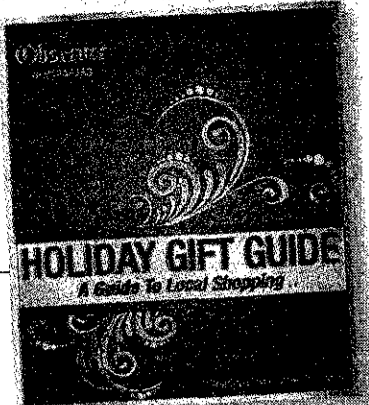


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## Police OK with teen's guilty plea in fatal crash

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Redford Township teenager has pleaded guilty to second-degree murder amid allegations he lost control of a Mercedes Benz, slammed into two vehicles and killed a Walled Lake man while fleeing from Westland police at speeds topping 100 mph, authorities said Tuesday.

Ramon Foster, 15, faces sentencing Jan. 9 by Wayne County Probate Judge Frank Szymanski after he pleaded guilty Friday to an Oct. 14

crash at Merriman and Warren that killed 35-year-old Ndalima Yussuf Nzaro.

Foster, designated as an adult, could face a broad range of sentencing options when he is sentenced for a crime that carries penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller confirmed that Foster's plea to second-degree murder resulted in authorities dropping charges of operating a vehicle while under the influence of a controlled substance and causing a death; first-degree flee-

ing and eluding; failing to stop at an accident involving injury or death; and operating without a driver's license.

"I'm OK with the plea," Westland Police Chief James Ridener said. "It can't get much better than that for this type of crime."

Ron Kroll, who is in charge of the Westland Police Department's traffic bureau, described himself as "pleased" and said that "with the circumstances being what they were, it's a just (outcome)."

Foster's plea brought a swift resolu-

tion to his case considering that he had only been ordered to stand trial on Nov. 3.

The teenager was accused of losing control of a silver Mercedes while fleeing east on Warren and striking a Honda Accord and a Ford van that had stopped for a traffic light on southbound Merriman. Warren curves as it approaches Merriman, and authorities have indicated Foster was driving well over 100 mph.

Nzaro, employed as a custodian, was on his way to work in his Honda Accord when the accident happened,

Westland police have said. He sustained severe head injuries and died two days later at the University of Michigan Hospital, where he had been airlifted from Garden City Hospital.

Miller has said that Foster could be sentenced as a juvenile or potentially receive a "blended sentence" that could eventually lead to his transfer to an adult prison.

Police have said the teenager was driving a vehicle that he didn't have permission to drive.

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Wayne County Sheriff Officer Ray Johnson steals the purse from fellow officer Kenya Davis as she talks on a cell phone while walking to a car in the parking lot of Westland Shopping Center during a shopping safety demonstration.

## 'He stole my purse'

### Demonstrations show ways to stay safe shopping

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"Hey, someone stop that guy, he just stole my purse," shouted Kenya Davis as Ray Johnson ran through the parking lot of Westland Shopping Center with her purse in his hand.

Cameras were rolling to catch the crime, but it wasn't the neither first time Davis hollered that nor a fleet-footed escape for Johnson. Wayne County Sheriff's officers, the duo were re-enacted purse snatchings several times to show how to thwart the crime during the holiday season.

It was a lesson Maureen Brown took to heart. Looking at her purse, dangling from her shoulder, she had to admit, "This is bad."

Brown and her husband

Please see **SAFETY, A2**



Peter and Maureen Brown of Plymouth were among people who watched the demonstration in hopes of picking up a 'little something' to keep safe during the holiday shopping season.

## Krazy Kopz help charities raise funds

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Three Westland police officers have found a way to help local charities raise money while earning extra cash for themselves while they're off duty.

Call them crazy. They'll take it as a compliment.

Known as Krazy Kopz, Westland officers and brothers Matt and Joe Bobby, fellow cop Jeff Kavanaugh and business partner Rick Brown have started a state-licensed business on the side to provide popular poker game Texas Hold 'em and Blackjack events for charities seeking a way to raise money.

"They can raise several thousand dollars with minimal effort," Kavanaugh said.

It works like this: Nonprofit groups pull a state license for the gambling event, then arrange for Krazy Kopz to run the games in a poker room at Town 'n' Country Lanes, a longtime bowling alley on Wayne Road between Cherry Hill and Palmer.

"Pretty much all the charity has to do is show up with two people and sell the poker chips," Kavanaugh said. "We do everything else. The charities don't even have to know anything about poker."

Typically, one charity raises

money for four consecutive evenings, Thursday through Sunday. The nonprofit pays a \$50-a-day license fee. In turn, it earns half of the gross profits, Kavanaugh said, and Krazy Kopz takes the rest to pay off their costs and pocket whatever is left.

Krazy Kopz already had an event with the Westland Police Officers Association, Kavanaugh said, and the business partners have lined up numerous other charities.

"This is just one way for us to give back to the community" and still make a profit, Kavanaugh said. "We have just about every Westland charity on board with us. We're keeping Westland money in Westland."

The city's top brass, led by Police Chief James Ridener, gave approval to Krazy Kopz after researching it and considering the charitable benefits.

"That's why we allowed it," Ridener said. "We looked at a conflict of interest. We don't believe there is any, because it's licensed through the state and it's for charitable purposes. And it's done off-duty."

Kavanaugh said anyone who wants more information may call (734) 787-5758 or go online to www.krazykopz-rentals.com.

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## Alert citizen foils break-in at church

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An alert witness called Westland police and helped officers nab three suspects during a break-in that happened shortly after 3 a.m. Friday at a church on the southeast corner of Warren and Venoy, police Lt. Dan Karrick said.

The citizen's quick action helped Officers Jason Brassfield, Robert Kenyon and Ronald Buckley catch three men accused of breaking into Our Savior Church.

Police captured one suspect near the church, another in an apartment complex a short distance away, and a third who had gotten into a getaway car near the scene, Karrick said.

The incident was foiled before the suspects could take anything from the church, the lieutenant said.

"The citizen that called allowed us to get there quickly and catch these guys before they had a chance to steal anything," Karrick said. "Without his call, it

would have been unlikely we would have caught them."

On Monday, Westland 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos arraigned three defendants, entered not-guilty pleas for them and scheduled a Dec. 4 preliminary hearing to determine whether they should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Authorities identified the defendants as Aaron Ray Hanson, 22, of Westland, his 21-year-old brother, Justin Merlyn Hanson, also of Westland, and Jonathan Edward Morris, 20, of Canton.

All three men are charged with breaking and entering and possession of burglar tools. Justin Hanson and Morris also are charged as habitual offenders.

Bokos ordered Aaron Hanson jailed with a \$100,000 cash bond, while the other two defendants faced a stiffer, \$250,000 cash bond.

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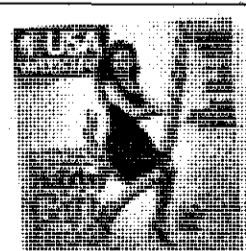
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Coming Sunday:  
Find the perfect holiday gift



**SAFETY**

FROM PAGE A1

Peter had come to the shopping center to watch the demonstration put on for members of the media in advance of the start of the holiday shopping season.

"Boy, if I can pick up one little tip ... any little thing can help," said the Plymouth resident.

"This is the worst economy ever and when the economy is poor, you're going to have more people looking for an opportunity to steal," said Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans. "You have to be aware of your environment."

Davis played the victim for the demonstration, making several walks to a car, parked several hundred feet from the Kohl's Wayne Road entrance. Each time Johnson darted out from in front of a white panel van, grabbing her purse from her shoulder as she talked on her cell phone and loaded her

packages in the car.

He also waited until she had placed the bags in the backseat and was well on her way back to the store, when he broke the window with a hammer to gain access.

According to Evans, the different scenarios showed what shoppers need to do to stay safe. In the case of the cell phone, he said to make the call in the mall "and get it out of the way." He also advised woman to place their purses across their body or "better yet across their bodies and under a jacket."

He also told shoppers to park beside smaller vehicles, taking away a hiding place from would-be thieves and to move the car every time they make a trip to the car to drop off purchases.

"They're not going to follow you," Evans said. "These are not violent people. The louder you scream, the less likely they'll continue."

Joining Evans for the presentation was Westland Police James Ridener who said his

department will have a presence at the mall Friday with the official start of the holiday shopping season.

"We'll have stepped-up enforcement at the mall through Christmas Eve," he said. "We'll have patrols inside and outside."

The mall has its own security detail, but works with Westland Police with added patrols.

"We have a great working relationship with the Westland Police, this is something they do around a busy time of the year," said Denise Mills, the mall's marketing director. "We want people to know it's a great shopping destination, but that they need to be safe."

Evans stressed that opportunistic crime has yet to happen, but that doesn't mean it won't.

"Ask me in two weeks," he said. "We want to make sure people enjoy the season. If people are aware, they're going to enjoy themselves."

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**'Someone turned our lives upside down ...'**

30 years later, family seek clues to brother's murder

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As the anniversary of Tom Freno's death approaches, his sisters still hold out hope that someone will provide the information to solve his murder 30 years ago.

"I still hope that someone who didn't have a conscience 30 years ago does now. Or that they have a 34-year-old son," Westland resident Kathy Minch said. "A lot of people were afraid for themselves. No one thinks about it. They have no idea the day or month this happened. We never forget. To me, our lives have never been the same."

A lifelong Garden City resident, Freno was 34 when he died on Nov. 22, 1978, at the old Wayne County General Hospital. He'd been on life support for several days after being found severely beaten on the lawn of his home in the 29500 block of Elmwood.

"They took everything — his wallet, his watch and his coat — they threw him in the ditch," said Judy Larry, also of Elmwood.

In 1978, Freno was living with Larry in Garden City and often picked her daughter up from kindergarten. He worked part time as a bartender at the Blue Bonnet, a bar on Ford near Merriman that today is Frankie's. Freno was last seen hitchhiking from Jamie's, a bar farther west on Ford, having argued with a female companion.

"This one morning, Tom never came home. I called my mom — he just wouldn't show up. I kept calling and then I got off work around 5 (p.m.)," Larry said.

Then Larry got a call from her former husband, James Oliverson, at that time a Garden City police officer, telling her to come to the hospital.

"He said Tom was OK, but I



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sisters Kathy Minch (left) and Judy Larry hold a newspaper article about the unsolved murder of their brother Tom Freno, who died in 1978.

knew he wasn't, Jim never talked to me that way, that gentle," Larry said.

Unconscious and without identification when he was found, Freno had been taken to the hospital as a John Doe. Oliverson had read a teletype with a description of the John Doe and went to the hospital where he had identified Freno.

"He had two brain surgeries before we knew he was at the hospital," Minch said.

Having never regained consciousness, Freno was on life support until the family had to decide whether to keep him alive artificially.

"The doctors said he would have been a vegetable. That was one of the hardest things I ever did, taking him off the life support," Larry said. "You wonder when you hear of people waking up after 20 years. He wouldn't have wanted to live like that. He was always doing something."

The youngest of the four Freno siblings, Minch said she always opposed taking her brother, the eldest sibling, off life support. The sisters, who also have a brother Michael, remember their brother as a devoted uncle to their children and a man well-liked by many people. Not knowing who killed their brother and no one being held accountable for his murder has been painful for the entire family.

"I'm not the same person I

was 31 years ago. When Tom died, I felt like part of me was removed — there was a hollow part," Minch said. "I have grandkids. I've come a long way, but it's frustrating. Someone turned our lives upside down and is out there walking around like nothing happened."

Active at St. Dunstan Catholic Church, Larry said she relies on her faith.

"I don't have the faith I used to have, I never prayed as hard as I did for God not to take Tom," Minch said.

Both women recall the affect of their brother's murder on their mother, Colleen, who died in 1998 at age 73. Their father, Steve, had died in 1981.

"She went from happy-go-lucky, loving Colleen to a very bitter person," Larry said. "She didn't want to leave us but would gladly die to be with Tom."

Some people will think the sisters should forget about the murder and move on but Minch said she would consider those fighting words.

"Hopefully, someone will read this and say 'I was there' and let us put it to rest. I can be watching television and the tears will roll down my face," Minch said. "People think why not leave it alone. If we can make someone nervous about this, then I'll feel better."

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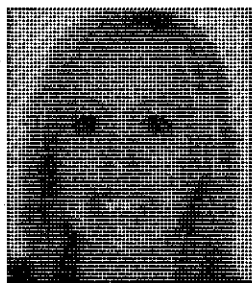
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**Police seek information on holdups at 2 stores**

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland police are investigating a pair of armed robberies, one inside the Kroger store at Warren and Middlebelt in the city's north end and another at the Dollar General store at Glenwood and Newburgh on the southwest side.

A lone bandit went into the Kroger store about 9:50 p.m. Friday, implied he had a gun in his right jacket pocket and robbed two cashiers of an undisclosed amount of money, police Sgt. Steve Borisch said.

No shots were fired and no one was injured.

Witnesses described the culprit as a black male, about 5-foot-10 and 150 pounds, wearing a green windbreaker with a hood. Workers also said he was unshaven and appeared drunk, Borisch said.

In an incident that police believe is unrelated, a lone gunman went into the Dollar Store about 8:25 p.m. Saturday, brandished a small handgun and forced employees to hand over an undisclosed amount of money, police Lt. Dan Karrick said.

The gunman threatened to shoot unless the employees met his demands, but they complied and he fled the store without firing any shots, Karrick said.

The suspect was described as a black male wearing a dark green hoodie, dark jeans and dark shoes.

Anyone who has information about either robbery is asked to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600 or (734) 721-6311.

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**CITY OF GARDEN CITY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
DECEMBER 8, 2008  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
BLOCK GRANT FUNDS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on December 8, 2008 at 6:59 p.m. regarding the proposed creation of a new eligible activity to be funded with 2006 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

The proposed project involves \$54,000 for property acquisition (\$39,000) and public improvements (\$15,000) related to the development of two affordable housing units within the city.

The primary objective of the CDBG program is to fund eligible activities and projects that benefit low and moderate income persons; aid in the prevention or elimination of blight and slums; and/or address an urgent community development need.

All interested citizens are invited to attend and provide comments on the proposed project. For additional information on the program or the proposed project, please contact Ms. Sarah Traxler at (734)793-1663.

ALLYSON BETTIS,  
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Posted: November 21, 2008  
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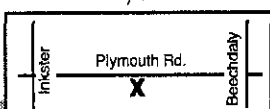
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# Fund-raiser aids youngster battling rare form of cancer

A Hoover Elementary School third-grader and her family will be on the receiving end of proceeds from a fund-raiser being held Sunday, Nov. 30, at the US-12 Bar at 34824 W. Michigan Ave. in Wayne.

There is a minimum \$10 donation, payable at the door, for the 5 p.m. a fund-raiser to benefit the Alissa Jennings Foundation. The event also includes a 50/50 raffle, prize raffle and entertainment.

The eight-year-old is facing 31 chemotherapy treatments and 31 radiation treatments after being



Alissa Jennings

diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor in October.

According to Natalie Bain, Alissa was suffering from severe headache, vomiting, and sensitivity to light when she was taken to University of Michigan Hospital on Sept. 22. A CT scan showed a mass on her brain.

"Four days later, doctors performed surgery and removed

most of the mass during the 12-hour surgery, however, some parts of the tumor were too deep in the brain," added Bain. Alissa's mother Nicole is her cousin.

On Oct. 6, doctors told her parents, Nicole and husband Jeff, that a biopsy showed that the mass was an Atypical Teratoid Rhabdoid Tumor (AT/RT). A highly malignant and aggressive brain tumor that grows at a rapid rate tumor, it is found primarily in children.

Seven days later, on Oct. 13, Alissa was taken back to the hospital because of a another

headache. She was rushed into a MRI where it was found that the tumor had grown back larger and that fluid had built up on her brain.

"She had another six-hour procedure during which two shunts were put in her head as well as a port in her chest," said Bain.

Alissa began her chemo and radiation treatments just days later, Bain said, adding that the hope is that the "treatment will cause the tumor to decrease in size and put Alissa in remission."

Tickets to the fund-raiser

will be available at the door. Donations also are being accepted. Checks, made payable to the Alissa Jennings Foundation, can be sent to the Wayne-Westland

Federal Credit Union, c/o Alissa Jennings Foundation, 500 S. Wayne Road, Westland, MI 48186. For more information, call (734) 722-3170.

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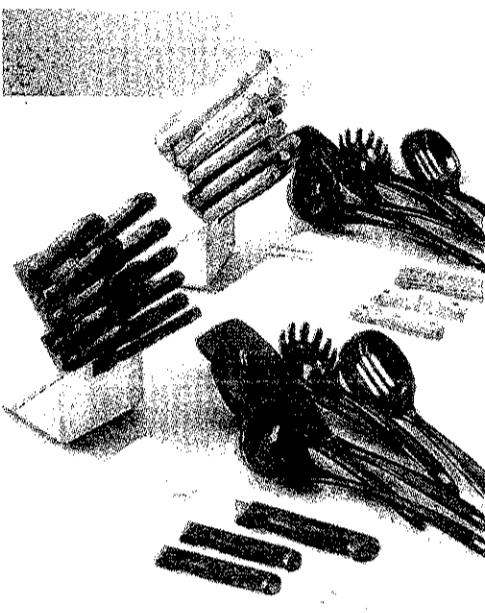
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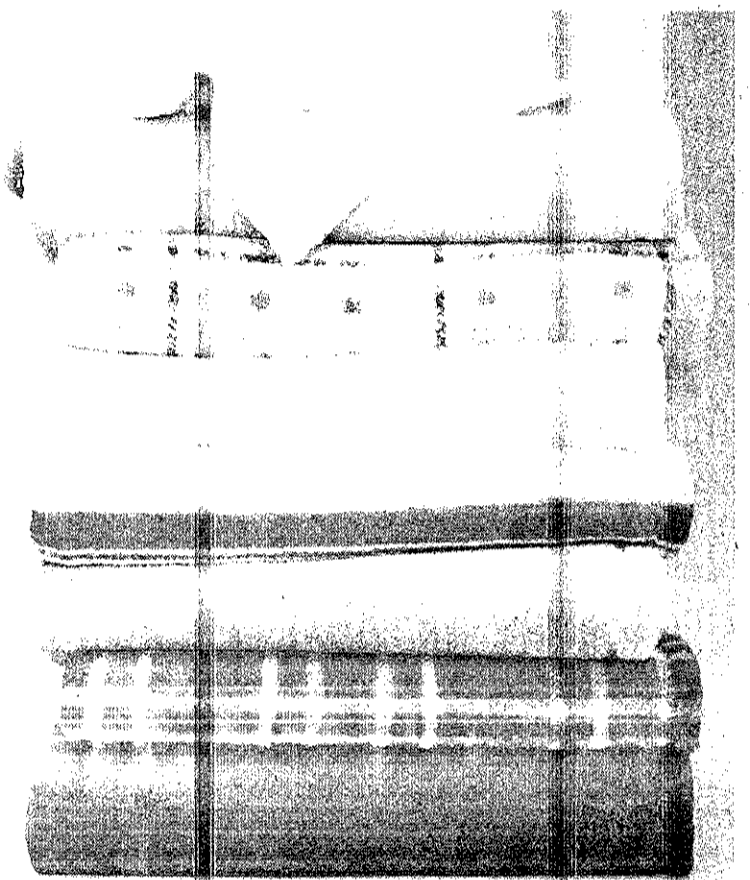


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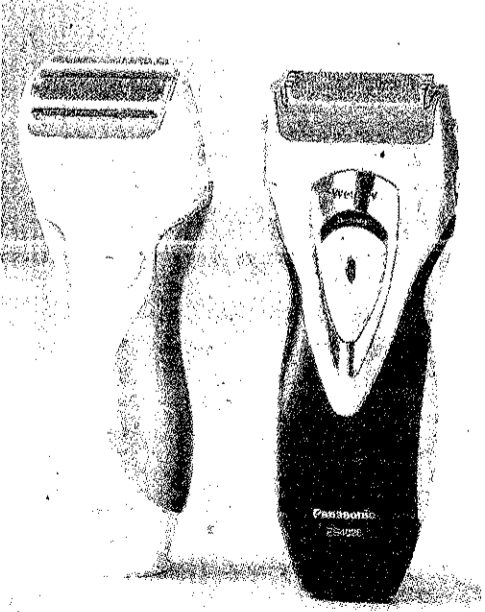
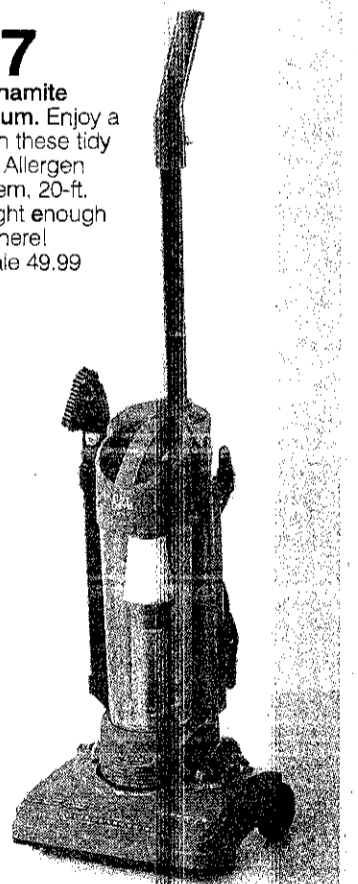
**6.97**  
**Microplush throw.** Cuddle up in a cozy warm throw. In blue, blue plaid, antique white, stripe, warm sand, garnet plaid and garnet. Reg. \$22, sale 9.99 after 1pm.



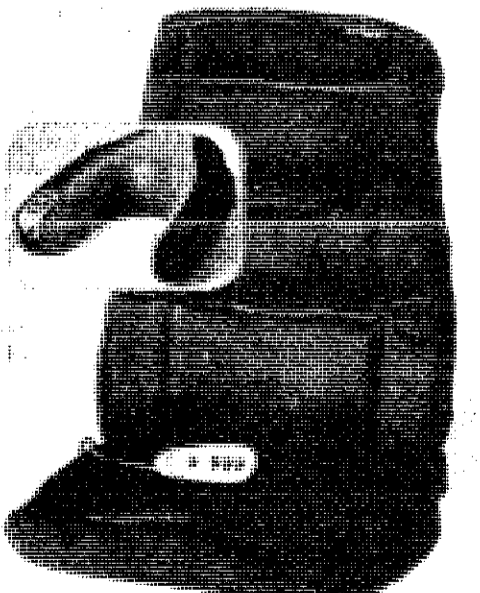
**47.97 5-PC. SET**  
**Monaco luggage set from Leisure.** Includes 27", 24" & 20" uprights, tote and carry-on kit. Reg. \$200, sale 79.99 after 1pm.



**39.97**  
**Dirt Devil Dynamite Upright vacuum.** Enjoy a tidy home with these tidy savings! With Allergen Filtration system, 20-ft. cord and is light enough to carry anywhere! Reg. \$100, sale 49.99 after 1pm.



**19.97 YOUR CHOICE**  
**Panasonic razors.** For her, the Close Curves® razor with wet-dry capability for use in shower or tub, bikini trimmer and charger. For him, the Pro Curve™ razor is fully immersible wet-dry, with floating double heads, sideburn/mustache trimmer & charger. Reg. \$50 ea., sale 24.99 ea. after 1pm.



**15.97 YOUR CHOICE**  
**Neck or back massagers.** Choose from Conair® back massager with heat therapy option or Homedics neck massager with heat and a flexible shape for the perfect fit. Reg. \$40 ea., sale 19.99 ea. after 1pm.



**69.97 YOUR CHOICE**  
**Cuisinart 10-cup coffee makers.** Grind & Brew™ or Thermal Programmable coffee makers feature 24-hour programmability, Brew Pause™ and limited 3-yr warranty. Reg. \$120 & \$125, sale 79.99 ea. after 1pm.



**37.97**  
**Oster® blender/food processor.** An indispensable kitchen tool. Features a 450-watt motor, stainless steel blades and dishwasher-safe, 5-cup glass container. Reg. \$80, sale 49.99 after 1pm.



# FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!

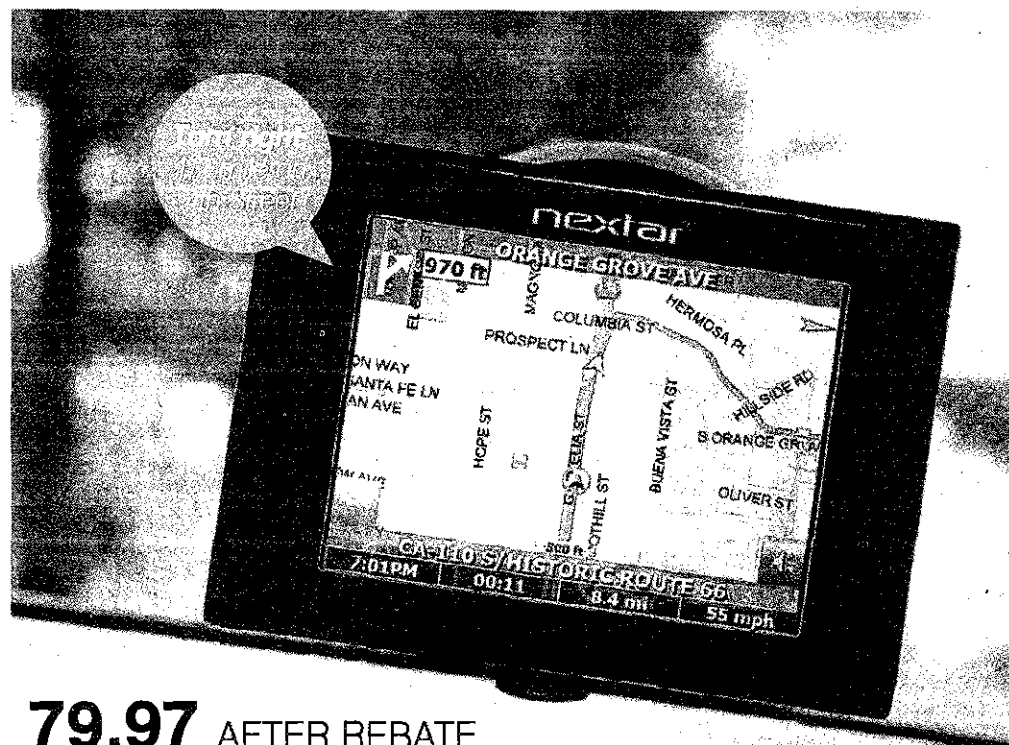
**19.97 AFTER REBATE**

**Mr. Coffee® 12-cup coffee maker.** Programmable coffee maker features two-hour auto shut-off, brewing Pause 'n Serve function and removable filter basket for easy cleaning. Reg. \$60, sale 39.99 after 1pm, door buster 29.97, 19.97 after \$10 mfr. mail-in rebate.



# PARISIAN

COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE

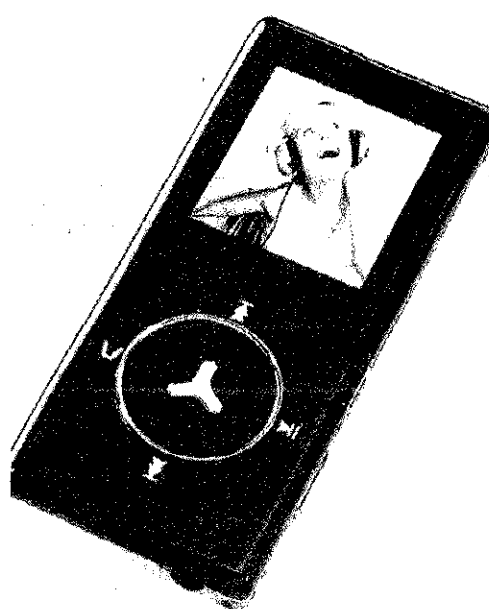
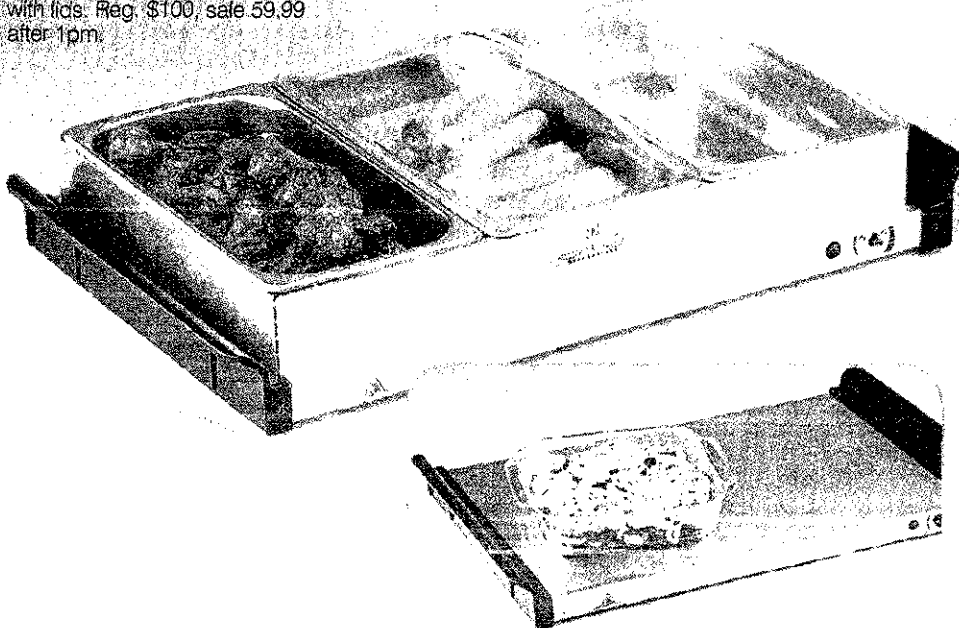


**79.97 AFTER REBATE**

**Nextar™ M3-03 navigation system.** Features maps of all 50 states, 3.5" LCD touch screen and rechargeable battery. Includes street specific voice prompts, mounting bracket and chargers. Reg. \$300, sale 129.99 after 1pm, door buster 99.97, 79.97 after \$20 mfr. mail-in rebate. Tech Trek Department.

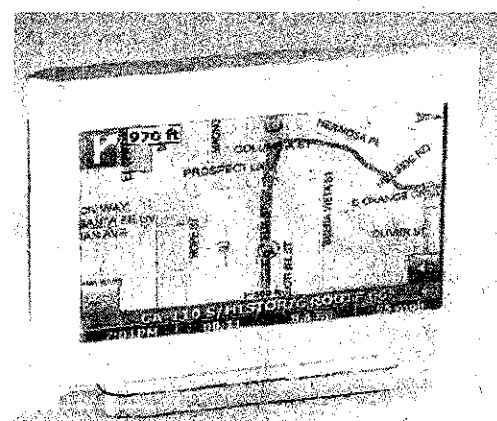
**49.97**

**Bella Cucina 3-pc. buffet server and warming tray.** Includes three removable 2.5-qt. chafing dishes with lids. Reg. \$100, sale 59.99 after 1pm.



**49.97**

**The Sharper Image® 4GB MP3 player.** Take your music anywhere! Holds approximately 960 songs and features a video player and photo viewer. Includes built-in rechargeable battery. Reg. \$150, sale 69.99 after 1pm. Picture simulated. Tech Trek Department.

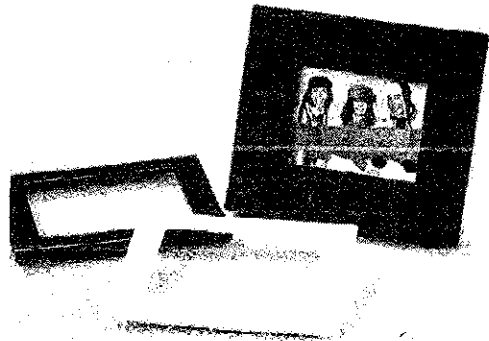
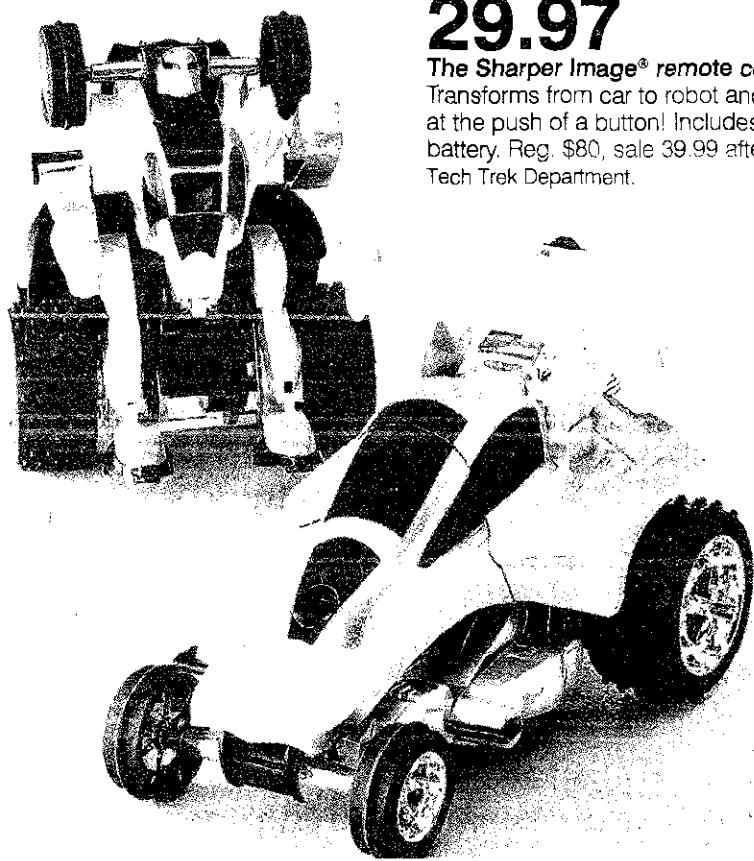


**199.97 AFTER \$30 MFR. MAIL-IN REBATE**

**Nextar™ I4-BC Navigation system.** Features maps of all 50 states and Canada, an oversized 4.3" LCD touch screen and rechargeable battery. Includes text-to-speech feature that clearly pronounces street names. Plus, bonus back-up camera included! Camera mounts to your rear license plate and wirelessly activates the view screen when you put your car in reverse. Reg. \$600, sale 299.99 after 1pm, door buster 229.97, 199.97 after \$30 mfr. mail-in rebate. Tech Trek Department.

**29.97**

**The Sharper Image® remote control robot car.** Transforms from car to robot and back again – at the push of a button! Includes rechargeable battery. Reg. \$80, sale 39.99 after 1pm. Tech Trek Department.



**29.97 AFTER REBATE**

**Nextar™ 3.5" digital frame.** Holds up to 3,000 photos. Interchangeable black wood and black or white acrylic frames. Reg. \$100, sale 49.99 after 1pm, door buster 39.97, 29.97 after \$10 mfr. mail-in rebate. Tech Trek Department.

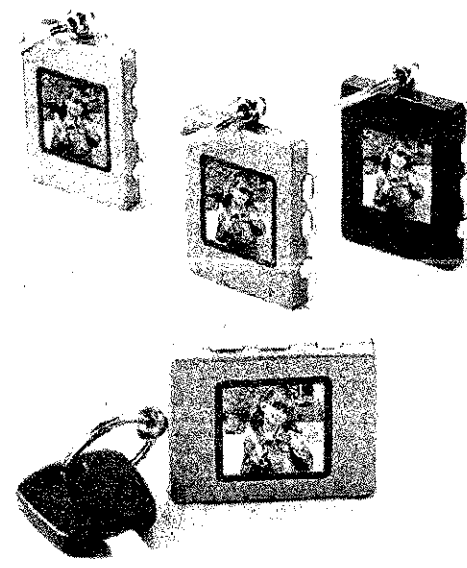


**69.97**

**Photoshare 7" digital photo frame.** Displays digital photos, videos and plays music. Classic walnut wooden frame compliments any décor. Includes remote, 128MB built-in memory and programmable shut-off feature. Reg. \$200, sale 89.99 after 1pm. Picture simulated. Tech Trek Department.

**12.97**

**RC "Savage" car.** Powerful and blazing fast! Features super spinning action with amazing single-tire wheelies. Reg. \$40, sale 19.99 after 1pm. Tech Trek Department.



**12.97**

**The Sharper Image® digital photo keychain.** Displays up to 60 photos on a full-color 1.4" high-resolution LCD screen. Rechargeable battery. Software included. Reg. \$50, sale 24.99 after 1pm. Picture simulated. Tech Trek Department.



**39.97**

**The Sharper Image® digital photo viewer.** Features 3.2" LCD screen, 256MB memory that holds up to 500 photos, slide show feature and built-in, rechargeable battery. Reg. \$150, sale 69.99 after 1pm. Picture simulated. Tech Trek Department.

For the store nearest you or to shop online, visit us at [bonton.com](http://bonton.com). Door Busters effective 4 a.m. - 1 p.m. Friday, November 28, 2008. Sale prices effective Friday, November 28 through Saturday, November 29, 2008. No price adjustments for previously purchased clearance merchandise. Entire Stock offers exclude Clearance and Incredible Value merchandise. Regular and original prices reflect offering prices in effect during the 90 days before or after this sale, but not necessarily during the past 30 days. Savings may not be based on actual sales. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken. Merchandise, style and color availability may vary by store and online. [19695A]

OUR VIEWS

## Be grateful – and have a happy Thanksgiving

"Happy Thanksgiving." We'll hear this greeting a lot this week, but how can we have a "happy" Thanksgiving when the economy is in such sad shape?

So many people have lost their jobs, their homes, their retirement savings.

The national unemployment is 6.5 percent, the highest since March 1994. In Michigan, it's 8.7 percent.

A record 1.2 million homes were in foreclosure during the second quarter of 2008, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association. According to some estimates, another 2 million families could lose their homes to foreclosure in the next two years.

In October, the Dow Jones Industrial Average suffered its worst week of losses ever.

The Big 3 is seeking a government bailout, and leading economists say the likelihood of a prolonged U.S. recession has increased significantly as economic conditions continue to deteriorate.

Yet, happiness doesn't come from material possessions. They make it easier to live, but they don't bring lasting and genuine joy.

True happiness comes from being content with what we have — no matter how meager our possessions or how trying our circumstances.

Consider the Pilgrims, who celebrated the first Thanksgiving in the autumn of 1621. The English colonists arrived in the New World in the winter, making it very difficult for them to find food and build shelter. Most of them died the first few months in their new home, having already been weakened by their two-month voyage on the Mayflower. There were no emergency rooms or hospitals, flu shots, penicillin or even aspirin, let alone health insurance.

The Pilgrims endured more hardships and had far, far less in material possessions than the average American today; yet they gave thanks in celebration for what little they had.

Put the happy in your Thanksgiving this year by being grateful for your many blessings.

## Face up to reality of poverty in area

Poverty has a face, but there's no need to look at pictures of the homeless and the hungry in countries around the world to recognize it.

In Oakland and Wayne counties today, that is as likely to be the face of your neighbor's child as it is the faces of families in less affluent areas.

Layoffs, spiraling utility costs and higher grocery bills are all drawing new pictures of the face of poverty. Economists are projecting that the need will grow in 2009 as the unemployment rate is expected to jump to 10.5 percent by the end of the year.

Local agencies, however, are already reporting significant increases in requests for help. At Troy People Concerned, the staff reports that the size of the requests for help have grown, much as the utility bills we all pay have skyrocketed.

Fulfilling those requests for help offers hope that there is one month more a wage earner can keep her house or feed his family while looking for work.

Now more than ever, it's time to look those needs in the face. Here are a few ways.

The Salvation Army has gone high tech with a secure online donation site ([www.onlineredkettle.org](http://www.onlineredkettle.org)), but it still needs bell ringers for its annual Red Kettle campaign.

In Rochester Hills, the all-volunteer Holiday Helpers will again have a giving tree at city hall. Rochester Area Neighborhood House, like Troy People Concerned, is seeking donations of gas and grocery cards.

Just as someone in need is right around the corner, there is no need to drive far to help.

Century 21 Hartford, 35615 Grand River in Farmington, is a drop-off site for The Salvation Army's Toy Shop. The Toy Shop is an alternate Christmas program for every family that is not "adopted" for the holiday. New, unwrapped toys, stuffed animals, games and clothing for kids up to age 14, will be collected.

All items will be delivered to The Salvation Army location at 27500 Shiuwassee Road in Farmington Hills. (Call 248-478-6000.)

Keep your eyes peeled for other opportunities to help in your hometown. It might not be polite to stare, but we all must face up to the fact that poverty is looking right back at us.



LETTERS

### Missing the facts

In a recent *O&E* Opinions column the paper expressed its support for the Wayne-Westland school board regarding the recall of Martha Pitsenbarger and Skip Monit. I believe your paper missed many of the FACTS that surround this recall.

As a district, our elementary MEAP scores are on the rise. Unfortunately, that is where the good news ends. Once our children enter middle school, the scores begin to dip. By the time they reach high school, we hit rock bottom. Our MME scores (which replaced the MEAP) are basically failing. The state has found that our district is not meeting Adequate Yearly Progress at the high schools level. Our ACT scores are also below state averages. Yet, parents are being told by the administration and the board that class size is not an issue.

Meanwhile, millions of dollars have been spent on football fields, turf for the fields, libraries and gyms. Parents were told that the money for this came from the sinking fund and that sinking fund money can only be used for improvements. Yet, at the most recent school board meeting our superintendent said that a portion of the money came from the sinking fund which means the remainder came from the general fund.

For those not aware, the general fund can pay for more teachers for our children's classrooms. Instead the administration, with the approval of the board, has focused on high end improvements to our facilities rather than improving our children's education.

We were also told that we are losing money from the state. While that is true, the reason why is we are losing students. We are actually receiving \$96 more per student this year. At the same time, our graduation rate is decreasing and our dropout rate is on the rise. Yet, year after year, our superintendent is financially rewarded by the Board of Education for "doing a good job."

We are continually being told our district is broke, yet our superintendent is making more than \$250,000. His contract

is reviewed and signed every year by the board. He also receives a \$900 per month stipend and received a raise to cover his FICA not to mention a salary increase to cover auto allowance. There are many other perks, including more than 40 vacation days and 12 sick days which can be cashed out at the end of the year.

Yet, our district can barely keep its head above water?! What does this tell you? Not to mention, at the most recent school board meeting, the president, Martha Pitsenbarger admitted she did not know Dr. Baracy's salary. Kind of funny she did not know seeing as she signed EVERY one of his contracts!

As a parent and citizen of this community, I owe it to my children as well as all of the other children of this district to be informed on the issues. I assure you I have spent hours researching our district and the issues surrounding this recall. Unfortunately, what I have found has been truly disappointing.

Although the members of the Board of Education seem like nice people, nice doesn't get the job done!! And while many positive things have happened throughout the years in this district, right now, the negative heavily outweighs the positive. In my opinion, as our district jingle says, if great futures are going to start right here, it will need to happen with several new board members and a new administration.

Brandi Smith  
Westland

### Bill is misguided, foolhardy

I work for a wine retailer in Madison Heights. The vast majority of our business consists of us delivering wine directly to our clients. Our Madison Heights team has developed sound relationships with clients all over Michigan, and we are proud that we can personally cater to our clients' tastes and their budgets prior to delivering their wines.

The first week of December, the Michigan House of Representatives will likely vote on House bill 6644. This bill would make it illegal for my Michigan-

licensed wine company, and other Michigan wine retailers, to deliver wine to our Michigan customers.

Advocates of this bill claim that this is the only way to stop minors from purchasing wine for delivery online, in spite of there not being one known instance of a minor successfully purchasing wine from an out-of-state retail wine shipper in any of the dozens of states that allow the deliveries. To penalize actual local retailers due to a phantom risk posed by out of state retailers seems foolhardy and misguided.

The practical ramifications of House Bill 6644 passing would be catastrophic for my company, as well as hundreds of other wine retailers and catering companies. We would be forced to employ less delivery drivers, warehouse workers, and even customer service reps.

During this particularly trying holiday season, the Michigan House of Representatives would be better served considering a bill that can create more jobs across Michigan, not one that is certain to take jobs away.

Rick Wolfe  
Westland

### SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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FROM THE WEB

### From the Web

The following are comments posted by readers on our Web site at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

■ Regarding an appeal of recall petition language involving two Wayne-Westland school board members: opine4utoo wrote:

Great to hear that the local law prohibits petitioning on school property. My friend the teacher told me that last weekend the recall leaders were at some pageant activity at Wayne High and were getting signatures in front of the auditorium on school property. This article implies that the effort is picking up steam. They probably cannot get signatures unless they camp at gathering places. Hope that the signatures that were collected then will be nullified. Strange that Mrs. Maxwell states that Skip Monit is a man of his words, but intends to try to recall him anyway. Also strange that the recall language intends to recall people for doing what state law indicates they must: put procedures in place to deal with illegal people who have engaged in illegal work stoppages. Does Mrs. Maxwell think that this community is stupid? ModerateOne wrote:

Why waste the money of the taxpayers of the Wayne-Westland school district with an expensive recall? We are all battling for our jobs, most of us hanging on the hook waiting to see if Congress is going to give money to the auto industry.

But you all are mad because the budget of school district is balanced, and classrooms are full? This is occurring even though the tax base of the school district is shrinking immensely because of plummeting home values, and the closing of the Cross & Aikman auto parts plant on Newburgh Road.

What would the recall people have the school district to do? Remember, Proposal 5 did not pass in 2006. There are no guarantees for teachers and counselors any more.

There are no guarantees for any of us any more. ■ Regarding the recall effort involving Mayor William Wild and four City Council members: themotormouth wrote:

DeWitt, question for you. I'm curious ... who would you suggest to replace all of the City Council officials that you wish to recall? I'd like their names please as well as their qualifications and relationship whether private or personal.

Valid question, don't you think? I'd like an answer, please.

### QUOTABLE

"Unlike St. Patrick's Day and New Year's Eve, when drivers on the road pay extra attention because they expect that there may be drunk drivers, many people are unaware that (Thanksgiving Eve) is such a busy bar night."

Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli about probationers of Westland 18th District Court reporting for alcohol testing on Thanksgiving Eve and the day after the holiday.

WESTLAND  
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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.



## Forget politics; let's get our financial house in order

The circumstances were dire: Michigan was facing a government shutdown in the wee hours of Oct. 1, 2007.

So at the last moment, with the state facing disaster and after much wailing and gnashing of teeth on all sides, the Legislature adopted a "balanced budget" that temporarily resolved the state's budget crisis for a couple fiscal years. Some taxes were raised, some modest spending cuts were made and a few minor cosmetic changes were imposed on public employee health care benefits.

But if you think our real problems were solved, think again.

For despite all the thrashing and moaning, nothing much was done to resolve the underlying structural budget deficit. We call it "structural," because the whole process is virtually guaranteed to turn out in the red, since the deficit is baked into the state's current level of spending and tax income. And every year, it gets a little worse.

The respected and non-partisan Citizens' Research Council estimates this structural deficit in the state's General Fund will grow to \$9.6 billion by Fiscal Year 2017 — now just eight years away.

That projected deficit is somewhat larger than this year's entire General Fund total of \$9.3 billion!

And bear in mind that the reality will be even worse. None of this takes into account the effects of the Wall Street meltdown — or the revenue shortfalls sure to follow the coming national recession.

Plainly, it's high time we put our financial house in order.

But it won't be easy. The first thing we need to do is recognize that a deficit problem of this size isn't going to be cured overnight. It's going to take disciplined and sustained application of a long-term program to restore Michigan's financial health over the next decade.

To think merely in terms of balancing the budget for the next year or two — the way Lansing has operated for generations — simply won't do any longer. We're going to have to adopt a program for the coming decade and have the strength to stick to it through ups and downs, thick and thin, Republican and Democratic control.

So what kind of program should we adopt?

With the deepening recession, it's obvious that no one can make a case for a tax increase, either economically or politically.

So we're going to have to look at making spending cuts. And the best place to start is the Department of Corrections, and teacher and state employee health care and retirement benefits.

Turning first to corrections, the undisputed facts are these:

1) Michigan's prison population is larger than average for the Great Lakes states. 2) We keep prisoners in the slam longer than do our neighboring states. 3) We spend more money per inmate than other Great Lakes states do. 4) Our crime rate is just about the same as that in our neighboring states.

The bottom line: We're spending a lot on putting criminals in jail but we don't have much to show for it. We're not getting much for our money.

Time to change that: Let's first set an overall financial objective of cutting spending on prisons to the average of what our neighbors do. To do that, we're going to have to attack the big "cost drivers" in our prison system.

Here's how to start: 1) Change our sentencing policies to reduce the number of prisoners and their average length of stay. 2) Change prison operations to reduce costs, which should include privatizing some parts of the system (food service, for example) and might involve responsibly privatizing some prisons altogether.

With respect to teacher retirement costs, it's become clear in

recent years that pensions are eating up much of the funding increases for schools. Over the past five years, for example, 42 percent of increases in state appropriations for schools have gone to pay for increased costs of school retirees and beneficiaries.

To get savings of any size over the next decade, we're going to have to tackle the two biggest cost areas.

And there is no great mystery about what we need to do: 1) Change the eligibility rules and benefit programs for newly hired teachers, then 2) Convert retirement plans from their present expansive, old-style defined-benefit model to a defined-contribution system like 401(k) plans in the private sector.

Granted, this latter change won't be an easy sell — especially now. The recent collapse of the stock market has converted most 401(k)s into 201(k)s, and probably the last thing anyone wants to hear is that their pension will depend on Wall Street.

Turning to state employee benefits — Michigan workers now get a health care package that costs more per employee than the national average. And Michigan government employees pay a smaller share of their health insurance premiums than the national average for both private and public sector employees.

So our financial objective should be to reduce this generous benefit package and increase insurance co-pays to something close to the national average.

According to a study recently completed by Public Sector Consultants for Detroit Renaissance, just these steps together would reduce state spending by around \$800 million per year — just about the size of our present annual structural deficit.

There are likely many other areas where big savings can be achieved, if we look carefully at the structure, cost and workings of state government. Let me be clear: I am not proposing a detailed program to balance our budget for the next fiscal year or two.

Instead, I'm proposing a long-term general menu for fiscal responsibility, with the power to determine the individual recipes left up to the legislature and the executive branch.

Yet there is something important that can be done right now: The legislature and the governor should publicly announce and speedily agree on a long-term plan to set our financial house in order and cure our structural deficit.

To show they are serious about this, all sides should pledge to reduce annual state spending by no less than \$1 billion per year.

And — crucially important — together they should commit to making a down payment on this program during the "Lame Duck" session of the legislature that started after the November election.

The down payment doesn't have to be enormous; \$50 million would be a good start in getting to \$1 billion. But it would be symbolically important. We need to demonstrate that our state government and political parties are prepared to chuck political orthodoxy and work together to get our financial house in order.

Starting right now. Otherwise, nobody — not Wall Street, not the bond rating firms, not anybody — will have any confidence in our ability to manage our own financial affairs. And Michigan will careen from budget crisis to budget crisis, while we fall farther behind in doing what we need to lay the foundation for our future prosperity.

Phil Power is a former newspaper publisher and University of Michigan regent is a longtime observer of Michigan politics and economics, and a former chairman of the Michigan chapter of the Nature Conservancy. He is also the founder and president of The Center for Michigan, a centrist think-and-do tank which publishes the Michigan Scorecard. The opinions expressed here are Power's own and do not represent the official views of The Center. He welcomes your comments at [ppower@thecenterformichigan.net](mailto:ppower@thecenterformichigan.net).

## For taxes, it's important to know your 'basis' on an investment

In a recent column I wrote about a tax strategy that recognizes some losses for tax purposes. It entails taking some losses and then purchasing similar investments immediately thereafter so as not to be out of the market when the rebound comes.

Whenever I write about tax losses I am inevitably asked about what someone does when they cannot determine what they paid for an investment.

The original purchase price of an investment is key to any calculation as to gain or losses.

To determine whether you have a gain or loss on an investment, it is important to understand the term basis. It is the basis that is deducted from the sales price which determines gain or loss. If the basis is less than the sales price, you have a gain. If the basis is greater than the sales price you have a loss.

Basis is the original investment plus any new contributions. New contributions can take the form of additional cash purchases or dividends reinvested. For example, in a mutual fund most of the funds pay interest, dividends and capital gains. Most investors choose to have them reinvested. Therefore, since they are reinvested they are considered new purchases and they do increase your basis. The same would be true if you participated in a dividend reinvestment program for an individual stock.

It is important in doing year-end tax planning, to determine what the basis is before you do any selling. The problem develops if you don't know the basis in an investment. This is very common — particularly on individual stocks that may have been purchased years ago. If you are in that situation, the first thing to do is to contact the brokerage house where the investments were purchased. Many brokerage houses save records for many years, including those of past clients.

Another avenue could be old tax returns. If the stock paid a dividend, you may be able to deter-

mine when you first received the dividend and that may assist in determining when you purchased the stock. By knowing approximately when you purchased the stock, you may use that number to come up with a fair guesstimate for your basis. Another help is the Web site [www.bigcharts.com](http://www.bigcharts.com) which can provide stock prices for nearly 20 years.

If you are guesstimating the basis, it is important to save the documentation just in case the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) contacts you. You may be surprised to hear this but the IRS is reasonable and does recognize that in many situations, it is difficult to compute basis.

The basis calculation is different if you inherit an investment. In this case, you do not take the decedent's cost basis, rather you have a new cost basis and that is the fair market value of the investment as of the date of death. On the other hand, if you receive an investment as a gift, your basis is a transfer basis. In other words, you take over the cost basis of the individual who gifted you the investment.

For mutual fund investors, cost basis has gotten much easier over the years. Companies now retain the basis for you. If you are a mutual fund investor and do not know your basis, most mutual fund companies now allow you to go online to retrieve it. You can also contact the mutual fund company directly. Knowing the basis of an investment is important for tax planning purposes. Not only does it help you determine if you should make any sales near the end of the year for tax planning, but it also can come into play for those who are charitable in nature. Gifting securities that have appreciated in value is a great strategy. On the other hand, gifting property that has a loss makes no sense.

For those doing year-end tax planning, don't delay. If you don't know the basis of an investment, now is the time to get the number.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit Rick's Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400).



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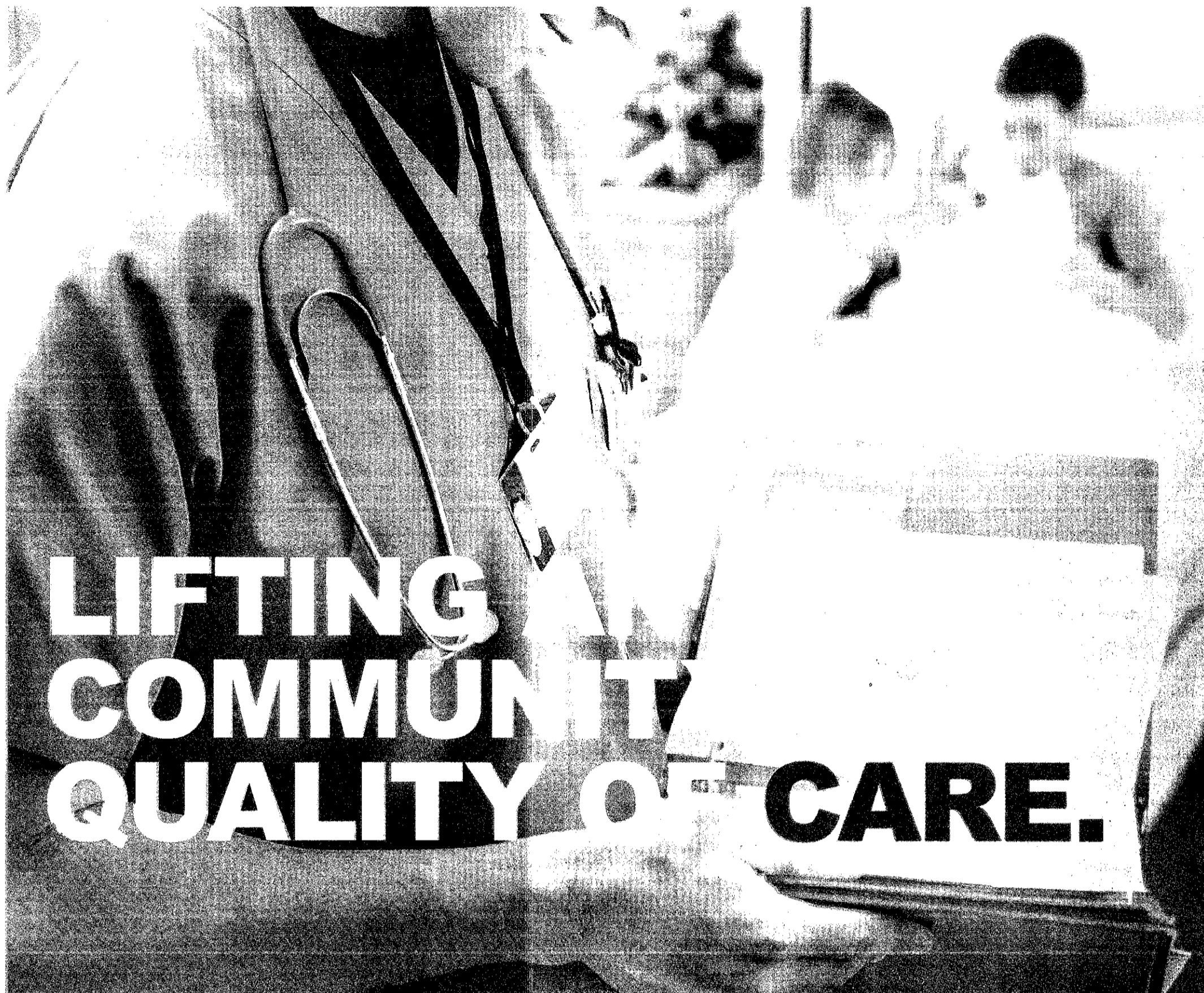
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# SPORTS

**B** (LW)

Thursday, November 27, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Brad Emons, editor . (734) 953-2123 . [bemons@hometownlife.com](mailto:bemons@hometownlife.com)

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## Stevenson's playoff ride derailed by Rockford



Stevenson senior quarterback Jacob Gudeman tries to avoid Rockford tackler Ray Sabon in Saturday's Division 1 semifinal.

### Spartans' offense stymied, 27-13

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson received a couple of bridge loans, but in the end it couldn't bail out the Spartans from going bankrupt in Saturday's 27-13 Division 1 state football semifinal setback against Rockford.

The Spartans mustered only 100 yards total offense and scored their only points off a pair of first-half Rockford turnovers in their quest to return to the state finals for the second straight year at Detroit's Ford Field. Stevenson was left literally out in the cold at Michigan State University's Spartan Stadium and finish the season with a 10-3 record.

Rockford, 12-1 overall, will be seeking its third state title in school history against Saturday night's other semifinal winner between Dearborn Fordson and Lake Orion.

The Rams were missing lead running back Aaron Kwekel, who was out with an injury suffered in the previous week, but it didn't matter.

"We had trouble controlling them up front - they're so quick and athletic," Stevenson coach Tim Gabel said. "They blocked the heck out of us and it's a tribute to them the way they executed without their good back."

"We did not execute well offensively - we did not get off blocks and they did."

Rockford took the opening drive 68 yards in 12 plays with Ryan Cochran scoring off an inside trap from 9 yards out.

Paul Mudgett's extra point with 7:09 left in the first quarter made it 7-0.

"The first drive was beautiful, it had me excited," Rockford coach Ralph Munger said. "We had a good mix of the run and pass - right down to the script. I only altered a couple of plays."

Drew Maroe's 59-yard punt return set up another Rockford first-quarter score - another inside 8-yard trap by Cochran for a touchdown with 5:31 left.

Stevenson's Kyle Hobbins and Wyatt Stahl then teamed up to block a Rockford punt, putting the ball on the Rams' 14 with 46 seconds left in the first period.

Three plays later and helped by a pass interference call, the Spartans got on the board with 11:50 in the first half when Wade Stahl scored on a 6-yard TD run.

But Jonny Myshock's extra point attempt was blocked by Rockford's Josh Osburn, leaving the count at 14-6.

Stevenson then pulled to within one, 14-13, when senior Mark Grisa made the first of his two fumble recoveries after Rockford return man Cam Lawson fumbled the ensuing kickoff at his own 28.

Aided by another pass interference call against the Rams, Stevenson quarterback Jacob Gudeman scored from 1-yard out and Myshock converted the PAT to make it a one-point game.

Please see **SPARTANS, B8**

## SINGLES

### MU women routed

The Madonna University women's basketball team bit off a little more than it could chew Saturday afternoon in taking on NCAA Division I foe Eastern Michigan University.

The Crusaders, fresh from an upset Friday of NAIA Division II No. 8 ranked Indiana Wesleyan, found themselves down 46-6 at halftime before falling 92-38 at the EMU Convocation Center.

Tavelyn James led the victorious Eagles (1-2) with 22 points, while Cassie Schrock added 17. Schrock also snared a team-high 10 rebounds.

Mary Lawson and Sydney Huntley-Rogers added 12 and 11 points, respectively.

EMU outscored the Crusaders 44-12 in the paint and converted 32 fast-break points. The Eagles' bench outscored MU, 34-4. The Eagles converted 46 points off MU turnovers.

MU made a total of 33 turnovers and shot only 23.1 percent from the floor (12-of-52).

Christie Carrico scored a team-high 13 points, while Kim Olech (Plymouth) added 11 points and grabbed a game-best 13 rebounds for MU (2-7).

### Sherwood 128th

Madonna University junior Sarah Sherwood (Plymouth/Salem) etched her name into MU history as she became the first runner in the school's short history of cross country to compete at the NAIA National Championships held Saturday in Kenosha, Wis.

Sherwood placed 128th, covering the 5K course in 19:14, placing her in the top quarter of all runners at the event.

Indiana Tech's Alissa McKaig won the individual title while Azusa Pacific took home the team crown.

## St. Philip denies Warriors' bid

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lutheran Westland proved it belonged in the Class D state volleyball finals, but found out first-hand why Battle Creek St. Philip is a perennial powerhouse.

The Tigers swept the Warriors 3-0 Saturday morning at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek to claim their 14th championship in school history and third in a row.

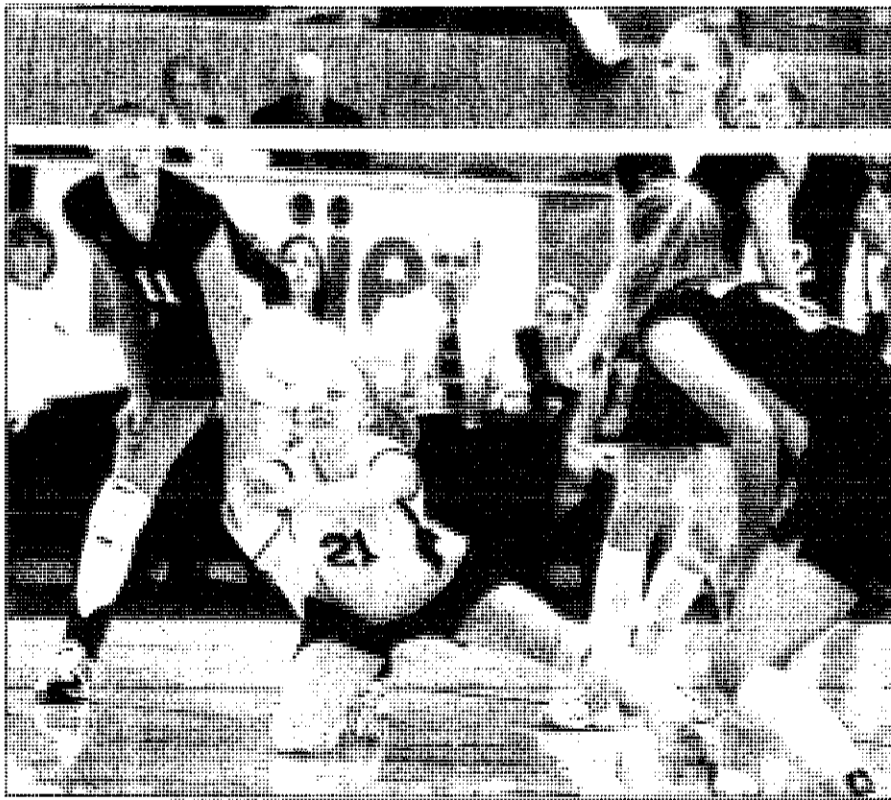
But St. Philip's 25-17, 25-21, 25-20 triumph didn't stop Lutheran Westland players from doing their own celebration, for being the school's first volleyball team to reach the finals.

"It was a really fun season and I'm kind of down about losing, but I just have to realize that we made it this far," said Warriors senior outside hitter and co-captain Katey Ramthun (seven kills, six digs). "We're the first team in school history to make it this far, to even come out of regionals. So, state finals is pretty good."

Ramthun then smiled and acknowledged that Lutheran Westland's state runner-up trophy "is just as big as theirs."

After the Warriors lined up and received their individual medals, coach Kevin Wade accepted the team trophy and handed it off to the other co-captain, senior middle hitter Becca Refenes.

She proudly held the prize over her head as her teammates crowded around her.



Lutheran Westland's Abi Gieschen comes up with a dig in the Class D state final match Saturday against Battle Creek St. Philip at Battle Creek's Kellogg Center.

As for not winning the *other* trophy, the Warriors, who finished 46-6-5, had trouble with the Tigers' balanced lineup. Up front to bother Refenes were junior middle hitter Carly Dickerson (14 kills, 12 digs) and junior right-side hitter Megan Toth (nine kills, 16 digs).

Another pillar of strength for St. Philip (61-7-5) was sophomore setter Ryan Hubbard. Her 46 assists were the sixth most by a player for a finals match since 2005.

Please see **WARRIORS, B4**

## Crusaders headed to California

### COLLEGE SOCCER

Goals by Mark Pikula and Sean Nesbitt carried the Madonna University men's soccer team to a opening-round 2-1 victory over Grand View (Ia.) and a trip to the Sweet 16 of the NAIA Division I National Tournament in Fresno, Calif.

The Crusaders, 17-2 overall, will take on No. 2-seed Rio Grande (Ohio), which also advances Saturday with a 2-1 win over Bethel (Ind.) College, beginning at 11:30 a.m. (PST), Monday, Dec. 1, in the tournament hosted by Fresno Pacific University.

Pikula notched his sixth of the season in the 42nd minute on a rebound following a shot attempt by teammate Victor Otieno.

Nesbitt then notched his first of the year - unassisted - in the 64th minute to give the Crusaders a two-goal cushion. The goal came on a deflection off a long throw-in.

Grand View's Lyall Menzies tallied his 22nd of the season in the 84th minute to cut the deficit to 2-1, but the Crusaders, making their second national appearance in school history, held on for the victory.

MU goalkeeper Anthony DeMarco made four saves in the triumph, while Vikings counterpart Darren Martin had five saves.

Grand View ends its season at 14-6-1 overall.

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Spartan soph 3rd in 500 free; Pats' backstroker 4th

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was highly productive showing Saturday afternoon for both the Livonia Stevenson and Livonia Franklin contingents at the MHSAA Division 1 Girls Swimming and Diving finals held at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

While Ann Arbor Pioneer collected its ninth straight team title with 349.5 points, Stevenson garnered 15th with 55 points, while Franklin finished 23rd with 24.

Stevenson sophomore Savannah Hatt bounced back from a disqualification because of a false start in Friday's prelims of the 200-yard freestyle by finishing third in the 500 freestyle finals Saturday with a season-best time of 5:05.39.

She also helped the Spartans to a 14th-place finish in the 400 freestyle relay (3:42.84) teaming up with sophomore Kaylee Dolinski, junior Laura Holtz junior and Ashley Gordon.

Meanwhile, Gordon took All-State honors in both the 100 backstroke (1:00.18) with a seventh place, and the 200 individual medley (2:10.75) with an eighth place.

Junior Carla McNamara garnered 10th in diving with an 11-dive total of 381.05, while Dolinski placed 15th (5:13.82) in the 500 freestyle

## GIRLS SWIMMING

and 16th in the 200 freestyle (1:59.32).

"Overall our girls swam pretty well," Stevenson coach Greg Phill said. "When you swim your best times, that's all you can ask. You've got to be happy because they all went their fastest."

"The best thing is that they're all coming back and that's a good thing."

Franklin's Kayla Douglas, a sophomore, also excelled by finishing fourth in the 100 backstroke (58.91) to earn All-State recognition along with 12th-place showing in the 100 butterfly (1:00.43).

Franklin's first-ever state qualifying relay team of Douglas, sophomore Natalie Cote, sophomore Colleen Anthony and freshman Kaitlyn Kozyn earned a 15th in the 200 freestyle (1:42.06).

Failing to get out of the prelims was Stevenson's 18th-place 200 medley relay (Sara Healy, Gordon, Hatt and Ashley), 1:54.43; Westland John Glenn's 26th-place 200 medley relay (Jordan Burgess, Khiry Sparks, Ashley Sells and Casey Peterson), 1:57.87; Sells, 24th, 100 butterfly (1:01.79); and 27th, 200 IM (2:19.26); Stevenson's Reed, 36th, 200 IM (1:02.74); Stevenson's Laura Holtz, 36th, 100 freestyle (56.06); Livonia Churchill's Samantha Reid,

60th, 100 freestyle (56.91); Glenn's Burgess, 68th, 100 freestyle (57.59); Stevenson's 23rd-place 200 freestyle relay (Kayla Perchall, Holtz, Reed, Dolinski), 1:44.49; and Glenn's Peterson, 25th, 100 breaststroke (1:12.24).

## Kelly leads Ladywood

In the Division 3 state finals Saturday at Oakland University's Natatorium, senior Shannon Kelly of Livonia Ladywood garnered a pair places with a 12th in the 50 freestyle (25.33) and a 16th in the 100 freestyle (55.55).

Teammate Allison Spitzley, a senior, also added a 14th with an 11-dive total of 314.80 points to account for the Blazers' nine points and 25th-place team total.

Bloomfield Hills Marian captured the team title with 355 points.

In Friday's prelims, Ladywood's foursome of junior Brianna Wilson, freshmanaleigh Griffin, senior Annemarie Brinkman and Kelly took 19th in 200 medley relay (1:58.76).

The foursome of freshman Maddy Pelon and Heather Pijor, along with Wilson and Kelly, also added a 19th in the 200 freestyle relay (1:46.45), while the quartet of freshman Hannah Weaver, Wilson, Pijor and Pelon added 22nd in the 400 freestyle relay (3:58.08).

Wilson contributed a 26th in the 100 backstroke (1:06.56).

# Terek was father of Olympian; coach, friend of Patriot sports

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

He was the father of the Livonia decathlete Paul Terek, who represented the U.S. at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece, but he carved his own identity as well.

At age 50, Paul "Joe" Terek died Saturday of complications from cancer. Services were held Tuesday at The R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Livonia. Also among the survivors are his wife Cindy, a daughter Christy and his father Bob.

Paul "Joe" Terek was also a loving uncle, brother and coach who endeared himself to the Franklin High School family.

Terek, despite battling various illnesses for the past 13 years, helped mentor track and field athletes and was active in the Patriots Club.

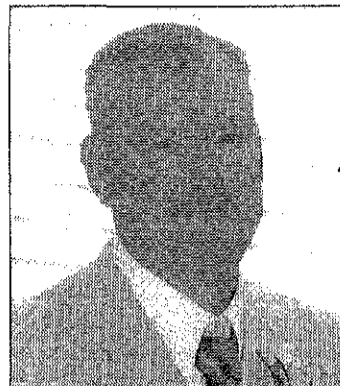
"Little Paul," a 1997 Franklin grad who set the state pole vault record and excelled in football before becoming Big Ten Track and Field Athlete of the Year at Michigan State, admired how his dad reached out to others.

"While he was helping me focus on my goals, he wanted to see not only me, but other kids get opportunities, too," Paul Jr. said. "Anything he could help kids and better the situation - he never saw other options."

Paul "Joe" was an Eagle Scout, Air Force Senior First Class Airman (where he met his wife Cindy) and computer technician. He was born in Ohio before migrating as a youth to California and West Virginia. He eventually landed in Livonia.

While living in the Bay Area in Vallejo, Calif., Terek got involved with the Boy Scouts as a guidance leader.

"He was a big proponent of keeping kids busy," Paul Jr.



Paul "Joe" Terek

said. "He saw kids making bad decisions and running into problems - kids 12-to-14 - and he was bothered because those decisions affected them the rest of their lives. He believed if they were doing the right things, 99 percent will turn out right."

As a teen, "Big Paul" competed in track, football and basketball.

"I played the same sports in high school, that's where I get my athletic side," said Paul Jr., who has competed in three IAAF World Championships in the decathlon. "Big Paul" became a guru in the pole vault once his son took up the event in high school.

"He tried the pole vault one time in high school, but did not like it," Paul Jr. recalled. "But later he learned from seeing coaches and reading books. He'd go online and talk about theories and training methods. He always wanted to see what was going on."

The 6-foot-4 Paul "Joe" persevered through diabetes and a double-bypass heart operation in 1996. He decided to quit smoking and drink only Diet Pepsi, while doing countless walks throughout the neighborhood and getting his weight down to 220, according to his son.

"Once he bounced back

from one thing, then something else would come up," Paul Jr. said. "He struggled to get back, but he never wanted a handout. He had the mentality that you earn what you get. He wanted to give back to everyone else."

Through slowed down by his illnesses and going on disability, Paul "Joe" and his family realized a dream when they were sent to the 2004 Athens Games through a community fund-raising effort.

"That was the highlight of dad's life to go to Athens," Little Paul said.

Paul Jr. currently lives with his wife Shilo and has trained predominantly year-round since 2003 in San Luis, Obispo, Calif.

Despite the distance, he remained close with his father.

"We talked every day or at least every other day the last two years," Paul Jr. said. "He always cared about how I was, but he always wanted to know how my coach (Harry Marra and his family) were doing. That was a part of his life that touched so many others."

Over the past months when Paul "Joe's" condition worsened and although he was confined to his home, he cherished visits not only from his family, but from loyal neighborhood friends like Joyce and Bob Biga.

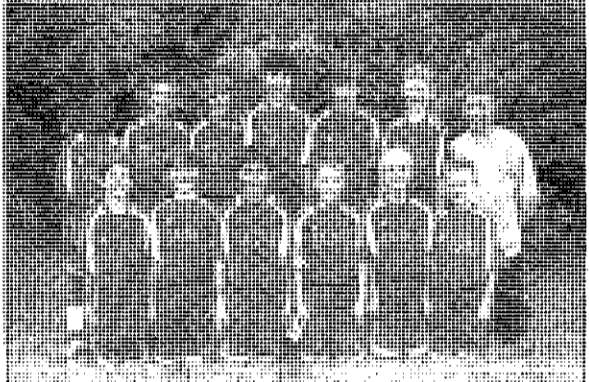
"People who stopped by to visit meant the world to him," Paul Jr. said. "Those last three months I've never seen anybody fight like that guy."

The Terek family asks to make donations in honor of Paul "Joe" Terek to: The Patriots Club, Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia, MI 48150.

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## Good as Gold

The Livonia City Soccer Club under-11 Meteor boys recently captured the Gold Division of the Michigan Youth Soccer League with a 7-1-1 record. Team members include (front row, from left): Matt McGillivray, Ian Henzi, Val Oejvani, Luke Yakuber, Max Waun, Kyle Benedict; (back row, from left) Tony Asmidu, Andrew Bambach, Jake DeMoss, Dante Toppi, Brian Cox, Brendan King and coach Dan Mellors.



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# WARRIORS

FROM PAGE B1

Dickerson sparked the Tigers' turnaround in Game 1. The Warriors started well, with a 4-2 lead. But St. Philip stormed ahead 9-4 after Dickerson strung together six service points and never trailed the rest of that game.

Game 2 went back-and-forth early on, with the Warriors taking a 10-7 advantage thanks to an Allyson Yankee spike, set up perfectly by senior setter Lauren Gieschen. St. Philip grabbed momentum during a three-point run by junior defensive specialist Riley Buschke, frustrating Lutheran Westland by not letting balls drop during extended rallies.

Lutheran Westland battled to try and extend the match to a fourth set, but the Warriors couldn't sustain much after going up 10-6 in Game 3. St. Philip fought back to tie the score at 11-11 with spikes by junior middle hitter Amanda Bolles and senior outside hitter Katie Zull (nine kills) highlighting a four-point service run by junior libero Lena Oliver (16 digs). From that moment on, there was little doubt as to the final outcome.

Unlike Friday in the semifinals against Pellston, the 6-2 Refenes - who still tallied 15 kills plus 12 digs - wasn't able to hit her spots.

The combination of solid blocking and defensive coverage proved too much for the Warriors, even though

Refenes said she didn't consider her team up against it until "the last point went down. That's when I knew it was over."

"I knew coming in that they played good defense," Wade said. "We still got kills, we got the ball down. It's just that their offense is very good and it kept our defense on its heels."

"We weren't making good passes. When you can't make good passes you can't get good sets."

St. Philip head coach Vicky Groat stressed the importance of minimizing whatever damage Refenes could do during meetings before the match.

"We didn't stop (Refenes) totally but we put more touches on the

ball when she was hitting," Groat explained. "And our defense was leaning back there and Riley Buschke and Carly back there playing defense it makes it easy for everybody."

Groat said having plenty of fan support in the team's backyard helped. But so did players already being exposed to what being in the finals is like.

"Westland hasn't been here before, it's the farthest they've ever been and these girls, seven were here last year," Groat said. "They knew what to expect and they knew the big crowd, the big pressure that there is at the state finals."





"But you still have to come out and play hard and I'm very proud of

the way the girls went out today." The match ended a stellar career turned in by the team's seniors, Ramthun, Refenes, outside hitter Yankee (six digs), Lauren Gieschen (21 assists), libero Abi Gieschen (12 digs), middle hitter Rachel Storck (three kills, two digs) and setter Cathy Haller (three assists).

"It's good for the juniors, they get a taste of what it's like," said Wade, who faces a rebuilding season in 2009. "And now they kind of have an idea of what you have to do to get here and hopefully they kind of keep the program going and I think it's made a lot of kids excited about volleyball at Westland."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

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<b>83-45</b>	<b>78-50</b>	<b>81-47</b>	<b>81-47</b>	<b>87-41</b>	<b>87-41</b>	<b>85-43</b>	<b>84-44</b>	<b>81-47</b>
Tennessee Dallas Arizona Indianapolis Green Bay New York Jets Miami Tampa Bay New York Giants Buffalo Baltimore Atlanta New England Oakland Minnesota Houston	Tennessee Dallas Arizona Indianapolis Green Bay New York Jets Miami Tampa Bay New York Giants Buffalo Baltimore Atlanta New England Oakland Minnesota Houston	Tennessee Dallas Arizona Indianapolis Green Bay New York Jets Miami Tampa Bay New York Giants Buffalo Baltimore Atlanta New England Oakland Minnesota Houston	Tennessee Dallas Arizona Indianapolis Green Bay New York Jets Miami Tampa Bay New York Giants Buffalo Baltimore Atlanta New England Oakland Minnesota Houston	Tennessee Dallas Arizona Indianapolis Green Bay New York Jets Miami Tampa Bay New York Giants Buffalo Baltimore Atlanta New England Oakland Minnesota Houston	Tennessee Dallas Arizona Indianapolis Green Bay New York Jets Miami Tampa Bay New York Giants Buffalo Baltimore Atlanta New England Oakland Minnesota Houston	Tennessee Dallas Arizona Indianapolis Green Bay New York Jets Miami Tampa Bay New York Giants Buffalo Baltimore Atlanta New England Oakland Minnesota Houston	Tennessee Dallas Arizona Indianapolis Green Bay New York Jets Miami Tampa Bay New York Giants Buffalo Baltimore Atlanta New England Oakland Minnesota Houston	Tennessee Dallas Arizona Indianapolis Green Bay New York Jets Miami Tampa Bay New York Giants Buffalo Baltimore Atlanta New England Oakland Minnesota Houston

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- Unlimited web/data
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- Unlimited domestic messages (text, IM, email)
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### Key Features

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- 3G network & Wi-Fi access

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Scan the UPC code of what you want to buy & quickly compare prices on your phone.

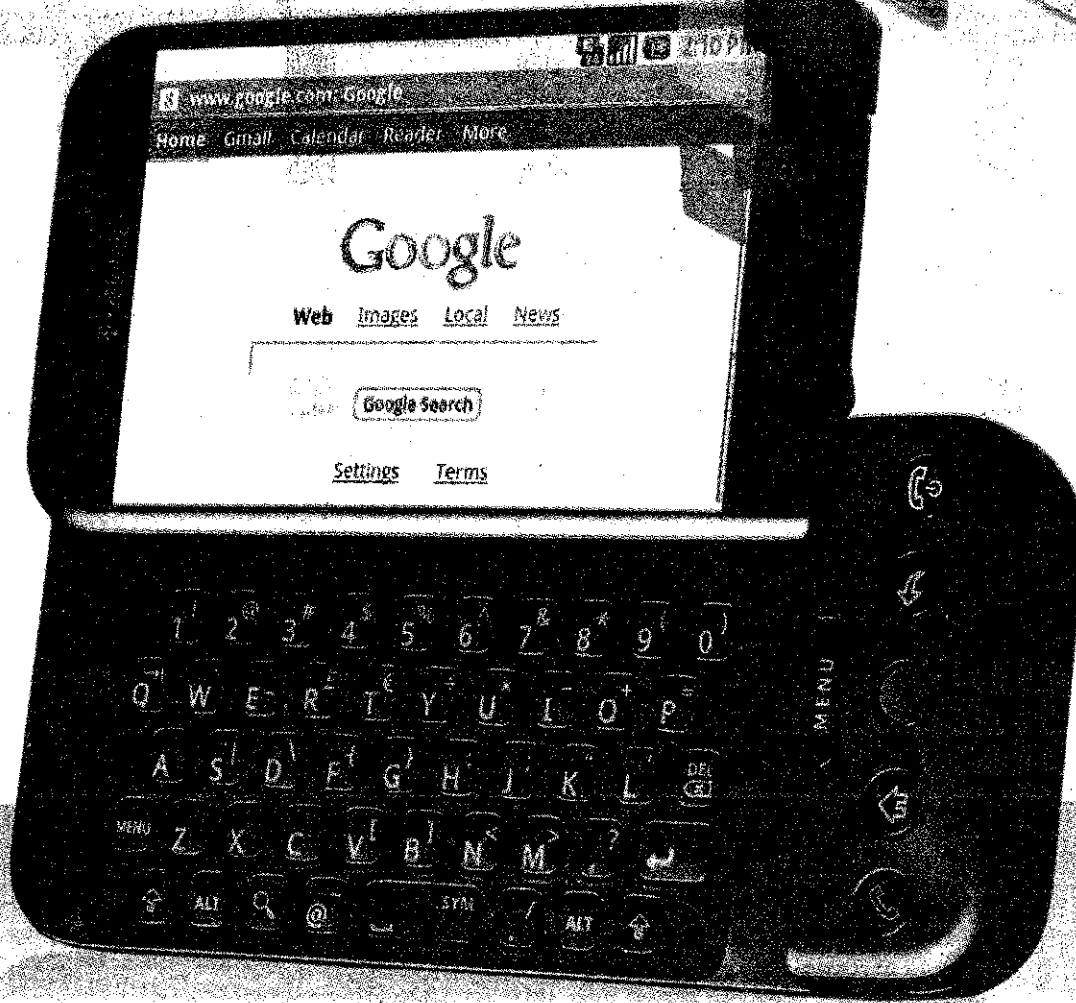
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Get a 3D view of any street in the world.

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Limited time offer. New activation required. Rate plan offer may require minimum 1-year agreement. Device offer requires 2-year agreement with qualifying rate and data plans. Taxes and fees not included.



Find out more at [T-MobileG1.com](http://T-MobileG1.com)

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(pouch, car charger, etc.)

Offer available November 23-December 31, 2008. Must present this coupon. Excludes Bluetooth. Limited time offer; subject to change; while supplies last; at participating locations only.

## Endless chit-chat?

No worries, call your Faves all you want

Unlimited calling to any 5 people.

Any number, even landlines.



**Just \$39<sup>99</sup> per month**  
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plus taxes and fees, new activation and minimum 1-year agreement required. myFaves provides unlimited nationwide calling to any five U.S. phone numbers.\*



**Just \$69<sup>99</sup> per month for two lines**

Up to 3 additional lines just \$9.99 each a month

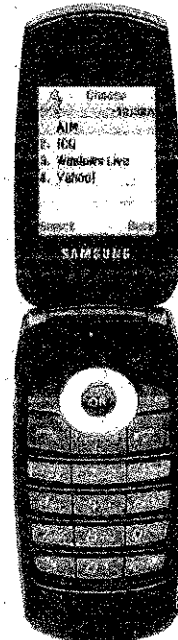
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Limited time offer. New activation required. Rate plan offer may require minimum 1-year agreement. Device offer requires 2-year agreement with qualifying rate and data plans and activation per line of service for each phone. Taxes and fees not included.

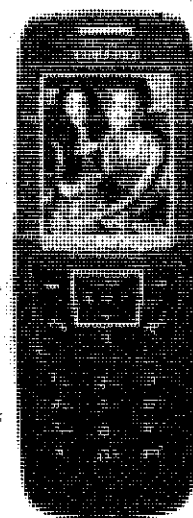
**BlackBerry®**



**BlackBerry Curve**  
MSRP \$449.99  
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**Samsung T219**  
Is on our replenishment list - need confirmation you have this handset in stock.  
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# MOBILE

[mymobile1.com](http://mymobile1.com)

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Google, the Google logo, Google Maps, YouTube, Android and Gmail are trademarks of Google Inc. Screen and devised images are simulated. Tele Atlas® Map Data © 2008. All Rights Reserved. See store for other details on the offers shown here.

Limited time offer subject to change. Offer expires 11/30/2008. Taxes, fees, and other up-front and monthly charges may apply. GENERAL TERMS: Credit approval, activation on a qualified T-Mobile rate plan, per line activation fee and minimum 1- or 2-year agreement may be required; \$200 fine early cancellation fee applies to 1 and 2-year agreements. Regulatory Programs Fee (not a tax or government-mandated charge) of 86¢ per line/month applies. Taxes approx. 6-28% of your monthly bill. Overage minutes extra; partial minutes rounded up for billing. MYFAVES: myFaves-enabled handset required. myFaves not available with all rate plans. myFaves allows unlimited nationwide calling to any five U.S. phone numbers (exclusions include 411, voicemail, toll-free, 900, calling card, customers' own numbers, numbers accessing 500 or more lines - other restrictions and exclusions may apply). myFaves numbers may be changed only once per calendar month. International calling and certain myFaves photographs/icons incur separate additional charges. NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS: Weekends are 12:00:01 a.m. Saturday to 11:59:59 p.m. Sunday, based upon start time of call. Nights are 12:00:01 a.m. to 6:59:59 a.m. and 9:00:00 p.m. to 11:59:59 p.m., Monday through Friday, based upon start time of call. If on FlexPay or kidConnect, calls rated on a per minute basis. DISCOUNTED DEVICE/ MAIL-IN AND IN-STORE REBATE OFFER: Limited to specific model(s) shown. Supplies may be limited and offer

may not be available at all locations. We reserve the right to substitute different models of equal or greater value. Allow up to 4 weeks for delivery. One device per eligible account. Must remain on a qualifying rate plan at the time rebate is processed. Allow up to 8 weeks for rebate. See rebate form for details. COVERAGE: 3G coverage currently available in certain markets; Service not available everywhere; for details see Coverage Maps at T-Mobile.com. ABNORMAL CALL PATTERNS: Call duration and/or your continued eligibility for any rate plan may be limited or terminated for (a) consumer protection purposes, (b) abusive conduct or abnormal call pattern(s), or (c) significant roaming. See Pricing, Services and Device brochures, and T-Mobile's Terms and Conditions (including arbitration provisions) at T-Mobile.com, for additional rate plan information, charges for features and services, and restrictions and details. T-Mobile, the magenta color, and the HotSpot design are registered trademarks of Deutsche Telekom AG. "WHENEVER Minutes, myFaves, the myFaves design, and stick together are registered trademarks of T-Mobile USA, Inc. Who's in Your Fave 5, FlexPay, T-Mobile @Home are service marks, of T-Mobile USA, Inc." G1 and T-Mobile G1 are trademarks of T-Mobile USA, Inc. All other brands, product names, company names, trademarks and service marks are the property of their respective owners.



RELIGION CALENDAR

To submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

NOVEMBER

**Bethany together dance** 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Nov. 29, at Don Hubert V.F.W. Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft (this is the I-96 service drive), east of Inkster Rd., Redford. Limited to the first 450 paid admissions only. Wear proper attire. Cost \$12. For more information, call Loretta at (586) 264-0284.

**Special needs class** Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia is looking for special needs teens and young adults (up to age 25) interested in participating in a course designed to help them learn about the basics of the Christian faith. The day and time of the course will depend on those interested. To get the most out of the course, students should possess basic communications skills (listening

and speaking). Call Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail at elc-ed@around-detroit.biz.

Volunteers needed

The Salvation Army invites the community to partner with it this holiday season. Opportunities range from adopting a family or child to bell ringing, Christmas in-take assistance, and many others. Sign up by calling volunteer coordinator Sandy Kollinger at (734) 722-3660 or online at www.ringbell.org and choosing Wayne/Westland. The Salvation Army is at 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Avenue and Palmer.

Global gifts

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday, through Dec. 17, at First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willis, at Bates, north of Maple and a block west of Old Woodward. The Fair Trade resource offers foods such as rice, chocolates, coffee, and soup mixes that promote economic justice around the globe. Also offering textiles, jewelry and handmade artisan crafts from around the world. (248) 644-0550.

Prayer hour

Cherry Hill United Methodist Church holds an hour of prayer and inspiration at 7:30 p.m., every Thursday with Rev. Merlin Pratt, at the church, 321 S. Ridge Road, Canton. Call Pat Beggs at (734) 453-3287 for more information.

UPCOMING

**Caregiver's support group** St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets at 10 a.m., the first and third Friday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for more information. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

The Nativity movie

7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Rd., Livonia. Desserts will be served. All are welcome to attend this free event. For more information or to sign-up call

(734) 422-1470.

Kids Christmas craft days

Deadline is Dec. 4 to register for Kids Christmas Craft Day 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 6, for ages 5 years through 5th grade, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Rd., Livonia. Kids will enjoy creating Christmas crafts to be used as gifts or decorations. All are welcome to attend. Suggested donation of \$3 per child. For more information or to sign-up, call (734) 422-1470.

Advent presentation

Through Scripture, food and drink, reflect on and delight in preparing for Christ's arrival 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, in 8ixman Hall at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. No charge, but RSVP by calling (734) 425-5950. Presenter is David Conrad, M.A. Theology.

Glorify Christmas

The theatrical production opens Thursday, Dec. 4, and runs week-ends through Sunday, Dec. 14, at NorthRidge Church, 49555 N. Territorial at Ridge, Plymouth. Tickets \$16 and \$18. Call (734) 414-7777 or visit www.northridgechurch.com. Curtain times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 1 p.m. Saturday, and 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

Silent Night

An Advent Service for those who are grieving or unemployed 7-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 N. Territorial at Beck, Plymouth. Call (734) 453-0326. While Advent is a time to acknowledge the beauty of the Christmas season, it can also be a time of sadness. For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, struggling with an illness, caring for a terminally ill family member or facing unemployment, divorce or financial hardship, the joyfulness of the season may be overwhelming. Through stories of endurance from members of our community, inspirational music, and scripture readings we will seek together the peace, hope and love that are the true gifts of Christmas.

Holiday concert

Madrigal Choral of Southfield performs 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the historic Old St. Mary's Church in Detroit's Greektown, 646 Monroe at St. Antoine. Tickets \$18 and available by calling (248) 229-7147 or \$20 at the door. Information is also available at www.mcs-notes.org.

Grief workshop

Getting Through the Holidays, a workshop for those grieving the loss of a loved one at what can be an extremely time of year, sponsored by St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, in the Convent Meeting Room, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., Livonia. Guest speaker is Certified Hospice Trainer and Pastoral Associate, Dianne Fessler. To R.S.V.P., call (734) 261-1455, ext. 207. All are welcome.

Music at St. John's

A Festival of Lessons and Carols, 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 7, with the parish's music groups: Collegium Musicum performs cantatas and instrumental works, 6 p.m. Sunday, March 29, 2009, and The Saline Fiddlers, 6 p.m., Sunday, May 17, 2009, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. All concerts are free except The Saline Fiddlers (\$7 and available in advance or at door). Call (734) 453-0190.

Detroit Lutheran Singers

Celebrate CHRISTmas concerts 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon Rd., Canton, and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at Antioch Lutheran Church, 33360 W. 13 Mile, Farmington Hills. Tickets \$10 (\$7 for seniors and students age 12 and older) and will be available at the door. For advance tickets, call (248) 988-6715. For more information, visit www.detroitlutheransingers.com.

Evenings of Evangelization

With Rev. Alex Kratz, 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 12, at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The evening begins with a Holy Hour followed by small-group discussions, teaching and fellowship. All interested Catholics welcome. Call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

Christmas Cookie Walk

Too busy to bake? Buy cookies by the pound from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13 at St. Michael's Orthodox Church, 26355 West Chicago Rd., between Beech-Daly and Inkster Road, in Redford. (313) 937-2120.

Bethany monthly dance

8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Dec. 13, at Don Hubert V.F.W. Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft (this is the I-96 service drive), east of Inkster Rd., Redford. Dance lesson this month, dancers choice, cost \$10, refreshments included. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. DJ is Dick Gerathy. Call (734) 261-5716 for details.

Adult choir concert

The St. Aidan Adult Choir, directed by Ray Schmidt, presents its 27th Annual Christmas Concert 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at St. Aidan Parish, 17500 Farmington Rd. (north of Six Mile), Livonia. The cost is \$5 and two non-perishable food items. This event is held annually to assist the St. Aidan Christian Service Commission to aid those in need during the holiday season. Call (734)425-5950. Tickets will

be available at the door on the day of event.

All-you-can-eat pancakes

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continues its more than 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, with an expanded menu that features pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style at family friendly prices: \$5, adults, \$3 children ages 4-11, free for children under age 3, \$15 a family (2 adults and all children). Everyone is welcome.

Clothing bank

Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need 10 a.m.-noon on the fourth Saturday of each month (Dec. 27), at Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy between Haggerty and Lilley. For information, call (734) 404-2480, visit www.cantoncf.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org.

ONGOING

Parkinson Support

Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For more information, call (248) 433-1011.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelts and Inkster roads, Livonia. And 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call Wendy first at (313) 387-9797. Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous information visit www.ooa.org or call (248) 559-7722.

Mid-week Service

Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church offers a Wednesday evening service at 7 p.m. in the church at 9600 Laverne, Redford. Communion is offered on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Sunday services are at 9:30 a.m.

ENDOW

St. Michael the Archangel Parish is hosting two different courses of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. Based on Pope John Paul II's "Letter to Women", the Course 1 groups meet 9:30-11 a.m. Mondays, and 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays. Course V, called "Aquinas for Beginners", is a new addition to the ENDOW curriculum and available locally only at St. Michael's 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays. All meet in the convent basement meeting room. Women of all ages and faiths welcome. \$60 charge for materials, but no woman will be turned away because of inability to pay. Register by calling (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207, or online at www.endowonline.com. St. Michael's is at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Choral rehearsals

Oakland Choral Society has begun Tuesday-evening rehearsals for its Christmas concerts with professional soloists and orchestra. On Dec. 6 the group performs Benjamin Britten's "St. Nicolas," and J.S. Bach's "Cantata Wachel auf," and on Dec. 14 Handel's "Messiah." Registration begins at 7:00 p.m., with rehearsal 7:30-9 p.m., at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. All singers who can read music are welcome. Membership dues \$55 for fall season (\$30 for students age 30 and under). Music cost additional. For information, call (248) 391-0184.

New worship schedule

Worship 8 a.m. Sunday, Faith Forum & Other Options at 9 a.m., and Worship and Sunday school at 10 a.m. Wednesday Worship at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Visitors welcome. For information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Bible study

St. Michael the Archangel Church, located at the southwest corner of Plymouth and Hubbard Roads, continues its regular evening Bible Study program with an in-depth study of The Gospel of Luke 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month in the rectory. The informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

Time change

Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia, returned to its fall-spring worship schedule. Services are at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. for all ages. For information, visit www.livonfaith.org.

Wednesday activities

Have resumed at 7 p.m. at Grace Christian Fellowship, on the west side of Middlebelt, one block south of Six

Mile. The special four week study focuses on the Hebrew Roots of Our Christian Faith, taught by Yvonne Moore. For information, visit www.gcfellowship.org or call (734) 525-6019.

Thursday fellowship dinner

All are welcome, 6 p.m. dinners catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$8. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration

St. Michael the Archangel Church in Livonia continues its monthly program of Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration on the third Wednesday of each month. The church is open for prayer and private worship from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Benediction service in the evening. Call (734) 261-1455.

Worship schedule

11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (9:45 a.m. Sunday School), at Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Westland. Wednesday prayer and Bible study is 7 p.m. Youth fellowship every other Friday at 7 p.m.

Sunday worship

The early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive. The Web site is www.hischurch.us.

Reformed Protestant services

The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism are preached by the Rev. Sean Humby 3:30 p.m. Sundays at the Detroit Preaching Station of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. For information, call (734) 402-7186, send e-mail to sean.humby@aol.com, or visit www.members.aol.com/rsi/worship/detroit.html.

Sanskrit chanting

An ongoing, weekly class taught by Ania Kopczyński, 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, at Renaissance Unity, 11200 E. 11 Mile, Warren. No pre-registration required. A free-will collection taken at the session. For information, call (586) 353-2300 or visit www.renaissanceunity.org.

Church schedule

Garden City Presbyterian Church continues its 10 a.m. Sunday worship service with traditional hymns, scripture readings and choral music (fellowship nursery) care also available at 10 a.m. Adult Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. Informal gathering 6 p.m. every Sunday with scriptures and discussion at the church on Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Rd. Call (734) 421-7620.

Single Place Ministry

Single Place Ministry continues to meet Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is \$5.

Prince of Peace Church

Recovery, Inc., meets at 10 a.m., every Wednesday at the church, Walnut Lake Road and Green, West Bloomfield. Recovery, Inc. is an international, non-profit, self-help community based service organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve their quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail her at marthapaul@sbcglobal.net.

Tai Chi and strength classes

Orchard United Methodist Church is hosting a Tai Chi class 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Mac at the church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The cost per class is \$10 or \$40 prepaid for five classes. The strength class takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday. Cost is \$5 per class. Drop-ins welcome. For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Tai Chi class

Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is great for reducing stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes continue every Monday. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

Thrift store

Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

New schedule

9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Please see CALENDAR, B7

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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View Obits On-line@www.hometownlife.com

HARRY E. WALKLEY

Age 89. Formerly of Farmington, MI. Passed away Nov. 22, 2008. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.

KATHLEEN FLORENCE ROSSIER

Beloved mother, grandmother and friend entered into eternal life on Monday, November 10, 2008, at age 80. Born July 7, 1928 in Royal Oak, MI, she moved to Sacramento, CA in May 2000. Throughout her life she was dedicated to helping people through music and community service. She will be missed greatly. She is survived by her children Michele R. Chouinard, Robin Rossier-Krist (Gregory), Patrick M. Rossier (Cecilia), grandchildren Mark, Megan and Sarah Chouinard, great-grandchildren Michael, Holley and Henry Chouinard, life friend Larry Rossier, cousins, nieces and nephews. Family and friends are invited to a celebration of her life on Saturday, November 29, 2008 - 11:00 a.m. at First United Methodist Church at 320 W. 7th St, Royal Oak, MI.

PAMELA MULLINS

Age 55, November 22, 2008. Loving mother of William Bradley and Mary J. Mullins. Dear daughter of Mary Harvey and sister of James (Wendy) Harvey. Also survived by seven grandchildren. Please sign her online guest-book at www.cremationmichigan.com

RAYMOND D. JONES

Age 57, November 23, 2008. Dear father of Valerie (Steve) Minnaugh, Kevin (Patricia) Baker, Judith, Matt, Raymond, Stephanie and Dominique. Grandfather of 11. Brother of Archie (Carol), Curt (Marie), Paul and Skeeter. Special friend Tina and Norm Dugener, Joe Pecorilli and Marie Jones. Memorial Visitation Sunday 6pm until a 7:30pm Memorial Service at the John N. Santeu and Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster (between Ford and Cherry Hill).

RUTH M. SOLAR

Age 89, of Howell. Passed away Sunday, November 23, 2008. She was born February 2, 1919 in Detroit, the daughter of Frances and Mary (Chapman) Price. Beloved wife of the late Charles Solar (1998). Dear mother of Michael (Darlene) Solar of Howell, Patrick Solar of Livonia, Dennis Solar of Walled Lake, Terry (Dan) Tobin of Arizona, Sheila (Craig) Summers of Florida and Maureen (Allan) Pechter of Arizona. Also survived by ten grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and brother, Frank Price of South Lyon. She was preceded in death by her grandson, Steven Solar (7/31/1999). Ruth had an associates degree from Detroit Business College and formerly been employed as an executive secretary for Michigan Bell Telephone Co. Mass of the Resurrection will be Friday, November 28th at 11 a.m. (in state 10 a.m.) at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Burial will be in Clements Cemetery, Dexter. Visitation will be Wednesday from 1 to 8 p.m. with a rosary recited at 4 p.m. at MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Memorial contributions may be made to Odyssey Hospice. Please visit the family's online www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com.



STEFANIE FRANK (NEE KRYSHAK)

November 22, 2008. Age 89. Peacefully at home in Bloomfield Hills. Proud honorary member of the Delta Sigma Pi Fraternity. Charter member of the Nomads Travel Club, logging over 600,000 miles. Beloved wife of Clarence N. Frank "Red" for 55 years. Dear sister of Irene Kriethers and the late Helen Kruehko. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Services have been held. Memorial tributes to St. Patrick Episcopal Church, 1434 E. Thirteen Mile, Madison Heights, MI 48071 or the Delta Sigma Pi Leadership Foundation, 330 South Campus Avenue, Oxford, OH 45056. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at www.desmondfuneralhome.com

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends



RONALD NORMAN KRUEGER

Passed away November 22, 2008, at the age of 66. Ron was very passionate about life. He was a teacher for 36 years. He was also the coach of wrestling and football for Plymouth Salem. He coached football for the Plymouth Steelers. He was a source of strength, a rock, and a foundation for everyone whom he encountered. His caring and concern for the well being of others seemed to be his main purpose in life. Ron taught us that when the tunnel is dark, there is always a light at the end. It is a glimmer of hope that will arise and allow us to see the world through the eyes of an angel. Ron taught us to see how beautiful life can be if we love and comfort one another. He will be missed by many. He is survived by his wife, Dolores Krueger; his children, Lee (Dawn), Kristen (Jim), Jason (Chrissy), and Danny; six grandchildren; and his mother, Mildred Krueger. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 26, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth. Arrangements entrusted to Schrader-Howell Funeral Home

OBITUARY POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

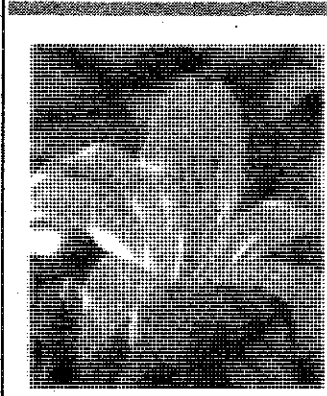
Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday  
Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

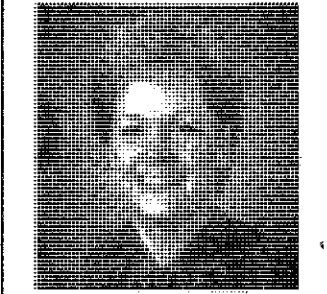
e-mail your obit to oebits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Jennifer Muszduk 586-826-7318 For more information call: Jennifer Muszduk 586-826-7115 or Charollette Wilson 586-826-7082 or toll free 800-579-7355 ask for Jennifer or Charollette

DE08579123



GEORGE E. BLOOM

November 12, 2008. Age 84. Husband of the late Mary Therese. Dear father of Barbara Jeanne Stoecker (Gregory), Douglas Stephen (Diane), Therese Lynn Anderson (Michael), Lawrence Jon (Jennifer) and the late Mary Christine Bourgeois (Ted). Also survived by 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Brother of both the late Robert and Howard. Services have been held. Memorial tributes to Gilda's Club of Detroit or the McCarty Cancer Foundation. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at www.desmondfuneralhome.com



GRETCHEN BORNOR COLE

Born November 12, 1927 to loving parents Dora and Frank Bornor, passed on in peace on November 24, 2008 at age 81, with her daughters Cynthia and Sally by her side. She is also survived by Sally's husband Ron, grandchildren Erich, Nicole (Josh), Misha, Libby (Terry), and Emerson, and great-grandson Jayce. Gretchen's life is a testament to her loving, intelligent and independent spirit. She was born in Detroit and lived in several states during her childhood, as her father designed the nation's new highways. Her family later settled in Royal Oak, where she graduated from Royal Oak High School. She earned a bachelor's degree in 1949 in sociology and music from DePauw University in Indiana, where she created many lifelong friendships as a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority. Gretchen devoted countless volunteer hours as a Braille typist and with numerous other organizations while she was a wife and mother, and raised her two daughters with devotion, love and great fun. When she was in her 50s, she earned a master's degree in social work from Wayne State University, and then worked as a medical social worker at St. Joseph's Hospital in Pontiac, Michigan. In 1983 she became CEO of Detroit Air Compressor Company, which her parents had founded and run together for more than 40 years, and in the 1990s Gretchen received the Woman of the Year award from the National Association of Women Business Owners. Gretchen continually gave her love, thoughtfulness, keen intellect, grand humor and radiant smile to her family and many friends. She enjoyed traveling, and made everyone around her feel special. Gretchen marveled others with the power of her beautiful singing voice despite her 4'10" frame, reveled in the quiet of a glass of wine and a good book, and the beauty of Lake Michigan from her vacation home in northern Michigan. She leaves a lasting legacy of deep love for family, and a special style that will remain in the hearts of all who knew her forever. While the family will celebrate Gretchen's life privately, friends are welcome to share memories and extend condolences at DesmondFuneralHome.com. Memorial tributes in her name to Alzheimer's Disease Research, 22512 Gateway Center Drive, Clarksburg, Maryland 20871.



# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B6

## Day of service

A Day of Service and Spirituality is available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center. The purpose of the day is to serve, meet and have one's faith grow. The day allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dine with guests at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

A tour of the Earth Works urban garden, which provides six tons of produce each season, will also be made available. The day concludes with a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is 7th grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For information, send e-mail to ccrane@thecapuchins.org.

To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit [www.cskdetroit.org](http://www.cskdetroit.org).

## Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday, Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship at 10:30 a.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call (313) 278-5755.

## Worship

Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship Service with nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for tots through high school and Adult Faith Forum at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414

or visit [www.holycrosslivonia.org](http://www.holycrosslivonia.org). Visitors welcome.

## Worship service

10:45 a.m. Sundays, Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship, Youth Group 5-7 p.m. and Catechism for Grown-ups 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile. For information, call (734) 425-2800.

## F.I.R.E. ministries

With theme scripture, He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire (Luke 3:16), is organizing in Livonia at Living Water Church, 11663 Arcola in the Inkster and Plymouth roads area at 7 p.m. Fridays under the leadership of Luke Willis, F.I.R.E. Ministries. For more information, call (734) 425-6360.

## New worship schedule

Regular church service 10 a.m. Sundays with Communion and Nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for all

ages and Faith Forum, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. All visitors welcome. Visit [www.holycrosslivonia.org](http://www.holycrosslivonia.org).

## Sunday worship

11 a.m. Sunday worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. For information, call (734) 721-0800.

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# Your Invitation to Worship

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<p><b>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Immemorial Latin Mass Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1670 St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan 5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 634-2121</p> <p>Mass Schedules: Fri. 7:00 p.m. Sat. 11:00 a.m. Sun. Masses 7:30 &amp; 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p><b>FAITH COVENANT CHURCH</b> 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (248) 661-9191 <b>Sunday Worship and Children's Church 9:15 a.m. Contemporary 11:00 a.m. Traditional</b> Child Care provided for all services Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups</p>	<p><b>Clareville United Methodist</b> 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia <b>248-474-3444</b> Pastor Beth Librande Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Nursery Provided</p>	<p><b>Redford Aldersgate United Methodist</b> 2 blocks South of Plymouth 10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170 9:30 - Trad. Worship &amp; Sun. Sch. 11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship <a href="http://www.redfordaldersgate.org">www.redfordaldersgate.org</a></p>
<p><b>St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church</b> St. Genevieve School - Pre-K-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile &amp; Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p. Wed., Thurs. 9 a. Sat. 4 p. Sun 11a</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</b></p> <p><b>Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church</b> 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Venoj) Phone: 734-524-0880 Pastor: Eddie Petreaca Meetings on Saturdays for: Early Morning Bible &amp; Health Class-8 a.m. Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m. Bible Studies English &amp; Spanish (All Ages) 11:00 a.m. Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting-7 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>Cherry Hill United Methodist</b> 321 S. Ridge Road Canton, MI 734-495-0035 Rev. Merlin Pratt Worship 10:30 Prayer Hour Thursday 7:30 <a href="http://www.cherryhillumc.org">www.cherryhillumc.org</a></p>	<p><b>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church</b> 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia just north of I-96 <b>734-522-6830</b></p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 &amp; 11:00 am - Traditional Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+ Staffed Nursery Available <b>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ</b> Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creedon</p>
<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</b></p> <p><b>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 455-1625 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 8:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</b></p> <p><b>Timothy Lutheran Church</b> A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail &amp; Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Hegdal, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>First United Methodist Church of Plymouth</b> 45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road) <b>(734) 453-5280</b> <a href="http://www.pfumc.org">www.pfumc.org</a></p>	<p><b>GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</b> 25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-932-2266 REDFORD TWP.</p> <p><b>Worship Service 9:15 &amp; 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 &amp; 11:00 A.M.</b> Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor</p>
<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>Fellowship Presbyterian Church</b> Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan &amp; Schoolcraft • Nursery provided <a href="http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org">www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>NON-DENOMINATIONAL</b></p> <p><b>BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> a plant of the Fellowship Church</p> <p>Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program</p> <p>Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m. 734-425-1174 Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> "Open Hearts, Minds &amp; Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne &amp; Newburgh Rds. <b>734-422-0149</b> Worship Service and Sunday School 10:00 a.m. only Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: <a href="http://www.newburgumc.org">www.newburgumc.org</a></p>	<p><b>HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH &amp; SCHOOL</b> 9600 Levene • So. Redford • 313-937-2424 Pastor - Reverend Paul Undlin Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m. Education Hour 10:45 a.m. Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233</p>
<p><b>St. James Presbyterian Church, USA</b> 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7750 Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 8:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Bousquette</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>CHRISTIAN SCIENCE</b></p> <p>First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth 1180 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 734-453-0970 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 734-453-0970</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</b></p> <p><b>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)</b> 9801 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (Between Merriman &amp; Farmington Rds.) <b>(734) 422-0494</b> <a href="http://www.rosedalegardens.org">www.rosedalegardens.org</a> Chapel Worship Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH</p>	<p><b>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church</b> 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400</p> <p>Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 &amp; 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 A.M. Nursery &amp; Sunday School During the 9:30 &amp; 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The WMUZ Word Station For additional information visit <a href="http://www.wardchurch.org">www.wardchurch.org</a></p>
<p><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b> Pastor Milton Scherm 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights (Just East of Inkster Road) (313) 278-5755 Worship Service &amp; Sunday School 10:30 a.m. <a href="http://www.immanuelchurch.org">http://www.immanuelchurch.org</a> The Friendly Church on the Trail</p>	<p><b>Risen Christ Lutheran</b> David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 Mile W. of Sheldon) <b>(734) 453-5252</b> Worship 8:15 &amp; 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Nursery Care Available All are welcome. Come as you are. <a href="http://www.risenchrist.info">www.risenchrist.info</a></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: 6:30 P.M. website: <a href="http://www.stpaulslivonia.org">www.stpaulslivonia.org</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e0e0e0;"><b>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</b></p>

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: [dhart@dnps.com](mailto:dhart@dnps.com)



# SPARTANS

FROM PAGE B1

Stevenson then forced another Rams turnover when Grisa pried the ball loose from Rockford receiver Pat Doss after a 19-yard gain and recovered it at his own 37.

But the Spartans went three-and-out and had to punt.

It was all Rams from that point on as Mudgett booted a 39-yard field goal and Alex Rojas scored on a 6-yard TD run (following a Gabe Speirs interception) to increase the lead to 24-13 at intermission.

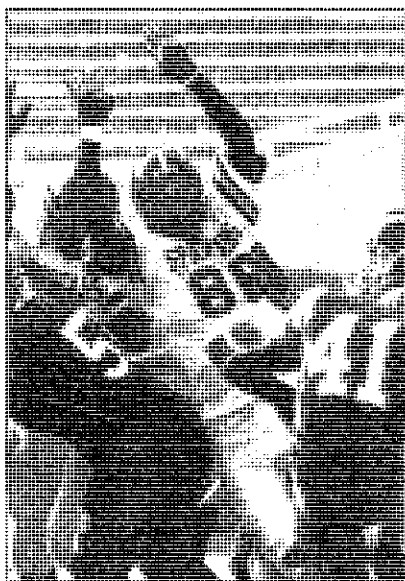
Mudgett then connected on a 33-yard field goal with 6:30 remaining in the third quarter and the Spartans couldn't respond after venturing twice inside Rockford territory.

Rockford had a total of 14 first downs to Stevenson's eight.

"We had a lot of unfavorable downs and distance," Gabel said. "Our goal was to avoid that. We knew we couldn't have second-and-long, third-and-longs because then they would bring a man under and their safeties over the top. It made it hard on us.

"Our game plan was to be spread-oriented and try and run out of the I. Most of our success was on fourth-and-short when we ran out of the I (formation)."

The Rams held Stevenson's stand-out junior running back Austin White



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Stevenson defense, led by Jordan El-Sabeh, tries unsuccessfully to block a kick by Rockford's Paul Mudgett during Saturday's Division I semifinal at MSU's Spartan Stadium.

to 44 yards on 18 carries. Meanwhile, Gudeman's string of pinpoint passing games came to a halt as he was sacked three times in the final quarter and completed only 4-of-17 attempts overall for 20 yards.

Rockford had a total of 286 total yards, including 147 on 38 attempts

on the ground. Quarterback Tim McGee was highly efficient, completing 9-of-14 for 121 yards.

"It comes down to schemes and the execution of the schemes," Munger said. "But it won't work unless you play your tails off. Today we played from the soles of our feet to the top of the helmet. It was just awesome."

Last year, Stevenson won 13 straight before falling to Macomb Dakota in the Division 1 final, 41-21.

Grisa was one of only four starters returning from that squad.

"We knew we had to go out and play with heart and we had to be tough - but it did not work out for us," said the 6-foot, 162-pound senior. "This year was a lot more challenging. Last year had a lot more seniors. We had some hard times, but we played through it and played our hearts out. We had a great run."

Despite the season-ending loss, Gabel could take solace in his team's development from the opening day of practice.

"In my mind it was not a good beginning of the year, but they came a long way and we found our identity in the playoffs," the 13th year coach said. "We feel like we improved a whole-lot in all phases. And the credit goes to the kids who continued to work hard."

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# Local All-America trio propel Laker harriers

Grand Valley State University's Megan Maceratini (Livonia Churchill) led six Lakers that placed in the top 30 at the Division II Women's Cross Country National Championships held Saturday at Slippery Rock, Pa.

Adams State (Colo.) claimed first place with a team score of 79, while Grand Valley State took second with a score of 102 tying the school's best-ever finish.

This marked the seventh consecutive year that the GVSU women have claimed a trophy at the national championships.

"We had a goal of winning the NCAA title and ending Adams State's run," Grand Valley coach Jerry Baltes said. "Though it did not quite happen, we are truly proud of our effort. We were neck-and-neck with Adams with 1,000 meters to go and they finished out a bit stronger than us."

The individual champion was Jessica Pixler of Seattle Pacific, who finished the 6-kilometer course in 20:59.

Maceratini's time of 22:15 earned her 14th place, while Katherine

McCarthy took 18th place with a time of 22:24.

Kelly Gibbons (Livonia Stevenson) was the third Laker to cross the finish line, taking 21st place with her time of 22:30. Lynsey Ardingo was two seconds behind Gibbons, finishing in 22:32, which was good enough for 23rd place. Gibbons became the second Laker woman to compete in four national championships, joining Mandi Zemba.

"We are proud of senior Kelly Gibbons closing out her cross country career as an all-american and becoming the second female GVSU cross country runner to compete in four national championships," said Baltes. "She is in great company, as Mandi Zemba is the only other Laker to have done that."

Sarah Kulczyki (Stevenson) rounded out the scorers for the Lakers, taking 26th place with her time of 22:37. "We will return an incredible group of women that are hungry to win that first title in school history," said Baltes. "I know they have already set their sights on next year, and I am confident we will get it done."

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**Homes For Rent 4050**

**DEARBORN HTS.** Sharp 2 bdrm, 1.5 garage, fenced yard. Section 8 ok. \$845/mo. + 1.5 mo. security. 734-578-6082

**FARMINGTON HILLS** 3 Bdrms ranch, 1 1/2 bath w/ 2 car garage. All appliances included. No pets, non-smoker. Immediate occupancy. \$1000 plus security. (920) 495-0562

**FARMINGTON HILLS** Lg. 3 bdrm, family rm, master, \$1500. Also Oak Park- \$1,050. (248) 722-6991

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**GARDEN CITY** brick ranch, 3 bdrm, wharwood unfinished bsmt & garage, no appliances. \$895/mo. 313-549-6616

**Garden City** - 3 bdrm, 2 bath, finished bsmt, garage, all appliances. \$1025/mo. + security deposit. 313 201 0385

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# Salem wrestling coach Krueger remembered for his tough love

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Teaching wrestling moves was secondary to teaching life lessons for Ron Krueger during his incredibly successful 29-year tenure as wrestling coach at Salem High School.

That was the overwhelming sentiment of many of Krueger's former student-athletes and colleagues in the wake of the legendary coach's death on Saturday at the age of 66.

"He taught us to accept nothing less than the best from ourselves - both in wrestling and in life," said Ronnie Thompson, who wrestled for Krueger from 1996-2000. "If you didn't give him your best, he'd be disappointed."

"He was a big part of a lot of people's lives - he was like a second father to a lot of his wrestlers - and he'll be missed more than words can say."

Krueger passed away in his Brighton home after battling a series of recent health ailments.

Armed with the resilience and determination he drilled into his wrestlers from 1971 to 2000, Krueger pinned colon cancer into remission earlier this year after being diagnosed in 2007.

However, the tough but highly respected mentor eventually succumbed to the effects of an inoperable blood clot.

The funeral was held Wednesday morning at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth.

"That is going to be one big funeral because every kid that wrestled for Ron Krueger stayed in touch with Ron Krueger," said Carl Schultz, a Salem wrestler from 1972-1976. "Once you were one of his wrestlers, you were *always*

one of his wrestlers.

"I'm a better man for having known Ron Krueger. He pushed you beyond what you knew you could do. He taught us to fear no one."

Former Salem athletic administrator and coach Gary Balconi knew Krueger as well as anybody. The two grew up together in Sandusky, Ohio. After going different ways after high school, the long-time buddies reunited in 1971 when Krueger was hired as a physical education teacher and wrestling coach at Salem.

"Ron was a 100-percent," said Balconi. "If you were his friend, it was 100 percent. If he was your coach, it was 100 percent and nothing shy of that."

"There used to be a sign in the Salem wrestling room that Ron put up. It said, 'Those who stay will be champions.' That's how he lived his life. He was a great coach, a great husband, a great parent. Ron was a great man."

Schultz, who was a member of Krueger's second team at Salem, said his former coach worked wonders during the early days of Salem's wrestling program.

"He took a bunch of people who knew nothing - I mean zero - about the sport and made us something," Schultz said. "He was a very tough man coaching a very tough sport. We used to say if you could survive that sport with that coach, you could survive anything."

Krueger was known for his "Krueger-isms" - phrases that would often be recounted by his former grapplers at golf outings and other Salem get-togethers.

"His big saying was, 'If you always do what you've always

done, you're always going to get what you've always got,'" remembered Thompson. "It was his way of saying you're only going to get out of life what you put into it."

Krueger's sometimes intimidating persona could be deceiving for those who never met him, said Greg Wochuk, who wrestled for Krueger and served as his assistant coach before succeeding him as head coach at Salem in 2001.

"Ron had a rough exterior, but if you really knew him, you loved him," said Wochuk. "As a friend, he was always there when you needed him."

"I can't tell you how many times he helped out his former wrestlers. One time, he had me drive to a college and drop off \$400 to a kid who was struggling financially."

Balconi chuckled while recalling one humorous Krueger anecdote that unfolded during a Salem-related golf outing.

"It was a beautiful day, the sun was shining, the sky was blue, not a cloud in the sky," Balconi said. "When Ron walked up to the tee for his first drive, one guy joked to another, 'How much do you want to bet Ron finds something wrong with this day.'"

"The next thing you know, Ron turned back toward us and said, 'Can you believe how loud those birds are chirping?' There were 23 guys doubled over, laughing."

Krueger is survived by his wife, Dolores; his children Lee (Dawn), Kristen (Jim), Jason (Chrissy) and six grandchildren.

Another son, Danny, was killed in an automobile accident in 1995.

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## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### MU hitting camp

The Madonna University women's softball program will stage two sessions of hitting camps from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 20 (I) and Sunday, Dec. 21 (II).

The cost for each session is \$30.

For more information, or to register, call MU coach Al White at (734) 432-5783; or visit [www.madonnacrusers.com](http://www.madonnacrusers.com).

### Glenn baseball training

Westland John Glenn High School will host a six-week Spring Training 2009 baseball program for players in grades 1-12 from Jan. 18 through Feb. 22.

John Glenn varsity coach Tom Wakefield will direct the program in conjunction with the Midwest Baseball Academy. Sessions are offered in advanced hitting, pitching and catching with a cost as low as \$99 for six weeks. Space is limited and registration is underway.

For more information, call toll-free at (866) MBA-HITS; or visit [www.baseballacademy.net](http://www.baseballacademy.net).

### WYAA basketball

Basketball registration for the Westland Youth Athletic Association will be from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. until noon Saturdays at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

Age groups offered include: Right Start (7-8), Freshman (9-10), Junior Varsity (11-12), Varsity (13-14-15) and Senior (16-19).

JV- and Varsity-age players involved in middle school basketball will be eligible for WYAA play once their seasons conclude.

For more information, call the WYAA building at (734) 421-0640.

### Special Olympian skate

The Livonia Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson varsity hockey teams will join forces to host a free skating party for Special Olympians from 5-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 at Eddie Edgar Arena, located at 33841 Lyndon (off Farmington road).

Skates will be provided for those that don't have skates.

For more information, e-mail Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni at [pmazzoni@livonia.k12.mi.us](mailto:pmazzoni@livonia.k12.mi.us).

### Prep coaches wanted

Westland John Glenn High School has coaching openings for varsity girls soccer, boys diving, and girls bowling. Those interested can apply online at [www.wyaa.net](http://www.wyaa.net).

Livonia Ladywood has openings for the following coaches: girls varsity track and field (2009 spring season); girls cross country (2009 fall season); girls JV competitive cheer (2008-09 season); and girls JV golf coach (2009 fall season).

Those interested should fax a resume to Ladywood High School at (734) 591-2386.

### Baseball Academy

The Pro Secrets Baseball Academy will be conducting showcase sessions for high school players as well as skill sessions in power pitching, hitting and fielding.

The latest pro pitch trainer will be used and former Phillies pitcher Mark Rutherford will be the featured instructor.

For more information, call (734) 421-4928.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**PREP HOCKEY**  
Wednesday, Nov. 26  
(at Livonia's Edgar Arena)  
Churchill vs. Stevenson, 6 p.m.  
Franklin vs. Novi, 8 p.m.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Monday, Nov. 24  
Lansing CC at Schoolcraft, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 25  
Madonna at Rochester College, 7:30 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Sunday, Nov. 22  
Madonna at Eastern Michigan, 2 p.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 25  
Wayne State at Madonna, 7 p.m.  
Friday, Nov. 28

(Kalamazoo Valley Turkey Trot Shootout)  
Schoolcraft vs. Owens CC (Ohio), 3 p.m.  
Saturday, Nov. 29  
(Kalamazoo Valley Turkey Trot Shootout)  
Schoolcraft vs. Kennedy-King (Ill.), 4 p.m.  
Sunday, Nov. 30  
(Kalamazoo Valley Turkey Trot Shootout)  
Schoolcraft vs. Columbus St. (Ohio), noon.

## Spartan icers roll in Showcase, 9-1

Livonia Stevenson tallied three short-handed goals and dominated the second day of the Metro Invitational Showcase boys hockey tournament with a 9-1 triumph Saturday over Grand Rapids Catholic Central in a game-played at Novi Ice Arena.

The Spartans, 2-0 overall, were led by Cole Rochowiak and Trevor Baruzzini, each scoring two goals, including one apiece short-handed.

Evan Malick also contributed a goal and two assists, while Jake Vert and Justin Shureb chipped in with one goal and one assist each. Shureb's was short-handed.

Jake Herman and John Vella also scored for the Spartans, who led 3-0 after one period and 7-1 after 30 minutes.

Jake Wilson also contributed three assists for Stevenson, which outshot the Cougars (0-2) by a 32-9 margin.

Richie Dunphy went the distance in net for the Spartans, while Cam Kwaiser scored for Grand Rapids CC.

Herman, a senior defenseman, and Baruzzini, a junior forward, were both named to the All-Metro Showcase Team.

"I was happy with the way we played this weekend, especially having so much balance in our scoring," said Stevenson coach David Mitchell, whose team beat Lake Orion Friday in their season opener, 6-2. "This was a good way for us to start off our season."

## Michigan Eye Doctor Helps Legally Blind

Dr. Sheldon Smith fits special glasses to help those with macular degeneration and other eye conditions keep reading and driving.

By Elena Lombardi

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

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

"People don't know there are experienced doctors who can help them with specialized low vision care," says Dr. Smith. "Many people hear from their own doctors that nothing can be done for their eye disease, but there are ways to improve vision" says Dr. Smith. "I devise special glasses to help patients meet their various visual goals."

Patients often end up using weak, clumsy hand-held magnifiers trying to see. Conversely, Dr. Smith prescribes hands-free devices that are easier to use. "We use the same telescopic devices surgeons use during operations," says Dr. Smith. "That's how powerful and convenient they are."

Special prismatic reading glasses and microscopes help make reading a little easier. Telescopic glasses primarily focus on distance objects like TV, passing neighbors or scenery. Telescopes can also be adapted to closer tasks like playing cards or computers. "Telescopes can even help people meet the driver vision requirement," Dr. Smith explained. Michigan is one of 46 states that allow biopic telescopic glasses for driving.

Mr. Don Liptak, age 74 of Livonia, Michigan saw Dr. Smith last January. Don had macular degeneration and was on strong chemotherapy for leukemia. Don had 20/60 vision and sought help with reading,



Don Liptak wearing driving telescopes

driving and the computer. The doctor prescribed a system of three low vision aids that addressed all of Don's objectives.

"These are better for the computer than anything else I've tried," Don said. "Last week I went out in my '66 Mustang convertible and the glasses helped me see things far away. It's hard losing your independence but these glasses make my life easier."

Many activities require their own unique device, such as reading and driving. The extent of each system varies as people have differing visual ability and range of interests. Special reading glasses start at \$600 and most custom telescopes cost from \$1800 to \$2500. Interest free financing is available.

"Each patient has a unique amount of vision and their own goals," says Smith, "so I help patients do what matters most to them. We train patients to use their remaining vision and their devices to meet the challenges of daily living. Also safeguarding present vision levels is crucial. Sun filters and nutritional supplements can improve vision and prevent further sight loss."

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

You can reach Dr. Smith and Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at **1-877-677-2020**.

Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, Warren and Greater Lansing. Visit Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at [suburbaneyecare.com](http://suburbaneyecare.com) or find out more about the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists at [ialvs.com](http://ialvs.com).

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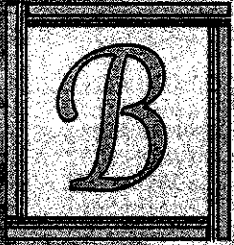
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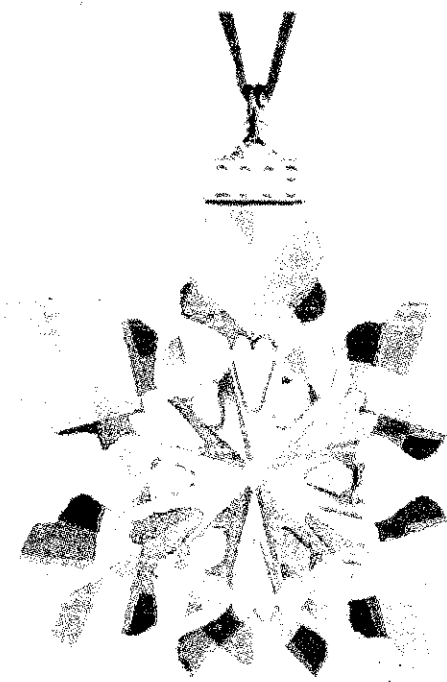
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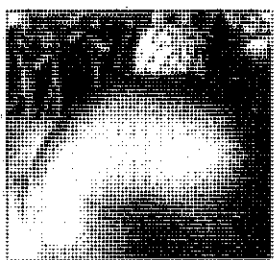


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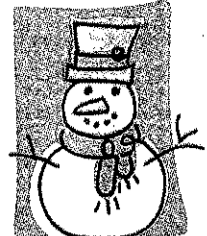




Is your holiday cookie recipe easy?

PAGE D4

Check out our listing of holiday happenings



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get out - D67

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Thursday, November 27, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

## A band of strangers



From left Graham Strachan, John Mabilia, Randy Nelson, Stewart Preston, and Jamie Church.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KIM SIMMS

## becomes band of friends

BY LANA MINI  
O&E STAFF WRITER

The members of rock band National Ghost met each other two years ago when they were introduced by local Emmy-winning filmmaker Jim Bonner. "He thought it would be an interesting experiment to put five diverse songwriters together who had in most cases never even met before that night," lead vocalist Graham Strachan said. The men began to write music within the first hour of meeting and have been together ever since. National Ghost, from Plymouth, Livonia and Royal Oak, make music they call "Eclectic Sonic Melodic Rock." It can also be considered album rock with strong four-part melodies and a funk edge. The members are James Church, 20, guitar, keys and vocals, of Livonia; John Mabilia, 25, guitar and vocals, of Royal Oak; Stewart Preston, 25, bass and vocals, of Plymouth; Randy Nelson, 24, drums

and percussion, of Plymouth; and Graham Strachan, 30, lead vocals, of Livonia.

### BEATLES TO ZEPPELIN

The members are influenced by The Band, Bob Dylan, Beatles, Wilco, Led Zeppelin, Tom Waits, Stevie Wonder, Zappa, Doors, Spearhead, The Roots, War, David Bowie and Pink Floyd. Go to their Myspace to hear it and see them play live at two shows next month. If the music appeals to you, check out the band's CD release parties on Saturday, Dec. 6, at The Berkley Front in Berkley and Friday, Dec. 12, at Corktown Tavern in Detroit. Asked about the meaning of the band's name, Strachan said, "Musically it represents the beauty of song craft which has, in some cases, given way to some of today's slick pop trappings. The name also hints at the feeling of a loss of country, deterioration of great intention and loss of

Please see **BAND, D8**

### NATIONAL GHOST

Genre: Album Rock with a funk edge  
Band members: From Plymouth, Livonia and Royal Oak  
What: CD release party of its self-titled CD  
Where: On Saturday, Dec. 6, at The Berkley Front, 3087 12 Mile, Berkley, and Friday, Dec. 12, at Corktown Tavern, 1716 Michigan Ave., Detroit.  
Hear them: www.nationalghost.com or www.myspace.com/nationalghost  
Interesting note: The band's vocalist Graham Strachan sings in radio TV commercials for Metro Detroit Ford Dealers "Think Ford First" spots, St. John's Hospital (with singer Liz Larin), TCF Bank and DTE Green Currents



National Ghost's new self-titled CD.



DARREN COX

Beginning Nov. 25, Chazz Palminteri stars in a play he wrote, "A Bronx Tale," at Detroit's Fisher Theatre.

## Chazz Palminteri brings his one-man show to Detroit

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Academy Award nominee Chazz Palminteri has performed in more than 50 films throughout his career, including smashes like *Bullets Over Broadway* and *The Usual Suspects*. But the project dearest to him, most personal for him, is easily *A Bronx Tale*. Palminteri penned the semi-autobiographical story of a young boy caught between a life of crime and an honest future first as a one-man show. It developed into a film, the first ever helmed by Robert DeNiro, then headed to Broadway. Now, Palminteri brings the moving story to Detroit's Fisher Theatre stage as part of its first national tour. In it, he portrays 18 different characters — a feat

Please see **CHAZZ, D8**

## Ferndale native set to play show, celebrate her television debut

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Fresh from a tear-jerking appearance on the Bravo makeover show *Tim Gunn's Guide to Style*, Southfield-bred rocker Eliza Neals will return home this weekend for what she described as a night of "fashion, fun and music" at Detroit's Cliff Bells. Neals, who moved from Ferndale to Jersey City, N. J. when she married architect Huerta Neals, has focused on her Southern-inspired soulful rock stylings and made her way into such notable New York City venues as Joe's Pub. All the while she was outfitted for the

Please see **NEALS, D5**

### ELIZA NEALS

What: The classically-trained singer turned soulful Southern rock performer returns home this holiday weekend for a live performance featuring songs from her album "No Frogs for Snakes" and her new EP "My Style Live".  
When: 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30  
Where: Cliff Bells, 2030 Park Ave., Detroit  
More information: Call (313) 961-2543  
See and Hear: Look for Episode 6 of "Tim Gunn's Guide to Style," Season 2 to re-air on Bravo, or visit www.bravotv.com/Tim\_Gunn. Find music by Eliza Neals at elizaneals.com, www.myspace.com/elizaneals or purchase her music at www.iTunes.com or www.cdbaby.com



Neals



## Show your Beatles love

You won't have to cross Abbey Road to hear all your favorite Beatles hits. FILTER wants to supply you with free tickets to see the ultimate Beatles live tribute when The Beatle Maniacs cross the pond from London to perform at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6 at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, 15801 Dearborn. Tickets are going for \$27-\$47, but you can enjoy the experience on us. We're giving away 10 tickets. Just visit <http://www.hometownlife.com/news/Beatles/Beatles.html> to enter online and you may be on your way to your very own Magical Mystery Tour.

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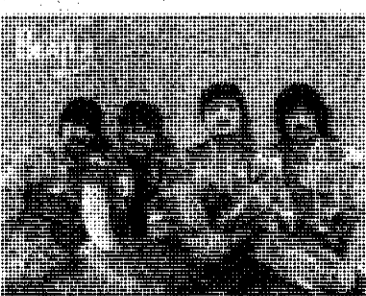
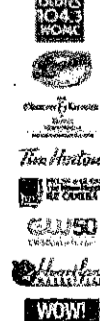
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**Event Candids by:**  
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November 15, 2008 January 15, 2009



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# Holiday Happenings

## Events

**Turkey Trot:** Canton's 6th annual 5K run is open to all ages and will begin at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 27 at Pheasant Run Golf Club, 46500 Summit Parkway. Kids will start their own race at 9:15 a.m. and adults will begin after. All proceeds benefit the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan. Entry fees, \$10-\$20, (734) 483-5600.

**Shopping Extravaganza:** Downtown Plymouth hosts *Eat, Shop and Be Merry*, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28 including regular hours at shops, eateries and free live music by Michael King and Karen Newman at Kellogg Park. Carolers will sing, more than 50 Gingerbread houses will be on display in shop windows and Santa is due to arrive at 6 p.m. for a tree lighting ceremony. The first 250 families receive a welcome package from downtown merchants. Visit [www.downtownplymouth.org](http://www.downtownplymouth.org).

**Christmas in the Village:** Tour decorated homes and enjoy carriage rides, hot cocoa, Santa Claus, and carolers, all while raising money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, from 4-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at Cherry Hill Village of Canton, 500 N. Ridge Road, Canton. Tickets \$15, visit [www.canton-mi.org/village-theatre](http://www.canton-mi.org/village-theatre) or call (734) 394-5460.

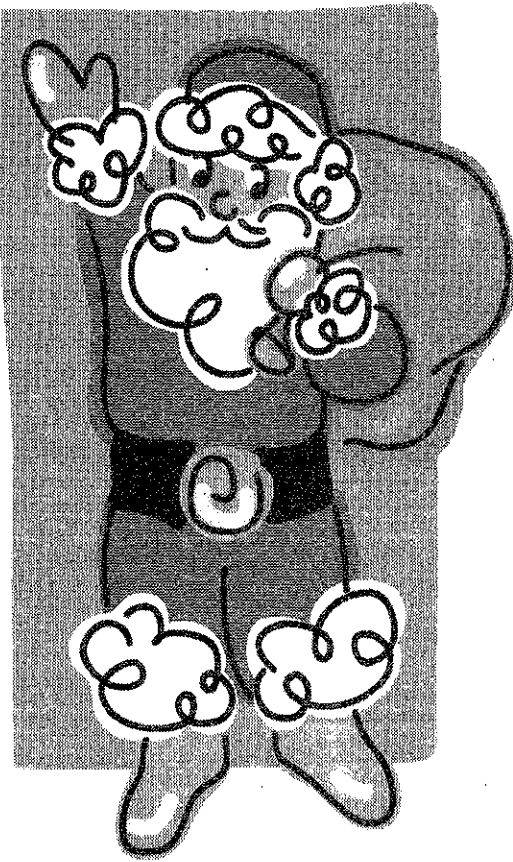
**The Big, Bright Light Show:** Downtown Rochester will light the night with its dazzling display of more than 500,000 lights coating all the buildings along Main. The free event, Dec. 1 to Jan. 4, 2009 attracts more than 1 million visitors. Expect a traffic jam but it's still a sight to behold.

**Wayne County LightFest:** Drive through more than four miles of light displays along Hines Drive, beginning at Merriman. Cost is \$5 per car, call (734) 261-1990 for details. The display runs to Jan. 1, 2009.

**Winter Wonderland:** A cast of more than 100 performers celebrate the holidays, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 12-13 and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the Detroit Film Theatre at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. Tickets \$10. Call (313) 833-4005 or visit [www.mosaicdetroit.org](http://www.mosaicdetroit.org).

**Holiday Nights:** Greenfield Village will transform into a living Christmas card with its candle-lit paths, Model T and carriage rides, ice skating and decorated home tours for this seasonal favorite, 6:30-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec 5-6, Friday-Sunday, Dec. 12-14, Friday-Tuesday, Dec. 19-23, and Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 27-28. Tickets \$12.50-\$17, children under 4 enter free. Add dinner at the Eagle Tavern for \$64.50 to \$68.50. Parking costs \$5. The Henry Ford is at 20900 Oakwood Blvd. in Dearborn. Visit [www.thehenryford.com](http://www.thehenryford.com).

**Christmas Walk:** The Friends of Greenmead presents its 20th annual event beginning at Hill House with hot chocolate and cookies. Tickets \$9-\$10; wear slip-on shoes. Profits go to restoration and preservation at Livonia's Historic Greenmead, 20501 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 466-3540.



## With Music

**A Christmas Festival:** The Livonia Symphony Concert will be joined by dancers from Bunny Sanford's School of Dance, the Karen Danke Singers and members of the Livonia Youth Philharmonic, 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt in Livonia. Tickets \$17, call (734) 421-1111 or [www.livoniasymphony.com](http://www.livoniasymphony.com).

**Holiday Brass:** The Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings presents this rousing show 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at Christ Church Cranbrook, 470 Church, Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 644-5210 or visit [www.detroitchamberwinds.org](http://www.detroitchamberwinds.org).

**Annual Carol Sing:** St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook invites the public to hear singers from the St. Dunstan's Choir, its soloists, Motor City Lyric Opera Children's Choir and organist Dr. Norah Duncan perform an hour-long program complete with sing-a-longs. The show is free, 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Christ Church Cranbrook, 470 Church Road in Bloomfield Hills. Santa party follows the concert. Visit [www.stdunstanstheatre.com](http://www.stdunstanstheatre.com).

**Messiah:** The Oakland Choral Society presents this classic, 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 14, at Nativity Episcopal Church, 21220 W. 14 Mile, Beverly Hills. Tickets \$15-\$50, call (248) 391-0184.

**Trans-Siberian Orchestra:** Talk about uplifting and re-inventing holiday songs. Catch one of these two shows on Dec. 21, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Call

(248) 645-6666.

**Christmas in Concert:** See Tony O'Brien with Casali Holiday Dancers, 8 p.m. Dec. 13, at Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser, Detroit. Tickets \$10. Visit [www.redfordtheatre.com](http://www.redfordtheatre.com).

**Holiday with heart and soul:** Hear The Christmas Music of Mannheim Steamroller by Chip Davis, Dec. 18-19, The Masonic Temple Theatre, Cass and Temple streets, Detroit. Tickets \$25-\$68. (248) 645-6666.

**Holiday classics:** Kirk in the Hills Chancel Choir and the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings presents this program including part one of Handel's *Messiah* and a sing-a-long with the audience, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at 1340 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$5-\$12, call (248) 626-2515 ext. 109.

## On Film

**Penn Theatre:** In celebration of the theater's 67th anniversary catch *It's a Wonderful Life* and a live performance by the Belleville Brass, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4 or the film only 6:45 and 9:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5; *White Christmas* is showing 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 and *Polar Express* is showing at 7 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 19-21, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19 and 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 20-21.

**Redford Theatre:** It's a double dose of holiday cheer at this Old Redford historic theater, beginning with *Miracle on 34th Street*, 8 p.m. Dec. 5-6 and 2 p.m. Dec. 6; tickets \$4. And then sing your heart out to *White Christmas*, 8 p.m. Dec. 19-20 and 2 p.m. Dec. 20, at 17360 Lahser, Detroit; tickets \$4. Visit [www.redfordtheatre.com](http://www.redfordtheatre.com).

**The Crofoot:** For Flaming Lips fans, the long wait is over. See singer Wayne Coyne's anticipated directorial debut, *Christmas on Mars: A Fantastical Film Freakout Featuring the Flaming Lips*, 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29. It marks a Detroit debut for this sci-fi film, which stars Coyne's bandmates Steven Drozd, Michael Ivins, comedian Fred Armisen and former Blues Clues star Steve Burns. Admission \$5, at 1 S. Saginaw, Pontiac. Visit [www.thecrofoot.com](http://www.thecrofoot.com) for details.

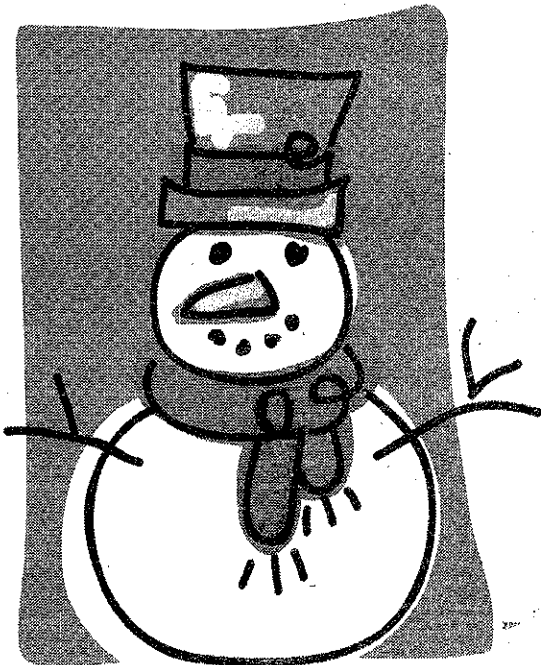
**The Henry Ford:** See *Polar Express* in IMAX, Dec. 1 through the holidays, at 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. (313) 271-1570.

## On Canvas

Paint Creek Center for the Arts: Get ready for handmade holiday-themed works in glass, ceramic, fiber and more with *Holiday Objects Up and Down*, through Jan. 3, 2009, at 407 Pine Street, Rochester. Call (248) 651-4110.

## On Stage

**The Nutcracker:** The Joffrey Ballet performs this Tchaikovsky classic 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4-6, 2:30 p.m. Dec. 6 and noon and 5 p.m. Dec. 7, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Call (313) 237-3426 or visit [www.michiganopera.org](http://www.michiganopera.org). Or see the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra and the Taylor Americana Ballet perform the show, 7 p.m. Dec. 6 and 2 p.m. Dec. 7, at Arts Auditorium, 123 Selden Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$33.50. Call (313) 576-5111 or visit [www.olympiaentertainment.com](http://www.olympiaentertainment.com).



[shopthemax.com](http://shopthemax.com).

**Home for the Holidays:** Join the DSO's holiday sing-along and stirring annual show, 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 18; 8:30 p.m. Dec. 19-20 and 3 p.m. Dec. 21, at the Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 576-5111.

**Who Wants Cake:** Don't miss the hilarious stage adaptation of writer David Sedaris's *The Santaland Diaries*, performed by Ferndale's Joe Plambeck and Joe Bailey, showtimes Friday-Monday, Dec. 5-22, The Ringwald, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Tickets \$10-\$20, (248) 545-5545 or [WhoWantsCake.com](http://WhoWantsCake.com).

**Avon Players:** See *A Christmas Story*, with shows Nov. 28-30, Dec 5-7, 12-14, at 1185 Washington Road, Rochester Hills. Call (248) 608-9077.

**The Farmington Players:** *It's a Wonderful Life*, with shows Nov. 28 to Dec. 20, 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 553-2955 or visit [www.farmingtonplayers.org](http://www.farmingtonplayers.org).

**Spend Xmas with Ced n Teri:** Mikey Brown and Sarah Switanowski celebrate the holidays by bringing their Webisode characters Cedrick and Teri to life, along with musical guests, in *A Very Ced n Teri Xmas*, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 5-27 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, Planet Ant, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. Tickets, \$10-\$15, call (313) 365-4948.

**Fox Theatre:** Like a Christmas Card set to music, see Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*, running to Dec. 28, tickets \$20-\$100, 2211 Woodward, Detroit. Visit [OlympiaEntertainment.com](http://OlympiaEntertainment.com) or call (248) 433-1515.


**Meadow Brook Theatre:** *A Christmas Carol* is a long-running tradition in Rochester. Don't miss out Nov. 28-Dec. 21, on the campus of Oakland University, in Rochester Hills. Tickets \$25-\$40. Call (248) 377-0300 or visit [www.mbttheatre.com](http://www.mbttheatre.com).

Compiled by Stephanie Angelyn Casola

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BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

Over the past month, readers sent hordes of recipes for Thanksgiving side dishes. They were a joy to share with you.

Now, we're looking for your favorite holiday cookie recipe — but not just any cookie concoction. We want cookie recipes that are easy. Holidays are busy, money is tight. Let's make cookies that don't cost a fortune or take three days to make.

Share them with me and I'll share them with readers in issues of Filter between now and the holiday season.

E-mail: Lmini@hometownlife.com  
Subject line: Easy Cookies  
Happy baking!

1/4 cup crushed pecans (you can also use walnuts)  
1/4 cup canola oil  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
8 ounces chocolate chips, optional  
About a 1/2 cup of water, you may need more if using chocolate chips

8 medium-sized dates, pitted  
1 banana  
1/2 cups coconut flakes

1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup raspberry preserves (or chocolate fudge sauce)

**Preparation:**  
Place ingredients in a food processor, and process until smooth. Depending on the size of the dates and the ripeness of the bananas, you may need to add more or less coconut to get the right consistency. Mixture should be moist, but not gooey.  
Bake at 325 degrees 10-15 minutes, until done. Drop on a cookie sheet with a teaspoon. Cookies will be soft, but should cook enough to have a golden brown bottom and hold together well.  
\*My friend made this cookie last year and found it on About.Vegetarian.com

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.  
Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.  
In a bowl, cream the butter and sugar together until light and fluffy. It will take about five minutes.  
In another bowl, whisk flour and ground walnuts. Then add to the creamed butter mixture. Mix until it forms a soft dough. Do not knead too much or it will get sticky. Dust it with flour. Refrigerate dough for 30 minutes for easier handling.  
Roll small balls, about a teaspoon, and press lightly in the center with your finger to make a shallow hole for the jam. Arrange on the baking trays, at least two fingers apart.  
Bake for 15-18 minutes, until edges are slightly colored. Cookies should be firm, not over firm. Let cool completely on a wire rack, then fill with jam.  
About 20 cookies.

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**PECAN COOKIES**  
1/2 cup white flour  
1 cup sugar, refined or raw

**SERIOUSLY SIMPLE MACAROON DATE COOKIES**  
They take about 15 minutes, if you have a food processor it's even faster.

**THUMBPRINT COOKIE**  
1 cup all-purpose flour  
1/2 cup ground walnuts or pecans  
4 ounces soy margarine or butter (I like Earth Balance vegan butter from any natural food store)

## Bouchaine makes brilliant chardonnay and pinot noir

Chardonnay is the favorite wine among U.S. wine consumers. Due to its food versatility, pinot noir is the current darling among red wines. Bouchaine, located in the Carneros District of southern Napa Valley makes both.

Traditionally, chardonnay and pinot noir pair up in the Burgundy region of France. In California, cooler regions such as Carneros, produce exquisite examples. Bouchaine is among them.



Focus on Wine  
Ray & Eleanor Heald

**HERE'S WHY.**  
Bouchaine's winemaker and general manager Mike Richmond considers himself a student of chardonnay. "With a little attention to detail and the Carneros terroir," he says, "I strive to address our modern palate's need for a graceful wine with brightness and lasting fresh texture. I want the oak used for barrel fermentation and aging to impact the wine as a wisp of spice."  
Richmond believes that regardless of who makes a Carneros chardonnay, it seems to display an initial impression that has more in common with citrus notes of lime or grapefruit than the tropical, peach, mango and apricot characteristics of warmer growing areas.  
As a winemaker working with Bouchaine's chardonnay, though, Richmond believes it's his job to layer the mid-palate with significant taste impressions that put a distinctive identity stamp on Carneros fruit.  
Walking one's talk is an important element in a business sphere.

It's the same with wine. Try the Bouchaine 2006 Carneros Estate Chardonnay, a real value at \$20, and notice its attractive citrus aromas and flavors. With stylish bright acidity, it makes perfect food harmonies with French Onion Soup (like the one on the menu at Forest Grill in Birmingham), grilled fish with a splash of lemon or pan-seared scallops with caramelized shallots.  
"In many regards, Carneros may be considered the pioneering region that began lifting the veil on California's pinot noir," Richmond says as he transitions our conversation to this variety. "There's a new age of understanding of how to grow pinot noir in Carneros. And additionally, how to handle it in the winery to showcase a darker-hued and sturdier pinot with black cherry-like overtones."  
Aiding this style of pinot noir are new clones offering subtle, diverse attributes, although different clones perform differently in different vineyards. This is reflected in variations of flavor

intensity and structure.

**MAKING IT DELICIOUS**  
Richmond views his pinot noir challenge in Carneros as a maximizing of aromas that draw us to be instantly attracted to the wine and then enjoy a mouth-filling sense of richness — "to make a wine that's just delicious," he says.  
To experience Richmond's words in action, try Bouchaine 2006 Carneros Pinot Noir, \$25, with wild mushroom risotto, accented with truffle oil. It will give a lift to Thanksgiving turkey leftovers!  
A step up in exuberance is Bouchaine 2006 Carneros Estate Pinot Noir, \$45, with dark cherry characters, smoky notes and a long finish. Braised lamb shanks or any duck preparation will harmonize brilliantly with this wine.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are Contributing Editors for the internationally-respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

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2	22	47	64
9	19	32	72
14	42	49	63
10	16	55	68

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# NEALS

FROM PAGE D1

scene, sporting ripped jeans and leather jackets. An avid *Project Runway* fan, Neals has long trusted the advice of style guru Tim Gunn, so she jumped at the chance to appear on his Bravo makeover show. She figured the exposure couldn't hurt her career in music, either.

Neals grew up in Southfield, along with two sisters and one brother. Her father, a Navy captain, had started the tradition of playing music in their home — strumming a guitar or playing harmonica while they all sang along. Neals learned to play the piano and — along with her sister — she would compose new ballads to melodies by Crosby Stills & Nash or Cat Stevens. It led her to begin writing music at an early age, and she eventually pursued the study of opera while attending Wayne State University.

"I would sing five nights a week, Tuesday through Sunday," she said. "I can't believe I could do that."

But Neals' voice took on a raspier tone, so she eventually chose the rock music route. Her family, many of whom now reside in Farmington Hills, and fellow Detroit musicians continue to collaborate on her music. Legendary Motown songwriter Barrett Strong (*I Heard It Through The Grapevine*) co-wrote music for her latest album, *No Frogs for Snakes*, and Zug Island singer Greg "Syn" MacDonald lends his vocals to a song co-written by her sister, *Save Me from the Fire*.

In August, the Bravo show began filming in Neals' New Jersey home. Though she admitted to secretly hiding a few of her favorite can't-part-with-them pieces, she was ready to face the music and hear Gunn's opinion of her rock-inspired style. "I had nothing left," she said. "They took everything out of my closet. They took all of my hats. I'm a hat fanatic."

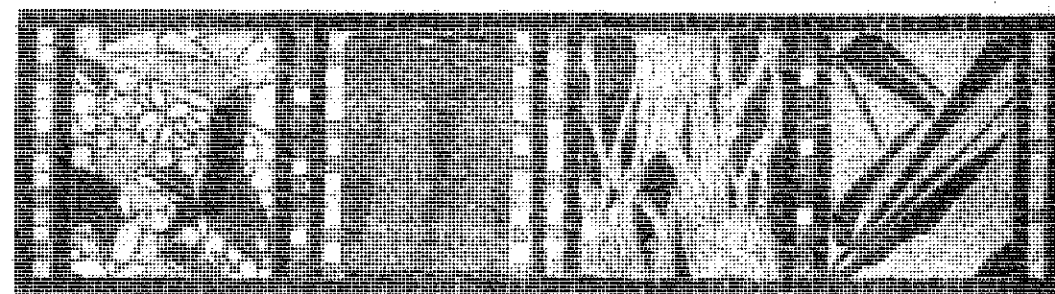
But the experience involved more than shopping at high end stores and finding a way to meld her musical career with a more polished look suitable for events involving

her husband's career in the architecture field. She met hairdresser Sally Hershberger, who allowed her to keep her long locks, and Kay Unger designed clothing for her. Neals said: "They don't tell you what you're going to do that day. Ninety-five percent of it was real reaction. I was so worried about how it was going to look."

But ultimately she's happy with the way the show turned out. She gets constant e-mails from people wondering what Tim Gunn is like in person and commenting on how much they liked the episode. "I was ready for his comments," she said of Gunn's fashion critique. "It cracked me up. Only he could be so poetic."

The experience left its mark on more than her wardrobe. Viewers are seeking out her music, too. Neals hopes to parlay the TV exposure into a late night or talk show appearance. She'd even be excited to hear one of her songs in a commercial. "We have to keep spinning the moment," she said.

scasola@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2567



A mosaic by Ellen Stern.

## On display in Farmington..

There are quaint miniature chairs, unusual corner tables, a collection of textiles, ceramic mosaics and collages from Michigan artist Ellen Stern on display at the Farmington Hills City Gallery through Dec. 29.

Stern has displayed her unique works in galleries

across the United States and Canada. Her works have also been exhibited at the Festival ArteMusica in Piandisco, Italy.

Her style incorporates the useful and whimsical.

The exhibit "Between the Cracks Mosaics" features selections of her wall hangings,

large and small mosaic tables, paper cut-outs, animals, and works on canvas.

The City Gallery is located in the Costick Center at 28600 West 11 Mile. Hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- By Lana Mini

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The Chrysler Foundation

2008-09 Dance Series



Send items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Lana Mini, Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, or e-mail lmini@hometownlife.com.

ART

Arnold Klein Gallery: 32782 Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 647-7709. Art Leaders Gallery: Holiday trunk show with 20 to 50 percent off featured artists, 33030 Northwestern Hwy., West Bloomfield, (248) 539-0262, www.artleaders.com. Art-Rageous Gallery: 35 N. Main, Mt. Clemens, (586) 307-3604. Biddle Gallery: 2840 Biddle, Wyandotte, (734) 281-4779, www.biddlegallery.com. Cafe 84: "The Green Show" featuring Detroit Up & Coming Artists Guild, 14084 Lakeside Blvd., Shelby Township, (586) 913-3773. Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center: 1516 Cranbrook (Between 14 and 15 Mile roads), Birmingham, www.BBArtCenter.org, (248) 644-0866. Birmingham Conference Center: 31301 Evergreen, Birmingham. Birmingham Unitarian Church: 38651 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 647-2380. Bohemian National Home Gallery: 2009 Tillman, Detroit, (313) 525-5253, www.jeromium.com/bohoush.htm. Cary Gallery: Photographs by Nancy Stocking and by Ron Teachworth, through Dec. 13, 226 Walnut, Rochester, (248) 651-3656. CPDP: 4160 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-9901, www.cpop.com. Detroit Artist Market: Art for the Holidays, through Dec. 21, 4719 Woodward, Detroit. DSM Art Studio: Bob Ross-style painting classes, 1-5 p.m. one Sunday per month; free fine art portfolio assessments for college-bound students, 28691 N. Lilley, Canton, (734) 453-3710, www.dsmartstudio.com. Farmington City Gallery: Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, (248) 473-1856. Farmington Community Library: 23500 Liberty, (248) 553-6261, www.suzannebaum.com. First United Methodist Church: 1589 W. Maple, Birmingham. Gallery@VT: Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, (734) 394-5300, www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater. www.vsg-art.com. Galeria at Orchard Lake: "Insights" by sculptor Evelyn Bachorski-Bowman, through Nov. 30, Building 8, Orchard Lake Schools, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake, (248) 683-0345. Habatat Galleries: 4400 Fernlee, Royal Oak, (248) 554-0590, www.habatat.com. Janice Charach Gallery: Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, (248) 432-5448. Lawrence Street Gallery: Alice Frank: Frame of Mind, through Nov. 29; Little Things Mean A Lot! Competition, Dec. 3-24; reception, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 5, 22620 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-0394, www.lawrencestreetgallery.com. Lemberg Gallery: Jane Hammond "People, Places and Things," through November, 23241 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 591-6623, www.lemberggallery.com. Livonia Arts Commission: Fine Arts Gallery, second floor; Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, (734) 466-2490; Livonia Arts Commissioners, Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, (734) 466-2540. Lotus Arts Gallery: Artists Charles H. Pabst, Thomas Arvid and Sergio Furnari (a life-sized version of the Lunchtime on a Skyscraper sculpture), now showing, 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth (888) 889-4ART, www.lotusartsgallery.com. Next Step Studios & Gallery: Featuring glass works by Kaiser Suidan, Craig Paul Nowak, John Gargano, Susan Beiner



and many others, 530 Hilton, Ferndale, (248) 342-5074, www.nextstepstudio.com. Northville Art House: 215 W. Cady, (248) 344-0497, www.northvillearts.org. Oakland University Art Gallery: at 208 Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, (248) 370-3005. Orchard Lake Framing & Gallery: Works in Oil & Pastel by Sharon Will, October, 4301 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, (248) 538-9021, www.orchardlakeframing.com. Paint Creek Center for the Arts: Holiday Objects Up and Down, through Jan. 3, 2009, 407 Pine, Rochester, (248) 651-4110, www.pccart.org. Paul Kotula Projects: 23255 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3020, www.paulkotula.com. Pewabic Pottery: 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, (313) 822-0954, www.pewabic.org. Plymouth Community Arts Council: 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth, (734) 416-4278, www.plymoutharts.com. The Print Gallery: 29173 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, (248) 356-5454, www.everythingart.com. Progressive Art & Frame Design: 1511 North Main, Clawson, (248) 435-0944, www.progressiveart.net. Susanne Hilberry Gallery: 700 Livernois, Ferndale, (248) 541-4700, www.susannehilberrygallery.com. Tangent Gallery: 715 E. Milwaukee St., Detroit, (313) 877-4377, www.tangent-gallery.com. The Community House: 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, www.communityhouse.com. Visual Arts Association of Livonia: Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Dr., (248) 348-4550. BOOKS/LITERATURE Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council and Center: 2121 Midvale, Birmingham, (248) 203-5270. Borders Ann Arbor: 612 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 668-7652. Borders Dearborn: 5601 Mercury Dr., Dearborn, (313) 271-4441. Borders Farmington Hills: 30995 Orchard Lake Road, (248) 737-0110. Borders Novi: 43075 Crescent Blvd., (248) 347-0780. Barnes & Noble Royal Oak: 500 S. Main, Royal Oak. Campus Martius: Saturday Book Club, Campus Martius, next to the Computware Building, Detroit, http://www2.wsu.wy.edu/news.php/Westland Public Library: 6123 Central City Parkway, (734) 326-6123. CHAMBER Birmingham Temple: Pianist Christopher Atzinger, April 4, 2009; Charlie Gabriel Quartet with Vocalist Joan Bow, May 2, 2009; 28611 West 12 Mile, Farmington

Hills, (248) 788-9338, www.vivaceseries.org. Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings: "Holiday Brass," 4 p.m. Dec. 7, Christ Church Cranbrook and 7:30 p.m. Christ Church Grosse Pointe; "Fun and Games," 3 p.m. Feb. 22, 2009, Birmingham Unitarian Church and 4 p.m. March 1, 2009, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit; "String Sundae," 3 p.m. March 29, 2009, Birmingham Unitarian Church and 3 p.m. April 5, 2009, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church; "Schubert and Spice," 3 p.m. April 26, 2009, First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham; Final Concert, 8 p.m. June 20, 2009, Seligman Center, (248) 559-2095, www.detroitchamberwinds.org. Haggopian World of Rugs: Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings presents "Nightnotes," 8:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 9, 2009, Jan. 30, 2009, March 13, 2009 and May 8, 2009, (248) 559-2095, www.detroit-chamberwinds.org. Seligman Performing Arts Center: Christian Tetzlaff, violin, Dec. 6; Denyce Graves, mezzo-soprano, Jan. 24, 2009; ATOS Trio, Feb. 7, 2009; Garrick Ohlsson, piano, March 21, 2009; Guarneri String Quartet, April 11, 2009; Pacifica Quartet with Erik Ronmark, saxophone, April 18, 2009; Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio with the Miami String Quartet, May 16, 2009; Yefim Bronfman, piano, May 30, 2009. All concerts 8 p.m. Saturdays. Tickets, \$25-\$75, 22305 West 13 Mile, Beverly Hills, (248) 855-6070 or visit www.ComeHearCMSD.org. University Musical Society: Handel's Messiah, Jerry Blackstone, conductor; Saturday, December 6, 8 p.m. Sunday, December 7 at 2 p.m., Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. Call (734) 764-2538 or www.ums.org. CHORAL Beckridge Chorale: 45700 Six Mile, Northville, www.beckridgechorale.org or call (734) 416-9885. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts: 350 Madison, Detroit, (313) 887-8500, www.mischall.org. Farmington Community Chorus: Seligman Performing Arts Center of Detroit Country Day High School, 22305 W. 13 Mile, at Lahser, in Beverly Hills, (248) 669-4146. Farmington Hills Youth Choir: Wexford Hall, Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills, (248) 473-1859. First Presbyterian Church: Welcome All Wonders, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 19; Psalteries of Psalms, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 9, 2009; How Can You Keep From Singing?, 4 p.m. Feb. 8, 2009; Pipedusters w/organist Tom Trenney, 7:30 p.m. April 17, 2009; Music for a Cathedral, 7:30 p.m. May 22, 2009, 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham, (248) 644-2040 x136, ttrenney@comcast.net.

Oakland Choral Society: "St. Nicholas" and "Wacht auf," Dec. 6.; 620 Romeo Street, Rochester, \$15-\$50, and "Messiah," Dec. 14, Nativity Episcopal Church, 21220 W. 14 Mile, between Lahser and Cranbrook, in Bloomfield Township, \$15, (248) 391-0184. Plymouth Oratorio Society: First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, (734) 455-8353. Rackham Choir: "Too Hot To Handel," Nov. 29-30, Detroit Opera House, "An Affair To Remember," Feb. 14, 2009, Club Venetian, Madison Heights; "Dear Mrs. Parks" with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, March 6-8, 2009, Orchestra Hall, Detroit; "The Armed Man: A Concert for Peace" with original film, April 5, 2009, Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Dearborn, www.rackhamchoir.org. CLASSICAL Orchestra Canton: "Mozart's Birthday Bash," 8 p.m. Jan. 24, 2009, Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, (734) 394-5460. Chamber Music at the Scarab Club: Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee Ave., Detroit, (248) 474-8930, www.scarabclub.org/chambermusic. Chamber Music Society of Detroit: Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills, (248) 855-6070, www.ComeHearCMSD.org. Detroit Symphony Orchestra: Max M. Fisher Music Center, box office at 3711 Woodward, www.detroitssymphony.com, (313) 576-5400. Fox Theatre: Andrew Rieu and his Johann Strauss Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. May 19, 2009; tickets \$82-\$162. Max M. Fisher Music Center: Home for the Holidays, Dec. 18-20; Marvin Hamlisch, Jan. 22-24, 2009; All You Need is Love, Feb. 12-15, 2009; Pops Goes Las Vegas, March 19-22, 2009; The Music of Billy Joel, April 16-19, 2009; A John Williams Adventure, March 14-17, 2009, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at www.detroitssymphony.com. Plymouth Symphony Orchestra: "Mendelssohn, Marimba & More," 8 p.m. Feb. 7, 2009; "Fanfare for Freedom," 8 p.m. March 14, 2009, all at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville; "Pops at the Penn, Home for the Holidays," 7 p.m. Dec. 18; Benefit Concert of the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, 8 p.m. April 24, 2009, Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman, Plymouth, (734) 451-2112, www.plymouthsymphony.org. Schoolcraft College: Pianist Anton Nel, Feb. 13, 2009; Avalon String Quartet, March 20, 2009; Cellist Robert de Maine, May 15, 2009; \$10, students, \$20 adults, Presentation Room in the VistaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia, (734) 462-4403. CLUBS The Ark: 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. www.theark.org. Bachelor's One: 1967 Cass Lake Rd., Keego Harbor, (248) 682-2295. The Belmont: 10215 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck, (313) 871-1966. Berkeley Front: 3087 12 Mile, (248) 547-3331. Bosco: NoWax nights at 7 p.m. every Wednesday, no cover, 21 and over only, 2293D Woodward in Ferndale, www.thebosco.com, (248) 541-8818. Bullfrog Bar: 15414 Telegraph, Redford, (313) 533-4477, www.bullfrogrocks.com. Callahan's: 2105 South Blvd., Auburn Hills, (248) 858-9508, www.atcallahans.com. Crofoot Ballroom: 1 South Saginaw, Pontiac, (248) 858-9333, www.thecrofoot.com. Eden Nightclub & Ultralounge: Friday night party with DJ Ryan Richards, 10 p.m. guest celebrity hosts and DJs; DJ Urban Chris in the Garden Room, DJ Pannos in the Ultralounge accompanied by percussionist Jared Sykes, 10 p.m. Saturday, 22061 Woodward,

Ferndale (248) 541-7674. Edison's: 220 E. Merrill, Birmingham (248) 645-2150. Ginopolis on the Grill: Don Swindell and Shuffie Play, with Swindell, Sheila Brown, Mike Lorenz and Jake Reichhart, 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 27851 Middlebelt at 12 Mile in Farmington Hills, no cover, (248) 851-8222. Four Green Fields: Northwood Shopping Plaza, 13 Mile and Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 506-0531. Magic Bag: Pop Evil, Nov. 29; Amanda Palmer, Dec. 2; Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, Dec. 11; Kathleen Edwards, Feb. 4, 2009, 22920 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com. The Magic Stick: Mercury Rev, Dec. 12, 4140 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-9700. Mama's Coffeehouse: Small Potatoes, Dec. 15; all shows 8 p.m. with open mic at 7:30 p.m., \$12, \$10 seniors and students 16 and under, 38651 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 569-0965. Memphis Smoke: 100 S. Main, Royal Oak, (248) 543-4300. O-Zen Lounge: Hot 'N Ready with DJ U.N.I. hip hop soul, Thursday; Insomnia Music, hip hop, soul, old school, Friday; Super Sonic Smooth Music with DJ Shug, Saturday; karaoke with Chez, Sunday; '80s and Rock N Roll; bring your CDs, Tuesday; and Energetic House with DJ Tony Bell, Wednesday; www.ozenlounge.com, 21633 W. Eight Mile, Detroit (313) 535-4664. The Park Bar/Underpark Theatre: Radio Skool features DJs Stacey Pullen, Mike Brown, Diz and Monty, benefiting NextAid and World AIDS Day, 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, 2040 Park Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$15-\$20, call (313) 962-2933. The Pike Room: 1 S. Saginaw, Pontiac, (248) 858-9333. Plymouth Coffee Bean: Open mic 7:30-10:30 p.m. Mondays, 884 Penniman, Plymouth. myspace.com/plymouthcoffebean. The Shelter: 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (313) 961-MELT. Sky Club: Tango, salsa, and Latin dancing beginning at 8 p.m., every Wednesday, located above Sangria's Restaurant, 401 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, (248) 543-1964. Traveling Fork: located inside Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 17123 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia, (734) 464-1300, www.radisson.com/livoniaini. COMEDY Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase: 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 996-9880. The Fillmore: Joel McHale, Jan. 17, 2115 Woodward, Detroit, (248) 645-6666. Fox Theatre: Jeff Dunham, Nov. 29, \$37.50-\$65, at 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515. JD's House of Comedy: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com. Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia: 36071 Plymouth Road, (734) 261-5500, www.kickerscomplex.com. Joe Louis Arena: Jeff Dunham Spark of Insanity tour, Nov. 29; Steve Harvey and Katt Williams, Dec. 31, 600 Civic Center Drive, Detroit, (248) 645-6666. Mark Ridley's Comedy Theatre: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com. The Second City: 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi, (248) 348-4448, www.secondcity.com. CONCERTS Clutch Cargo: Hinder, Dec. 9, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac, (248) 645-6666. The Fillmore-Detroit: OneRepublic, Dec. 2; Mudvayne, Dec. 5; The Black Crowes, Dec. 6; Staind, Dec. 10; Fall Out Boy, Dec. 14, 2115 Woodward, Detroit. Call (248)

645-6666. The Fox Theatre: Barenaked Ladies, Dec. 31; 88 King and Buddy Guy, Feb. 16, 2009; Bill Gaither and his Homecoming Friends, March 12, 2009, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515. Joe Louis Arena: Lil Wayne, Dec. 26; Metallica with Machinehead, The Sword, Jan. 13, 2009, (248) 645-6666, www.ticketmaster.com, OlympiaEntertainment.com. Masonic Temple Theatre: 500 Temple, Detroit, (248) 645-6666. Majestic Theatre: 4140 Woodward, Detroit (313) 833-9700. Michigan Theatre: 6D3 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (248) 645-6666. The Palace of Auburn Hills: Brian McKnight, Nov. 29; The Cheetah Girls, Dec. 2; Sarah Brightman, Dec. 3; Neil Young with Wilco, Dec. 7; Oasis with Ryan Adams and the Cardinals, Dec. 13; Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Dec. 21, 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com. Royal Oak Music Theatre: 318 W. Fourth, Royal Oak, (800) 919-6272, www.royaloakmusictheatre.com. St. Andrew's Hall: The Verve Pipe, Nov. 28; Electric Six, Nov. 29; Trans-Siberian Orchestra, two shows on Dec. 21, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (248) 645-6666. DANCE Detroit Dance Collective: Adray Theatre, Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn, \$15, \$12/seniors, (810) 444-4553, www.detroitdancecollective.org. Detroit Opera House: "The Nutcracker" Jeffrey Ballet, Dec. 4-7; Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Feb. 12-15, 2009; "Aladdin," Grand Rapids Ballet Company, Feb. 28, 2009; "Romeo & Juliet," American Ballet, March 13-15, 2009, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, (313) 237-3426, www.michiganopera.org. Eisenhower Dance Ensemble: "December Dances," 8 p.m. Dec. 13; Lake Orion Performing Arts Center, (248) 559-2095; "NewDANCEfest VII," 7:30 p.m. Jan. 17, 2009, Troy High School Auditorium, (248) 559-2095; "Motown in Motion," 8 p.m. April 4, 2009, Macomb Center for Performing Arts, (586) 286-2222, 2171 Cole, Birmingham, www.ede-dance.org. MoreDances Contemporary Dance Company: 20500 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills, \$15/Adults, \$12/Students & Seniors, (586) 899-2629. Taty Dancers: 26123 McDonald, Dearborn Heights, (313) 274-0183, www.Dance.PRCUA.org/Taty. University Musical Society: Batsheva Dance Company "Three," 8 p.m. Feb. 14, 2009, and "Deca Dance" 2 p.m. Feb. 15, 2009; Compagnie Heddy Maaïlen "Rite," 8 p.m. Oct. 15, 2009; Compagnie Marie Chouinard, "Orpheus and Eurydice," 8 p.m. April 25, 2009 and "Rite of Spring," 2 p.m. April 26, 2009; Rubberdance Group, "Elastic Perspective," 8 p.m. Jan. 9 and "Redux Phase II" 1 and 8 p.m. Jan. 10, 2009, www.ums.org. FAMILY Canton Cinema: Free matinees 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Saturdays, 43555 Ford Road, (734) 844-3456. Detroit Puppet Theatre: "Crane Maiden," November; Celebrate Holiday Month, December; "Banana for Turtle," January 2009; "Oh, Ananse," February 2009; "Purim Shpiel," March 2009; Guest Artist Performances, April 2009; "Turtle Island," May 2009; "Sleeping Beauty," June 2009, all performances at 2 p.m. Saturdays, \$10/adults, \$5/children, 25 E. Grand River, Detroit, (313) 961-7777, www.puppetart.org. Detroit Zoo: (248) 541-5717, www.detroit-zoo.org. Fox Theatre: Sesame Street Live "When Elmo Grows Up" Jan. 30-Feb. 15, 2009, \$12-\$32; family nights, Jan. 30, Feb. 4 and 12, 2009, \$10; Detroit Public

Please see GET OUT, D7

MATTRESS EVENT—3 DAYS ONLY! shop online Thu., Nov. 27! shop online or in stores Fri., Nov. 28 & Sat., Nov. 29 50% OFF ALL MATTRESS SETS PLUS AN ADDITIONAL 20% OFF ALL MATTRESS SETS WHEN YOU SHOP ONLINE THANKSGIVING DAY, NOV. 27 OR AN ADDITIONAL 15% OFF ONLINE OR IN STORES FRIDAY, NOV. 28 AND SATURDAY, NOV. 29 NO INTEREST, NO PAYMENTS UNTIL DEC. 2009 FREE DELIVERY AND SETUP FREE BED FRAME FREE REMOVAL OF YOUR OLD MATTRESS the great indoors



# GET OUT

FROM PAGE D6

Television benefit performance, Feb. 6, 2009, (248) 433-1515, www.OlympiaEntertainment.com.  
**Palace of Auburn Hills:** Harlem Globetrotters World Tour, Dec. 28, \$15-\$39.50, (248) 645-6666, www.disneyonline.com.  
**Max M. Fisher Music Theatre:** The Nutcracker, Dec. 6-7, 3700 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111.  
**Meadow Brook Theatre:** Children's Series, "Freedom Train," 10 a.m. Feb. 23, 2009; "Nate the Great," 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Feb. 28, 2009; "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," 10 a.m. March 20, 2009; "Charlotte's Web," 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. May 9, 2009; on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills (248) 377-0300, www.ticketmaster.com, for more information, visit www.mbttheatre.com.  
**Palace of Auburn Hills:** 1 Championship Drive, (248) 645-6666.  
**Starlight Youth Theater:** 315 N. Telegraph, north concourse of Summit Place Mall, (248) 335-1788.  
**University Musical Society:** Family Series, Rubberdance Group, Jan. 10, 2009; Kodo, Feb. 13, 2009; The Silk Road Ensemble with Yo-Yo Ma, March 13, 2009; Dan Zanes & Friends, March 29, 2009; (734) 764-2538, www.ums.org.  
**FILM**  
**Birmingham 8:** 211 S. Woodward, Birmingham.  
**Detroit Film Theatre:** "Kameradschaft," Nov. 30, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. See www.dia.org/dft or (313) 833-7900.  
**Henry Ford IMAX:** "The Polar Express," showing Dec. 1 through the holidays, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, (313) 271-1570.  
**Magic Bag:** Brew & View doors 8 p.m., film, 9:30 p.m., 21 and over, 22920 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.  
**Penn Theatre:** 760 Penniman, Plymouth, (734) 453-0870.  
**Redford Theatre:** "Miracle on 34th Street," Dec. 5-6; Tony O'Brien in concert with Casali Holiday Dancers, Dec. 13; "White Christmas," Dec. 19-20, all at 17360 Lahser, Detroit, www.redfordtheatre.com.

**JAZZ**  
**Arturo's Jazz Theatre and Restaurant:** 25333 West 12 Mile, Southfield, (248) 357-6009, arturosjazz.com.  
**Baker's Keyboard Lounge:** Gospel Show 2 p.m. Sundays; The International Detroiters Tuesdays, Jam Session Wednesdays, 20510 Livernois, Detroit, (313) 345-6300.  
**B'Jazz Vespers:** First Baptist Church, 300 Willits at Bates, Birmingham (248) 644-0550.  
**Cliff Bell's:** Scott Gwinnell Jazz Orchestra, 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays; Jesse Palter Quartet 9:30 p.m. Thursdays; Social Sundays featuring blues, roots, Americana at 8 p.m., 2030 Park, Detroit (313) 961-2543.  
**Detroit Golf Club:** www.palmerwoods.org, (313) 892-3848.  
**Detroit Symphony Orchestra:** Max M. Fisher Music Center, box office at 3711 Woodward, (313) 576-5111, www.detroitssymphony.com.  
**Detroit Windsor Jazz Club:** Saturdays at Shield's, (1-4 p.m.), Chuck Moss, Dec. 6; Paul Klinger, Dec. 20; Mike Karoub, Jan. 3, 2009; Paul Keller Ensemble, Jan. 17, 2009; Ray Heitger, Feb. 7, 2009; TBD, Feb. 21, 2009; Ragtime Rick, March 7, 2009; Bill Meyer, March 21, 2009, \$10, 25101 Telegraph, Southfield (248) 356-2720.  
**Jazz Cafe at Music Hall:** Victor Goines; Lavon Jackson and Les McCann, Dec. 12-13, 350 Madison, Detroit (313) 887-8501, www.musichall.org/jazz\_cafe.htm.  
**Late Nite Thursdays in Downtown Rochester:** (248) 656-0060, www.downtownrochestermi.com.  
**Southfield Public Library:** 26300 Evergreen, (248) 796-4224, www.southfieldlibrary.org.  
**Village Theatre at Cherry Hill:** All About Jazz Jazz Cafe with the Tony Ruda Quartet, soloists welcome onstage, Dec. 6, Jan. 17, 2009, Feb. 14, 2009, March 21, 2009, April 25, 2009, \$17/\$120 for series, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, www.cantonmi.org/villageattheatre, (734) 394-5460.

**MORE MUSIC**  
**Arab American National Museum:** Gaida, Dec. 4; Black Bottom Collective, Dec. 11; Malika Zaira, Dec. 18, \$8-\$12, 13624 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, (313) 582-2266 or www.arabamericanmuseum.org.  
**Detroit Opera House:** A Valentine's Rock 'n' Roll Spectacular featuring The Miracles, The Reflections, Mitch Ryder and the Detroit Wheels, The Contours, The Diamonds and The Drifters, 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009; tickets \$37-\$67, at 1526 Broadway, Detroit, call (248) 645-6666.  
**First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham:** 1669 W. Maple, (248) 540-9124, hsbay@sbcglobal.net.  
**Jewish Community Center:** 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, (248) 661-1000.  
**Kirk in the Hills:** 1340 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 626-2515 ext. 108.  
**Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts:** 350 Madison, Detroit, (313) 887-8500.  
**Nardin Park United Methodist Church:** seating at 7:15 p.m., 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills, (248) 476-8860, www.nardinpark.org.  
**Oakland Community College:** 739 S. Washington, Royal Oak (248) 246-2586.  
**St. Aiden Catholic Church:** 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia, (734) 425-5950.  
**Trinity House Theatre:** 38840 Six Mile, Livonia, (734) 464-6302, (www.trinityhouse.org).  
**Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington:** 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills, (734) 981-9378, www.uufarmington.org.

**MUSEUMS**  
**Birmingham Historical Museum:** Maple and Southfield roads, Birmingham, (248) 642-2817.  
**Charles H. Wright Museum:** at 915 E. Warren, Detroit, (313) 494-5800.  
**Cranbrook Art Museum:** Grand Slam; Andy Warhol, through Jan. 11, 2009, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (877) 60-CRANBROOK, www.cranbrook.edu.

**Cranbrook Institute of Science:** "Bats: Myths and Mysteries" through January 2009, free with museum admission, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 645-3200, http://science.cranbrook.edu.  
**Detroit Institute of Arts:** NBTV Presents, a live comedy with puppets, showing 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Nov. 28-30; "Jane Hammond: Paper Work," through Jan. 11, 2009; "Monet to Dali, Modern Masters from the Cleveland Museum of Art" through Jan. 18, 2009; Museum will be closed Dec. 24-25 and Jan. 1 for the holidays; "In the Company of Artists: Photographs from the DIA's Collection" through Feb. 15, 2009; "Master Pieces: Chess Sets from the Dr. George and Vivian Dean Collection" Dec. 26 to March 22, 2009; "American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell," March 8, 2009 to May 31, 2009; "On Life and Loss: The Polish Photographs of Roman Vishniac and Jeffrey Gusky," April 15, 2009 to July 12, 2009, 5200 Woodward, Detroit, Call (313) 833-7900.  
**Detroit Historical Museum:** New exhibits are "Hero or Villian? Metro Detroit's Legacy of Leadership," "Fabulous 5: Detroit's Entertainment Venues," Automotive Showplace features the Model T Centennial and "100 Years Ago" uses photographs, newspaper and other memorabilia to showcase live in 1908, 5401 Woodward, Detroit, www.detroithistorical.org, (313) 833-1805.  
**Detroit Science Center:** "Leonardo Da Vinci: Man, Inventor, Genius," tickets \$13.95 to \$16.95; Ford Free Fundays complimentary admission on through Dec. 6; Senior Mondays offer free general admission to those 60 and older now through Dec. 29, 5020 John R, (313) 577-8400, www.detroitsscience-center.org.  
**The Henry Ford:** 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, (313) 982-6001, www.hfmv.org.  
**Museum of Contemporary Art-Detroit:** "Becoming: Photographs from the Wedge Collection," through Dec. 28, 4454 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 832-6622.  
**Museum of New Art:** Annabel Elgar Part II, Dec. 13 to Jan. 24, 2009, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac, (248) 210-7560.  
**Plymouth Historical Museum:** 155 S. Main, Plymouth, \$2-\$10, (734) 455-8940, www.plymouthhistory.org.  
**Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm:** open Wednesdays through Saturdays; "The Golden Age of Political Cartooning," runs through November 2008, admission \$5, 1005 Van Hoosen, Rochester, (248) 565-4663, www.rochesterhills.org.  
**Troy Museum & Historic Village:** Now open seven days a week, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday; at Livernois and Watties, Troy, Call (248) 524-3570.

**OPERA**  
**Detroit Opera House:** "The Elixir of Love," March 28, 2009-April 5, 2009; "Pagliacci," April 18-26, 2009; "Carmen," May 9-17, 2009, Michigan Opera Theatre, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, www.michiganopera.org.  
**Grantland Street Playhouse:** 27555 Grantland, Livonia, (313) 535-8962, www.mcyt.org.

**SOMETHING DIFFERENT**  
**Historic Piquette Avenue Plant:** See the birthplace of the Model T, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. first and third Saturdays through October, 461 Piquette, at Beaubien, Detroit, www.tplex.org.  
**Poetry, Pages & Scribes:** Southfield Public Library, 26300 Evergreen, (248) 796-4224, www.southfieldlibrary.org, www.poetrypagescribes.com.  
**PuppetArt:** Shows at 2 p.m. Saturdays, 25 E. Grand River, Detroit, (313) 961-7777.  
**Rock Financial Showplace:** Antique Arms Show, Nov. 29-30; 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi, www.rockfinancialshowplace.com.  
**StarBright Dinner Theatre:** Uptown Eatery, 19701 W. 12 Mile, Southfield, \$39.95 Friday-Saturday shows, (248) 423-1452.

**THEATER - COMMUNITY**  
**Avon Players:** "A Christmas Story," Nov. 28-30, Dec 5-7, 12-14, at 1185 Washington Road, a mile east of Tienken and Rochester roads, Rochester Hills. Reserve tickets by calling (248) 608-9077.  
**Barefoot Productions:** Walker-Buzenberg Building, 240 N. Main, Plymouth, (734) 560-1493.  
**The Farmington Players:** "It's a Wonderful Life," Nov. 28 to Dec. 20; The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940, Feb. 20, 2009 to March 7, 2009; Sweet Charity, April 24, 2009 to May 16, 2009; 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, (248) 553-2955, www.farmingtonplayers.org.  
**Grosse Pointe Theatre:** 32 Lakeshore Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, (313) 881-4004.  
**Heart of the Hills Players:** 6600 Rochester Road, Troy, (248) 608-9008.  
**Jewish Ensemble Theatre:** "Two by Two," Dec. 9-Jan. 4, 2009; "Halpen and Johnson," Feb. 17, 2009-March 15, 2009; "Deathtrap," April 21, 2009-May 17, 2009, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, (248) 788-2900, www.jetttheatre.org.  
**Marquis Theatre:** 135 Main, Northville (248) 349-8110, www.northvillemarquistheatre.com.  
**Oakland Theatre Guild:** Starlight Theater, Summit Place Mall, 315 N. Telegraph, Waterford, (248) 335-1788, www.starlighttheater.net.  
**Planet Ant Theatre:** 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck, (313) 365-4948.  
**St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild:** 400 Lone Pine, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 737-3587, www.stdunstanstheatre.com.  
**Spotlight Players:** Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton, (734) 394-5460, www.spotlightplayers.net.  
**SRO Productions:** Historic Burgh, 26060 8erg Road, Southfield, (248) 796-4645.  
**Stagecrafters Contemporary Theatre:** "La Cage Aux Folles," Jan. 16, 2009-Feb. 8, 2009; "Dr. Cook's Garden" April 3-19, 2009; "Miss Saigon," May 29, 2009 to Jun 21, 2009; Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, (248) 541-6430, www.stagecrafters.org.  
**Tipping Point Theatre:** "The Rabbit Hole," Feb. 4-6, 2009; "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)," April 22-24, 2009, 361 E. Cady, Northville, (248) 347-0003.  
**The Village Players of Birmingham:** "Dear World," Jan. 23, 2009-Feb. 8, 2009; "Pack of Lies," March 27, 2009-April 5, 2009; "Sunday in the Park," May 29, 2009-June 14, 2009, 34660 Woodward, Birmingham, \$15, (248) 644-2075.  
**The Village Theatre at Cherry Hill:** 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, (734) 394-5460.

# Kick off the season with Sophisticated Soul

Soul singer Will Downing is celebrating both the holidays and a rebound from a debilitating muscle disorder, with a triumphant concert "Soulful Christmas 2008" Friday, November 28 at the Detroit Opera House.

Also performing are big names in the R&B genre, including singer Lalah Hathaway and saxophonist Gerald Albright.

Both are longtime friends of Downing.

Downing's holiday shows began four years ago when he created a theme *Christmas, Love and You*.

For three consecutive years between Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, the jazzy prince of sophisticated soul hosted like-minded friends such as Kirk Whalum, Vesta, Norman Brown, Regina Belle, Mike Phillips; Phil Perry and the ever-present Gerald Albright for concerts in Detroit, Chicago, Philadelphia and Atlanta, plus others.

But in 2006, Downing was diagnosed with Polymyositis, a muscle disease with a long rehabilitation process.

Today he recovered and he's back.

"The holiday season brings out the best in people. And for creative artists like Gerald, Lalah and me, it makes us pick our game up even higher," Downing said, in a press release. "So I think you're going to see a bit of friendly competition which makes for an even better show. None of us want



Will Downing is ready to sing about love this holiday season.

to be on the low end of the totem pole. It just so happens I'll be on the stage with one of my best friends and one of the most talented ladies in the business. So we look forward to sharing our all and entertaining you in the spirit of the season. It's great to be alive."

album *After Tonight* last year, which debuted at number one on Billboard's R&B chart.

Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$14-\$25. The Detroit Opera House is located at 1426 Broadway Street, Detroit, (313) 965-4052.

- by Lana Mini

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USA WEEKEND

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This year's hottest gifts, plus find out what's on actress **Miranda Cosgrove's** wish list.

MAGAZINE

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Observer & Eccentric and Mirror

NEWSPAPERS



**CHAZZ**  
FROM PAGE D1

he feels comfortable with after more than 240 Broadway performances. After all, he traces the story back to his youth. "It happened when I was young," said Palminteri, calling Nov. 24 while on a brief hiatus in New York City. "I saw a man kill another man when I was 9 or 10 years old. The guy would see me afterward. He knew I never said anything. He knew that I knew. I

started a relationship with him. My father was always scared that I would go that way." In an effort to keep his son on the right track, away from a life of violence, he shared a sentiment that would forever alter Palminteri's life and serve to inspire the show: "The saddest thing in life is wasted talent." Those words encouraged him to follow his dream of acting. "Since I was 10 or 11 it was always something I wanted to do," said Palminteri. "My mother would take me to the movies a lot. I would see these films and I just

never forgot them. I thought 'I'd really like to do that.'" His early years in New York City proved a perfect training ground. Palminteri considered himself a sidewalk storyteller. He'd stand on a street corner and act out characters to entertain his friends. "I still do that," he said. He moved out to Los Angeles and eventually found himself in between acting jobs, so he took work as a doorman. When Palminteri mistakenly prevented a high-powered agent from entering his own party, he was fired. Afterward, he returned to his apartment in the Hollywood Hills and determined if he hadn't been given a good part, he would write one for himself. Palminteri had written song lyrics, short stories, even comedy sketches. But *A Bronx Tale* was his first play. Over the course of 10 months he pieced it together, drawing on that impressionable childhood experience. Los Angeles audiences responded and when the movie

offers flooded in, Palminteri held out. He inked a deal that allowed him to write the screenplay and star in the film, thanks to words of encouragement from his co-star and director, DeNiro. "I've been in 55 movies and everyone still talks about *A Bronx Tale*," Palminteri said. Twenty-five years since the film was released, he feels it stands as relevant today. "There is a whole new group of people who never saw the original play, so I decided to bring it back." The show, premiering just before Thanksgiving, is suitable for families. Palminteri said it speaks to audiences ages 12 to 90. He even stays after the show to pass out cards to young audience members that read the words his father shared: "The saddest thing in life is wasted talent." Those words so influenced his own life. "You have to see it," Palminteri said. "It's not your typical one-person show."

**BAND**  
FROM PAGE D1

innocence. You can see the national ghost all around you. Look at the American automobile manufacturers for instance." Even though Ghost began as merely a songwriter's collective, it has evolved into something much bigger. "We work way too hard on this for it to be just a hobby," Strachan said. "Next to our families it is the most important thing in our lives."

**LONGTIME PERFORMERS**

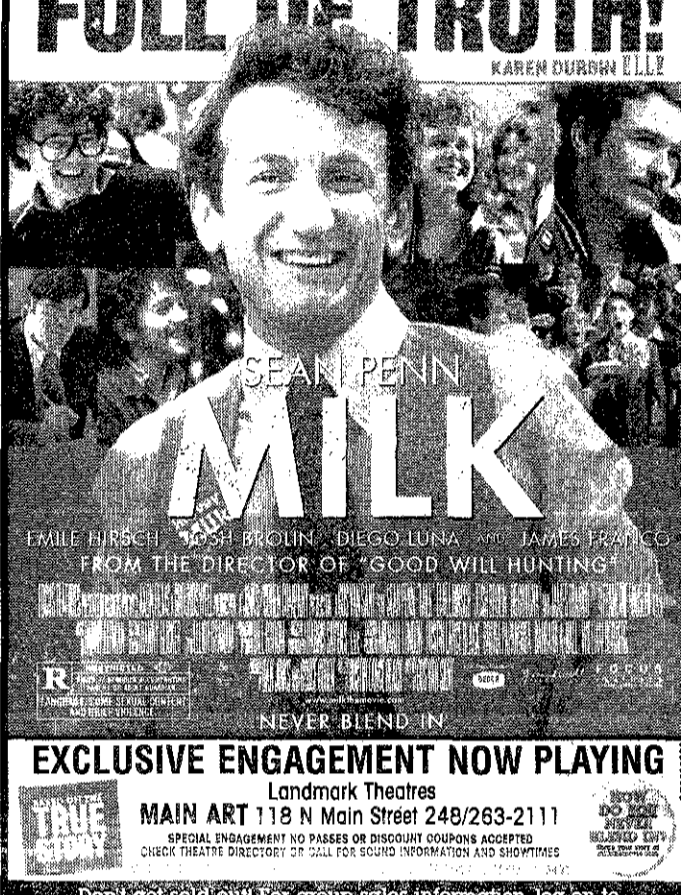
The men each have been musicians for years. Church scored the music for the independent film *Trap*; Strachan (www.grahamvox.com) toured and recorded four albums with the band Robb Roy. He also sings on television and radio commercials.

Mabilia found and fronted a band called Fat Astro and Nelson is a session artist who has worked with other local musicians such as Penumbrae. Stew performed with the band Stash. In concert, National Ghost sings in pretty three- and four-part harmonies. The CD took nearly a year to complete. "Some of the songs were born of guitar riffs or grooves; others were written pieces that we fleshed out together," he said. The song topics include conspiratorial reptiles (Green Salamander); drunken English thespians (*Oliver Reed*); evil aunts (*King of the Thrill*); and the debate over what makes a planet a planet or not (*Dwarf Planet Pluto*). "The sound harkens back to a time where albums ruled the stereos of the nation," Strachan said. "This is album rock."

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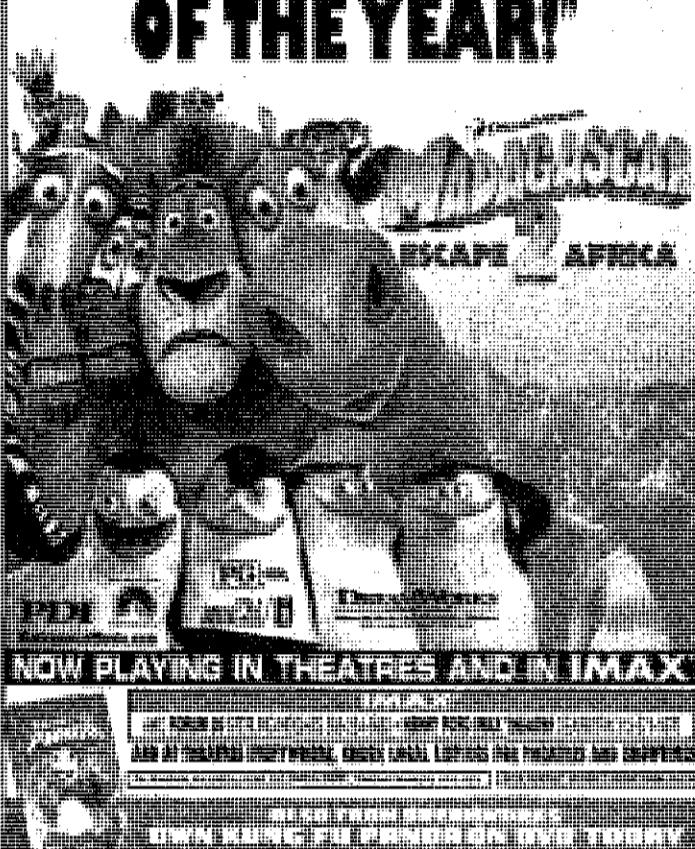


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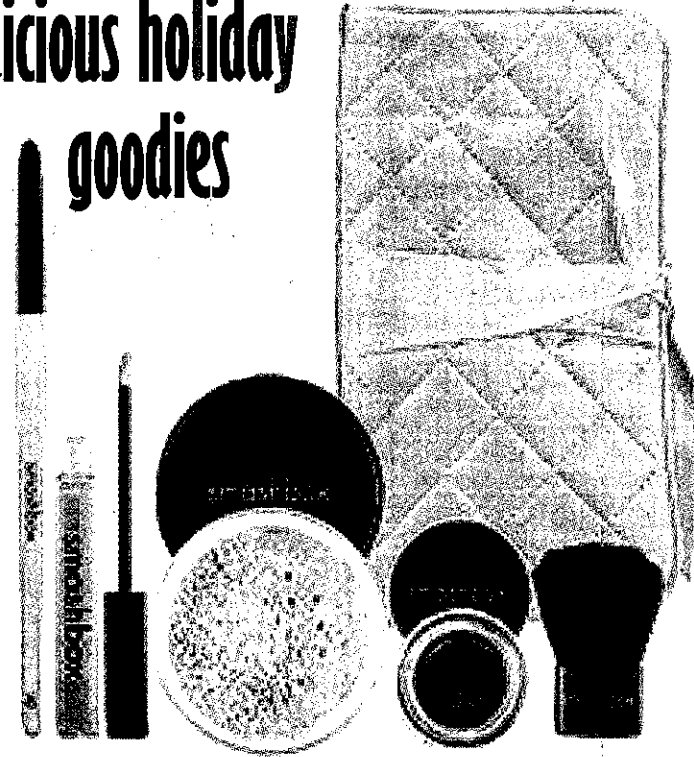


# Holiday season arrives with delicious holiday makeup and fragrance gift goodies

Know the holiday season has officially started, not by the sound of excessive carols piping through area malls and shopping districts, but by the heralded arrival of those coveted holiday makeup palettes, bow-tied sparkling gift sets and spicy scented indulgences galore. Take one step into a Sephora or saunter over to your favorite makeup counter from Livonia's Parisian to Troy's Saks Fifth Avenue and you'll find a bevy of shimmering shades for lips, cheeks and eyes that only come out at this time of year.

By Dec. 25 I hope my stocking is stuffed with lip glosses, not candy canes. And under the tree, I'd be happy to unwrap a new collection of frothy soaps, shimmery powders and scents sure to keep me in good spirits throughout the new year. If you feel the same way, or are shopping for a dear product-addicted gal pal, here are some items for the naughty and the

nice coiffed on your list:  
**Smashbox** highlights on-the-go essentials in its **Gift Of Glow**. Priced at \$127, it's a collection stocked with Hollywood brown eyeliner, gilded gold lip gloss and luminous powder, as well as brushes and a quilted travel pouch for the PINK girl who's heading home for the holidays.  
 For the girl who can't get enough perfume, try the **Sephora Deluxe Fragrance Sampler**. For \$150, you'll receive a gift set of mini scents including Prada Classic, Bvlgari Rose Essentielle, Vera Wang Princess, Yves St. Laurent Elle, Givenchy Very Irresistible, Donna Karan Cashmere, Marc Jacobs Daisy and DKNY Be Delicious.  
**Stila** released a barrage of great gift ideas this season, beginning with the **Step Out And Shine Color Collection And Clutch**. For \$115, makeup mavens can indulge in a stylish clutch stuffed with Convertible Color in orchid, a Montmartre Eye Shadow quad, All Over Shimmer for that holiday twinkle, Multi-Effect Mascara and Pomegranate Crush lip and cheek stain for a jolly flushed face. But if you're looking for a stocking stuffer, Stila's trio of



Smashbox's Gift of Glow

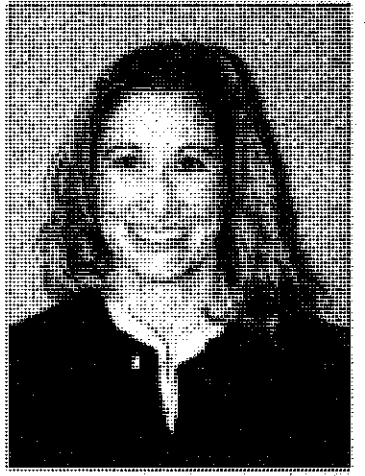
**Smudge Pots** make eyes stand out and the **Gift of Glaze** set has six shades of gloss, including newcomers Gumdrop and Raisin.  
**Lush Handmade Cosmetics** promise sweets for the sweet and they're calorie-free. Try a **Chocolate Santa** bath bomb for \$6.95. Shaped like the jolly old elf, your bath will be scented in chocolate and vanilla, while aloe vera soothes the skin. For a complete package, try the new **Rockin' Robin**. For \$21.95 this box includes a spicy Pud bath bomb, scented with clove, lemon peel and rose; a slice of Christmas Cake, an almond oil rich soap; and Let Them Eat Cake icing-flavored nourishing lip balm.  
 Don't let your skin thirst for moisture this holiday season. Try Sephora's trio of cheer in the **Holiday Body Butter Gift Set**, with dessert-like scents including Apple Dumpling, Chocolate

Espresso and Cinnamon Nutmeg. It's a great treat for you or a friend and costs \$22.  
 You don't have to head to New York City to experience the sweets at **Dylan Candy Bar**.  
 This season those sugary flavors come completely compact in a **Candy Lip Saver Stackable** quartet for \$30. Flavors include Coconut Bon Bon, Birthday Cake Batter, Chocolate Cupcake and Strawberry Licorice.

**Stephanie Angelyn Casola** is absolutely adoring the dark nail polish trend but isn't sure she can get away with licorice black Essie until maybe New Year's Eve. For now, she's ruby-lipped in MAC's Rapturous lip color and busy writing about beauty, fashion and pop culture for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Have an idea suitable for Dollface? Contact her at (248) 901-2567 or scasola@hometownlife.com.

## pink picks

This week's PINK Picks come courtesy of reader **Alison Nielsen**, 29, of Farmington Hills. She entered our PINK Picks contest and earned an honorable mention for her stylish ideas:



Alison Nielsen

**Wear It!**  
Fitted jacket

**DON'T Wear It!**  
Low rise jeans

**Kick It!**  
Uggs

**Tote It!**  
Re-usable shopping bags

**Face It!**  
Neutrogena Oil-Free Acne Wash  
Pink Grapefruit

**Mane It!**  
L'Oreal Professional Absolut Repair Shampoo

**Smell It!**  
The Godmother Soap — Lush

**Accessorize It!**  
Stylish belt

**Hear It!**  
Viva la Vida, Coldplay



**See It!**  
True Blood — HBO

**DVD It!**  
Iron Man

**TIVO It!**  
Heroes

**Drink It!**  
Honey Ginseng green tea

**Eat It!**  
Panera Orchard Harvest Salad

**Experience It!**  
Detroit Red Wings Game

**Read It!**  
Breaking Dawn by Stephanie Meyer (from the Twilight series now in theaters)

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