

Fourth-quarter run results in victory

Sports, B1





THURSDAY December 4, 2008

75 cents

WINNERS OF STATE AND NATIONAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

WESTLAND

City seeks proposals for curbside recycling

www.hometownlife.com

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland city leaders should learn within a few weeks how much it will cost to start up a long-awaited curbside recycling program - one that will allow residents to help the environment and receive financial incentives without paying any new service fees.

In a decision that furthers the Mission Green goal of Mayor William Wild, a united Westland City Council voted Monday to allow Ann Arborbased Resource Recycling Systems Inc. to seek proposals and prices for a curbside recycling program.

The company also will include in the proposal a plan to implement RecycleBank, a

program that allows residents to accumulate points for the amount of materials they recycle and then redeem points for discounts to places like grocery stores, pharmacies, movie theaters and retail outlets.

Wild predicted that RRSI will have its proposals within a month or so, allowing the city to move ahead with a plan by late March to supply recycling carts

to 28,000 households that now have city garbage collection.

"We look forward to those bids coming back," Wild said Monday, during a council meeting.

City leaders eventually plan to expand the program to apartment buildings and other multifamily dwellings.

Westland has twice failed at a pay-to-participate curbside

recycling program, but officials believe the new plan will succeed because it contains financial incentives. Moreover, they plan to use revenues already in place from a garbage-disposal tax that once paid for trash being sent to a now-defunct

incinerator. Officials believe that recycling ultimately will result in revenues for the city.

Meanwhile, Councilman Charles Pickering has asked for a council session to discuss the possibility of having city workers pick up recyclable materials rather than having an outside company do it. He indicated the alternative could at least be discussed as officials await the report from RRSI.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

Churchill senior wins Junior Miss title

BY SUE MASON OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Alyssa Simpson admits that she wasn't all that surprised in winning the 2009 Wayne-Westland Junior Miss scholarship program, but she was surprised to hear how well she had done in the different judging categories.

"Pretty much after the categories were announced, I figured I had to have won," said Simpson. "I won talent, fitness, poise, interview, community involvement and scholastics. I won everything but Be Yourself."

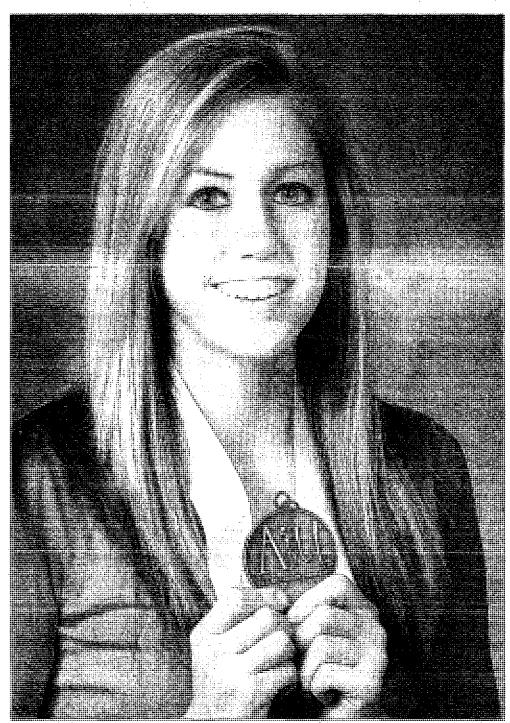
A senior at Livonia Churchill High School, the Westland teen was among 14 high school seniors who competed in the annual scholarship program. Simpson decided to give the program a try after hearing about "what a wonderful experience it was" from program director Carol Baker and daughter Kelsey, who was the 2007 Wayne-Westland Junior Miss, and Raven Rickard, the 2008 Wayne-Westland Junior Miss. Since she attends a Livonia public school, she knew no one going into the program. Coming out, she had made "13 new friends."

"I was really nervous the first week, but Kelsey was there and helped me," she said. "I got to know a lot of new people. It was so much fun."

Participants rehearsed for the program on Sunday evenings in preparation for the program. They also did individual interviews with the judges and a talent routine. Simpson's was a jazz dance to Whitney Houston's How Will I Know.

"The interview went well, but I was a little nervous," she said. "They asked questions that I didn't know how to answer.

Please see SIMPSON, A2



Wayne-Westland Junior Miss Alyssa Simpson shows off the medal she received after winning the 2009 scholarship program. A senior at Livonia Churchill High School, she's now headed for the state program that will be held in March in Ann Arbor.

Drivers will see differences in snow removal

BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

As winter settles in, Westland motorists will likely notice stark differences between snow-removal efforts of city workers and county crews due to a shortage of road salt and soaring prices faced by government officials.

City Public Services Director Kevin Buford said Westland has a healthy supply of road salt for residential streets and larger thoroughfares it clears, but Wayne County crews have less than half the stockpile they had last year to tackle wintry weather.

"I really feel the residents will see a difference," Buford said.

Westland workers are expecting normal road-clearing efforts on city streets and larger roads within the city's jurisdiction, such as Newburgh, Hix, Palmer, Ann Arbor Trail, Central City Parkway, Hunter, Farmington and Henry Ruff, he said.

But, problems could arise on county-maintained roads that are among the most heavily traveled, including Wayne, Middlebelt, Merriman, Venoy, Inkster, Joy, Warren, Ford, Cherry Hill and Michigan Avenue, he said.

Wayne County is expected to use less salt, plow roads less frequently and rely less on employee overtime — all due to a shortage of road salt and

efforts to tighten the reins on a budget that already has reached a critical deficit, officials predict.

"It's going to be tough trying to drive," Buford said, urging local motorists to use patience and drive as safely as they can when roads are snowy or icy.

In all, Westland has 221 miles of city- and countymaintained roads.

Buford credited Westland Purchasing Agent Jade Smith with having the foresight to help the city lock in on road salt prices of \$33 a ton and stock up early, avoiding problems that left some communities paying twice as much.

"We are still committed to making sure the roads we have jurisdiction over are cleared," Buford said.

Police Chief James Ridener said it's hard to predict whether the county's decision to cut back on salting roads will lead to a sharp increase in accidents.

"Drivers need to be more cautious and slow down, knowing that the county has made a decision that they're not going to take care of the roads as efficiently as they did before," Ridener said.

"It's going to fall down on the drivers to be careful out there and take extra precautions getting through, if we have the large storms."

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

Westland police to use radar trailers to slow down drivers

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland police will soon have a new tool to help heavyfooted drivers avoid the cost and aggravation of getting pulled over for speeding.

City police early next year will have two roadside speed-radar trailers that electronically flash

motorists' speed as they drive

Police hope the new radar trailers will convince speeders to ease off the gas pedal and make roads a little safer.

"Hopefully just by people seeing it, they will slow down." Police Chief James Ridener

The new speed-fighting tools,

called Decatur Electronics Galaxy OnSite 350 Radar

Trailers, come on two-wheel trailers that can easily be stood up alongside any major road or residential street.

They're also environmentally friendly because they include solar panels that help keep their batteries charged — a selling point for Mayor William Wild's

ongoing Mission Green pro-

gram. "We can deploy them where we get complaints about speeders," Ridener said. "We can put them out as a courtesy for compliance and to warn speeders to slow down."

The new radar trailers will be bought with \$16,850 from the city's drug-forfeiture money. Ridener said those funds could be used because the trailers sometimes will be deployed

near drug-deal scenes. Authorities say the first reaction most drivers have when they see a black-and-white police squad car is to take their foot off the gas pedal and glance down at their speedometer. Police believe the radar trailers

will have the same effect.

The Westland City Council agreed to buy the radar trailers on Monday night, the same evening it also voted to spend \$148,304 to buy six new 2009 Ford Crown Victoria police cars, in the city's ongoing effort to replace aging vehicles.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

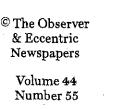
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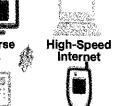
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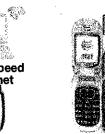
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Superstar Beyonce Knowles

AROUND WESTLAND

Say cheese!

Celebrate the holiday season with your four-legged friends at the Westland Veterinary Hospital Saturday, Dec. 13.

Santa will be there from 12:30 to 3 p.m. to pose for pictures with pets. The cost is \$10 for a 5-by-7-inch photo. There also will be refreshments and treats for the pets.

A Pet Poo-tique also will open and offering poopshaped plush squeak toys, poop candles, poop calendar, paw print purses, pet heating pads and more.

The veterinary hospital is at 7610 Wayne Road, north of Warren Road. For more information, call (734) 261-5900.

Historic holiday

The public is invited to visit the city's historic Octagon House 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, to enjoy refreshments and see Santa Claus. Cameras may be brought along. The house is located at the Westland Historic Village Park on Wayne between Marquette and Cherry Hill. The historic museum on the same site will be open 1-4 p.m. that day.

Living Nativity

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will present a Living Nativity 3:30-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the church at 37775 Palmer, just west of Newburgh, in Westland.

There will be a narrated re-enactment at 4:45 p.m., hands-on experience with live animals, including a cow, donkey, sheep and mini horse. Indoor activities include games for children ages 2-9, crafts for children ages 4-9 and storytelling featuring Silent Night, The Donkey's Christmas Song, Once There Was a Christmas Tree, This Babe So Small, The Night Before Christmas and The Christmas Story. Food also will be available.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (734) 722-1735 or go online to princeofpeacewestland.com.

Holiday Cookie Walk

The First United Methodist Church of Wayne will holds its Holiday Cookie Walk 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 13, at the church, 3 Towne Square, across from the Wayne Post Office.

Homemade holiday cookies, breads, pies and candies will be sold, as well as specialty gift baskets. Small containers cost \$5, medium containers \$9 and large containers \$13. Homemade candies will be sold by the pound.

For more information, call the church office at (734) 721-4801.

Christmas concert

The Westland Community
Foundation will sponsor a
Christmas reception featuring John Glenn High
School's Glenn Singers 68 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11.
The event will be inside the
school's media center on
Marquette between Wayne
and Newburgh, and the public
is invited.

Cost of admission is an unwrapped, new toy as a donation for the children helped this holiday season by The Salvation Army. Gifts for teenagers also are needed.

Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be prepared by Chef Tony Paquette and stu-

tent of the column.

ON THE WE

For an expanded version of Around Westland, visit our online edition at hometownlife.com and click on the Westland home page.

dents from the culinary arts department of the William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

Attire is business or "nice casual." Anyone planning to attend is asked to call (734) 595-7727.

Safety promotion

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, in Westland Shopping Center's Macy's Court, Westland Mayor William Wild will join other local dignitaries to encourage residents to "Tie One on for Safety." The MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) event is part of a public awareness campaigu which reminds motorists to drive responsibly during the holidays. Nonalcoholic holiday drinks will be served and the winners of the "Mocktail Mixer Recipe Contest" will be named. Westland Center is at 35000 W. Warren Road at Wayne

Scrapbooking benefit

The Westland Jaycees will hold a One Hot Crop scrapbooking event 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the at the Bailey Recreation Center behind Westland City Hall on Ford west of Wayne Road. The event will help raise funds to purchase a defibrillator for the Bailey Center.

Lisa Graham, a Creative
Memories consultant from
Westland, will be on hand
to help with all things photo
related - from organizing
photos and memorabilia to
preserving memories in scrapbooks (both traditional and
digital versions) or displaying
them in your home.

Cost for One Hot Crop is \$20 and includes lots of table space and uninterrupted time to work on your projects, a fantastic goodie bag, snacks, lunch, tons of ideas and much more. All attendees will receive a free gift just for stopping by.

To register for the crop or for more information, call Graham at (734) 718-5705 or go online to www.myspace. com/onehotcrop. For more information on the Westland. Jaycees, call (734) 226-0400 or visit the club's Web site at www.westlandjaycees.org.

New Year's Eve

AMVETS Post 171 is holding a New Year's Eve party 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the AMVETS Memorial Hall, 1217 Merriman, south of Cherry Hill, in Westland. The bar opens at 6 p.m., with dinner served at 7 p.m. There also will be dancing, a bottle of champagne for each table at midnight and pizza. Tickets cost is \$30 per person or \$45 per couple and are available at the post. For more information, call (734) 721-9440.

Card party

Ss. Simon and Jude Church will hold a Breast Cancer Awareness and Card Party 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the church, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. Tickets for the smoke free event are \$8. There will be table prizes, 50/50 and door prizes. For tickets or reservations, call

CORRECTION

the error.

(734) 722-1343.

Cooperative Preschool

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is currently accepting enrollment into its Parent/ Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4year programs. Willow Creek is at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information, call the preschool at (734) -326-0078.

Family Support Group

Do you have a family member currently serving time in prison, a subject that you can't easily discuss with just anyone? Now, there's a place for help – for conversation – for understanding of what you are going through.

Hope-4-Healing is a free on-going support group for those who have loved ones in prison, providing a safe place to talk about it, share with and learn from others. The group meets the second Monday of every month beginning in January 2009 at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, in Westland.

For additional information, call Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or by e-mail at hope4healing@rocketmail.com.

Caregiver support

Are you a caregiver of an aging parent, spouse or relative? Do you ever wish you had an understanding person to talk to? Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer support and assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to their loved ones.

Caregiver Support meetings offer valuable information and assistance to individuals caring for a loved one. They're held 10 a.m. to noon the third Tuesday of the month at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue in Westland.

Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile Road in Redford. Morning and evening options are available. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon the second Thursday of the month, while the evening group meets 6-8 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month.

For more information on dates and times, or if attending for the first time, call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

Nutcracker Ballet

More than 70 dancers from Bunny Sanford's School of Dance will perform the Nutcracker holiday classic 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at Stevenson High School, 33500 Six Mile Road just west of Farmington. Tickets are \$5. This special production features original choreography and costumes from the Nutcracker Ballet that formerly appeared at the Fox Theatre and Detroit Opera House. Tickets are available at the door or by calling Bunny Sanford's School of Dance at (734) 464-7440.

Friends of Eloise

The column does not say required IRA distri-

butions can be invested in Roth IRA. We regret

The Friends of Eloise meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month at the Collins House, and the Westland Historic Society meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month, also at the Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

Siblings open diner with hope, hard work - and a funny name

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Summer Alhabeil is in a "confused mind-set" these days. It's a mix of "What did I do?" and "We can do this!"

She opened a business with her younger brother six weeks ago, betting their hard work against economic odds.

"Call it a big risk," said Summer Alhabeil, 27. "We can't get loans for anything. We're basically hanging on a cliff."

She and her brother, Mo Alhabeil, 21, are both business majors, in addition to working 70 hours per week at their diner, L33T Cafe. Sometimes they take advantage of the cafe's free wireless service do homework during a break.

"We know about the markets and the economy," Mo Alhabeil said. "If we put our faith in anything, it wasn't the economy, it was God."

The way he sees it, they embody the American Dream. Summer was 10 and Mo was 4 when their parents moved them here from the Middle East, telling them to "take advantage of opportunities that are not available anywhere else in the world," Summer Alhabeil said.

"We came from basically nothing," Mo said. "We have a great house in Westland. We have our own business. We have more than we could ever want."

Summer Alhabeil thinks history may be on their side. Every 20 or 30 years, she figures, something bad happens, but the economy always recovers.

"We're smart. We're young, and we can do this because we're hard workers," she said.

With support - mostly emotional, but some financial as well - from friends, family and neighbors, they began mapping their business plan. They serve wraps, burgers

and smoothies at a location that was known as Rosco's Deli not long ago and Silverman's before that.

The siblings still needed

to give their restaurant a name. Summer Alhabeil wanted something tropical. Mo Alhabeil pushed for something



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Server Michelle McGregor serves Rob Demyan at the new L33T Cafe.

L33T CAFE

What: Diner serving sandwiches, salads and entrees with American, Middle Eastern, Asian influence

Where: 36480 Plymouth Road, just west of Levan, in Livonia Phone: (734) 464-1144

Hours: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 10 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday

"deeper" like an alternate spelling of virtue. His 12-year-old niece suggested L33T.

Pronounced "leet," the term is derived from "elite" and is a form of symbolic writing where numeric digits replace certain alphabetic letters.

Some people get it, Mo said. Others ask: "What is 'L thirtythree T?" He answered a few more

questions for the Observer.

Q. How did you come up
with the name for your busi-

A. My niece came up with the name. We wanted a name that was short, easy to remem-

ber and generated interest.

Q. How did you get started in this field of work?

A. My sister has been in the food service industry for 10 years, and I have been in the food service industry for five years.

Q. Why are you located here?

A. We are located in the

heart of Livonia's industrial region, which has supplied us with a lot of blue- and white-collar guests. Also, the building and the people in the area are absolutely wonderful.

Q. What's your background?

A. I'm 21 and my sister is 27. We are proudly supported by our two wonderful parents, our two younger siblings and our beautiful niece. We have lived in Westland for less than a year. Our parents tell that they are seeing their dreams coming true through our successes and endeavors.v

Q. Describe your business philosophy.

A. Small profit plus high volume, great service, great food, relaxing atmosphere and building relationships with our guests and fairness equals success and longevity.

Q. What hobbies do you enjoy?

A. I like playing basketball and interacting with people, and my sister likes writing poetry. Q. Tell us about an inter-

esting experience at work.

A. There isn't one that I can think of off the top of my head, but to me, every table is an interesting experience, because everyone is different. It's nice.

interesting experience, because everyone is different. It's nice to see how so many people, with different views and backgrounds, can all come together in one place, and do the same thing ... eat!

rrjones@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2054

SIMPSON FROM PAGE AT

When they announced I was one of the top two finalists for interview, I was very surprised."

A large contingent of friends and family members were at the program, including her parents, Becky and Scott Simpson, and 14-year-old brother Doug. Her mother is the owner of the Point Counter Point Dance Studio in Garden City and choreographed Simpson's dance routine. She said it was "nerve wracking" watching her daughter on stage.

"It was very odd for me to be sitting in the audience for what I do," she said. "But it was nice to be able to sit back and watch. It was nice and surprising because we didn't know what she had learned."

Becky Simpson added that when the breakdown in the scoring was given, the family knew Simpson had to have finished "in first place or at least second."

"We're blessed, we're so lucky they liked her," Becky Simpson said. "It was a really nice program and she really enjoyed it."



Alyssa Simpson

Simpson had hoped she would do well in the program, since she was away from home quite a bit with dance practice four times a week, work on Friday and Saturday and the rehearsals on Sunday evening. She did do well and her mother is letting everyone know.

"She was really excited, she has it plastered all over the dance studio," Simpson said Simpson also got the

chance to share he experience with her 6-year-old cousin, Amanda Towler, who partnered with her as part of

the Future Junior Miss fundraiser. Youngsters paid \$50 to be a part of the program and receive a little crown to wear. According to Becky Simpson, Amanda has said she wants to compete in the program when she's older. "When Alyssa told her she

doesn't get a crown, she gets a medal, Amanda said, 'The next time you come to dinner, I'll let you wear mine,'' Becky Simpson added.

In winning the pageant, Simpson received \$2,250 in scholarship money that will come in handy. She plans to attend Michigan State University to study journalism. She also has an opportunity to win more money at the Michigan Junior Miss Program which will be held in March in Ann Arbor.

Also receiving scholarship money was first runner-up Corine Eastman, who earned \$1,250, and second runner-up Carly Pitrago, who received \$700.

High school seniors who live in Wayne and Westland and who are interested in competing in the 2010 program can sign up online at www.ajm. org.

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT 6000 MIDDLEBELT GARDEN CITY, MI 48135

The headline on Rick Bloom's Money Matters

column on Sunday, Nov. 30, misstated the con-

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction on Tuesday December 9, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185.

Please note: The bidding will start at the towing and storage charges.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Style</u>	У
1997	Chrysler	Sebring	4
1985	Buick	4 Door	1
1976	Chevrolet	Suburban	2
1994	Chevrolet	Camaro	
2001	Chevrolet	Cavalier	1
1988	Ford	T-Bird	1
1994	Ford	Van	1

Vin # 4C3AU42N8VE084395 1G4BN69YXFH854103 CCL166F182266 2G1FP22S6R2134676 1G1JF52T317275709 1FABP6040JH247909 1FMEE11N4RHA92702

Publish: December 04, 2008

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, December 11, 2008, various items of the City Westland Police Department will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock
4770377Year
2001Make
CHEVROLETModel
BLAZERVIN
1GNCS18W81K15398646882741997CHEVROLETCAVALIER1G1JC1248VM145149Vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. The referenced vehicles, as

well as many others, may be previewed by prospective buyers on Wednesday, December 10, 2008, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Terms and Conditions will be applicable to any item sold.

Registration fees apply.

Publish: December 4, 2008

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W-W retiree funds Wayne High scholarship

BY SUE MASONOBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Earle Chorbagian readily admits that his claim to fame as a Wayne-Westland school district employee is starting the annual district-wide spelling bee some 27 years ago.

That changed this week, when the retired junior high principal and his wife, Billie, donated \$20,000 to establish a scholarship at Wayne Memorial High School.

"I'm a World War II veteran and I was able to go to college becanse Eleanor Roosevelt pushed her husband to pass the GI Bill to allow vets to go to college," said the Canton resident. "It seems to be that students today need a little extra help. It won't pay their way, but it'll get them started."

The Adams School/Wayne Memorial High School Scholarship will be awarded beginning with the Class of 2009. One student for each of the first two years will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. After that, the scholarship will be 5 percent, the amount depending on the interest income generated.

Wayne High counselor Louise Karmann will coordinate the selection. The scholarship is not based on need, however, the recipient must be of good character, have good grades and have attended Adams Middle School for at least two years. The recipient almost must plan to attend a junior college, college or university

university.

The Chorbagians plan to meet with Karmann as well as the first student who will receive the scholarship "so they know someone actually is pro-

viding it," Chorbagian said.
"We've been thinking about
doing this for quite a long time,"
he added. "We'd discuss it, let it



Earle and Billie Chrobagian present Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy with a check to establish the Adams School/ Wayne Memorial High School Scholarship.

drop, then discuss it again and finally decided this is the time."

"It was definitely his idea,"
Billie Chorbagian said. "I
thought it was fine. I feel the
same way he does."

The scholarship's connection with Adams Middle School

relates to Chorbagian's work with the district. He was with Wayne-Westland for 32 years, including 25 years as the assistant principal at what was then Adams Junior High School.

tion "This is a great scholarship," I said Snperintendent Greg Baracy in accepting a check from the Chorbagians.

"They're so genteel and generous," added Aggie Kubrak, senior executive director for instruction. "It's very nice that anyone who meets the criteria can apply for it."

The idea behind the scholarship is for "youth of the neighborhood to attain their educational goals," which Chorbagian
did after the war. Married,
he and his wife moved to

Kalamazoo so he could attend

They lived in campus housing and during his freshman year, his first child was born.

"I've been very fortunate," he said. "I couldn't have done it without the GI Bill."

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

City's WLND honored for cable programming

Cable channel WWLND-TV, which has been keeping residents in the know for more than 20 years, been recog-

nized for excellence.

The City of Westland's government access channel,
WLND recently received the 2008 Philo T. Farnsworth
Award for Best Overall
Government Access Facility.
Sponsored by the Alliance for Community Media, the Philo T. Farnsworth Award honors the memory of Philo T. Farnsworth, known as the father of modern television, and is awarded in recognition of excellence in cable programming.

"This is a tremendous honor," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "We are always so proud of the programming and professionalism that this station puts forth, and it is a great feel-

ing to know that the Alliance for Community Media took notice."

The entries that earned WLND-TV the honor included highlights from Wild's 2008 State of the City Address, a monthly talk show, entitled A Month in Review, a video chronicle of Westland that is set to music, called An All American City, live coverage of the city's annual Marin Luther King Jr. ceremony and a variety of the station's sports coverage.

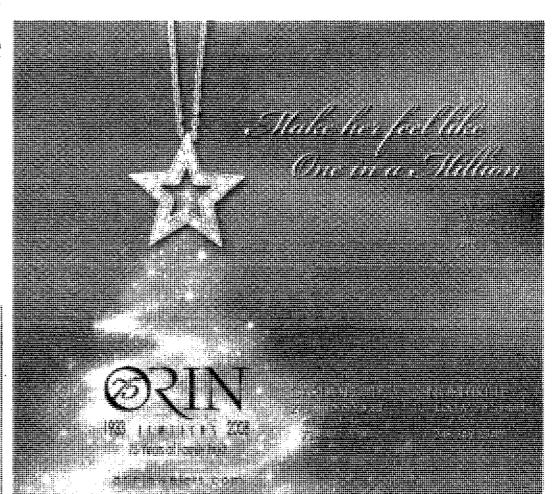
The station also picked up two additional first-place awards with Salute to Black History Month, produced by Kevin Kreis with the assistance of the William P. Faust Public Library in the Cultural Diversity category, and How to Use Your City Calendar, produced by Kevin Kreis and written and broadcast by Deputy Mayor Courtney Conover in the Instructional category.

"Our ultimate goal is to inform our residents and be the window to their community," said Craig Welkenbach, director of WLND-TV for more than eight years. "It's a responsibility we take very seriously, but at the same time, we aim to create programming that is also enjoyable to watch."

Entries for the Philo T.
Farnsworth Awards represented the Central States Region which includes Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky. WLND-TV is broadcast within the City of Westland on Comcast channel 12 and Wide Open West (W.O.W.) channel 10. The WLND Studio is located at 33455 W. Warren Road.



Western Michigan University.



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Stock market is not a game; it's serious business

should not be

thought of as

such as the

one I men-

such. Contests

tioned send the

received a letter to participate in a stock-picking contest. The organization sponsoring the contest was soliciting a variety of people in the financial world to participate. The premise was each participant would be given a \$1 million of play money. The player who had the most money at the end of a 90-day period would be the winner. According to the rules, a player could invest the money in anything and would have unlimited trades during the 90-day period.

I politely and respectfully turned down the invitation (not because it wouldn't have been fun) because it was billed as an investment contest when, in fact, it had nothing to do with investing.

I am not a fan of these socalled investment contests. As far as I am concerned, a contest like this is no different than entering a blackjack or a poker tournament. When it comes to investments, 90 days is nothing.

Many organizations have sponsored these types of investment contests and although they are fun, just as with gambling, I believe they can be dangerous. The stock market is not a game and it



Rick Bloom

wrong message. Investors should not be **Money Matters** looking quarter to quarter,

but rather long term. When investors think short term, it almost always leads to longterm problems.

Too many investors honestly don't know the difference between gambling and investing. Gambling is for the short run, while investing is for the long run. Investing is not an all or none proposition. Investing requires patience, something that most gamblers do not have.

There's no doubt that this has been a very difficult year for investors and certainly the conventional wisdom about investing has not panned out. However, I always remind people they are running a marathon, not a 50-yard dash. Unfortunately, stock contests promote the thought that investing is nothing more than a short race to the finish. In fact, investing is much more

difficult and challenging. Decisions made today have an impact on us many years into the future.

Of course, most people recognize that a stock market game is just that, a game. Many feel that particularly during these difficult times, we deserve to have some fun. However, there's a reason why we have warning signs on everything in our society. It seems obvious to me that people shouldn't stick their hand inside of a snow blower, however, there are warning signs to remind them of just that.

The issue regarding stock market games is that too many people may assume if the strategy wins an investment game. perhaps it will work in an individual portfolio.

Playing games should be for fun. Handling money is much more serious. Remember that experiences with a game have nothing to do with reality.

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



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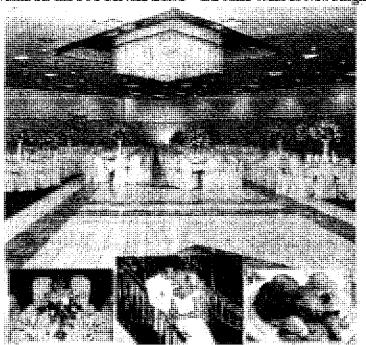


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KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section

Thursday, December 4, 2008



LPS gets input from residents

The community focus groups have begun discussing long-term planning for use and upgrades of the Livonia Public Schools buildings, and it looks like the district will get valuable input as more than 300 people have registered to attend.

Most of the district's 40-55-year-old buildings are in good shape but need modernizing, according to Supt. Randy Liepa. Participants at the focus groups are discussing the build-

Education will be Job One, of

course, but with all the focus

on energy conservation, that

will be front and center. It's a

good time for the district to

assess energy costs on the

heels of bond improvements at

past few years, and seeing what

needs to be renovated in the

next round of improvements.

ings' energy efficiency, safety, curb appeal and building additions, along with the critical issues of classroom instruction upgrades and technol-

Education will be Job One, of course, but with all the focus on energy conservation, that will many of the schools over the be front and center. It's a good time for the district to assess energy costs on the heels of bond improvements at many of the schools over the

past few years, and seeing what needs to be renovated in the next round of improvements.

Once the focus groups finish their work and complete the meetings this week, all of the responses will be typed and posted online. The school board will receive a summary report in January. Sometime next year, the board will decide whether to put a sinking fund renewal, millage request or both on the ballot. The current sinking fund, which raises \$6 million per year for building and site repairs, expires in February and runs through the 2009-10 fiscal year.

Should trustees seek to place a ballot proposal before voters next year, it will be a tough sell in light of this economy. But with the input of 300 residents, students and staff, the board is getting plenty of input and ideas. And that can only help.

Christmas season glows with events

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

The often depressing economic news cannot diminish the holiday spirit. A rich combination of good times, generous giving and long-followed traditions make this an extra special time of year.

Wayne County Parks Lightfest was officially opened Nov. 20. The annual event turns a four-mile section of Hines Park into a fantasy land of animated lights. This always popular event includes Santa's Workshop at the Warrendale area, where children can meet the jolly fellow and post their letters in a giant mailbox. Dec. 9 and 16 will be Toy Nights. Wayne County will be lending a hand to provide toys to disadvantaged children in the county. On these nights, the community is invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the suggested \$5 donation fee for visiting the Lightfest. Enter Hines Park at Merriman.

Experience the reason for the season at a Living Nativity 3:30-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Prince Of Peace Lutheran Church in Westland. A narrated reenactment takes place at 4:45 p.m. There also will be storytelling, games for youngsters ages 2-9 and crafts for ages 4-9. The church is on Palmer just west of Newburgh in Westland.

This Saturday, Redford is presenting an Olde-Fashioned Christmas. The event kicks off at 2 p.m. with a parade along Five Mile and will feature horse-andcarriage rides, a petting zoo, holiday music and refreshments. Santa Claus arrives at Township Hall at 2:45

Canton will hold its third annual Family Holiday Fest from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday at Willow Creek Plaza, north side of Ford Road between Lilley and Haggerty. Santa will be the guest of honor and a photographer will take pictures. There will also be reindeer, carolers, contests and refreshments.

In Plymouth, Santa is holding court at his house on Main Street in Kellogg Park, 5-8 p.m. Fridays, noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and 5-8 p.m. Dec. 23.

Compassionate Friends' Candlelight Vigil, where friends and family gather to remember loved ones who died too soon, is set for 7 p.m. Dec. 14 in downtown Plymouth.

Go out and enjoy a hometown Christmas.



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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.



LETTERS

15-492009 CONSENSE & SUGATRIC OUT

and adults.

Daddy Warbucks?

REAL TRAVESTY!

opine4utoo wrote:

the state of education in Michigan:

Tom Watkins paints with a broad

brush, making sweeping statements

without knowing facts. Watkins calls

"thoughtful" as he (Baracy) makes "sen-

sible decisions." Watkins calls the WW recall efforts a "travesty." Watkins makes

silly, uninformed comments about seri-

ous matters that effect 13,000 children

Since when is it "thoughtful" to over-

load classes in order to build/maintain

over year by year? Is is "thoughtful" to

deprive students of contact time with

their teacher when the room is too full of

needy faces, because Baracy wants to be

Somehow, the word "travesty" should

be used to describe board members

any efforts at oversight or fine-tooth

comb inspection! Maybe Mr. Martin's

, shape-shifting budget is just too hard to

grasp, what with all those numbers and

It is completely clear to all who read

your posts that with you it is personal.

Look around you. Plymouth Canton

the brink of bankruptcy. Livonia has

closed neighborhood schools and laid

off teachers. Your district actually has

a fund balance to argue about. You call

it huge. In a district with 850 teachers

classroom would require an additional

like W-W, taking one student from a

number of teachers costing the dis-

trict upwards of \$1M each year. Ask

teachers if one would be enough. They

would say no. So raise the number to

four. Now you're talking over \$4M a

year, and your fund balance is spent

never to be regained. Wait a minute!

Cut maintenance! Cut books! Cut supplies! Cut extra-curricular activities!

Cut programs! Cut bussing! Privatize

Would your graduation rates and test

scores go up? Would the MEA guaran-

and kids. Guaranteed!

tee it? No! They will then blame parents

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please

include your name, address and phone number

custodians! Now you have money to put

into classrooms (read teachers' pockets).

is out of money. Garden City is on

such. Baracy has a flock of sheep — A

approving budgets and Baracy's sweet-

heart over the top contract — all without

a huge fund equity that gets carried

Wayne-Westland superintendent

polyglot1947 wrote:

Revamp voter registration

America's voter registration system desperately needs an update. During this historic election year, thousands of voters waited in long lines at polling places across the nation only to find their registrations hadn't been processed, or their names had been purged from voter rolls, or they'd missed deadlines they may not even have been aware of.

We must improve our flawed registration system, replacing a labor-intensive and tedious process with one that's modern, accurate and efficient. The onus to register new voters shouldn't fall to citizens themselves, or third parties. The government must take responsibility for ensuring all of its citizens are eligible and able to vote.

Election Protection, the nation's largest non-partisan voter protection coalition, reports that about 40 percent of the complaints they've received about the voting process in 2008 have had to do with registration problems. Under automatic and permanent registration:

■ Every citizen would be automatically registered to vote when they become eligible, either through birth or naturalization, and that registration would follow them throughout their lives, updated as they move from state to state. If there's a problem with the list, a voter can correct it on Election Day.

■ Many of the voting problems seen in this election cycle, like overused provisional ballots and registration backlogs, would be eliminated. It would also ensure that no one is disenfranchised because of a failure of the voter registration system or a missed registration deadline.

People could update their registration address when they change their mailing address with the U.S. Postal Service. One of the most common problems caused by our current system is that people don't bother to re-register — or don't know that it's required — when they move.

Automatic and permanent registration is a secure and accurate way to maintain voter registration databases, and a simple upgrade to our systems that won't create big and expensive new bureaucracies. It will also take the great weight of last minute voter registration off of election officials, providing them with the critical time and resources around an election to prevent other problems like under-trained poll workers and issues with resource distribution.

Americans deserve a voting system that is modern, fair and accurate. Automatic voter registration is an important first step towards ensuring that every eligible vote is cast and counted. Next year the 111th Congress and President Obama should make automatic voter registration a priority!

Volunteer in bad times

Joe Golonka Westland

are going to stretch their ever-tightening budgets to cover their part of this year's "holiday cheer." I'd like to reach out and remind every-

one that the holidays are not about simply making purchases from stores, but coming together as one family, neighborhood or community and reaching out to lend a helping hand. Even though times are tough and money is tight, we need to be thankful for all that we have and all that we can offer. Simple things such as reaching out to help your neighbor rake the leaves or volunteering for a local community group boost our spirits and unite us in these cheerful, but difficult

Volunteering has been the backbone of the American way of life since the first settlers arrived in America. Times were tough then, and when people needed help, they banned together to overcome the challenges their new lives posed. Times are difficult now, and we are each facing our own individual challenges. If we reach out and support each other in any way that we can, as our ancestors did, we can begin to rebuild the bridges to take us into the future.

Right now, with the Michigan unemployment rate reaching upward toward 9 percent, volunteering can provide anyone with some much needed emotional relief. Unemployment can be a very depressing, isolated stage in anyone's life, and by simply volunteering you can make professional contacts, receive employment references, provide advice to an organization or keep practiced in your field, and even earn internship credit hours. Volunteering can also give you a bit of stability in this crazy world, or provide some much needed adult human contact.

Midwest Rabbit Rescue & Re-home is an organization located in Plymouth which is dedicated to the rescue and adoption of domestic rabbits. Currently, with over 140 rabbits in the shelter, and 60 more in foster care, they need all the help they can get. Midwest is a no-kill shelter run entirely by volunteers who care about rabbits. Rabbits are playful, loving animals, and very common house pets! With the money troubles we are all facing, animals tend to be overlooked. Together we can reach and expand our networks to make sure they are not forgotten!

As you prepare your holiday feast this year, please remember the old adage "what goes around comes around." Every act of kindness will echo out and bring you not only personal satisfaction but it will leave a long lasting impression on what you helped to accomplish. Let your efforts be an oasis to someone or something in this harsh world.

Sometimes we all need a little rescuing. Reach out and help this holiday season in any way that you can.

Lisa Powell

Midwest Rabbit Rescue & Re-home volunteer

From the Web

The following comments were posted on With the holidays quickly approaching the Westland Observer home page of our and the economy quickly failing, many Web site at www.hometownlife.com. people are wondering exactly how they ■ Regarding Tom Watkins' column on

for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

Letters to the editor Westland Observer 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150

Fax: ` (734) 459-4224

.smason@hometownlife.com

QUOTABLE

"They take me shopping, if I need to go. I work at the Library for the Blind on Michigan Avenue each week and they take me there. It's literally been a blessing to me."

- Nancy Kukulka about using the transportation services provided by Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County

My day of giving thanks wasn't on the calendar

y hardwood kitchen floors, dotted with evidence that my 3-year-old son had, at some point, juggled juice and cookies to no avail, never looked so radiant.

My Ford Escape, tinged with a light coating of road salt and dirt, never



Stacy Jenkins

looked to sparkly and nice. Everything in my view somehow seemed brighter after a recent trip that started at a curb next to a muddy, vacant lot at Third and Martin Luther King in downtown

That's where the old school bus I was riding on, called "God's Favor" pulled up on a

bitter-cold, gray morning a little over a week

To my right, a partially snow covered, blue tarp was piled under a lone, dead tree in a muddy lot. I knew that someone had called that pile home.

We rumbled up in the bus, driven by God's Favor founder Louise Fincher, a really pretty, petite woman with unusual bus-maneuvering skills, who decided she must help the homeless in Detroit because her father was once among them, when she was young.

He ended up dying on the streets. It was about 10 seconds after the bus stopped at the curb when word quickly spread to dozens of homeless people who were sitting inside the shelter at the Neighborhood Services Organization. They came out in droves hands out, eyes dark and postures slumping.

One woman stood toward the back of the crowd, dazed and shivering. The thin jacket she wore was no match for the 28-degree

They came to the windows of the bus, wondering what God's Favor had for them this

Thankfully, we had a lot.

We handed sub sandwiches, chips and bottles of water out the windows to the hungry people. The bus was stuffed with warm coats, boots, mittens, scarves, socks and sweaters - all that had been collected from the closets of people who are more fortunate.

A few of us went into the shelter, where a crowd of people were sitting in metal fold-up chairs, in rows. They were just sitting, staying out of the cold. Their belongings - everything they had in the world -- were stored in a different room, to make way for more chairs and more homeless.

Five or six people, all in wheelchairs or propped up on walkers, were in one area. They couldn't get out to the bus to grab a sandwich, so we brought the stuff to them.

One woman fumbled around and clumsily landed in one of those cold, metal chairs. I looked down and saw that she only had three wheels on her walker. My heart hurt for her.

It's almost embarrassing to have so much. Several coats in the closets, cupboards and fridge filled with food, warm air filling the house and my husband and two beautiful kids welcoming me home. Being thankful is so very humbling.

I handed her a sandwich, and she smiled and thanked me.

From Third Street and MLK, we headed to the area of Peterboro, near Woodward, where the COTS shelter is located. We stopped at the curb, and again, people came out to us.

A quiet woman, who looked like she may have recently been a soccer mom, was standing off to the side, as if this whole homeless scene was new to her. She was clean; her hair was brushed and she carried a purse. She wore a light green spring coat. Her eyes were tired and sad. She was homeless.

On the sidewalk, we met a man who reminded me a bit of Bill Cosby. He had a warm jacket and a nice backpack and tennis shoes. He stood there, with a couple of the God's Favor volunteers — and prayed and cried. His big body shook with pain. He was homeless.

Moving along, the bus headed to the old train station on Michigan Ave. Just like the desperate people I had met, the once vibrant, beautiful building stood cold, vacant and gut-

We pulled up to a couple of homeless men, who were friendly and gave us information about another shelter Louise can add to the route next month.

Although my heart was heavy, I was encouraged by small things on this trip. We visited Pilgrim Church, where a shelter is open for the homeless on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Small dorm rooms are set up with crude accommodations. The church opens its doors to feed and shelter the homeless, a mission that continues despite the awful financial situation they're in. The heat has been turned off, because the bill was too large to pay. They're praying they'll find the money soon. I hope

My day wrapped up and I returned to the suburbs, where my world awaited me. It was a different world, though, from that which I had left that morning.

It's almost embarrassing to have so much. Several coats in the closets, cupboards and fridge filled with food, warm air filling the house and my husband and two beautiful kids welcoming me home.

Being thankful is so very humbling.

Stacy Jenkins is the editor of the Farmington Observer. She can be reached at (734) 953-2131 or via email at sienkins@hometownlife.com.

Time for mandatory retirement at age 65 for truck drivers

we concentrate our efforts on the target that has the best opportunity for success. And that target, in my opinion, should be an all-out campaign to reduce roadway deaths caused by trucks. As an attorney specializing in vehicle accident

liability cases, I have argued in the past that truck related deaths can be reduced by paying more

attention to highway safety and approach - safer roads, less My concern about mandatory

Terry Cochran

driver fatigue. In recent months I have become convinced the effort should now involve a three-prong driver fatigue, and a mandatory retirement age for truck drivers.

retirement ages for truckers was elevated in July 2008 when a 71year-old truck driver on I-75 in Michigan slammed into vehicles

in the southbound lanes, causing the death of 19year-old Kara Joan Larivee of Rochester Hills. The 71-year-old driver, already driving at a high rate of speed, failed to react quickly enough to the fact that traffic had come to a standstill because of

When trucks are on the road and something goes wrong, the laws of physics dictate that something very bad will happen. The combination of mass plus speed can lead to loss of human lives or permanent disability, and destruction of freeway overpasses, costing thousands of dollars, and traffic backed up for hours and hours.

Truck accidents occur because of fatigue, highway design faults and driver error. Some causes are predictable; others are not. The result is always predictable, though — the sheer volume of a truck traveling 40 mph or faster will always create havoc.

The biggest killer on our highways is fatigne. Federal transportation officials must come up with stricter guidelines to make sure that logbooks are properly kept and that commercial carriers ensure their drivers get the rest they need

State highway departments throughout the U.S. must adopt an aggressive program to widen twolane highways throughout areas to make highspeed travel safer for all. Law enforcement officials must police our highways to enforce speed limits rather than tolerating drivers traveling 80 mph or

My law firm, Cochran, Foley & Associates, went on record as a truck accident law firm in Michigan and an advocate for reforms to reduce the number of car-truck collisions after representing the family of a 5-year-old boy who was killed when a semitractor truck struck from behind a vehicle being driven by his mother. The minimum reforms I championed then

were: paving construction to widen our two-lane highways or at least provide for more left-turn flare lanes, increased speed enforcement on twolane highways, and stricter enforcement of truck driver's driving time limits to prevent deaths.

I now add to my call for reform the need to lower the maximum driving age for all truckers

raffic fatalities can be reduced dramatically if to 65. Because we cannot predict with any certainty the age when a driver's physical and mental reactions begin to slow, then 65 becomes the best standard because at that age the driver can draw Social Security and Medicare in addition to any retirement benefits or 401(k) investments.

Age 65 also is the mandatory retirement age for airline pilots thanks to a bill signed in February 2007 raising the mandatory retirement age to 65. Going back to the 1960s airline pilots were forced to retire at age 60 by the Federal Aviation

Think about that. A pilot flies his plane in open air, without any other planes within visible sight, is aided by a co-pilot a seat away and by a controller on the ground, and often flies on auto-pilot. Not very often is a pilot required to make splitsecond decisions or quick reactions to conditions surrounding the plane. Yet the FAA for more than half a decade said it was unsafe for a pilot over 60 to continue on the job. Now it's considered unsafe

So why in the world do we allow truckers to continue driving at age 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, etc.? Truck drivers at high speeds every day must make split-second decisions that require extraordinary quick reaction times. Common sense, if not physical exams, eye and hearing tests, and stress tests, tells us that a driver age 65-70 is not physically and mentally equipped for this challenge.

If a truck driver makes a mistake it is very hard to correct because of the mass and size of a truck. Most truck drivers are good drivers who drive defensively and are qualified and trained to be good drivers. But only a single driver error in a lifetime of driving can have tragic results. And as that driver nears the end of a career of driving the odds increase dramatically that a fatal mistake

I cannot rest at peace because I know with certainty that before the year ends someone else will needlessly die somewhere on a highway. I am certain of this because federal officials, state and county governments, and law enforcement won't take any actions beyond the civil and criminal judgments recorded. None of us should be at peace until certain actions are taken. And these actions are: widening our two-lane highways; adding leftturn flare lanes as needed; stricter enforcement to ensure log books reflect actual driving time and rest time; and establishing a mandatory retirement for truck drivers at age 65.

Join me in this campaign by writing letters to the Federal Transportation Agency, to the governor of your state, and to newspaper and television editors. Increased public awareness will result in the changes that are needed to save thousands of lives. What we say does matter and will count for change.

Terry Cochran of Livonia is a senior partner in Cochran, Foley & Associates, P.C., a Michigan law firm specializing in personal liability, medical malpractice, and auto and truck accidents. Cochran does not represent insurance companies or corporations but instead bases his practice upon representing individuals and families. For more, visit www.cochranfoley.com or call (800) 322-5543.



Group sets goal to help friend battling cancer

The friends and family of Kevin Christesen are hoping people will take time out of their holiday shopping to attend a dinner-dance and silent auction Saturday, Dec.

Called CareForKevin,The event will help raise money for the 28-year-old Canton resident who is battling Adult Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL). The fundraiser will take place at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft,



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 4, 2008

Christesen`

The event includes a deluxe open bar, appetizers at 6 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m., DJ and dancing.

There also will be a silent auction, featuring such themed baskets as Totally Thomas, Spa Getaway, Stuff-N-Fluff Birthday Party, Plentiful Pasta, Holidays

All Wrapped Up, Bountiful Baking and Carefree Cleaning as well as an Affinity Crossfire golf set.

A fish bowl raffle will have prizes such as Girls' Toy and Boy's Toy baskets, cordless drill set, poker party basket, coffee connoisseur's basket and baby basics basket.

The Sports Spectacular Drawing features a chance to win tickets to a Detroit Lions or Detroit Red Wings game, and there also will be a

drawing for a one week's stay at a condominium on Lake Missaukee.

Tickets cost \$60 and an order form is available on line at www.careforkevin.org. Supporting Kevin, Beth and Carrie Christesen

Christesen went to the doctor on July 28 due to a pain in his leg. After doing blood work it was obvious to the doctors that he had a much bigger problem. He was diagnosed with ALL on July 29 and has

been undergoing chemother-

Married to his high school sweetheart, Beth and the father of Carrie Elizabeth, 3, Christesen has been undergoing chemotherapy. Both he and his wife were both born and raised in Canton and had just purchased their first home in Canton three months before he was diagnosed.

His condition is very serious, but hopeful. According to his friends, the doctors were very

honest with him, telling him that "it is going to be hell, you are going to have to fight.

The goal of those "who care and love Kevin" to ensure that he receives the best possible treatment regardless of cost, as well as support for him, his wife and daughter.

For more information about their cause and to register for the dinner dance, visit the Web site, www.careforkevin.org. CareForKevin is a Michigan nonprofit organization.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or faxed to her attention at fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2112.

UPCOMING EYENTS

Nutcracker Ballet More than 70 dancers from Bunny Sanford's School of Dance perform the holiday classic at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at Stevenson High School, 33500 Six Mile Road (just west of Farmington). Tickets are available for \$5. This special production features original choreography and costumes from the Nutcracker Ballet that formerly appeared at the Fox Theatre and Detroit Opera House. Tickets are available at the door or by calling Bunny Sanford's School of Dance at (734) 464-7440.

Craft Shows

Crafters and vendors are being sought for Lathers Elementary School's second annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Show 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13. The cost of an 8-foot space is \$20. All of the proceeds going toward new playground equipment. Contact Lisa at crafter2007@vahoo.com.

■ St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley Road at Cherry Hill, Canton, will host its Christmas craft show from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday Dec. 6. The event will feature more than 85 crafters, a bake sale, and lunch will be available. Admission is \$2. Children under 12 will be admitted free. For more information, contact the church at (734) 981-1333.

New Year's Eve

AMVETS Post 171 is holding a New Year's Eve party 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the AMVETS Memorial Hall, 1217 Merriman, south of Cherry Hill, in Westland. The bar opens at 6 p.m., with dinner served at 7 p.m. There also will be dancing, a bottle of champagne for each table at midnight and pizza. Tickets cost is \$30 per person or \$45 per couple and are available at the post. For more information, call (734) 721-9440.

Prison Family Support Group

Do you have a family member currently serving time in prison, a subject that you can't easily discuss with just anyone? Now, there's a place for help - for conversation - for understanding of what you are going through. Hope-4-Healing is a free on-going support group for those who have loved ones in prison, providing a safe place to talk about it, share with and learn

rs79.offer includes any frame up to \$130 at be applied for strong Rx. Biflocals and/or pr plan, package pricing, or prior orders. Eye offer ends January 3, 2009.

from others. The group meets the second Monday of every month beginning in January 2009 at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, in Westland. For additional information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or e-mail hope4healing@

rocketmail.com. Friends of Rouge The Friends of the Rouge are looking for people interested in helping with two programs taking place in 2009. The first is the Rouge Winter Stonefly Search 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 24. Join a team to search Rouge tributaries for the sensitive winter stonefly. The program takes place at the Environmental Interpretive Center at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Preregistration required. Call Sally Petrella at (313) .792-9621 or by e-mail at monitoring@ therouge.org. For more information and a flyer, go online to www. therouge.org/Programs/PI/Benthic_ Monitoring%20events.html Petrella also is accepting signups for the Rouge Frog and Toad Survey training workshops. Volunteer to survey wetlands for frogs and toads by listening for their calls. Surveys are done independently on warm damp evenings March through July. Workshops will be held 10 a.m. to noon Feb. 14 at Southfield Parks and Recreation, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield; 7-9 p.m. March 4 at Canton Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton; 10 a.m. to noon March 14 in the Farmington Hills Council Chambers, 31555 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills, and 10 a.m. to noon March 21 at the Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty, Plymouth, Sign up to attend one workshop; preregistration required. For more information

to www.therouge.org/Programs/Pt/ frog and toad Workshops.htm

Charity casino If you are looking for a place to show your skills at Texas Hold 'Em, the hottest game in town, the Canton Charity Casino, Western Wayne County's only charity poker room at the Shark Club on Ford in Canton every Thursday through Sunday. The Canton Charity Casino offers nightly tournaments as well as continuous cash games and a venue for players of all skill levels. Non-profit, charitable organizations are licensed by the State of Michigan to sponsor each weekend, allowing them to raise funds for their special causes. The hours are 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursday-Friday (tournament at 8 p.m.) and 2 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Saturday-Sunday (tournament at 5 p.m.) The Shark Club is at 42070 Ford,

or to obtain a and a flyer, go online

just west of Haggerty in Canton. Nonprofit groups interested in sponsoring a fund-raising weekend can call (734) 502-7033 or send an e-mail to scpokertb@gmail.com.

Class reunion Garden City High School Class of 1989 will hold its 20th reunion 6 p.m. to midnight Aug. 29, 2009, at Joy Manor in Westland, Tickets are \$65 before March 1 and \$75 March 2-June 1 Tickets includes, dinner, premium open bar, DJ, door prizes, picture CD and other gifts. Tickets are available for purchase at www.gardencity89. com or by contacting Paula at achs1989reunion@hotmail.com.

Fish Dial-A-Ride

Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times, and areas they're willing to drive. For additional information. call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Higher Rock Cafe

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland, Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands. Check out Higher Rock on the Web at www.tsa. higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

FOR SENIORS

Friendship Center

The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland, offers a variety of programs St. Raphael for older adults. The Web site www. ci.westland.mi.us offers more information. Call (734) 722-7632.

Dyer Center

The Wayne-Westland school district's Dyer Senior Adult Center offers activities Monday-Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.: Tuesdays, arts. crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, kitchen band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.

Senior fitness

Seniors can get in shape through some programs offered at the

Maplewood Center. The Senior Fitness Room is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Annual membership is \$50 per year or \$1 for a daily pass. Aerobic classes are held B:45-9:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

Advocacy group The Wayne-Westland Alliance for the Mentally III, a self-help and advocacy group, meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, at Bayview, Westland. Call (734) 362-BB25.

Substance abuse support

A SAFE PLACE meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City, A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program. For more information, call Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995.

Menopause & More

A Menopause & More support group for women meets 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. No registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge. Call (734) 655-1100.

Counterpoint

Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families. For more information, call (734) 563-5005.

Toughlove

A Toughlove support group meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington roads, Newcomers welcome, Call (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748.

EDUCATION

St. Raphael Catholic School, located on Merriman just north of Ford in Garden City, is now accepting open enrollment for the 2008-2009 school year for preschool through eighthgrade. Programs include 3-4-year-old preschool, technology updates and a host of extra-curricular activities. Computer labs, new classroom technology, Japanese class, and chess club are some of the school's newest additions. The school has a strong academic program and also offers religion class, weekly Mass and sacramental preparation including Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation. Latchkey and bussing is

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For registration information or to learn more about St. Raphael Catholic School, contact the school office at (734) 425-9771 or visit the Web site at www.straphael-gc.org. Willow Creek

available, and all faiths are welcome.

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is currently accepting enrollment in its Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4year programs. Willow Creek is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland, For more information, call the preschool at (734) 326-0078.

St. Damian

St. Damian Catholic School at 29B91 Joy, Westland, offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8. For more information or to schedule a tour, call (734) 427-1680 or check out the school's Web site at www.stdamian.com.

Academic Pathways

· Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool at 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia, is currently enrolling for 2008-2009 school year. Morning sessions for the 3- and 4-year-old programs are available. Potty training is not required. There is a certified teacher. The 4-year-old program runs 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. The 3-yearold program runs 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday mornings. For more information, call (734) 459-6689 or visit the Web site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com.

YWCA preschool

The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2+ to 5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available. For more information on these programs, or to enroll your child, call the YWCA's Education Department at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

VOLUNTEERS

Karmanos Institute

The 8arbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute needs volunteers to transport cancer patients to mammogram and doctor appointments in metropolitan Detroit. Drivers are needed for Macomb and Oakland counties. Dearborn and Detroit. Volunteers must be at least 18. Mileage reimbursement is provided, Call (800) KARMANOS to volunteer.

First Step

First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities

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for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 1B, willing and able to travel to the Oownriver area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734). 416-1111, Ext. 223.

Volunteer drivers are needed to transport area residents to meetings of the Western Wayne Parkinson's Disease Support Group. The meetings take place 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month in the Livonia Senior Center, Farmington Road south of Five Mile. Drivers may be offered a stipend. Parkinson's patients, caregivers and others may attend the meetings. Call (734) 459-0216 or (734) 421-4208.

VNA Hospice

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs voluntéers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters; 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required. (248) 967-8361 or visit www.vna.org.

Seasons Hospice

Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills. other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community. For more information please call Ruth at (800) 370-8592.

Literacy Council

The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials. and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

Heartland Hospice

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator. Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

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Raising eyebrows

Franklin routs Blazers in opener

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

This girls basketball season opener was an eye-opener for sure.

Livonia Franklin raced out of the gates to a 9-0 lead Tuesday night and rolled to a 48-24 victory to blindside visiting Livonia Ladywood in a battle of Class A district champions.

Senior forward Briauna Taylor, hitting three triples, led the Patriots and all scorers with a game-high 21 points, while forward Chelsea Williams chipped in with 11 points. Briauna's twin sister Brittany also added eight.

Franklin won handily despite committing 31 turnovers, but Ladywood returned the favor with 30 of its own while shooting just 8-of-42 from the floor (19 percent).

The Patriots, meanwhile, shot a respectable 16-of-33 from the field (48.4 percent) and 13-of-19 from the foul line (68.4 percent).

Franklin, coming off an 18-5 season, stymied Ladywood's offense by coming out in an active zone defense.

Franklin, connecting on its first four shots, including three by Briauna Taylor, led 19-8 at halftime and by as many as 24 in the third quarter.

"I'd say you're a liar if you told me we'd have that many turnovers and win by that score," Franklin second-vear coach Dave McCall said. "We were worried about Ladywood's size and we did a great job fronting the ball and helping weak side."

The Blazers showed some life in the fourth quarter, when they cut the deficit to 34-21 with 6:14 to go on a pair of free throws by senior guard Caitlin Szczypka.

"I told my girls at halftime that they (Ladywood) were a good ballclub and they were going to make a run," McCall said. "I knew that they wouldn't give up and would not quit. We had to realize they wouldn't back off and we had to protect the ball. We just had to keep our composure and ride it out. We fought through it. We did a great job and did not quit."

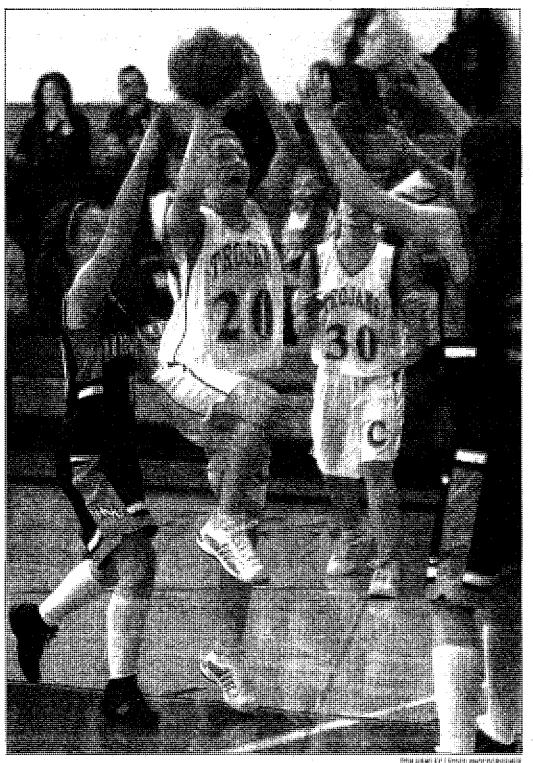
Williams, a long-armed 5-foot-8 sophomore, then came up with a pair of backto-back steals and converted twice, one on a layup and the other on a short banker, to stem the Ladywood tide midway through the final quarter and seal the victory.

'That was the turning point," McCall said. "She (Williams) missed two easy layups in the first half. There were definite signs of her first game. She was a lot nervous and was second-guessing herself, but she came back strong and made a couple of great plays."

Ladywood, 20-4 a year ago, had a decided height advantage, but couldn't dent the Patriots' defense.

"We didn't come to play," Ladywood first-year coach Pat Cannon said. "We couldn't hit a shot early and that got us down. We would not penetrate their zone. They got into the passing lanes and picked off passes. We didn't expect them to

Please see FRANKLIN, B2



Ostan kasumi, Kar į Gestairis renajaratojas pietastrintija

Eye on the hoop

Clarenceville's Ashley Devon goes up through the middle for two points. Attempting the stop for Huron Valley Lutheran is Kayla Stockdale (left) and Samantha Barber. The 2008-09 girls basketball season was launched Tuesday. For roundup of area games, see page 82.

Area wrestling teams ready for action

BY BRAD EMONS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As the 2008-09 wrestling season unfolds, it's a good bet some new and old faces will emerge to influence the balance of power in Observerland.

The new Kensington Lakes Activities Association's South Division should be a battle between Division 1 team state quarterfinalist and Observerland Invitational champ Canton, along with perennial area powers Livonia Franklin (21-5) and



Westland John Glenn (21-

Canton lost state placer Steve Cox (graduated), but returns sixth-place finisher Donnie Watkins (125) and seventh-place finisher Brent Winekoff (140) for new coach Cory Mancuso. First-team All-Area pick

Carl Lucke (119) also returns.

"Anytime you have two state placers like that, you can build a team around them,"

Capsule outlook of area wrestling teams, B3.

said Franklin coach Dave Chiola, who must replace two state placers of his own in Dan Woodall (171) and Jared Pieknik

Seven Franklin seniors, however, return with 29 or more wins from a year ago. "The senior core was on JV when we had some really good teams and I know it's

important to them to keep that tradition Please see WRESTLING, B3

John Glenn grad Barry Eberhardt is adjusting to his blue collar role as a power forward for the St. Louis University Billikens.

Glenn grad Eberhardt returns home with Billikens

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was Barry Eberhardt's only homecoming as a St. Louis Billiken and he got plenty of cheers Saturday afternoon from a vocal section of family and friends at the University of Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall.

But unfortunately for the 6-foot-6 senior power forward from Westland John Glenn High grad, the numbers came up all wrong.

Eberhardt started and played 21 minutes, took just two shots (made one) and had two free throws (made one) with four rehounds in a 62-57 setback to the host Titans.

The Billikens are 2-4 overall with wins over Boston College and Missouri-St. Louis. Losses have come against Nebraska, Kent State, UDM and Southern Illinois (64-48 Tuesday night). But despite the less than stellar start to the

season, it was a happy Thanksgiving weekend. "It's good to be home, a good feeling," said Eberhardt, who is averaging a modest 3.6

points and 3.8 rebounds per game. Eberhardt was one of Rick Majerus' inaugural recruits when he took the job prior to 2007-08 season. Last year, the Billikens went 16-15 as the Glenn grad averaged six points and 3.8

rebounds per game while making 11 starts. Majerus had spent 15 seasons at Utah, including a trip to the NCAA finals in 1997-98 (led by Andre Miller, Keith Van Horn and Michael Doleac) before stepping down during the 2003-04 season because of health reasons.

Please see EBERHARDT, 85

Nebus ties goal mark as K-Wing

BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Mark Nebus might be even at a loss himself to explain his new-found scoring prowess. The 26-



has to harken back to his AA Mite days. "I know I've never scored more

year-old right

winger and Livonia native

than four

in a game," said the 6-foot, 200-pound forward from the International Hockey League's Kalamazoo Wings. "I had a hat trick or two in AAA. In juniors one year, I had a bunch of goals (31) one season."

On the night of Nov. 23, the former Stevenson High All-Stater and All-Observer performer etched his name

Please see NEBUS, B5

MAC hails Treppa

Eastern Michigan University red-shirt sophomore punter Patrick Treppa (Livonia Stevenson) was named Mid-American Conference Special Teams Player of the Week following the Eagles' upset 56-52 win Friday at Rynearson Stadium over Central Michigan.

The 5-foot-10, 157pound Treppa punted four times for a 40-yard average with a long of 49, including one punt downed inside the 20yard line vs. CMU. His 30-yard punt, under extreme pressure with less than two minutes left in the game, went out-of-bounds at the CMU 29, letting the defense set up a stand that helped the Eagles preserve the win.

Clasgens All-MIAA

Olivet College jurior running back Pat Clasgens (Livonia Stevenson) was named to the first-team All-Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association football team.

Clasgens ranked second in the MIAA in rushing at 100.2 yards per game and fifth in all-purpose yards (663). He had 925 net yards rushing averaging 5.3 per carry and eight touchdowns.

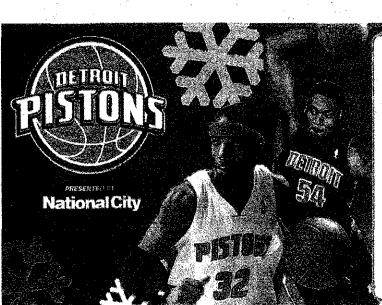
Alger signs letter

Livonia Ryan Alger, a senior at the University of Detroit-Jesuit High, has signed an NCAA letter-of-intent to play golf next year for Houston Baptist University.

Alger was the Cubs' team captain and MVP, while earning honorable mention All-State honors after tying for eighth in the Division 1 state finals last spring.

He also is a top-10 state-ranked player with six junior event wins and 20 top-three finishes while playing on the Adams (Power Bilt) and American Junior Golf Association tours. Alger recently recorded top-25 finishes at the AJGA Coca-Cola Junior Championship and the Randy Wise Junior Open.

Alger, who attended St. Edith Grade School in Livonia, carries a 4.08 grade-point average. He has caddied since he was 13.





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come out and play zone, but they (Franklin) played it very well. They're impressive and a very good basketball team. They came to play.

Junior guard Mary Fitzgerald scored 10 to pace the Blazers, who were coming off a trip to the regional. Szczypka, a senior, added five, all on free throws.

"I thought the freshman (Cara Miller) gave us some good minutes," Cannon said. We're still searching for the right combination of players. We have two options — go big or small (lineups). We have to figure it out quick because we have Flint Powers Thursday (at home) in another tough one."

McCall and the Patriots, meanwhile, also have a formidable foe Friday at home in Redford Thurston.

"This gave us a list of things to work on," the secondyear coach said. "It was the first game and our girls got winded. We've worked on conditioning, but it's a different animal when you play a ballgame."

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Spartans stalled in season opener, 57-44

A late comeback bid fell short Tuesday night as host Dearborn High held on for a season-opening 57-44 girls basketball victory over Livonia Stevenson.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 4, 2008

Sophomore guard Meredith Berce led the victorious Pioneers with 19 points.

Sophomore forward Kristen Balhorn led Stevenson with 11 points and nine rebounds, while senior center Kaylee McGrath added eight points and seven boards.

Dearborn jumped out to

KLAA GIRLS BASKETBALL

a 28-16 halftime lead before Stevenson rallied within six with just over two minutes to

play.
"We had them reeling, ourselves in the foot," said Stevenson's Paul Tripp, who was making his coaching debut with the Spartans. "We just missed opportunities, but we played tremendously hard and that's what

we're trying to do.

"We had good contributions from our underclassmen and our seniors showed great leadership."

Senior Samantha Kliman came off the bench early in the fourth quarter and helped give the Spartans a spark.

'She spotted in a couple of minutes, but she did a nice job defensively and offensively even though it did not show up in the scorebook," Tripp said.

Stevenson was 7-of-13 from

the foul line, had 17 steals and committed 14 turnovers.

MILFORD 43, JOHN GLENN 20: Melissa Bageris connected on five 3-pointers Tuesday as the host Highland Milford (1-0) downed Westland John Glenn (0-1) in the season opener for both teams.

Bageris hit a pair of triples in opening quarter as the Mavericks bolted out to an 18-4 advantage and never looked

"We knew they would run the 'flex' offense and we

worked on it," Glenn coach Mike Schuette said. "When we turned the ball over they

converted. Brandi Holhrook and Chanel Payne each scored

seven for the Rockets. "We went from a man-toman to a zone defense in the second quarter and we did a nice job," Schuette said. "But the first quarter dug us a deep hole.'

Milford made 6-of-8 free throws, while Glenn was 5-

Clarenceville fourth-quarter run results in victory

Livonia Clarenceville's constant defensive pressure proved too much for Westland **Huron Valley Lutheran** Tuesday night, as the visiting Hawks were trounced 51-20 in a non-conference girls basketball opener.

Clarenceville led 20-10 at halftime and 26-16 after three quarters before going on a 25-7 fourth-period run to put the game away.

Leading the charge was junior guard Ashley Devon, **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

with 12 points (10 in the fourth) along with nine steals. Senior forward Miranda Cummings chimed in with 10 points and eight rebounds, while sophomore guard Brittany Tallman's 10-point effort included eight in the final frame.

"The girls were tense coming out, we blew wide-open layups off steals," Clarenceville coach Julie Patterson said. "Then we

started to relax and started knocking down shots."

For the Hawks (0-1), who committed 29 turnovers due to the Trojans' man-to-man defense, junior Claire Wood collected seven points and 10 boards.

"We need to work on taking care of the basketball," Huron Valley coach Kris Ruth said.

Clarenceville was only 5-of-19 from the foul line, while the Hawks were 2-of-4.

CABRINI 48, LUTH. WESTLAND

39: Lutheran High Westland (1-0) opened the season Tuesday falling to host Allen Park Cabrini (1-0) in a nonconference matchup.

"It was a good, hustling game by us," Warriors' coach Bill Strang said. "But there were just too many turnovers

due to the press." The Warriors led 10-9 after the first quarter, but fell behind 24-19 at halftime and never threatened in the second half.

Sarah Arnone and Billie

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday, Dec. 4

Garden City at Churchill, 7 p.m.

A.P. Inter-City at Huron Valley, 7 p.m.

Flint Powers at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 5

Clarenceville at Redford Union, 7 p.m.

Thurston at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Stevenson at Edsel Ford, 7 p.m.

Brighton at Wayne, 7 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY

Friday, Dec. 5

Ladywood at Suburban Ice Rink Classic,

Stevenson vs. Salem

at Plymouth Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6

Ladywood at Suburban Ice Rink Classic.

TBA.

Churchill vs. W.L. Western

at Lakeland Ice Arena, 4:45 p.m.

McCall registered 13 and 10 points, respectively, for

Top scorers for the Warriors were junior forward Rachel Storck and senior forward Allyson Yankee with 10 points each. Senior forward Katey Ramthun added seven.

One stat of note was the Warriors' 43 percent foul shooting (7-of-16), something that needs more attention, according to the first-year coach.

PREP WRESTLING

Saturday, Dec. 6

Flushing Duais Invitational, 9 a.m.

Garden City Invitational, 9:30 a.m.

Clarenceville Team Tourney, 10 a.m.

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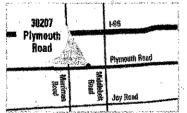
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John Glenn Invitational, 10 a.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Friday, Dec. 5 (WHAC-MIAA Challenge at Alma): Madonna vs. Olivet College, 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 (WHAC-MIAA Challenge at Alma) Madonna vs. Alma, 8 p.m. **WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL** Friday, Dec. 5 (Schoolcraft College Invitational) K'zoo Valley vs. Sinclair (Ohio), 5:30 p.m.

Schoolcraft vs. Lakeland (Ohio), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 Schoolcraft College Invitational, 1 & 3 p.m.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

Notice is hereby given that on December 12, 2008 on or after 9:30 a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the Judicial lien Process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are cash only. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Simply Self Storage, 11960 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI 48150.

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NAIA pool play starts: Crusaders denied in 5

BY BRAD EMONS ORSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Madonna University women's volleyball team now finds itself behind the eightball following Tuesday's setback in five games to Lewis-Clark State College (Id.) in the opening round of the NAIA National Championships held at the Tyson Events Center in Sioux City, Ia.

Julie Maciboba racked up 21 kills, while Anile Clemente and Dana Christianson added 15 and 12, respectively, to lead the unseeded Warriors to a come-from-behind 23-25, 22-25, 25-21, 25-20, 15-13 tri-

umph over No. 11-seeded MU. Clemente also had 20 digs. while Lindsay Scott and Katie Hinrichs added 18 and 11 for Lewis-Clark, which improved to 30-2 overall. Setters Abby

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Bruva and Lisa Davis combined for 48 assists.

MU, which fell to 35-5 overall, got a game-high 23 kills from senior Lubovj Tihomirova. Mary McGinnis added 18, while Karie Altman and Whitney Fuelling added 13 each.

Setter Inta Grinvalds finished with 54 assist-to-kills, while Brynn Kerr (Livonia Churchill/Schoolcraft College) had 33 digs. Abby Long added

The Crusaders return to action Wednesday night in Pool B against 33-5 Lubbock (Tex.) Christian, which fell in four games to No. 2-seed Biola

"It was a great match, we had a big lead in the fifth

For more on Wednesday's and Thursday's Madonna matches, visit www.hometownlife.com

game (8-3), but they came back and they were on fire." MU coach Jerry Abraham said. "They (Lewis-Clark) are very good. The first two games were battles. It went back and forth, both evenly matched teams. But when you're winning 2-0 (games) you should close out match and win... and we didn't.

Madonna needs a win Wednesday to stay alive for the elimination round, which begins Friday.

'We're in a really powerful pool," Abraham said. "The competition gets harder every match. They (Lubbock) are very fast, very talented. Then we play the second-best team in the country (Biola). We'll see."

PREP WRESTLING CAPSULE OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL Head coach: Marty Altounian, 12th year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's dual match record: 13-6. Notable losses to graduation: Andrew Murray (second-team All-Area); J.P. Gaffke (secondteam All-Area): Gramos Pallaska (third-team All-Area); Danny Small (second-team All-Area); Brian Ziemba (second-team All-Area); Mark Parrish (second-team All-Area); Keith Roberts. Leading returnees: Curtis Castleberry, Jr. (captain), 160; John Shekell, Jr., 215; Grant Morgan, Sr. (captain), 152; Matt Hecksel, Sr., 119; Bryan Fortney, Sr. (captain), 130; Joshua Gustitus, Sr. (captain), 145; Brett Appel, Sr., 135;

Jacob Meadows, Soph., 103; Ben Hesskamp, Promising newcomers: To be determined.
Altounian's 2008-09 outlook: "Depth is concern, It's one of the smaller teams we've had numbers-wise. With injuries and people quitting, it will be tough to fill a lineup right now. We have four key guys out with injuries who won't wrestle this Saturday. We expect some good things from our four captains. It's going to be an interesting year, that's for sure It will take us until January before everybody is healthy in our lineup. Once we get those guys back, we'll be a solid team

LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Head coach: Dave Chiola, ninth year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's dual match record: 21-5. Titles won last year: Division 1 team district Livonia City, Trenton, Franklin and South Lyon tournament champions.

Notable losses to graduation: Dan Woodall (first-team All-Area), Jared Pieknik (first-team All-Area), Brandon Smith (third-team All-Area),

Leading returnees: Brandon Billiau, Sr. (captain), 145 (36 wins); Elvin Ferreira, Sr. (captain), 152 (third-team All-Area; 39 wins); Don Stratz, Sr. (captain), 160 (third-team All-Area; 40 wins); Garrett Hay, Sr. (captain), 171 (39 wins); Cody Hay, Sr. (captain), 189 (29 wins); Mike Modes, Sr., 285 (36 wins); Justin Jacobsen, Sr., 125 (second-team All-Area; 36 wins); Steve Tuyo, Soph., 119 (third-team Alf-Area; 33 wins).

Promising newcomers: Paul Hanni, Jr., 112 (transfer from Sterling Heights, 46 wins); Rian Klein, Soph., 103; Erik Czech, Jr., 119; Nick Clendenning, Sr., 135; Josh Hatfield, Soph., 140; Ryan Haarala, Šr., 135; Zach Leuenberger, Soph., 189; Alex O'Connor, Soph., 152; Brandon Connor, E. 146; Matt Book, Soph., 171; Wick Conger, Sr., 145; Matt Roos, Soph., 171; Nick Simmons, Jr., 189.

Chiola's 2008-09 outlook: "If we stay healthy, we should be very competitive this year. The guys worked really hard in the off-season and they have a very positive attitude going into the season. Obviously we need to avoid injuries and hope everybody stays at a weight so we can use all of our experience. We have no state qualifiers on the team, but we have a lot of guys that are motivated and have high goals. I beefed up the schedule this year and we're going to see how the team responds. I know how the city meet is always important to us. We have a new league that we would like to do well at, I'm hoping that the new guys will pick-up on all the experience in the room, and by the end of the year we'll be peaking. All of my assistants are voung, enthusiastic former wrestlers - Josh Billiau, Greg Schuyler, Matt Hintz Dennis Tullio, Brandon Smith, Jared Pieknik, Not a ton of coaching of coaching experience, but eager to

LIVONIA STEVENSON Head coach: Dan Vaughan, fifth year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (Central Division) Last year's dual match record: 19-9. Titles won last year: Grand Blanc and Avondale Team duals.

learn and very good at teaching

Notable losses to graduation: Ziad Kharbush (first-team All-Area); Emmanuel Onwuemene (first-team All-Area); Michael Fobar (secondteam All-Area); Tommy Myshock (second-team All-Area): Brent Cetnar (second-team All-Area): Leading returnees: Raz Markosian, Sr., 145



Stephen Kemp Lutheran Westland

They are motivated and looking forward to the

challenges of competing at the varsity level on a full-time basis. This is a young team with

Gonzales, Dustin Poisson and Matt Greenman

will provide the direction this young team

needs to compete in the new KLAA."
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

Head coach: Bill Polk, ninth year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington

Conference (South Division).

Last year's dual match record: 21-7.

strong senior leadership. Raz Markosian, Mitch

Titles won last year: WLAA Lakes Division, Troy

Leading returnees: Jared Stephens, Jr. 135 (first-team Alf-Area; fifth place Division 1 at 130;

47-9); Anthony Pavlich, Jr., 112-119 (first-team

All-Area; third in Division 1 at 103; 52-4); Steve

Wakeford, Jr., 103-113 (regional qualifier); Zaid Ammari, Sr. (captain), 152 (second-team All-

Area); Josh Austin, Jr., 119. Promising newcomers; Jimmy Mann, Sr., 145

(three-time Division 2 state qualifier; transfer New Boston Huron).

Polk's 2008-09 outlook: "We are ready

to start the season. Our guys have wrestled a good portion of the season and are ready to battle. We want to compete among the state's

elite as a team. If we work harder than our

opponents in practice and competition, we

if we can overcome those challenges the

feel that those goals can be accomplished. Every year has challenges that are faced and

possibilities are endless for us. Great teams

are exactly that - TEAMS - guys that have come together to accomplish a goal. We have had

good teams and individuals over the past few seasons, but you can have 14 great individuals

and a team that hasn't put it all together. If we can put it all together we'll be tough." WAYNE MEMORIAL

Head coach: Steve Vasiloff, fourth year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division).

Notable losses to graduation: Chad Dunn

(third-team All-Area); Ryan Nesbitt, Robert

Leading returnees: Tevin Hines, Sr., 140: Adam

Eull, Sr., 171; Dylan Korzetki, Jr., 285; Josh Mills Jr., 160; Brandon Whittenberg, Jr., 152; Darryl

ison, Soph., 112; Mike Wallace, Soph., 125; Jalen

Vasiloff's 2008-09 outlook: "This the mos

Promising newcomers: The 25-member

Last year's dual match record: 3-16

Jones, Soph., 140.

Invitational and Woodhaven Dual champions.

Notable losses to graduation: Jeremiah Austin (first-team All-Area), Gary Lawrence

(second-team All-Area), Dan McCahill and



Raz Markosian Stevenson



Matt Greenman Stevenson

exciting time in my coaching career thus far. Everything is finally falling into place for the Wolfpack. I've got great assistant coaches like former John Glenn standout Rich Donahee and Churchill tendout Paper France Wa (first-team All-Area; state qualifier; 39-17); Matt Greenman, Sr., 215 (first-team All-Area; twotime regional qualifier; 32-7); Mitch Gonzales Sr., 145-152; Charlie Kokenakes, Jr. 135-140; Dan Churchill standout Robert Freeman. We are McCarthy, Jr., 152-160; Josh Siebert, Jr., 152 all on the same page, and have been working 160: Jake Burns, Jr., 171: Andrew Schramm, Jr. hard since the end of last season. We were able 171-189; Nathan Keedle, Jr., 285 to get a large percentage of our wrestlers to Promising newcomers: Jay Bishop, Soph., 130: Cory Zanger, Soph., 125-130; David Bernier, Jr., 125; Ash Alhaj, Soph., 103. camp at EMU this summer, and they were able to see a lot of competition throughout the off-season. I was offered a position with the Vaughan's 2008-09 outlook: "We lost a lot to freshman football team this past season, which graduation last year. The new guys are working I decided to take. Because of this, and because hard and had a productive off-season lifting and wrestling freestyle through USA Wrestling of support from the new head football coach Kevin Weber, my numbers went from 15 to 45.

We've tripled our numbers in a single season. As a coach, i could not be more excited." LIVONIÀ CLARENCEVILLE Head coach: Anthony Salciccioli, sixth year. League affiliation: Metro Conference Last year's dual match record: 18-11. Titles won last year: Metro Conference, Notable losses to graduation: Scott Convery,

Maumer Mesinovic, Matt Neal. Leading returnees: Zavia Ferguson, Jr., 103; Brent Gilman, Jr., 119 (Metro champ at 103); Jake Ruth, Sr., 125 (captain, 31 wins fast year); Patrick Walker, Sr., 130; Tony Brandt, Sr., 135; Cody Sillanpaa, Sr., 140 (Metro champ); Derek Robbins, Sr., 160 (captain, Metro champ); Tim Siecinski, Jr., 171; Andrew Jasmer, Sr., 189 (captain, Metro champ); Joe Haapala (Sr., 215); Anthony Giordano, Soph., 285. Promising newcomers: Brendan Groves,

Salciccioli's 2008-09 outlook: "This is my most experienced team I have ever coached and they are a wonderful group of young men to work with. We attended the Eastern Michigan camp as a team and that allowed us to bond and improve. Our team goal is to win the Metro Conference and improve greatly upon our Observerland performance, which was abysmal. Individual goals vary but are high and attainable. We are competing against a higher caliber of team than last year but I know we can be competitive. This area has some very talented wrestlers and outstanding programs and we are hoping to be on par with them instead of the little school that produces one or two good wrestlers every year."

LUTHERAN WESTLAND Head coach: Dennis Tuomi, 22nd year. League affiliation: Metro Conference. Last year's dual match record: 10-11. Motable losses to graduation: Bill Yancey, Bill Meier, Nathan Mizzi, Phillip Dickerson. Leading returnees: Stephen Kemp, Sr., 160 (first-team All-Area; fifth in Division 4, 51-5); Brad Larose, Sr., 119; Craig Kowalsky, Jr., 215; Justin Palka, Jr., 130; Breck Crandell, Sr., 135; Laith Francis, Jr., 125.

Promising newcomers: Sean Rowe, Jr., 140; Jeremy Kohtz, Jr., 135; Bob Schwartz, Sr., 160; Garrett Wilson, Sr., 135; Drew Maynard, Sr., 145. Tuomi's 2008-09 outlook: "it's a fun group to be with. You never know, you'd like to be .500. Some of these young kids have to come through and we have to fill all the weights (the leam begins the year voiding out at 103 and 189, for example). The early part of the season will help determine which athletes, including several first-year seniors, who will plug those hotes. One reason we always come back as a

FROM PAGE B1

going," Chiola added. "We have great leadership on this team. We'll find out early on how good we are and then know what we need to work on. I think we're going to have an exciting, successful season."

Glenn coach Bill Polk must replace state runner-up Jeremiah Austin (125), who is red-shirting at Michigan State.

The Rockets, however, return two other state placers in junior Anthony Pavlich, who went 52-4 en route to a third-place in D1 at 103 pounds, and junior Jared Stephens, who went 47-9 while taking fifth at 130.

Pavlich moves up to either the 112- or 119-pound class, while Stephens is now anchored at 135.

"I look forward to what the season brings and am very excited to see how it all plays out," Polk said." We have a promising group of smart kids that will be prepared to step on the mat. As for what our actual goals are, I will leave

that within our own walls." Two other KLAA South teams, Livonia Churchill (13-6) and Wayne Memorial (3-16),

are playing the numbers game. Churchill has been beset by injuries and defections in the early going, while Wayne is bolstered by a large incoming freshman class which needs seasoning.

"Our team is young, but very hungry," Wayne coach Steve Vasiloff said. "It will be great to see what we can do this season, and how this will translate into even more success in the future."

Livonia Stevenson (19-9)

should show great promise in the KLAA Central despite the loss of D1 state placer Ziad Kharbush (fourth at 160) to Brown University.

The Spartans will rely on first-team All-Area selections Raz Markosian, a senior at 145, and Matt Greenman, a senior at 215.

In the Metro Conference, Livonia Clarenceville (18-11) will try to defend its team title led by junior Brent Gilman (119), Cody Sillanpaa (140), Derek Robbins (160) and Andrew Jasmer (189), all individual conference champions.

One of the area's top wrestlers also returns in first-team-All-Area selection Stephen Kemp, a 160-pound senior from Lutheran High Westland who placed fifth in Division 4 last year at 152. Kemp was 51-5 a year ago and Observerland champion.



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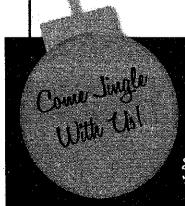
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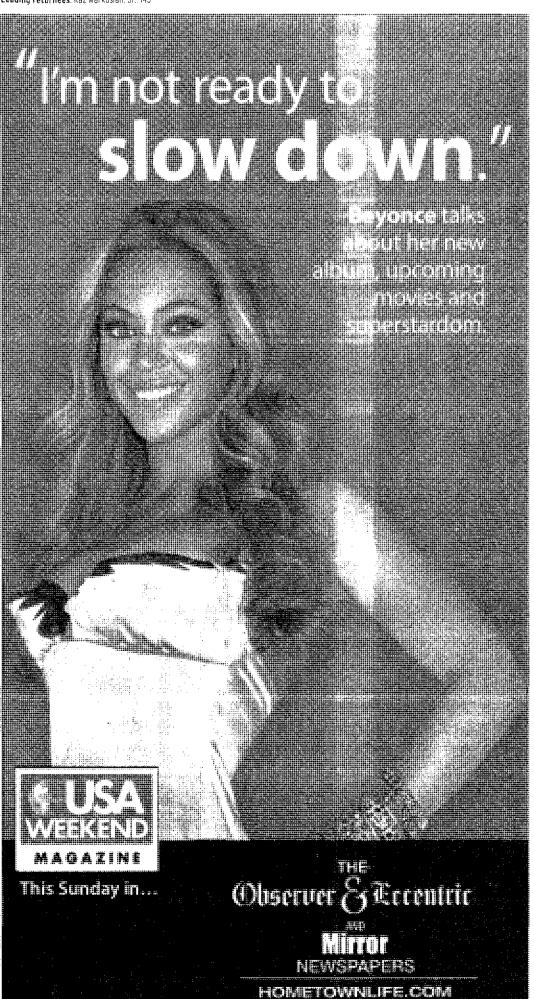
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Northwood men rout MU

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 4, 2008

Madonna University lost its shooting touch on its trip Monday night to the Bennett Center in Midland.

The Crusaders shot just 29.4 percent from the field (15-of-51) in a 80-47 men's basketball setback to host Northwood University.

MU, which slipped to 0-8 with the loss, had nobody score in double figures. Kevin McLoughlin

and Cedric Sims (Wayne Memorial) each finished with nine, while Leroy

Allen added eight points and sevne rebounds.

Sims, the senior guard and team's leading scorer, struggled from the field (1-for-11) as MU was outscored 48-23 in the second half after trailing 32-24 at intermission.

Mark Barnes came off the bench to score a gamehigh 17 points for the Timberwolves (3-1). Lionel Sullivan added 14 points and 10 rebounds, while Marcus Moore contributed 11 points and four assists.

Lady Ocelots rebound from first loss of season

The Schoolcraft College women's basketball team went 2-1 at the Kalamazoo Valley Community College Turkey Shootout, which was held this past weekend at the Cougar Gym in Kalamazoo.

The Ocelots (5~1) entered the tournament as the No. 3ranked team in the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division II.

Schoolcraft opened the event on Friday with a 73-72 setback to Owens CC (Ohio). It was the Ocelots' first loss to Owens since Nov. 28, 2004.

Angela Burress led the

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Ocelots balanced scoring ledger with 14 points and seven rebounds. Sheray Brown (12 points, nine rebounds) and Amber Avery (11 points) also turned in double-digit scoring nights for SC, which outrebounded Owens, 44-35, but was hampered by shaky shooting (37 percent from the field; 60 percent from the charity stripe).

Schoolcraft led 33-32 at the

On Saturday, the Ocelots

handed Kennedy-King (Ill.) its fifth loss in six games this season, 103-73.

Schoolcraft, which led 46-38 at the half, was led by Salem grad Tayler Langham, who poured in 18 points. Six other players also scored in doublefigures: Antania Shepherd (13); Avery and April Goins (12 each); Shannon Collins and Jasmine Brown (11 each) and Brittany Collins, who twined

Avery and Sheray Brown both yanked down a teamhigh 10 boards while Brittany Collins dished out a gamehigh 12 assists.

The Ocelots routed Columbus State (Ohio), 93-59, on Sunday. Led by Jasmine Brown's 17, six Ocelots cracked the double-figures scoring barrier. Goins notched a doubledouble with 16 points and 11

rebounds. Shanika Morman scored just one point, but she recorded a game-high 11 assists.

Schoolcraft was red-hot from the floor, hitting 52 percent of its field-goal attempts and 57 percent of its triple tries. Jasmine Brown was 3for-3 from beyond the arc.

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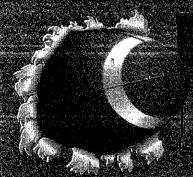
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WEEK #14 GAMES

Cincinnati at Indianapolis Cleveland at Tennessee Philadelphia at New York Giants Atlanta at New Orleans Miami at Buffalo Kansas City at Denver New York Jets at San Francisco **New England at Seattle**

St. Louis at Arizona Dallas at Pittsburgh Washington at Baltimore Monday, December 8, 2008 Tampa Bay at Carolina

NEBUS

in the K-Wings record books in a 6-1 win over visiting Port Huron with five goals. Nebus tied a 25-year franchise mark held by Jim McRae (Nov. 16, 1983, vs. Fort Wayne) and Tom Ross (Nov. 21, 1979, vs. Fort

Wayne). And after posting eight goals and two assists in the last five games — four of them K-Wings triumphs — Nebus now ranks tied for 17th overall in IHL scoring with 11 goals and six assists for 17 points.

Needless to say, the IHL Player of the Month received some good-old fashioned ribbing for his five-goal effort.

"Everybody was pretty excited for me and were pretty cool about it," said the right winger, who ranks only behind teammate Lucas Drake on the K-Wings in points (with 19). "They made it hard on me in practice. There were a few jokes. The boys were into a few gifts. (Teammate) Ryan Kindret bought me a chicken sandwich at Hooters. And I don't think I paid for a drink at the bar."

In 40 games last season with the Port Huron Ice Hawks of the IHL, Nebus had a paltry total of two assists and no goals.

After playing four years at Wayne State, where he compiled 24 goals and 35 assists in 129 games, Nebus signed his first pro contract with the Muskegon Fury before moving to the Chicago Hounds of the United Hockey League, where he combined to have just one goal and one assist in 11 games (2006-07).

So what does he account for his new-found touch?

"I've been doing a lot of extra things," Nebus said. "I've been

working with Joel Martin, one of our goalies, on shooting drills. We're usually the last guys off the ice four days per week. And just the chance to play on the top two lines has helped me out."

Nebus also credits the mentoring of 34-year-old left winger Jeremy Stevenson, who just retired Saturday night from pro hockey to become a police officer in Canada.

"He inspired my game and took the time to give me pointers," Nebus said. "He's helped slow my game down and helped me make smart decisions on the ice."

Nebus' hockey career as a youth, however, nearly ended before it started.

At age 15, riding to school as a passenger with his brother in a 1988 Astro van, he was involved in a serious car accident, suffering a head injury which left him in a coma for two weeks and in the hospital for 38 days.

"It was a snowy night, it happened at Six Mile and Wayne, said Nebus, who now calls South Lyon his home. "I lost 45 pounds. I had short-term memory loss. I had to re-learn how to play. I couldn't flip a puck.'

After graduating from Stevenson in 2000, Nebus spent three seasons with the Texas Tornado, a junior team in the North American Hockey League, where he tallied 41 goals and 47 assists in 99 games.

During the past summer, Nebus contemplated his next career move.

He painted houses in Ann Arbor with a cousin and spent time in New York City with his fiance Hannah Risner, a pilates instructor and dancer, while skating three times per week at Chelsea Piers in Manhattan.

Nebus then ventured to an

East Coast Hockey League training camp in Wheeling, W.Va., before signing a contract (Oct. 16) with the K-

"I've been bouncing all over, but of all the places I've played, this is a great spot to be," Nebus said of Kalamazoo. "This is the biggest hockey atmosphere. We get about 3,000 (fans) per night."

The K-Wings are currently in second place behind Muskegon with a 10-7 record.

And although things have been going well, Nebus knows his role can change from game-to-game.

"I did not get a whole lot of ice time the other night. I was on the third line, which was kind of weird," Nebus said following a 1-0 setback to the Bloomington (Ill.) Prairie Thunder. "I play mostly right wing, a little bit of left wing. I'd say I'm a versatile, fill-in guy."

With the K-Wings on the upswing, Nebus is even more committed to the game and his future with the team.

"Coach (Nick) Bootland is very good with the players," he said. "Our team had some personnel issues right away, but I think we're back on the right track. We've gone from last (place) to second."

Nebus plans to eventually do his student teaching and coach some day, but would like to continue his pro hockey career "another two to four years" and eventually get a look from the American Hockey League.

"Grand Rapids — anybody, who calls," Nebus said. "The goal is to keep getting better. And by starting to succeed a lot, you rather keep playing hockey."

And those five-goal games won't hurt the long-term futnre as well.

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He is known as a defensiveminded tactician, a well-read man with a quirky and hilarious personality who sometimes displays a salty side with his players.

"I have a better understanding of Coach Majerus," Eberhardt said. "I've seen it all. My relationship with Coach is somewhat better. You just have to get through the punches and get ready to take them. I know his tendencies. He's a good guy with a different approach the way he talks to people. You have to take the good with the bad."

Eberhardt's role is radi-

cally different than his days as third-team junior college All-American at Coffeyville (Kan.), where he played the small forward spot and was able to step out beyond the 3-point line. As a sophomore, Eberhardt averaged 17.4 points and 6.2 rebounds per game as Coffeyville reached the NJCAA Division I national semifinals.

Eberhardt scored a seasonhigh nine points in a 76-74 overtime loss to Kent State, but has taken just 15 shots in five games while averaging 21.4 minutes.

"To be in this offense, I have to be blue-collar, a tough man," Eberhardt said. "I'm playing more the 'four' and 'five' position. I just have to be more aggressive, a better rebounder. My job is to pass

the ball, screen and rebound." Eberhardt prepared for the upcoming season by spending the summer in St. Louis, where his team captured the Pro-Am championship.

And with the help of a conditioning coach, Eberhardt's lost 25 pounds.

"I'm around 237," he said. "I was a late-night snacker. I've told myself that when I'm really hungry, I wasn't. Now I just go to sleep.'

St. Louis was picked in the preseason poll to finish seventh in the tough Atlantic 10.

"I think we're better than that," Eberhardt said. "It's a learning process, it's coming slow, it's early. We're getting everything tuned up for the conference. We just have to stay focused. We're a young team."

Patriots peppered by South Lyon, 8-0

Livonia Franklin freshman goaltender Matt Slinder held the fort for two periods - stopping 32-of-34 shots - before host South Lyon erupted for six third-period goals en route to an 8-0 boys hockey win Monday night at the Kensington Valley Ice House.

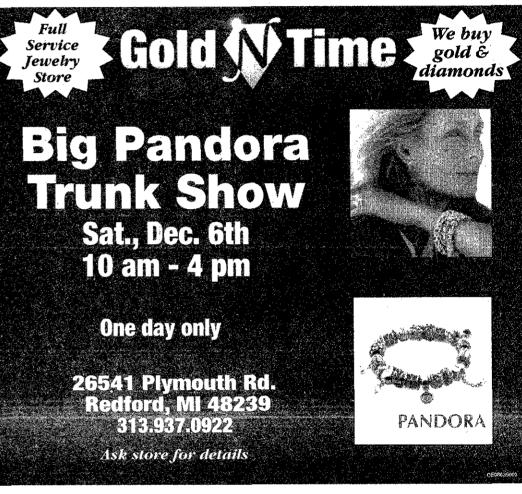
South Lyon, getting two goals apiece from Kyle Betz and Dan Diroff, improved to 4-1 overall and 1-0 in the Central Division of the KLAA's Kensington Conference with the mercy-rule win.

South Lyon outshot the Patriots, 50-8.

Franklin sophomore goal-

tender Brandon Hawkins finished up the final eight minutes and allowed two goals.

"It's always disappointing with losses, but we're not going to hide from it," said Franklin coach Scott Wirgau, whose team is 0-2 overall and 0-2 in the KLAA South Division.



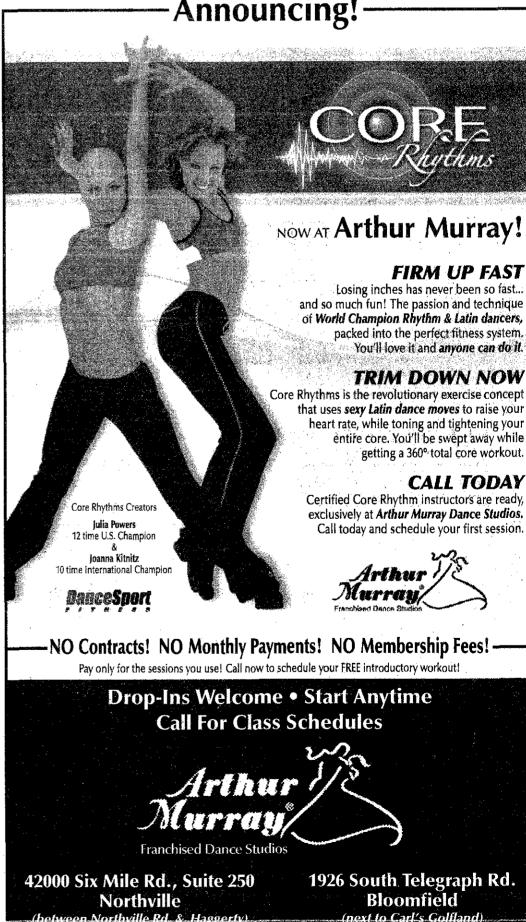
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

PRETTY COMIC BOOK NERD red hair, blue eyes, 5 10°, 16616s, mature body/ king for a lonely handsome men, 20-30, race open, clean-cut, open-minded, who can make me laugh and who is witty. 27292913

CLASSY LADY
SBF, middle-aged, attractive, enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-69, N/S, good sense of humor and good values/morals. \$2207284

VERY ATTRACTIVE SBPF, 37, mother, looking for attractive, sexy, tail, dark-complected, employed, intelligent BM, 33-50, for friend-ship possibly leading to LTR. 2282115

HONEST & DOWN-TO-EARTH

SEEKING A MATURE MAN
Attractive SBPF, 35, N/S, N/Drugs, would like to meet respectable, happy SBPM, 25-50, to enjoy life together. \$\mathbf{2}\$300680

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU

HARD WORKER SEEKS SAME SBF, 44, N/S, mother, seeks old-fashioned BM, 29-49, N/S, homebody, to explore all life has to offert I enjoy reading, bike rides, playing tennis. \$2274519

MUSICAL GIRL
Christian WF, 19, enjoya playing gultar, singing, going to church and more. Looking for SM, 19-25, who enjoys the same things. \$7282258

VERY DOWN-TO-EARTH SBF, 37, 5'5", 1251bb, slim build, enjoys nice walks in the park, movies, bowling, basketball games. Seeking SBM, 30-43. **12299111**

SBF, 38, very shapely, N/S, light drinker, very independent, loves movies, sports, shooting pool, dining, Seeking SBM, 35+, very independent, who enjoys life, movies, etc. 1729793 WHY NOT CALL?

SBF, full-figured, seeks a SM, 37-80, for friendship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. 27217234

INEED LOVE
Fun-loving, down-to-earth, outgoing, smart SBF, 20, loves having fun. Seeling SBWM, 18-30, who shares my lust for life, 22300110 GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Good looking SBF, hwp, intelligent, mature, spiritual, seeking a SM, 57" + 40-50, physically fit, good looking inside and out, loving, who likes travelling, for friendship first leading to LTR. 22147058

SINGLE DAD WELCOME
PBF, 40, looks younger, attractive, independent, loving, caring, enjoys working, dining out, quist times at
home. Seeking handsome, well-built, warm-hearted,
considerate WM, 36-43, to share what life has to offer,
72298002 TAKE A CHANCE
SF, 48, 57", 210lbs, medium brown/blue, N/D, N/S, no children, anjoys dname films, shooting pool, playing darts, sporting events, long drives, more. Seeking SM, 45-55, who enjoys the same. \$2253036

LOOKING FOR MR RIGHT Outgoing, laid-back SWF, 40, sincere and light-hearted seeks easygoing, fun SM, who knows how to enjoy life, to share talks, dates, friendship and possible LTR, 17255010

LET'S GET TOGETHER
Saxy, mature, intelligent BF, 35, 5'5", 130tbs, seeks meture, intelligent man, for casual dating and friendship.
32267624

DOWN-TO-EARTH Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR, \$2279171

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR? WF, 48, 5'3', brow/s/brown, has pets, NS, great sense of humor, looking for WM, 45-55, who likes dining out, museums, movies, reading and more; to do things with. 22260581

HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME

looking to meet an honest, loyal, furny man, 37-55, to spend a lot of time together. 25289947

Attractive female, 5'5", 120lbs, fun-loving blonde, retired, would love a little of your time to enjoy each other's company. Seeking pleasant gantiernan, 65-75. 23991247

SEARCHING FOR A MAN... 40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 47-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. **27962317**

CURVACEOUS
SWF, 47, 57" 156lbs, hazel eyes, dimples, enjoys r&b
music, jazz, danding, dhing out, blues, sports. Seaking
SBM, 2142, with similar interests, for friendship first,
possibly more. \$\mathbf{T}\$283605

CALLING ALL GOLFERS! WWF, 62, seeking golfer, best friend, 62-70, must be , N/S, and active. Looking for LTR, don't delay call

CLASSY LADY
I am In my early 60s, 5°2°, brownforown, I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel. Seeking a companion, 60-70, and maybe a relationship. Please call. 2798/2305

SEEKING LOW DRAMA SWF, 36, long brown/green, N/S, aithletic build, pretty, animals lover, in search of attractive, fit, funny, easygoing SWM, 27-43, with no children, for dating, possible LTR with right mar. 17286634

WF, 33, 5'5', blonde/green lookid , blonde/green, looking for WM, 22, r, classic rock and more. 22293230 r WM, 22-45, who HONEY BLONDE

SHF seeks down-to-senth SM, 25-85, with morals and values, who knows how to have fun in life, is family-oriented. 27294929

in THIS BOX U CAN FIND...
e 42-year-old SWF, ISO SWM, 38-45, for intendship and possibly more. I'm sociable, affectionate 577, 120lbs, long dark cuthy hair, IVD, NS, DVD-free, never married, no children, interested? Call! 25'224748

COULD IT BE YOU?

SBF, 44, professional, hard-working, independent, enjoys church, shopping, more. Locking for a SPM, 44, employed, open-minded, warn-hearted and considerate, to share all life has to offer. 27235988 HERE I AM GUYS

Loving, sexy SBF, 34, caramel complexion, 55°, 156libs,brown eys, independent, employed, secure, Seeking warm-hearted intelligent, commitment-minded man who wants to share something real. 27238307 HELLO OUT THERE
SWF, 39 years young, seeks SWM, who enjoys lifes simple pleasures. I enjoys dining out, computers, moves, the parks walks, travel and life in general. Friendship first. TZ241298

JUST A NICE PERSON.. kooking for a nice man. Tall SBF, 45, 5'8", long hair, glasses; seeks SM, 45-65, WM a plus. **27249320**

HONESTY A MUST

BF, 42, 5'4'. 1981bs, shapek, brown/brown, seeking an honest man, 40-50, NDrugs, who enjoys the good things in life. I like plays, dancing, dining cut, good company and working out. 22:256608

BLACK BEAUTY SEEKS... White Knight. Spontaneous SBF, 35, brown eyes, in search of adventurous, honest, attractive WM, 25-50, with great sense of humor. I enjoy movies, reading, work-

LET'S GET TOGETHER!
Sexy SBF, 40, N/S, seeks fun and witty WM, 35-80, for friendship first, maybe more. 27270132 LONELY VIRGO

SBF, 47, with a young heart, enjoys cartoons, music, dancing, good food, good fun. Looking for SF, 30-85, with same interests. \$2269375

BIEF, 37, beautiful, classy and open-minded, looking for BIF, 25-40, race open, D/D free, H/W proportionate. You must be confident with who you are. **22271660**

HEART OF GOLD

SBF, 39, 5'6", average build, smoker, enjoys crossword puzzles, old-school lifestyle, movies, dining. Seeking attletic, active BM, 30-42, 6'+, smoker, for friendship, pos-

DOWN-TO-EARTH AND HONEST SBF, 36, 510", N/S, short hair, no children, looking for SBM, 35-50, who enjoys testivities, travel, spending time together. 27:280950 LET'S DANCE IN THE RAIN!

Petite SBF, 36, 150lbs, brown eyes, mother of two, enjoys cooking, music, church. Looking for SM, 35-75. 22281372 GREAT-LOOKING BF.. 35, seeks serious, mature, financially secure man for LTR, Call me; you won't be disappointed! 77:283172

BEAUTIFUL SBF...

Ready to meet great new people? ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT SBF, 47, 57°, full-figured, N'S, like rollenskating, canceing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 4570, who is healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. \$2287305

ZOOMER SEEKS ADDED ZIP
SWF, 55, passionate about life, enjoys the outdoors, good political discussions, dancing, more. Would love to meet a man engaged in life. 53-70. 27284371

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GIR 47, 5'4", likes action movies, swimming, dancing, plays, cuttioons, just having fun. Seeking SBM, 48-55, for friendship or more. 27289151

PETITE AND CUTE

SWF, 35, great sense of style, very friendly, would like to meet a SWM, 36-45, who will love me for me. 2294943

THAT SPECIAL ONE THAT SPECIAL ONE
SBF, 39, enjoys movies, walks in the park, picnics, just chilling. Looking for SBM, 39-45, for possible relationship. 17295026

SEEKING STRONG BM
Can you handle me? SBF; mid 40,5, healthy and beau-tful, seeks strong, bald BM, 40-62, who knows how to handle his own business. I'm laid-back, gentle, soft. 17295568

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?
Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty
eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's
looking for commitment, love and laughter. 2230694

READY FOR A FRESH START?

MATURE MAN WANTED

WARM SMILE WARM SMILE
SBF, 21, N/S, looking for SM, 21-40, for friendship first,
possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each
other! \$2207167

AWAITING YOUR CALL
Honest, attractive SBF, 25, 5'2", 150lbs, mother, employed, caring, looking to meet outgoing, child-friendly, respectful Christian man to enjoy dinner dates, good talks, family, friendship and fun. 27237322

LET'S HAVE FUN over, likes camping, fishing, hiking, motorcycles, seeking a SWM, 36-63, who enjoys the same, for friendship first, possible LTR. 27244983

LIVE LIFE 2 THE FULLEST

ACTIVE WOMAN
SWF, dark hair and eyes, NS, scolat drinker, tikes bowling, bingo, garge sales, turny movies and more, if you would like to meet for coffee, let me know. #262181

Asian women, 152, 180bs, silm, sitractive, health-conscious, vegetarian, N/D, N/S, Enjoys dining, movies, quiet times. Seeking dean-out, fit, attractive, respectful, professional Asian or White male for dating and possibly more. 27113901

A WOMAN OF CLASS

SWF, 68, looks younger, in search of a SWM, 62-69, who likes movies, dining, theater. Is it you? **27271085**

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR

SWF, 27, mother, enjoys swimming, walking, nature, being outdoors. Seeking similar SWM, 23-45, for companionship. 27:282578 SBF, 54, 5'8', N/S, enjoys life's simple pleasures. Seeking SBWM, 48-62, N/S, for friendship or more.

OUTGOING BF, 24, student, looking for BM, 35-45, to go out and have tun with. Friendship first, hopefully leading to LTR.

ATTRACTIVE BLONDE ATTRACTIVE BLONDE
SWF, 55, 56", N/S, HW proportionate, active, fun-loving,
likes bike rides, working out, taking walks, autumn. Seeking SW/BM, 45-63, for dating, possible LTR. T7296774

SBF, 20, 5'9", slim, tong black hair, enjoys movies, concerts, and just having fun, looking for a nice, respectful man, to enjoy talks, casual dates, and see what happens next. \$2235810

TRY THIS ONE
Loving, sincere SSF, 58, easygoing, looking for a good-hearted, Christian gentleman with The Lord in his heart to shere Ke, laughter, happiness and possible LTR. TZP42234

WORTH A CALL
SWF, 55, loves movies, trying new things, sporting events, motocross, sewing and more. Seeking sociable SM, with strillar interests, to share the special times in life. Friendship first, possible LTR. 27245505

SBF, 5'3', long hair, student, seeking a SBM, 19-23, handsome, honest, fun, good personality, for friendship and more. 27248542

SBF, 30, 5'7', 193lbs, nurse, loves music, trying new things and just having fun. Looking for good-hearted, open-minded man to share the good times in life, friend-ship and maybe more. \$\frac{\pi}{27253834}\$

TAKING A PEEK TAKING A PEEK

Attractive SWF, 20 years old, loves to be outdoors and have fun, enjoys olubs, movies, relaxing at home, ISO male who likes the same, and wishes for friendship, maybe more. 12:254474

GORGEOUS SMILE!

SBF, 26, 5'6", 130lbs, slim build, smoker, D/D-free, seeks
BF, 18-60, smoker, for frendship, possible romance. I en-joy movies, dining, television, cuddling. \$7257889

FUN & OUTGOING SBF, 18, 190lbs, brown eyes, loves walks on the beach, movies, basketball. Seeling SM, same age, for friendship or more. 17257908

GET TO KNOW ME

BF, 5'7", full-figured, brown eyes, N/S, social drinker, looking for a gentleman, 45-60, to share good, crean fun with #284758

SEEKING SAVED MAN
SBF, 27, N/S, seeks one good man, 29-51, N/S, no garnes, who enjoys movies, bowling, church, for friendship first 72/265509

HITHERE!

Mature SBF, 50, seeks sexy, handsome SWM, to develop e lasting relationship and maybe more. Let's meet soon! \$2288278

MUST LOVE WRESTLING! habely SBF, 33, lonely, seeks

must LOVE WRESTLING!
Full-figured, shapely SBF, 33, lonally, seeks SWM (only) who enjoys wreating, football, hockey, flahing, going to the movies for friendship first and maybe more. 27:286699

VERY LOVING PERSON

COUNTRY GIRL

COUNTRY GIRL

Good-natured, classy, attractive, fun-loving SWPF, 54, platinumblue, 55°, HW-proportionata, enjoys travel, horseback riding, exercise, dancing, Seeking SWM, 55-65, NS, NDrugs, for sendaus relationship. If you love motorcycles call me. 27:759845

ARE YOU HERE?

SBF, 61, enjoys going out, having fun, dancing, playing, laughing, and enjoying life. Seeking an honest SBM, 56-62, with varied interests, for possible LTR. 22259770

TAKE A CHANCE!

TAKE A CHANCE!

SWF, 30, middle school art teacher, likes nature, music and learning new things. ISO nice gentleman, for dating and to share life together. 22283845

LADY IN THE WOODS

SWF, 50, looks younger, blonde/hazel, 5'5", average build, educated, dog lover, classy, sassy and fun, seeking compatible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life. Livingston county. 17210247

CHOCOLATE TREAT

Refined, romantic, creative divorces, enjoys an edectic life-style. Professionally employed, very youthful and fun loving, 60s, enjoys diring, travel, music, the arts, family and flends. Seeking fit non-amoking gentleman, 50+. 22281197

DOWN-TO-EARTH
Asian woman, 5'2", 110'bs, stim, attractive, independent, loving, caring, enjoys movies, fine dinling, travel, quiet times at home. Seeking very handsome WAM, 47-56, N/S, clean-shaven, H/W proportionate, for triendship first #994120.

IN SEARCH OF
a man with a positive outlook for dating, dining out,
and companionship. I'm a SWF, 58, 5'8", HWP, and I
enjoy walks, cycling, skiling, snowshoeing, and more.
17288886

ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS

KEEP COOL SBF, 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attractive SB/HM, 18-25, who keeps it real. 2227598

or a spentaneous, professional male, 25-40, n, who is willing to go and have fun. 2273294

SBF, 20, 5'3", 250lbs, hard-working str SBF, 20, 5'3", 250'bs, hard-working, student, no kids, seeking a cool guy, to chill with, get to know, have good times and see where it goes. \$2255979

looking for a ge with. 2260756

SBM, 35-50, who would like to become acqua a woman and who is ready, willing, and able to commit. \$\frac{1273603}{2273603}\$

A NEW BEGINNING SBF, 47, 5'4", likes action moving

BEAUTIFUL MAKEUP ARTIST
Sincere, kind SWF, 53, proportionate, 56°, 124lbs, professional, attractive, intelligent and educated, loves mustic, dancing, motorcycles, outdoors, movies and creative pursuits. Seeking attractive genterman, 42-53, with like interests/qualities, for friendship/LTR. 7245846

SEEKING LOVING KINDNESS? SBPF, 55.5⁴, interested in developing new friendships, maybe more. Seeks energetic, N/S SM, 40-65, that loves reading, midnight joinics, walking, and exciting conversations. Must have good SOH and self-worth.

GET TO KNOW ME Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, a Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-68, N/S. Possible LTR. 27963760

Very cute SBF, 57, 573; 122bs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 46-59, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. 27113198

DWF, 69, 5'2", Italian, brunetta DWF, 69, 5'2", Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, alnoare, loving, optimistic, likes theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet NS WM, 60-72, financially secure, seeygoing, good morals, loves family, for dating, \$2630808

I NEED A LOVE.. I NEED A LOVE...
to keep me happy. Afractive, classy, delightful, charming
WF, 49, no kids, seeks SWM, 45+, no kids, N/S, fun, loving, caring. 27568059

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

HARD-WORKER SYVM, 45, 5'5", short brown hair, grown kids, enjoys music, playing guitar, travei. Looking for similar SF, 35-45.

TALL, DARK, HANDSOME TALL, DARK, HANDSUME
SHM, 39, seeks quiet, artistically creative woman, 4961, with a beautiful mind. I hope you are the right one!

IMMATURE WM, 61, good-looking, good sense of humor, interested in politics, sports, the arts, food. Seeking BF, 45-63. Glasses a plus. **27278802**

RETIRED RETIRED
SWM, 65, smoker, wants to meet a SWF, 48-67, prefer heavyset, for friendship first. I love cooking, devoting time to a toving companion. \$\frac{\pi}{2284754}\$

A SPECIAL GUV
DWM, 56, 5°10", handsome and secure, seeks honest
S/DWF, wisense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight
dinners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies.
Friendship, possible LTR. 7269646

Friendship, possioise Linh. 12/200-00

LOOKING FOR YOU

SWM, 50, 5"11", 185ths, seeks SWF, 35-52, who enjoys Backgammon/Chess, dancing, working out at Ballys, piano bars, comedy dubs, ooffee houses, art gelleries. Must be social drinker, N/S, H/W proportionate.

Male, 59", 185lbs, brown/blue, likes horseback rid-ing, camping, long walls, more. Would like to meet a woman for friendship first, possibly leading to LTR, 40-

HOW ARE YOU?

DWM, 37, 6'1", 200lbs, athletic build, medium blond hair, employed, outgoing and fun, hard-working, booking meat like-midded lady to share talks, casual dates, friendship more? 22246129

NO DRAMA
SBM, 36, 5'11", 165/bs, slim build, medium complexlon, well-groomed, D/D-free, N/D, spiritual, drama-free, no children, independent, romantic, college-educated, family-orlented, seeks cute, slim, down-to-earth female, 30-49. \$229975

SBM, 42, 510°, 225lbs, light-complected, from Detroit East Side, business owner,NS, N/D, N/Drugs, no drama, homeowner, seeks strong worden, 25-35, who is sexy, determined, assertive and together. 27300038 LETS GET GOING! SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great listener, enjoys good conversation, friendship, sportaneous fun, and laughter, seeks personable SWF for dating and more. - 27128302

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE! mature gent SWM, 50, traditional ndsome, mature gent SWM, 50, traditional values, io-ntic, and thoughtful, enjoys cultural events, antiquing, in trips, etc. Seeking SWF for friendship and compan-

EASYGOING
Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fishing, motor sports etc. WLTM SWF, for dating and fun times. 27:187614

ROMANTIC AND ATTRACTIVE SWM, 62, good listener, enjoys cards, travel, the arts, walks and more, offering a good friendship to a warm-hearted woman, with inner/outer beauty. T233588 NEW TO THE AREA

SWM, 35, 6'11", 200lbs, brown/hazel, smoker, seeks woman, 25-40, for dining, movies, quiet times at home. LOOKING FOR MZ RIGHT WIWM, 45, 5'11", 220lbs, is easygoing, fun-loving, enjoys

a variety of activities, indoor/outdoor. Looking for LTR, with the right person. \$265340 with the right person. Solve THE VIEW

Romantic, thoughtful SWM, 39, is looking for love, enjoys have klesse and cuddling, seeks kind, attractive SWF,

hugs, kisses and cuddling, see age and area open. 2113835 LET'S GET TOGETHER BM, 61", 220lbs, would like to meet a woman, 25-48, who knows what she wants in life, for fun, dating, companionship and possible LTR. 27299087

SEEKING A GIRLERIEND SBM, 35, 6'3", 186lbs, brown eyes, likes singing, travel basketball. Seeking similar woman, 20-35: 2299411

LET'S TALK SWM, 39, 6'3", N/S, dark/blue, enjoys sports, movies dining. Seeking attractive SB/HF, 18-50, for possible relationship. 27299949

SBM, 20, looking for SB/WF, 19-25, who is down-to-earth, doesn't lie or cheet, and has a good heed on her shoulders. \$2300209 SEXY SINGLE GUY

SEXY SINGLE GUY
SBM, 5'9", enjoys baskartball. Looking for SF, 21-45, to share my time with. Friendship first, maybe more. 17300232

BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED
SBM, early 40s, seeke attractive, younger lady, 28-45, for romance, companionship, must be independent and shapely. Serious replies only. 27684501

TIRED OF GAMES? intelligent, attractive guy, 38, 6°, slim, seeks women, 30-40, slim/average build. I like movies, music, sports, concerts, etc. Open to new things you might like. Look forward to your call! \$2297179

FUNNY & ATTRACTIVE SWM, 44, 5'7", likes outdoor activities, cooking, mov-tes, kids, animals. Seeking SWF, 30-45, to spend time together. \$2297143

LOOKING FOR A FUN LADY
Devoted SCM, 36, low-key and light-hearted, looking for SCF, race open, to enjoy church, dinner dates,
movie nights and much more. Let's see what happens.
17252802

HI LADIES
SWM, 46, kind, hard-working, N/S, seeking SB/HF, 3234, N/S, for sharing conversation, enjoys dates, laughter and just living life. Possible LTR. 127254060 FRIENDSHIP FIRST

WM, 5'11", 180lbs, works in construction, boking for a woman, 38-55, to go out and do things with. I enjoy racing, the water and more. 22257001 GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR WM, late 30s, 6'3', fat/blue, enjoys sports, concerts and going to movies. Looking for an attractive Latin/Hispanic female, 25-50, for dating. 27257496

LIFE IS TOO SHORT
Very athletic SBM, 37, 5'9", 175!bs, loves volunteer work, pets. Seeking nice-tooling, fit BF, 28-36, with sweet personality. 27274599

SWM, 55, 5'10", 1500s, father of two, homeowner, wants to meel stender, average female, 25-45, who likes music, art, just hanging out. \$2287896

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED SBM, 48, locking for that special persona for LTR, some-one who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. 12692418

Attractive SWPM, 46, 510°, 190/bs, N/S, never married, loves outdoors, going to church, travelling, family time, cardiel light dinners, movies, seeking kind and carrigh hard-working lady, 30-50, for possible LTR. 27291990

WANTED: NEW BEST FRIEND
Fun-loving, humorous SWM, 57, 6; seeks altractive, slim, HW proportionate woman, 35-55, prefer NS. love outdoors, fishing, gardening, movies, museums. 7298425.

WORTH THE CALL
Healthy, romantic, happy, reliable SWM, 36, well-built, attractive, open-minded, likes bowling, movies, good talks and laughter. Seeking similar, commitment-minded SF, into having a good time, to share friendship maybe more. \$2235780

MAXIMUM RETURN ON... your investment. SBM, 5°6", seeks mature, level-headed, down-to-earth female, 30-45, for fun, dating and possible LTR. 12*293155 HELLO SEXY LADIES

Romantic, honest SBM, 36, brownbrown, 165lbs, look-ing for slim, attractive sociable, open-minded SF commit-ment-minded and caring who knows how to enjoy life to the fullest and appreciates a good man. \$235940 FRIENDLY AND FUN

SBM, 48, brown complexion, open-minded, sincere, warm and patient, seeks SF, 21-60, to get to know and share all the good times in life. **TP235738** LET'S TALK SOMETIME sincere SWM, 40, 5'11", 1

pepper/brown, locking for a loving, sweet lady to share fall fun and friendship. 17236283

SBM, 48, on disability, enjoys romance, having fun, hockey/ playing, walching). Seeking a loving, land, truth-ful woman, 37-46, who loves to have a good time in life.

WHAT'S UP LADIES?
Simple, honest, respectful, romantic SBM, 42, 6'6', 280bs, light complexion, brown eyes, looking for a nice, romantic lady to get to know and share good times \$2237959 HOPE TO FIND YOU

SM, 41, wishing to meet loving, respectful lady, 26-50, not about games, to share happiness, special times, laughter and possibly love. \$2241700

SWM, 43, 6'2', 200lbs, with salt-n-pepper hair, seeks thin SF, under 42, with long hair and nice legs for a life of happiness, humor and love. 25'182324

SBM, 41, employed, likes bowling, fishing, simple timea. Seeking a loving, easygoing, affectionate lady to share talks nice times, companionship and togethemass. \$2246214

TAKE A CHANCE
Sociable SM, 45, hard-working, considerable and kind-hearted, outgoing and open-minded loves horror and action films, nice times at home, snuggling and more. Seeking compatible lady who appreciates the same. Friendship/dating? 17:246859 WORTH A SHOT

WORTH A SHOT
Outgoing SM, 35, drumner, tall, dark and handsome, loves partyring with friends, trying new things and just having fun. Seeking SF into the same, for friendship and then who knows? 27247556 SEEKS SWEET, SLENDER LADY
Selective, cutgoing, inonest SBM, 43, 6'3", self-employed, 183bs, looking for outgoing, open-minded, slim, tall woman, homebody type, to share the good times in ite, 52247600

SPEND TIME TOGETHER
Attractive SM, 37, 5"11", 190lbs, searching for an attractive SF, 23-44, with a nice attracte, who loves to laugh and have fun. 17249665

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Laid-back, affectionate, good-humored SIBM, 38, 511*, 1658bs, goate-braard, haze-brown eyes, looking for drama-free, good-hearted woman, communicative and corripassionate to share hopes, dreams, happiness, friendship and maybe something more. #2250650

HANDSOME & FUNLOVING
Sincere, fun-loving, down-to-earth SBM, 44, ISO romantic, honest, intelligent BF, 25-55, with great SOH, for compartionship, possible LTR, 17988147

JUST A CALL AWAY

SM, 35, 5'11", 160bs, enjoys the basics:movies, dining
out, and just having fun. Looking to share friendship
and,or relationship with loving, happy H/W proportionate
lady. 17251195 HOPE 2 HEAR FROM U SOON

MOPE 2 HEAR FROM U SOON
SWM, 43, in shape, 5°, 170lbs, brownforown, looking for older woman 50-60, fit and attractive, easygoing
and secure, who knows how to have a good time in life.
\$\frac{12251226}{2251226}\$ EUROPEAN GENTLEMAN owi, 45, nard-working cook, likes sports, music, ro-mance, good company and quiet rights in, Looking for good-looking, nappy, affectionate lady to share friendship and maybe more. **27251014**

HELLO SWEET LADIES
SBM, 45, educated, degreed, enjoys canceing, basket-ball, cycling; jogging. Seeking a special, kind, Christian lady, 25-40, simmedium build, DiD-free, to share the good things in life. 27251319

FOREIGN FEVER

new to michigan 39, 6'3", white male good sense of humor enjoy sports, concerts, movies, dining out seeks foreign female for dating, possible relationship. 12253132 LOOKING 4 A SWEET WOMAN HArd-working, caring, warm-hearted SM, 47, enjoys dancing, dinling, bowling, documentaries and correctly films, cooking, nice times home, laughs and more. Looking for loving, happy lady to share these. Friendship/LTR, 27253142

LOOKING FOR A DREAM SM, Black and Native American, 43, 58", 175lbs, enjoye camping, soft rock music, fishing. Locking for a nice, horest, caring SW/HF, 30-43, average with few extra pounds, for possible LTR. \$257062

WEST SIDE SBM, 36, 59", 150lbs, light brown eyes, smoker, seeks wornen, 20-40, race open, who is open-minded. \$\frac{\pi}{260319}\$

COUGAR LOVER COUGAR LOVER
Some things do get better with age. Blue-eyed, hand-some SM, mid 40s, physically fit, latid-back, good sense of humor, seeks woman, with like qualities, who likes travel, music, oxeroising, etc. 27:2442480

attractive, HW proportionate, effectionate, established, likes to travel. 1282579

READY FOR A RELATIONSHIP Male, 60, tail, slim, attractive, brown/brown, no bad hab-its, would like to meet a nice, sweet, kind female, 40-70. GOOD BETTER BEST!

Svym, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, flahing, etc. Seeks competible SWF, to have and hold. 17992943 ROMANCE & HONESTY
WM, 50, 5'8", 173lbs, loves Nascar, fishing, camping, quiet times, spontaneity, seeks compatible caring, special lady to share friendship and possible LTR. 17242175

CALL ME SWM, enjoys sports, bowling, billiards, seeking a woman, 18-72, with similar interests, to spend time with. RIGHT HERE WAITING

SWM, 24, employed, romantic, funny, enjoys movies and traveling, seeking a W/HF, to have fun with and get to know. Let's talk. 22246420 to know. Let's talk. 22406420

FUN TO BE AROUND

Loving, compassionate SM, 23, simple and sweet likes movies, bowling, shopping, playing pool and more. Seeking similar lady to share talks, good times, togetherness and a little romance. 27250095

COOL DUDE SEEKS COOL LADY

ARE WE COMPATIBLE?

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN! LET'S HAVE SOME FUN! SBM, 20, 6'5", N/S, seeks attractive BF, 19-28, N/S, to have some fun and kick it with! 15265907 SWM, 75, wants to meet an active WF, 55-70, who likes dancing, walks, movies, travel in the US. Will respond to all. \$2274842

LET'S MEET FOR COFFEE SWM, 70s, 54", N/S, would like to meet a lady, 85-72. I enjoy taking walks, riding bikes, taking trips. Seeking SWF, 52-75, for friendship, maybe more. \$2275970

SWF, 62-75, for timerical ray, may be switched by SINGLE DAD

WM, 57", 150lbs, brownforown, medium build, two children, likes the cutdoors, working on cars, having fun. Looking for a good, down-to-earth, honest, attractive WF, Looking for a good, down-to-23-33, for dating. 27284933 DWM, retired gentleman of independent means, emo-tionally/financially secure, honest, eclecitic, N/S, seeks siender physically fit woman who loves the cutdoors. 7284895

CALL ME!

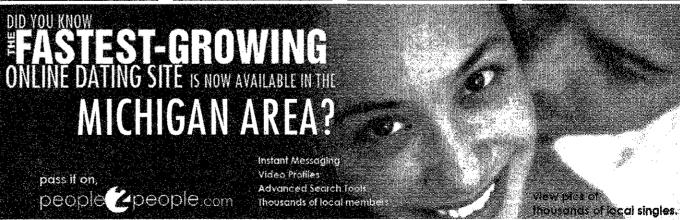
TRUE GENTLEMAN
WM, 75, would like to meet a female, 65-75, friendship, companionship end more. 27293604 , 65-75, N/S, for SOMEONE SPECIAL
SBM, 61, 6'1", H/W proportionate, brown eyes, beautiful
smille, affectionate, getting ready to retire, homeowner,
toves fishing, vegetable and flower gardens, antiques,
walks in the park. Seeking SF, 45-63.

A WALK AND A TALK

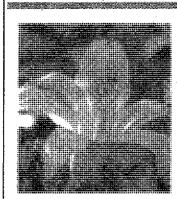
TALL AND ATHLETIC

SWM, 49, 62°, 200lbs, part-time personal trainer, brown
blue, degreed, outpoing personality, enjoys outdoors,
working out, new activities, seeking friendly SF, age/loca-

LONELY AND READY
SWM, 65, average build, Italian, Virgo, N/S, looking for a
SWF with similar qualities and who's ready for a serious
relationship. Call me if interested. Redford. 12860303



SINGLES LINGO: A-Asian B-African American/Black C-Christian D-Divorced F-Female H-Hispanic J-Jewish M-Male N/S-Non-smoker N/D-Non Drinker N/Drugs- No Drugs P-Professional S-Single W-White LTR-Long Term Relationship



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CHARLES E. LOWE

A Southern gentleman, a real Kentucky Colonel, died Dec. 1st amongst his family. He succumbed to a combination of his 93 years and a great desire to join his wife of 64 years, Bettye, who predeceased him on January 2, 2007. He is survived by generations of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and decades of friends, associates, companions and admirers. He was born dirt poor in Inez, Kentucky, in 1915, son of a lumberman, raised with his siblings by a widowed mother. He served his country in WWII and for 22 years after in the Army Reserves. retiring as a Lt. Colonel. Amongst his numerous accomplishments, he was Mayor of Garden City from 1960-62, City Attorney of Plymouth for 18 years, Past Master of Metropolitan Lodge #519, and co-founder of the Kentuckians of Michigan. His children, Rebecca Ponte (Glen), Ronald W. Lowe (Jeanine), and Charles E. Lowe Jr. (Tonya) were at his bedside. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure to have known him. A memo-rial visitation will be held at Schrader-Howell-Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth, Saturday, December 27, 2008, 1-5pm. A Masonic Service will take place at 4pm. Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice.



DOROTHY "DOTTIE" SHARER (NEE WIKEL)

Age 93 of November 29, 2008. Birmingham, Beloved wife of the late Edward. Dear mother of Richard (Serena) and Diana. Loving grand-mother of Daniel Chichester and Sarah Chichester. Sister of Howard Wikel (Betty). Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Ave. (btwn 13-14 Mile) Friday 4-8 p.m. Funeral service Sunday 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. Visitation begins at church 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, family suggests memorial tributes to Many Voices. . . One Song, 1669 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham, MI 48009 or Little Stone Church, Mackinac Island, MI 49757.

View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

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DR. ALDEN EARLE VAN ORNUM, DDS

Of Batavia, NY, went to be with his Lord and Savior on November 29, 2008. Age 95. Dr. Van Ornum had a dental practice in Plymouth, MI for fourty years and was active in Kiwanis, Chamber of Commerce, Christian Businessmen and the Wayne Baptist Church. Surviving are his wife Elizabeth Helen (Sellman) Van Ornum of Batavia; two children, Ann (Mark) Van Ornum Fackler of Grand Rapids and David (Trudie) Van Ornum of Batavia; two brothers, Rev. Carlton (Jean) Van Ornum and Paul Van Ornum; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Calling 5-6 p.m. Thursday at H.E. Turner & Co. Funeral Home of Batavia, NY where services will follow at 6 p.m. Condolences to www.bataviafuneralhomes.com.



IN MEMORY OF MELISSA (Williams) LAMBAREN 7-7-74 to 12-3-07

Like a song that remains in the heart when the music is playing, no more, like a fragrance that stays in the air where a flower has blossomed before. like a star that continues to glow long after the breaking of dawn, the ones we have loved remain with us still, and the beautiful memories go on.

Love you and miss you so much!

Dad, Mom, Chris, Jenny,

Sue, Jess and Marty



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 4, 2008

LEO E. HARRAWOOD

Of Novi. Passed away November 29, 2008 at the age of 88. Beloved husband of Beatrice, loving father of Diana (Brent) Canup and Debra (Zack) Fishman. Predeceased by Bernice who died in 1991 after 51 years of marriage. Loving grandfather of Brent Jr. (Ginger) Canup & Brenda (Michael) Daray. Great-grandfather of Morgan & Margaux Canup and Skylar & Taner Daray. Leo is survived by one sister Laura Wofford and predeceased by three brothers and two sisters Francis, Paul, Everett, Gladys Petri & Nellie, Beloved uncle to Pam and Art. Leo was a founder and active member of numerous organizations and businesses in Novi and the State of Michigan. He was a WWII veteran and recipient of two Purple Hearts with Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct Medal, Bronze Star wi Arrowhead, and the WWII Victory Medal. He was a life time member of the Disabled American Veterans, Amvets and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Leo served the village of Novi in several capacities including city planning board member, Councilman and Past President Pro-Tem. He was instrumental in making Novi into a city. Mr. Harrawood was a charter member, director and Past President of the Novi Rotary Club District Governor for Rotary District Number 638. A charter member of the Farmington Elks Lodge, a charter member of St John's Lutheran Church Farmington, Past President of the Novi Chamber of Commerce. Leo served as the illustrious Potentate of the Moslem Temple and was a member of the Walled Lake Masonic Lodge. He was the owner/operator of the Standard Oil/Amoco gas station on Grand River & Novi Road for 44 years. He was also the owner of the BP station at Novi Road and 12 mile. He was the co-owner of Shirley Cash Realty of Novi, Owner Founder of Sales Training Institute of Detroit. Leo was an avid outdoor sportsman, a licensed pilot and successful motivator and sales trainer. Visitation at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 555 Grand River, Novi, (248) 348-1800, Wednesday 5-9pm. Masonic Service Wednesday 7:00pm and Thursday 1-9pm. In state at St. John

John Lutheran Church. Online sympathy messages at: www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill Rd.,

Farmington Hills Friday 9:00am until

the funeral service at 10:00. In lieu of

flowers donations may be made to St.



WANDA M. BRACISZEWSKI

Age 80, of Westland, formerly of Plymouth passed away November 28. 2008. Born in Salem Twp, on November 1, 1928. Worked Whitman & Barnes in Plymouth for 25 years and than for the City of Plymouth for 12 years. Loving wife of the late Frank. Devoted mother of Michele D. (Warren) Grisamer and Darryl Bingner. Proud grandmother of Brett (Kara) Grisamer, Susan and Bingner. Dear sister of Russell (Carol) Merritt and Rodger (Carol) Merritt. Services were held from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, on December 2008. Interment Thayer Cemetery, Northville. Share memories at

schrader-howell.com.



WILLIAM JOHN CORTEZ

passed away December 1, was born on August 10, 1937 in Detroit to the late John and Angeline (Urso) Cortez. He worked in quality control for Ford Motor Company for 33 years. Bill is survived by his wife Jackie; children Bill Jr. and daughter-in-law Tracy, John, Kathy, and Angela; grandchildren Andrew Nicolas, Samantha, Zachary, Rachel, Cheryl, and Joey; great-granddaughter Autumn; and sister Rosemary Smith. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Frank Cortez. A Memorial Service will be held at Brighton Church of the Nazarene on Saturday, December 6, 2008 at 11:00 am with memorial gathering beginning at 10:00 am. Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis. TN 38105-1942. Arrangements by Phillips Funeral Home Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com



ROBERT E. SNYDER

November 24, 2008. Beloved husband of Joan. Dear father of Carol Jarocha (William), Susan Keller (Mike), and Robert Jr. (deceased). Loving grandfather of Stacey and Heather Jarocha, Arny, Jeffrey, Julie, and Tommy Keller and Ashley, Steven, Matthew and Andrew Snyder. Retired from Ford Motor Co. A famimemorial service was held at Harry Will Funeral Home, Livonia



SALLY LEE BUSHA (nee Gyde)

Of Plymouth passed away from her long battle with cancer. She is survived by her best friend and husband of 52 years, Frank Busha. She has a beloved daughter and son, Susan Hoy and James Busha. Very loved are Richard Hoy, son-in-law and Lori Busha, daughter-in-law. Proud and loving grandmother of Amanda Kenny Busha, Sally Jo Hoy and Emma Hoy. She was born August 7, 1937, a sixth generation of the Plymouth-Canton area, predeceased by her father Kenneth Gyde and is survived by her mother Onalee Gyde. Her favorite activities included biking, working on her flowers and golf-ing (hole in one 2006). She had many friends and special neighbors of Wedgewood Village and Florida. A celebration to her life will be held. with a Gathering of Family and Friends Friday 10:30 AM until the time of the Memorial Service at 11 AM at First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, 45201 N. Territorial, ymouth. Visitation Thursday 2-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth. (btwn Sheldon and Beck). Memorial contributions suggested to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Cancer Care Office of Development, PO Box 995, Ann Arbor MI, 48103. To share a memory with the family, please visit:



WANDA L. NORTHEN (NEE YATES)

Age 83. November 29, 2008. Beloved wife of the late Philip. Loving mother of Carol (Frederick) Smith, Diane (Michael) Burkhart, and Gary Northen. Dear grandmother of James (Lana) Acitelli, Sharyl (Allan) Rubin, Barrie Burkhart, step-grandmother of Chris (Crystal) and Matt Smith, and great-grandmother of Jacob, Joshua and Zachary Rubin. Wanda was an accomplished artist and a past member of the Detroit Society of Women Painters, Palette and Brush Club, and the Farmington Artists. Visitation was held Wednesday, December 3, 2008 4-9pm and today Thursday, December 2008 10:00am until time of Service at 11:00am at McCabe Funeral Home, 31950 W. 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills, Interment Glen Eden Memorial Park, www.mccabefuneralhome.com

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

will be placed in the next available issue.

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

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.

UPCOMING

Christmas concert The Silver Strings perform 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City. No charge, Call

(734) 427-3660. Kids Christmas craft days

Deadline is today, Thursday, 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 Road, 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 Bixman Hall at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. No charge, but RSVP by calling (734) 425-5950. Presenter is Oavid Conrad, M.A. Theology.

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

Christmas craft show

Association.

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at St. Thomas d'Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley at Cherry Hill, Canton. Bake sale and lunch available at the show featuring more than 85 crafters. Admission \$2, children under age 12 free. Call (734) 981-1333.

Glory of Christmas

The theatrical production opens Thursday, Oec. 4, and runs weekends 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.

Holiday concert

Madrigal Chorale of Southfield per forms 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, www.mcs-notes.

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 financialhardship, 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.

Christmas season events

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville, is hosting events for the Christmas Season at no charge in the sanctuary. Events include Early Childhood Christmas Concert, 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. "Angel Alert," the children's Christmas pageant, takes place 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, reception to follow. "A Gift of Hope" Christmas concert featuring the Ward Chancel Choir, Teen Choir, Orchestra, Ensembles and Handbells is 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, includes audience singalong of favorite Christmas carols. The Combined Choirs and Orchestra with guest conductors and soloists perform 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21.

Christmas music "A Christmas Pageant" features The Praisemakers Choir (ages 4-5) 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, and "Repeat the Resounding Joy" Christmas Dinner Theater Dec. 12-14, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. The Friday-Saturday, Dec. 12-13, performances begin at 7 p.m. and a full dinner will be served. Sunday night's program, Dec. 14, begins at 6 p.m. with a dessert table only. For tickets, visit www.5milechurch.org or call (734) 464-6722.

Grief workshop

Getting Through the Holidays, a workshop for those grieving the loss of a

RELIGION CALENDAR

loved one at what can be an extremely difficult 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 Road, Livonia. Guest speaker is Certified Hospice Trainer and Pastoral Associate, Dianne Fessier, To R.S.V.P., call (734) 261-1455. ext. 207. Ali 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 Road, 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 Overeaters Anonymous fellowship. All interested Catholics welcome, Call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

Holiday cookie walk 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 13, at First United Methodist Church of Wayne (across from Wayne Post Office). Holiday cookies, breads, pies and candies, specialty gift baskets. Cost is \$5 for small container, \$9 medium, \$13 large. For information. call (734) 721-4801.

Christmas Cookie Walk

Too busy to bake? 8uy cookies by the pound from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13 at St. Michael's Orthodox Church, 26355 West Chicago Road. between Beech-Daly and Inkster Road, in Redford. (313) 937-2120.

Choirs concert The Choirs of St. Michael the

Archangel Parish of Livonia invites the public to a special Christmas concert, "Ring In The Holidays", 7 p.m. Saturday, Oec. 13, at the church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road. The concert features the Felician Sisters Choir as well as St. Michael's Handbell Choirs and the Mikapellas, a women's acappella choir. No charge. For more information, call (734) 261-1455, ext. 200, or visit www.livoniastmichael.

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. Opors 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 Road, 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.

Christmas worship

Special Christmas service 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, with the choir at First United Methodist Church of Wayne singing "Music from around the World," All welcome. Church is located at 3 Towne Square, across from Wayne Post Office. Regular services 9 a.m. traditional, 10:30 a.m. contemporary. Call (734) 721-4801.

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.

Christmas Eve services 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. Wednesday, Dec.

24, at Good Hope Lutheran Church. 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster Road and Middlebelt, Garden City, All are welcome. Call (734) 427-3660. Christmas worship

5:30 p.m. family worship, children's pageant; 7:30 p.m. candlelight communion service (Contemporary Worship Ensemble); 10:30 p.m. Christmas music prelude, and 11 p.m. candlelight community service with Chancel Choir and Trinity Bells

Wednesday, Dec. 24, and 10 a.m. Christmas worship Thursday, Dec. 25, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. All are invited.

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 Lifley. For information, call (734) 404-24B0, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org.

Sunday school

Takes place at 9:30 a.m. with worship service and communion at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday, at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City. Bible study 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday, Call (734) 427-3660.

Hall rental Volkmar Hall located in Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City, is available for rent. For information, call (734) 427-3660.

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 Hitts Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For more information, call (248) 433-1011.

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.oa.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 Leverne, 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 I groups meet 9:30-11 a.m. Mondays, and 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays. Course V. called "Aquinas for 8eginners", 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 Wachet 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

Please see CALENDAR, B9

CALENDAR

Christian Fellowship, on the west side of Middlebelt, one block south of Six Mile. The special four week study focuses on the Hebraic Roots of Our Christian Faith, taught by Yvonne ${\bf Moore.} \ {\bf For\ information,\ visit\ www.gcfellowship.}$ 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 Oetroit 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@ att.net, or visit www.members.aol.com/rsiworship/detroit.html.

Sanskrit chanting

An ongoing, weekly class taught by Ania Kopczynski, 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 follows). Youth Sunday School and 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. Orop-ins welcome.

For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

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. 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 quests at the Capuchin Soup

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.

Grief workshops help during the holidays

is difficult at any time of the year, but especially during the holidays.

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 the community, inspirational music, and scripture readings all can seek the peace, hope and love that are the true gifts of

Dealing with the loss of a loved one Christmas during 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 for more information.

St. Michael the Archangel Parish holds a grief workshop as well, Getting Through the Holidays, 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, in the Convent Meeting Room, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The 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.

Blankets needed for homeless shelters

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is collecting blankets for the homeless through Monday, Dec.

Once collected, the blankets will be distributed to homeless shelters in the Metro Detroit area with the assistance of the American Red Cross.

New or slightly used twin size

blankets may be placed in the plastic bins outside of the church. Blankets may also be dropped off inside the church from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

is located at 16360 Hubbard, between Farmington and Merriman roads, Livonia.

Your Invitation to Worship

UNITED METHODIST

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Immemorial Latin Mass Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570 St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan 5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121 Mass Schedule:

11:00 a.m. First Sat. 11:00 Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebeit, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)

MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a St. Maurice Roman Cetholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads)

MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a,

Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 459-1 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.

Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed, 7:00 P.M.

NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH (248) 661-9191

EVANGELICAL

Sunday Worship and Children's Church 9:15 a.m. Contemporary 11:00 a.m. Traditional

Child Care provided for all services Youth Groups · Adult Small Group

Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church

33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0880 Pastor: Eddie Petreaca Meetings on Saturdays for:

Morning Bible & Health Class-8 a.n Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m. Bible Studies English & Spanish (All Ages) 11:00 a.m. Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting-7 p.m

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church onciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. veen Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jili Heather, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church 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 & Schoolcraft • Nurse

www.fellowship-presbyterian.org

COVENANT

Clarenceville United Methodist 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia 248-474-3444

Pastor Beth Librande Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Nurseru Provided

Aldgragate 2 blocks South of 10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170 9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch. 11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship www.redfordaldersgate.org

Redford



More than Sunday Services" **Worship Services** 9:00 a.m. & 11:30 AM

Sunday School & Nursery 9:00, 10:30 & 11:30 AM Pastor: Dr. John Grenfell III

Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert First United Methodist Church of Plymouth 45201 North Territorial Road

(734) 453-5280 www.pfumc.org

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.

734-422-0149 Worship Service

and Sunday School 9:15 a.m & 11:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

NON DENOMINATIONAL

BENJ GKEEK

Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program

Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road een Merriman and Middlebelt Roads at 10:00 a.m.

734-425-1174 Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the servicel

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth 734-453-0970 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. ening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading Boom located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 734-453-0970

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ROSEDALE GARDENS 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicego, Livonia, Mi

(734) 422-0494 Chapel Worship Service 9:00 am 9:00 am
Traditional Service
10:30 am (48U)

WE WELCOME YOU TO A **FULL SERVICE CHURCH**

St. James Presbyterlan Church, USA 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730 Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday school - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M. Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Nursery Care Provided - Anadicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Bousquette **Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional

Early Childhood Center

Staffed Nursery Available Phone 734-513-8413 Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ

Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY REDFORD TW Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Helboth, Senior Pa The Rev. Or. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pasto

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 9600 Leverne • 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

Sunday/Bible Class

9:45 am

Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400

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Santa (*) Has (*) Arrived And (*)

and is in the east court

Entertainment this Month...

December 5 Fri.
December 6 Sat.
December 8 Mon.
December 9 Tues.
December 10 Wed.
December 12 Fri.

December 16 Tues. December 17 Wed. December 19 Fri December 23 Tues December 25 MADD Holiday Mocktail Mixer I Iam I pm – East Court
Safety While You Shop 12pm – 4pm – East Court
Ladywood High School Choir Group 12.45pm – 1.30pm – JC Penney Court
Phil Gram All Stars 6pm – 8pm – East Court
3D's & W Barbershop Quartet 6pm-8pm – Throughout the center
Our Lady of Good Counsel 10.45am – 11.30am – JC Penney Court
3D's & W Barbershop Quartet 6pm-8pm – Throughout the center
Phil Gram All Stars 6pm – 8pm – East Court
3D's & W Barbershop Quartet 6pm-8pm – Throughout the center
3D's & W Barbershop Quartet 6pm-8pm – Throughout the center
Phil Gram All Stars 6pm – 8pm – East Court
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Check out our selections for this week in entertainment.



readers have submitted easy cookie recipes

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

DHINK DIO

The Whitney's **Ghost Bar is the** new trendy spot

My favorite new cocktail lounge is The Ghost Bar located inside Detroit's oldest restaurant — the magnificent, luxurious Whitney.

The recently opened Ghost Bar contains every element to mark itself as the new destination place and attract the hip, successful bar crowd of Oakland and Wayne counties. It's located in a mansion, it has an

GHOST BAR

Where: Third floor of The Whitney restaurant, 4421 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 832-5700 www.thewhitney.com or www.whitneyghost-

bar.com **Dress code:** Business casual/stylish/eclectic Special: Place to impress out-of-town guests, romantic atmosphere, gathering place with friends Music: Jazz earlier in the night, danceable, low-key electronic music later in the evening by several notable Detroit DJs such as DJ Roc Boy Friday nights and DJ Jenny LaFemme on

unpretentious, highly stylized, chichi flair that is already attracting successful, creative crowds. And, it's located inside one of the most presti-

gious Michigan restaurants.

The third floor has always been an elegant space with 20-foot ceilings, hand-painted panels and rich woods throughout. It was the original art gallery for the Whitney family," said Patrick Liebler, The Whitney's executive director. "What we wanted to accomplish was to add to its elegance, not overshadow or mask the original beauty of the space."

Four very important words about Ghost Bar: welcoming, secure, impressive, haunted.

The Whitney is consistently discussed in Detroit's rich history as one of the most haunted locations in the city. Owners, father and son team, Bud and Patrick Liebler, of West Bloomfield, have fun with the name and slogan:

Ghost Bar. Chill out with

Detroit's favorite spirits. There are four rooms in Ghost Bar, one is known as the most haunted room in the mansion. Ask the Lieblers or a waitstaff member for an eerie tale and they have plenty to share.

WELCOMING

Saturdays

"We want to remove the "stuffy factor" from The Whitney," Patrick Liebler said. "People rightfully know it as a high-end restaurant, but the clientele is all ages, all types of people and we have an incredibly friendly staff who work to make you feel instantly comfortable.

"The Whitney doesn't just belong to my family," Liebler said. "It's a landmark in the city. We want everyone to feel that this is their restaurant and their bar."

You don't need couture attire at the Whitney Ghost Bar; it's stylish, yet business casual.

"More than ever before, the city of Detroit needs reasons to smile," said Bud Liebler. "We want the Ghost Bar to be a place where people can sit back and relax with their co-workers after a long day."

Please see GHOST BAR, D2



The Ghost Bar on the third floor of The Whitney restaurant is a new hip place - and it's said to be haunted.



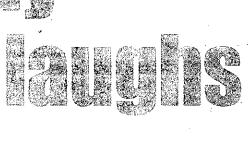
It's a humorous version of 'A Christmas Carol' at Trinity House



What: A humorous look at the classic tale, adapted by Doris Baizley When: Through Friday, Dec. 21 Showtimes: 8 p.m.,

Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays Admission: \$15 general, \$12 for members, Sunday tickets are \$12 for seniors and students

Where: Trinity House Theatre, 38840 West Six Mile, Livonia (734) 464-6302, www.trinityhouse.org



BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

🔏 🗸 🖁 umorously chaotic! It's a mad dash through the story, with hasty costume-changes (maybe just a hat!) and zany characters. Everyone plays numerous parts,

sings, makes sound effects, and dances badly."

Those are the words of Rob Papineau, director of the new Christmas Carol performance every weekend between now and Dec. 21 at the Trinity House in Livonia. And he's kidding about the bad dancing.

"Is that a correct or incorrect description? Does it have any of the serious tone of the original?" he asked. The serious tone of the Charles Dickens classic

remains. Papineau said the audience knows the story but "not what's coming next."

Why did they choose this version of the classic tale? "This show is comically downsized. Not an operasized production, it's about a small travelling theatertroupe, with too-few actors and very little 'stuff,' who still have a jolly time and a great show. It's big fun in a small package, and that's why we chose it."

PUPPETS, GAMES

It's a family performance for kids over three years old.

Please see CAROL, D8



Holiday Happenings

Christmas Walk: The Friends of Greenmead presents its 20th annual event beginning at Hill House with hot chocolate and cookies, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. Tickets \$9 in advance -- available at Livonia, libraries, Greenmead and city hall — and \$10 on tour day; wear slip-on shoes. Profits go to restoration and preservation at Livonia's Historic Greenmead, 20501 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 466-3540.

Noel Night: From 5-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Detroit's University Cultural Center welcomes all for its annual holiday open house, museums will be open free of admission, horse and carriage rides, and music and theater performances, centered at Woodward and Warren avenues in Detroit. Visit www.detroitmidtown.com/05/noelnight.

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.cantonmi.org/villagetheatrer or call (734) 394-5460.

The Big, Bright Light Show: Downtown Rochester lights the night with its dazzling display of more than 500,000 lights coating all the buildings along Main. The free event, through 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. 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

Please see HAPPENINGS, D4



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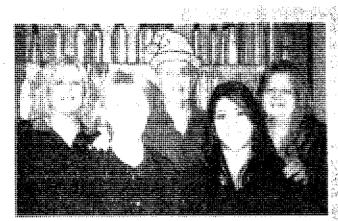
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Ticket Prices: \$37, \$47, \$57 & \$67 (Photo opportunities for all ticket holders.) TICKET INFORMATION: ticketmaster 248.645.6666 or ticketmaster.com

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SECURE

Whether we want to admit it, some people are hesitant to drive into Detroit. The Whitney's driveway is located right on Woodward. Guests can park right near the front door, or valet. The restaurant and parking lot is surrounded by a pretty iron gate.

We chose to purchase The Whitney and open Ghost Bar for two reasons: one because it's The Whitney," Liebler said. "The other is because we want to invest in Detroit."

"People feel cool hanging out here," he said. "It's historic and sophisticated."

IMPRESSIVE

If you want to impress outof-town guests during the holidays. If you only have one night to do so, the Ghost Bar should be your destination.

It's romantic, completely unique from any other establishment in the country, and feels so special, your gnests

It's that impressive.

will be impressed. Earlier in the evening, sultry up-and-coming, respected jazz singers add to the sophisticated vibe.

Later at night, as the capacity fills to about 150, the energy is raised with electronic lounge music, yet it's still a romantic place to impress a date.

AMBIANCE

The main floor of the 115year-old, 52-room mansion is still The Whitney restaurant. The second floor is where banquets and weddings are often held. Continue up the winding staircase to Ghost Bar and you will notice the new carpet, ornate wood carving, Tiffany stained glass; sofas in each room, and vault-







Joe Gannon

bv Joe Gannon

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Unless otherwise noted, events are at Schoolcraft College's Livonia campus, located at 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile Roads. Maps and directions are available at www.schoolcraft.edu/maps/. Friday, December 5 **WRC Luncheon Series** "The Parade Company" Renee Gonyeau offers a behindthe-scenes look at The Parade Company, the non-profit organization dedicated to creating the best family events in metro Detroit, including the annual America's Thanksgiving Day parade, held in Detroit since 1924. 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Diponio Room inside VisTaTech Center Admission: \$16 (prepaid, includes lunch) Register by December 1, 2008 Information: 734-462-4443 Friday, December 5 Schoolcraft College Wind **Ensemble and Artist Ensemble** Winter Concert Admission: Free; donations accepted at the door Community Room (RC 115), Schoolcraft College Radcliff Center, 1751 Radcliff St., Garden City Information, 734-462-4403 Friday, December 12 **Bach Plano Honors Recital** Presentation Room inside the VisTaTech Center Admission: Free Information: 734-462-4403 Friday, December 12 Schoolcraft College Jazz Ensemble and Synthesizer Ensemble Winter Concert 7:30 p.m. DiPonio Room inside VisTaTech Center Admission: Free Information: 734-462-4400 ext. 5217 Sunday, December 14 "A Winter's Tale" Schoolcraft College Choral Union Concert This performance is a benefit for the Gleaner's Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan. 4 p.m.

Auditorium (F530) Inside Forum Building

information 724-405-4403

Admission: One canned or boxed food donation per person



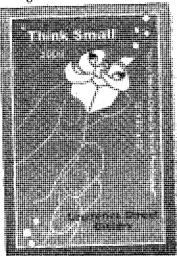
Pire Pieks

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Filtering your entertainment best bets for the

weekend beginning Dec. 5, 2009: Lawrence Street Gallery hosts an opening reception 6-9 tonight for Think Small 2008,

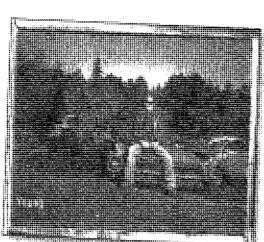
an art competition featuring 12-inch by 12-inch by 12-inch pieces running through Dec. 24, at 22620 Woodward. Ferndale. Call (248) 544-0394 or visit www.lawrencestreetgallery. com. Check out the art and then head south to Planet Ant Theater for opening night of A Very Čed n Teri Xmas as this popular local Web



sitcom series comes alive on stage, complete with musical guests, beginning at 8 p.m., at 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. Tickets \$10-\$15, call (313) 365-4948.

Beatles fans will want to hold your hand and head over for this one-night-only live performance by The Beatle Maniacs, the ultimate tribute to The Beatles. The show starts at 8 p.m. at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center.

liktin liikkiipun irre. Dentuuta "irken 1577-148 call (313) 943-2354 or visit www.dearbornfordcenter.com.



Back in the states after his mega-successful European Tour, **Neil Young** hits the stage tonight, with openers Wilco and Everest, 7 p.m. at the Palace of Auburn Hills, 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills. Tickets \$78-\$178, call (248) 645-6666.

It's a wild ride of a holiday movie as Director Robert Zemeckis' 2004 animated spectacular The Polar Express returns in 3D IMAX format to the Henry Ford IMAX Theater. See it tonight, or throughout the month, at 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn. Tickets \$8.25 to \$11.25, at (313) 271-1570 or visit www.thehenryford.com.

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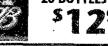
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A Christmas Festival: The Livonia Symphony Concert will be joined by dancers from Bunny Sanford's School of Dance, the Karen Danke Singers and members of the Livonia Youth Philharmonic,

4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt in Livonia. Tickets \$17, call (734) 421-1111 or www.livoniasymphony.com.

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.

Annual Carol Singing: St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of

Cranbrook invites the public to hear singers from the Motor City Lyric Opera Children's Choir and organist Dr. Norah Duncan perform an hour-long program complete with singa-longs. Children will read The Night Before Christmas, and Santa will be onhand for photos. The show is free, 3 p.m. Dec. 6, Christ Church Cranbrook, 470 Church Road in Bloomfield Hills. Visit 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 are \$15, available by calling (248) 852-9395.

A Celtic Christmas: Natalie McMaster brings Celtic traditions to life, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Orchestra Hall, Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at www. detroitsymphony.com.

Trans-Siberian Orchestra:

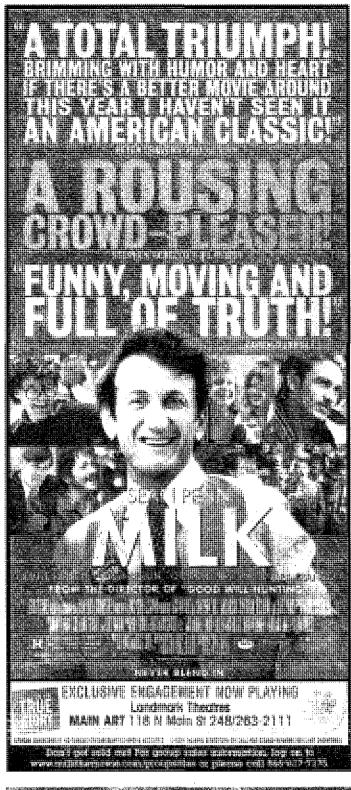
Talk about uplifting and reinventing holiday songs. Catch one of these two shows Dec. 21, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Call (248) 645-6666.

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.

A Prairie Home Christmas: Go A-Wassailling

with Garrison Keillor and the DSO for this "Under the Mistletoe" presentation, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at www. detroitsymphony.com.

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-





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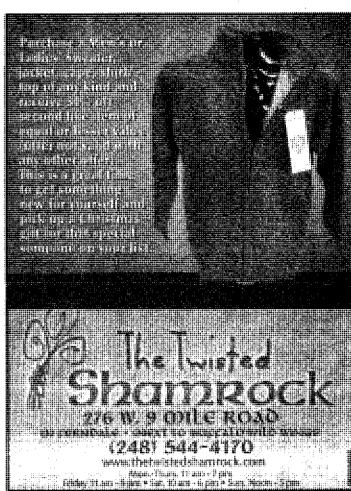
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Readers submit their favorite easy cookie recipes

151 RUM BALLS

By Dean Henry of Livonia

2 cups graham cracker crumbs

4 cups flour

2 tablespoons cocoa powder

1 cup powdered sugar % teaspoon salt

1 cup ground nuts (Luse ground pecans that I grind myself, you may want to use

¼ cup of 151 proof rum (or more if you prefer a stronger taste)

Powder sugar 2 tablespoons honey

Stir together. Consistency is right when all holds together. Pinch off small pieces, about one teaspoon, shape/roll in your hand, toss in powdered sugar. Set aside to ripen in covered container at least 12 hours.

AUNT DEE DEE'S SUGAR COOKIES

By Dean Henry of Livonia who said: I have literally made thousands if not a million of these, once you make and try it you will see why. Makes about 120.

1 cup powdered sugar

1 cup granulated sugar

1 cup butter

1 cup oil

2 eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla 1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon baking soda I teaspoon cream of tartar

Preheat oven to 350. Cream sugars and butter together

until fluffy; slowly pour in oil while mixing. Add eggs, vanilla, salt, soda, tartar, mix to incorporate. Scrape down bowl, add flour while mixing on low in stages. Scoop out

small amount of dough about two tablespoons, (I use a Number 70 ice cream scoop. It's a medium-size scooper and it makes this part of the process really easy). Place dough on cookie sheet. Once you have the dough scooped onto your trays, you will need a cookie press or flat

surface such as the bottom of a jelly jar or glass, dip the press into sanding sugar, red, green, or white, and press/flatten the dough to one-quarter thickness. Bake 8-10 minutes.

CRISPY OATMEAL COOKIES

Submitted by The Baker's Loaf, a Commerce Township specialty bakery that specializes in cakes, pies and other

% pound (3 sticks) unsalted butter

1 cup light brown sugar

1 % cup granulated sugar

1 large egg 1 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract

3 cups old-fashioned oats (not instant) 1½ cups all purpose flour

¾ teaspoon kosher salt

2 ½ teaspoons baking soda

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a mixer, cream the butter until fluffy. Add the sugars and cream together until light and fluffy. Add the egg and vanilla and mix well.

In a bowl, stir together the oats, flour, salt and baking soda. Mixing slowly, add the oat mixture to the butter mixture and mix until just combined.

Drop by teaspoonfuls onto parchment-lined baking sheet. Leave at least two inches between cookies (they will spread a lot). Bake until browned and crispy around the edges, about 8 to 10 minutes. Let cook on wire racks and store in an airtight container.

SHAKARISHEE -

ARMENIAN SUGAR COOKIES Submitted by Eliza Neals (featured

on Tim Gunns Guide to Style and will perform at The Crofoot in Pontiac on

2 1/4 cups flour

1 1 cups sugar

1 cup softened butter, unsalted 1 egg, yolk only

½ cup finely chopped walnuts, optional

Preheat oven to 350 degrees In a large bowl, beat together the butter, egg yolk and the sugar until smooth and almost white in color. Add flour and blend well. If you are using the nuts, this is the time to add

them in. Shape into small rectangles

about \(^3\)-inches by 1\(^1\)-inches. Bake in a 250-degree oven on an ungreased cookie sheet. Cookies are done when the bottoms turn pink in color 35-45

NOTE: A blanched almond or walnut half can be placed on top of the cookie before baking.

Celebrate Sweet Afton's 20 years

Did you miss the party a few days ago celebrating the 20-year anniversary of Sweet Afton Tea Room in downtown Plymouth? Not to worry, you can still visit the elegant

restaurant to honor its success - at your

The 'china and linen' tea experience at Sweet Afton's is a gathering place for bridal showers, baby showers and everyday high

Try the tart plate; variety of four dainty tarts. Also try the Victorian Sponge Cake - airy cake with raspberry filling draped in lemon curd dusted with confectioners sugar.

Kids menu includes Ayrshire Cream, royalty high tea; or "The Wee Folk" four triangle-shaped tea sandwiches; and choice of strawberry cream cheese, peanut butter and/or jelly. It's served with applesauce, goldfish crackers, and animal crackers. Beverage includes choice of white or chocolate milk, apple juice, or soft drink served in a china teapot.

Adults may like Shepherd's Pie; tea and sandwich combos or the restaurant's home-

Voted in the Top 100 Tea Rooms in the U.S. by teamap.com, Afton Tea presents imported tea in British tradition; a lovely place for your tea party.

The original tea room opened on Dec. 1, 1988 by Sylvia Thacker, on Mill Street in Plymouth's Old Village.

Thacker later sold it to Christine Banion and Norma Reynolds. They moved it to the current gaslight street location at 450 Forest

Today it's owned by Phyllis and Al Wilkerson, a retired teacher and a retired principal from the Plymouth Canton School District.

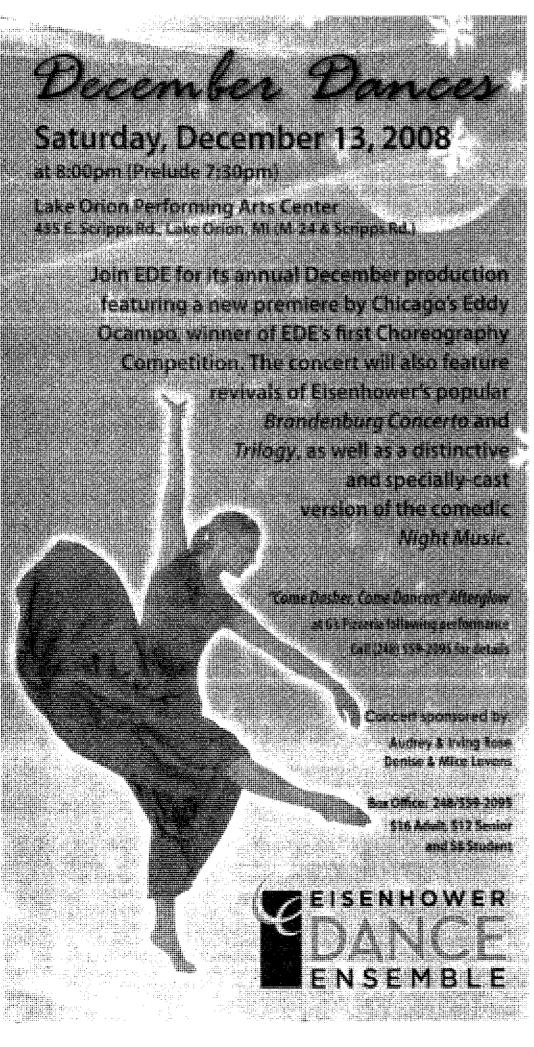
The Sweet Afton Tea Room and Restaurant was named after the Afton River in Ayrshire, Scotland; known through the writings of Scottish poet Robert Burns.

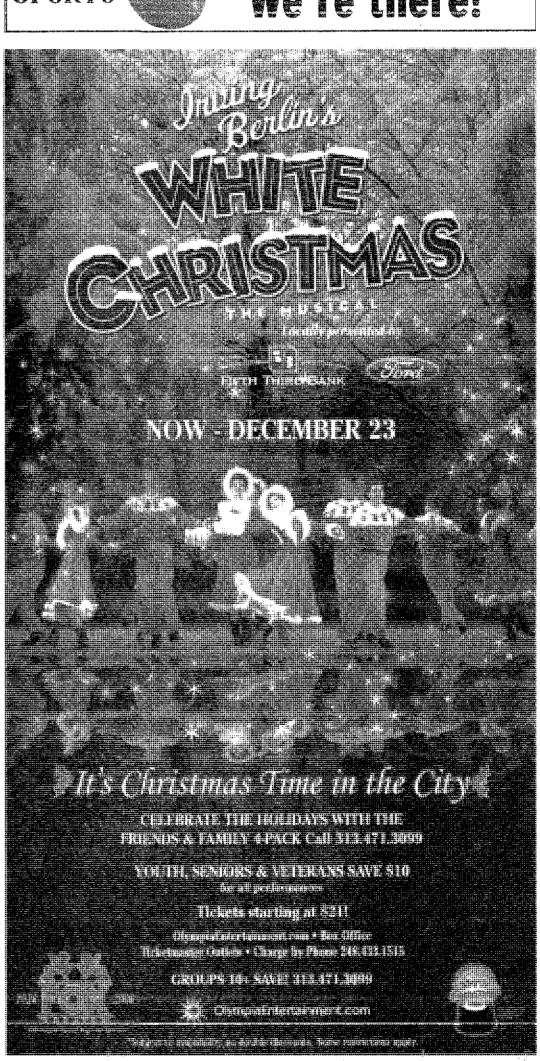
Sweet Afton's is located at 450 Forest Ave., Plymouth, (734) 454-0777. Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Saturday. www. sweetaftontearoom.com

- By Lana Mini

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 4, 2008

Recipes, food drive, new restaurants and more

BY LANA MINI STAFF WRITER

RESTAURANTS EARN HONORS

The Lark restaurant received major honors in the Zagat Survey (2009) of American restaurants, cuisine, service and ambience

Owned by Michigan natives Jim & Mary Lark, it remains Michigan's finest restaurant in the Zagat Survey poll.

The poll is a big deal because of its consistent opinion of thou-

sands of people. The Lark has also been voted as one of the best restaurants

nationwide. It equaled the score total of the world renowned French Laundry restaurant near San Francisco, Calif., and surpassed Charlie Trotter's in Chicago, Ill., and Guy Savoy's in Las Vegas,

And, Wine Enthusiast, praised The Lark with the award of Ultimate Distinction — less than 36 restaurants nationwide receive the annual award.

Two other Michigan restaurants also received high honors: Bacco Ristorante of Farmington Hills and Birmingham's Big Rock Chop House.

MORE MEZZAS

Mezza Mediterranean Grille owner Samir Saleh, of Rochester Hills, said he plans to open three more restaurants.

We always applaud new business especially in this struggling economy

New Mezza restaurants are opening in Southfield, Rochester Hills and Hamburg Township by mid 2009 and, of course, there's the new Mezza in Livonia.

Projected growth is anticipated to produce over \$12 million in revenue next year.

Mezza serves traditional Mediterranean dishes like hummus, fattoush, and shawarma and more. A large wine and cocktail list is also available. Current locations are 42050

Grand River Avenue, Novi; 4189 Orchard Lake Road, Orchard

Lake; and 37367 Six Mile, Livonia. Visit http://www. mezzagrille.com/

PLAN YOUR HOLIDAY

MENU

We received this recipe from Felicia Palazzolo Shaw, owner of Felicia; a salon in Birmingham.

She wanted to share one of her favorite holiday recipes with you.

SICILIAN EGGPLANT PARMESAN

For Eggplants: 2 medium eggplants (large eggplant can be tough, too many seeds can be

1 large bowl of cold, heavily salted water

2 or 3 eggs 1 cup seasoned Italian bread crumbs

Sauce:

2 teaspoons salt 2 teaspoons pepper

¼ cup olive oil

3 or 4 garlic cloves, finely chopped 1 large sweet onion, coarsely chopped 1 large can diced tomatoes or tomato

1 small can tomato paste 1 tablespoon basi 1 tablespoon oregano 2 tablespoons brown sugar

2 tablespoons fennel seeds

1 cup red table wine (optional) Sprinkle of red pepper flakes (optional)

For assembly:

(optional)

1 cup grated Romano cheese 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese 1 cup shredded Mozzarella cheese

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Eggplant Prep:

Peel and slice eggplant to 1/4 inch thick, soak slices in salted water for 20 minutes, rinse thoroughly and blot excess water. Dip slices in beaten egg and dredge in bread crumbs, coating both sides. Using 1/8 cup of olive oil, coat bottom of cookie sheet, lay slices of eggplant on cookie sheet and bake for 30 minutes. Turn slices as they

brown, approximately 15 minutes on each side. Remove from oven and let cool.

Sauce: Sauté garlic and onion in remaining olive oil until translucent.

Add canned tomato

and tomato paste (diluted with one cup of warm water) and remaining ingredients. Simmer at least for 30 minutes.

Assembly:

Pour a thin layer of sauce in a 9- by 13-inch baking dish, line dish with layer of eggplant. Add more sauce on top of eggplant and sprinkle with cheese; continue this process until dish is full. Top off with extra mozzarella, bake 30-45 minutes at 350 degrees until bubbly. Let stand for a few minutes and enjoy!

TREATS FOR RUDOLPH

There's a new cookbook by Mrs. Claus herself titled The Elf on the Shelf Cookbook - see it at www.elfontheshelf.com

We couldn't resist sharing this recipe so the kids can feed Rudolph & the gang this Christmas Eve.

REINDEER NUGGETS

½ cup margarine or butter 1 (12 ounce) jar peanut butter (crunch or creamy)

1 (12 ounce) package semi-sweet chocolate morsels

1 teaspoon, vanilla

1 (18 ounce) box Golden Grahams Cereal 1 pound box raisins

1 pound box powdered sugar

2 cups roasted peanuts

1 cup granola Directions:

In large saucepan, melt margarine or butter, peanut butter and chocolate morsels over low heat stirring frequently. Stir in vanilla. In large bowl combine cereal, raisins, peanuts and granola. Pour chocolate mixture over cereal mixture. Combine well. Toss in powdered sugar until all ingredients are thoroughly coated. Store in airtight container. Enjoy!



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Observer & Eccentric **NEWSPAPERS** Please check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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TWILIGHT [PG13]

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ROLE MODELS [R]

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3 [G]

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BOLT [PG]

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS [PG13]

QUANTUM OF SOLACE [PG13]

MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA [PG]

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MORE CHAMPAGNE PICKS

Champagne Delamotte is the fifth-oldest champagne producer in the region and one of the leaders in the Cote des Blancs. Try: Delamotte NV Brut, \$50, and Delamotte NV Brut Rose, \$99. This latter is a standout with 80 percent pinot noir and 20 percent chardonnay in the blend. This year, Champagne Henriot celebrates its 200th anniversary. To celebrate, Henriot released Brut Millesime 1998 at \$95. It's a blend of approximately half pinot noir and chardonnay. A singular appley aroma greets the taster and is followed by citrus flavors, creamy texture and a rich, full finish.

For its delicacy and refinement, Champagne Taittinger has long been one of our favorite champagne houses.

Champagne Taittinger NV Cuvee Prestige Brut Rose, \$93, catches the eye with its light cherry hue and persistent fine bubbles. Subtle strawberry and cherry flavors last long into an extended finish.

Pommery stars as house of firsts

eing ahead of the curve and setting the curve are two dif-ferent business strategies.

Champagne Pommery, in addition to being the first to introduce a pension and

social secu-

rity fund for its

19th century,

was the first to

create the Brut style of cham-

pagne, to open

their domaine to

employees in the



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor

the public and to introduce champagne in a single-Heald serve bottle. Now Pommery has

made an official commitment to go "green."

It's on this latter point, that we've chosen to select Champagne Pommery as our Champagne of the Year.

POMMERY GOES GREEN

Deciding to "go green" does not happen overnight. Pommery made its early moves in 1996 with a special team to establish environmental accountability. Near the end of

1998, Pommery obtained the internationally respected double certification of ISO 9001 for quality and ISO 14001 for its environmental approaches.

You may have noticed that champagne bottles are generally quite heavy because they need to withstand the carbon dioxide pressure within the bottle that escapes as bubbles when the cork is removed. In 2003, Pommery decreased its bottle weights to new eco-friendly packaging, lowering the carbon footprint created in transporting its product.

Additionally, "green" energy is supplied by the French producer EDF, which is contractually obliged to produce an equal amount of "green" electricity, created by wind turbines, for every kilowatt consumed by Pommery.

BUYING FROM POMMERY

Pommery Brut Royal Non-Vintage (NV), \$42, sets the house style, having been aged three years in the bottle. As a blend of 35 percent chardonnay with the remainder divided equally between pinot noir and pinot meunier, it's pleasantly dry and classically rich

Pommery Brut Apanage NV, \$50, has a slightly higher percentage of grand cru chardonnay and four years of aging. Gentle citrus and white fruit aromas are apparent, followed by a layered and rich expression in the flavors.

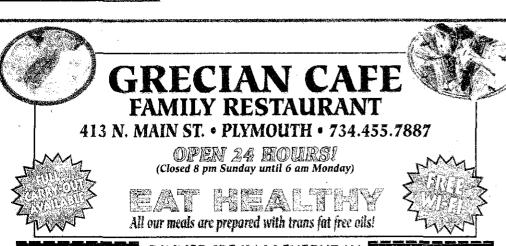
Pommery Brut Rose NV, \$70, is one-third each of chardonnay, pinot noir and pinot meunier. A

subtle hint of strawberry dominates the aroma, followed by distinct pinot noir characteristics of richness yet elegance.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are Contributing Editors for the internationally-respected Ouarterly 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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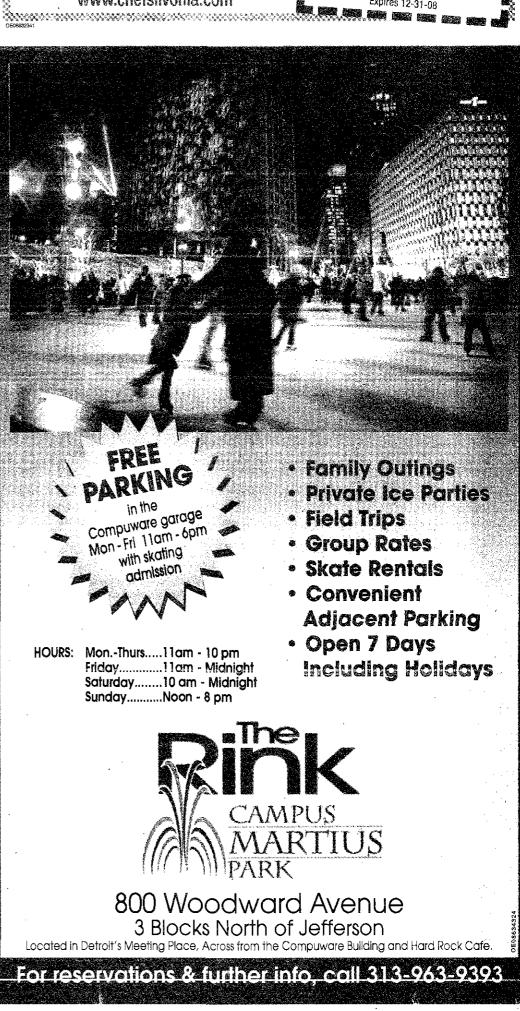
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The adaptation by Doris Baizley has actors rush, sing and tumble.

They use puppets and play numerous characters. A Clown Trio acts out everything from the fireplace to birds to Scrooge himself.

"And all I chauge is my hat and my voice," said Jonathon

Stanley, of Canton, a hiphop dancer who plays Jake the Fence and other characters. "Jake is unbelievably lowdown. He buys up the dead Scrooge's effects, then his sheets and pillows, then his gold teeth, fingernails — it goes on right up until his heart - which is declared worthless," he said.

Laura Gumina, of Southfield, plays several characters including Mrs. Fezziwig.

"I love the comedic bent of this show - the raucous physical humor," she said. "Yet, it is still true to the original."

GREAT LAKES DERMATOLOGY

Send items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Lana Mini, Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Rewspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48609, or email Imini@kometownlife.com.

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 Galfary: 35 N. Main, Mt. Clemens, (586)

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 Crambrook (between 14 and 15 Mile roads), Birmingham, www.BBArtCenter.org, (248) 644-0866. Birmingham Conference Center: 31301 Evergreen, Birmingham.

Kirmingham Unitarian Church: 38651 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 647-2380. Bohemian National Home Gallery: 2009 Tillman, Detroit, (313) 525-5253, www.jeromium.com/

bohouse htm. Cary Gallery: Photographs by Nancy Stocking

and by Ron Teachworth, through Dec. 13, 226 Wainut, Rochester. (248) 651-3656. CPOP: 4160 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-9901, www.cpop.com.

Detroit Artist Market: Art for the Holidays, through Dec. 21, 4719 Woodward, Detroit.

D&M 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.dmartstudio.com.

GET OUT

Farmington City Gallery: Costick Center, 2860011 Mile, (248) 473-1856. Farmington Community Library: 23500 Liberty, (248) 553.6261, www.suzannebauman.com.

Birmingham Gallery@VT: Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, (734) 394-5300, www. canton-mi.org/villagetheater, www.wsg-art.

First Unifed Methodist Church: 1589 W. Maple,

Galeria at Orchard Lake: 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

8loomfleld, (238) 432-5448.

Lawrence Street Gallery: Little Things Mean A Lot! Competition, through Dec. 24; reception, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 5, 22620 Woodward, Ferndale (248) 544-0394, www.lawrencestreetgallerv.com. Lemberg Gallery: Jane Hammond "People, Places and Things," through November, 23241 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 591-6623, www. iemberggallery.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

Hext 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.

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.

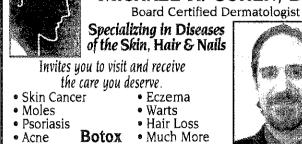
Paint Creek Center for the Arts: Holiday Objects Up and Down, through Jan. 3, 2009; 407 Pine, Rochester, (248) 651-4110, www.pccart.org. Paul Kotula Projects: 23255 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3020, www.paulkotula.com. Pewahic Pottery: 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, (313) 822-0954, www.pewabic.org. **Plymouth Community Arts Council:** 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth, (734) 416-4278, www.plymoutharts.

The Print Gallery: 29173 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, (248) 356-5454, www.everythingart.

Progressive Art & Frame Design: 1511 North Main, Clawson, (248) 435-0944, www.progressiveart.net. Susanne Hilberry Gallery: 700 Livernois, Ferndale (248) 541-470D, www.susannehilberrygallery.

Tangent Gallery: 715 E. Milwaukee St., Detroit. (313) 877-4377, www.tangentgallery.com The Community House: 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, www.communityhouse.com. Visual Arts Association of Livenia: Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Dr., (248) 348-4550.

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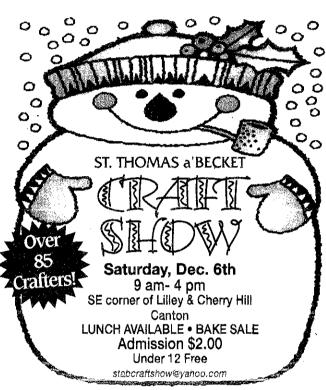
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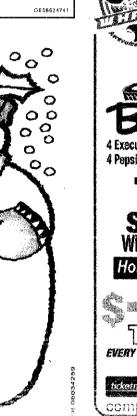


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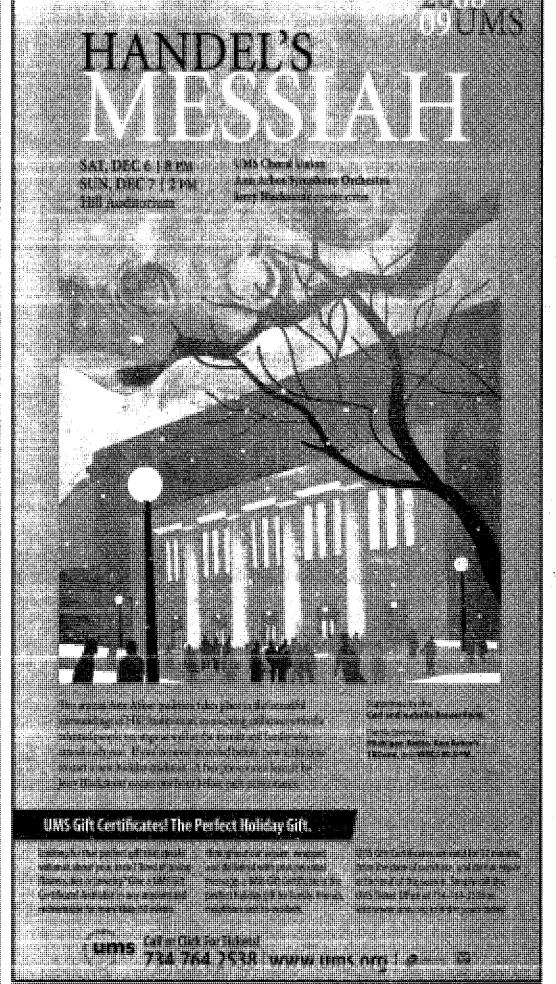






14900 Beck Road





Dancing dolls Two local families cheer on twin daughters

in 'The Nutcracker'

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA **O&E STAFF WRITER**

Patrons attending The Joffrey Ballet's production of The Nutcracker, which opens today, might think they're seeing double. This year the holiday classic includes more than 80 young dancers from the metro area — and among them are twin sisters Jade and Jai Hatcher, age 10 of Southfield and Lizzie and Erika Ranck,

age 9 of West Bloomfield. The Ranck girls have been in dance shoes since the tender age of 2½. Their mother, Dori Ranck, teaches dance at The Pointe Academy Dance Center in Rochester Hills. "The girls definitely have a talent for it," she said. But that talent isn't limited to dance. They have auditioned for films, done commercials, even starred in The White Stripes' video for My Doorbell, at the age of 6. But this will be a first for Lizzie and Erika - performing with a giant cast on stage at the Detroit Opera House.

Fourth-graders at Keith Elementary in West Bloomfield, they will appear, dressed as little dolls, in two scenes: The Battle in Act One and Clara's Dream in Act Two. "I thought it was going to be hard," said Lizzie, "but it wasn't that hard."

Southfield residents Javay and Glen Hatcher, parents to Jade and Jai, agreed that while this is their daughters' professional stage debut, they have worked long hours in rehearsal to prepare and to maintain a positive attitude.

"We're happy we're not the only set of twins," said Jai, who along with sister Jade began studying dance 4 years ago.

Javay Hatcher said she noticed their interest in dance when the family attended a wedding and Jai danced the entire time. The girls are now

THE NUTERACKER

What: The Joffrey Ballet presents this holiday dance classic, including 50 of the world's finest dancers and 80 local children When: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Friday, Dec. 5, and Saturday, Dec. 6; 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 5; 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6; noon and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7. Where: The Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit.

Tickets: \$10-\$75, which includes student and group discounts, call (313) 237-SING or visit www. MichiganOpera.org.

What Else: See Erika and Lizzie Ranck during performances at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4; II a.m. Friday, Dec. 5; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 and noon on Sunday, Dec. 7. Cheer on Jade and Jai Hatcher during performances 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5: 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7.

members of a company called Draft at Motor City Dance Factory, housed at Youthville in Detroit. In 2007 they competed in The Pulse in New York City and they performed during Noel Night at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Last week, they performed in the Detroit Lions' halftime show on Ford Field on Thanksgiving Day.

"We saw our friend audition last year," said Jai, which inspired both of them to try out for *The Nutcracker* this time around.

Auditions for this production were held Sept. 27 — and ever since the young dancers have spent Saturdays and Sundays downtown, learning the routines and practicing for their star turns on stage. "A lot of how this was cast had

to do with size," said Ranck. "Certain sizes required certain costumes.

The Hatchers, students at Ealy Elementary in West Bloomfield, are portraying Snow Tree Angels in the show. "We told our teachers," said Jai. "Our teachers were very happy."

In each case the twin sisters' total time on stage will amount to about 6 minutes. As a doll, Erika will have a grand exit. At the end of the second act, she'll be lifted into the air by a Joffrey Ballet member.

Glen Hatcher was happy to see his daughters so invested in dance. "It's good to have them involved in something that keeps them occupied and it makes us really proud," he said.

For both families, this production is sure to bring out plenty of family and friends. The Hatchers plan to attend the Friday evening show as a family — and Jade and Jai were anticipating a dinner afterward at Hockeytown Cafe, like they did last year.

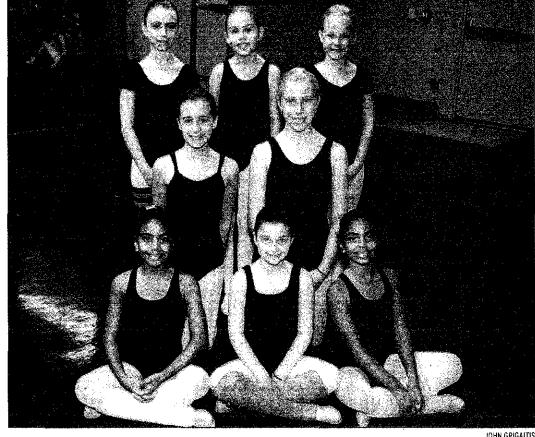
"It is such a tradition for Detroit," said Dori Ranck. "So many people go every year to see it.'

The young dancers shared their advice for others interested in getting involved. Erika said: "Just have fun and know what you're doing." Due to the size of the cast, her sister Lizzie suggested "don't look at anybody else."

Jade Hatcher said it's important to remember to smile. Her mother considered the experience a good one overall. "The girls have made new friends," she said.

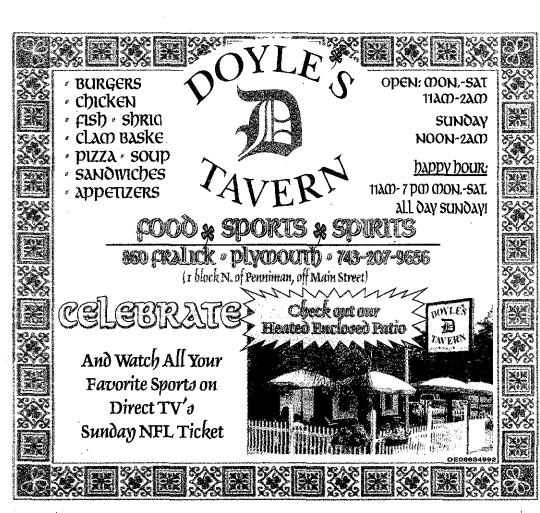
And Dori Ranck believes her daughters are likely to keep their toes tapping. "Dance is something no one can take away from you," she said.

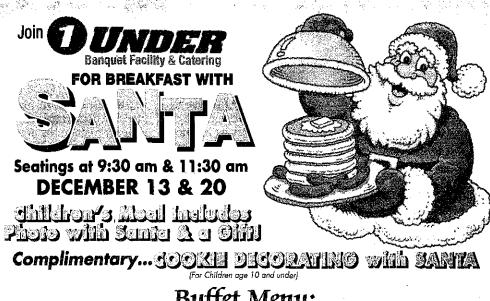
scasola@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2567



Snow Tree Angels practice for "The Nutcracker." They include (from top left): Abigail Givens of Redford, Claire Olivia Golden of Plymouth, Jennifer Rousseau of Westland; (from center left) Maggie Favier of Bloomfield Township, Megan Lewan of Livonia; and (from bottom left) Jade Hatcher of Southfield, Megan Gargaro of Bloomfield Hills, Jai Hatcher of Southfield.







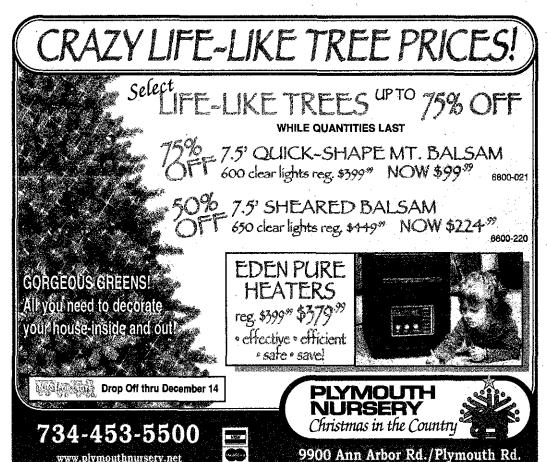
Buffet Menu:

Assorted Fruits and Pastries, Bagels and Muffins ~ Scrambled Eggs, Bacon and Sausage Chef's Omelet Station with all the Fixings ~ Hash Browns ~ French Toast ~ Waffles Buttermilk Pancakes ~ Macaroni & Cheese ~ Chicken Tenders ~ Mini Corn Dogs Fresh Assorted Juices, Coffee, Tea and Soda

Seniors...\$9.95 Children 4-12 years...\$8.95 Adults...\$10.95 Children age 3 and under eat FREE!

Space is Limifed...Sall for Reservations 35780 Five Mile Road • Livonia • 734-464-5555

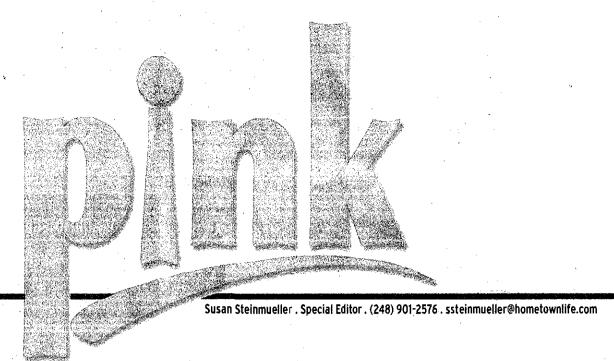




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Quest for the perfect post-partum PJs

n preparation for my second baby, I spent the last month before my maternity leave obsessed with finding the perfect pair of PJs to pack in my

hospital bag. I wanted to look halfway decent receiving visitors with cameras in hand. Plus, I was sick of looking slouchy as I

Wensdy Von Buskirk

lounged around the house at night. I'd like to share my shopping find# with other moms-to-be.

At Von Maur Laurel Park Place, I waddled past trendy but oh-

so-tiny Ed Hardy

brands to spot the cutest little sleepwear sets tailor made for maternity. By Olian, they include a robe and nightgown or pajamas for mom, along with a matching kimono for baby. You can pick up sets in pink, blue or turquoise, in solids (\$80) or prints (\$82) for yourself, or as a perfect baby shower gift.

Target has a wide selection of lingerie and lounge wear at great prices, and I'm partial to the Nick & Nora line with its funky, bold novelty prints. Cozy flannel winter pajama sets feature fun themes like Flamingos on Ice or Snow Bunnies and retail for \$24.99.

Sunny J's in Plymouth carries tons of cotton sleep sets, including Scanty drawstring pants, sleepshirts and capris in fun designs. High-quality American-made Verena

> FIs and 3/4sleeve robes are durable through countless washings (so important postmertum). And the new, walue-priced **Katherine** fine is coming soon. Inspired by my addic-

tion to the show The Breanna Bed Jacket from RxPJs (\$50). $Mad\ Men.$ I dream of getting

dolled up in lacy negligees with filmy robes like the show's glamorous '60s housewife Betty. The upscale Mary Green line at Harp's Lingerie in Birmingham is perfect for upping the bedtime glam factor, but I'm afraid I'll have to wait until my nursing days are over before investing in chic sets like these, which can run



West Bloomfield-based RxPJs makes robes and bed jackets for use by hospital patients.

about \$100.

In the meantime, I must stick with something practical, like RxPJs. Designed by Paula Milgrom of West Bloomfield. the robes and bed jackets are made to be worn over hospital gowns. Pieces like the Breanna Bed Jacket (\$50) have zippers and ties strategically placed to preserve dignity and modesty, not easy to do in the maternity

They're available at Zoe's Lace in West Bloomfield and Lori Karbal in Birmingham.

Wensdy Von Buskirk will be off work through the holidays, likely wearing her pajamas all day as she cares for her new daughter along with her 3-year-old toddler. In the meantime, contact interim editor Susan Steinmueller at ssteinmueller@hometownlife.com.



For guys and gals

Guys N Gals, a retail store in West Bloomfield, carries these fleece lounge pants by Love and Kisses to keep you warm and comfortable this winter. They currently carry designs that include sports. animals, and the Universities of Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin. They come in sizes 2-3 to adult and start at \$46.

Our PINK Picks contest included some amazing entries from local teens. To celebrate we chose some of the best entries from two teen readers.

Veronica Allen, 16, of Livonia contributed the following:

Kick It! Solid colored flats (so cute with boot cut jeans)

Face it! New Neutrogena Pink Grapefruit line. Yum.

Wane It!

Herbal Essences Hello Hydration. It makes your hair smell fantas-

The new season of Greek on ABC Family

Foundation as eyeshadow primer

And Lia Andreassi, 13, of Livonia shared her fashionable picks:



Accessorize It! **Bangles**

Smell It! Ed Hardy perfume

See It! Nights In Rodanthe

Drink Iti Starbucks Pumpkin Spice Coffee

Ask hairstylist if they use eco-friendly products





BBAC Holiday Shop

BIRMINGHAM - Master the art of giving at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center's Holiday Shop, Dec. 5-20, featuring fiber, jewelry, ceramics, wood, home décor, children's wear, ornaments, glass and paintings.

■ The BBAC's Sunday Drop-In Workshops on Dec. 7, 14 and 21 focus on gift making. The fee is \$5 per person and includes all materials; free for children under 4. Those 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Most projects take 45 minutes to make and take. Block print design holiday cards will be made at the Dec. 7 workshop, The BBAC, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road, Birmingham, is between 14 Mile and 15 Mile roads. More information is available at BBArtCenter. org or by calling (248) 644-0866.

Winter Festival

FRANKLIN - Celebrate the season during Franklin Village's annual Winter Festival/Holly Day, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. All stores celebrate with special values and savings along

with all-day family-friendly events including choirs, mimes, kids activities, bracelet making, face painting, tea pot bingo, Santa's arrival, holiday cookie decorating, ice carving, old fashioned carriage rides, Candlelight Home Tour of fabulous Franklin homes, and a special holiday tree and menorah lighting at 5:30 p.m. at the Franklin Library.

Goodfellows FARMINGTON - The Civic Theater in downtown Farmington, (Grand River Ave just east of Farmington Road), will show free holiday movies on Dec. 6 with a donation of new toys, canned goods, new books or cash/check to the Farmington Area Goodfellows. Also half of the concession proceeds will be donated by the Civic to the Goodfellows. The event supports the Goodfellows Holiday Assistance Program. The movie schedule is: noon and 2:45 p.m. "It's a Wonderful Life;" 1:30 and 3 p.m. Mickey's Christmas Carol; 12:45 and 2:15 p.m. "How the

Grinch Stole Christmas."

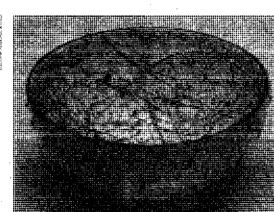
Photos for pets

NOVI - Bring your dog or cat to Twelve Oaks Mall from 9-10:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, so their photo can be taken with Santa. A portion of the proceeds will go to a local animal rescue organization. Reservations are a must: call (248) 348-9438. Twelve Oaks is at 1-96 and Novi Road. Visit www.shoptwelveoaks.com for more information.

Helping kids with leukemia

SOUTHFIELD - Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan has partnered with Morley Candy to collect holiday toys at several of their area retail stores for distribution to Michigan children and teens affected by leukemia. The foundation (www.leukemiamichigan.org) will ship personalized toy packages during the holidays to child patients and their siblings and to the children of adult patients affected by leukemia, lymphoma and related blood cancers.

Anyone bringing a toy to one of the Morley retail locations for CLF's holiday toy program will receive a 10 percent discount on a purchase, excluding gift card or gift certificate purchases. Area locations serving as drop off points are in Rochester. Livonia and Birmingham.



Ceramics by Greg Laatson will be among the gifts available for purchase at the BBAC holiday gift shop.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com



