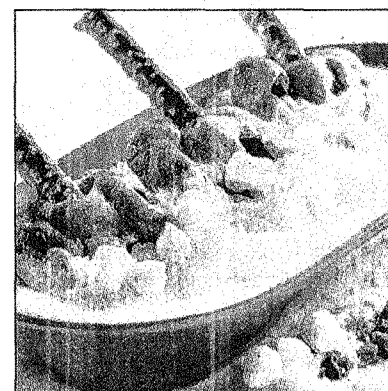


Money-saving coupons inside

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
Volume 45
Number 60
75 CENTS

WESTLAND OBSERVER

SUNDAY December 20, 2009 . online at hometownlife.com



Snowy day delights
Food, B5

AROUND TOWN

Holiday hours

Westland city offices and the 18th District Court will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 24-25, for the Christmas holiday and Thursday and Friday, Dec. 31 to Jan. 1, for the New Year's holiday. Police and fire emergency services are unaffected. The court will be closed to the public on Wednesday, Dec. 30 for case inventory.

The closings also include the Bailey Recreation Center which will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 23, and will be open 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31.

The William P. Faust Library will also be closed Thursday and Friday, Dec. 24-25, for the Christmas holiday and Thursday and Friday, Dec. 31 to Jan. 1, for the New Year's holiday, as well as Saturday, Dec. 26. The Westland Historical Museum also will be closed Saturday, Dec. 26.

The Friendship Center will be closed for the holiday season as of Monday, Dec. 21. It will reopen Monday, Jan. 4.

Trash collection will be unaffected on Dec. 24 and Dec. 31. There will be no trash collection on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Those residents who normally have trash collection on Friday will have their trash picked up one day later on Saturday, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Blood drive

This is the season of giving and one of the greatest gifts people can give costs only one hour of their time.

The William P. Faust Public Library is holding an American Red Cross Blood Drive 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21, in meeting rooms A and B.

Blood is something most people have to spare, but there is still not enough to go around. Consistent donations from new and regular blood donors are needed year-round to maintain a stable blood supply.

A three-day supply is considered safe and adequate, with five to seven considered optimal for meeting emergency and disaster-related needs. In the past two years, the overall blood supply in Michigan has rarely edged above two days.

By donating, people ensure blood is on the shelf when needed. And as many as three people can be helped with just one donation. Blood donors must be healthy, at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds.

Sign up at the circulation desk or just drop-in. Walk-ins are always welcome. The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Rehabbing sewer lines will save city money

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland is moving ahead with a \$3.5 million program to rehabilitate sewer lines and manholes and make other improvements that will remove storm water that gets into the sanitary sewer.

Reasons for reducing the storm water infiltration include avoiding sewage backups into residential

basements, decreasing the amount of sewage the city pays to be treated by Wayne County and also reducing the capacity Westland will need in an upcoming county sewer tunnel project.

"Our sanitary and storm sewers are totally separated. We have not had flooding, but there is the potential," Department of Public Services Director Kevin Buford said. "The 72-inch sanitary pipe in the north end

of the city gets full. There has been no flooding, but it's been close. We should reduce the amount that goes into the 72-inch pipe."

Since about 2001, Westland has had a final order of abatement with the Department of Environmental Quality calling for a reduction of sewer discharge. The current sewer system was designed to handle flow for a one-year 10-hour storm while current standards require a 25-year

24-hour storm.

Part of the project includes disconnecting footer drains from 300 homes identified by the city. Older homes often used a drainage system of underground weeping tiles.

"That water seeps into the sanitary sewer and causes more than we want to go into the sanitary sewer," Buford said. "We'll disconnect the

Please see **SEWER, A2**



The tooth fairy, Wayne County Community College student Brittany Kelly, reads a book about a youngster's visit to the dentist during a stop at the Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool in Westland.

Fairy good

Preschoolers brush up on dental hygiene

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Everyone knows about the tooth fairy: Lose a tooth, put it in a special spot and the tooth fairy comes to collect it, leaving behind a token amount of money.

No one has ever seen the tooth fairy — that is, until she stopped by the Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool at Kirk of Our Savior in Westland to talk to the preschoolers about their teeth.

The tooth fairy read a book called *The War Against the Plaque Spider*, a story about a youngster's visit to the dentist.

"The plaque spiders are going to ruin Tory's smile," she told the youngsters. "He's going to need

Please see **TEETH, A4**



Preschooler Joseph Norman tries on his smile.

Library earns state certification

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At a time when reduced revenue is causing cuts in many services, Westland's William Faust Library has not only maintained services, but has added 10 extra service hours weekly.

"Our professional publications list news of hours being cut at libraries. I have no verification, but I know we are the only ones who added hours," Library Director Cheryl Napsha said. "I'm very pleased."

Expanding hours was one of the steps taken by the library to earn a certification of completion from the Library of Michigan for meeting the Enhanced Level requirements of the Quality Services Audit Checklist (QSAC). To earn the certification, the Westland library demonstrated its ongoing work to improve beyond library essentials in seven categories of achievement, including human resources, governance/administration, services, collection development, technology, facilities and equipment and public relations/marketing.

The library had four areas on which to focus, Napsha said, including developing a strategic plan, publication of a newsletter, the increased hours and more programming.

Westland already had a municipal newsletter, Napsha said, so the library was able to partner with the city on the newsletter, which is sent to every home in the city.

Cultural and educational programming for adults at the library is reported to have increased nearly 500 percent in the past two years. The library currently has a staff of 40 employees, including nine librarians.

"We are proud that the Westland library has done such

Please see **LIBRARY, A2**

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Eat, shop, entertain

Not every business is closed for the holidays

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

Whether it's last-minute shopping, a place to eat or entertainment, many businesses are open Christmas Day.

George Yarbenet, manager of Emagine Theater in Canton, says it's actually a "very busy day for us and it's mostly families."

The holidays are a busy season for movie theaters and most — Emagine in Canton and Novi, AMC-20 in Livonia — are open Christmas, but independent and smaller theaters have different schedules, so call ahead.

Sherlock Holmes, rated PG-13, stars Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law and Rachel McAdams and

opens Christmas Day along with *It's Complicated* (rated R), starring Meryl Streep, Steve Martin and Alec Baldwin.

Several area bowling lanes are open Dec. 25. Merri-Bowl on Five Mile in Livonia — (734) 427-2900 — and Super Bowl, 45100 Ford Road, Canton — (734) 459-6070 — are both open from 5 p.m. to midnight. Vision Lanes at 38250 Ford Road, Westland — (734) 641-8181 — plans to be open from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m.

"Generally we get a little rush at 6 p.m.," said Doug Sewesky, general manager at Canton's Super Bowl. "People are tired of sitting around at home. The last couple of years have been fairly

steady all evening. There are a lot of families who come out.

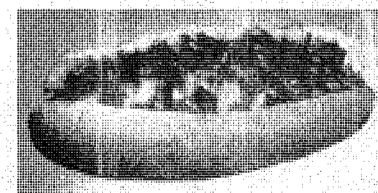
"Bowling is a great family activity, because everyone is together and it's good for all ages, from 4-year-olds to the grandparents," he added.

If you need to purchase a last-minute gift, Walgreens and CVS Pharmacy locations throughout the area are the best bet. Meijer, Kmart, Walmart and Target, along with major malls, are closed. In fact, Dec. 25 is the only day of the year that Meijer stores are closed. Most 24-hour Walgreens and CVS Pharmacy locations will be open for business Christmas.

Please see **CHRISTMAS, A5**

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SEWER

FROM PAGE A1
 footer drains and install a sump pump.
 By the time Wayne County does the study for its project in 2012, Westland should have seen a drastic reduction in sewer discharge, Buford said, which will reduce the capacity needed in the county tunnel. That means Westland's cost to purchase capacity would be less.
 "Wayne County is putting in the large system because they have a problem. When Hines

Park floods, the county interceptor is under water — the interceptor should never be under water," Buford said.
 This project will also help maintain Westland's 286 miles of sanitary sewer lines and 6,744 sanitary sewer manholes, many of which were constructed from the 1940s to '60s.
 The work will be financed through \$3.5 million in bonds from Michigan's low interest rate Strategic Water Quality Initiatives Fund (SWQIF). The city will receive a 2.5-percent interest rate on loans for up to 20 years. In addition, the city will be forgiven

for at 40 percent of at least \$800,000 of the project through the DEQ.
 "Making improvements to our infrastructure is imperative to ensure consistent services to our residents, aiding in the prevention of sewage backups into our residents basements," Mayor William Wild said. "This is our opportunity to take advantage of the most cost-effective avenue for municipalities to fund capital improvements."
 This project is slated to begin in next spring or summer.
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AROUND WESTLAND

District hours

The staff of Congressman Thaddeus McCotter will hold office hours in several locations in January. The time is set aside so that the citizens served by the congressman can speak with a staff member for assistance regarding any federal issue that they might have. It is not a political venue and no discussions of a political nature will be expected.
 On Tuesday, Jan. 5, the congressman staff will be at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center 9-10 a.m., Redford Community Center 10:30-11:30 a.m., Garden City Maplewood Center 1-2 p.m. and Westland Friendship Center 2:30-3:30 p.m. On Thursday, Jan. 7, his staff will be at the Canton Summit Senior Center 9-10 a.m., Northville Senior Center 11 a.m. to noon, Plymouth District Library 12:30-1:30 p.m. and the Van Buren September Days Senior Center 2:30-3:30 p.m.
 Congressman McCotter has two offices in the district to serve his constituents. The Livonia office can be reached by calling (734) 632-0314 or the Milford office is available at (248) 685-9495. Any comments of a political nature should be directed to the office closest to the constitu-

New Year's Eve

Wayne AMVETS Post 171 will hold at New Year's party starting at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31. The cost will be \$30 per person and includes an open bar, buffet dinner at 7 p.m. and dancing. There also will be party favors, a bottle of champagne at each table and pizza at midnight. The party ends at 1 a.m.
 Tickets are available at the AMVETS Post, 1217 Merriman, south of Cherry Hill. For more information call (734) 721-9440.

Holiday skating

Head for the Mike Modano Ice Arena during the Christmas break where there will be open skating 12:30-1:50 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21, Wednesday, Dec. 23, Monday, Dec. 28, and Wednesday Dec. 30. The arena also offers open skating 1:30-3:20 p.m. Saturdays and 2:30-3:50 p.m. Sundays. The cost is \$3.50 for children and \$4.50 for adults. Skate rental is \$2.50.
 For a different kind of New Year's Eve, do some black light skating at a special version of Glow skate 5-6:30 Dec. 31. The cost is \$2.50 for children and \$3.50 for adults.
 For more information, call the arena at (734) 729-4560.

ent's residence.
 holding a One on One Multi-Sport Mini-Camp 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 21-23, 2009 - pre-register by Dec. 17 - and Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 28-30 - pre-register by Dec. 23 - for children age 5-13 or in kindergarten through the sixth-grade.
 Kids can keep their skills sharp and have fun participating in sports like basketball, soccer, volleyball, dodgeball, and even kickball. The camp is designed to provide a fun and positive environment for students on the school holiday. Campers need to bring their own lunch.
 Each camper will receive a T-shirt and an award. Participants will need to bring water and lunch each day. Campers will be divided into two-three groups, depending on age and skill level.
 The cost is \$75 for Westland residents and \$82 for non-residents. For more information, call (734) 418-3190 or check out the Web site at www.1on1basketball.com/michigan.

American Legion
 The American Legion, Westland Post 251 meets at 7 p.m. first Tuesday of each month at the AMVETS Post 171 on Merriman Road between Avondale and Palmer. All veterans, male and female with a honorable discharge are welcome to join. Visit the post Web site at www.post 251.org or call (734) 326-2607 for more information.

LIBRARY

FROM PAGE A1
 good work in providing services deemed enhanced by the Library of Michigan," Westland Library Board president Leslie Bell said. "By focusing efforts on these additional areas, our library has shown a strong commitment

to customer service."
 These improvements were made despite the library receiving \$250,000 less revenue in the current fiscal year. That consisted primarily of lower property tax revenues from the 0.944 mills assessed for library services, state funding, penalties and fines.
 The Library of Michigan offers three levels of certification — the Enhanced Level is

the second level. The QSAC top level, an Excellent certification, is much tougher to earn. In this area, only the West Bloomfield library has received that certification.
 "QSAC represents the work of more than 100 library directors, trustees and staff members who together created measures of quality for our state's public libraries," state Librarian Nancy Robertson said. "The staff of the Westland library is to be commended for achieving a vital milestone in library service."
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'Feels wonderful' - new Junior Miss gets ready for state

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jordan Berry will have a restful holiday season, but come the new year, the Westland teen has her work cut out preparing for the 2010 Michigan Junior Miss Program.

A senior at Wayne Memorial High School, Berry was among 14 young women who competed for the honor of representing the Wayne-Westland community as the 2010 Junior Miss.

"It feels wonderful," Berry said. "It's so overwhelming and I'm so honored. It's taken a while to sink in."

Since winning the title last month, Berry has appeared in the Wayne Christmas Parade and has appeared with her fellow Junior Miss contestants before both the Wayne and Westland city councils. With time off for the holidays, she'll start preparing next month for the state competition that will be held in Saline in March.

"I went in with a positive attitude, but there were so many talented girls that I told myself I wouldn't be disappointed if I didn't win," she said. "I went in with the idea of doing my best."

The daughter of Steve and Jodi Berry of Westland, Berry won the talent, fitness and community services honors on her way to the title. First runner-up was Cassie Sanders.

"I think she did really good job, I'm proud of her," her mother said. "She did her best. She has a good attitude, she's a well-grounded and well-rounded girl."

Berry said she won community service because of her 12 years in Girl Scouting as well as several fund-raising events as a member of the Wayne Memorial varsity cheerleading squad. In one instance, the team raised money to help a

young girl who was sick. She passed away before the team could present her with the money, so it went to help the family and to help with funeral expenses.

As for fitness, Berry performed an acrobatic dance, combining her love of sports and cheerleading, to John Fogerty's *Centerfield*.

"I did a lot of gymnastics and cheer and all the way through I was showing off for the coach," she said of her performance, which she plans to stick with for the state competition.

Berry said she "has a passion for fitness" and goes to a gym to work out and for classes to enhance her tumbling skills for cheerleading. That passion also is reflected in her plans after high school. She'll use the \$1,500 in scholarship money she received to study fitness leadership and pursue an associate's degree in business at Henry Ford Community College. She plans to become a personal trainer/nutritionist.

Berry got involved in the Junior Miss Program in part because of a family friend, Carol Baker, who is the director of the Wayne-Westland program. Berry knew how much Baker put into the program and even went and watched the competition for several years before getting involved herself.

"I know people who were involved and they said it was a great experience," she said. "It seemed like a good opportunity and it was. I had such a good experience. I learned about the others and I learned about myself and how important things are."

In addition to her parents, Berry's older brother Blake, several relatives, her boyfriend and a few "rowdy friends" were there to cheer her on, her mother said. Blake was his mother's



Jodi (right) and Steve Berry pose with their daughter Jordan after she was named Junior Miss.

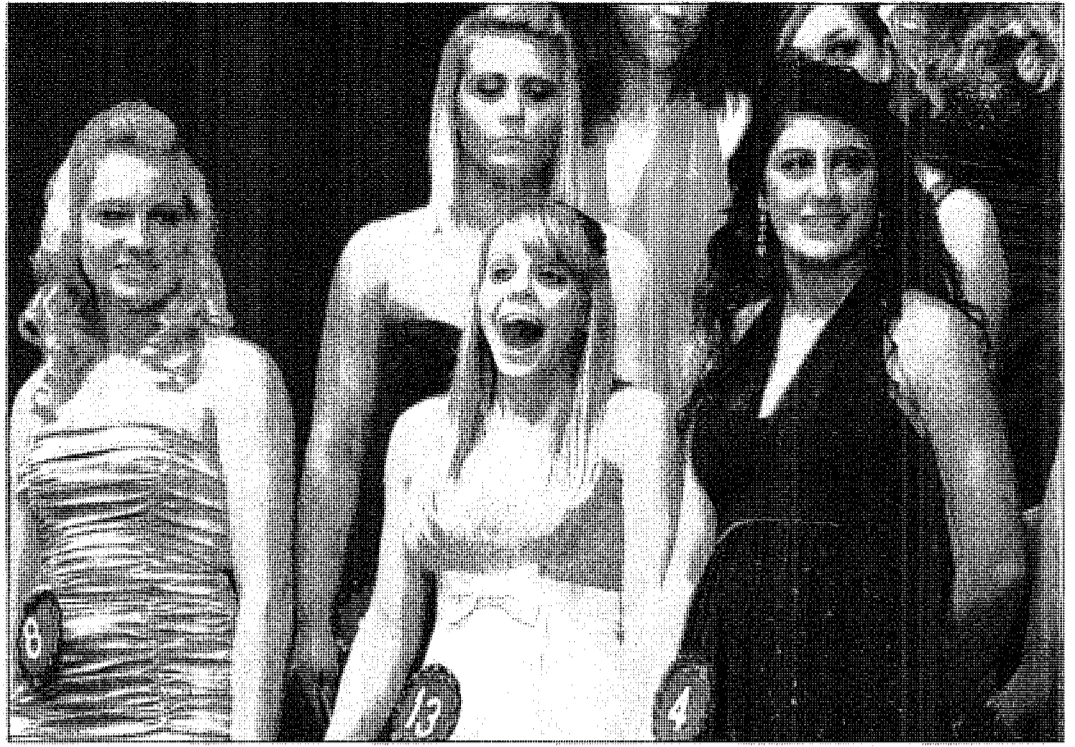
scorekeeper.

"He was really proud, he was screaming and high-fiving," Jodi Berry said. "He made paper stars and was holding them up in the crowd."

Berry also had two nieces who participated in the Future Junior Miss Program that serves as a fund-raiser for the scholarship fund. Youngsters the ages of 5-10 get a chance to participate on stage and in rehearsals in special routines with the teen competitors, get a crown and shirt, and a chance to attend all of the events the Junior Miss is invited to in return for a \$50 donation.

As for the state competition, her mother believes Berry will be "a tremendous representative for Wayne and Westland." "State is a whole next level and I believe she's going to do her best," Jodi Berry said. "We don't know what to expect, but we're proud of her. This has been an awesome experience."

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Ashley Cyprus, Chelsea Kangas and Jessica Kassis watch as Jordan Berry (center) reacts to the announcement that she is the 2010 Wayne-Westland Junior Miss.

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11am-5pm Dec. 27	11am-5pm Dec. 28	11am-5pm Dec. 29	11am-5pm Dec. 30	11am-5pm Dec. 31	11am-7pm Jan. 1 2010	

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CITIZENS BANK

EDUCATION

TEETH

FROM PAGE A1

to bring some powerful dental forces and activate his tooth powers to protect his teeth and gums."

The tooth fairy was actually Brittany Kelly and she brought along a few helpers, all dental hygiene students at Wayne County Community College. The tooth fairy visits are part of a partnership between the college and the Wayne County Public Health Department, where Reynolds is the public health coordinator for outreach and dental health education programs.

Reynolds was the opening act for the tooth fairy. Standing in front of the group, she talked to the youngsters about the sugar bugs and their good friends, the plaque spiders, and even brought a friend, Mr. Big Teeth, to show them how to brush.

"The morning is very important," she said. "You must brush in circles around the gums and on the tops of your teeth because there are very, very tiny bugs."

She even led them in singing a song about brushing in circles and flossing up and down.

"It's so important, you've got to brush your teeth and your gums," Reynolds said.

Kelly reminded the youngsters to brush morning and night and to even brush their tongues.

"Remember, you have your own set of teeth," she said. "You have to love them."

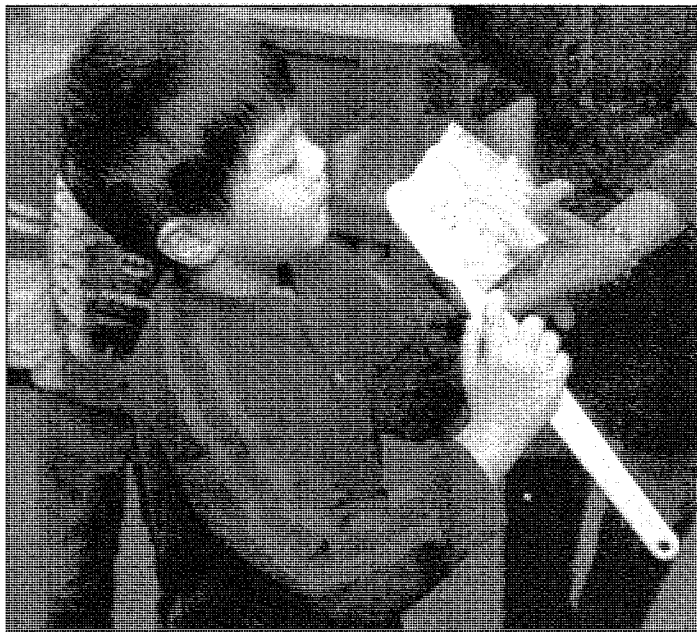
The youngsters also received their own toothbrush, a coloring book and box of crayons.

The partnership is a win-win proposition. Reynolds' students get to see what public health is all about while using their classroom training.

"We do 15-20 such programs a year. This is a well-kept secret," said Reynolds, who has been doing dental



Wetonia Reynolds, public health coordinator for outreach and dental health education programs with the Wayne County Public Health Department, shows her smile while leading preschoolers in singing a song about brushing their teeth.



Kenneth Huynh of Westland shows how to brush Mr. Big Teeth's teeth in a circular motion.

health programs for the county for about 20 years. "If people call at least a month ahead

we can come and see the children. We have programs that go all the way up to teens."

The health department also has dental clinics in Taylor and Wayne for low-income families, as well as a mobile van that visits Head Start programs. The students work in the clinics January through May. According to Reynolds, demand for services is up at the clinic, although there is a reluctance by some people to come.

"They had insurance, but when they come they find it's not what they expected. We have a wonderful clinic," she said.

Reynolds also hopes that such programs as the tooth fairy visits will inspire her students to go into public health.

"There's more of a need for hygienists in public health," she said. "It's a dying art, but I hope that changes. We have more people in need."

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

Grants supports Bridge program

A private nonprofit agency serving at-risk families in western Wayne County and southeastern Michigan is implementing a Community Bridges program to help the families it serves receive the proper resources they need to provide a better life for their children and build family success.

The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan has awarded Starfish Family Services a grant of \$50,000 over two years to support the Community Bridges initiative of the Family Success Program. The grant is from the Foundation's Detroit Auto Dealers Association Charitable Foundation Fund (DADA).

The program is designed to connect families with young children to community allies and resources so that they can learn and problem-solve as a group in finding the opportunities, motivation and support to succeed in moving towards independence. The initiative includes developing a structured volunteer program and collaborations with other community members to develop a community board of resources.

Starfish learned from its Family Success pilot program that families in poverty often live in isolation, unable to access networks and resources, reliable transportation, educational opportunities and financial resources they need to move out of poverty. With the support from the CFSEM/DADA, Starfish will recruit, train and manage volunteer allies and build community collaborations in order to optimize collective resources, build and share expertise, and best serve children and families by creating a social and economic system.

Starfish currently has several community partners who have committed to host various seminars, workshops and support services for at risk families. They include National

City Bank now part of PNC, The Marriage Resource Center, Detroit Public Television, First Step, The Employment Training Design Inc., Madonna University, Henry Ford Community College, University of Michigan Dearborn and Schoolcraft College.

The Family Success Program is a three-year program that helps families move from poverty and dependence to independence through group curricula, mentoring and community support. It is designed to move at-risk families from beyond day-to-day survival and work toward success in finance, education and employment, relationships, physical and emotional health and life goals.

Since its inception in 2005 the Family Success Program has served over 100 families with demonstrated success in moving families towards sustainable independence.

Founded in 1964, Starfish Family Services is based in Inkster with a dozen service sites throughout Wayne County. It is a leading provider of early childhood and parenting programs, after school programs, family mental health services, and emergency shelter to teens and youth in crisis. Each year, more than 9,000 individuals, families and children receive Starfish services.

Starfish's main office is a 30000 Hively, Inkster. For more information, visit its Web site at www.starfishonline.org.

The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan is a permanent community endowment built by gifts from thousands of individuals and organizations committed to the future of southeast Michigan. The foundation works to improve the region's quality of life by connecting those who care with causes that matter. It supports a wide variety of activities benefiting education, arts and culture, health, human services, community development and civic affairs.

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Garden City

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF GARDEN CITY
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To all residents and interested parties, the legal notices are available for review at our website.

The minutes from regular and special Council meetings are available at: <http://www.gardencitymi.org/minutes>

Current requests for bids and proposals are available at: <http://www.gardencitymi.org/bids>

You can also access this information at Garden City City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Garden City Police station lobby 24 hours a day.

Publish: December 20, 2009

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, MI 48124 (313) 277-7940 12/29/2009 at 1:00pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

1010	Andrea Garrison	boxes, bags, totes
1196	Brittany Riley	boxes, dresser, bike
1214	Dawn Turner	boxes, bike, tv
1252	Gregory Marvin	dresser, chair, box
1348	Charlise Williams	boxes, bags, totes
1472	Nicole Murphy	boxes, bags, totes
2240	Charlotte Scott	boxes, bags, totes
2281	Jeffrey Griffith	boxes, totes, tv
2285	Kisha Stewart	boxes, sofa, dresser
2298	Tamika Hister	boxes, bags, dresser
2430	Nicole Jefferson	stove, bags
2474	Walter Elliott	boxes, bags, totes
3006	Pamela Avery	washer, dryer, bags

Publish: December 13 and 20, 2009

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelham Rd., Taylor, MI 48180 (313) 292-9730 12/29/2009 at 11:00 am Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

1008	Bobby Revis	boxes, chairs, tv
1014	Jamie Wolf	boxes, totes, tv
3042	Erma Austin	boxes, dresser, chair
3050	John F Zacchi	boxes, bags, sofa
3087	Jeremy Good	boxes, totes, tv
4022	Roberto Colvard	boxes, totes, sofa
4051	Antoine Murry	boxes, totes, speakers
4082	Jacqueline Jackson	boxes, bags, sofa
5003	Edwin Omev	boxes, dresser, snow blower
5026	Jason Height	boxes, chair, dresser
5080	David Elliott	boxes, bags, totes
5106	George Bojarski	boxes, totes, bike
6023	Rechell Smith	bags, toys, tv
6028	Ebony Boatman	tv, bike, grill
6034	Henry Isom	boxes, totes, sofa
6037	Tracie Breuer	Honda motorcycle VIN HM319HM0B4501
6085	Ron Bemby	bags
6131	Richard McNamee	boxes, totes, tv
7048	Sheila Ross	bags, bike, sofa
7064	Marcel Hunt	boxes, tv, sofa
7108	Deonte Barber	totes, dresser, chair
9108	Helen Nelson	washer, dryer, totes

Publish: December 13 and 20, 2009

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-3117 12/29/2009 at 12:00pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

A015	Samantha Sturgill	boxes, bags, sofa
A017	Chauntel Byers	chairs, grill, tv
B019	Robert Flemister	bags, totes, snow blower
B025	Wendy McGough	boxes, bike, tv
B037	Victor A Cruz	boxes, bags, picture
B048	Keyanna Wafford	mattress, shelf
B054	Pamela Skora	boxes, bags, totes
B129	Linda Carter	boxes, bags, totes
B132	Antwanya McKinley	chair, sofa, stove
B185	Tabita Latham	boxes, dresser, totes
B208	Cathandra Miller	washer, dryer, bike
B218	Wendie Wilkins	boxes, chair, grill
B223	Leon Scott	boxes, totes, chairs
B260	Naena V Love	bags, sofa, tv
B267	Dale Marie Griffin	boxes, bags
B288	Barbara Hanson	boxes, totes, tools
C029	Christopher Hass	boxes, grill, totes
C032	Mohamed Ahmed	boxes, doors, shelving
E046	Denise Beard	totes, dryers, washer
E050	Omar Atallah	bags, sofa, tv
F005	Channel Merideth	boxes, sofa, tv

Publish: December 13 and 20, 2009

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 20080 Allen Rd. Trenton, MI 48183 (734)479-5442 12/29/2009 at 10:00 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

034	Tamara Hess	GMC Van VIN 1GDHG31R7H1041741
104	Tom Finnley	1991 Ford Tempo VIN 2FAPP36U7NB104843
117	Brenda Solley	boxes, bags, totes
155	Wanda Hicks	boxes, sofa, tv
509	Nurhayda Sison	boxes, bags, totes
512	Janet Pielak	boxes, bags, dresser
623	John Scherlitz	dresser, mattress
642	Samuel Zavaleta Jr	boxes, bags, toys
826	Eboni Craig	bags, totes, tv
922	Shawntel Harris	boxes, bags, dresser
1001	William Bell	boxes, totes, suitcase
1004	Guy Ellis	table, chairs
1106	Lionel Belanger	boxes, totes, tv

Publish: December 13 and 20, 2009

Donations support Rouge Education Project

Friends of the Rouge is on the receiving end of a \$1,000 in contributions from Health Alliance Plan and \$2,500 from State Farm Insurance Company to support the Rouge Education Project, the Friends of the Rouge school-based water quality monitoring program.

"The enthusiastic support from sponsors like Health Alliance Plan and State Farm Insurance Company is amazing," said Emily Hughes, the Rouge Education Project program manager. "This project is a great opportunity for a business or organization to get involved in a local environmental education initiative."

Last year, 10 sponsors helped to support the 2008-2009 Rouge Education Project through the Adopt-a-School campaign. The campaign has attracted more than \$50,000 in sponsorships, which supports 23 of the 53 participating schools. The contributions are applied toward school program registrations, water quality testing equipment, workshop participation, program T-shirts, as well as the program administration.

"Clean water is essential to good health and one of our most precious natural resources, that's often taken for granted. By helping students develop sound math, science and problem-solving skills, perhaps Health Alliance Plan can inspire them to become future environmental leaders who will protect our natural resources," said Chrystal Roberts, HAP director of Community Relations.

"This program is an excellent fit for State Farm because it teaches students about issues that have real-world importance and provides a golden opportunity for them to have a positive, direct impact on their communities and the environment by using and increasing their academic skills," added State Farm Agent Bob Zakar of Dearborn.

Friends of the Rouge ultimately would like to have local sponsors support all 53 schools in the project. Currently many schools are supported in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project grant. To adopt a school by making a monetary donation to Friends of the Rouge for the Rouge Education Project, contact the Rouge Education Project assistant program manager, at repastmgr@therouge.org to receive a contribution form.

The mission of the Rouge Education Project is to promote awareness and stewardship of the Rouge River watershed through school-based water quality monitoring, investigation and problem solving. The project's major

goals are to:

- Provide opportunities for schools to engage students in hands-on, real-world science through water quality monitoring of the Rouge River.
- Increase participants' awareness of the Rouge River watershed, how they impact it, and how it impacts them.
- Empower participants to apply knowledge and awareness gained through the Rouge Education Project to identify and address environmental issues in the Rouge River watershed and beyond.

Established in 1986, Friends of the Rouge is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River ecosystem through education, citizen involvement and other collaborative efforts for the purpose of improving the quality of life for the people, plants and animals of the watershed.

The Rouge watershed is approximately 466 square miles in area. All or parts of 48 communities are located in the Rouge watershed, which includes portions of Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw counties. These 48 communities have a combined population of nearly 2.5 million people.

The Rouge River has a total of 126 river miles and consists of four major branches - the Main, Upper, Middle and Lower - and the Main Stem. The river empties into the Detroit River, which is a major source of drinking water for many southeastern Michigan residents.

CHRISTMAS

FROM PAGE A1

The CVS Pharmacy at Seven Mile and Beech Daly roads in Redford is open Christmas from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Customers are often looking for holiday greeting cards and batteries to operate the gifts they received, according to Steve Beaver, store manager. "They're last-minute things, because we're one of the few places open," he said.

Jay Sabbagh, owner of the Sunoco service station at Ford Road and Inkster in Garden City, said he sees a lot of customers on the prowl for more than gas Christmas Day. He said many people are getting gas gift cards and instant lottery tickets — neither requires knowing the right size or preferred color and serve as ideal holiday presents.

There's no problem finding a place to eat Christmas Day, especially if you like Asian or other ethnic cuisine.

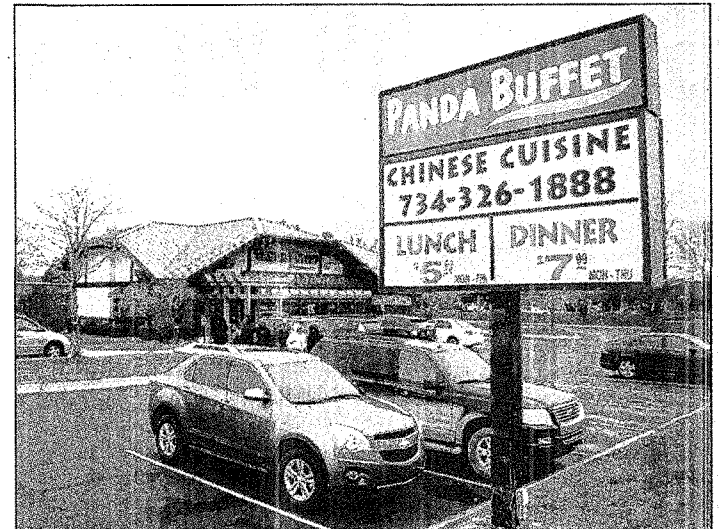
A survey of area Asian restaurants (dine-in and carry-out) found most will be open including Asian Buffet and Sushi on Five Mile and Sheldon roads in Plymouth Township, open from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Panda Buffet on Warren Road in Westland, from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., and New Peking on Ford Road in Garden City, 3:30-8 p.m.

Szechuan Empire on Five Mile near Middlebelt in Livonia is open regular hour, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. for dine-in and carry-out, as is Fortune Buffet on the southwest corner of Five Mile and Middlebelt, from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Ten Yen Restaurant, 8997 N. Wayne Road, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At the Livonia IHOP, Lauren Tierny of Westland will be serving customers on Christmas Day.



Looking for a restaurant on Christmas Day? The Panda Buffet at 36101 Warren Road, west of Wayne Road in Westland will be open for business.

If you're looking for something other than Asian cuisine, The International House of Pancakes on Schoolcraft and Middlebelt, in Livonia, is open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ram's Horn, 20385 Middlebelt is open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will serve a full menu.

Coffee drinkers looking for their java fix Christmas Day can stop in at the Caribou Coffee on Haggerty and Six Mile in Livonia from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Biggy Coffee, 33328 Plymouth Road, Livonia, from 8 a.m. to noon, or the Dunkin' Donuts inside the BP station, 39600 E. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, which never closes.

Sweet Lorraine's in the Livonia Marriott Laurel Park Place at Six Mile and I-275 is open Christmas from 7 a.m. to noon for a breakfast buffet and 1-9 p.m., featuring a special holiday a la carte menu. Reservations will be taken, but walk-ins also are welcome.

"There are a lot of people with family coming and



Among restaurants open on Christmas is New Peking at 29105 Ford, east of Middlebelt, in Garden City.

for one reason or another they don't want to cook," said Pamela Conrad, Sweet Lorraine's restaurant manager. There are very few places that are open on Christmas. It's Chinese or a hotel restaurant and we happen to be a really great restaurant in a hotel.

As far as getting employees to work Christmas, Conrad said, it really isn't that hard. "We know it's (Christmas) coming and it's the same time

every year," Conrad said. "And you have a large enough staff where some people want to work the holidays and some request it off."

For many businesses, Christmas is the only day of the year that they are closed. For instance, the local pub or beer and wine shop won't be open. The Michigan Liquor Control Commission prohibits sale of alcoholic beverages after 9 p.m. Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day.

I feel much better knowing that I've made the right choice.

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Alliance Medicare PPO received the highest Medicare Star summary rating for health plan quality of any Medicare Advantage plan in Michigan for 2010.* And no Medicare HMO plan in Michigan rated higher than HAP Senior Plus.

If you want to learn more about a leader in quality and customer service, HAP offers free Medicare workshops about the Alliance Medicare Supplement, Alliance Medicare Rx (PDP), Alliance Medicare PPO, and HAP Senior Plus (HMO) plans:

Livonia
December 22, 2009

Plymouth
December 21, 2009

HAP adds new workshop dates every day. Call for the latest workshop listing and to reserve your place: toll-free (800) 449-1515 or TDD (800) 956-4325. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

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(800) 449-1515 or TDD (800) 956-4325
Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A sales representative will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call toll-free (800) 449-1515 or TDD (800) 956-4325.

Workshops are for Medicare-eligible individuals who do not have benefits paid for by a former employer and who pay for their own healthcare coverage.

[†]Based on Medicare's Plan Quality and Performance Rating 2009 Survey conducted by the federal Medicare program. To see full results, go to "Compare Health Plans" on www.medicare.gov

HAP Senior Plus and Alliance Medicare PPO are health plans with a Medicare contract. Alliance Medicare Rx (PDP) is a stand-alone Prescription Drug Plan with a Medicare contract. Alliance Medicare Rx (PDP), Alliance Medicare Supplement and Alliance Medicare PPO are products of Alliance Health and Life Insurance Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Health Alliance Plan. Alliance Medicare Supplement is not connected with or endorsed by the U.S. government or the federal Medicare program.

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Sports section

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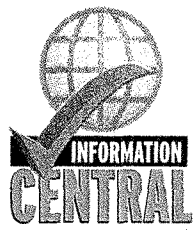
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Gifts: All wrapped up

There are so many things you can do to embellish your gifts than to merely wrap them up in the most recent edition of the Sunday comics. It doesn't necessarily have to be a complicated process either. Sometimes, wrapping gifts simply, but well, makes the best looking present.



If you have the desire to play around with fancy wrappings but aren't sure where to start, we have a couple of books that might jumpstart your creativity. "It's a Wrap" by Sally Walton and Caroline Burkett's "The Gift Wrapping Book" both offer original suggestions and detailed illustrated instructions about wrapping presents and tying ribbons. The ribbons you use are just as important as the paper!

Using tips and hints from Christine Fritsch in "Creative Wraps and Ribbons for Every Occasion" can make you the envy of all the other party-goers. For that oddly shaped

gift that always causes wrapping problems, consult another one of Fritsch's books, "Gift Wrapping," and make order out of that jumble of paper and tape that never seems to look quite right.

Don't worry if you're unable to spend money on sparkly ribbon and expensive tubes of wrapping paper. Your presents can be cheaply wrapped by using materials left lying around the house. Although I previously balked about using newspapers, you can dress up a newspaper-wrapped package by wrapping a thick strip of construction paper around it and adding a ribbon. For those of you who are particularly crafty in the sewing department, all of those pieces of leftover scrap material will make lovely, original alternatives to gift wrapping.

Interested in the art of gift wrapping? Take a few minutes to swing by the library, and we'd be glad to show you where you can find instructions to make your gift giving even more memorable!

Highlighted Activities

A Musical Presentation: 2 p.m. Dec. 20
Enjoy a relaxing afternoon of

music performed by talented local youths. No reservations needed. Call the library for more information.

Red Cross Blood Drive: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 2

Sign up to donate blood at the circulation desk.

Job Seekers Lab: Every Tuesday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday 5-8 p.m. and Friday 1-4 p.m.

Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job related activity? Stop by the library where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help.

Knitting Night and Chess Night will resume the week of Jan. 3. Come and join us.

Library Holiday Closings: Dec. 24-26, Dec. 31, Jan. 1.
Happy Holidays!

Information Central was compiled by Mary Fixler, reference librarian. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.



DON GODFREY

Supporting the Goodfellows

Members of the local UAW presented a \$4,000 check to the Wayne Goodfellows during a fund-raiser held Dec. 12 at US 12 Bar and Grill in Wayne. The annual event is put on by US 12, Wayne-Westland school bus drivers and the Wayne Fire Department. Money raised helps the Goodfellows provide Christmas dinner and gifts to local families. Pictured are (top row from left) Canton's Scott Gocaj, owner US 12, Wayne Fire Chief and Plymouth resident Mel Moore, Wayne Mayor Al Haidous, Wayne City Councilman Jim Henley, Westland resident Mike Stockdale who works at Wayne Stamping Plant and is ISA plant chairman; and Greg Poet, Michigan Assembly Plant chairman. Bottom row from left are Wayne City Councilman Matt Mulholland, Danielle Meadows, a US 12/Goodfellows volunteer, Wayne City Councilwoman Pam Dobrowski, and US 12 owner John Goci, a Westland resident and Wayne-Westland school board member. After the event, the UAW promised to provide another \$2,000 to the cause.

Planet Fitness opens new Westland facility

The nation's fastest growing health club chain is opening of its newest location in Westland, just in time for the "New Years Rush."

Planet Fitness Westland is scheduled to open Monday, Dec. 21. The new club, located at 34634 Warren Road in the Westland Crossing shopping center, is the seventh Planet Fitness to open in metro Detroit in the last 18 months.

The 25,000 square foot club offers fully-staffed, 24-hour access and features more 250 pieces of state-of-the-art cardio, resistance and free-weight training equipment, along with amenities like full locker facilities, tanning booths and massage chairs. All member-

ships include free unlimited fitness training with a certified personal trainer.

"We're excited about the opportunity to showcase the Judgement Free Zone in Westland and the surrounding communities," said Art Nichols, regional manager for Planet Fitness. "We're committed to providing a friendly, non-intimidating atmosphere at a very affordable price. With all that we have to offer and no contracts, it's really an unbeatable value. And let's face it, nobody deserves more value than the people here in Detroit."

Nationwide, New Hampshire-based Planet Fitness has achieved enor-

mous growth - more than 300 clubs in 32 states - by focusing on the needs of occasional and first-time health club members rather than hardcore fitness fanatics. Prices at Planet Fitness are extremely low - just \$10 to \$19.99 a month.

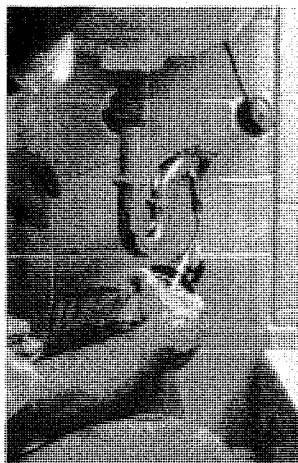
The Westland club will open officially for workouts at 5 a.m. Monday. City officials and Planet Fitness representatives will host an official grand opening ceremony Jan. 5, to welcome new members and area residents to tour the new facility.

For membership information, call (734) 525-4800 or go online to www.planetfitness.com.



Get ready to work out when Westland's newest fitness facility, Planet Fitness, opens of business Monday, Dec. 21.

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Tai Chi Classes

Michigan Tai Chi Association

New Classes Start week of January 4th

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Refinancing car loan easier than with house

Q: Dear Rick: Is it possible to refinance a car loan? I purchased a car a couple of years ago when I had some issues with my credit scores. I cleaned up my situation. I owe about \$28,000 on my car loan and I have about three and a half years left. My current interest rate is 8 percent. What do you think?



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

A: Thanks so much for being a loyal follower.

Yes, it is possible to refinance a car loan and is generally much easier than refinancing a home. In your situation, with an 8-percent car loan, I believe it makes sense to refinance. After all, when you obtained your loan your credit was not as strong as it is today and interest rates were substantially higher. You should be able to save upwards of 3 percent

- a substantial saving over the life of the car. Remember, the 3 percent is a dollar-for-dollar savings because the interest you pay on a car loan is not tax deductible.

There are more home mortgage companies in the market than there are companies that handle car loans. However, that does not mean you do not have options when it comes to refinancing a car loan.

There are a couple of different places to check current rates. A credit union would be the first place because it has very competitive rates and does a substantial amount of business with car lending. If you don't belong to a credit union, it is easy to join one. Virtually anyone can join a credit union and, in fact, most people have the opportunity to join multiple credit unions.

Another alternative is to use the Internet. One Web site I recommend is www.bankrate.com. It has a wealth of information regarding lending practices. It also offers a search engine that allows you to input

information and get a list of local banks that will do auto-loan refinancing.

When it comes to refinancing an automobile loan it is important to determine if you have a pre-payment penalty on the loan. Although it is not common there are still many auto loans that include pre-payment penalties. If a loan has a penalty that does not mean that you shouldn't refinance, but it may reduce the benefits.

If your loan has a prepayment penalty contact your lender to either waive that term or reduce the amount. In these difficult economic times lenders may be more willing to waive penalties than in the past.

Is refinancing an auto loan for everyone? Of course it's not. There are a variety of scenarios where refinancing would not make sense. For example, if your current interest rate on your car is below 6 percent, it probably would not make economic sense to refinance. Or, if when you

obtained your original loan you had very good credit scores but because of what has happened in the economy your situation had deteriorated, it also probably would not make sense to refinance. If the value of your car is worth less than the amount of the loan, it would not make sense to refinance.

In today's tough economic times we should all be looking for ways to lower our cost of living. One way to do this is to reduce the cost of debt. Whether it is refinancing a car, refinancing a mortgage or restructuring credit card debt, it makes sense to be proactive.

I love the fact that I got a letter such as this where someone is being proactive and looking for ways to reduce the cost of their debt.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneyatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

City of Westland

Invitation to Bid

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185-2298, **on January 5, 2010 at 11:30 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

Official City Newspaper

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at www.CityofWestland.com. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

William Gabriel
City Controller

Publish: December 20, 2009

00086465 - 2/3

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Rowers help local families with medical expenses

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

More than 200 people rowed to the rescue of two local families facing serious illnesses and medical expenses this holiday season.

The Million Meter Row, a three-day row-a-thon on nine rowing machines, raised more than \$8,000 to help Tom Lazorka, of Plymouth Township, and Donna, of Northville Township, who asked that her last name be withheld, through difficult times.

"I'm kind of overwhelmed," said Lazorka on Saturday at Plymouth CrossFit, where the row-a-thon was in full swing. "I can't thank them ever enough. It helps me keep battling and get through this."

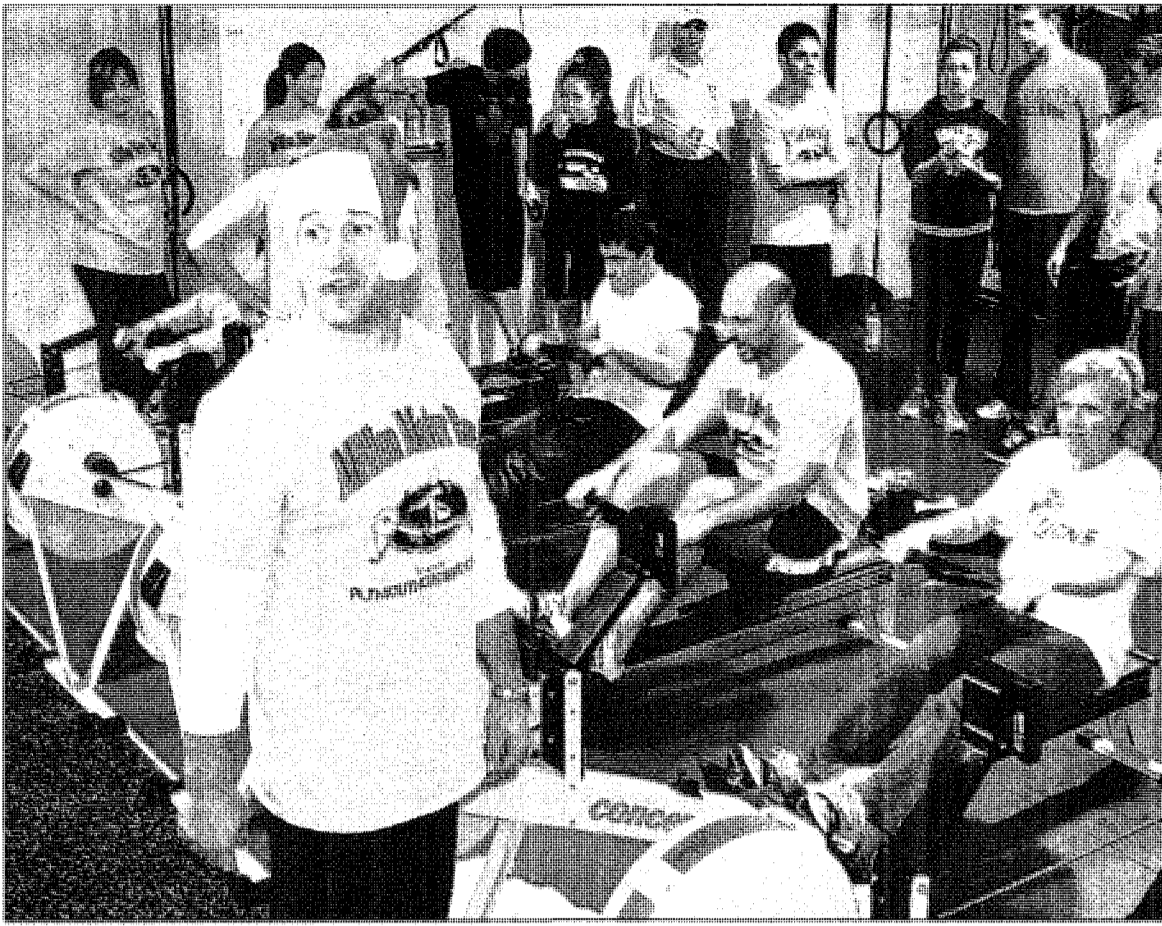
Lazorka was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in September and has been undergoing chemotherapy. A manager at a Kroger supermarket in Westland, he's been out of work for 10 weeks, though he hopes to return early next year.

"I'm shocked at the turnout. It's great, and we've had a lot of fun so far," said Lynne Phetteplace, a friend of Donna and her family. She and Donna know each other through Farrand Elementary School, where they send children; other members of the school community participated in the benefit.

Donna was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis, a bowel disease, last spring, was hospitalized for much of the summer and underwent five surgeries, Phetteplace said.

Tom Lazorka and his wife, Laurie, have three sons; Donna and her husband have two girls.

Both families have health insurance, but not all expenses are covered. Donna, for example, has used up her prescription benefits for the year, and one medicine alone will cost \$710 for



Dave Finlay, a trainer and one of the three partners at Plymouth CrossFit, looks over his gym Saturday during the Million Meter Row, a fund-raiser for two local families.

this month.

Dave Finlay, a trainer and part-owner of Plymouth CrossFit, said he'd planned to do a local fundraiser, something participants would know was for the benefit of a neighbor or someone they might meet at the grocery store. When the situations of the Lazorkas and Donna and her family were brought to his attention, Finlay said, they became the obvious choices.

Plymouth CrossFit, which has been open for about 1 1/2 years at Farmer and Amelia in Plymouth, recently changed its name from The Training Station.

The gym was busy Saturday as members rowed side by side with friends and supporters of the two families. The nine rowing machines, three borrowed from Joust CrossFit in Ann Arbor, were laid out across almost the entire width of the gym, and row-a-thon participants clustered nearby, waiting their turns on the machines. A buffet table was set up nearby, and T-shirts were being sold for the occasion.

"He's been knocking out a thousand at a time," said Bridget Werdenfeller of her husband,

Scott, who said he had rowed about 8,000 meters by just before 1 p.m.

The Werdengellers are gym members and don't know either family.

"I think it's great," said Scott Werdenfeller. "I hope it can raise enough money to make a difference."

The row-a-thon had started Dec. 10 when a competition — a 100,000-meter race — between the hockey teams at Novi Catholic Central, Plymouth Salem and Plymouth high schools began. Catholic Central won the race, and both CC and Plymouth reached 100,000 meters in under an hour. Salem's time was just over an hour. All three teams train at Plymouth CrossFit.

The Lazorkas' 16-year-old son Tyler is a defenseman for Plymouth. He appreciated his teammates' support for his father. "I thought it was a good idea," Tyler said. "I know they have my back."

The Lazorkas also benefited from a recent bowling event sponsored by Kroger, and from a benefit hockey game between teams of Plymouth Canton Hockey

Association coaches.

"We just have a lot of friends that have come to our aid," said Laurie Lazorka. "Hockey families are the best families." The other two Lazorka sons, Adam, 20, and Parker, 12, also play hockey.

In addition to the high school hockey teams, the Stingrays, a PCHA youth team, also rowed, racking up another 50,000 meters. The million-meter mark — that's 621 miles — was reached about 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Finlay said.

Angela Nolan was there Saturday with daughters Raleigh and Lilli, and some of Raleigh's fellow Brownie Girl Scouts from Farrand, who were taking their turns on the rowing machines. Donna and her family are "just the nicest people in the world," she said.

"I really felt strongly about helping the family without it feeling like we're just handing them charity," Nolan said.

Contributions to the Charitable Fund for Donna can be made through the Community Financial Credit Union in Plymouth.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

Tips help make holiday safe

Millions of other households in the United States includes a Christmas tree and festive holiday decorations, but the beauty of those decorations also comes with a fire risk.

That's why Gary Gasser, owner of SERVPRO of Westland, is offering helpful tips to residents.

"Basking in the glow of a warm fire or relaxing in a festively decorated home or office building may actually present a formula for a hazardous situation, if you don't take the proper precautions," Gasser said. "We want to show local residents how to keep their night before Christmas from becoming a nightmare before Christmas."

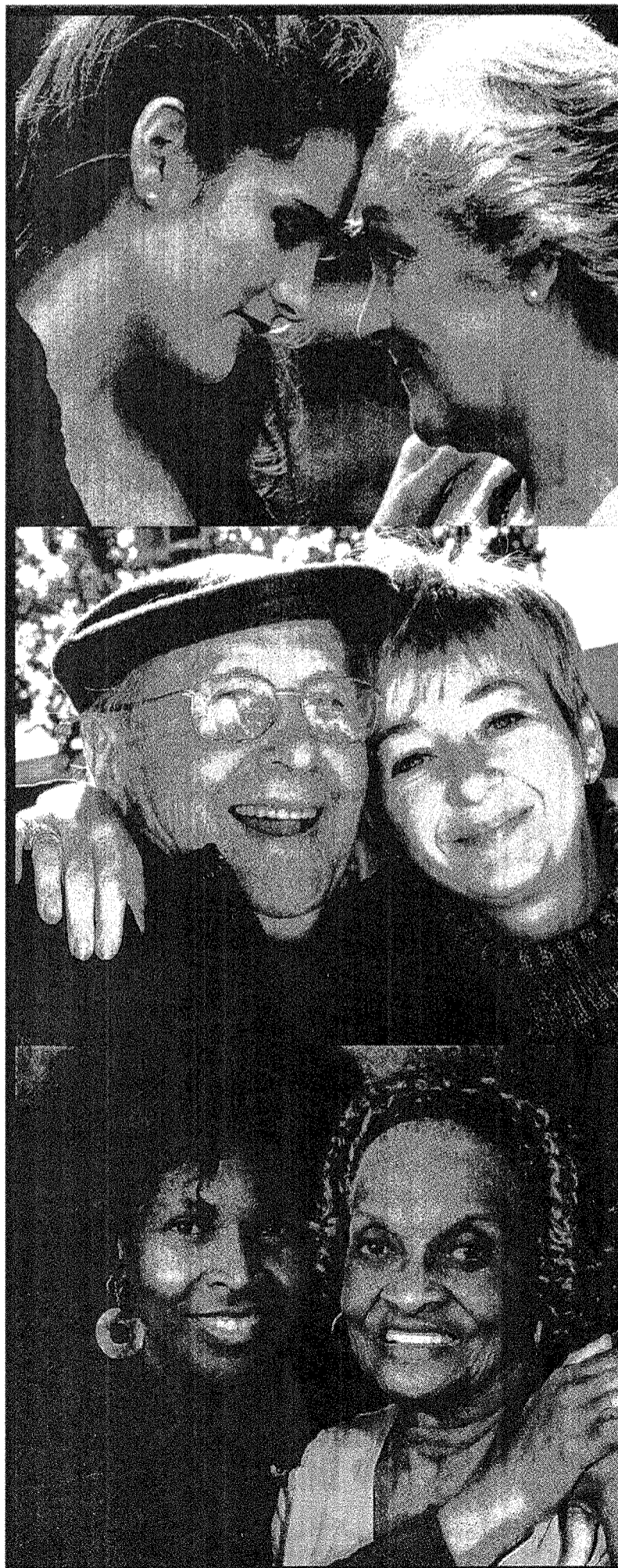
Candles and Christmas trees have been reported to be two of the contributing factors of fires during the winter months. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, Christmas trees account for an estimated 200 fires annually and cause more than \$6 million in property damage. Candles alone cause an estimated 15,600 fires each year, resulting 1,270 injuries and more than \$539 million in property damage. December is the peak month for candle fires, and Christmas is the peak day.

Gasser has these suggestion to consider when putting up and maintaining holiday decorations:

- Do not overload power outlets with holiday lights. Pay close attention to the manufacturer's instructions on the number of lights you can string together.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.
- Be careful not to splatter wax when extinguishing a candle.
- Use flashlights instead of candles for emergency lighting.
- Do not purchase a Christmas tree that is dry or dropping needles excessively. Be sure to water your Christmas tree regularly.
- Do not use strings of lights that are worn, frayed, manually spliced or broken.
- If you purchase an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled fire-retardant.
- Do not link more than three light strands unless the directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Be sure to periodically check the wires; they should not be warm to the touch.

"While holiday decorations can provide plenty of charm and cheer with assorted bright lights, Christmas trees and life-size Santa Claus figures, it is our responsibility to inform residents of potential dangers," said Gasser. "We, too, want to see the glowing lights that are symbols of the winter holiday season, but we also want the community to be safe. No matter what local residents' reasons are for celebrating this month, we want everyone to enjoy the month of December safely."

SERVPRO of Westland offers services to help local residents quickly recover and restore damaged property. For more information about SERVPRO of Westland, call Gary Gasser at (734) 721-5699.

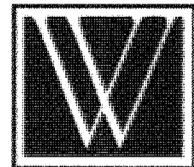


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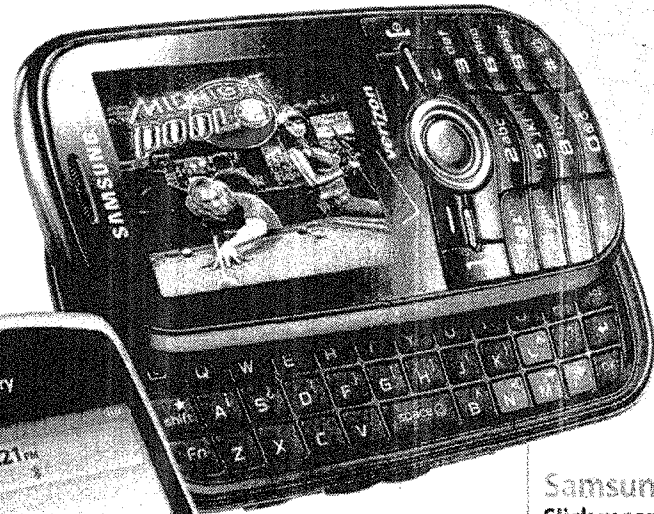
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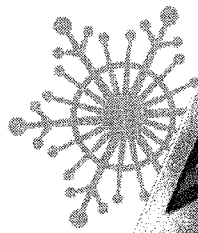
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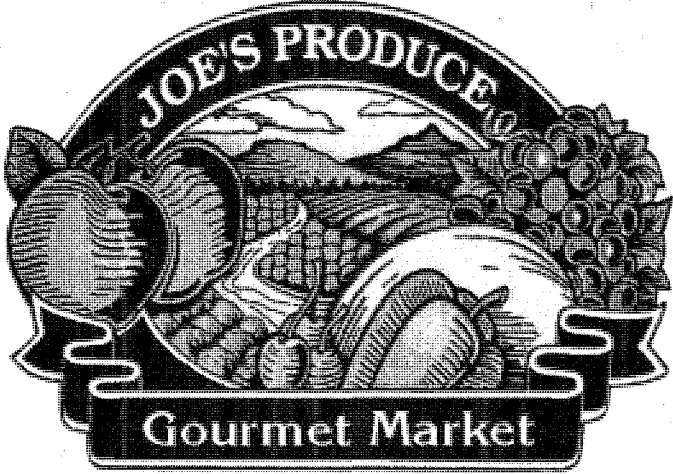
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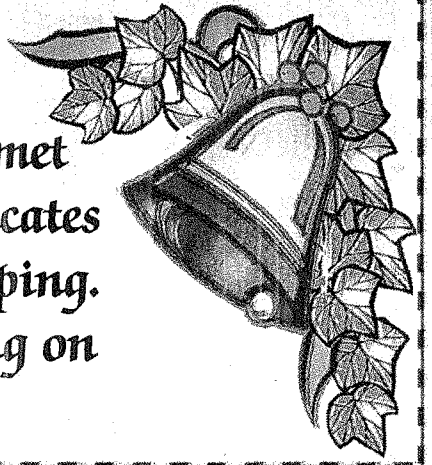
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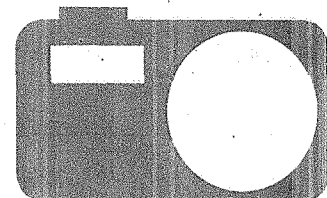
SECTION B
(WL)

Brad Emmons, editor, (313) 222-6051
demons@hometownlife.com

Patriot girls stage furious rally to stop Stevenson - B2

SPORTS, HEALTH & FITNESS, NEIGHBORS

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Spartan sharpshooters down Patriots, 72-56

Naubert's 25 leads barrage

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson team took a page out of the Minnesota Fats manual to cue up a 72-56 boys basketball win Thursday night over host Livonia Franklin.

The Spartans called "three-ball, corner pocket," shooting 51 percent from the field (25-of-49), including seven from beyond the arc, to improve to 2-1 overall on the young season.

"I'm pleased with the way the kids played," Stevenson coach Mike Allie said. "We moved the ball well and I felt we were in mid-season form. We got contributions from everybody."

Senior point guard Bobby Naubert was once again instrumental in the victory, scoring a game-high 25 points on 8-of-13 from the floor. The 5-foot-11 left-hander also made 9-of-12 free throws.

"He (Naubert) made plays," Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault said. "His first initial move is tricky and he gets to the rim real nice."

Jonathan Campbell, coming off a stellar performance two days earlier in a 54-50 double-overtime win over Dearborn Fordson, nailed three triples and finished with 18 points. Senior forward Jordan El-Sabeh added 12 points.

"Against their 1-3-1 (zone defense) Campbell got some wide-open looks," Allie said. "And Jordan (El-Sabeh) stepped up early and hit some corner threes from the left side."

"I thought Bobby (Naubert) did a great job running the show. He was poised and under control for 32 minutes."

Stevenson led 21-15 after one quarter and opened up a lead of 39-28 at halftime.

Franklin (0-2) got as close as five with 2:45 in the third quarter, 47-42, on a basket by senior guard Andy McCaffery, but that was as close as the Patriots would get. Stevenson put it away with a 20-11 fourth-quarter run.

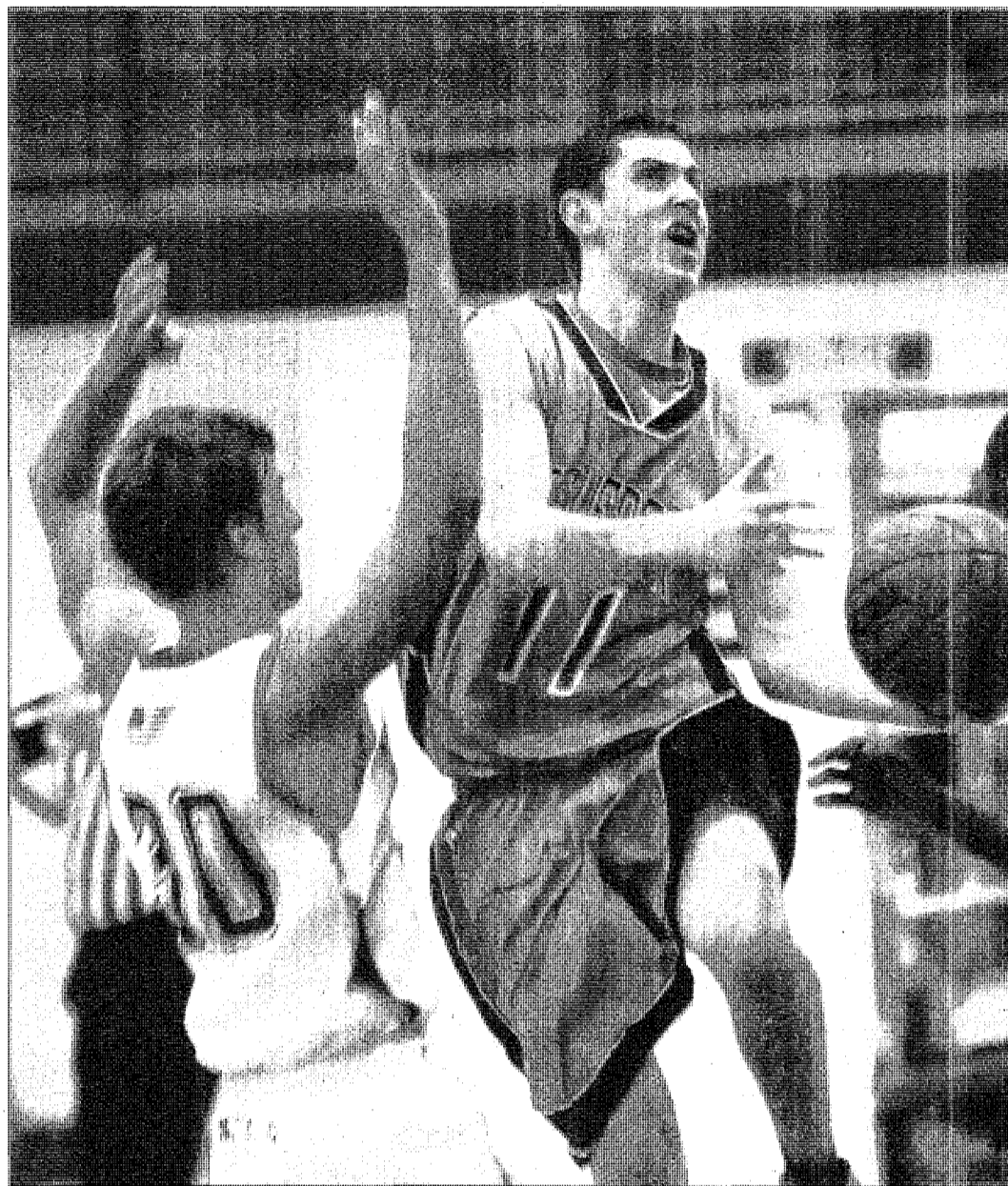
McCaffery led a balanced Franklin scoring attack with 12 points, while Mike Gadsby and Nate Coleman added 11 each. Alontae McElhaney and Mike Sharp came off the bench to score 10 and eight, respectively.

Gadsby, a 6-foot senior, made his first appearance of the year after suffering an injury during football season.

"I thought Gadsby came in and helped us," Rheault said. "He hit three threes. He was cleared to play tonight even though his ankle is still not 100 percent."

The Patriots shot 21-of-46 from the floor (45.6 percent),

Please see SPARTANS, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Bobby Naubert (11), who scored a game-high 25 points, goes with the left hand to the basket defended by Franklin's Blake Lukas during Thursday's KLAAs crossover.

SIDELINES

MU cagers fall

Nick Sales scored 16 points and grabbed 11 rebounds Wednesday night as host Defiance (Ohio) College posted a 90-79 non-conference men's basketball win over Madonna University.

Kyle Tietje and Heath Armstrong added 14 and 12 points, respectively, off the bench for the victorious Yellow Jackets, who improved to 7-2 overall.

Defiance, which led 38-31 at halftime after getting off to a 25-8 start, also got 12 points and four assists from Mike Floyd.

MU (2-10) got another strong effort from 6-foot-8 junior center Geoff Gaylor, who finished with 18 points and 12 rebounds. Freshman guard Kevin Henry also scored 18, while Leroy Allen and Westland's Bryant Slaughter each added 10.

The Crusaders made 29-of-66 field-goal attempts (43.9) and were 15-of-16 from the foul line (93.8 percent).

Defiance went 33-of-65 from the floor (50.8 percent), including 8-of-17 from 3-point range.

All-Region spikers

Madonna University seniors Inta Grinvalds (Portage Central) and Mary McGinnis (Fraser) were recently named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association 2009 Mid-Central All-Region team.

Grinvalds, making her second appearance on the squad, set the school record for career assists, passing Ashley Frost (2002-05) and establishing the new MU mark with 7,009.

She also led the NAIA and the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference in total assists (1,687) and assists per set (11.55).

Grinvalds was a four-time All-WHAC first-team selection and was named the WHAC's Setter of the Year.

McGinnis paced the WHAC in total kills (528) while ranking first in kills per set (3.7). She ended the season eighth in hitting percentage (.248 average). In just three seasons, her 1,633 career kills ranks eighth all-time at MU.

The Crusaders finished the season 32-7 and reached WHAC finals.

Soccer openings

The Livonia City Soccer Club has immediate openings for a second team in the under-18 age group.

Schoolcraft College men's soccer assistant and LCSC staff member Eric Scott will coach the team. For more information, call (734) 464-8575.

Coach wanted

Livonia Ladywood is seeking a varsity girls lacrosse coach for the 2010 spring season. If interested, fax a resume to Ladywood Athletic Director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

Westland Holiday Hoops

The City of Westland Parks and Recreation's second annual 1-on-1 Holiday Hoops Champ will offer two sessions for ages 5-13 (grades K-6) from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. - Monday through Wednesday, Dec. 21-23 (Session I); and Dec. 28-30 (Session II), at the Bailey Recreation Center.

The cost is \$75 for Westland residents and \$82 for non-residents. For more information, call (734) 418-3190; or visit www.1on1basketball.com/michigan.



Clarenceville sophomore Damien Quarles goes up for two of his team-leading 10 points Friday night. The output wasn't enough as the Trojans fell to visiting Thurston.

Thurston keeps Clarenceville winless with 56-46 triumph

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Redford Thurston coach Brian Bates is liking what he is seeing from his boys basketball squad.

The Eagles brought smiles to themselves, their coaches and their fans Friday night as their five-man game of basketball produced a convincing 56-46 triumph over Livonia Clarenceville in a non-conference affair.

"We shared the ball well tonight," said Bates, who now has seen his club string together a pair of victories after beginning the season 0-2. "They're an unselfish group and they're learning where the cuts are on offense and that it's not a one-man game."

"Everything is a learning experience now because we are so young," Bates added. "We're getting better every game with our defense. We got beat the first two games and now I think they understand why."

Unselfishness on the offensive end, combined with total team hustle on the defensive side, produced a comfortable 29-16 lead in favor of the Eagles.

Senior Nicholas Bell and Lamont Gladney were the catalysts behind the first-half attack that really set the tone for the game.

"We kind of lowered our heads a little bit and they went on a little run," Trojans first-year coach Justin Johnson said. "We weren't ready for that press, I guess, because we had 19 turnovers in that first half."

The Trojans did a better job of taking care of the basketball in the second half, and the result was it remained a game midway through the fourth quarter. An 11-0 run by the Trojans, sparked by eight points from junior forward Adrian Myers, trimmed what had been a 20-point Eagles lead down to nine with 3:11 showing on the clock.

But the chasing on both ends eventually took its toll and the Eagles were able to make the Trojans pay with some easy baskets and free-throw conversions.

"We tried to slow it down and it's something we don't do often," Bates said. "We're still learning how to manage games."

The Eagles placed two players in double figures with junior Anthony Barley's 12 leading the way. Gladney followed with 10, senior Phillip Morgan contributed nine points and six rebounds and senior Michael Berrien chipped in eight points and had four steals.

"We lost those first couple of games and I think they were looking around and kind of talked it over with each other," Bates said. "Now that we've won a couple, they are seeing what we're doing does work and gaining confidence. They

Please see C'VILLE, B3

Chargers' outlook brighter after 7-1 triumph vs. Pats

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The forecast these days for the Livonia Churchill boys hockey team is a little more sunny and bright.

Meanwhile, storm clouds continue to hover over Livonia Franklin, which is still seeking its first victory dating all the way back to the 2007-08 season.

Churchill, getting two goals and one assist from senior Christo Papaioannou, has put together a mini two-game winning streak following a 7-1 win Friday night over the Patriots at Edgar Arena.

The Chargers, now 3-4-2 overall and 2-2-1 in the KLAAs South Division, also got goals from Mike Kutek, Justin Mikitaroff (power play),

Jake Otto (short-handed), Tommy Carey and Yanni Kefallinos.

"The last two games, we've played well," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "I like the effort and the direction we're going."

Churchill also got two assists from Mike Woynick, along with one assist apiece from Kutek, Steven Klisz, Nick Proben, Ben Proben, Mike Woynick, Jimmy Lelekatch, Cam Benson, Chris Mireles and Joe Williams.

"We're doing a better job of playing our systems," Mazzoni said. "We've made some changes and our guys are really taking to it. We need to play more structured. The kids realized their limitations. They've accepted them and have played off of that."

PREP HOCKEY

"We're being more responsible defensively. We're making sure we're in good position and being conscious when we're in help position."

Franklin, taking eight penalties, fell behind 3-0 after one period.

Churchill upped its lead to 5-0 after 34 minutes before the Patriots notched their lone goal at 5:22 of the final period when Robert Ringe scored from Aaron Hoffmeyer and Jacob Wirgau.

For the game, Franklin took a total of 14 penalties, which included three game disqualifications and four 10-minute misconducts.

"I'm playing with some guys who don't play hockey," said

Franklin coach Scott Wirgau, whose team fell to 0-5 overall and 0-2 in the KLAAs South.

"When you play hockey in earnest, that's when you'll see results instead of being in a short fuse, powder keg and emotional basket."

One ray of sunshine for the Patriots was the play of backup junior goalie Travis Ferrier, who made 44 saves in his first start of the season.

"We wanted to give Ferrier some time," Wirgau said. "He played six minutes at the end of last game (Wednesday) against Walled Lake Western. (Anthony) Crechiolo was frustrated at being screened all night, so we let him sit down and watch. It wasn't Ferrier's fault tonight. I thought the kid played great."

For the game, Franklin was

outshot 51-9.

"Games are played in hundreds of small races and the team that wins those small races wins the game," Wirgau said. "We won very few small races. They just beat us every time we went to touch the puck."

The Patriots will take to the ice again at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, vs. Western at Edgar Arena, while Churchill is off until Wednesday, Jan. 6, at home against Canton.

Franklin and Churchill will meet for a second time Friday, Jan. 29, at Edgar.

"The thing I think about being part of an emotional rivalry like this, that if we keep competing hard, we'll get their there someday," Wirgau said. "But right now we're falling short."

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Clarenceville senior guard Levonte Brooks finds his path blocked by Thurston defenders Nicholas Bell (10) and Lamont Gladney. The Trojans remained winless in four starts as they fell 56-46 to the Eagles.

C'VILLE

FROM PAGE B1

are buying into it. Everyday in practice, they're working hard to get better and they are starting to step up and be leaders."

For Clarenceville, which fell to 0-4, Myers and sophomore Damien Quarles led the way with 10 points apiece. Senior Benjamin Watts followed with nine points and junior forward David Jones had six.

"It's a matter of getting everybody on the same page," Johnson said. "We had a bad first half, no doubt about that. But this (second half) was one of our best halves. We came together."

"We just have a lack of varsity game experience," he added. "We have a lot of seniors, but not very much experience. It's coming slower than I hoped, but it is coming. The scores don't always show it, but we

can see it."

Warriors stop Parkway

Lutheran High Westland found the victory column for the first time this season Friday night as the Warriors upended visiting Sterling Heights Parkway Christian, 62-49, in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Blue Division matchup.

Austin Baglow bagged 19 points, Gage Flanery added 13 and Marc Rosin contributed 11 as the Warriors improved to 1-3 overall and 1-3 in the MIAC Blue.

"We did a nice job shooting the ball (50 percent from the floor), rebounded well, played solid defense and did a good job of taking care of the ball," Lutheran Westland coach Doug Haller said.

Anthony Johnson topped Parkway Christian (0-2, 0-2) with 12 points. Joe Peters and Josh Schick chipped in with eight apiece.

"The average for a high school team in a game is five-to-six 3-pointers," Rheault added. "They (Stevenson) hit a couple of nice threes, but there were a couple of others where we had defensive breakdowns. We broke some (defensive) rules. We took only one charge and I'm not happy with that." Stevenson is now off until Jan. 5, when it takes on Dearborn Edsel Ford.

"One of our short-term goals was to have a winning record going into the winter break," Allie said. "Defensively we still have a lot of work to do because you can't expect kids to shoot this well every night."

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SPARTANS

FROM PAGE B1

but committed 16 turnovers (to Stevenson's 11).

"We had four or five turnovers that were absurd where we'd pass it to nobody," Rheault said. "But we'll take care of the ball better. I liked a lot of things, but we've got some things to work on."

"We got outrebounded 33-18 and that's horrible, but it's December and it's only our second game of the year."

The Patriot coach said his team has some things to correct before next week's Franklin Holiday Classic.

Bowling loses a legend in Lindemann

Over the past 21 years of writing this bowling column, this story is the most painful to put into print.

Older bowlers will easily recognize the name Tony Lindemann. He was in a car accident several weeks ago in which he suffered some serious injuries. After hospitalization he went into rehab at St. Johns Hospital and seemed to be making some progress.

But unfortunately his 90 year-old body did not have enough fight left and he passed away on Dec. 4 in his sleep.

Lindemann was a fierce competitor on the lanes, but a soft-spoken, easy-going gentleman off the lanes. Tony moved to Detroit in 1942 and soon developed enough talent to become a member of the fabulous Strohs team. He bowled with Strohs for 11 years, the last four of which he was captain.

In 1951 Tony won practically every title available, including the ABC Individual All-Events with 2,005 and his Strohs team won the All-Events crown. He and Buzz Fazio captured the BPAA Doubles Match Game title from Ned Day and Buddy Bomar and he led Strohs to the BPAA Team Match Game championship.

He capped the year by being voted to the All-American Team and won the "King of Bowling" title in Detroit by averaging 205, 211 and 213 in the Major Classic Leagues. He won BPAA Championships in 1951 through 1955, leading his team to an unprecedented five consecutive BPAA Match Game titles. He also had six 300 games and three 800 series with a high of 803. His last 300 game was on March 19, 1994 at the ABC Tournament in Mobile, Ala., making him the oldest person to ever have shot a 300 game in the national tournament at the age of 74.

Tony has won virtually every local and state title available, including the 1952 State Doubles Match Game



Ten Pin Alley

Al Harrison

Championship of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association with a 683 series. The same year he averaged 200 in one of the three leagues he participated in. He served on the GDBA Board of Directors for 16 years and was the last president of the GDBA prior to the merger in 2006. He was an ABC, State of Michigan and Greater Detroit Hall-of-Famer and was one of the all-time greatest bowlers to come out of the Detroit area.

He competed during a different era when bowling was king, especially in Detroit.

He will be remembered as a true gentleman and a fine ambassador for the sport of bowling.

The 79th annual Old Timers tournament was held Nov. 28 at Thunderbowl Lanes. Our local senior shooters did themselves proud as 85-year-old Jack Dahlstrom of Redford captured the 80-and-over age category with 228-206-235 - 669.

In the 70-74 age group Phil Horowitz (70) of West Bloomfield took second place with a set of 238-259-223 - 720, followed by William Swain (71) from Westland 225-235-200 - 660. In the Under 50 group, it was Garrett Nagle (43) of Westland who led the way with 2500-216-258 - 691 while Brian Snapke (46), also a Westlander, came in third with scores of 228-259-204 - 691. Ernie Segura Jr. (49) of Taylor came in second in this group with 235-248-22 - 710 while his dad, Ernie Segura Sr. of Brownstown was scoring 234-190-258 - 662 good for

third place in the 75-79 group.

The overall champion was Len Cianciolo (67) of Warren with a sweet score of 267-218-258 - 743. High Game honors went to James Robinson, Jr. with a 299 game. There were 550 bowlers signed up, which is a reflection of the fine effort as usual by John Chmelko Sr. and Jr. both of whom worked diligently as always to make it happen.

Tony Lindemann was the president this year of the Old Timers, and he had sent a message to the bowlers from his hospital bed wishing everyone good luck in the tournament. Ted Kress of Redford was the M.C. for both squads and also led the singing of the National Anthem.

The United States Bowling Congress has developed a new system for setting up specific lane conditions to apply to regular house leagues. They will call it Red, White and Blue conditions.

Red will be the easiest, white will be somewhat harder and the blue would be the more challenging. Every league will have the opportunity to choose which condition it would like to bowl on.

This new formula will start with the 2010-2011 season in some test markets.

The idea evolved from the Sport Condition venture which has proven popular among the professional bowlers. The pros are skillful enough to figure out the best way to score well on each of these conditions.

On Jan. 3, 2010, the Pro Bowlers Tour will bowl the Red, White and Blue conditions on the Sunday ESPN-TV show from Wichita, Kan. This may turn out to be a good viewing opportunity for bowling leagues such as your's and mine.

Al Harrison is a resident of Southfield, and a member of the Bowling Writers Association of America and the Detroit Bowling Hall of Fame. He can be reached by email: tenpinalley710@yahoo.com.



MU signs Blazer

Madonna University women's softball coach Al White (top) announced the signing Thursday of Livonia Ladywood senior Gina Sykes, who helped the Blazers reach the state Class B Finals. Sykes (middle), flanked by her parents, Michael and Patricia, is a three-time All-District and Scholar-Athlete selection. She also earned All-Region and Catholic League Central Division honors last season under coach Scott Combs. Sykes joins Kristen Drabek of Monroe St. Mary's Catholic Central as White's first two signees for his 2011 recruiting class. "Gina has the ability to come in and make an impact early at third base because she is not only a solid softball player but a solid student-athlete," said White, who guided the Crusaders to their second-ever NAIA National appearance and a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference crown.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

- BOYS BASKETBALL**
Monday, Dec. 21
 (Rocket Roundball Classic at John Glenn)
 N. Farmington vs. Plymouth, 1 p.m.
 Thurston vs. Harrison, 2:45 p.m.
 Detroit City vs. Ferndale, 4:30 p.m.
 John Glenn vs. Willow Run, 6:15 p.m.
 Ferndale Academy vs. Old Redford, 7:30 p.m.
 Southfield vs. Taylor Truman, 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 22**
 (Rocket Roundball Classic at John Glenn)
 Clarenceville vs. Wat. Kettering, 1 p.m.
 Ferndale vs. Det. Univ. Prep, 2:45 p.m.
 Belleville vs. Detroit CMA, 4:30 p.m.
 N. Farmington vs. Det. Henry Ford, 6:15 p.m.
 Det. Renaissance vs. A.A. Huron, 8 p.m.
 (Livonia Franklin Holiday Classic)
 Taylor Kennedy vs. Farmington, 5:30 p.m.
 Franklin vs. Rochester, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 23**
 Franklin Holiday Classic, 5:30 & 7 p.m.
- GIRLS BASKETBALL**
Monday, Dec. 21
 Clarenceville at Redford Union, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 22**
 (Wayne Memorial Holiday Shootout)
 Frankfort vs. Det. Western, 11:30 a.m.
 Ferndale vs. Redford Union, 1 p.m.
 Farmington vs. Thurston, 2:30 p.m.
 John Glenn vs. Berkley, 4 p.m.
 Wayne vs. Willow Run, 5:30 p.m.
 (Livonia Ladywood Holiday Tournament)
 Southgate vs. A.A. Huron, 4 p.m.
 Ladywood vs. South Lyon, 6 p.m.
 (Pontiac Notre Dame Prep Invitational)
 Stevenson vs. Warren Regina, noon.
 Notre Dame Prep vs. Det. Univ. Prep, 2 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 30**
 Notre Dame Prep Invitational, noon & 2 p.m.
 Ladywood Holiday Tournament, 4 & 6 p.m.
 (Wayne Memorial Holiday Shootout)
 Albion vs. Frankfort, 11:30 a.m.
 Thurston vs. Ferndale, 1 p.m.
 Franklin vs. Berkley, 2:30 p.m.
 Farmington vs. Willow Run, 4 p.m.
 Redford Union vs. Det. Western, 5:30 p.m.
- PREP HOCKEY**
Wednesday, Dec. 23
 Franklin vs. W.L. Western at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 30**
 Franklin vs. Novi at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
- PREP WRESTLING**
Wednesday, Dec. 23
 Carlson Team Tournament, 9 a.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 29**
 Salem Invitational, 9 a.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 30**
 Brother Rice Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Trenton Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Canton Duals at EMU, 9 a.m.
- MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**
Wednesday, Dec. 29
 (Hope College Russ DeVette Tourney)
 Davenport vs. Grace Bible, 6 p.m.
 Hope College vs. Madonna, 8 p.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 30**
 Hope College DeVette Tourney, 6 & 8 p.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**
Wednesday, Dec. 22
 Madonna at Calvin College, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 29**
 Madonna at Wayne State, 1 p.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 30**
 Mercyhurst (Pa.) at Madonna, 3 p.m.
- ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**
Monday, Dec. 28
 Erie vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 29**
 Whalers at Sarnia Sting, 6 p.m.

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

- FARMINGTON UNIFIED 144.725**
LIVONIA RED 137.85
FARMINGTON HARRISON 47.85
Dec. 17 at Churchill H.S.
- Vault:** 1. (tie) Kristen McKelvey (Farm.) and Alyssa Bresso (Farm.), 9.4 each; 3. Amanda Lumley (Farm.), 9.2; 4. Lena Schwind (Farm.), 9.0; 5. (tie) Katie Kretzchmer (Red), Stephanie Sanders (Harrison) and Amy Bell (Farm.), 8.9 each.
- Uneven bars:** 1. Bresso (Farm.), 9.05; 2. Katina St. Pierre (Red), 8.8; 3. Kretzchmer (Red) and Lumley (Farm.), 8.65 each; 5. Kyoko Yamamoto (Farm.), 8.5.
- Balance beam:** 1. Bresso (Farm.), 9.35; 2. Yamamoto (Farm.), 9.3; 3. Kretzchmer (Red), 9.2; 4. Dayna Esper (Red), 8.9; 5. (tie) Brittany Swazey (Red) and Bell (Farm.), 8.8 each.
- Floor exercise:** 1. McKelvey (Farm.), 9.625; 2. Lumley (Farm.), 9.4; 3. (tie) Bresso (Farm.) and St. Pierre (Red), 9.15 each; 5. Yamamoto (Farm.), 8.95.
- Churchill's dual meet record:** 3-2 overall.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

MU softball camps

Madonna University will stage three winter softball camps at the MU Activities Center featuring specialized individual instruction covering all phases of the game for girls ages 7-18.

Among the camps offered include:
 Fundamental No. 1 - 9-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 (cost \$150);
 Fundamental No. 2 - noon-2:30 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 (cost \$150).

For more information, call MU head coach Al White at (734) 432-5783; or Steve Gentilia at (734) 776-1716. You can also e-mail awhite@madonna.edu.

MU baseball camp

Madonna University baseball coach Greg Haeger and his staff will stage a holiday baseball camp for ages 9-18 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, Dec. 28-30, at the Total Sports Complex in Wixom.

The cost is \$150 for the first child and \$75 for each additional child.

MU baseball staff members

Football tutorials

Stu Rose, Ted Falkner and Mike George will assist in the camp.

For more information, e-mail Jen at Total Sports at Jen@totalsportscomplex.com.

Track coach wanted

The University of Detroit Jesuit High is seeking a varsity boys track and field coach for the 2010 season.

Those interested should forward a resume to: Mickey Barrett, Athletic Director, 8400 S. Cambridge, Detroit, MI. 48221; or fax to (313) 862-3299; or e-mail mickey.barrett@uofjhsuit.org.

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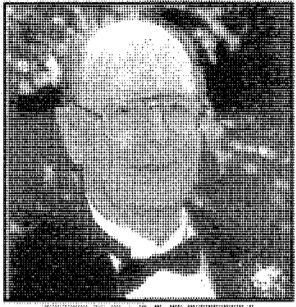
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NANCY L. BAKER

December 15, 2009. Age 88 of Troy. Long-time special education teacher in the Hazel Park Public Schools. Loving mother of Chuck (Mary Beth), Burgess (Karen) and Thomas (Theresa). Dear grandmother of Matthew, Brandon, Elizabeth and Ryan Baker. Great-grandmother of Scott, Noah, Christopher, Miranda and Jacob. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Ave. (btw 13-14 Mile) Thursday 3-6pm and 7-9pm. Memorial service Friday 11am at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Visitation begins at church 10:30am. Memorial tributes to Soroptomist Club of Royal Oak Scholarship Fund, 1392 Cedar Dr., Birmingham, MI 48009. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

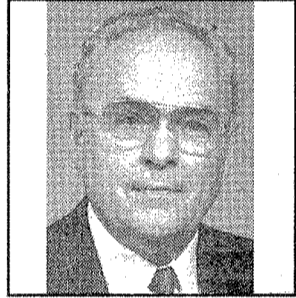


WILLIAM DUFFY

Formerly of Livonia, age 79. Beloved husband of the late Kathryn (Meier) Duffy. Loving father of Timothy (Nancy) Mary (William) Albright Elizabeth (Lonnice) Bramer and Michael (Sally). Dear Grandfather of Christopher and Alex Bramer, Sean Albright, and Kevin and Sarah Duffy, and Uncle to many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his sisters Mary Ann (Greenwell) and Ruth (Glynn), and his brother Edward Duffy of Massachusetts. Bill retired from General Motors as Personnel Director of the Hydramatic Division in 1987. He spent the past 15 years at H&R Block as a tax consultant at the Livonia and Wixom branches. He served in the U.S. Army in 1948 to 1949, and was recalled to active duty in 1950 during the Korean War. One of the founding families of St. Damian and St. Colette parishes, and served in many volunteer positions throughout the community. Visitation at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Novi (248) 348-1800, Sunday, Dec. 20 from 2-8pm. Wake Service Sunday 7:30pm. In state at St. Patrick Church, 711 Rickett Rd, Brighton (810) 229-9863, Monday 10am until the funeral liturgy at 10:30am. Memorials may be made to St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center (www.svfsc.org). on line sympathy message at: www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

THOMAS M. BRIGHAM

Age 57, of Farmington Hills. Loving husband, father, son, brother and grandfather. "He loved us well". Memorial Services Monday, family gathering 9-11am with services at 11:00am at Grace Chapel in Farmington Hills. Contributions to the family appreciated.



THOMAS C. DAVIS

Age 80 of Farmington, December 11, 2009. Loving husband of the late Shirley. Beloved father of Kay (Dan) Hutchens and Lori (Martin) Frankis. Dear grandfather of Joshua (Katie), Matthew, and Amanda Hutchens, and Emily and Julie Frankis. Dear brother of James Davis. Mr. Davis spent his career as a construction project manager. He faithfully served his Lord at Temple Baptist/NorthRidge Church. The family will gather with friends Monday December 28th at 6 PM until the 7 PM Memorial Service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice. To share memories, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.



DORIS HOPE DIEDRICK

Age 80. Born February 4, 1929, Doris passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on December 13, 2009. She was born and raised in Plymouth, graduated from Plymouth High School in 1948, and loved her town with heart and soul. Doris loved children and worked in the Plymouth-Canton School District as a para-professional at Bird Elementary School for 26 years. She was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, as well as a member of the Trailwood Garden Club and the Plymouth Women's Club. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, and was devoted to her husband of 59 years, Ralph, who precedes her in death. Doris leaves behind daughter, Connie, her husband, Jeff Jacobs, son-in-law, F. Weldon Regan, husband of her daughter, Pamela, who precedes her in death, and sister Marion Owens. Four grandsons, Matthew (Heather) Regan, Ben Jacobs, Chris (Beth) Jacobs, and Mark Regan, and a great-granddaughter, Madelyn Regan, also survive. Memorial Service at the First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd. Plymouth, Saturday 3pm. Friends may visit at church beginning at 2pm. Memorials, in lieu of flowers, may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth or the American Cancer Society, Southfield, Michigan. Share a special thought or memory at: schrader-howell.com

WILLIAM M. DOUGLAS

Age 85, December 15, 2009. Beloved husband of the late Doris. Dear uncle of Ralph (Selma) and James (Laura) Fuller. Brother-in-law of William (Suzanne) Ivey and Sam Ivey. Also survived by many great-nieces and nephews. A Memorial service was held on Friday at Peace Lutheran church in Livonia. R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home

ROBERTA A. HATFIELD "Adelaide"

Leslie, MI. Passed on from this life to join her husband, George and daughter, Donna, on Tuesday, December 15, 2009, at the age of 85. Surviving are her children, George (Argentina) Hatfield, Cheri (Vickie) Aims, Brian (Paulette) Hatfield; nine grandchildren, Ronald, Kimberly, Joshua, Christopher, Nathan, Richie, Katherine, Randy, and Cheryl; two step-grandchildren, Eric and Valerie; five great-grandchildren, Marlene, Robby, Ashley "Nicole", Lyric, and Brandice; one step-great-granddaughter, Lindsay; two sisters, Jeanette Careway, and Mary Alice McEndree; three sisters-in-law, Shirley Hatfield, Violet Bouts, and Patricia Hatfield; numerous nieces and nephews and dear friend, Lisa Hatfield. She was preceded in death by her husband, George; daughter, Donna; grandsons, George and Joseph and parents, George and Roberta (Hall) Bosley. Services celebrating Adelaide's Life will be held at the J.C. Adams Funeral Home, Leslie Chapel, on Saturday, December 19, 2009 at 11:00 AM. Interment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 PM. For those who wish memorial contributions may be made to the DMC Children's Hospital of Michigan, 3901 Beaubien, Detroit, MI 48201. J.C. Adams Funeral Home Leslie Chapel- (517) 589-8216

MARY ALICE ISBISTER

Passed away December 13, 2009 at the age of 84. She is the beloved sister of Betty Ann Isbister. Dear aunt of Kitty (Alan) Jensen, Bill (Betty) Isbister and Pat Hepburn. Also survived by numerous great nephews and nieces. Alice was a retired sales clerk having worked many years at Manley's, a retail office supply store in Sarnia, Ontario. She came to the Plymouth area in 1992, having lived at Tonquish Manor. She was a people person who loved people and was very social. She made many many friends over the years. She enjoyed word puzzles, comic books and reading about people. Services will be held at a later date. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association. Share a special thought or memory at: schrader-howell.com

OLGA ELIAS

Died December 12, 2009, age 91. Dear Mother of Juanita Elias, Anthony (Elda) Elias, Kathleen (Jeff) Sternik, and the late Sharon (Jim) Elder. Grandmother of 10, and many great grandchildren. Services were private. Share a memory at: www.mannsfuneralhome.com



FLORINE ISGRIGG GALBRAITH

Of Birmingham, Michigan; wife of Russell H. Galbraith, deceased. She was born February 18, 1911 - died December 17, 2009. Mrs. Galbraith was preceded in death by her parents, I.J. Isgrigg and Lela Burke Isgrigg and a brother William (Margaret) Isgrigg. Mrs. Galbraith attended Gulf Park College in Gulfport, Mississippi and received Bachelor and Master's Degrees from University of Michigan. She had been a teacher in the Pontiac School System and taught in Elizabethtown, Kentucky. She was a member of The Village Women's Club, Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council Center, the Pontiac National Farm and Garden Association and Kirk in the Hills. She is survived by a brother, Robert G. Isgrigg of Oldsmar, Florida and five nephews, John W. Isgrigg (Diane), Waterford, Michigan; Robert G. Isgrigg, Jr. (Evelyn) of White Lake, Michigan; Dr. Richard K. Isgrigg (Phyllis) of Harker Heights, Texas; Stephen B. Isgrigg (Deborah) of Waterford, Michigan; and Scott M. Isgrigg (Karen) of West Bloomfield, Michigan; and several grandnieces and grandnephews. Funeral services will be held on Monday, December 21, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church. The family will receive friends on Sunday with suggested visiting hours of 1 to 5 p.m. at the Pontiac Chapel of Sparks-Griffin Funeral Home, 46 Williams Street. Interment White Chapel Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Kirk in the Hills. Reflections may be shared by visiting www.sparksgriffin.com.



SALLY ANGELOSANTO LAYTON

Nov. 9, 1952-July 5, 2009
Loving mother of Francesca & John. Devoted daughter of Giuseppe & Rosa. Adored by brothers Dominic (Victoria) & the late Michael (Kristine). Faithful wife of Ricardo Layton. We miss you and will always love you!

JEFF LEACH

Age 43. Beloved nephew of Toni Matier, Helen Thomas, Dale Addington & Tom and Glen Watson. Dear brother of Randolph Kelsch. Also loved by Charles Vaughn II, the Leach family and many more. Visting Sunday 12 noon until 3 pm services at Charles Step Funeral Home 18425 Beech Daly (Btw. 6 - 7 Mile).

ROBERT MARACLE

Age 52, formerly of Livonia, passed away in Florida December 10, 2009. Survived by children, Todd and Stacy Maracle; parents Vern and Joan Maracle; sisters, Lynne (Tony) Minish and Leslie (Eric) Winterbottom; one niece Justine Minish and one nephew Jimi Winterbottom. Service to held at a later date.

MARTHA J. MOON

88, passed away at home on Nov. 11, 2009 with complications of Alzheimer's and Parkinson disease. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Paul Moon and her children Alice, Barbara and Patricia. Martha was a TN native who believed in God and was a creative homemaker who enjoyed gardening, walking, shopping, wood working, making flowers, crochet and embroidery. She enjoyed the holidays, preparing turkey dinners, fruit cake and pumpkin pies. Rest in peace Mom, we love you!

BETTY McMULLEN PAGE

Formerly of Bloomfield Township, on November 30th in Oberlin, Ohio. A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, January 16th, 3:30pm at the Birmingham Unitarian Church. No flowers please

SUSY ROLAND

Entered the Lord's House on Sunday, Dec. 13, 2009, surrounded by the love of her family. Born in Highland Park, Michigan, she was the daughter of Percy and Edna Gilroy. Living in Texas for 29 years, Susy was a member of St. Joseph Honeycreek Catholic Church where she was an Eucharistic Minister and a St. Stephen Minister. Preceded in death by her father, Susy is survived by her loving husband of over 30 years, Timothy F. Roland; mother, Edna Gilroy; her "Girls," her devoted daughters, DeAnn and Angie, and their husbands, Perry and Michael; other children, Tracey and Tim, Timothy F. Jr. and Lisa, Tami and Matt, and Thomas; adoring grandchildren, Brittany, Ryan, Jordan, Matt, Makenzie, M.J., Courtney; Kyle, Blase, Bryce, and Brady, as they called her Grandmommy! Visitation will begin on Thurs, Dec. 17 at 5:00 p.m. at Vaughan's Funeral Home of Boerne, with the Recitation of the Rosary at 7:00 p.m. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, Dec. 19 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Honeycreek Catholic Church, 25781 State Highway 46 West, Spring Branch, TX 78070, with Monsignor Gregory Deane, celebrant. If so desired, Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, P. O. Box 291048, San Antonio, TX 78229. To leave a message or tribute for the family, please visit: www.vaughanfuneralhome.com and select the obituaries icon. Funeral Arrangements entrusted to Vaughan's Funeral Home of Boerne.

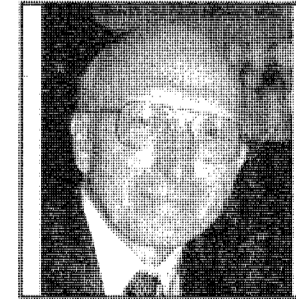


RUTH M. SCHIEBOLD

December 12, 2009, age 80, of Bloomfield Hills. Beloved wife of the late W. Herbert for 53 years. Dear mother of Eric (Kimberly), Paul, Christopher (Susan), and Matthew (Patricia). Loving grandmother of Allan, Max, Mark, and Samantha. Services have taken place. In lieu of flowers memorial tributes to Leukemia and Lymphoma Society 1421 E. Twelve Mile Rd., Bldg. A Madison Heights, MI 48071 A. J. Desmond & Sons 248-362-2500 View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

MARY JANE WOTASZAK

December 13, 2009 Age 79 of Canton. Loving wife of the late Lawrence "L.J." Wotaszak. Devoted mother of Jane M. (Vahe) Rostamloo, Julie Wotaszak Jones, and the late Bruce (Joanie). Dear sister of John, Paul, Tom, and the late Martha Joan. Proud grandma of Scott (Alison), Rose Mary, Christopher, Charles, Aaron, Rachel, Sarah, Lauren, and Hannah. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Visitation was held Tuesday 5-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd. (Btw. Beck and Sheldon) Plymouth. In state Wednesday 10 AM until 10:30 AM Funeral Mass at St. John Neumann Church 44800 Warren Rd. Canton. Memorial contributions may be made to American Lung Association. To share a memory please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



RAYMOND RICHARD "DICK" YADACH

78, of Livonia, retired President of Servco Automatic, Inkster, died suddenly December 14, 2009. Beloved husband of the late Lorraine. Dick is survived by his children, Mark (Kathleen) and Lynn (Rick) Yadach-Blakey; his sister, Patricia (the late Walt) Rzucidlo; and grandchildren, Meaghan and Kara Yadach, and Kyle, Grant and Ryan Blakey. Visitation was Friday, December 18, 2-9 PM, with 7:00 PM prayers, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Funeral Mass was held Saturday, December 19, 9:30 AM (in state 9:00 AM) St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Entombment in St. Hedwig Mausoleum, Dearborn Hts., will follow lunch. Memorial tributes suggested to American Heart Assn., heart.org.

Plymouth Oratorio Society rehearsal set

The Plymouth Oratorio Society (POS) will begin its 24th season with its first rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4, in First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd. (quarter mile west of Sheldon) in Plymouth.

"Mass in D" by R. V. Williams, "Benedicite" by Brahms and "Nanie" by Dvorak will be performed on May 2. Scores will be available to purchase at the rehearsal. No auditions are needed. For more information, call 734-455-8353 or visit: home.comcast.net/~kesuchyta/pos.

The POS is a classical choir of experienced singers that perform works of the master composers. Comprised of singers from Plymouth, Canton and other communities, POS performs with the Michigan Sinfonietta Orchestra. The group is conducted by Dr. Richard Ingram of Ann Arbor. This season will be dedicated to Robert Pratt, founding conductor of the POS.

MILESTONES

SYDNEY ADDISON HOLCOMBE

Sydney Addison Holcombe was born Nov. 24, 2009 at the University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor.

She joins parents, Pete and Marilyn Holcombe, and brother, Gavin, age 20 months, at home in Canton.

Proud grandparents are Walt and Christine Markowski of Livonia and Ted and Shirley Holcombe of Pennsylvania.



Sydney Addison Holcombe

JUNE 2010 WEDDING PLANNED

Richard and Katherine Brown of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Erica Maureen, to Jason Duane Sowders, son of Karen Devito of Tampa, Fla., and Duane Sowders of Melvindale.

The bride-to-be is a 1999 graduate of Franklin High School in Livonia and a 2004 graduate of Madonna University in Livonia. She is working on a master's degree at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and teaches seventh grade math at Clarenceville Middle School.

The groom-to-be graduated in 1999 from Franklin Road Christian High School in Novi



Brown-Sowders

and after switching careers, is finishing a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at Wayne State University.

The couple plans to wed in June 2010 at Northville Hills Golf Club in Northville.

JANUARY 2010 WEDDING PLANNED



Piper-Paluchniak

Heather Piper and Stephen Paluchniak announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Bruce and Kristin Piper of Canton, is a graduate of Plymouth-Canton schools and is employed by Visions Salon and Spa.

Her fiancé, son of Joan Colegrove of Arizona and Stephen Paluchniak of Houghton Lake, is a graduate of Plymouth-Canton schools and works for Shelby Tree Care.

A Jan. 2, 2010 wedding is planned at First Presbyterian Church, Plymouth.

This Holiday Season, Give Your Loved Ones The Greatest Gift Of All... PEACE OF MIND

Those who fail to make their final arrangements in advance can place a tremendous burden on family members. Loved ones must make very important decisions while still in shock, grieving, burdened with unusual expenses and facing new responsibilities. Cadillac Memorial Gardens West wants to help you eliminate the financial and emotional burden from your family when a death occurs by offering you a FREE burial space. This is a limited time offer so call Cadillac Memorial Gardens West today for complete information on this pre-need opportunity.

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check out the numbers in
today's Sports section

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. Synbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

Deadlines:

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

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Char Wilson 313-496-4968 For more information call: Char Wilson 586-826-7082 or Liz Keiser 586-977-7538 or toll free: 800-579-7355 ask for Char or Liz OE08658429

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When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"...a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Eccentric

Call 1-800-579-7355

FOOD

Snow day delights

It's true — the kitchen is the heart of the home. Ever notice how people always gather there? Whether baking treats, making dinner or spending time with family and friends, the kitchen is my favorite place to be. Since my day job is Consumer Test Kitchen project manager for the Nestlé Test Kitchens, you can bet I love to stir things up. This column lets me pass along to you some of my best recipes,



Jenny Harper

tips and baking secrets.

Gray winter skies keep many a kid peering out the windows, hoping to hear two magic words — snow day! When snow or bad weather keeps the family indoors for too long, however, the excitement can fade into boredom if you're not prepared.

That's why I like to keep a few tricks up my sleeve to turn snow day doldrums into snow day delights. What can you add to this list?

- Indoor picnic. Turn the family room into a picnic area with blankets and fun foods. Have the kids draw outdoor scenes for a cheery backdrop.

- Scavenger hunt. Give them fun clues that will have them searching all over the house for silly items. Who knows — they might even find those missing toys.

- Old-fashioned forts. Pull out blankets and sheets and let them turn the living room or dining room into a fort or secret hideout. You'll be amazed at how long they can entertain themselves.

- Baking goodies together. Of course, this is my favorite thing to do. I love this fun recipe for Snow Day Cookie Shovels — they're a real treat after shoveling real snow!

For more baking ideas to warm up your snow days, visit www.TollHouse.com.

SNOW DAY COOKIE SHOVELS

Makes 24 servings

1 package (16.5 ounces) Nestlé Toll House Refrigerated Chocolate Chip Cookie Bar Dough

12 pretzel rods, broken in half
1 cup (6 ounces) Nestlé Toll House Premier White Morsels, divided
2 teaspoons vegetable shortening
½ cup mini marshmallows

White decorator sprinkles or sugars, sweetened flakes coconut (optional)

PREHEAT oven to 350° F. Grease three baking sheets.

BREAK dough along pre-scored lines. Place eight squares of cookie dough about three inches apart onto each prepared baking sheet. Insert broken end of pretzel rod into each square of cookie dough; flatten dough slightly to form a rectangle. Flatten each square slightly with fingers to form a rectangle, about 1½-inches long by 1¼-inches wide. Refrigerate for 15 minutes.

BAKE for 14 to 16 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove from oven and immediately pat sides of each shovel with edge of knife to form straight sides. Cool on baking sheets for two minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely.

LINE cooled baking sheets with wax paper.

MICROWAVE ¾ cup morsels and shortening in small, uncovered, microwave-safe bowl on MEDIUM-HIGH (70 percent

power for 45 seconds; STIR. Morsels may retain some of their original shape. If necessary, microwave at additional 10- to 15-second intervals, stirring just until morsels are melted.

DIP bottom 1-inch edge of each cookie shovel in melted morsels; scraping bottom of shovel along edge of bowl to remove excess. Place on prepared baking sheets. Immediately sprinkle dipped end of each shovel with remaining ½ cup morsels, mini marshmallows and sprinkles. Refrigerate for 20 minutes or until set. Store shovels between layers of wax paper in covered containers at room temperature.

NOTES:

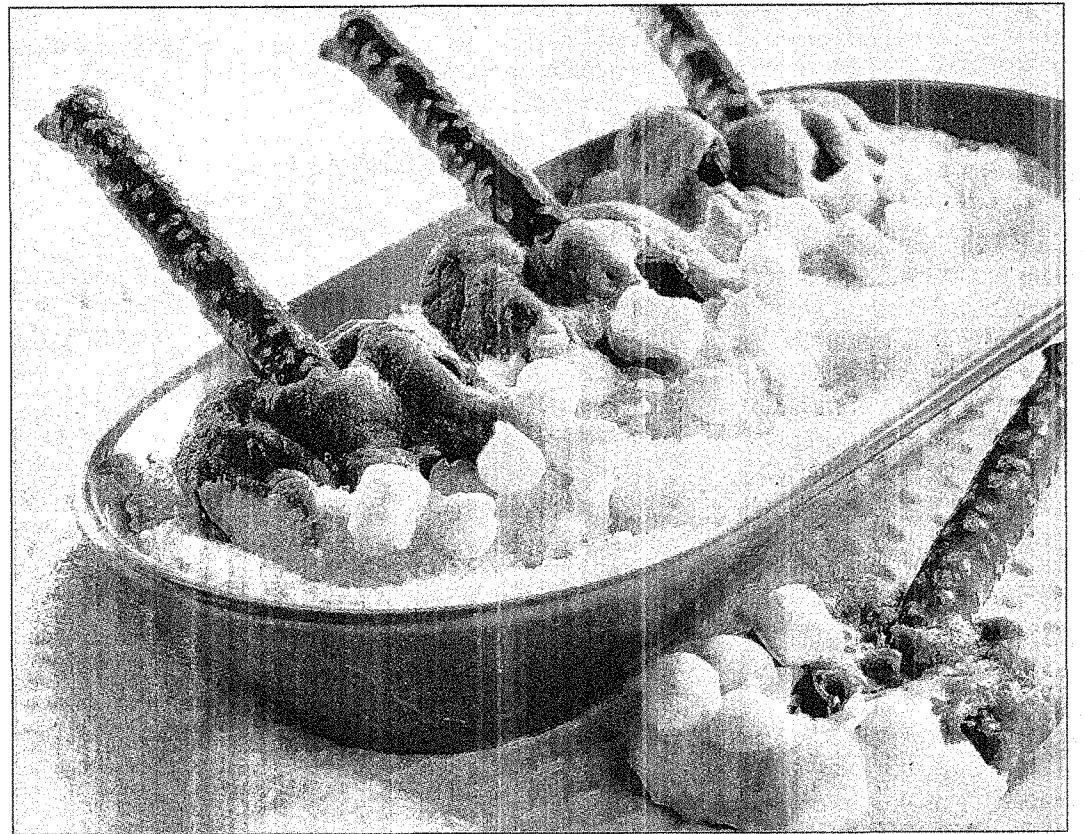
1½ cups Nestlé Toll House

Refrigerated Chocolate Chip Cookie Tub Dough can be substituted for the bar dough. Roll dough into 24, 1¼-inch balls.

Refrigerating dough shovels before baking helps cookies retain their shape during baking.

Nutrition Information per serving: 150 calories; 60 calories from fat; 6g total fat; 3.5g saturated fat; 10mg cholesterol; 190mg sodium; 21g carbohydrate; 1g fiber; 13g sugars; 2g protein

Jenny Harper is Consumer Test Kitchen project manager for the Nestlé Test Kitchens and VeryBestBaking.com.



In Loving Memory

...at the Holidays

Light a candle for those no longer here,
And hold their memories so very dear.
Light a candle for those who have gone
For in our hearts they will always belong.

Brian Hinzman,
We think of you and miss you every single day. This is especially true during the holiday season. 'Til we meet again.
With love,
Your family.

ESTELLE S. HAFF
Dec. 7, 2008
Mother we miss you so.
Happy Memories will be in our hearts forever. Love, Sis, Patty, Allen and Sweetie Pie

In loving memory of my beloved husband, **George**, loving father of Lori, David and Mark. Proud and adoring "Poppy" to Alex, Anna, Will, Stephanie, Danielle, Grace, Hayden and Taylor.

Kenneth Hill..
We all miss you so much... Mom and us especially at the holidays!!!!
We will all have a drink for you Dad!! We Love You...
Your Wife Agnes, Janine, Ken, and Karl

IN MEMORY OF **DONNA SHANNON** Miss You. Love, Jennifer Isenberg

Tracey Marie Mirti
You are missed always, but especially during the holidays. You are in our hearts and in our memories.
With love, Mom (Clara), Dad (Bob), Kelly, Bobby, Jesse, Jacob, and McKenzie

In Loving Memory
Arturo "POPS" Posa
May 6, 1942 - January 16, 2008
Forever In Our Hearts We Miss You Love Always, Jeff, Andi, Chris, Meg, & Matt

Robert (Bob) Meyerand
9-24-1947 to 1-30-2009
Bob, I miss you every minute of every day, you're now my Guardian Angel watching and protecting me from above. Our love lives on in my heart and soul forever and one day will meet again. Your loving wife, Bonnie

KIM RENZI
April 3, 1970 - April 4, 2009
Forever in Our Hearts Love, Todd, Marina and Adeline.

Matt, You are loved and missed so much. You left footprints on the hearts of all who knew you. Love never dies and memories never leave us. We carry you with us always.
Love, Your Mom, Dad and Family
Matthew Edward Yack
1/20/88 - 4/11/03
www.matthewyack.memory-of.com

In Loving Memory of **Delores Schulz** 1937-2009
Our first Christmas Holiday without you. Everyone misses you very much and thinks of you every day. You were the most loving and caring wife, mother of three children and grandma to six. Your loving husband and family

IN MEMORY OF **MELISSA (Williams) LAMBAREN** 7-7-1974 to 12-3-2007
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

In Loving Memory of my Beautiful Son **Michael** you are missed and loved dearly!!!
Christmas will never be the same...
Love Mom, Dad Alexandra, Yaka.....

Forever In Our Hearts **Bob Hughes,** My Love, Our Father and Papa. We Miss You!

Alyssa Michelle Apostolopoulos
We thank God for every precious moment we spent with you. We love you. We miss you.

In Loving Memory of **Alyssa Michelle Apostolopoulos**
March 14, 1990 - December 13, 1999

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

Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. Feel free to send a related photo in jpg form. For a complete listing online, go to hometownlife.com.

French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk, and juice
Contact: (734) 425-4421

DEC. 24-30

Cherry Hill Seventh Day Adventist Church

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday Dec. 25
Location: 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City
Details: A free Christmas concert featuring teen singer/songwriter, Sarah Draget, with her family
Contact: (734) 524-0880

Lola Park Lutheran Church

Time/Date: Family Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. Dec. 24 and 10 a.m. service on Dec. 25
Location: 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Contact: (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523

St. James Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 6:45 p.m., Dec. 24
Location: 25350 West Six Mile, Redford
Details: Hear "Quiet Noels and Carols for Organ
Contact: (313) 534-7730

DEC. 31-JAN. 6, 2010

Lola Park Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m., New Year's Eve Service, Dec. 31
Location: 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Contact: (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523

Newburg United Methodist Church

Time/Date: Call in orders from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Monday-Tuesday, Jan. 4-5, 2010
Location: 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia
Details: The church is making and selling

Cornish pasties as a fund-raiser. Pasties are \$4 each and can be ordered by calling into the church office. Call in orders only. Any orders left on the church answering machine will be ignored. Pick up times are noon-6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, 2010 and noon-5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, 2010
Contact: (734) 422-0149

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Time/Date: Beginning at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2010
Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia
Details: Monthly series called "Why Be Catholic?" The series will try to answer the questions about what attracts people to the Catholic faith, what holds them there, what brings many back. The kick-off speaker will be author, evangelist, and speaker, Steve Ray, who, after more than 39 years as an active Baptist fundamentalist and Bible scholar, converted to Catholicism, abandoned his multi-million-dollar business, and devoted himself to helping the faith thrive throughout the world. The series is free.
Contact: (734) 261-1455; www.livoniastmichael.org

St. Robert Bellarmine
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 2, 2010
Location: 27201 W. Chicago Road, corner of Inkster Road, Redford
Details: Monthly Bethany Suburban West Singles dance; dance lessons and DJ
Contact: Diane K for more information at (734) 261-5716

St. Robert Bellarmine
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 2, 2010
Location: 27201 W. Chicago Road, corner of Inkster Road, Redford
Details: Monthly Bethany Suburban West Singles dance; dance lessons and DJ
Contact: Diane K for more information at (734) 261-5716

St. Robert Bellarmine
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 2, 2010
Location: 27201 W. Chicago Road, corner of Inkster Road, Redford
Details: Monthly Bethany Suburban West Singles dance; dance lessons and DJ
Contact: Diane K for more information at (734) 261-5716

JAN. 7-13, 2010

Our Lady of Loretto Parish

Time/Date: Starting at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 10, 2010

Location: 17116 Olympia, Redford
Details: A "Grief Recovery" series runs for six weeks and deals with the phases of grief, loneliness and other related issues. A \$20 fee covers all materials. Sponsored by Widowed Friends
Contact: Joan at (248) 478-1084

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Time/Date: 9:30-11 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 12
Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia
Details: Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women (ENDOW) classes will focus on Lumen Gentium, a Vatican II document which Pope John Paul II encouraged all to study "with loving attention" because it provides a blueprint for understanding the Church, its purpose, origins, structure, and mission in the world. Registration and course materials are \$60 but no woman will be denied registration based on inability to pay.
Contact: Register at (734) 261-1455, ext. 207; www.endowonline.com

St. Michael the Archangel Parish
Time/Date: 9:30-11 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 12
Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, in Livonia
Details: Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women (ENDOW) classes will focus on Lumen Gentium, a Vatican II document which Pope John Paul II encouraged all to study "with loving attention" because it provides a blueprint for understanding the Church, its purpose, origins, structure, and mission in the world. Registration and course materials are \$60 but no woman will be denied registration based on inability to pay.
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JAN. 14-20, 2010

St. Thomas a' Beckett Parish

Time/Date: Mass at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010
Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton
Details: Fellowship and refreshments follow Mass sponsored by Widowed Friends
Contact: Pat at (734) 895-6246

ONGOING

AWANA

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays
Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills
Details: AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade
Contact: (248) 426-0096

Classes/study

Time/Date: 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesday
Location: Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile
Details: Tuesday Ladies Bible Study; \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5
Contact: (248) 348-7600

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month
Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia
Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun
Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.

Livonia Unity
Time/Date: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.
Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine - a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions
Contact: (810) 813-4073 or gary@energeticarts.org.

Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 p.m.
Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township
Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

Please see CALENDAR, B7

Berkley First United Methodist Church
2820 W. Twelve Mile Road
Berkley, Michigan 48072
248-399-3698
www.berkeley1stumc.org
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - December 24 at 5:30 pm
CHRISTMAS EVE SPAGHETTI DINNER - December 24 at 6:30 pm
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - December 24 at 10:30 pm

North Congregational Church
36520 W. Twelve Mile Rd., Farmington Hills MI 248/848-1750
Sunday, December 20, 2009
10:30 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent: "The Gift of the Shepherd"
Worship, Chancel Choir and a double brass quartet perform Daniel Pinkham's "Christmas Cantata"
Thursday, December 24, 2009
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
7:30 P.M. - "The Gift of Tomorrow"
Ministers: Rev. Dr. Mark P. Jensen, Rev. Mary E. Biedron

Covenant Community Church
25800 Student • Redford, MI 48239 • 313-535-3100
(1 block north of Five Mile on Beech Daly)
Christmas Service Schedule
Thursday, December 24, 2009
6 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, December 27, 2009
11 a.m. Morning Worship

St. John's Episcopal Church
Where you will experience the joyful love of Christ
Christmas Services • Dec. 24
4:00 pm Family service with Holy Eucharist and Pageant
10:30 pm Carols and Anthems
11:00 pm Traditional Holy Eucharist with Adult Choir & Organ
574 S. Sheldon Rd. • Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-0190
www.stjohnsplymouth.org

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
48755 Warren Rd. • Canton, MI 48187
734-451-0444
Rev. Richard A. Perfetto, Pastor
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
4:30 Mass (Church)
4:30 Mass (All Saints School Gym)
10:00 p.m. (Church)
FRIDAY DECEMBER 25TH
10:30 a.m.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 1ST
10:30 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-DETROIT
21200 Southfield Rd., Southfield
(248) 569-2972 www.fbc-detroit.org
ADVENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE
December 20th - Fourth Sunday of Advent
11:00 a.m. Worship: Christmas Pageant
Thursday, December 24th - Christmas Eve
7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
"Candlelight Service"



ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WORSHIP SCHEDULE
website: stjamesbirmingham.org
The Reverend Fred Elwood, Rector 248.644.0820
CHRISTMAS EVE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
5 P.M. CRECHE PROCESSION & HOLY COMMUNION
Carols & Candles; Service oriented for children; Nursery provided
10 P.M. CHORAL SERVICE
Carols, Communion, Christmas Message & Candles (Music begins at 9:30!)
(Downtown Birmingham between Woodward & Southfield, corner of W. Maple and Chester)

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Tridentine Latin Rite Mass
38100 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48154
734-462-3200
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS DAY MASS SCHEDULE
Christmas Day and New Years Day are Holy Days of Obligation
Christmas Eve Confessions 11:00-11:50 pm
Midnight Mass 12:00 am
Christmas Day No Confessions Mass 10:00 am
New Years Day Masses 7:30 & 10:00 am
Confessions Prior to Each Mass

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B6

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Details: Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those who want to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening.

Contact: (734) 421-0472; leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: (734) 846-4615

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study

Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Andrew's Presbyterian

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday

Location: 26701 Joy

Details: Wednesday study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey

Contact: (313) 274-3820.

Seeds of Mercy Mission Home

Time/Date: 7 p.m., every Friday

Location: 21819 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Details: Bible study

Contact: Nicole Christ at (313) 531-1234

United Methodist Church of Wayne

Time/Date: noon and 7 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 3 Townsquare, Wayne

Details: Celebrate Recovery Bible Study is a Christ-centered and Bible-based 12 Step Recovery Program

Contact: (734) 721-4801

Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Mondays

Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study

Contact: (248) 374-5920

Clothing bank

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon, fourth Saturday

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship, West of Canton Christian Fellowship, at 41711 Joy

Details: Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need

Contact: (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org

Fellowship dinner

St. James Presbyterian

Time/Date: 6 p.m., the first Thursday of the month

Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

Details: Cost is \$8 and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, provides the meals

Contact: (313) 268-7780. The church phone number is (313) 534-7730

Films

Kenwood Church of Christ

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Wednesday Kids

Matinees and 4 p.m., Saturday family movie

Location: 20200 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Guitar Praise game precedes the film on Saturday. Children in second grade or younger can play prior to the film; those in third grade and up can play after the movie. Pizza will also be served following the movie. All events are free

Contact: (248) 476-8222

Moms

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday and 7-9 p.m., fourth Tuesday

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers. Aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners

Contact: Angie at (248) 427-1020

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope

Contact: Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767

Prayer

Good Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays

Location: 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Details: Prayer, spiritual healing and outreach

Contact: (734) 427-3660

Nardin Park United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests

Contact: (248) 476-8860

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church

Details: Music, singing, prayer

Contact: Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906

St. Michael's Church of Livonia

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. third Wednesday

Location: Corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia

Details: Parish prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. Benediction service follows

Contact: (734) 261-1455

Singles

First Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program

Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: Single Place Ministry meets; cost is \$5

Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., Sunday

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Single Point Ministries, for ages 30 and older, offers fellowship and related topics. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation

Contact: (248) 374-5920

Support

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling

Contact: (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244

Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

Contact: (248) 433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m., second and fourth Thursday

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibro-Myalgia support group meets; no dues, but donations are accepted

Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Lucy with questions at (734) 462-1768

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday morning

Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available. There are no requirements, this a service the church wants the community to be aware of and use if needed. Donations of non-perishable items also accepted for the cupboard.

Contact: (734) 421-8451

St. John's Episcopal Church

Time/Date: 10 a.m., the first and third Friday

Location: 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets. Respite care is provided. The group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association

Contact: Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426

Celebrate His Birth

Christ the King Lutheran Church
9300 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48150
(734) 421-0749
www.christthekinglivonia.com
The Rev. James L. Fogle,
Pastor
Christmas Eve Candlelight
Worship with Communion
7:30 p.m.
11:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA)
39020 Five Mile Rd., Livonia
734-464-0211
www.holytrinitylivonia.org
CHRISTMAS EVE
5:30 pm Family Worship with Holy Communion
7:30 pm Contemporary Candlelight with Holy Communion
10:30 pm Festival Music Prelude
11:00 pm Traditional Candlelight with Holy Communion
CHRISTMAS DAY
10:00 am Holy Communion

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church (WELS)
17810 Farmington Road ~ Livonia, Michigan
734-261-1360 ~ website: stpaulslivonia.org
Christmas Worship at St. Paul's
Christmas Eve Worship.....6:30 p.m.
Christmas Day Worship.....10:00 a.m.
New Year's Eve.....6:30 p.m.
Come and worship with us!
Pastor James Hoff Pastor Eric Steinbrener

- ROMAN CATHOLIC CLUSTERED PARISHES IN LIVONIA -
ST. GENEVIEVE 29015 Jamison ST. MAURICE 32765 Lyndon
December 24 Christmas Eve Masses
Children's Masses
4:00p at St. Genevieve Church & 4:00p at St. Maurice Church
10:00p [Midnight Mass] at St. Genevieve Church
December 25 Christmas Day Masses
9:00a at St. Maurice Church; 11:00a at St. Genevieve
December 31 New Year's Eve Masses
4:00p at St. Genevieve Church; 6:00p at St. Maurice Church
December 31-January 1 Holy Hour at St. Maurice
11:30p Exposition...12:30a Reposition & Benediction
January 1 New Year's Day Masses
9:00a at St. Maurice Church; 11:00a at St. Genevieve Church

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, MI
Rev. Marsha M. Woolley, Lead Pastor
Rev. Paul Perez, Deacon
CHRISTMAS EVE
5:00 p.m. Children/Family Service
7:00 p.m. Family Worship and Candlelight
11:00 p.m. Lessons, Carols and Candlelight

Pilgrim Congregational Church
3061 N. Adams Road
just north of Big Beaver Road
248-642-2290
Christmas Eve Service:
"Gift of Music"
A prelude of traditional, instrumental music - 7:00 pm.
"Carols, Candlelight and Communion"
Worship - 7:30 p.m.

You are cordially invited to join us
Thursday evening, December 24,
as we celebrate
Christmas Eve by Candlelight
4:30 & 6:00
Nursery provided
WONDER*
Calvary Baptist Church • 43065 Joy Rd., Canton, MI 48187 • 734.455.0022 • cbjoy.org

Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - LCMS
42690 Cherry Hill Rd. • Canton, MI 48187
Christmas Eve
7:00 pm and 11:00 pm
Christmas Day - 10:00 am
"For unto us a child is born" ISAIAH 9:6

HOLY CROSS
Evangelical Lutheran Church
Traditional
Christmas Eve Worship
Carols, Candlelight and Holy Communion
4:00* 7:30 and 11 pm
*For families with young children
All are Welcome
http://holycrosslivonia.org
30650 6 Mile Rd., Livonia
(1/2 Mile West of Middlebelt)
734-427-1414 • WELCOME VISITORS

SALEM CHURCH
Downtown Farmington
33424 Oakland Ave.
(N. of Grand River, W. of Farmington Rd.)
Farmington, MI 48335
(248) 474-6880
Christmas Eve 8:00 pm
Candlelight with Holy Communion
Everyone Welcome

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Located in the Village of Franklin
United Methodist in Affiliation, Ecumenical in Spirit.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009
10 AM Worship: Festival of Lessons and Carols
CHRISTMAS EVE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2009
Candlelight and Carols
7 PM Family Service with Children and Youth Music & Drama
11 PM Traditional Service
26425 Wellington (between 13 & 14 Mile, 1 block W of Franklin Road)
(248) 626-6606 www.franklinchurch.us

Faith Covenant Church
Corner of 14 Mile and Drake Rd.
Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191 • www.4fcc.org
Join us for candlelight Christmas Eve Service
Thursday, December 24th
5 p.m. & 10 p.m.
Childcare provided at 5 p.m.

St. Priscilla's Church
"Welcomes You Home"
19120 Purlingbrook St.
Livonia, MI 48152
248-476-4700
North of 7 Mile Rd;
Between Middlebelt and Merriman Roads
Christmas Eve Masses
4:30 Children's Liturgy
6:00 PM Mass
11:30 PM Christmas Carols
12:00 AM Midnight Mass
Christmas Day
9:00AM Mass
11:00 AM Mass

First United Methodist Church
1589 W. Maple Road, Birmingham
248-646-1200 • www.fumcbirmingham.org
CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP
4:00 p.m. for Families with Young Children
5:30 p.m. for Families with Elementary Children
Nursery Open
2:00, 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 p.m.
Christmas Lessons and Carols
Dr. John E. Harnish preaching
Holy Communion at 2, 7 & 11
Nursery Care at 2 and 7
John E. Harnish, Senior Pastor
Rodney Quainton Chad Oyer Carl Price Brian William Monica William

"A Family in Christ"
Opportunities for Families
St. Augustine Lutheran Church LCMS
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
Thursday, December 24th
7 pm Contemporary 11 pm Traditional
Sunday Worship
Traditional Worship Time 8:30 am • Blended Worship 11:00 am
5475 Livernois, Troy (North of Long Lake)
(248) 879-6400 www.saltchurch.net

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
5631 North Adams Rd Bloomfield Hills MI 48304
Rev. Dave Steele, D.D. 248-646-5041
Christmas Eve Services - 2009
4:30 pm Children's Service
7:00 pm Family Service-Holy Communion
10:30 pm Festival of Candlelight Holy Communion
Christmas Day Service - 2009
10:00 am Holy Communion Service

Keep chocolate, holly, tinsel away from pets

Joyful holiday traditions can pose serious risks for four-legged family members. The Michigan Humane Society (MHS) offers the following tips for keeping pets safe during the busy holiday season:

- Holiday plants can be harmful or toxic, including mistletoe, holly, poinsettias, Japanese yew, Jerusalem cherry, lilies and the bulb of the amaryllis plant. Contact your veterinarian immediately if your companion animal is vomiting, lethargic or foaming at the mouth.
- Keep animals away from holiday decorations and never leave them unsupervised around the Christmas tree. Tinsel, ribbon, bows and angel hair — which many cats find irresistible — are choking hazards and can cause intestinal blockages if swallowed. Glass balls may be “fetched” off the tree and break. Also, ingested pine needles can puncture the intestines, so vacuum around the tree frequently.
- Preservatives, aspirin — which is especially deadly to cats — or sugar commonly used to prolong a Christmas tree's life may prove harmful if the water is ingested; even without preservatives, the water may contain harmful fertilizers from the tree.
- Make sure lights and electrical cords are out of reach. Besides the risk of electrocution, the whole tree may topple over.
- Secure four-legged family members while entertaining. More guests mean more chances for a pet to slip out; as always, be sure he is wearing a collar and

ID tag. In conjunction with a visible tag for each pet, MHS highly recommends microchips as a permanent, safe and effective form of identification.

- Some pets are social butterflies who enjoy the extra activity of the holidays, but others may prefer peace and quiet. Provide a safe place away from all the commotion with favorite toys, food and water, a litter box for cats, quiet background music, and comfy bedding.
 - Hold the leftovers. A taste or two may be okay for most pets, but a drastic change in a pet's diet can cause severe gastrointestinal upset and require emergency medical attention. Never give animals poultry or steak bones, which can splinter or lodge in the throat, stomach or intestinal tract. Also, be sure the garbage is secured.
 - Chocolate is poisonous to dogs and can prove fatal depending on the dog's size and the amount and type of chocolate ingested. The safest rule is to keep all chocolate out of a dog's reach.
 - Lighted candles should never be left unattended, especially with animals around.
 - Alcohol and pets do not mix. Keep alcoholic drinks where animals can not reach them. If ingested, the animal could become very sick and weak, possibly resulting in respiratory failure.
- For more information about the Michigan Humane Society call (866) MHUMANE or visit www.michiganhumane.org

ADOPTABLE GREYHOUNDS



Domino

Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption found homes for five greyhounds this month, but has other retired racers that are looking for permanent homes.

“I believe people are beginning to see the benefits of their docile and lay back personalities. Not to mention that they are mature dogs without the puppy chewing and all that goes along with adopting a puppy,” said Jackie Bowen, Greyheart spokeswoman.

Bowen hopes Dom and Tinkerbell also find homes this month. Here's what Greyheart says about them:

Domino is this 3½-year-old greyhound's racing name, but he's also called Dom. He is white with black markings on his sleek and beautiful coat. He's very friendly and loving. If you're looking for that special guy for under your Christmas tree, you'll fall in love with Dom.

Tinkerbell is a 4-year-old girl with a fawn color coat. She is stunningly beautiful. She loves to cuddle and be close to people.

If you want to meet Dom or Tinkerbell, call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739. Check out other photos of both dogs at www.greyheart.org



Tinkerbell

Celebrate His Birth

Christmas at the Kirk

December 20
4:00 PM Annual Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24 - Christmas Eve

11:00 AM Young Family Service <i>Dr. Norman Pritchard</i>	8:30 PM Holy Night Service <i>Dr. Norman Pritchard</i>
4:00 PM Family Service <i>Dr. Keith Provost</i>	11:00 PM Holy Night Service <i>Dr. Norman Pritchard</i>
6:00 PM Family Service <i>Dr. Norman Pritchard</i>	

Kirk in the Hills

1340 West Long Lake Road • Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302 • (248) 626-2515
kirkinthehills.org

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

~Christmas Eve Services~
Thursday, December 24, 2009

5:00 p.m. - Family Service
Featuring Children's Choir and Youth Handbells

10:00 p.m. - Candlelight Communion Service
Featuring Adult Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir

Rev. Phil Olson, Interim Pastor • Rev. Kellie Whitlock, Assoc. Pastor

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, USA
9601 Hubbard at West Chicago • Livonia, MI 48150
734.422.0494
www.rosedalegardens.org
Wheelchair Accessible

Cash paid out without any return

Before I give you the content of an e-mail sent to me by Phyllis of Redford, let me tell you that Walter's Appliance, with three store locations in the area, is no longer in business. It is a shame to lose one of the old-timers in the appliance business as they have sold products to thousands for many years.



Appliance Doctor
Joe Gagnon

If anyone else has a story similar to the one you are about to read, please get in touch with me. Phyllis writes: “Hi Joe, Enjoy reading your column in the *Observer* and learn a lot from your advice. I thought maybe you could direct me to the proper place for help. I purchased a GE refrigerator in August of 2007. The first part of my problem is my disappointment with the product. I was replacing a harvest gold Hotpoint refrigerator that was purchased in the 70s. Never had a problem with the old frig but was tired of the color and knew it was time for an energy-efficient model. I do not like this GE I purchased. The first few months I had it I had to have the ice maker changed. It was literally throwing ice cubes around the freezer. Then I noticed items in the freezer seemed to go from frozen to soft and back to frozen. GE replaced the thermostat. Now comes my second problem.

“I purchased the GE refrigerator and a Whirlpool microwave oven with a two-year extended warranty on both appliances from Walter's Home Appliances, now out of business. I called GE to have them check this crummy refrigerator and was told I did not have an extended warranty. So I checked with Whirlpool (no problems with the microwave, no service needed) just checking on the warranty, and was told I also

did not have an extended warranty with them. What Walters did was take my money and run and never sent in the paperwork to the manufacturers for the extended warranty. Good learning experience, make sure to get the warranty papers in hand.

“I contacted GE Money Bank, who I financed through, asking for a refund because I did not receive the merchandise, but account is closed and they paid Walters and I paid GE. Wrote the Attorney General Mike Cox and that went nowhere. My problem is with the freezer. Anything, especially bread, left more than a couple of weeks gets freezer burn. Anything in a box or can is covered with frost and boxes are soft like they were wet. Bar on the door has frost and ice formations. I've dialed down but it doesn't seem to help. With no warranty, service calls can be costly. Any ideas what I can do? Any help would be appreciated. Thank you.”

Well Phyllis, your story reminds me of the days way back when Highland Appliance went out of business. Different book with the same page. I only hope this was a mistake on the part of Walter's and if not, I may be asked to help a whole lot of homeowners. If this becomes the case, I would expect the Attorney General to make haste with his assistance. Remember, he is running for the Governor's office. For right now, I have asked my son Mark who owns the Appliance Doctor Service Company in Livonia to perform the necessary service call and labor on your GE refrigerator. Mark will only charge you for any needed parts at his cost and he is very versed on your products. You may call his office at (734) 953-6991. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com

Come, Let Us Adore Him

St. John Lutheran Church
Farmington Hills, 23225 Gill Rd.
248-474-0584

Christmas Eve
6:00 pm - Family worship with special music
9:00 pm Candlelight Worship with Hand Bells & Chancel Choir

Christmas Day
10:00am - Traditional service
www.stiohn-lutheran.com

Christmas Eve Services
Wednesday, December 24

Family Service*
4:00 p.m.

Candlelight Services
6:00 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.

Childcare available through age 4

40000 Six Mile Rd | Northville, Michigan 48168
248.374.7400 | www.wardchurch.org

Welcome Home

Join us at Trinity Church for one of our Christmas Eve Services
4:00 6:00 11:00 p.m.

Storytelling, special music, drama, chalk artist, candle lighting and refreshments are sure to provide an unforgettable and meaningful Christmas experience for you, your family and friends. You will be encouraged by the message of God's extravagant love. Childcare available infant to 5 years at 4:00 & 6:00.

Trinity Church
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd • Plymouth • www.trinityepc.org

KNOW THE SCORE
check out the numbers in
today's **Sports** section

NEIGHBORS

Volunteer project touches teens, adults, hospice patients

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Diane Bergendahl extends a simple invitation to teens every December.

"We tell them it's the second Saturday and bring your pruners and come help."

And they do, year after year.

Last year more than 50 teens and adults answered the call to make evergreen arrangements under the guidance of Bergendahl and other Livonia Garden Club members.

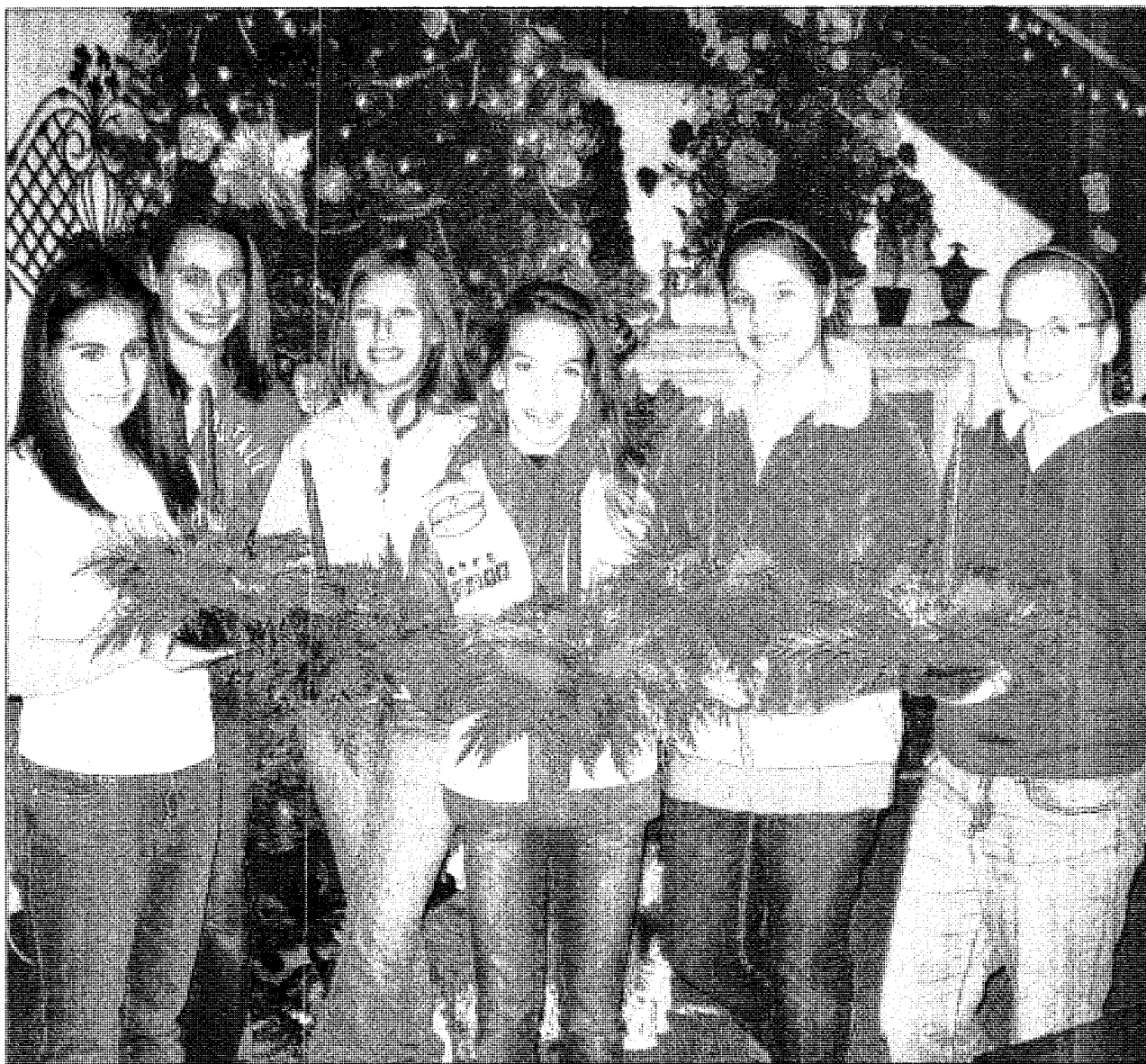
About 25 pitched in this month to craft the pieces, which Angela Hospice delivered to families in its home care program.

"I think it's a worthwhile thing to do for Christmas. It's reaching out to others in need and we have a good feeling when we're done with 75 arrangements, and knowing who they are going to. Hopefully it will brighten their Christmas," Bergendahl said.

Livonia Garden Club members were looking for a service project 18 years ago when they suggested making holiday arrangements for hospice patients. They made 50 arrangements that first year and then gradually expanded to 75 as more teens, some of them earning community service credits for school, volunteered.

"We supply everything that goes in the arrangements," said Marilyn Irwin, member. "We're happy to do this. It's something that's on our calendar every year. Angela Hospice is happy to receive it. And the kids are happy to learn to make arrangements."

"It's pretty challenging, although I find kids are always open to learn something new. The girls — and we even have male students come — feel so good when they see what they've actually accomplished and made."



Teens show off their completed arrangements before they are delivered to Angela Hospice.

Volunteers add evergreens and place pine cones, ribbons and other decorations, giving each arrangement a personal touch.

Adults, girl scout troops and individual teens hear about the project through word of mouth. Jessica Crachiola, Emily Fradette, Hannah

Gove, Kristen Karwan, Julianna Schneider and Julia Wolgram represented Troop 40916 from Livonia at this month's session.

NEW SKILL

Emma DiCello, a senior at Stevenson High School in Livonia, has volunteered for two years out of a personal interest rather than for service credit.

"I know Diane Bergendahl and I like to help out. It was so much fun. It was fun to learn something new."

She said the arranging seemed a bit overwhelming at first, but most volunteers catch on quickly.

Emma used her new-found skill to make three arrangements at home for her family.

"It was fun teaching my mom something she didn't know how to do," she added.

Volunteers spend two hours making two or three of the evergreen decorations, working together in a room at Angela Hospice.


"We do lots of wonderful projects around here, but this is my favorite. The outreach from this project is great," said Donna Kolodsick of Angela Hospice. "It's an amazing project because it touches so many people in different ways. It's encouraging people to know the benefit and rewards of volunteering is a good thing. These young people are learning that and they are learning a skill. And the garden club members are sharing something they love."

Kolodsick said holiday decorating often is put on the back burner when a family member is ill.

"To have someone arrive at the house with an unexpected gift says that the community cares."

The Livonia Garden Club meets at 7 p.m., the first Tuesday of the month, at the Livonia Senior Center, Five Mile and Farmington. Dues are \$20 a year. Julia Hofley will be the guest speaker in January with a presentation on creating unforgettable home entrances.

Arthritis Today
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**JOINT INJECTIONS:
WHY SUCCESSFUL, WHY NOT**

When a doctor injects a joint with cortisone, he does it in a logical manner that over years becomes habit. The physician rarely alters his routine. So the physician is surprised when the patient returns and says that the last injection didn't work, or on over occasions, the patient remarks that the last injection was really good, and asks the doctor to do it the same way again.

What the doctor believes is that in the not so successful injections the patient placed unusual strain on the knee or shoulder or that the usefulness of the injections is coming to an end.

The purpose of joint injection is to retard the return of irritation to an impaired joint such as the knee or shoulder. Certainly one reason that an injection fails is that the medication did not get to the right place. In many cases, the physician will inject again to settle the question of the accuracy of the first injection.

However, if wear and tear or inflammation to a joint has gone too far, the message of the failure is not to try again, but to move on to other therapy, which usually means a referral to the orthopedist for surgical intervention.

Harder to explain is when the injection provides greater or prolonged relief as compared with past efforts. In those instances, the injection site was particularly apt or the patient's general health was better than usual and did not place the expected strain on the body.

www.drjweiss.yourmd.com

Livonia resident honored for peace work

The Livonia branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) honored long-time Livonia resident, Rosemary Doyle, with its Salute to Women Award at the annual Salute to Women Luncheon Saturday, Dec. 12, at Ernesto's.

Since 1973, the Livonia Branch of the AAUW has honored a woman whose efforts reflect the organization's goals of equity and education for women, and effecting positive social change.

Doyle has been working for more than 25 years as a career consultant and transition specialist. In that capacity, she has assisted many women as they transition from home to work. However, it is her volunteer work that so impressed the AAUW selection committee.

As education director for Citizens for Peace since 2003, Doyle developed a Peace Collection Bibliography of nonviolent materials with more than 570 books. Several hundred were donated to the Livonia Civic Center Library. Last year



Rosemary Doyle

she initiated a Peace Essay Contest for the Season for Nonviolence that was open to all Michigan high school and college students.

She is responsible for organizing training sessions for school personnel in Wayne County on restorative practices, a violence prevention program. In addition, she has

taught numerous classes in nonviolent communication, a method for resolving conflict.

For 16 years, Doyle was a member of a national group of ethnically and racially diverse women, who provided panel presentations on the effects of prejudice to community and business organizations.

At Oakland University's Continuum Center, she volunteered for eight years as a peer counselor, coordinator and presenter of personal and professional development programs for women entering the workforce.

"Watching Rosemary empowering others and tirelessly giving of herself has been an inspiration to me" said attendee Denise Marsico of Birmingham.

Doyle has devoted her life to personal growth, teaching, guiding and motivating others.

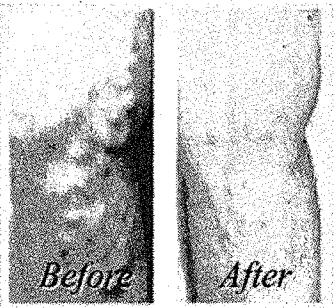
"We are proud to salute you," said Dorothy Trent, AAUW Livonia branch president, as she presented the 2009 "Salute to Women" Award.

**Healthy Legs,
Healthy You!**

"I thought it was normal for my legs to ache at the end of the day."

You may have a medical condition covered by insurance known as Venous Insufficiency if you experience any of these leg symptoms:

- Pain/aching/throbbing
- Heaviness or fatigue
- Swelling of feet/ankles
- Restless legs
- Night cramps
- Itchy veins
- Varicose veins
- Non-healing ulcers

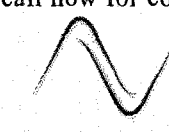


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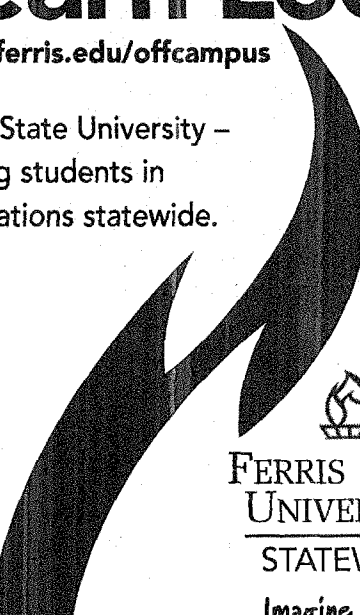
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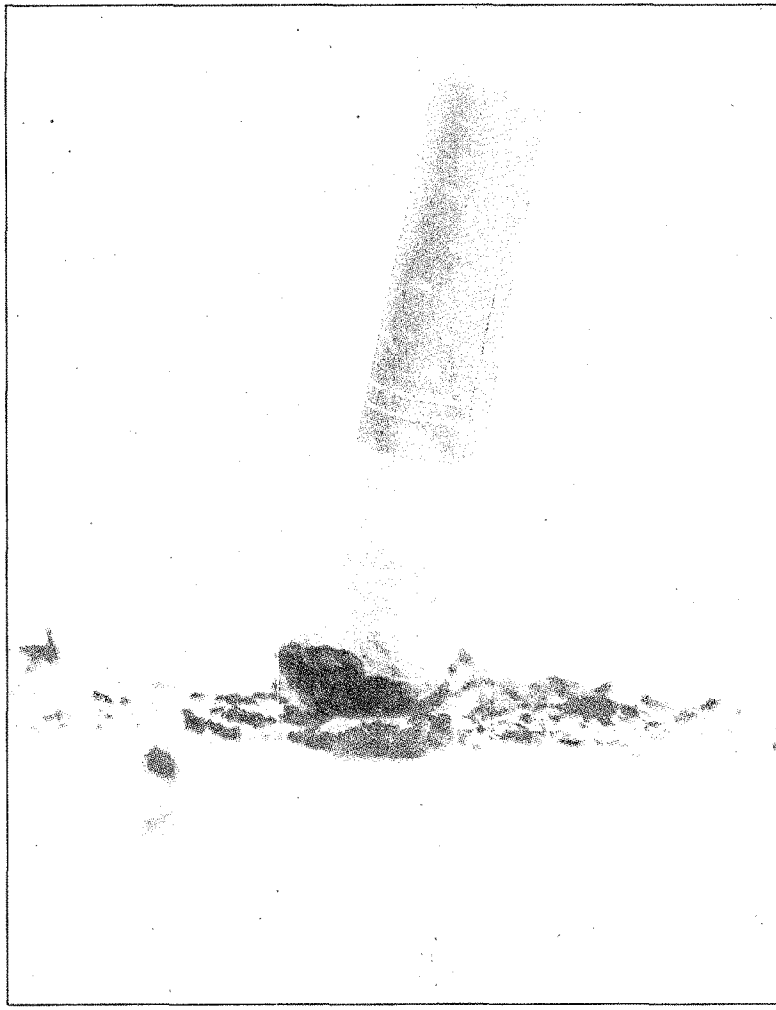
Follow these tips and quit smoking

Many people will make New Year's resolutions to quit smoking this year. Having a solid smoking cessation plan can greatly improve a person's chance for success. The American Lung Association offers tips and resources that have helped thousands of people give up smoking for good:

- Talk to your doctor or pharmacist about the different over-the-counter and prescription medications to help you quit smoking.
- Look into the different options available to help smokers quit. Visit www.lungusa.org or call (800) 548-8252 for suggestions.
- Take time to plan. Pick your quit date a few weeks ahead of time and mark it on the calendar. If you can, pick a day when life's extra stresses are not at their peak, such as after the holidays. Mark a day on the calendar and stick to it.
- Get some exercise every day. Walking is a great way to reduce the stress of quitting. Exercise is proven to not only combat weight gain but also to improve mood and energy levels.
- Eat a balanced diet, drink lots of water and get plenty of sleep.
- Ask family, friends and co-workers for their help and support. Having someone to take a walk with or just listen can give a needed boost.

You don't have to quit alone. Help is available online and in your community. Consider joining a stop-smoking program like Freedom From Smoking (www.ffsonline.org) from the American Lung Association.

"Smokers have different experiences when they quit," said Norman Edelman, M.D. American Lung Association Chief Medical Officer. "Some people may feel tired or even easily excitable. Others may feel lightheaded, nervous or irritable and experience headaches in addition to craving tobacco or sweets. It's important to know that these feelings are normal, and may last for several weeks, but eventually they will pass."



COURTESY OF THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

Try snubbing out that cigarette in 2010 with a little help from the American Lung Association.

The American Lung Association's Freedom From Smoking (FFS) program has helped thousands of people quit smoking. An FFS program also is available online. For no cost, people can choose a Basic FFS Online membership which includes a complete, eight-module program.

The multi-step Freedom from Smoking program also is offered in a group setting, as many participants find the support of others a beneficial component of the quitting process.

Find a group clinic option

through a local American Lung Association office. Visit www.lungusa.org.

"Quitting smoking is one of the most important things that you can do for your health," Edelman said. "Half of all regular smokers will die of smoking-related diseases so it's important to plan for and set your quit date as soon as possible."

For more information about the American Lung Association or to support the work it does, call (800) 586-4872 or visit www.lungusa.org.

Nurses earn top honors at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) has granted DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital "Magnet" recognition for excellence in nursing.

"Achieving Magnet designation is a hospital-wide accomplishment that speaks very well to the amazing sense of teamwork, focus on excellence, and willingness to go beyond perceived limitations," said Lynn Torossian, president of Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital. "I am extremely proud of the team here for achieving this outstanding accomplishment."

Less than six percent of hospitals in the United States have qualified for Magnet status. In Michigan, 10 health care organizations have been honored by the Magnet Recognition Program. Only four of those are located in Southeastern Michigan.

"Magnet status is considered the gold standard of nursing care," said Bette Fitz, vice president of patient care services at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital. "This very high honor takes all of us working together to deliver the best possible patient experience and we should all share pride in

this achievement. It also confirms what we already knew to be true, that nurses at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital are among the best in the country."

The hospital underwent an evaluation process that began in 2004 and included submission of a 15-volume application document, multiple stages of review and a three-day on-site appraisal conducted by the Magnet Recognition Program. During the on-site visit, appraisers evaluated nursing criteria and interviewed patients, nurses, doctors, executive administrators, and community members.

The Magnet Recognition Program was developed by the ANCC from research conducted in 1983 that identified 14 characteristics in organizations best able to recruit and retain nurses during the nursing shortages.

Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, located in Commerce Township, is one of nine hospitals and institutes operated by the Detroit Medical Center. www.hvsh.org

Botsford joins patient safety partnership

As part of a continuing series of initiatives to improve patient safety, Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills, has joined Michigan Hospital Association's Keystone Center for Patient Safety and Quality collaborative to address care in the Emergency Department.

Botsford is one of 71 hospitals across the state of Michigan participating in the ER collaborative.

"This Keystone collaborative will help us build upon existing processes by bringing large numbers of hospitals together in a single improvement initiative. We expect see additional improvement in areas where we already excel and to make fast track progress on issues that have been a challenge in the past," said Sanford Vieder, D.O., Medical Director of the Botsford Emergency Center.

"We treat about 60,000 patients

a year in the fast-paced Emergency Center environment. The Keystone collaborative provides the opportunity to take a focused look at what we do and how we can apply evidence-based best practices."

The goal of the MHA Keystone ER collaborative is to prevent patient harm in hospital emergency rooms by improving safety, reducing overcrowding, and treating sepsis (blood poisoning) in the early stages. Keystone interventions will help ensure that the most critically ill patients receive treatment first and reduce the likelihood that a patient will leave a hospital before receiving appropriate care.

It is expected that patients treated at hospitals participating in the collaborative will receive more efficient, higher quality and safer care and that both patient and staff satisfaction will increase.

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