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SUNDAY
November 21, 2010

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

hometownlife .com

IN BRIEF

City closings

City offices and 18th District Court will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. Emergency services will not be affected but trash collection will be delayed one day following the holiday. That means regular Thursday pickups will be on Friday.

Park updates

Westland residents have a new source of information about improvements being made to Central City Park. Launched at Mayor William Wild's fourth State of the City Address, www.allwestland.com will provide comprehensive, up-to-date, information about the daily work being performed to create an improved Central City Park.

The website will feature artist renderings of how the park will look following the restoration project, as well as video and photographs that will depict the progress being made and written updates.

The improvements to Central City Park were made possible through a partnership with the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and Wayne County, including funding from the county parks millage. Park improvements include a concession area with a changing area and restrooms, pavilions, walking paths, picnic areas and soccer fields.

The park also will be the future home of the Westland Farmers Market.

Project 100

Project 100 aims to encourage giving throughout southeast Michigan. Started by Co-op Services Credit Union, the organization has been doing just that by giving out \$100 bills to random people all over town with one simple request to recipients: think about what you can do to give in your community.

To assist people in this effort, Project 100 has launched a special "GIVE" section of its website, www.whatisproject100.com, focused completely on the subject.

Project 100 is encouraging members of the community to visit the website, where they can access a variety of resources on the subject of giving. When the Project 100 team hits the streets with \$100 bills, they pass their challenge on to everyone they meet.

Project 100 was created by Co-op Services Credit Union to positively impact the community and its residents by encouraging people to give to others in any way they can. For more information about Project 100 and for ideas on how to give in the community, visit www.whatisproject100.com. For more information about Co-op Services, visit the credit union's website at www.cscu.org.

New theater brings movies back to Westland

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

By the time the holidays roll around in 2011, Westland residents will be able to take in a movie without leaving the city.

MJR Digital Cinemas has announced plans to build a new state-of-the-art digital movie theater at 6800 N. Wayne Road on the site of the closed-Showcase Cinema. The existing building would be demolished to make way for the new MJR Westland Grand Digital Cinema 16.

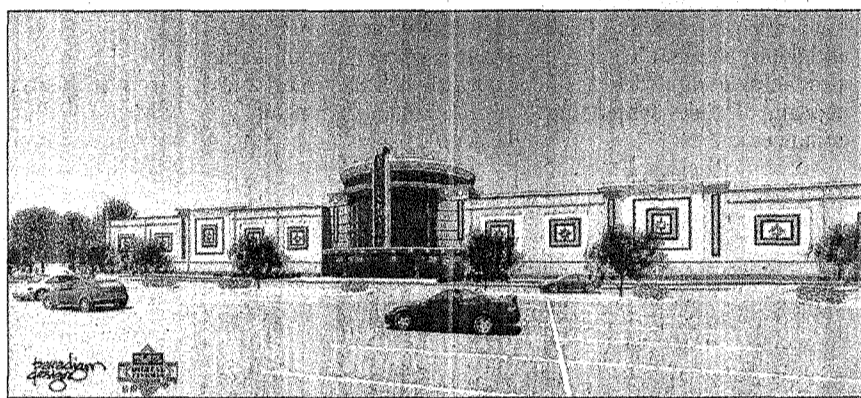
"I'm all over the metro area. I thought there was a hole there. I've been looking at it for a couple of years

and pulled the trigger," said MJR Digital Cinemas President and CEO Michael Mihalich. "Westland is too big of a city not to have a movie theater."

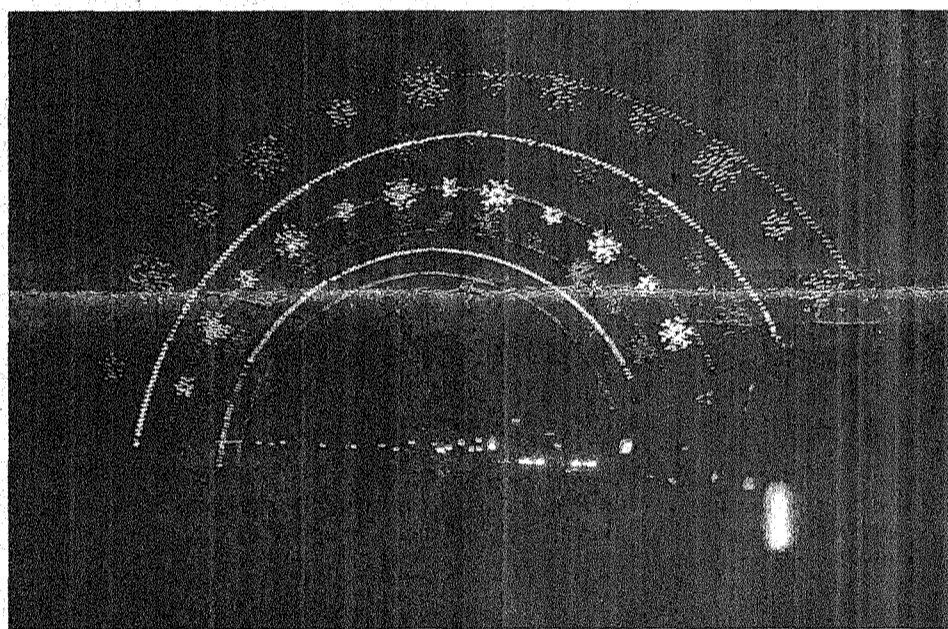
Ground-breaking on the new 65,000-square foot building would be expected by the end of March with the opening in late October or early November 2011. There will be 16 screens with 3,100 seats.

"Westland continues to enjoy economic growth as we welcome MJR Digital Cinemas to our All American City as they build Wayne County's first 4K digital projection, 16-screen

Please see **THEATER, A2**



This is a rendering of what the new MJR Westland Grand Digital Cinema 16 will look like. The former Showcase Cinema building on Wayne Road south of Warren Road will be demolished to make way for the new state-of-the-art theater.



Arches filled with red, green and white snowflakes span the width of Hines Drive.

Hines Park lights up for the holidays

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hines Drive in Westland was awash in color Thursday evening as the lights were turned on for the 18th annual Wayne County Parks Lightfest.

Hundreds of people gathered at

Merriman Hollow off Merriman Road to watch as Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Kathleen Edwards of Trenton and special guest of honor Santa Claus pulled the switch turning on the light show that stretches 4 1/2 miles along Hines Drive to just west of Telegraph Road.

"I enjoy seeing the kids and seeing them get excited about the lights," said Ficano, who had just returned from a trip to China. "For all of the challenges

we are facing, it's nice to have something that people can feel good about."

Holiday music and doughnuts and hot chocolate were provided for families that gathered for the opening celebration. And once the lights were turned on, the sky was lit up with fireworks.

"It's great, we just love it," said Jamey Good of Garden City. "I come every year, I just love to come. I go through the lights a few times every year."

Good was there with her three children, as well as her mother, Kathy Modreski, sister Brittany Modreski and sister-in-law Kim Holman

and her two children. It was only the second time Jason Larabell of Livonia had ever been at the opening ceremony. His first time was in

Please see **LIGHTFEST, A3**



Grandmother Kathy Modreski, of Farmington Hills, grandson Riley Modreski and his mother Kim Holman of Garden City meet Santa Claus.

DPS director says cutdown tree wasn't in councilman's yard

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's said that no good deed goes unpunished but sometimes it's a bystander who takes the hit.

Westland council meeting regulars Burke Rock and Donna DeWitt recently charged that the Department of Public Services spent \$1,000 to have a contractor remove a tree from the yard of Councilman Dewey Reeves. It was an exchange that resulted in a threat of litigation and some residents being chided for their behavior.

"Can anyone request the same action for removing a tree? It's Edison's (DTE Energy) domain. Is it a quid?" said Rock, who called on Reeves to reimburse the city for the expense.

But DPS Director Kevin Buford said the tree, which was removed because it was falling over onto electrical wires, had nothing to do with Reeves and wasn't located on his property.

The tree was in the back yard of a home on Julius which backs up to Reeves' property on Farnum, he said, but the tree service asked to access the tree through Reeves' yard and that was why Reeves' address appeared on the invoice.

"It was a health, safety and welfare. We can hire someone to remove trees, if a DPS worker is not trained, and they are not trained to work in power lines. We called DTE but they said they couldn't get out in a timely fashion," said Buford. "I made a decision to do it for public safety. The tree was in imminent danger of falling on the electrical lines."

As DPS director, Buford said he has the authority to make a decision to act for public safety and made the decision to have the tree removed. As Buford was attempting to respond, Rock continued to berate Mayor William Wild.

"You like to ask a lot of

Please see **TREE, A2**

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Hearing delayed in fatal shooting case

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The preliminary examination for a Westland man charged with fatally shooting a man outside his home has been delayed until Dec. 2.

Joie Rayshaun Bell, 23, was scheduled for a preliminary examination Thursday in 18th District Court before Judge Mark McConnell but waived his right to a hearing within 14 days of arraignment. The defense attorney representing Bell was unable to attend the hearing since he was trying a case in another court, as was the prosecutor assigned to the case.

Being held without bail, Bell is charged with three felony counts — felony homicide which is treated a first-degree murder and carries a mandatory sentence of life without parole, weapon possession by a felon and felony firearm. He is also facing second-degree habitual offender sentencing enhancements.

Anthony Michael Esse, 25, died Oct. 6 after being

shot once in the chest during a confrontation with two men at his home in the 2200 block of Stieber, south of Palmer and west of Wildwood. Esse went outside and collapsed after being shot, police said. He was transported by Westland Fire Rescue to an area hospital, where he died of his injuries.

Bell had already been in custody on an unrelated warrant as police continue to investigate a person of interest believed to be the second man involved in the attack.

Westland police described the murder as drug-related — that Esse and his assailants were feuding over territory for selling marijuana and possibly cocaine.

Investigators appeared to have little to go on in the case initially and appealed to the public to come forward with information. Police credited information from a witness who eventually came forward with the break that resulted in charges again Bell.

Investigators appeared to have little to go on in the case initially and appealed to the public to come forward with information. Police credited information from a witness who eventually came forward with the break that resulted in charges again Bell.

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Arson suspected in Norwayne blaze

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The blaze that destroyed a vacant four-unit apartment building in Norwayne early Wednesday is likely to remain as an undetermined but suspicious fire.

"It's very likely arson — it would be very difficult to come up with an accidental (cause) scenario. There were no utilities and it was not occupied," said Westland Deputy Fire Chief Martin Reddy. "It will be tough to determine the cause of the arson with the total destruction of the property."

Charred debris and the foundation were all that remained of the ranch-style building in the 32600 block of Manistee Court which is just east of Venoy off Grand Traverse. Located just north of the Dorsey Center, the court is lined with similar four-



Charred debris and the foundation was all that was left of a four-unit apartment building on Manistee Court after an early morning blaze Wednesday.

units buildings — the siding on the adjacent building was bubbled from the heat of the fire reported at 4:33 a.m. A neighbor in the building

which received heat damage called to report the fire after hearing it crackling and smelling smoke, Reddy said. "Fire was coming from every

opening on the building. Several things contributed to the fire," said Reddy. "The building was gutted. There was no drywall or flooring, so there were no fire breaks or interior barriers to the fire."

The utilities to the building had been shut off, but Reddy said the fire melted the connections on the outside meters. As a result, the natural gas was released feeding the fire which couldn't be extinguished until about 1 p.m. when Consumers Energy turned off the gas.

Although no one appeared to have been in the building, a Michigan State Police cadaver dog searched the site as a precautionary measure.

The building was apparently in some stage of foreclosure and it was unclear who was currently the legal owner.

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THEATER

FROM PAGE A1

movie theater here," said Mayor William Wild.

Once completed, the MJR Westland Grand is expected to generate in excess of 800,000 admissions annually — something that could benefit the immediate area.

"I hope it will encourage retail development in the vacant spaces along Wayne Road," said Mihalich. "We're really excited, it's been three years since we built something. We're having a lot of fun with this."

The new theater will take movie watching to the next level. It will be equipped with state-of-the-art 4K digital

projection, which offers the ultimate size, resolution and picture quality. The MJR Westland Grand will be the only movie theatre in Wayne County with 4K digital projection.

"This is the third year our theaters have been 100 percent digital. With a 35 millimeter film, there is wear and tear each time you show it — it gets dirty," said Mihalich. "We say we have a perfect picture each time. There is no wear and tear with digital."

Additionally, the MJR Westland Grand will have all of the amenities that local moviegoers expect at MJR Digital Cinemas, including a lobby screen showing continuous previews, five 3-D screens, MJR's famous "free refill" policy, and the MJR

Movie Rewards Club.

"Westland has great demographics in a great community that very much wants and deserves a brand new, modern, state-of-the-art movie facility, and MJR will fulfill that need," said Mihalich.

The purchase of the more than seven-acre site was just completed Friday. While soil testing is needed to determine the exact location of the theater on the parcel, Mihalich said he plans to locate the building to the rear of the property with the majority of the parking in front towards Wayne Road.

"This is a win-win for our residents and the region as this project also creates 60 new jobs and is one more reason to consider Westland a premier destination for your

entertainment and recreational enjoyment," said Wild.

The new Westland movie complex will increase Michigan owned and operated MJR's total screen count to 132 at eight locations. Currently, MJR owns and operates Adrian Digital Cinema 10 in Adrian, Brighton Towne Square Digital Cinema 20 in Brighton, Chesterfield Crossing Digital Cinema 16 in Chesterfield, Marketplace Sterling Heights Digital Cinema 20 in Sterling Heights, Southgate Digital Cinema 20 in Southgate, Partridge Creek Cinema 14 in Clinton Township and Waterford Digital Cinema 16 in Waterford.

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TREE
FROM PAGE A1
questions but you usually don't like to get answers," Wild said, who expressed his own concerns that an employee provided an internal memo regarding payment to the tree service before the bill had even been processed. "The Freedom of Information Act is the way to obtain a public document.
We'll look into it. It's very disturbing, if a city employee released it."
Reeves' response to the allegations was to say that he considered the comments to be slander and libel, so he would be seeking legal counsel.
"It's going to stop. I'll take you to court," said Reeves, who has previously commented on rude and abusive comments from some residents.
DeWitt offered her interpretation of city ordinance — that

the city is to notify a property owner regarding a potentially hazardous tree but not take action unless the owner fails to do so.
"It's a judgment call with a tree in the utility easement. I'd do the same for any other citizen," said Buford. "I know what I did was righteous."
Mary Murphy, who was among Deerhurst Condominium residents attending the meeting with crime concerns, said she was bothered by what was happening at the meeting. She said it wasn't an issue of the right to speak but how people speak.
"We all have the right to speak and to your opinions but you don't have the right to your own facts," said Murphy. "We look out across the country and it's less and less civil and people come up with their own facts. You have to take responsibility for what you say."
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LIGHTFEST 2010

The Wayne County Parks Lightfest 2010 covers more than four miles of Hines Drive from Merriman to Telegraph. It's open 7-10 p.m. nightly now through Dec. 31, except for Christmas Day when it will be closed. Although Lightfest opens at 7 p.m., Hines Drive is closed to traffic beginning at 5:45 p.m. Visitors enter Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman, north of Warren Road, in Westland. There is a \$5 donation per car. Lightfest is sponsored in partnership with Friends of Wayne County Parks, DTE Energy, ITC Holdings, DBT Marketing and Promotional Group, McDonald Modular, Entertainment Express Luxury Limousine, Michigan Mountain Biking Association, Total Runner, Beatthetrain.com and Trails Edge store. For more information, call (734) 261-1990 or visit waynecountyparks.org.

LIGHTFEST

FROM PAGE A1

the mid-1990s when he performed with the Livonia Franklin High School marching band.

"It had to be 15 years ago, we played Christmas songs," he said.

Joining him was his mother, Donna Larabell, who has done the Lightfest five times, but never made it to the opening ceremony. She was very sick when her son was in the marching band.

"She wanted to see the fireworks," said Jason Larabell.

"We're doing this in memory of his dad, he died just before Christmas in 2008. He loved Christmas and he loved fireworks," she said. "This is kind of in his memory."

For a group of teenagers from the Warren Road Light and Life Church in Westland, the ceremony was a "destina-

tion unknown" event planned by Josh Sprunger and his wife, Jessica.

"We do a destination unknown every month, I pick a different place to go," said Sprunger, who brought 10 youths to the opening ceremony. "We were looking for something new and decided to do the Lightfest."

Among the group were John Glenn High School students Justin Staples, Kari Carter and Anya Gill who were captivated by the fireworks.

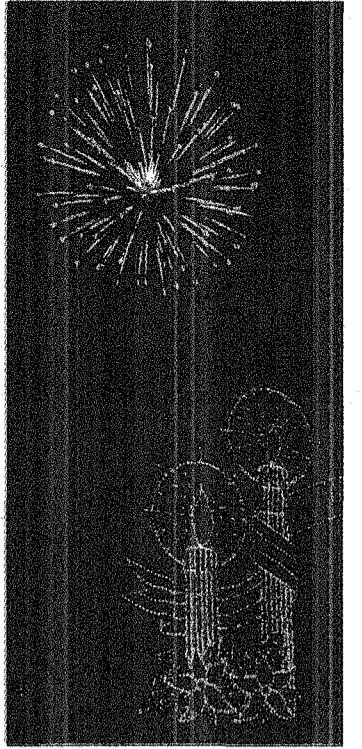
"It was nice and the end had a lot of explosions," said Staples, a first-time Lightfest attendee.

"I've gone to a few," added Carter. "I remember coming with an aunt when I was 8 years old, but I've never been to the opening ceremony. I didn't know there were fireworks."

Gill was the veteran, having attended for five consecutive years. She said the best thing to do for the ceremony was "dress warm."



Rebecca Rose and Kathleen Edwards react after pulling the switch to turn on the lights for Lightfest 2010.



Fireworks light up the nighttime sky and usher in the start of the Wayne County Parks Lightfest.

Meriem Kadi, a Westland City Council member, found the event "pretty amazing." "I've driven through it

three or four times, but this is my first time at the kick-off, I didn't expect fireworks," she said. "It's a good

turnout and everyone is in good spirit. It's a good way to kick off the holiday season."

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 Nov 18: 4 p.m. • Radcliff Center
 Nov 22: 6:30 p.m. • Bradner Library
 Nov 23: 1:30 p.m. • Bradner Library

19 **Conversation & Coffee: Volunteering During Retirement, It's Good for Your Soul**
 1 p.m. • VisTaTech • \$

19 **Friday Evening Concert Series: Antonio Pompa-Baldi, piano**
 8 p.m. • VisTaTech • \$

23-December 16 **Gingerbread Village Display**
 Created by Culinary Arts students • VisTaTech

DECEMBER

1-16 **Gingerbread Village Display**
 Created by Culinary Arts students • VisTaTech

1 **Lunchtime Recital Series: Christopher Scholl, tenor, and Kevin Bylsma, piano**
 Noon • VisTaTech

1 **Spirit Night: Men's & Women's Basketball Teams**
 5:30 p.m. • Physical Education Building • \$

2 **International Film Festival: For My Father**
 9:30 a.m. • McDowell Center, Room 200

2 **Electronic Music Summit: Synthesizer Ensemble and other groups**
 7:30 p.m. • Schaver Music Recital Hall, Wayne State University

3 **Artists' Ensemble and SC Wind Ensemble**
 7:30 p.m. • VisTaTech

5 **Winter Concert: Choral Union and Wind Ensemble**
 7:30 p.m. • Radcliff Center

10 **Transition Center Luncheon Series: Reel Action FX**
 11:30 a.m. • VisTaTech • \$

10 **Music Performances: Bach Festival**
 7 p.m. • VisTaTech

13 **Winter Concert: Jazz Ensemble and Synthesizer Ensemble**
 7:30 p.m. • VisTaTech

18 **Breakfast with Santa**
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 10 a.m. • VisTaTech • \$

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Contact Editor, Sue Mason

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Students get hip with Blue Pigs' message of positive choices

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At St. Damian School in Westland, students proved they could rock 'n' roll and even do "some old school dancing" with the help of the police.

"It looks to me like your teachers rock at St. Damian," said Detroit Police Officer Charles Henley. "I thought we'd have no one come up and we end up getting a professional dance team."

One of the founding members of the Detroit Police Department's Blue Pigs, Henley and Officers Senora Lee, Robert Joiner, Alonzo Tolefree and Richard Little used music, a game show and dancing to promote crime prevention and making positive life choices to students who cheered as their teachers danced to Motown classic *My Girl*.

The quintet visited the school during Safe Schools Week and shared the stage with school mascot Ciggy Butt in getting students to "fight crime and say no to drugs." Their visit was organized by teacher Susan Hall.

"I saw them perform at American House over the summer," said Hall. "I'm in charge of the student council and felt their message was a perfect fit with our Safe Schools Week. They talk about literacy and safety. I think it's very worthwhile."

The Blue Pigs, a part of the Detroit Police Department's Police Community Services, have been using music to entertain and educate since the 1970s. The group makes appearances daily on behalf of the Detroit Police



Third-grader Brendan Morrell tells Detroit Police Officer Charles Hneley that he'd call 9-1-1 if there was an emergency as part of the Blue Pigs quiz show.

Department to schools in Detroit and surrounding communities and has performed in 16 states and Canada since forming 39 years ago.

Using a *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* format, the quintet selected three students to answer multiple choice questions ranging from cheating

on a test and name calling to dealing with an emergency at home. The entire student body served as the contestants' lifeline.

When asked what she would do if he three best friends asked for the answer on a test, third-grader Tessa Gomez had no trouble picking D

— ignore her friends and do her best on the test.

"We all know you love for your friends and them to do their best on the test, so you should study together before the test," said Henley.

Fellow third-grader Brendan Morrell handle the emergency, skipping over choices like calling the FOX2 Problem Solvers and 1-800-



Teacher Tracy Doulette plays the tambourine for the Blue Pigs.

CALL-SAM to pick calling 9-1-1. He also had no difficulty answering the question, posed by Little, about an offer to try a cigarette.

As for the name calling, Lee told student, "We all know that two wrongs don't make a right. You know the only name you answer to is the one your parents gave you or a cute nickname you picked up along the way."

The students didn't get the \$1 million. Instead, the prize was an autographed book to put in the personal libraries.

"We learn from you and you learn from us," added Henley. "Thanks for being a lifeline, so we all can be a winner."

The Blue Pigs also let students show their dance style.

"A little bird told me St. Damian has some pretty impressive Michael Jackson dancers," said Henley in extending an invitation to the students to dance to Jackson's

Billie Jean.

By the end of the song, most of the students were up and dancing, some even doing their version of Jackson's signature Moon Walk.

"It's really nice to have the students engaged like this," said Hall. "I think it's very worthwhile."

The school presented the group with a check for \$50 that will go to the Police Athletic League to help provide uniforms.

"It's so much fun, I love it when they listen," said Lee.

"We like to get the teachers up to dance so the students see them in a different light," said Henley. "We like to enforce that educators are loving and caring and that we're all here together to help them excel."

"This is a great school," he said.

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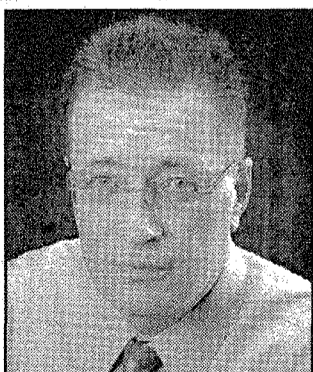
SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.



In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups.

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are also highly experienced in assisting him with Social Security Disability cases. And they are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of clients' cases and administrative procedure.

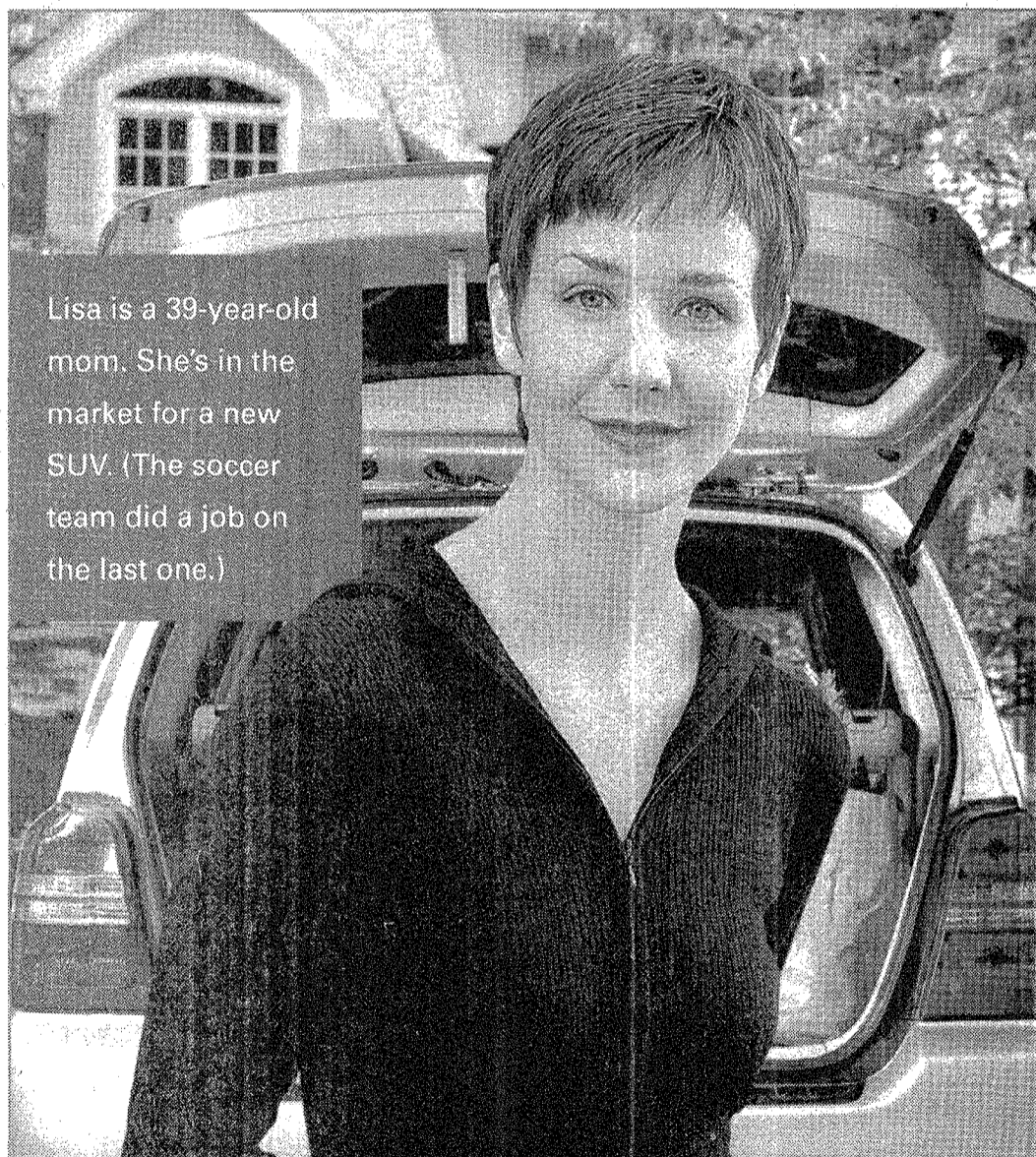
Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be

eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly of applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.

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Tree decorating

Youth groups and scout troops can sign up now for the Mayor Willia, Wilds' annual tree decorating event at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8.

Bring in the holidays with the mayor and his special guest, Santa Claus, and decorate the trees between City Hall and the Bailey Recreation Center. Each group will decorate a tree specially chosen for them and then present their trees to the mayor Wild.

The celebration also includes greetings from the Mayor and Santa, a Christmas carol sing-along with the Wildwood Elementary School Fourth-Grade Choir and refreshments. Registration is required. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Christmas benefit

The Westland Community Foundation is hosting its annual Christmas Reception at the John Glenn High School Media Center, featuring the John Glenn High School's Glenn Singers.

The event will be 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres prepared by Chef Tony Paquette and the students from the Culinary Arts Department of William D. Ford Career Technical Center will be provided.

Due to these very difficult times, the foundation is asking for a \$5 contribution along with two unwrapped, new toys as a donation for the children served by the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army. Don't forget the teenagers.

Reserve a spot by Dec. 3 by calling (734) 595-7727.

Bowling with Santa

The Plymouth-Westland Grange No. 389, the Westland Parks and Recreation Department, Westland Jaycees and Town N Country Lanes are sponsoring Bowling with Santa 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19, at Town N Country Lanes on Wayne Road at Avondale, Westland. The cost is \$10 for two games, shoes and hot dog and drink. Santa and his friends will be there and prizes also will be given out.

Preregister by sending a check or money order, payable to Plymouth Grange No. 389, to 5692 N Globe, Westland, MI 48185. Be sure to list each adult, name and age of the child, if a bumper lane is needed and a phone number. Registration also can be done by calling Frank before 3 p.m. at (734) 626-0169 or Sue (313) 522-0089 or sending an e-mail to plymouthwestland.

grange@gmail.com. Money raised will go to the Grange's dictionary program for third-graders.

Food for Fines

The William P. Faust Public Library is letting patrons pare down their fines by donating non-perishable, unexpired food that will be donated to Gleaners Food Bank and be re-distributed to Westland area food shelters.

Between Monday, Nov. 22 and Thursday, Dec. 23, library patrons will be able to reduce their fines by \$2 by donating one item. The limit is \$20. Donations cannot be used for lost or damaged items.

To get fines reduced, bring goods to the Circulation Desk. Non-fine related food donations also will be accepted at the Circulation, Reference and Children's Service desks.

For a full list of accepted items, stop by the service desks. Cash donations also will be accepted at the Circulation Desk or online at www.gcfb.org.

The library is on Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Cards for soldiers

The Westland Jaycees will be at the Westland Shopping Center 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, for their annual Holiday Card Signing for our Troops.

This will be the fourth year that the Westland Jaycees will be sending holiday cards to the troops, and they're looking for help to meet their goal of 3,000 cards this year. Teachers can have their students make cards and bring it to the mall that day, and people in offices and factories can also sign cards and bring them in. The Jaycees also will have cards available that day for signing.

People bringing in signed cards should leave them unsealed, a requirement for all of the branches of the armed services.

For more information, call Debi Goetz at (734) 626-0067 or visit the Jaycees website at www.westlandjaycees.org.

Santa's Workshop

The Plymouth-Westland Grange No. 389, Maxwell's Art and Treasures and Westland Jaycees are hosting a Santa's Workshop 12:30-4 p.m. Sunday Dec. 5, at Maxwell's, 32416 Industrial, north of Ford, Garden City.

Parents, stay and enjoy the afternoon with your children, including family friendly activities, a visit and photo with Santa and his Eleves,

lunch and ccrafts to decorate, give away and wrap them, too.

Space is limited, so take advantage of pre-sale tickets at \$5 per person, or a family of four pack for \$18. They're available at Maxwell's Arts and Treasures. Tickets at the door will be \$7 per person.

Office hours

Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt, D-Livonia, will not hold regular offices

hours in the 12th District in December. When the sessions return in January, she will not be meeting at Starbucks Coffee in Westland.

Gebhardt, who represents south Livonia, Inkster and Westland, will be at:

- The McDonald's restaurant (27125 Cherry Hill Road, Inkster, at noon the first Monday of the month.

- The William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, 6-8 p.m., both on the second Monday of the

month.
• Biggby Coffee, 33328 Plymouth Road, Livonia, at 10 a.m. the fourth of the Monday of the month.

Glow skate

Enjoy some glow-in-the-dark fun at Westland's Mike Modano Ice Arena 8-9:20 p.m. for Friday Glow Skate. The cost is \$3 for kids and \$4 for adults. Skate rental is \$3.

The arena also offers open skating 1:30-3:20 p.m. Saturdays. The cost is \$4 for

kids, \$5 for adults and \$3 for skate rentals.

The arena is at Wildwood and Hunter, east of Wayne Road. For more information about ice arena programs, call (734) 729-4560.

Lions Club

The Westland Lions Club meets at 11:45 a.m. the second and fourth Mondays of the month at Logan's Roadhouse on Ford Road in Canton. For more information, call Debbie Dayton at (734) 721-4216.

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Poverty forum: 'Needs are great'

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

Wayne County lost more people since 2000 than any other county in the country and of those who remained a growing number are at poverty levels, according to Kurt Metzger, director of Data Driven Detroit.

The county had 135,000 some fewer people overall in the last decade. There were, however, population increases in Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville, Northville Township and Dearborn.

Metzger presented a demographic and social profile of western Wayne County Monday at a Community Poverty Forum sponsored by Starfish Family Services, a private, nonprofit agency which provides early childhood and parenting programs, after school options, children's mental services and emergency shelter to teens and youth in crisis.

Each year, Starfish, located in Inkster, helps some 9,000 people

in Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Wayne, Westland, Taylor, Inkster, Garden City, Redford, Canton, Livonia, Plymouth Township, City of Plymouth, Northville Township and the City of Northville.

Improved educational opportunities and the development of a regional transportation system that would take people from community to community to learn about public services and find work is essential, said Metzger who also pointed to a 133 percent increase in food stamp recipients from 2000 to 2010.

Racism plays a role in poverty, he said illustrating that 67 percent of whites compared to 3.9 percent of blacks live in "high opportunity areas" in the region. "Racism continues to be one of the biggest issues in this region," he added. "It has affected public transportation and we continue to not address it."

TREMENDOUS NEED

"We see a tremendous amount

of need and we don't see things getting better for a few years at best," Metzger said. "This region cries out for a regional transportation system."

The unemployment rate in Michigan is 13.4 percent; in Detroit it's 25 percent. In western Wayne communities, unemployment rates are: Northville 3.4 percent; Plymouth Township, 4.4 percent; Canton, 5.2 percent; Livonia, 6.4 percent; Redford, 7.8 percent; Westland, 9.1 percent; Garden City, 9.6 percent; Dearborn Heights, 9.7 percent; and in Inkster, 18.2 percent.

These figures, Metzger said, don't reflect the people who are underemployed and those who have given up looking for work.

Explaining that lack of education is directly related to poverty, Metzger's report noted that the high school graduation rate in Northville is 95 percent; in Livonia 89 percent; in Plymouth-Canton 88 percent; in Crestwood (Dearborn Heights) 86 percent; in South Redford 85 percent; in Redford Union 68 percent; and

Garden City 58 percent.

Redford residents have suffered greatly as a result of reductions in their income, according to Tracey Schultz Kobylarz, Redford Township supervisor, who attended the conference.

"Our community was at the forefront of the foreclosure and mortgage crisis in 2008 and 2009 when we saw more than 10 percent of our families lose their homes," she said. "In order to address the needs of our residents we had to get creative and build collaborative partnerships with several organizations."

REDFORD REACTS

Redford was the first to initiate a personalized foreclosure assistance program, she said.

Redford also developed the Partnership for Building a Better Redford, she said, marking the first time the township supervisor and the superintendents from South Redford and Redford Union schools collaborated to address the needs of students and families.

"We have committed our work to drawing on all of our community partners to provide food, emergency housing, clothing, medical services and risk diversion programs," Kobylarz added. "Our resources include organizations like Starfish, Redford, Interfaith Relief, Mercy Road, Botsford Hospital and there are more that are available when special needs arise. The need is great and even with the organizations and resources at our fingertips, we simply can't meet everyone's needs. There are times when it is heartbreaking."

Reaching students is necessary in addressing the poverty issues, Metzger said. His report found 77 percent of Inkster students are eligible for free and reduced lunches. In Redford Union, it's 58 percent, South Redford 50 percent; Garden City 43 percent; Livonia, 22 percent; in Plymouth-Canton, 15 percent; Northville, 5 percent; and in Detroit, 79.1 percent.

Metzger's report used information from a variety of sources

including the U.S. Bureau of Census, United Way for Southeast Michigan, SEMCOG, Michigan Department of Community Health, Michigan Department of Human Services, Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth and Michigan Center for Educational Performance and Information as well as data gathered by five focus groups involving Starfish staff, youth, parents and community members.

The poverty forum, held at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, is the first of a planned series of outreach programs to address issues and stress areas that weigh on poor people from how they can feed their families and pay bills, find employment, secure child care and keep kids out of trouble, according to Ann Kalass, Starfish executive director. "We find a lot of families are isolated," Kalass said.

Call Starfish at (734) 727-3400 to learn more about programs and those who are eligible.

Experts say more state cuts will harm poor families, children

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

A panel of experts on poverty drew a bleak picture of reduced program funding that they say will likely result with the newly elected state Republican majority.

"We've seen a huge impact on children from the state budget," explained Jack Kresnak, president and CEO of Michigan's Children, a statewide independent voice for children and their families.

"We have almost a completely Republican government who have this idea that less spending by government will impact the economy and make us all free," he said. "We need to invest in our children to grow our way out of this economy."

The panel discussion ended a Community Poverty Forum Monday at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, sponsored by Starfish Family Services.

Starfish is a private, nonprofit agency serving vulnerable children and families in metropolitan Detroit. It is dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty by creating family success.

STRESS INCREASED

Studies show that poor people endure multiple stresses in their lives, from dealing with unemployment to inadequate housing and poor educational backgrounds. The various public, private, local, state and national agencies need to pull together by coordinating efforts to find answers instead of working as individual enti-

ties, according to Carlynn Nichols, Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency director of children's initiatives.

She said many parents are looking for help, especially when dealing with the added problems of a child or children with emotional and or mental illness.

Nichols and Kresnak were joined on the panel by Elizabeth Gershoff, associate professor at the University of Texas, Austin; and Kurt Metzger, director of Data Driven Detroit.

"If we want to increase child abuse then decrease the programs that teach parents," Kresnak said. "These cost-saving measures the state is going through are counterproductive. We need to step up and help parents."

POOR ARE EVERYWHERE

A lot of Americans don't realize that one in five children in this country lives in poverty, Gershoff said, explaining that many people have an image of the unemployed as the person on a street corner holding a sign asking for money. The perception, oftentimes, is that these people choose not to work, she said adding that this isn't a true picture of poverty.

Poverty guidelines, as outlined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are: \$10,830 for a single family household; \$22,050 for a four-person household and \$29,530 for a six-person household.

The guidelines are used to determine eligibility for public programs. Gershoff noted, however, that the figures were

established in the 1960s and are considered outdated.

"Americans often talk about 'poor people' as if they are a distinct group with uniform characteristics and somehow unlike the rest of 'us.'"

"In addition to the millions of families who struggle to make ends meet, millions of others are merely one crisis — a job loss, health emergency, or divorce — away from financial devastation, particularly this fragile economy," according to a report by the National Center for Children in Poverty, which was provided to the forum participants.

GET INVOLVED

People need to get involved in elections, Kresnak said. "A lot of people sat out for this election.

The people who show up end up running things."

Young people and "people of moderate means" need to understand that legislators will influence their lives with public programs and funding and if they want different answers they need to make sure they put the people in office they want, Kresnak added.

"Education is the key to solving poverty," Metzger said.

He added that it should be easier for parents to enroll their children in school based free meal programs. They shouldn't have to face a lot of paperwork.

He promoted programs that allow for easier "expressway" enrollment for free or reduced meals for school children.

"We need to get this going now," he added.

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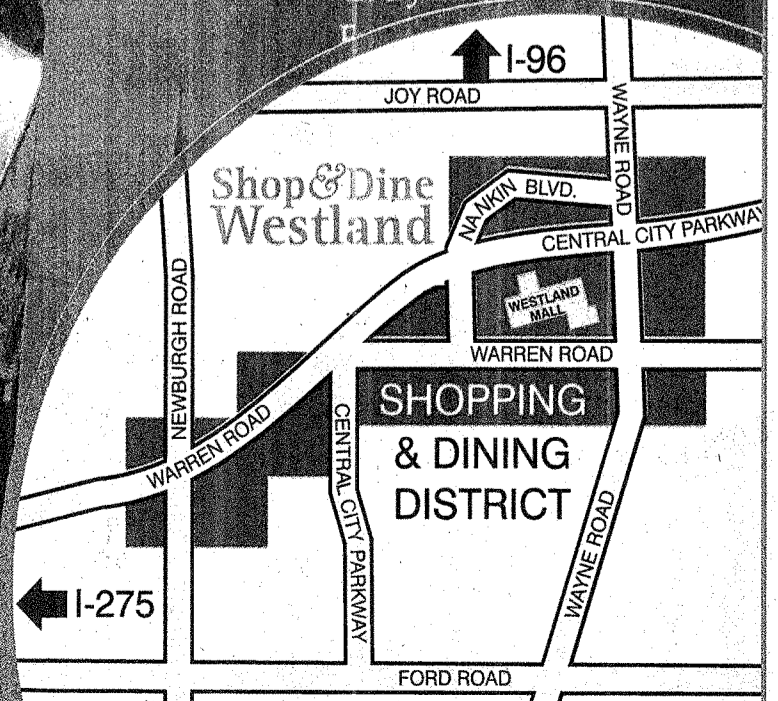
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Statutory pet trust helps provide for Fido, Fluffy after you're gone

Q: Dear Rick: A few years ago, I read your column about estate planning for pets. I recently obtained a bird that has a life expectancy substantially longer than mine. I was told by the person who gave me the bird that it would be a good idea to make arrangements for the bird after I pass on. I want to do the right thing. Can you help?

A: Congratulations as a responsible pet owner trying to do the right thing by planning for the future.

We all know how much Americans love their pets, however, too many forget to plan for what will happen if they die before their pet. Thousands of pets every year are euthanized every year because owners did not plan for the future of their pet.

Under the law, pets are considered property and possessions — no different than any other piece of property. Therefore, a relatively simple solution is to name someone in your will who will inherit the pet. You can choose to leave them money to take care of the pet, however, you can't leave money directly to the pet.

We have all read stories where people have passed on and left millions to their pets. Of course, that isn't the full story. A few years ago there was a story about Leona Helmsley leaving \$12 million to her dog. It was an interesting story and it made the national news. However, it wasn't the whole story.

Even though we cannot leave money directly to our pets, there is a mechanism that allows you to legally leave money for the benefit of the pet to an individual of your choice.

These documents — known as a statutory pet trust — are legally enforceable and valid in nearly every state of the union. A statutory pet trust can be added on to someone's will or trust by a short amendment.

Basically, this amendment allows you to set aside money for the care and custody of your pet while at the same time making the document enforceable by state law. Michigan, like most other states, specifically authorizes these types of trusts for the care and custody of your pet.

In your situation, I recommend a statutory pet trust. Whether you add it on to your existing will or to your trust, it really doesn't matter. What matters is who is going to be in charge of your statutory pet trust upon your death. Obviously, it is important to select someone that has a fondness for your pet and can handle the duties involved in regards to his/her care.

When establishing a statutory pet trust, one of the difficulties is deciding how much money to leave with the trust. There is no magic number because it depends upon the individual pet. I would over fund the trust to ensure there will be enough money to take care of the pet for as long as necessary.

Another issue to be considered regarding a statutory pet trust is what happens to the unused funds upon your pet's death. I recognize that people are concerned about naming the caretaker as the beneficiary of unused funds because it may become a disincentive in regards to caring for the pet. That is why I sometimes recommend that upon the pet's death any excess funds are directed to a charity.

Good luck!

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



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Cake decorating: Never fear, help is near

If you have seen any of the cake-featured television shows, such as "Food Network Challenge," "Ace of Cakes," "Cake Boss" or "Cake Wars," one can see that decorating a cake can be an ambitious artistic endeavor. Never fear though: one does not have to be a professional pastry chef to make a beautiful cake. Whether you decide to decorate your own cake to save money, show off your creativity, make a special occasion even more special, or any other reason, the William P. Faust Public Library has materials in its collection to help you do the job.

Some books that show the basics of decorative cakes include "The Cake Decorator's Motif Bible" by Sheila Lampkin, "Fabulous Cake Decorating," "Cakes by Bette Matthews," "Two-hour Party Cakes" and "Quick and Easy Novelty Cakes" by Carol Deacon, "Cakes by Design" by Scott Clark Woolley and "Fun Cakes for Special Occasions" by Ann Nicol.

If you're not too confident about your new cake decorating skills, make sure to take a look at Jen Yates' "Cake Wrecks" which includes examples of some of the worst cakes made, whether they have been misspelled, unintentionally sad or funny and creepy.

Sharon Zambito has a step-by-step guide on DVD which includes "Successful Stacking," "Flawless Fondant" and "Perfecting the Art of Buttercream."

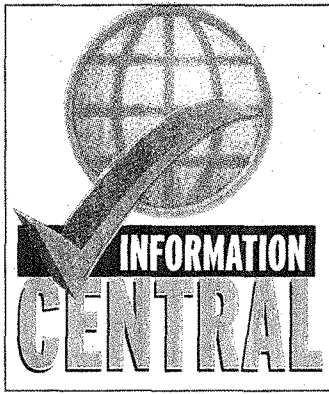
If you're up to the challenge of making and decorating a wedding cake, try one of these books: Dede Wilson's "Wedding Cakes You Can Make" and "The Wedding Cake Book," Colette Peters' Colette's "Wedding Cakes" and Sylvia Coward's "Wedding Cakes."

If you are looking for more hands-on experience, keep your eyes open for an upcoming cake decorating program to be held at the library in January.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday.

Highlighted Activities

Fight Foreclosure One-on-One Counseling Session: 5-8 p.m. Nov. 22
Homeowners can schedule a private, 30-minute, one-on-one meeting with a foreclosure counselor from the Wayne County Fight Mortgage Foreclosure Program. Call (734)



326-6123 or stop by the library to schedule your appointment. Space is limited. The Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program is a no fee, Wayne County program providing you an expansive network of certified counselors who help you avoid or manage a mortgage foreclosure. Additional counseling dates are scheduled for November and December. Call the library for more information.

Writers Club: 7 p.m. Nov. 22
Do you have stories or poems or ideas you would like others to hear, but not critique, in a casual atmo-

sphere? Join us as Cheryl Vatcher-Martin leads the Westland Library Writer's Club. All writing is interesting to us so bring whatever you are working on.

Urban Book Club: 7 p.m. Nov. 22
This month we'll be reading "Gutter" by K'wan. Kenyatta Soladine, aka Gutter, is an Algerian immigrant and head of the Harlem Crips, recently recovered from a gunshot-induced coma to learn that his best friend has been murdered by the rival Bloods. Overcome with guilt and rage, Gutter and his gang seek revenge by killing not just those responsible, but every member of the Bloods in town, despite the protests of Gutter's wife, Sharell, his business associates and his advisers. In response, the Bloods import serious help from Los Angeles. Plenty of mayhem follows. Copies will be available at the Reference Desk.

NaNoWriMo: Writing Night 6:30-8 p.m. Nov. 23, Adults and Teens
Novel-writers of the world unite! Or at least make your way to the library to get away from all the distractions that are forcing you to not finish National Novel Writing Month.

Newbies and those curious are welcome, but be prepared to talk a little and write a LOT! Meeting every Tuesday from 6-8:30 p.m. during the month of November (See Reception for room details).


NaNoWriMo: Final Writing to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, Adults and Teens

Adult and teen participants in National Novel Writing Month are encouraged to get away from all your distractions and work on your novel on this, the last Saturday in November. We'll have tables set up and a pot of coffee (free!) as you push your way toward finishing this monumental achievement. Show up any time between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Library will be closed: Thursday, Nov. 24, and Friday, Nov. 25. Happy Thanksgiving!

Information Central was compiled by reference librarian Susan Hanson. 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.

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<p style="font-size: 10px; margin: 0;">Store Made HOLIDAY or REGULAR</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; margin: 0;">We Use the Same Recipe as Mike's Market!</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">Kielbasa</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">\$2.49</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; margin: 0;">lb.</p>	<p style="font-size: 10px; margin: 0;">USDA Select Beef Round BOTTOM ROUND</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">Roast</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">\$2.69</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; margin: 0;">lb.</p>
<p style="font-size: 10px; margin: 0;">3 Pound Package DEARBORN BRAND</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">Dinner Franks</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">\$7.49</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; margin: 0;">ea.</p>	<p style="font-size: 10px; margin: 0;">5-7 Pound Package FINE FRESH</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">Ground Round</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">\$2.39</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; margin: 0;">lb.</p>
<p style="font-size: 10px; margin: 0;">Frozen, USDA Inspected FARM FRESH BONE-IN</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">Turkey Breast</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">\$1.49</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; margin: 0;">lb.</p>	<p style="font-size: 10px; margin: 0;">14-15 oz. Selected Varieties GREEN GIANT</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">Canned Vegetables</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">59¢</p> <p style="font-size: 12px; margin: 0;">ea.</p>

Good News!

Contest winners share their winning stories

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

As the saying goes, "Bad news spreads quickly," but it seems the good news around town is making headway.

Mickey Arsneault of Livonia and Michelle Kolozsvary of Plymouth shared their inspirational stories in a monthly contest, "Good News, Good News!" co-sponsored by the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* and Buddy's Pizza and each won a meal for four (lunch or dinner) at any Buddy's Pizza location.

Arsneault won for the best story in September when she wrote about her husband, Wally, a patient at the University of Michigan Hospital. He passed out red roses to show his appreciation to his caregivers.

Wally Arsneault, 75, died Thursday, Nov. 18. He will be remembered as a cheerful man, who loved people and always thought of others first.

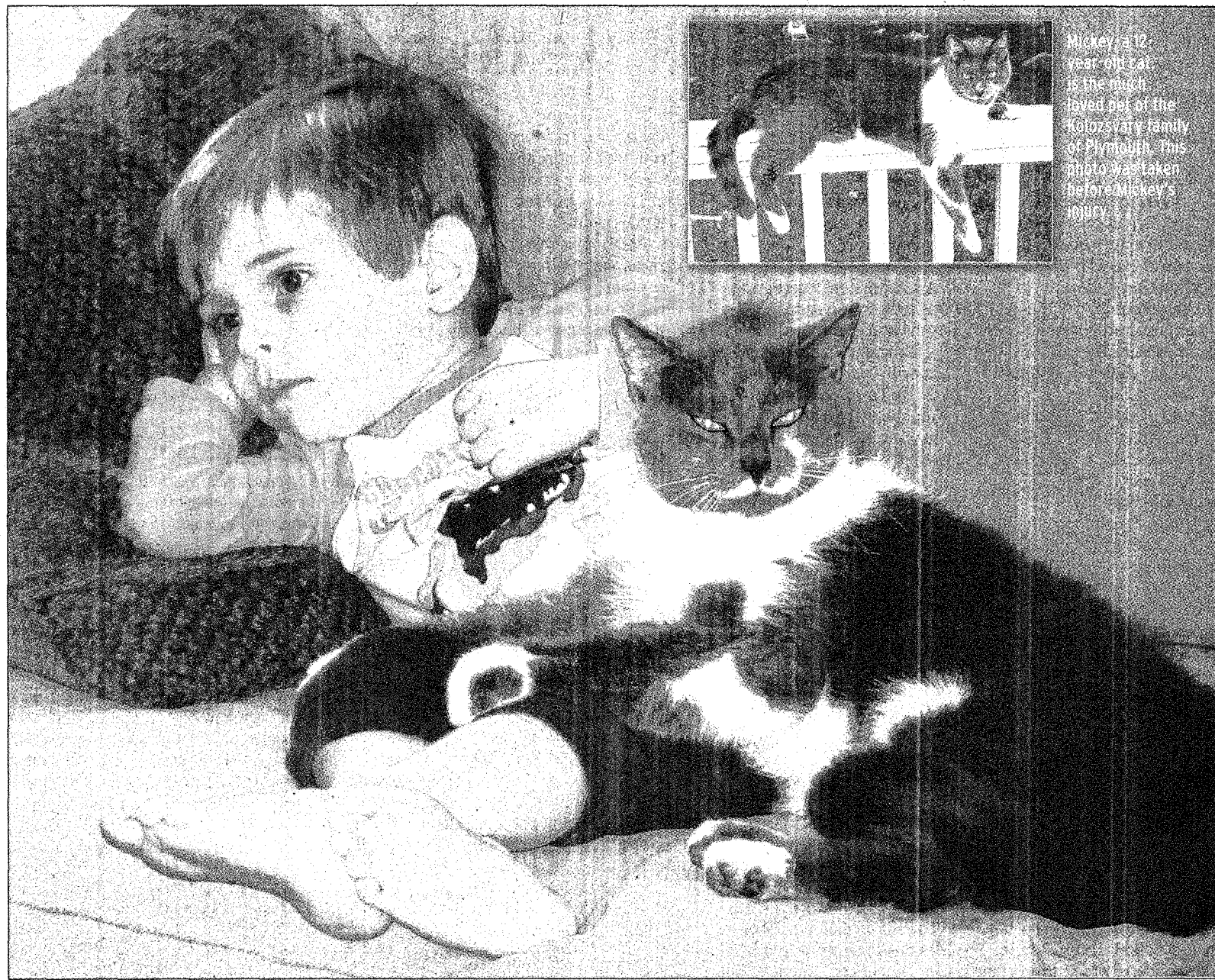
"To know Wally was to love him," Mickey said. "He was a wonderful, wonderful man."

Kolozsvary's story reveals the kindness of a series of strangers who brought her family members together with their lost and injured cat.

Arsneault learned about a "FTD Good Neighbor Day" where participating florists were offering a dozen free red roses to hand out to 11 different people and keeping one rose. The day of the event, Sept. 1, she received 12 red roses from My Lady's Florist in Westland.

"My husband felt good about putting a smile on their faces and expressed his gratitude to each of them for the wonderful care he is receiving," Arsneault wrote. "The hallway was buzzing with conversation about this event and wondering how they, too, could receive a rose."

After she learned she won the contest, Arsneault said, "I felt so touched by him passing out the roses and him touching everyone's day. He was just so wonderful and loving and considerate. Someone walks into his room and he asks, 'How are you



Mickey recovered nicely from his injuries and is back where he belongs. Here he is with Andrew Kolozsvary, who is 4½ years old. This photo was taken when Andrew was 3.

doing today?" He was a very young 75 year old."

"I couldn't believe that out of all the stories you had submitted that you chose mine," Arsneault said. "It was a heartwarming story and he put a smile on so many faces at the hospital."

Kolozsvary's October entry shows how one person's good deed built on another good deed and yet another until finally her 12-year-old grey and white cat, Mickey, was saved and returned to her family.

Mickey is known to stay out all night, but had been missing for over a week last month.

"After several days we began to think maybe he had run away for good," Kolozsvary wrote, explaining that her family circulated "Lost Cat" fliers in their neighborhood. Two days later, they received a voicemail from a neighbor who lives at the nearby senior condo complex saying he saw their "Lost Cat" flier and someone else's "Found Cat" flier and that the cats looked alike.

"After several days we began to think maybe he had run away for good," Michelle wrote, explaining that her family circulated "Lost Cat" fliers in their neighborhood.

Two days later, they received a voicemail from a neighbor, who only identified himself as Chuck. He lives at the nearby senior condo complex saying he saw their "Lost Cat" flier and someone else's "Found Cat" flier and that the cats looked alike.

Chuck left his phone number and the phone number on the "Found Cat" flier that was left by Darry and Dana Rabe. Kolozsvary later learned their two fliers were posted only one block apart.

"We quickly called the "Found Cat" family (the Rabes) and learned that they had found our cat on the first day he was missing laying on the grass near Sheldon Road," Kolozsvary wrote. "He was injured and could not walk."

The Rabes went out of their way to take the cat to the Michigan Humane Society in Westland and after learning Westland didn't take animals from Plymouth they took Mickey to Huron Valley Humane Society.

Mickey was treated for a broken pelvis and had been placed into foster care where an Ann Arbor volunteer, who Kolozsvary only knows by the name, Patty, nursed him during his early days of recovery.

"The supervisor for the Intake Department at The Huron Valley Humane Society (Todd St. Claire) was incredibly kind and helpful," Kolozsvary said.

After 10 days, Mickey was home with his family and "we are so grateful," Kolozsvary added. "We think Mickey is glad to be home as well. He has a brother cat from the same litter that is glad to have his buddy back. Mickey has several more weeks of recuperation ahead of him and we are hopeful that

SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS

The *Observer & Eccentric* and Buddy's Pizza are partnering to make sure good news is recognized and rewarded.

Tell us about that special event, person or group effort that made you smile and feel good. Tell us about the good things going on in your community and we'll share them with readers.

To top it off, you could win a scrumptious meal for four at Buddy's. One overall winner will be selected each month (through 2011) to enjoy a special meal at Buddy's.

E-mail your good news story (include a photograph) to: goodnews@hometownlife.com.

he will make a full recovery. So many people in the Plymouth community were truly caring and went out of their way to care for a helpless animal and be kind to their neighbors."

"We are very grateful for this kindness to strangers and it turns out we are all neighbors," Kolozsvary added.

Contest winners were selected by Marcy Brontman and Michelle Lawton of Buddy's.

Readers share more good news!

Here are the good news stories submitted in September and October. There is still time to submit your story for November's contest. (See details elsewhere on this page.)

Kat Nelson submitted a contest entry about a woman named, Charlotte, 70, who became quadriplegic more than 50 years ago as a result of polio.

"She has outlived all of her siblings and both parents," Nelson wrote. "She is an inspiration. I am lucky enough to be one of her caregivers and can't say enough great things about her. Two months ago at U-M she was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer. I am trying to get a 70th birthday party together so she and her extended family and closest friends can get together. Buddy's Pizza would be a great place to do that."

Judy Felzer, of Redford, wrote about a good Samaritan she met while working as a vendor at the Livonia Historical Society Greenmead Flea Market last September.

"One of the items I had for sale was a guitar that belonged to my son, who passed away last May," Felzer said.

"A gentleman purchased it knowing it had belonged to my son. About two hours after the sale, the gentleman returned to my table. He had gone home and opened the tiny drawers in the guitar case and found something of value belonging to my son. He held out his hand and handed me a United States fine silver troy ounce coin with silver chain, and two rings that he had found in the case."

"He wanted me to have the mementos," she added.

"I was so surprised and really appreciated not only his good-will, but honesty. I never got his name, he left right away, but I will remember him always."

Jan Lippert sang the praises



Beth Harris, Outreach Coordinator at Northridge Church in Plymouth Township, coordinates the Community Garden. The 2010 harvest produced more than 10,000 lbs. of produce all donated to Gleaners Food Bank.



Sara Wilkins of Livonia

of Beth Harris, Outreach Coordinator at Northridge Church in Plymouth Township. Harris coordinates the church's community garden involving more than 100 volunteers who planted the 21,000 some square foot garden with tomatoes, peppers, corn, onions, beets, beans, cantaloupe, squash, mustard greens, collard greens, lettuce, cabbage, okra, radishes and more. Harvesting in 2010 produced well over 10,000 pounds of produce all of which



Lucas McKinney, 16, an 11th-grader at Plymouth High School, actually received his student pilot's license on his 16th birthday — before he went to the Secretary of State office and received his driver's license.

was donated to Gleaners Food Bank.

Harris coordinated more than 4,500 volunteer hours spent at the garden this year.

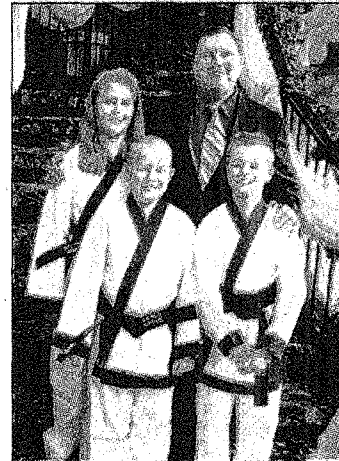
"Her tireless efforts to reach out to the hungry resulted in feeding tons of fresh produce to those in need in our area," Lippert said.

Janet Myers submitted an entry about her golf partner, friend and neighbor, Lucille Schirmer, 90, of Livonia.

Schirmer continues to play golf



Reva Constantine, executive chef at Joe's and Chris Hammack, sous chef, met Pastor Henry Covington, and supervised the first pick up of food for the homeless and those in transitional housing.



Celebrating their achievement are (back row from left) Sarah Iler, 10, and Kyo Sa Nim David Areeda, (front from left) Trevor Riker, 9, and Jonathan Rickard, 9.

with the Livonia Women's Senior League after 25 years and was actively involved in the league's leadership serving as treasurer for many years.

"She used to play golf with her husband and friends and once she became eligible for the women's senior league started showing up by herself and soon had many new-found golf partners and friends," Myers wrote.

Danielle Fracassa submitted an entry explaining that she and her

boyfriend bought their first home last March.

"Though we initially thought to rent an apartment, the housing market situation prompted us to invest in our own futures, as well as Michigan's," she wrote.

"We're so glad we did! Our neighbors, our city, everything is so great. Every chance we get, we tell people, "Don't rent — buy! This state needs it!"

"I know it's not much, but anything anyone can do to get things moving again is a help," said Fracassa.

Pastor Allen Kannappell of His Church Anglican in Livonia wrote about a teenager who wanted to make a difference in the lives of people less fortunate.

Seeing an opportunity to bless people in need with food that would otherwise be thrown out, Tara Leach, a freshman at Schoolcraft College who works at Joe's Produce in Livonia, approached her pastor to get Joe's connected to a downtown church — I Am My Brother's Keeper.

Judges were also told about three Livonia children who earned their black belts from P.K.S.A. Karate Schools.

They are Sarah Iler, 10, Trevor Riker, 9, and Jonathan Rickard, 9. The three started taking karate

lessons together four years ago at the Livonia school under the direction of Kyo Sa Nim David Areeda. Their hard work and devotion led them on a journey of self-confidence, respect, responsibility and self-defense. Their belts are midnight blue versus black, because black is final whereas midnight blue represents infinity.

Stephen E. Loflin, National Society of Collegiate Scholars executive director, wrote the judges to say Sara Wilkins, an Eastern Michigan University student and resident of Livonia, was accepted in NSCS.

NSCS membership gives students access to a number of benefits including career and networking resources, scholarships, and service projects both on campus and in the community, Loflin said.

David Phipps, a flight instructor at Kitz Aviation, also wrote to tell to acknowledge a high-achieving feat by student, Lucas McKinney, 16, who flew his plane solo for the first time.

McKinney, an 11th-grader at Plymouth High School, is a student pilot with his solo certificate.

According to David Phipps, a flight instructor with Kitz Aviation at Mettetal Airport, McKinney has been taking flying lessons at Mettetal, located at Lilley and Joy roads in Canton. He has learned about aerodynamics, lift and drag, takeoff and landing calculations, Cessna 152 flying and handling characteristics and even emergency light signals and radio calls.

According to Phipps, McKinney actually received his student pilot's license on his 16th birthday — before he went to the Secretary of State office and received his driver's license. McKinney received his pilot's license one day after his 16th birthday, according to Phipps, the minimum age for solo, according to the FAA.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Christmas Concert

Get into the holiday spirit with the Silver Strings Dulcimer Society which is putting on a free Christmas concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City. Refreshments will be served after the concert. Come and join the society for the festive event.

For more information, call (734) 427-3660.

New members

The Garden City Kiwanis Club of is recruiting new members to help provide assistance to the disadvantaged residents of our community — especially children — who are having a difficult time during this economic recession.

Founded in 1948, the Kiwanis Club of Garden City provides many community service projects each year including a "Baby Shower" for the Garden City Family Resource Center, a continuing Food Pantry drive, the Trauma Doll Project for hospitalized children, and the Third Grade Dictionary Project.

The club meets at noon on Thursdays at Amantea's Restaurant on Warren Road at Venoy in Garden City. Anyone who is interested in attending one of the luncheons or with questions about the club's community involvement can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101.

Family Concert

The Lathers Child Development Center will host Jim Gill's Family Room Tour 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium, 6500 Middlebelt, north of Ford.

Gill is an award winning author and musician who bangs out energetic rhythms on his banjo while everyone claps, jumps, dances and even sneezes along. The concert is filled with songs from his recordings and features a read-along and sing-along of his musical books for young children.

Seating is limited. Tickets cost \$5 each and go on sale Nov. 8. Purchase tickets at the Lathers Early Childhood and Kindergarten Center, 28351 Marquette.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Sonya Griwicki, childcare director, at (734) 762-8440.

Toys for Tots

Garden City residents can donate new unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots at Metropolitan Lincoln in Garden City now through Dec. 10.

Marine Toys for Tots Foundation was established to provide toys as a symbol of hope to economically disadvantaged children at Christmas. Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, founded in 1991 on behalf of the U.S. Marine Corps, which directs the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program, has supplemented local toy collections with 81.3 million toys valued at \$487 million.

Metropolitan Lincoln is located at 32000 Ford Road, Garden City.

Holiday craft show

Garden City Middle School will be hosting a Holiday craft and vendor show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11. There will be more than 50 tables of your favorite home vendors, such as Tupperware, Avon and Tastefully Simple, as well as home made crafts. There also will be door prize raffles, 50/50 drawing, bake sale and concessions.

Admission is \$1, which includes a freeaffle ticket. Garden City Middle School is at 1851 Radcliff, south of Ford. For more information or table availability, e-mail Sheryll at vendorshow@gmail.com. All proceeds will benefit the middle school's PBS program.

Museum fund-raising

The Friends of the Museum are continuing their fund-raising efforts, selling engraved brick pavers and renting the Grande Parlour for social and business occasions.

The bricks are \$50 for the 4-inch by 8-inch size that has up to three lines. The 8-inch by 8-inch bricks are \$75 and have room for up to six lines of text.

The Lathers General Store is open from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, offering a variety of collectibles and gift items. Call (734) 838-0650 for more information or visit www.sfhonline.org.

Free testing

As a service to the community, the staff of Garden City Hospital's Community Services offers blood pressure testing, free of charge, on a bi-weekly basis to senior citizens at the Maplewood Community Center, located on Maplewood just west of Merriman. Testing will be available at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call (734) 458-4330.

Office hours

Need to talk with Garden City Mayor Randy Walker? You'll find him Tuesdays at Garden City Hall. Walker will hold office hours 4:30-6 p.m. Residents can schedule an appointment by calling Administrative Assistant Margo Ciecierski at (734) 793-1660.

Donations sought

Have a used video, book or DVD you looking to pass on? Well, consider donating it to the Garden City Library which is looking for donations of books, videos and DVDs in good condition. For more information, call the library at (734) 793-1830.

Shop online

Help Garden City Schools support its staff and students whenever you shop at Amazon.com.

Simply follow the link at the bottom of the district's web site — www.gardencityschools.com. A portion of any resulting purchases will be returned to Garden City Public Schools. Products do not cost any more by using the link, and residents don't have to do anything more than click on the link to start shopping.

Donations sought

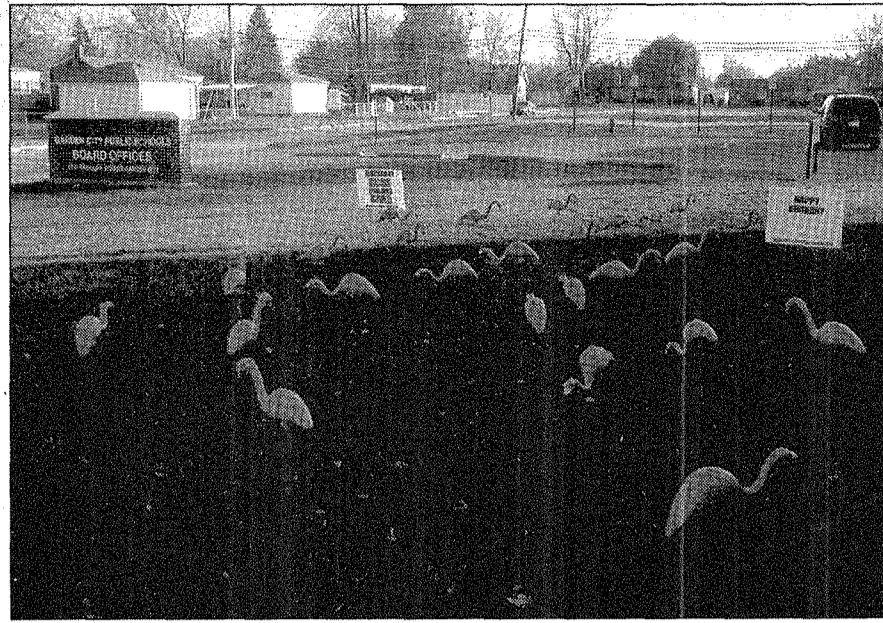
Have a used video, book or DVD you looking to pass on? Well, consider donating it to the Garden City Library which is looking for donations of books, videos and DVDs in good condition. For more information, call the library at (734) 793-1830.

Project Graduation wants to get flocked

Looking for a unique birthday present, a way to surprise a friend turning the big 4-0? Garden City High School's Project Graduation 2011 has the answer. Let them be flocked as in a flock of pink flamingos. The group, which sponsors an all-night party for seniors on graduation night will flock your friends' and relatives' front yards with 25 flamingos for just \$20. Celebrate birthdays and anniversaries - or do it just because you can.

Project Graduation also is offering insurance for those worried about being flocked. The flocking policy costs \$10 and protects the policy holder, random or purchased for a purpose, flockings. The policy ensures the policy holder's lawn to be free from flockings and is non-transferable to another person or property.

Project Graduation organizers tried out flocking on the lawn of the Garden City Public Schools' administrative offices on Radcliff. It went over so well, PG 2011 received a request to flock the building a second



Pink flamingos flocked to the lawn of the Garden City Public Schools administrative offices with the help of Project Graduation 2011.

time in honor of Associate Superintendent Gary Murrell's birthday.

(Superintendent) Michelle Cline paid the \$20 for a flocking and then purchased the optional insurance to protect her self from any future flocking," said Project Graduation member Heidi Witt. "We have a team of Flocking

Specialist on stand by awaiting any order for a Flocking."

The parents participating in planning this year's party "are very excited to be part of the FTS (team of flocking specialist," said Witt. She added that there is also the chance of a random flocking that allows a person to be flocked without request and for a small

fee of \$10 or donation have them removed or for and additional \$5 they can be moved to a yard of your choice.

Flocking orders can be sent to Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt, Garden City, MI 48135 or e-mail orders to gardencityprojectgrad@yahoo.com. Call (734) 612-5274.

Large advertisement for Hobby Lobby featuring various holiday and craft supplies with 50% off and 30% off discounts. Includes categories like Christmas Gift Supplies, Christmas Tree Decor, and various craft kits.

Advertisement for 'OVER 30,000 TOYS • DOLLS & ACTIVITIES' with a 'PRE-HOLIDAY SALE SAVE 10-40% ON 1000s OF ITEMS!' and contact information for The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop.

Advertisement for Hobby Lobby Canton store, featuring a '40% OFF' coupon and store hours: 9-8 Monday-Saturday, Closed Sunday. Location: Ford Road at Lilley, west of Ikea.

Christmas is for Children

Westland Goodfellows

FOOD & TOY DRIVE

Remember to drop off your non perishable food items or unwrapped new toys until Dec. 2nd at many local merchants!

www.westlandgoodfellows.org or call 734.788.2270

Wish Network gives her a Dolly good time

When Brenda Smyser asked her daughter what she wanted if she could have any wish, she already knew what Amanda would say: She'd want to meet country star Dolly Parton.

"Amanda just thinks the woman is amazing, she always has," said Brenda Smyser. "She loves her music, her literacy program and all she does."

And when national charity Kids Wish Network gave Amanda the opportunity to meet Parton, it didn't even matter to Amanda that her mom couldn't get off work to go. The family was told they could wait to meet Parton in the spring when Brenda could get time off, but Amanda didn't want to wait.

"She said, 'no. Dad and I are going now,'" Brenda Smyser said.

The once in a lifetime wish experience came true after Brenda Smyser, searching for information on Amanda's medical condition, came across an article about a little boy with the same condition who had a wish granted by Kids Wish Network.

Amanda suffers from Chiari malformation and syringomyelia, an illness in which the brain intrudes on the spinal column, putting extreme pressure on it. Amanda has developed fluid-filled cavities in her spinal column, which increases the pressure on her nerves. Although she has endured various medical procedures and surgeries, Amanda still has to be closely monitored and take daily medication.

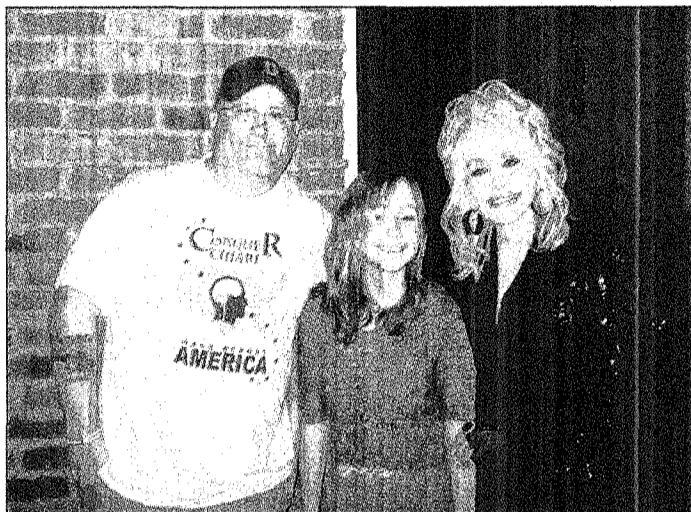
After doing a little research, Brenda Smyser submitted her daughter's name to Kids Wish Network and soon received a wish application. Before Amanda and her father knew it, they were on their way from Michigan to Tennessee to meet Amanda's hero.

Although Brenda Smyser didn't get to attend the wish trip, she said Amanda kept her updated the whole time.

"Amanda texted me right after she met Dolly and said



Amanda Smyser hams it up with country star Dolly Parton after having her wish granted by the Kids Wish Network.



Amanda Smyser and her father Christopher strike a pose with Dolly Parton during Amanda's recent Kids Wish Network visit with the country music star.

she was amazing, she said she thought Dolly was genuinely concerned," she said. "And Amanda's dad said it was like the two of them (Amanda and Parton) bonded. It was incredible."

Aside from meeting Parton, Kids Wish Network set up an itinerary full of things for Amanda and her father to do, including round-trip flights, accommodations at The Inn at Christmas Place, tickets

to Dollywood, a rental car, spending money, various dinners while in Tennessee and attendance at the Black Bear Jamboree. Brenda Smyser said her daughter loved everything.

"She loved Dolly's show and the Black Bear Jamboree," she said. "Everything they did she told me about. She got to see all the things she wanted to see. She loved the food and everyone treated her nice."

Helping to make Amanda's

ABOUT THE NETWORK

Kids Wish Network is a national charitable organization dedicated to infusing hope, creating happy memories, and improving the quality of life for children having experienced life-altering situations. Kids Wish Network assists children and their families through several key programs. Every child deserves a chance at happiness; a wish is just a way of bringing them that joy. If you would like to sponsor a child's wish or if you know a child who is suffering from a life-threatening illness and may be in need of Kids Wish Network's wish granting services, call (727) 937-3600 or toll free (888) 918-9004. For more information on Kids Wish Network, visit its website at www.kidswishnetwork.org.

wish extra special were The Inn at Christmas Place, Thrifty Car Rental, Smoky Mountain Brewery, Black Bear Jamboree, Mellow Mushroom, South Fork Limousine Service and Dolly Parton.

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Sunday, December 12th
from 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Enjoy the holidays Waltonwood style! Complete with holiday music and refreshments.

RSPV by December 10th
(734) 237-6094

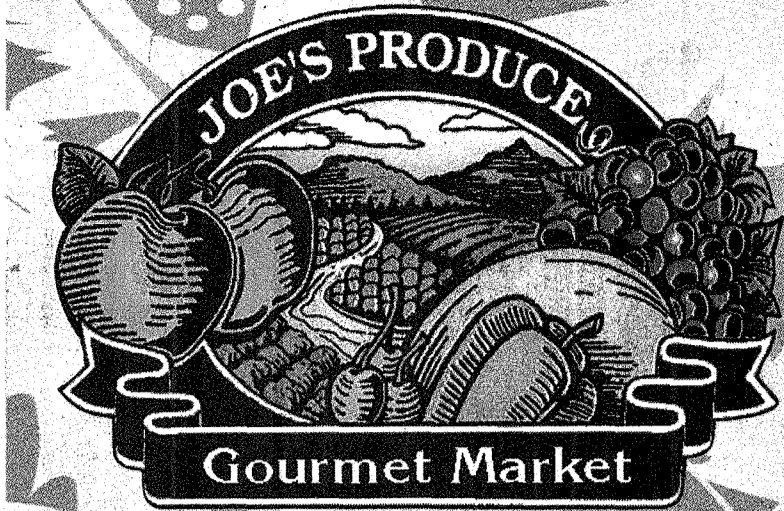
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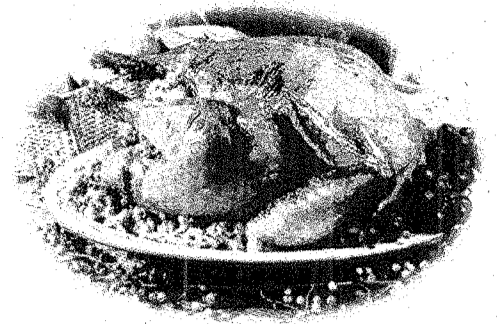


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DIETZ & WATSON

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Defending champ North Branch burns Blazers

Ladywood falls in 'B' semifinal, 3-1

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Ladywood's return trip to state Class B girls volleyball semifinals in the Cereal City ended in much of the same manner Thursday night as the previous year.

The Blazers started well, but went snap, crackle and pop as defending champion North Branch earned a 17-25, 25-11, 25-20, 25-12 triumph at the Kellogg Center in Battle Creek.

The Broncos' rope-a-dope style attack, led by newly crowned Miss Volleyball Jordan Fish, eventually wore down the taller Blazers, who finish their season at 37-20-2 overall.

"We need to be able to use our size and be physical," Ladywood coach Erin Craggs said. "And if they serve aggressive and keep us off the net, that's when they were able to take advantage. That diminishes our size, and if we're playing on the 10-foot line, we don't have a whole lot of blocking and attacking ability."

Ladywood, ousted in the 2009 Final Four by Delton-Kellogg, impressed during the first set by hitting at a .375 clip, but couldn't maintain its momentum as North Branch improved to 67-7-1 overall.

"It takes three to beat you, so one is nothing," North Branch coach Jim Fish said. "That's how we look at it. It was a great night for us. We stepped up our defense, too. We talked about taking the game to them because they (Ladywood) were much more aggressive that first game."

North Branch sophomore Michaela Deshetsy, a 5-foot-11 middle hitter, led the Broncos with 14 kills, while Layne Molosky and Danika Racknor added 10 and nine, respectively.

Fish, the Broncos' top-notch setter headed to Virginia Tech, finished with 37 assist-to-kills and 12 digs.

Libero Catherine Brusie contributed a match-high 25 digs, while Racknor added 17.

"Jordan (Fish) told our senior outside hitters to step it up and they did," Jim Fish said. "That was big. And our two middles have been young all year long, but Michaela grew up a lot tonight. She hit .385. That's just amazing for a sophomore on a big show like that. They could not stop her. When you have Jordan and Catherine, they don't get rattled. They've been there before."

Ladywood hit at only an 0.76 percentage on the night with Kenzie Kettner and Cheyenne Woodall each recording eight kills.

The Blazers' top hitter, senior Katy Rooney, finished with seven.

Setter Alexandra Hines had 24 assists.

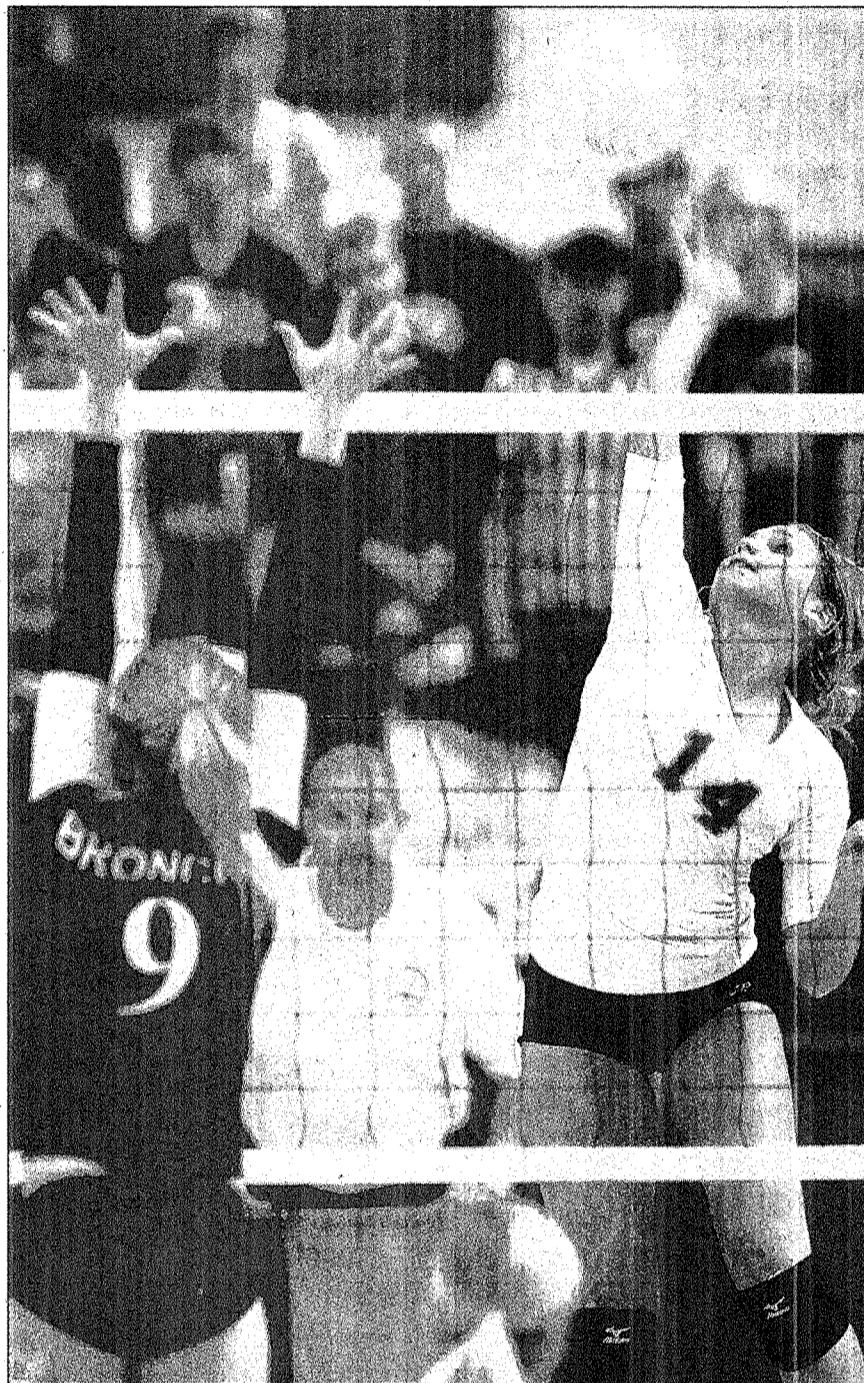
Ladywood's Kristie Aurand and Kettner each had 20 digs, while Jenny Rhodes added 18.

"They're not a hard-swinging team," Craggs said of the Broncos. "They're more of a shot placement team. When we go away from swinging, we're not in an attack mode. That's not our strength. We got stuck rolling balls and tipping. We got sucked into their style of play. We were able to dictate Game One, the style of play we wanted to play."

The two teams met earlier in the season at the Flushing Tournament with North Branch coming out on top 2-1 in the elimination round after a 1-1 split in pool play.

"They're a strong serving team," Craggs said of the Broncos. "We were able to pass really well in Game One, which is why we took advantage. And I thought we passed pretty well... and in Game Three as well where it was a tighter match. But when we have to play behind the 10-foot line we lose a

Please see **BLAZERS, B4**



Ladywood's Kenzie Kettner (14) goes on the attack against Hailey Smillie (9) of North Branch during Thursday's state Class B girls volleyball semifinal at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.

ROBERT YOUNGS | GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

SIDELINES

All-WHAC spikers

Three Madonna University players were named to the first-team All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first team in women's volleyball.

Senior Liz Dempsey (Livonia Franklin), second on the team in total kills (468) and WHAC leader in ace serves (64), leads the way along with juniors Karie Altman (Allen Park Cabrini) and Amanda Koszela, (Dearborn).

Altman paced the WHAC in total kills (488) and attack percentage (.360), while Koszela was third in the conference with 586 digs and posted a .954 serve percentage.

Evia Prieditis (Milford) earned WHAC Freshman and Setter of the Year honors after ranking first in the conference and fifth in the nation with 1,549 assist-to-kills. Teammate Miranda Sechler (Coldwater) joined Prieditis on the All-Freshman team.

Four Crusaders were named to the Academic All-WHAC squad including Altman (biology), Dempsey (dietetics), Koszela (math for elementary education) and senior Anna Gatt of Livonia Churchill (graphic design/computer technology).

To be selected to the academic team, a student-athlete must have a 3.25 cumulative grade point average or higher and be a junior or senior.

Rounding out the Crusader award winners was junior Megan Fricke (Wyandotte) who earned the WHAC Champions of Character Team for the student-athlete who best displays the NAIA's core values of respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership and sportsmanship. She had 436 kills, 416 digs and 37 aces as MU finished 29-9 overall.

MU harriers excel

Four members of the Madonna University women's cross country team were honored for their work in the classroom by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Named to the NAIA Scholar-Athlete team were seniors Inta Grinvalds (Portage Central), Kari Saarela (Livonia Franklin), Sarah Sherwood (Plymouth Salem), along with junior Cassie Yarnall (Clarkston/Auburn Hills Oakland Christian).

To be selected, a student-athlete must be a junior or senior academically and have at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Grinvalds, Saarela and Sherwood are all nursing majors at Madonna while Yarnall is majoring in sign language studies.

Madonna gives EMU all it can handle

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Madonna University climbed quite a few rungs up the college basketball ladder Wednesday during rare matinee game against host Eastern Michigan University.

And the Crusaders, despite losing 79-70, acquitted themselves quite well against their NCAA Division I opponent at the Convocation Center before 2,836 fans, which were comprised mainly of screaming elementary and middle school students.

MU fought back from a 44-27 halftime deficit and nearly made a game of it after Kevin Henry's free throw cut the EMU lead to 72-66 with 2:17 left.

But the Eagles were able to close out the game and get their first win of the season after losing last Friday at No. 2-ranked Michigan State, 96-66.

"It was an experience the guys will remember the rest of their lives because we don't get this opportunity very often," said MU coach Noel Emenhiser, whose team slipped to 1-3 overall. "I'm glad they took advantage of it, at least from an effort standpoint."

The Crusaders got sterling

performances from several players led by Bryant Slaughter's game-high 22 points. The senior guard from Westland made 6-of-11 shots from three-point range to go along with seven rebounds and three assists.

Henry, a 6-foot-4 sophomore guard from Toledo, scored 10 of his 13 in the first half, while freshman point-guard Bobby Naubert finished with 10 points, all in the second half.

"I'm never nervous, I don't care who is against me on the court," said Naubert, a Livonia Stevenson High grad. "But I think our team came out and played a really good game. I'm proud of everyone. We didn't get the 'W,' and there's no such thing as a moral victory, but shows we can play with anyone at any time. We take it as a big positive."

Geoff Gaylor, the Crusaders' 6-8 senior center, finished with nine points and nine rebounds, while 6-6 freshman Derek Lennen came off the bench to score nine points and added seven rebounds in 17 minutes.

"I told the guys that if they just went out there and fought, and play as a team, and sacrifice a

Please see **MADONNA, B3**



Eastern Michigan guard Will Cooper (with ball) is surrounded under basket by Madonna University defenders Geoff Gaylor (33), Kevin Henry (3) and Matt Jenkins (1).

RANDY MASHARKA | EMU SPORTS INFORMATION

No. 1 Tyler eliminates S'craft, 2-1

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Schoolcraft College's bid to spread a little national recognition came to a halt Friday, courtesy of Tyler (Tex.) Junior College.

The Apache again displayed why they are indeed the premier women's soccer team in NJCAA Division I as they withstood a furious second-

half rally by the Lady Ocelots

to squeak out a 2-1 triumph in the semifinals held in Topeka, Kan.

Earning the No. 1 seed, the unbeaten Apache played like the defending champions they are during the first half, scoring both goals and controlling the play against the Lady Ocelots.

Freshman Bianca Norman tallied Tyler's first goal, while

Please see **SOCCER, B4**

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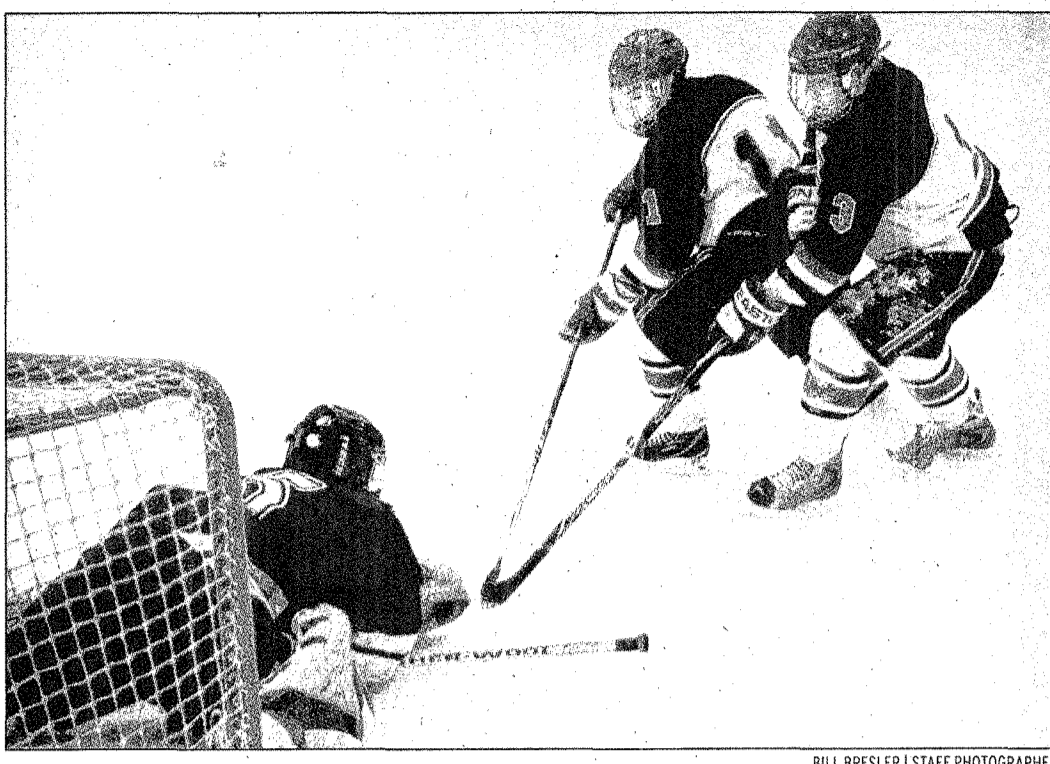
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BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Franklin's Tyler Dewhirst (11) and Adam Michael (3) storm the front of the net as Taylor Unified goaltender Dustin Lemay makes the stop.

Good for starters

Goalie Slinder sharp as Patriot icers romp, 6-0

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It certainly was an encouraging start for Livonia Franklin's hockey team, which is coming off back-to-back 0-22-1 and 0-25 seasons.

The Patriots made their 2010-11 debut with a convincing 6-0 victory over visiting Taylor Unified at Edgar Arena.

Franklin got goals from six different players and put it away with three in the final period.

"The boys played a little better than they have the last few years," Franklin fourth-year coach Scott Wirgau said. "It's all starting to come together after a lot of hard work. We have a lot more maturity on the team this year and it's showing in the way that they play. It's not just what they're doing, but the way they're doing it. I'm real happy with it."

Wirgau had to be elated with the play of junior goaltender Matt Slinder, who made 29 saves to post the shutout.

Slinder will initially split time this season with senior Travis Ferrier, who came in briefly for a spell during the third period.

"We're still working out per-

sonalities and chemistry," Wirgau said. "I'm real fortunate to have two starters this year. He (Slinder) had some equipment problem there and I didn't want to pull him with a chance to with what I can say now is a shutout. I wanted to put him back in and get a chance at the shutout. It's the first shutout, I think, in 13 years - that's for Franklin."

The Patriots peppered Taylor Unified goaltender Dustin Lemay for 33 shots with sophomore Richard Wiczorek scoring what proved to be the game-winner off an assist from the team's lone freshman, Joshua Dudek, at 11:45 of the first period.

Franklin added two more goals in the second - sophomore Jerome Schlaff from junior Brian Roulier at 1:29; followed sophomore Adam Stadler's power-play goal when he poked home a rebound off assists from Daniel Donahue and Tyler Satkowiak at 4:46.

Franklin iced the victory with three more in the final period as Adam Michael scored from Andrew Person and Kevin Webb at 7:47; followed by Satkowiak from Michael Diaz and Donahue

at 8:36; and Tyler Dewhirst from Michael with only 47.3 seconds left.

The score could have been a lot worse had it not been for the play of Lemay, a junior who is battling for the starting job with senior Phil Moore.

"We're a young team," said Taylor Unified coach A.J. Walczak, whose squad finished 10-15 a year ago. "We graduated eight last year. Having a lot of freshman on the team I thought we played well. I think Livonia has a stellar team. I don't think we're at their level yet, so I was pretty happy with them, but definitely our goaltender kept us in there. We couldn't buy a goal tonight."

Franklin, meanwhile, is idle until Wednesday when they travel to play Dearborn Heights Crestwood at Canfield Arena. (Game time is 8 p.m.)

On the downside is that the Patriots took 11 penalties.

"We go back to practice on Monday," Wirgau said. "There's some glaring errors we made in the game and we need to work on our errors. We know what our strengths are, we need to work on our errors."




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SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

sophomore Claudia Saucedo bagged the second.

With their backs against the wall, the Lady Ocelots came out with greater intensity in the second half and carried the play for lengthy periods of time.

The hard work finally paid off as sophomore Adrianna Guerrero cut the deficit in half with a free kick that found the back of the Tyler net.

With more than half of the period to play, the Lady Ocelots kept the pressure on but could not capitalize, including banging one off the crossbar with time winding down.

"It was a great game and great atmosphere," Schoolcraft coach Deepak Shivraman said. "Our girls were exceptional in the second half and had a couple of great chances."

"I think it was a little tough getting going because last night (Thursday) we were out there for three hours (defeating Laramie County on penalty kicks). The coaches were even tired. But our girls, like they have all season, worked hard for each other."

The loss was only the second in 19 starts for the Lady Ocelots and placed them in Sunday's consolation finals to determine the third- and

fourth-place finishers for 2010.

"These last two days were a bit of a roller coaster ride," Shivraman said. "Last night was fantastic and tonight it was a disappointment losing, but certainly not in our effort."

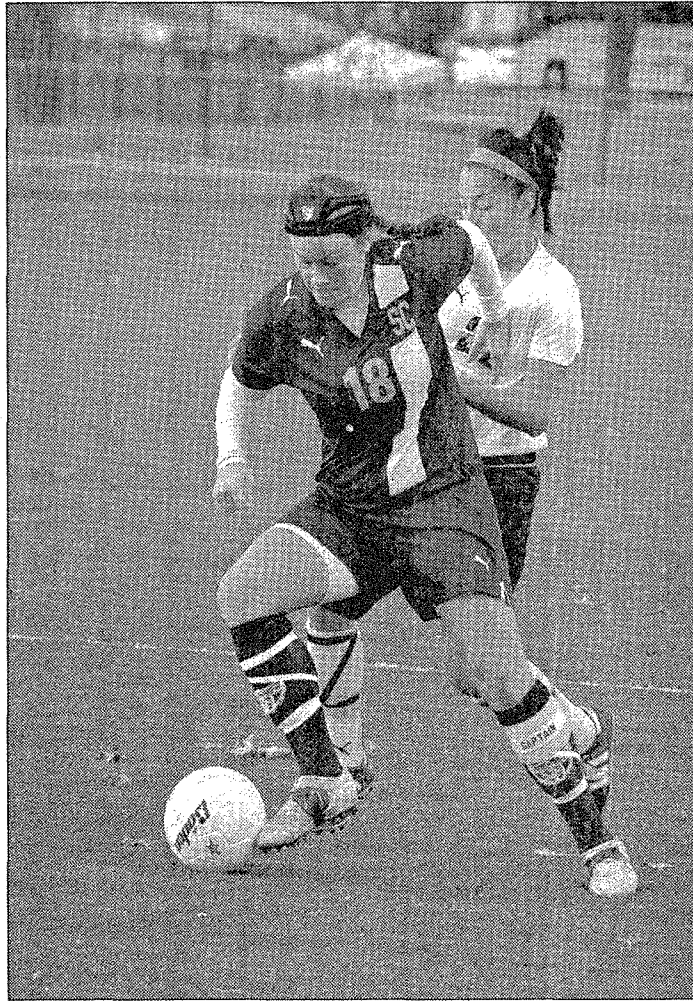
"Tyler is a very skilled team with outstanding players from all over. I would say we didn't do too badly for a bunch of kids from Livonia and surrounding communities."

Shivraman praised the season-long efforts of Livonia products Renee Boudreau (Stevenson), Lindsey McMullen (Churchill), Shannon Merritt (Stevenson), Ashley Welch (Stevenson), Ashley Werner (Stevenson) and Kelly Powers (Franklin), saying "they all had a phenomenal year."

In reaching Friday's semifinal the Ocelots had to endure three hours of the best No. 5-seed Laramie County CC (Wy.) had to offer.

Tied at 1-1 after trading goals in the opening half, Amanda Halter scored for Laramie and Brooke Ehman doing the same for Schoolcraft, both teams fought through a pair of scoreless overtime sessions and failed to convert on any chances through 11 rounds of penalty kicks.

Finally, on the Ocelots' 12th opportunity, they found the back of the Laramie (18-4-1)



Schoolcraft College's Kelly Powers (18) controls the ball in front of a Tyler (Tex.) defender during Friday's NJCAA Division I women's soccer semifinal in Topeka, Kan.

JERRY HALE | PHOTO

net to gain the advantage.

Sophomore goalkeeper Sam Suter made the marker stand up and send the Ocelots onto

the semifinals against unbeaten Tyler, which is now 17-0.

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Churchill earns late win

Livonia Churchill converted three-of-six power play opportunities and overcame an early second period deficit Friday to beat North Farmington-Harrison, 5-4, in the Metro Invitational at Novi Ice Arena.

Senior Steven Klisz led the victorious Chargers to the season-opening win with two goals and one assist, while junior Jake Otto contributed one goal and three assists.

Klisz's power play goal with just 59 seconds remaining in the final period off assists from Otto and Nick Proben proved to be the game-winner.

Churchill trailed 3-1 early in the second period before cashing in a pair of power plays to knot the count at 3-all.

Joe Williams had one on a five-on-three, while Klisz added the tie with the man advantage.

Devin Smythe tallied Churchill's other goal.

"It wasn't pretty, but it's a good start and we hung in there," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "We found a way to win and we'll take it."

Scott Newel scored twice for

PREP HOCKEY

the Flyers, while Reede Burnette and T.J. Zak had the other North-Harrison goals.

Churchill goalie Alex Estes made 16 saves, while the Flyers' Keith Ladouceur had 25 stops.

FARMINGTON 2, STEVENSON 1 (OT): Austin Cole's goal three minutes into overtime Friday gave the Falcons a dramatic victory over Livonia Stevenson in the Metro Invitational at Novi Ice Arena.

Ethan Baker and Mike Manzo assisted on the game-winner.

Farmington senior goaltender Tim Rogers stopped 39-of-40 shots on the night.

"We got quality chances, but he (Rogers) made some great saves," Stevenson first-year coach Gerry Vento said. "He made a lot of saves most don't make."

Farmington led 1-0 after one period on Kyle Rea's goal from Baker and Danny Prokes, but Stevenson sent it to overtime on Tim Pruchnik's goal third-period goal from J.J. Pettersson.

Sophomore Connor Humitz, making his first start in goal for the Spartans, had 29 saves.

"I thought we were a little tentative to start, a little nervous being the first game for some guys," Vento said. "There were a lot of penalties and it was hard to get into a flow."

BLAZERS

FROM PAGE B1

lot of our strength.

"Our serve receive has actually been pretty stellar. They're probably the top, if not the best serving team in the state. They picked that up in the second (set) and were able to pick that up at the end and take advantage. We got caught and we were jamming up trying to get balls behind the 10-foot line."

Despite losing decisively in the first set and trailing 13-9 in the third, Fish was confident about his team's ability to rally.

"We talked about Livonia coming out very enthusiastic,

energetic and that they might even win the first game," he said. "We talked about that when the match started. After that first game we said, 'O.K.' We stayed even keel and took it to them that second game. After we won the second one, we knew. The third game was tight, but once we got the momentum, we knew it was over."

North Branch moved into the 4 p.m. Saturday final at Kellogg against Fruitport (51-6), which advanced with a 3-0 win over East Grand Rapids in the other semifinal match on Thursday.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Nov. 24
Churchill vs. Stevenson
at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
Ladywood vs. Alumni
at Plymouth's Arctic Pond, 7:30 p.m.
Franklin vs. Crestwood
at D.H. Canfield Arena, 8 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Nov. 23
Madonna at Lourdes (Ohio), 7 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Marygrove JV, 7 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 26
(Kirtland CC Firebird Invitational)
Schoolcraft vs. UM-Flint, 5 p.m.

Kirtland vs. Rochester JV, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 27
(Kirtland CC Firebird Invitational)
Schoolcraft vs. Rochester JV, 5:30 p.m.
Kirtland vs. UM-Flint, 7:30 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Friday, Nov. 26
(Turkey Shootout at K'zoo Valley CC)
Schoolcraft vs. Owens Tech (Ohio), 5 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 27
Madonna at Rutgers-Newark, noon.
(Turkey Shootout at K'zoo Valley CC)
Schoolcraft vs. Columbus St. (Ohio), 2 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 28
Madonna at New Jersey City Univ., noon.

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Livonia Churchill: Cory Urbats, Sr.; Kara Kempinski, Sr.; Nicole Kempinski, Sr.; Erin Menard, Jr.; Emily Norscia, Soph.; Westland John Glenn: Halie Baker, Sr.; Brooke Zywick, Sr.; Plymouth: Kayla Bridge, Sr.; Mariah Tesarz, Sr.; Danielle Risi, Sr.; Salem: Nicole Merget, Sr.; Jillian Somerville, Sr.; Kerry Macdonald, Sr.; Garden City: Brittany Bejma, Sr.; Samantha Zalewski, Sr.; Livonia Stevenson: Monika Rudis, Sr.; Jordan York, Jr.; Reina Tyl, Sr.; Livonia Franklin: Chelsea

Williams, Sr.; Canton: Kristen Muir, Jr.; Alaina Turner, Jr.; Erica DenBoer, Soph.; Northville: Lauren Colisanti, Sr.; Grosse Pointe South: Ann Buslepp, Sr.; Grosse Pointe North: Andrea Matthew, Sr.; Michaela Liddane, Sr.; Breann Revely, Soph.

CLASS B
Livonia Ladywood: Katy Rooney, Sr.; Jenny Rhodes, Jr.; Kenzie Kettner, Jr.; Cheyenne Woodall, Jr.

CLASS D
Plymouth Christian Academy: Kristin Malcolm, Jr.

COACH OF THE YEAR
Mark Grenier, Liv. Churchill

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Guide to Employment
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Grid of classified ads including: Caregivers Needed, Direct Care Assistant, Looking for a Career, Plumber/Drain Cleaners, Service Technician, Shipping & Receiving, Make Big Money for the Holidays, Tax Preparer, Medical Biller, and many others.

HEALTH

Sunday, November 21, 2010

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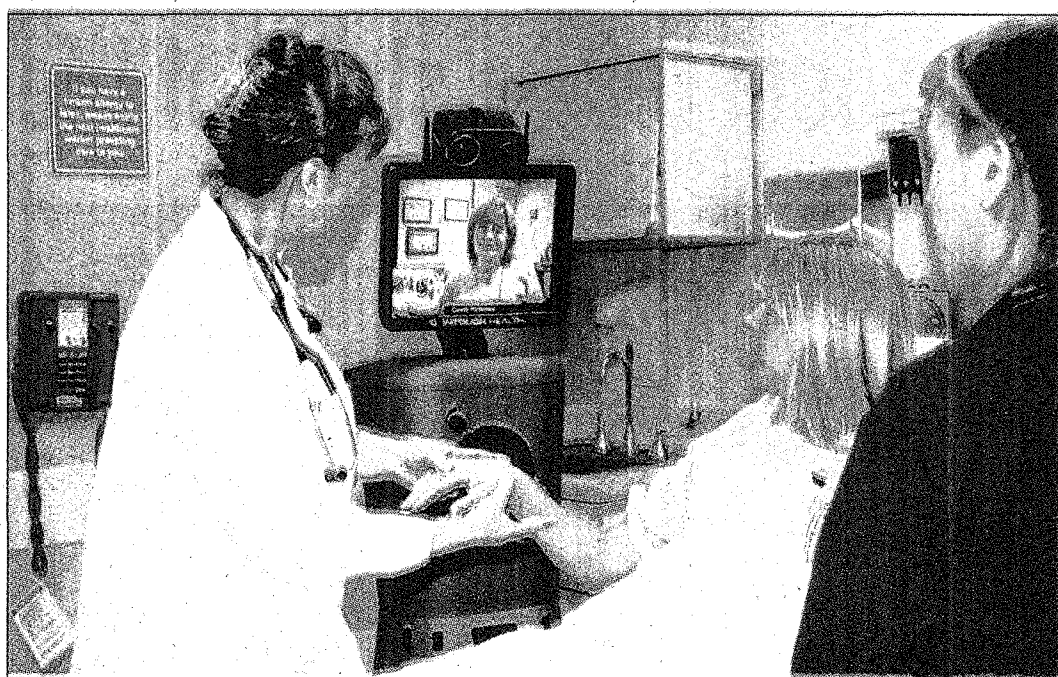
HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com



St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia gives patients access to neurology specialists around the clock through the use of robotic technology at bedside.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital lauded for care of stroke patients

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia has earned certification as an Advanced Primary Stroke Center from the Joint Commission, a nonprofit organization that sets standards in health care nationwide.

The distinction recognizes centers that make exceptional efforts in fostering better outcomes for stroke care.

"When it comes to treating stroke symptoms, our motto is 'time lost is brain lost,'" stated Todd Larson, director, Inpatient Rehabilitation, in a press release. "By adhering to the Joint Commission protocols, we offer efficient, expedited care increasing the chance of survival with minimal disability."

Hospitals that apply for advanced certification must meet the requirements for Disease-Specific Care Certification and additional expectations. Certified primary stroke centers:

- Use a standardized method of delivering care based on recommendations of the Brain Attack Coalition.
- Help patients play a part in managing their condition.

- Tailor treatment and intervention to individual needs.
- Help various care providers share patient information, while protecting patient rights, security and privacy.
- Analyze and use standardized performance measure data to continually improve treatment plans.
- Comply with clinical practice guidelines published by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA) or equivalent evidence-based guidelines.

The Joint Commission's Primary Stroke Center Certification Program, launched in December 2003, was developed in collaboration with the AHA/ASA. There are 30 certified primary stroke centers in Michigan. Certification is available only to stroke programs in Joint Commission-accredited acute care hospitals.

Stroke is the third leading cause of death and one of the leading causes of long-term disability. Smokers and individuals with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol or a family history of heart disease, may be at greater risk for stroke.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Alzheimer's Association

The Greater Michigan Chapter provides a welcoming and secure environment for families and individuals experiencing the early stages of Younger Onset Memory Loss. Participants can take part in ongoing discussions that focus on issues that affect those with memory loss under age 65. Meetings are 5:30-7 p.m., the third Tuesday of the month, at Bloomfield Township Senior Services, 4315 Andover, Bloomfield Hills. To register call The Harry L. Nelson Helpline at (800) 272-3900.

Aquatic classes

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 10-11 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and non-members of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Fitness classes

Exercise classes for men and women continue through April at the Metropolitan Seventh-Day Adventist School, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. The sessions infuse Pilates, functional strength training, balance work, flexibility and motivational techniques in a 90-day fitness plan. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957. E-mail jeanieweaver@charter.net.

Food Addicts

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a recovery program for people having trouble controlling the way they eat. Based on the 12 steps of AA. Open to all and free. Weekly meetings are held 9-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, at

Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 Sheldon, Canton. (866) 914-3663; www.foodaddicts.org

Hearing Loss Association

The Western Wayne Chapter provides information, education and support for those with hearing loss, their families and friends. Meetings are 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster, Garden City. Contact afcrack@comcast.net or (734) 664-3297.

Incest Survivors

"LIVE," a self-help group for women who were victims of incest as children, meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 7-9 p.m. at St. Paul of the Cross, 2333 Schoolcraft, Redford. Call Antoinette at (313) 971-4747 or Cheri at (586) 489-1785.

Overeaters Anonymous

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

Breast cancer support group

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Caregivers support group

St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon,

Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for information. Authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Metro Fibromyalgia

Meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 2055 Merriman, Garden City. For more information, call Lucy at (734) 462-1768.

Wayne metro caregiver support

Are you a caregiver of an aging parent, spouse or relative? Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to loved ones. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m.-noon, at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Ave., Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the second Thursday of the month; the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. Call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

Parkinson Support

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

CPR classes

Classes range from basic CPR for people who wish to know how to help save a life to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Dr., Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www.hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar or call (248) 937-3314.

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FOUR GENERATIONS AT FOUR SEASONS: (L to R) Todd Colombo, Dora Pavel, Cathy Colombo and Gabriella Colombo

Cathy Colombo "couldn't be any happier" with the care her 96-year old mother, Dora, has received at Four Seasons for the last two months. Cathy never wanted to move Dora to a nursing center, but did so at the suggestion of physicians after she was hospitalized. Dora's physical condition deteriorated at home where she lived alone. Today, Dora enjoys playing Bingo, attending church services and making arts and crafts at Four Seasons. "They have great staff, great food. They're very attentive. I go home and I rest." Colombo could go on and on about the professional staff caring for her mother. "If residents don't like something they'll cook what you want. Every day there are two choices of homemade soup. They have clean sheets just like a hotel."

"(the staff) goes over and above... they're loving and giving people... I've never seen a messy room. This is a great place, never smells... I'm thrilled with everything..."



(L to R) Four Seasons therapist Maria Rapelje, resident Lorraine Schranstra, therapist Aparna Gopalakrishnan and resident Betty Iltis

Janice Garrett is glad to have her mother back home thanks to the care the 82-year old woman received at Four Seasons. Anna arrived at Four Seasons in July after triple bypass heart surgery, emergency tracheotomy and stay in another nursing facility. "It was worth the drive," said Janice Garrett who lives in Detroit. Janice's voice quivers as she talks about the progress her mother made at Four Seasons. Physical therapy sessions got Anna back on her feet. "They helped her in a way that got her self esteem back, the will to live back."

"(my mother) is doing really well... the staff worked with us diligently...treated her with respect. Our family greatly appreciates everything and everyone on staff."

She was sleeping a lot and they cut the amount of sleeping medication. It's like family. Our family greatly appreciates everything and we love them from nurses and doctors to maintenance."

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COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, November 21, 2010

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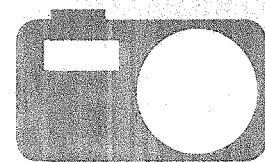


PHOTO GALLERIES

hometownlife.com

Every flea market find, every heirloom tells a story of life

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Pat Doemer's Bavarian porcelain platter with gold decoration has seen plenty of use.

"If it's really worth something I might put it away. It has had roast on it many times."

The Livonia resident brought her well-used flea market find to the Livonia Historical Society's appraisal night last week, hoping to discover its worth. She and others, toted their collectibles and heirlooms, everything from fine art ceramics and original oil paintings to dolls and furniture, to historic Greenmead for the Antiques Roadshow-style event. They filled several tables with their treasures, paying \$5 each for every item and then waited for the appraiser to arrive. And waited.

A family medical emergency delayed and eventually cancelled the appraiser's appearance and the Society returned all appraisal fees, but for a portion of the evening, visitors got a chance to view the assortment of antiques and trade stories with one another about their cherished possessions.

"I picked it up in Florida," Doemer said, as she set the platter on a table. "It was around Tarpon Springs. They have a lot of elderly people who leave things and people who sell them don't know diddly-squat about them. They don't know how to look for (manufacturer) marks on them."



Kathie Sterbling was 9 years old when she attended a Detroit Tigers game with her dad at the old Briggs Stadium. She has cherished this banner from 1949 ever since that day.

FAMILY LORE

Sheila Taylor of Livonia was surprised when no one in her family wanted great-great grandma's steamer trunk. She asked her son, Guy, to lug it into the Alexander Blue House at Greenmead where the appraisal items were displayed.

"She used it to come over here from Ireland," Taylor said. "You should see the thing on the inside. It's beautiful. It's hand painted."

When she first opened the trunk it contained "a couple pieces of clothing," including a pair of bloomers. Now the lid opens to reveal only the hand-painted inset that sports pictures of a woman with a fan and a man riding a horse.

"Isn't that nifty? I have no idea who made it. It was passed down and down and down. I opened it up and went, Oh my God! It's just so amazingly beautiful. And



Lou Tigani has a World War II-era rifle.

look at the wood. It has to be a couple hundred years old at least."

Taylor isn't sure what she'll do with the trunk, which has been sitting in the attic and has never been appraised.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Guy Taylor carries a trunk in to the Alexander Blue house. It belongs to his mom, Sheila Taylor.

SPORTS FAN

Kathie Sterbling found a perfect spot for her treasure, which she has cherished for more than 60 years. The Livonia resident displays the 1949 Detroit Tiger's souvenir pennant on her kitchen wall. She and her husband, John, brought the item to the appraisal event, hoping to shed light on its value.

"My dad used to take me to the games all the time.

He was a great baseball fan. I was 9 years old when I got this," Sterbling said. "This means so much to me."

The pennant, which is displayed where no sunlight can fade its white lettering on yellow felt, sports autographs from Ernie Harwell, Al Kaline, Sparky Anderson, Mickey Lolich and others.

"Sparky Anderson and Ernie Harwell were both so gracious," Sterbling recalled.

"Sparky Anderson was like I had known him all my life."

Robert Legel, president of the Livonia Historical Society, thanked attendees for graciously bringing and then lugging home their items without an appraisal.

"There was nothing you could do about it. That's just the way it was," he said. "We're going to be planning another one in the next couple of weeks."

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Experts share holiday weight control tips

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At Annie House's, you just might get stuck with cleanup duty after a holiday meal if you don't join in some fitness fun.

"You make them stay in the kitchen and do the dishes," House, a registered dietitian with Botsford Hospital Diabetes and Nutrition Services, said of couch potato revelers.

The South Lyon resident who works at the Farmington Hills hospital is a Michigan State University graduate with a bachelor of science degree in dietetics. She agreed it's tough to stay in shape this time of year.

"With the nights coming earlier, it's hard to get out and exercise," House said. "The calories add up and so do the pounds."

Pam Horetski is wellness director at the Farmington Family YMCA, with a bachelor of science degree in exercise science from Oakland University, and a certified personal trainer.

"It is behavior modification, not only what you eat," said Horetski, who had a minor in psychology. "It is your lifestyle."

Sleep matters during the busy holiday season, too, she said. "They just run themselves down so much." People's immune systems are weakened, Horetski said, and they often get sick.

She agreed with House that



Doing some sort of exercise will help busy people feel better, especially during the holidays.

good eating habits and regular exercise are vital. Horetski has clients keep a food diary so they're aware of what they're eating and drinking.

She finds most people are on maintenance plans now through the end of the year, with Thanksgiving through Christmas a likely time for weight gain of five-10 pounds.

"The extra desserts, the extra couple of desserts," Horetski said. "Calories are calories, it all adds up. Lots of good-tasting food out there. The temptations are high basically from now through the New Year. People are more apt to eat on the run between eating and shopping."

Horetski recommends walking distances to the store when shopping and using stairs if possible. You can carry nutritious snacks with you.

"That will deter you from

getting to the point, I'm so hungry, I'll eat anything," she said.

House urges party-goers to eat breakfast and lunch so they're less likely to binge at a party. At the party, try to enjoy conversation with family and friends, she urged, avoiding the food table.

Candies and pastries have lots of calories, as do nuts, which have some nutritive value but must be eaten in moderation. House recommends fruits, vegetables and festive salads as good picks.

"There are other, healthier foods there. It's just our self-discipline," House said.

Holiday hosts also can help boost fitness.

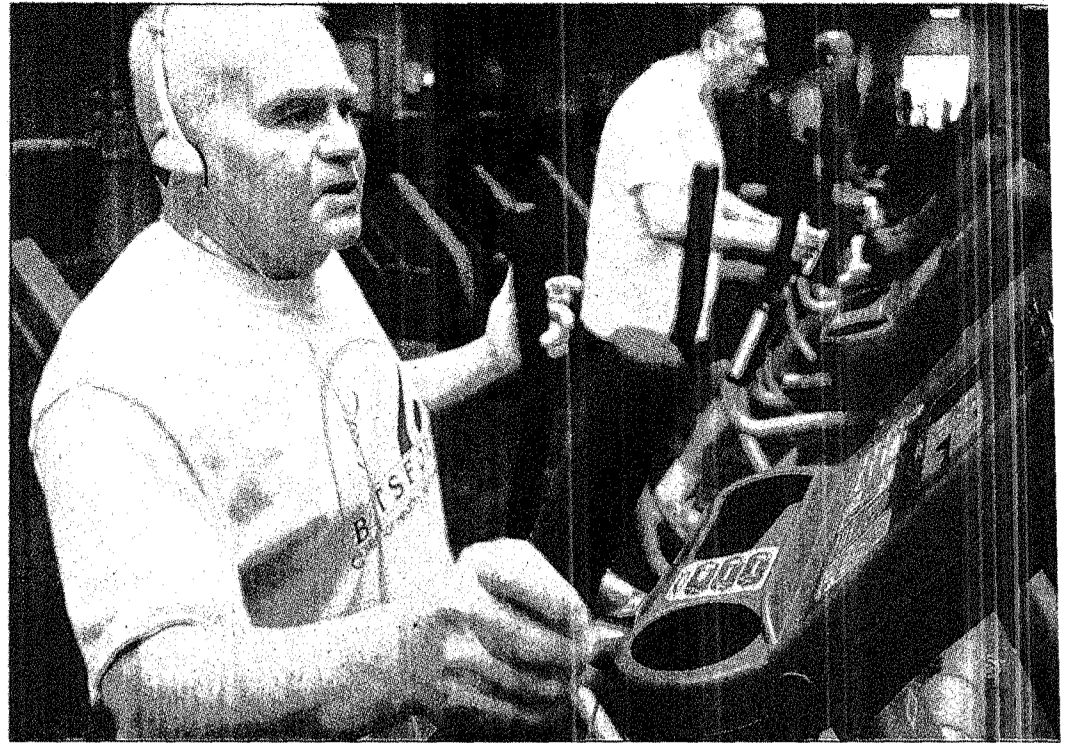
"You are the nutrition gatekeeper at that point," House said. Recipes can be modified, such as serving whole wheat rolls and breads, lower-calorie salad dressings and dips made from yogurt.

House also recommends preparing stuffing outside the turkey. The traditional Thanksgiving meal includes a lot of carbs, she said. A host could think about serving just stuffing and sweet potatoes and leaving out the corn and rolls.

She also recommends pumpkin pie over pecan due to calorie counts. House added high fiber crackers can be a good snacking choice for a party.

"Just provide a variety," she said.

Incorporating fitness into



Robert Bowbeer of Novi works out at a Botsford fitness facility. Many people will face struggles this time of year staying in shape while attending holiday parties.

celebrations helps, such as a brisk walk or a football game outside after a meal. House said to avoid second helpings.

"My family, they like to do up Thanksgiving and Christmas," she said. It's easy to get carried away with holiday foods, but she urges people to get back on track quickly.

"It's really what you're doing day by day the rest of the year," House said.

Horetski, a Ferndale resident, and her family also like the holiday season. "I try to practice what I preach," said Horetski, who grew up on a farm in the Thumb's Port Austin.

She still enjoys her mom's home-cooked meals.

"It's about control," Horetski said. "You don't want to take away something you really enjoy."

Arthritis Today

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MORE ON KNEE JOINT EFFUSIONS

Previously I discussed that irritation is the source of knee and other joint effusions. Features of the effusion help the physician determine the nature of the underlying irritation.

These features are the white cell count, the presence or absence of crystals, and evidence of infection. Surprisingly, the amount of fluid taken from the knee gives no information as to the reason why the knee fluid accumulated. Furthermore, the size of the knee effusion has little to do with the degree of knee pain.

In many instances a person can experience great knee pain without any fluid present. In other cases, a person can walk well with a large but painless amount of fluid in the knee. Why this disconnect exists between effusion and pain remains unexplained.

A sudden increase in knee fluid can cause a great deal of pain, this occurrence is common in a knee injury or to a person on a blood thinner such as Warfarin. What initiates the pain is the sudden distention of the joint rather than irritation caused by joint fluid or blood.

The treatment of choice of a knee effusion is removal of the fluid. This procedure not only relieves pain, but analysis of the fluid obtained often reveals the diagnosis.

Knee effusions may return. A question then arises regarding how often a physician should drain the knee. There is not a single answer such as no more than 3 times a year or every 3 months. Repeated removal of fluid can continue as long as both doctor and patient agree the procedure provides beneficial.

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Claire Swadling, Jolene Soave, Emily Fowler and Sarah Rinkert display the wreaths they created at the 2009 Children's Holiday Workshop.

Hospice workshop helps kids grieve

Children often look with excitement toward the holidays. But when a child is grieving, the season can be hard.

To ease children through this difficult time, Angela Hospice will hold its annual Children's Holiday Workshop 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5. This workshop provides an opportunity for children ages 5-12 to create

The workshop is free, but reservations are required because space is limited. It will be held at Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia.

a lasting holiday wreath to honor the memory of a loved one they have lost.

"This is a great way for the children to talk about their loved one while creating a keepsake

that will remind them of that special person," stated Sally Loughrin, a bereavement social worker with Angela Hospice.

A light meal of pizza, punch, and cookies will be served to the children and their parents/guardians.

For more information and to make reservations call Loughrin at (734) 464-2683 by Dec. 1. The workshop is free, but reservations are required because space is limited. It will be held at Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia.

For more information on bereavement programs offered free of charge to the community by Angela Hospice, visit www.AskForAngela.com.



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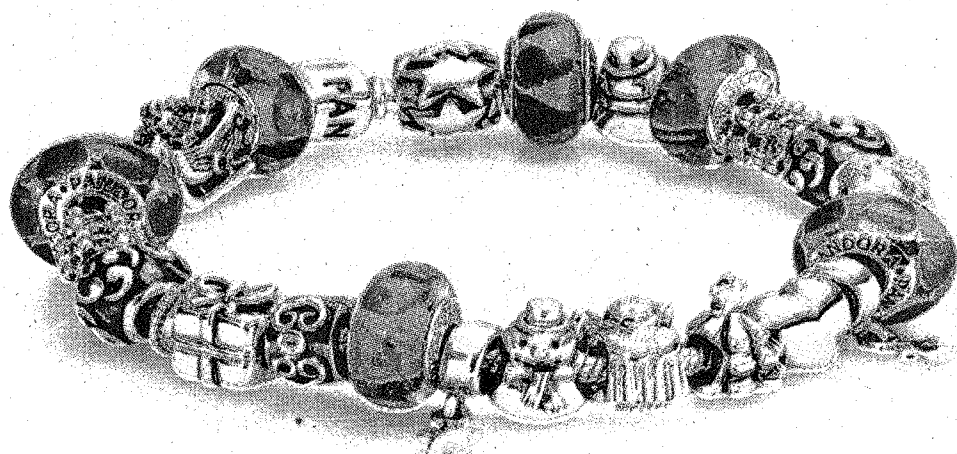
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Bonnie is a fawn-colored beauty.

Rescue takes in more adoptable Greyhounds

Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption added six more former racing Greyhounds to its group of adoptable dogs this month.

The group met the vehicle transporting the "slightly thin, but very enthusiastic Greyhounds" on Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Indiana border.

"They came from Florida and had been riding for almost 24 hours when we met them," said Bowen in an e-mail. "After Blue is a playful pup. a little walk we brought them back to our meeting house and began the process of de-ticking and inspecting them. While it's hardly glamorous we are honored to be able to be a part of their new lives."

All of the dogs live with foster families until they're adopted.

"Our goal is to find as many loving homes for these magnificent dogs as possible."

Blue and Bonnie are Greyheart's two featured dogs



Blue is a playful pup.

this week. Blue is playful, but also enjoys belly rubs and being with his new foster family. He is 4 years old with a brindle-colored coat.

Bonnie is a 2-year-old fawn-colored beauty. She's a happy dog and she loves to play.

If you're interested in adopting Blue or Bonnie, call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739; www.greyheart.org.

MILESTONES



Volstromer-Hall

FALL 2011 WEDDING

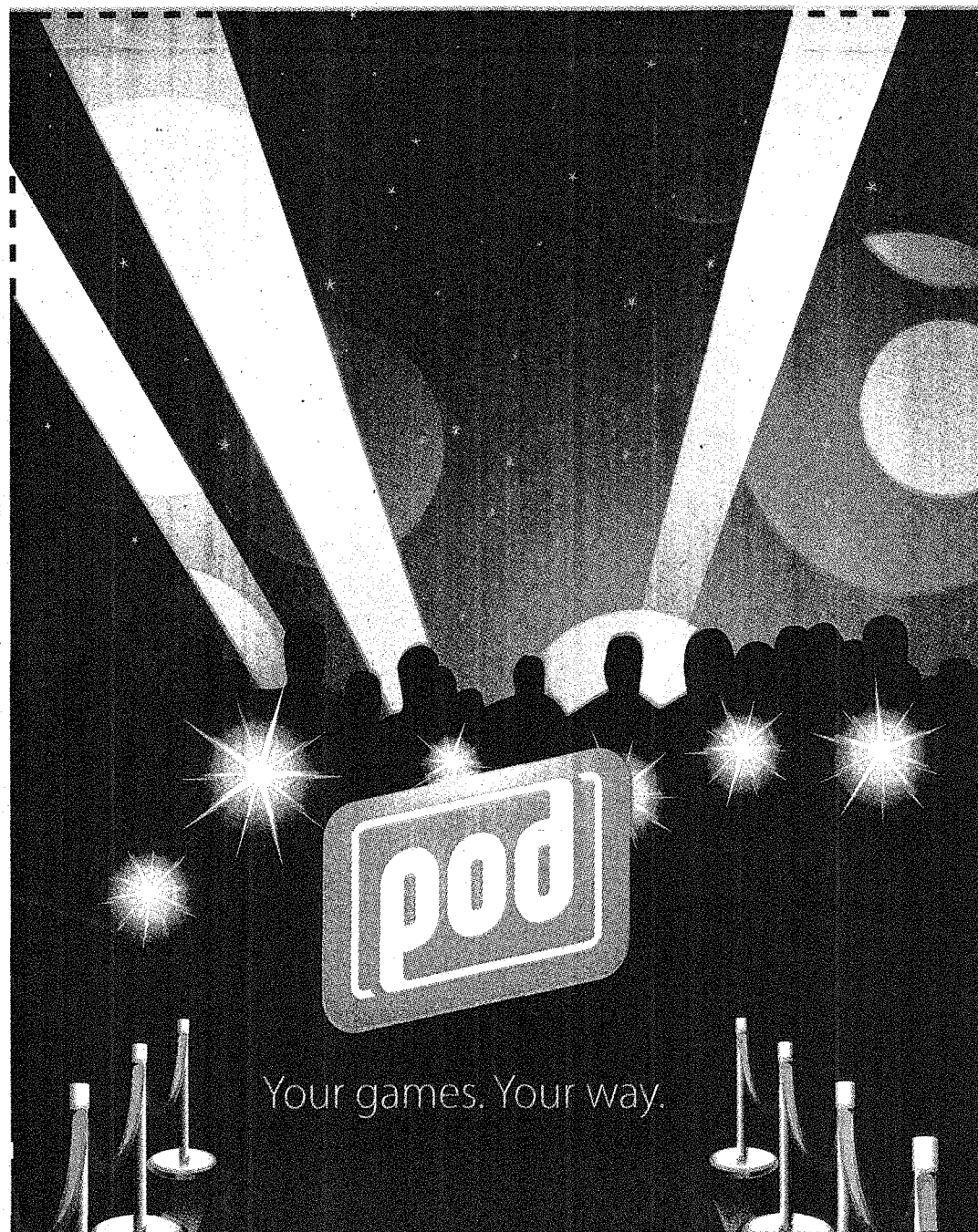
Beth Ann Volstromer and Harvey Hall announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Sylvia Volstromer of Livonia, is a graduate of Stevenson High School and Madonna University. She is employed as a claims specialist.

Her fiancé, son of Harvey and Linda Hall of Livonia, is a graduate of Franklin High School. He is a carpenter.

The couple plans to wed in September 2011 at Greenmead in Livonia.

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FOOD

Sunday, November 21, 2010

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Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

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Holiday Cooking FOR THE HEART



CORNBREAD AND DRIED FRUIT DRESSING

Yield: 6 cups (enough for Turkey Roulade and 8 side dish servings)
Serving size: 1/2 cup

- 4 cups cornbread cubes, dried
- 4 ounces lean Italian turkey sausage, casing removed
- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 1 cup chopped yellow or white onions
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup chopped carrot
- 1 small garlic clove, crushed
- 4 each dried apricots and pitted dried plums, coarsely chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon dried sage
- 1/2 teaspoon dried marjoram
- 1 cup fat-free, low-sodium chicken broth
- 1/2 cup minced fresh parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- Canola oil cooking spray
- 1 egg, lightly beaten

Preheat oven to 350° F. Place cornbread cubes in large bowl and set aside.

In small nonstick skillet, cook sausage over medium-high heat, crumbling and stirring until brown and cooked through. Drain well and set aside.

In large nonstick skillet, heat canola oil over medium heat. Stir in onions, celery and carrot; cook 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Add garlic and cook for 1 minute longer, but don't allow garlic to brown. Stir in sausage, apricots, plums, thyme, sage, marjoram and 1/2 cup broth. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer 3 minutes. Remove from heat; pour vegetable mixture over cornbread. Add parsley and stir well. Season with salt and pepper. (Dressing may be prepared to this stage a day ahead and refrigerated, covered.)

Whisk together egg and remaining 1/2 cup broth and pour over cornbread mixture, tossing well. Spray 2-quart baking dish with canola oil cooking spray (use larger baking dish if not reserving dressing for Turkey Roulade) and transfer all but 1 1/2 cups of dressing to baking dish. Cover dish with foil and set aside.

After Turkey Roulade has been in oven 30 minutes, place covered baking dish of dressing in oven. After 15 minutes (or when internal temperature of roulade, measured with an instant-read thermometer, is 155° F), remove roulade from oven and remove foil from baking dish with dressing. Continue baking dressing for about 15 minutes or until top begins to brown.

Nutrient Analysis per Serving: Calories 100, Calories from Fat 35, Total Fat 3.5 g, Saturated Fat 1 g, Cholesterol 30 mg, Sodium 310 mg, Total Carbohydrate 12 g, Fiber 1 g, Sugars 4 g, Protein 3 g

DID YOU KNOW?

Heart disease and type 2 diabetes are preventable the majority of the time.

- Courtesy Family Features

The holiday season has always been a time for celebration, togetherness and most of all, indulgent eating. However, with heart disease as the leading cause of death in the United States and about 24 million Americans with diabetes, a healthier take on holiday meals could benefit everyone.

Cheryl Forberg, R.D., consulting dietitian to NBC-TV's "The Biggest Loser," *The New York Times* best-selling author and James Beard award-winning recipe developer, has partnered with CanolaInfo to create a heart-smart, diabetes-friendly holiday recipe collection that allows people to have their cake (or pumpkin flan) and eat it, too.

"A diabetes-friendly diet is really how everyone should eat," Forberg says. "That's because heart disease and type 2 diabetes are largely preventable with a good diet, exercise and other healthy habits. These recipes prove that nutritious is delicious. Now that's something to celebrate during the holidays!"

As a common ingredient in Forberg's six holiday recipes, canola oil delivers on heart health. It has the least saturated fat and most omega-3 fat of all cooking oils and is free of trans fat and cholesterol. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized a qualified health claim for canola oil on its potential to reduce the risk of heart disease, which affects 65 percent of people with diabetes.

Forberg's diabetes-friendly holiday recipe collection includes these three recipes plus Warm Apple and Cranberry Sauce, Holiday Rapini Sauté and Pumpkin Flan. For the complete collection, go to www.canolainfo.org.

TURKEY ROULADE

Yield: 8 servings
Serving size: 2 slices (4 ounces)

- Plastic wrap
- 1/2 boneless, skinless turkey breast, about 1 1/2 pounds
- 1 1/2 cups Cornbread and Dried Fruit dressing
- Kitchen twine
- 1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon marjoram
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon sage
- 1 tablespoon canola oil

Preheat oven to 350° F.

Place large piece of plastic wrap on countertop. Place turkey breast half on plastic and cover.

Cover with additional plastic wrap. Using meat mallet, pound turkey to rectangle about 10 x 6 inches, about 1/4-inch thick.

Remove plastic wrap from top of turkey and spread dressing evenly lengthwise over surface, almost to edge. Roll turkey lengthwise. With kitchen twine, tie roulade lengthwise once and in several places across turkey. Discard plastic wrap.

In small bowl, mix together spices. Rub canola oil over all surfaces of roulade; rub spice blend evenly over roulade.

Place roulade in shallow roasting pan, then place in oven. Roast for 45 to 60 minutes or until internal temperature measured with an instant-read thermometer reads 155° F.

Remove roulade from oven and let rest 15 minutes before carefully removing twine and slicing into 16 half-inch slices. Serve with Porcini Mushroom Gravy, Warm Apple and Cranberry Sauce and extra Cornbread and Dried Fruit Dressing.

Nutrient Analysis per Serving:
Calories 140, Calories from Fat 35, Total Fat 3.5 g, Saturated Fat < 1 g, Cholesterol 65 mg, Sodium 150 mg, Total Carbohydrate 5 g, Fiber 0 g, Sugars 1 g, Protein 22 g

PORCINI MUSHROOM GRAVY

Yield: 2 cups (8 servings)
Serving size: 1/2 cup

- 1/2 ounce dried porcini mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons warm water
- 1 1/2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1/2 cup white whole-wheat flour

2 cups fat-free, low-sodium chicken broth

- 1/2 teaspoon salt (optional)
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper or to taste

Soak mushrooms in warm water for 5 minutes.

In 2-quart saucepan, heat canola oil over medium heat. Whisk in flour until blended and continue stirring until roux is lightly browned and develops nutty aroma.

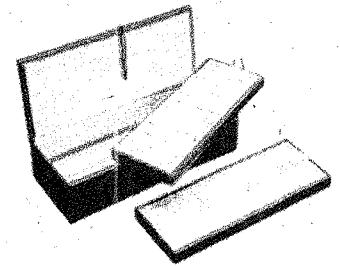
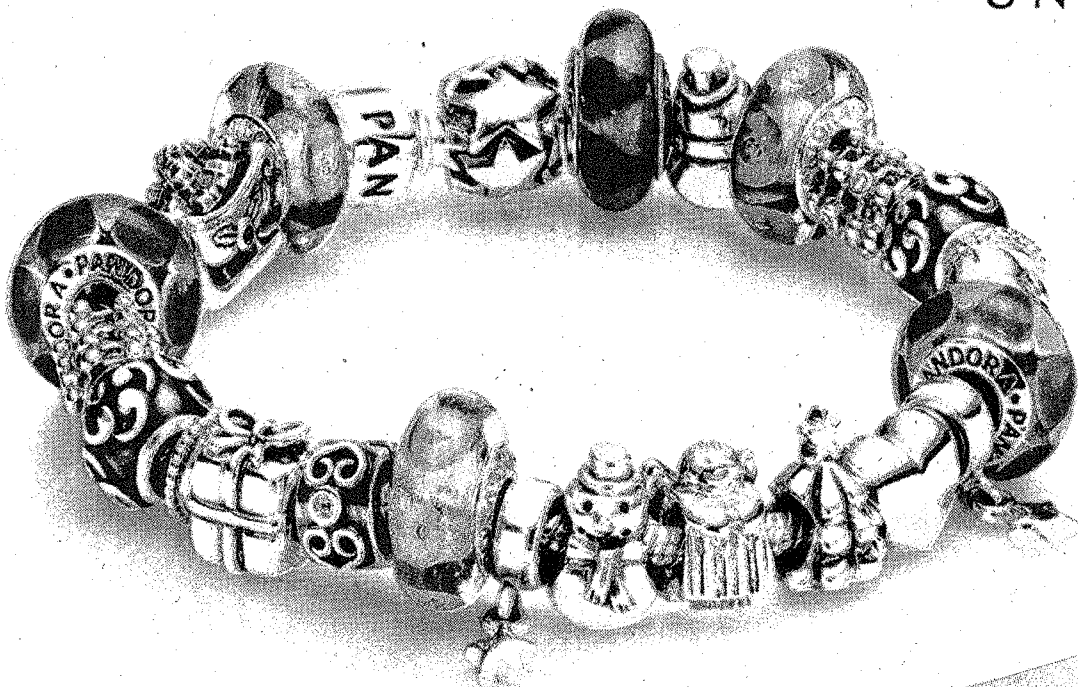
Whisk in broth, optional salt and onion powder. Bring to a gentle boil until just thickened, stirring. Cook and stir for 1 minute. Remove from heat and season with pepper. Add softened mushrooms and any soaking liquid.

Purée gravy in food processor or food mill. Return mixture to saucepan. Heat just to a simmer.

Nutrient Analysis per Serving:
Calories 50, Calories from Fat 25, Total Fat 3 g, Saturated Fat 0 g, Cholesterol 0 mg, Sodium 115 mg, Total Carbohydrate 5 g, Fiber 2 g, Sugar 0 g, Protein 1 g

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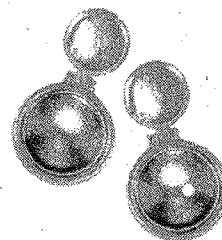
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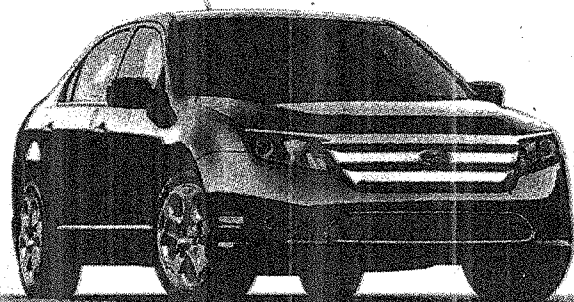
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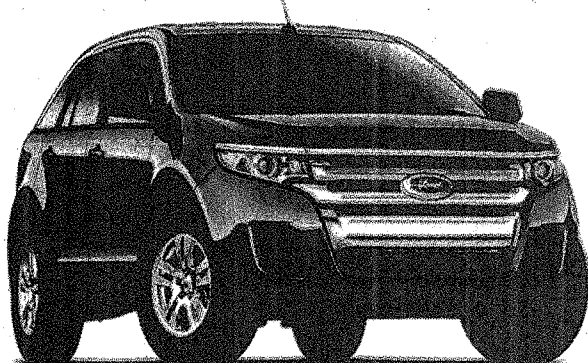
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