into 1-inch pieces  
2 cups water  
2 dried bay leaves  
¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes  
1 can (15 ounces) reduced-sodium navy beans, rinsed and drained  
1 cup grape tomatoes, quartered  
½ cup chopped fresh Italian parsley  
1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary  
½ teaspoon salt

In Dutch oven, heat 1 tablespoon canola oil over medium-high heat. Add chicken and cook about 3 minutes per side or until it begins to brown (center will still be slightly pink). Remove from oven and set aside.

Add remaining canola oil, onion, carrot and celery. Sauté, stirring frequently, for 5 minutes or until vegetables just begin to lightly brown on edges. Add water, bay leaves and pepper flakes. Bring to boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium low and simmer covered for 20 minutes or until vegetables are tender.

Stir in chicken, beans, tomatoes, Italian parsley, rosemary and salt. Cover and cook 5 minutes or until tomatoes are tender and chicken is cooked. Serve immediately or let stew stand 30 minutes to develop flavors and texture.

Nutritional analysis per serving: 220 calories; 7 g total fat (1 g saturated fat); 50 mg cholesterol; 17 g carbohydrates; 6 g fiber; 3 g sugars; 22 g protein; 380 mg sodium; 532 mg potassium

# 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



**COMPTON, KEN**

Age 66, January 6, 2014 of Canton. Beloved husband of Debbi. Loving father of Tammy (Todd) Hill, Ken Compton, Tina (Derek) Kaunelis, Shelly (Dan) Cervenak and Bob Compton. Brother of Ella, Beverly, Barbara, Pam and John. 10 grandchildren. Visitation Friday 1-9 p.m. at the R.G. & G. R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Visitation continues Saturday from 10 a.m. until time of Service at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth. Share a memory of Ken at: www.rgrharris.com



**LANE, LEONARD**

"...you can see clearly now, and no more worrying or pain. You are with Grandma now. Heaven gained another angel this day. - R.I.P. Grandpa. We will miss you." Born Leon Eugene Lotowicz on 11/3/1921, Leonard Lane was welcomed into heaven on 1/2/2014 at the age of 92 by his beloved wife, Ruth, who he married on 10/17/1945, and his two sons, Randy and Lenny. Caring and loving father of his surviving six children, Charles, Barry, Russell, Christine (Gary) Zalewski, Maureen (Michael) Brodie, and Daniel; grandfather of Jennifer (Michael) Robertson, Sarah (Jesse) Wiebusch, Bryan Lane, Lisa and Jacob Brodie; and great-grandfather of Brady and Garret Wiebusch. Leonard was one of 12 born to Anthony and Sophie Lotowicz and is survived by his sister, Doris Zerkowski. Leonard proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during WWII and was awarded the Purple Heart. Leonard's remains, together with his wife's, will be placed at the Great Lakes National VA Cemetery in Mt. Holly, MI where a small service is planned for a later date. Memorials may be directed to the Macula Vision Research Foundation at www.mvrf.org/donation-page or the Kellogg Eye Institute: www.kellogg.umich.edu/giving.

**McKINNEY, JOAN MARIE "SUE"**

Age 73, of Grosse Pointe and formerly of Wayne and Westland, passed away peacefully on January 2, 2014 of pneumonia. She is survived by two daughters, Kea Bartholomew (Steve) of Cincinnati and Meg McKinney of Valdez, Alaska, her grandchildren, Steven, Max, Nick, Andrew and Antoinette; and her ex-husband Gene McKinney. Also surviving is one of her four siblings, Fred Etherington of Arizona, and several nieces and nephews. Sue was born in Wayne on December 18, 1940 and graduated from Wayne St. Mary's High School in 1958. She continued her schooling and worked as a newspaper reporter and feature writer for weekly papers in Wayne, Inkster, and Wyandotte and was the Women's Editor at the Ypsilanti Daily Press. She married in 1963 and in 1968 stopped working to begin her family. In 1978, they moved to Grosse Pointe where she continued to raise her family and began a successful career as a Grosse Pointe real estate agent. Upon retirement, she cherished her role as a fully devoted grandmother and friend. Per her wishes, there was not a public funeral service but there will be a private celebration of life at a later date. Any memorial donations can be made to the City of Wayne Goodfellows at waynecitygoodfellows.org or the Michigan Humane Society at michiganhumane.org. Messages of condolence and special memories can be sent in care of Kea Bartholomew at 7832 Surreywood Dr., North Bend, OH 45052 or kea@fuse.net.

After a 34 year career as an engineer, Max retired from Detroit Diesel to pursue his varied hobbies full time. Max volunteered his time as a docent at Matthaei Botanical Gardens and as a lab technician at the University of Michigan Ornithology Department often riding his bicycle to Ann Arbor from Livonia. Max was also active in The Nature Conservancy, The Audubon Society and the Sierra Club, guiding numerous nature hikes. Max loved nature and outdoor fitness activities. He was a serious long distance runner for many years, and was member of the Motor City Striders running club. He ran numerous marathons, from Boston to Hawaii, running his personal best time of 2 hours 47 minutes in the Detroit-Windsor marathon when he was 58 years old. In his retirement Max traveled around the world on a series of outdoor adventure vacations, often involving hiking, biking, canoeing, bird watching or mountain climbing, summiting Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania when he was 64 years old. Max is survived by his son John Nemazi (Lisa), daughter Diane Richardson (Richard), grandchildren Leslie and Lauren Nemazi, Kari Kerby, Robert and Eric Richardson, great granddaughter Sarah Kerby, sisters-in-law Marie Nemazie, Beverly Edens, Evelyn Jackson, brother-in-law Herb Cook, and many nieces, nephews and their children. Max was pre-deceased by brothers Joe Nemazi and Sam Nemazie, brothers-in-law Thomas Jackson and Ray Edens, sisters-in-law Mary Theresa Nemazi and Barbara Cook, and nephews James Kenyon, Thomas Jackson, and James Nemazi. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, January 11, 2014 at the Baldwin Fairchild Chapel, 301 NE Ivanhoe Blvd., Orlando. In lieu of flowers the family suggests making a donation to Matthaei Botanical Gardens http://www.lsa.umich.edu/mbg/give/tributes.asp.



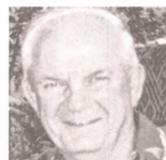
**PALMER, ELIZABETH M.**

January 6, 2014. Age 81. Beloved wife of the Robert M. Loving mother of Barbara (Donald) Anderson, Karen (Keith) Buschbacher and Robert (Laura). Also survived by nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Funeral Thursday, 7 p.m. at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Road (at Ann Arbor Trail). Family will receive visitors Thursday 1-9 p.m. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com

**GRIFFIN**  
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**STREET, HELEN I.**

January 4, 2014, age 96. Beloved wife of the late Albert Gerth and Taft Street. Dear mother of William L. Gerth and Theodore "Fritz" (Linda) Gerth. Grandmother of Sandy (Mark) Sage, Stacey Dempsey, Sherry (Bill) Parks, Leslie Gerth and Jeremy (Michelle) Stover. Great-grandmother of Nick, Meghan, Kyle, Danielle, Melissa, Austin, Aaron, Preston, Kelly, Kayla, Jacob and dear friend and neighbor Linda Frost. Visitation Friday 10 a.m. until time of the funeral service at 1 p.m. at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Share your memories at: www.schrader-howell.com



**STUPYRA, ADAM T.**

Age 86, January 3, 2014. Beloved husband of Ann "Dolly." Loving father of Constance (Rick) Bottema, Kenneth (Patricia), Janet (Charles) Navarro, John, Dale (Debi), Gary (Denise) and Al (Lisa). Grandfather of 12, great-grandfather of nine. Brother of Lillian, Virginia and Delphine. Visitation was held Monday with an evening Scripture Service at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden City. Funeral service was held Tuesday at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City. Memorials suggested to the Michigan Humane Society and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

www.santeiufuneralhome.com  
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May you find comfort in family and friends

A loving tribute



**JACKSON, FANNIE MAE**

January 4, 2014 age 92 of Canton. Predeceased by husbands Odell Murray and Robert Jackson. Loving mother of Caroline Norwood, Modell (David) Yates, David (Judith) Murray. Dear sister of Mildred Kilburn, Robert, C.L. Cunningham and Joan Cunningham Green. Predeceased by siblings Raymond, Grace, Ed, Vernon, Herman, Lavern, Fred Cunningham and Evelyn Cunningham Davis. Proud Grandmother of Devona Yates, Alana Younts, David Mark Merchant, David Ray Jr. and Brian Murray. Great Grandmother of Brandon David Yates, Corey Jason and Tommy Neil Silveus, Jennifer Dunn, Bradley Michael Merchant, and Meghan, Ethan and Jeremy Murray. Great-Great Grandmother of Isiah David Silveus. Visitation Sunday 2-4 p.m. until the 4 p.m. Funeral Service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, (Btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Interment Washtenong Memorial Park. Memorials may be made to Salvation Army. To share a memory, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

**VERMEULEN FUNERAL HOME**



**LORIDAS, MARGARET "MAGGIE"**

Age 84, of Farmington, one of the Farmington Senior Center founders, died January 2, 2014. Maggie is the beloved wife of the late Paul (d. 2011); devoted mother of Michael (Laura), Patrick (Kathleen), Paulette (Gregory), Mary, Katy (Jeffrey) and Joseph (Janet); and cherished grandmother of 17. Maggie's Funeral Mass was celebrated Monday, Jan. 6th, at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Farmington. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes suggested to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, stjude.org. Arrangements entrusted to the Heeneey-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). heeneey-sundquist.com

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



**NEMAZI, MEHDI (MAX)**

88, passed away in Altamonte Springs, Florida on January 3, 2014. Max was born August 23, 1925 in Shiraz, Iran, and moved to the United States in 1948 to pursue a Master's degree in Diesel Engineering at the University North Carolina. After graduation in 1950 he moved to Detroit to work for the Detroit Diesel Division of General Motors. He was married in 1951 to Mary Jackson, and they were together for 59 years until her passing in 2010. Max and Mary lived in Livonia, Michigan for over 50 years where they raised their children John and Diane.

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May you find peace in this time of sorrow.

# Your Invitation to Worship

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<p><b>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</b></p> <p><b>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1255 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 AT150652</p>	<p><b>Rosedale Gardens</b> PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman &amp; Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs AT150653</p>	<p><b>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</b></p> <p><b>A Church for Seasoned Saints</b> <b>OPEN ARMS CHURCH</b> Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Wednesday 7 pm Pastor Grady Jansen &amp; Music Minister Abe Fazzini 33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington &amp; Merriman Across from Joe's Produce 248.471.5282 Church As You Remember It! AT150652</p>	<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>Fellowship Presbyterian Church</b> Adult Sunday: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Services held at: <b>Saint Andrews Episcopal Church</b> 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org AT150650</p>
<p><b>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH &amp; SCHOOL</b> 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA (734)261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY : 8:30 A.M. &amp; 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY : 8:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org</p>			

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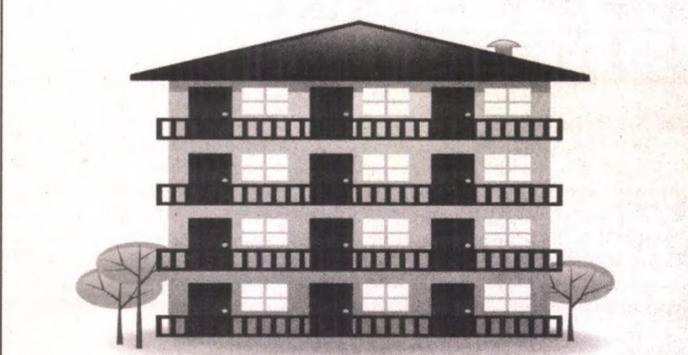
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AFI Financial	2431	(877) 234-0600	4.375	0	3.375	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	4.49	0	3.5	0
Co-op Services Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4.625	0.25	3.625	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4.5	0	3.625	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4.625	0	3.625	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	4.625	0	3.625	0
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