

HOW TO ANSWER: WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING SINCE YOU WERE LAID OFF?

SEE CLASSIFIED SECTION C

SPECIAL CHURCH DIRECTORY - B11, 12

SUNDAY

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

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GLUTEN-FREE ENTERTAINING

FOOD, B13

IN BRIEF

Gently used buses

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools will have some "new" buses in its transportation fleet, following the school board's approval to buy six used vehicles from Hoekstra Transportation Inc.

The 2007 model year buses are former lease vehicles and have mileages of between 32,635 and 39,461 miles. They will replace some 1996 models that are part of the district's current transportation fleet.

According to Angela Black, supervisor of business and purchasing, the total cost of the buses, including shipping, minor repairs, lettering and police inspection, will be \$369,300. The per unit price is \$61,550.

The buses are 78-passenger Thomas EFs and are consistent with the current bus fleet, Black said in a letter, requesting school board approval.

She added that the money to buy the buses will come out of the district's transportation department general fund capital budget and the building and site fund.

Seniors' card party

Seniors are invited to spend the afternoon with Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt, D-Livonia, playing cards and enjoying an early dinner on New Year's Eve, Friday, Dec. 31.

Gebhardt is hosting the card party at the Livonia Senior Center, beginning at 1 p.m. The cost is \$5 for seniors who live in Gebhardt's 12th Commission District communities of Inkster, Westland and the southern portion of Livonia. Also a Schoolcraft College trustee, Gebhardt also is inviting seniors living in the school districts of Livonia, Plymouth-Canton, Clarenceville, Northville and Garden City, which are part of the college district.

The card games slated to be played are pinochle and euchre. Registration starts at 12:45 p.m. and the games will begin promptly at 1 p.m. Dinner will be served at 3:30 p.m.

The Livonia Senior Center is at 15218 Farmington Road, just south of Plymouth Road. For ticket information, call (313) 224-0907. There is a waiting list for those who live outside the aforementioned school districts.

Photo contest

Got a favorite holiday photo? Send it to us your for a chance to win a prize.

Go to hometownlife.com (Get Published) and post your favorite holiday photo (or photos) with a short caption, then encourage friends and family to vote by clicking recommend under the photo.

The top vote-getter will receive tickets for two to Imagine Theater in Canton or Novi. The second- and third-place winners will receive a coupon for a free four-square cheese and one-topping Buddy's pizza.

The contest ends at midnight Dec. 31. Share your holiday spirit with others. Go to hometownlife.com.

Revenue up, spending down for W-W schools

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A higher than expected student count in September and larger number of staff retirements is helping the Wayne-Westland Community Schools spend less and bring in more money for fiscal 2010-11.

But that good news is tempered by the fact that there's "still a lot of uncertainties" related to state school aid and local tax revenue.

"There's quite a bit of changes going

on this year," said Gary Martin, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services. "The good news is we're spending \$1.7 million less, but we're still running a \$2.2 million deficit in the budget. This is the eighth year in a row we've done that."

Martin went before the school board Monday evening to seek approval of budget amendment which aligned the district's spending plan with actual revenue and expenditures.

Major items on the revenue side is receipt of \$1.5 million more than the

district had budgeted for in June, due in large part to a higher student count. According to Martin, the district had anticipated losing 300 students, but instead the number came in 120 students better than expected, bringing in an additional \$2.8 million.

"We're encouraged that those numbers were at the lower end in the elementary," Martin said. "We hope they stay. We hope that's a trend, but it's hard to call it a trend when it's only one year."

The district also will receive an extra

\$100,000 in federal ARRA money and a one-time \$750,000 in revenue from the sale of Patchin Elementary as well as the sale of obsolete equipment at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

However, the state's continuing economic woes and a Tax Tribunal decision in favor of the Ford Motor Co. related to its assembly plants in Wayne will trim local property taxes by \$1.9 million.

Please see **SCHOOLS, A2**



A meeting with the Big Guy

Five-year-old Griffin Stevens of Wayne had plenty to tell Santa when he met him at Wayne Memorial High School's second annual Community Holiday Night. For story and photos, see page A4.

Donations help Goodfellows care for 430 families

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As Dec. 25 approaches, the Westland Goodfellows are expecting to assist at least 430 families as part of their mission to see that no child is without a Christmas.

"It will be over 900 kids. We had requests from more families, but about the same number of children," said Westland Goodfellows co-president John Adams, a Westland fire captain.

The Goodfellows expect to spend \$60,000-\$70,000 this year to assist local youngsters and their families at Christmas. UAW Local 900, headed by Westland Councilman Bill Johnson, presented the Goodfellows with a check for more \$33,000 raised at their annual bowling fund-raiser.

Other money for the Goodfellows is generated by solicitation letters to local residents and businesses seeking donations, along with contributions from other service organizations and through the group's web site.

"The donation letters, etc., are coming along.

Please see **GOODFELLOWS, A4**

Federal officials investigate Westland soldier's death

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Federal officials are still investigating the fatal stabbing of a soldier and Westland John Glenn High School graduate at Fort Stewart just hours after he returned from a tour in Iraq.

Alante Whiting, 22, died Dec. 8 at the Georgia Army base after being founded injured outside his barracks. Army investigators and the FBI are investigating the death which they described as a domestic fight in which Whiting may have been the aggressor. "We didn't release the information

that he (Whiting) was the aggressor - Fort Stewart did that," said Christopher Grey, chief of public affairs/media for the Army Criminal Investigation Command. "We're not naming anyone. We pride ourselves on doing an independent, thorough investigation."

Grey did comment that family members, wives or girlfriends are allowed on army bases for visits and that would likely have been going on shortly after a unit returns from an overseas deployment.

"We hope in the next couple of days to come out with something," Grey said. No other information has been

released about who Whiting may have been involved in an altercation on the base. The 2006 Glenn graduate had joined the Army in 2008 and was an intelligence analyst assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment.

Whiting had been back from Iraq about 18 hours before a delivery driver found him bleeding outside his barracks and called 9-1-1. No one has been arrested in Whiting's death as federal law enforcement officials continue to investigate.

As a Glenn student, Whiting ran hurdles and did the long jump. Track Coach Jess Shough recalled Whiting as

a good student and athlete.

"He was very intelligent - a quick learner. When you come out for track late like he did, jumping and hurdling events are not usually something you can pick up fast," said Shough. "That's one thing I remember about him. He picked it up fast. He was a real good athlete. He was a good kid, well-respected."

Funeral arrangements for Whiting were not known Friday afternoon although the Army had decided to deny military funeral honors.

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Fund-raiser helps families displaced by apartment fire

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A buffet dinner to benefit 39 Westland families displaced after the fire at Waynewood Apartments last week will be held 5-9 p.m. Wednesday at Marvaso's Italian Grille.

If helping people in need during the holiday season isn't enough incentive, the benefit will include two raffles with prizes of a 50-inch flat screen television and a complete surround sound system.

Westland Firefighters have already

donated \$3,900 - a \$100 gift card per family - to the displaced residents to help them buy items like toiletries. The 39 apartments were occupied by more than 60 people.

"A lot of people had only what was on their backs. There are people who have lost everything," said Westland Fire Capt. John Adams. "There are 17 units totally gone with all the contents. In the other 23 units, people able to salvage some contents of the was minimal damage."

Due to the Dec. 13 fire, the 40-unit building isn't livable - one unit was

vacant.

"The apartment management has done a stellar job assisting people and relocating them into other affiliated apartments," said Adams, adding the Salvation Army and American Red Cross also responded and provided assistance.

Losing your home and belongings 12 days before Christmas just adds to the tragedy, said Adams. Only five of the 39 tenants had renters insurance and very few of that number lived in the totally destroyed units, he said.

The cause and origin of the fire are

still being investigated. Due to the first floor collapsing into the basement of the building, Adams said he is working with the restoration company to have layers of debris peeled off to determine the cause.

Westland Mayor William R. Wild, UAW Local 900, the Westland Fire Department and Marvaso's Italian Grille are hosting the fund-raiser 5-9 p.m. Wednesday at Marvaso's, 6581 N. Wayne Road. Cost is \$20 per person for adults and \$5 for children for a

Please see **FUND-RAISER, A2**



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SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE A1

The end result is an increase in revenue of more than \$1.4 million.

The district fared well on the expenditure side due "to a much more favorable savings in salaries and benefits" as a result of the state-offered early retirement.

The district also closed schools and realigned its elementary program to save \$5 million and had hoped for an additional \$5 million in employee wage freezes and concession. The superintendent, his cabinet the administrative unions and several employee groups agreed, but the district has yet to reach an agreement on concessions in health care and a wage freeze with three unions, including its largest, the Wayne-Westland Education Association.

As a result, expenditures overall are down only \$262,000 for the year. The combination of more revenue and less expenditures means the district's fund equity, its savings account,

Resident seeks specifics about district's spending

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For Andrea Clawson, the Wayne-Westland Community Schools' revenues and expenditures don't add up.

A regular at school board meetings, the Westland resident Monday night pressed school officials to explain how the district can save money by closing schools and through staff retirements, but still spend a like amount.

"As a parent, it's hard to follow along," said Clawson. "I want to clarify why expendi-

tures are more than revenue. With saving \$12 million with the school closings and retirement, we still have expenses that include \$11 million."

Clawson expressed frustration with having to wait until budget information is posted on the district's website and let it be known she was done sitting down and talking to school officials about her questions. However, she continued to press for specifics on where the money is being spent.

Superintendent Greg Baracy told Clawson that district has

been drawing from its fund equity to keep from cutting the educational program. He pointed out the district is faced with unfunded mandates like retirement costs which jumped almost 4 percent to 20.66 percent this year.

"We can't cut it all in one year, you wouldn't like what you would see," he said. "The only way we can do this is with a good solid budget so we can get through the next few years until the state economy turns around. It's challenging and it's very difficult."

Trustee William Gabriel tried to simplify the explanation by telling Clawson that if she made \$40,000, the district would pay an additional 20 cents per dollar of wages for retirement costs.

He added that health care costs for Baracy and his staff increased just 4 percent, while the MESSA insurance for the district's teaching staff increased 17 percent this year.

"You have to think of the budget as a pie and 85 percent of that pie is salaries and benefits," he said. "Where do you cut, from the 15 percent, if you

have less coming in? I don't want to do pay to play. I don't want to cut busing. I don't want to privatize."

While school district administrators asked Clawson to come in sit down and hear the answers, she reiterated that she'd done enough of that.

"I'm through with sit down," she said. "I just want to know why expenditures are more and not have to wait until it's on the website tomorrow morning."

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will be at \$5.5 million as opposed to the \$2.4 million projected when the budget was approved in June.

"I think you addressed this at the end, but this gives us a little relief, this makes it look a little like we're off the hook," said Trustee William Gabriel. "With this budget, can we take a little breath?"

"It's a little bit of relief,

but we can't let our guard down," said Martin. "We're getting at the end of the road. There's 30-40 school districts in deficit, and if they don't fill the hole in school aid that number could double and we could be on the cusp."

When questioned by board Secretary Cindy Schofield about the possibility of pro-

visions in state school aid, Superintendent Greg Baracy pointed out that "the challenges are great and (the state's) new administration plans to meet them head on."

"We have health care costs that are escalating and out of control, we have retirement costs that are escalating and out of con-

trol," Baracy said. "The cliff everyone has talked about will happen next year when the federal money runs out. We've come to the reality that all of us in education have to step up and solve the problems. If we don't do it cooperatively, the new administration will."

Baracy added that it's unsure if there will be mid-

year cuts in state school aid.

"We hope they won't do that so we can sustain our educational program another one-two years until the economy in the state turns around," he said. "No one has a crystal ball, no one knew this would go on for seven-eight years."

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CORRECTION

The comments in a story about the Wayne County Hospital retirees reunion

were made by Sheila Green of Belleville, not Esther Benjamin.

FUND-RAISER

FROM PAGE A1

buffet dinner, including soft drinks.

Two raffles will be held one for the 50-inch flat screen TV and the other for a complete surround sound system. Tickets are \$5 each and you don't need to be present to win.

Monetary contributions are also being accepted and Adams said several community groups have stepped forward to make donations. UAW Local 900 has donated \$10,000 and \$1,000 came from the

Romanowski VFW Post 6896 in Westland.

Anyone interested in making a donation should make their checks payable to the Westland Firefighters Public Awareness Committee.

Donations will be accepted at the fund-raiser or can be mailed to the Westland Fire Department, 37201 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185. One hundred percent of the proceeds will go to the displaced families.

For more information, contact Adams at (734) 467-3261.

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AROUND WESTLAND

Taste Testing

Chef Jesse Gales will offer a taste-testing opportunity at the Westland Weight Watchers center Saturday, Jan. 22.

These meetings are open and free to the public so anyone who is interested in learning more about Weight Watchers, without having to pay a meeting fee, can attend.

The Westland Weight Watchers Center is at 36585 W. Warren Road. Meetings will begin at 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

AMVETS Party

AMVETS Post 171 in Westland is hosting a New Year Eve Extravaganza beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31. The cost is \$50 per couple for current members, \$70 per couple for non-members and \$65 per couple for new joiners.

The public is welcome but tickets are limited. Contact Sheryl Lamarr at (734)629-4774 to get tickets.

Vacation Auction

The Oakwood Foundation is offering the use of a condo in Kissimmee or Puerto Vallarta as part of a vacation auction benefiting First Step.

Available in the auction is a stay at the Tropical Hills of Puerto Vallarta Adventure March 19-26, 2011. Tropical Hills. The condo sleeps nine adults. Park Royal Los Tules is nestled among the tropical hills of Puerto Vallarta, the ideal place for its spacious gardens, eight pools, five tennis courts, snack bar, jogging track, half-mile of beautiful beach, facilities and equipment for water sports, bicycle and motorbike rentals and picturesque traditional Mexican-style villas equipped with kitchen.

The Kissimmee Florida Getaway is June 5-12, 2011. Stay at Highpoint Resort. Condo sleeps six adults and is just one mile from Walt Disney World Vacation Kingdom.

Submit one blind bid for each item, with a minimum bid of \$500 (airfare not included) to the Oakwood Foundation, attention John O'Rourke at orourkej@oakwood.org.

Top blind bid submitted by 5 p.m. Jan. 10, will be determined to be the winner. In case of a tie, a random drawing of the top bidders will determine the winner. Proceeds benefit the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Partnership with First Step.

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.

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 now 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.

Office hours

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

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

Toys for Tots

There's still time drop off unwrapped new toys in Toys for Tots boxes around town.

A collection box is in the lobby of the Garden City Police Department in the civic center complex on Middlebelt, south of Ford.

Garden City Hospital also will have a Toys for Tot box in the hospital's main lobby until Christmas Eve., Dec. 24. The hospital is at 6245 Inkster Road, north of Ford.

Guest speaker

Metro Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group will have Dr. Howard Schubiner from Providence Hospital and author of "Unlearn Your Pain" when it meets 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, south of Ford, Garden City. The group meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the church. There are no dues, but donations are accepted.

For more information, call Ruthann at (734) 981-2519 or visit the website at www.

MetroFibroGroup.com.

Get flocked

Garden City High School's Project Graduation 2011 wants to make folks feel special by having their "cheerful flamingos" pay a visit have come to pay. They will typically stay only a few days, but they have been known to take flight early and land on a lawn of your choice for a small fee of \$15, which is less than what that special someone paid to flock you.

It's a chance to return the Flamingo Flocking Favor.

Optional Flocking Insurance is available to protect you from any future flockings. The policy amount is \$15 and good for the 2010-11 school year.

A word to the wise: Sometimes the flamingos have nothing to do and get bored, so, without notice they will take off for some random flocking. Again, the flamingos will only stay a few days, but when they act like that it's unclear how much fun they are having or how long they will stay.

You can insure a timely departure with a donation to Project Graduation. All Flocking Funds

go to Support Garden City High School Project Graduation. Give PG's Flocking Specialists a call at (734) 612-5274 or (734) 904-3643 or send an e-mail to gardencityprojectgrad@yahoo.com.

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.

HOBBY LOBBY advertisement featuring a large 'Christmas 50% Off' banner and numerous smaller promotional boxes for various categories like Home Accent, Jewelry Making, Scrapbooking, and more. Includes store hours and contact information for the Canton location.

LENNOX advertisement for a new furnace, offering free estimates and contact information: (734) 525-1930.

Blue Care of Michigan advertisement for personal plus enrollment, including dates and contact information: 1-800-662-6667.

Holiday Sale! advertisement for Really Great Toys, offering 10-40% off on toys and activities. Ends 12/31/10.

GREAT LAKES DERMATOLOGY advertisement for Michael R. Cohen, D.O., specializing in skin diseases and Botox treatments.

Canton Animal Hospital advertisement, offering pet services and a 50% off low examination fee. Includes address and phone number.

GOODFELLOWS

FROM PAGE A1

We definitely are seeing improvements in our monetary donations," said Adams.

The website, www.westlandgoodfellows.org, now uses PayPal to allow money donations to the Goodfellows 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

Along with providing each family with a gift voucher to Meijer or Target, the Goodfellows also will provide a box of non-perishable food collected at drop sites, including Westland municipal buildings and part of a canned food drive at Livonia Churchill High School, which is attended by Westland residents.

"We have completely changed the way we do business. In the past, many volunteers would come in to pack the presents," said Adams.

"Someone used to shop. With the gift vouchers, the parents take ownership and the kids get what they want or need. We assist them."

The Goodfellows are also providing youngsters with a gift bag that includes a hat and gloves along with school supplies or coloring books, depending on the age of the youngsters. Heartland Foods, located on Ford at Wildwood, has also donated gift vouchers for food to supplement the gift box.

"We work with Toys for Tots and the Salvation

Army to make sure families are only getting helped once," said Adams. "Over all, the system is very good and people qualify. They are surprised when they come to pick up their box."

Donations can be made at the web site using a credit card or mailed to the Westland Goodfellows, 32715 Dorsey, Westland, MI 48186.

For more information or to arrange picking up donations, call (734) 788-2270 or e-mail info@westlandgoodfellows.org.

The Westland Goodfellows recently received an unusual donation - 1.5-acre parcel of land located on the Westland-Canton boundary. The vacant parcel has a state equalized value of \$100,000.

"It was a direct result of our mailer. The owner is a widow who did well - the property had been in the family 40 years," said Adams. "She selected the Goodfellows. It really speaks to our credibility."

loggers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

Wayne High's Holiday Night attracts a crowd

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne Memorial High School knows how to throw a party.

Just ask the 1,000 parents and children who turned out for the school's recent Community Holiday Night.

"It was great evening, the feedback from the community is tremendous," said Jan Tomlinson, director of the TRIO Upward Bound program at the high school. "It was a wonderful holiday night."

Tomlinson and parent volunteer Sue Webb organized the event, which had 160 students and parents helped setup and run the event.

This the second year the high school has held a Community Holiday Night for families living in its attendance area which includes Wayne, Westland, Canton, Inkster and Romulus. Through donations from the staff and community, families were treated to dinner, caroling and a variety of activities.

Chef Tony Paquette and his students at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center provided the meal, and the high school choir provided the caroling.

In between there was a cookie room, three rooms to make ornaments, a letter to Santa writing room, antique train station, Lego room and inflatable obstacle course. There was even a North Pole with reindeer and Santa Claus was on hand to hear the wishes of the girls and boys.

"All of it was supplied by the staff and the community," said Tomlinson. "Many businesses and organizations participated."

Among those helping out were the Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union, the Westland Rotary, Wayne Civitans, Schoolcraft College and a UAW Local, to name a few. Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy helped out, sponsoring the cookie room, where 3,000 cookies were decorated and eaten, Tomlinson said.

"It's a great event," said Tomlinson who praised the students who were there from setup



PHOTOS BY ANN ESPINOZA

Kendrick Durand, 9, of Wayne makes a candy frame in one of the activity rooms.



It's serious business for three-year-old Sarah Murphy of Wayne who puts her letter to Santa in his very special mailbox.

at 1 p.m. to the teardown at 10:30 p.m. "It's important that we serve the community. We want them to know we're not just a school.

We're an educational community, but we're also here to serve our school community," Tomlinson added, without hesi-

tation, there will be a third annual Community Holiday Night.

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Why Haven't People Who've Had A Car Wreck Been Told These Facts?

If you've recently been involved in a car wreck and suffer from any of the following...

- Neck pain
- Sharp, shooting pains in the arms
- Numbness and tingling in the arms or hands
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- Unrelenting muscle soreness

...there may be cause for concern. This may be the most important article you will ever read about your injuries.



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It's amazing how different life can be after a split second collision.

One minute everything is fine, the next you are hurting for days and uncertain if life will ever get back to normal. Tasks you used to perform with ease, like reading, concentrating or even sleeping, now take more energy and cause annoying pain.

If you feel like this, or have any of the symptoms listed above, you could be suffering from whiplash. Whiplash is an injury to the spine caused by a jerking motion, either backward, forward or from the side.

Whiplash can severely damage your ligaments, even if you feel just a little sore after the accident. If not healed properly, painful scar tissue will develop, causing misery in your neck joints for decades.

One medical study concluded 43% of patients "will suffer long-term symptoms following 'whiplash' injury, for which no conventional treatment has proven to be effective."

This means that almost half the people who have neck trauma from a car wreck will suffer for years. Plus the traditional methods of treatment like neck collars, 'wait-and-see', and pain pills are not working.

Could This Non-Invasive, Natural Treatment Be The Answer To Your Pain?

My name is Dr. Greg Kramer, clinic director at Livonia Spine and Injury Center. I've been helping people heal and be pain free after car wrecks for over 20 years. Chiropractic treatment has proven to be a very effective method of healing whiplash injuries. Here's the results of one chiropractic study...

"The results of this retrospective study would suggest that benefits can occur in over 90% of patients undergoing chiropractic treatment for chronic whiplash injury."

— European Spine Journal

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- An in-depth consultation about your problem where I will listen...really listen...to the details of your case.
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Now you may be wondering why as a doctor, I would practically give away my services. It's

simple really. I've seen too many people come in years after their car accident, and have nasty, degenerative arthritis, most of which could have been prevented with the right care early on. I'm tired of seeing this scenario over and over, so I wanted to offer this special evaluation to help make a difference.

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Here's What To Do About Your Pain

Call 248-615-1533 between the hours of 9:30 am and 6:30 pm Monday through Thursday and tell the receptionist you'd like to come in for the Special Car Wreck Evaluation before January 10, 2011.

Call today and we can get started with your consultation, exam and x-rays as soon as there's an opening in the schedule. Our office is called Livonia Spine and Injury and you can find us at 34441 Eight Mile Rd, Suite 116 Livonia in the Charles Town Office Center (southwest corner of Eight Mile and Gill)

Sincerely,
Greg Kramer, D.C.

P.S. What will your pain feel like months, even years, from today?

A study published in the *Journal of Bone and Surgery* looked at people who had been in a car accident 15 years ago. They found that 70% of the whiplash injured patients continued to complain of problems related to the original accident.

With women it was even higher -- 80% still had symptoms after 15 years!

Don't let scar tissue build up and be painful for life. Take me up on my offer and call today 248-615-1533.

Dr. Kramer is a Diplomate American Academy of Medical Legal Professionals. This is a national medical research organization that provides the latest research on the diagnosis and treatment of spinal related conditions.

Dr. Kramer is certified by the New York State Department of Education, Board of Chiropractic having attained post doctoral education in MRI spine interpretation, trauma and brain injury, and accident reconstruction.

Edible delights: Youngsters help decorate trees

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland youngsters served up a holiday feast for the birds and squirrels around Westland's civic center complex by decorating the pine trees between city hall and the Bailey Recreation Center with edible homemade ornaments.

"We used Crisco, Fruit Loops and birdseed," said Genevieve Symons, distributing pine cones to members of P.D. Graham Cub Scout Pack 765. "We were going to string the Fruit Loops but that would have taken too long so we crushed them up and stuck them on the pine cones."

More than 300 children from Wayne-Westland elementary schools, Daisies, Brownies, Cadets and Junior Scouts as well as Cub Scouts and service/safety squads converged on the area last week to join Mayor William Wild for the traditional decorating of the trees.

"It's an unbelievable turnout," said Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski. "Some of the diehards even waited outside for Santa to arrive."

The decorations ranged from Pack 765's pine cones to paper chains, snowflake ornaments and popcorn wreaths. Helping Pack 765 decorate the P.D. Graham tree was Girl Scout Troop 21206 and the Brownies who got a donation from the



Brian Rose helps his son Ethan hang a homemade ornament higher up on the pine tree.

State Wayne Theater to make the wreaths.

"This is an annual thing, we've been doing it for three years," said troop leader Leslie Rates.

Over at the Wildwood Elementary tree, Cub Scout Pack 500 and Daisies Troop 20156 hung up ice cream cones decorated with bird seed and apple slices.

"We left the fresh things outside, that kept them nice and cool," said Jeff Quattro. "Even the apples stayed good."

A snow squall quickly



Al Bamboch helps hang paper chains on a pine tree along the walkway from the Bailey Recreation Center and Westland City Hall.

moved the celebration indoors. Volunteers like members of the Westland Stars performance team and Westland Christian Union helped youngsters do crafts while they waited to visit with Santa Claus.

Volunteers also busy serving

the 25 gallons of hot chocolate and 600 chocolate chip cookies to the crowd which waited in a line that stretched down

the length of the upstairs hallway. And every seat was full in the activities room where the Wildwood Elementary fourth-



Tara Trujillo puts up a string of silver bells on the pine tree she helped decorate.



Emmerson Brierley shows off the penguin he made in the crafts room after the tree decorating.

grade choir, under the direction of Kim Renas, performed two 20-minute Christmas concerts.

"This dates back to the 1990s," said recreation supervisor Margaret Martin. "It's a tradition, but we couldn't do it without the volunteers. The city supplies the hot chocolate, cookies and crafts. The volunteers help make it happen."

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Old Perrinville School to be torn down

BY KAREN SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Old Perrinville School is scheduled to be demolished at the end of this month, but the historic one-room schoolhouse on the south end of the building, built by Henry Ford in 1937, will be preserved.

"We feel it's important to preserve that schoolhouse; we're taking down the building around it," said Donna McDowell, administrator of communications for Livonia Public Schools.

For now, the historic schoolhouse will remain at Farmington and Joy roads in Westland, McDowell said. The 4.5-acre site will be preserved as greenspace and the fence will be removed. "We will continue to look for constructive, positive ways to use that property," she said, adding the district has no plans to sell it.

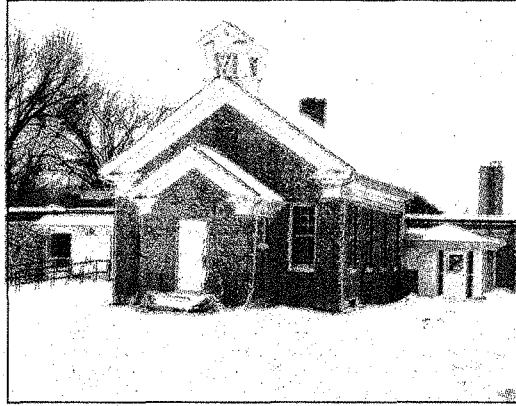
School officials hope one day the schoolhouse can be moved to a more suitable loca-

tion where it can continue to be preserved and enjoyed by future generations, McDowell said. "We certainly want it to be in a place where it can find a good home," she said.

The school board Nov. 15 approved a bid of \$198,900 to Blue Star Inc. of Warren for demolishing Old Perrinville School. Asbestos removal on the interior of the 39,200-square-foot structure is under way, said Jim McMuldloch, district engineer. Demolition will begin once a permit is approved by the city.

The building was last used by Livonia schools for the Perrinville preschool program for children with special needs. That program was moved to the former Adams Elementary on Lyndon in 2008.

Ford built the schoolhouse, then called Nankin Mills, for the children of his workers in his nearby factory at Newburgh Dam. He sold the school in 1946 for \$1 to the Nankin Mills School District.



While Perrinville School is scheduled to be demolished at the month's end, the historic one-room schoolhouse on the south end of the building, built by Henry Ford in 1937, will be preserved.

It was added onto several times, and was renamed Perrinville in 1959. Livonia Public Schools acquired the building in 1969 when the district's boundary lines were redrawn by the state to include the northern portion of the Nankin Mills district. Perrinville remained an elementary school until 1982.

After that, it housed several Livonia school district departments until 1998 when it was upgraded and renovated for the preschool program. It has been vacant since 2008.

McDowell said the district had been actively pursuing possible tenants to no avail, given the economy. "We actually thought we were going to have some movies shot there," she said, adding that didn't pan out.

The district will save \$15,000 to \$20,000 a year in general-fund expenses by tearing down the building, McDowell said. The money for the demolition will come out of the district's sinking fund.

ksmith@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2098

Contact IRS to check on refund status

Q: Dear Rick: I filed my federal tax return for 2009 in May and have not received my refund. I had extension to file so my return was not late. I assume the reason why I have not received my refund is because I filed for an extension.

What is a reasonable amount of time to wait for my tax refund? I was thinking about contacting the IRS, however, I never think that's such a good idea. I don't want to be audited. Any suggestions?

A: It is hard to say what is a reasonable length of time to wait before receiving your refund. However, since you filed your return seven months ago, you should have received your refund by now. It is important that you get proactive and trace what happened to your refund. I do recommend that you contact the IRS.

I know taxpayers never want to contact the IRS for any reason but as far as I'm concerned, that doesn't make sense. The IRS is a much friendly and easier organization to deal with than in the past. You should have no problem contacting them with regards to your refund.

Many people are also under the misconception that bad things happen when they file an extension. It is not true. Filing for an extension does not affect your refund, nor does it affect your risk of being audited. Those things may have been true in the past, but not for the last 20-plus years.

What increases your risk of audit is filing an incorrect or sloppy return. Therefore, sometimes by filing for an extension and taking your time you actu-

ally reduce your audit risk.

If you're still waiting for a federal tax refund from 2009, take the first step. The IRS provides an online tool at www.irs.gov, named, "where's my refund." That is the first place to check the status of your refund. There could be many explanations why you haven't received your refund, including the IRS has an incorrect mailing address or the check got lost in the mail. Either way, the IRS can re-issue your check.

For those people who are not technologically savvy or who just don't like to do things online, call the IRS at (800) 829-1954 to find the status of your tax return.

It's not unusual for people not to receive their tax return. In fact, the IRS says that in Michigan alone it has over \$3 million in refund checks it doesn't know where to send. That is why if you have not yet received your 2009 tax refund and you were entitled to one, it is important that you contact the IRS.

After all, there is no reason to give the government more of your hard-earned money than it is entitled to.

As a side note, many people may question why, since the IRS has the resources, it doesn't contact them regarding the refund. Very simply, it doesn't work that way. We may think the IRS has all the necessary resources available to them, and that could be true when it comes to tracking us down regarding money owed, but it is not true in the reverse.

As taxpayers, when the IRS owes us, it's our duty to be proactive and to track down our refund. 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

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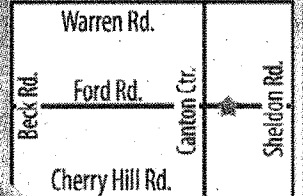
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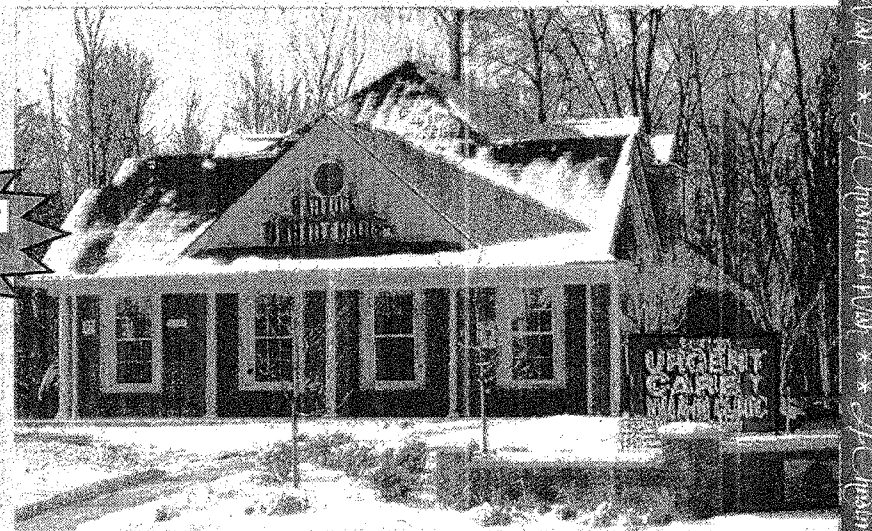
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Not everything is closed Christmas – far from it

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

It's not easy finding places that are open Christmas, but it can be done.

There's plenty of people looking for something to do Dec. 25. In this diverse region, some don't celebrate Christmas and those who do sometimes have their fill of relatives and want a place to go to unwind after the family party.

Blended families might have celebrations on different days to accommodate everyone's schedules and that leaves some people alone Christmas day. Or maybe there is someone missing from the traditional family celebration and family members just don't feel like celebrating the way they had in the past.

SEE A MOVIE

Whatever the reason, movie theaters are packed with customers Christmas day, according to Ruth Daniels, senior vice president of sales and marketing for Emagine Theatres in Canton, Novi and Woodhaven.

And, she said, it's easy to find people who want to work Christmas for shifts starting at 11 a.m. through the evening.

In fact, Daniels said, "a lot of people volunteer to work" Dec. 25.

"I've been doing this over 25 years," Daniels said. "It's easier now than it was then. I think we have all become more accustomed to things happening on the holidays. People have time with their families and then they are ready to leave. That's why movies sell so well. We have different kinds of families now, with different gatherings on different days."

Business is actually up during the holidays, Daniels said.

"Traditionally, starting with Thanksgiving week, we see an uptick with people attending movies. Christmas day, after holiday family festivities, they often go see the movies that studios put out at that time," she said. "People are off work, they have time and want to do



Whatever the reason, movie theaters are packed with customers Christmas day, according to Ruth Daniels, senior vice president of sales and marketing for Emagine Theatres in Canton, Novi and Woodhaven.

communal things with their family."

AMC 20 Theaters, in Livonia, Dearborn, Southfield and other metro Detroit locations, are also open Christmas, according to Justin Scott, director of communications at AMC Theatres.

The historic Civic Theater on Grand River in downtown Farmington is open at 4 p.m. on Christmas Day. Check listings at www.theFCT.com.

If you're not up to going to the theater, maybe you will want to stay in and watch a flick. In that case, Blockbuster stores are open Dec. 25. In fact, they open 365 days a year.

Some area business owners, like Sadel Gannouni, part owner of LaMarsa Mediterranean Cuisine in Farmington Hills, are spreading the holiday spirit Christmas day. His restaurant at 35558 Grand River, is providing free meals for the needy. If that isn't enough, Gannouni said, the owners of the restaurant plan to provide food that will be delivered to at least 72 families Christmas day. The restaurant will be open for paying customers, as well.

DON'T BE ALONE

"We're open for people who have nobody, but we are open

for everybody," Gannouni said. LaMarsa opens at noon and closes "when we have no customers," he added.

If Starbucks is your favorite spot for coffee, most local stores will be closed. In metro Detroit, Starbucks in Birmingham, Southfield, Ann Arbor, Dearborn, West Bloomfield and Bloomfield Hills are open, but most other western Wayne (Plymouth, Canton and Northville) and west Oakland (downtown Farmington) locations are closed.

If knocking down a few bowling pins is on your agenda, Merribowl Lanes in Livonia is open from 5 p.m. to midnight. It's one of few bowling establishments open in the area.

It's hard to say what business will be like, according to Jim Johnson, Merribowl supervisor. Some years are busy and other years are not. The biggest crowds, traditionally, are 8-10 p.m.

"Maybe they don't have anything to do on Christmas night" after gifts are opened and family members want to spend time together outside the house, he said.

NEED A GIFT?

While some people are listening for sleigh bells, others

Places to eat out Christmas Day

Looking for a restaurant that's open Christmas day? Here's a few ideas.

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"This is our first year here," restaurant manager David Wong said. "We are just trying to see how this area is for Christmas. We wanted to open up the restaurant on Christmas day for people to have one extra choice to go to."

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As of now, China King plans to open Christmas, but management suggests calling that day to ensure it is indeed open.

will be listening to the sound of cash registers opening and closing. 7-Eleven stores will be open for people looking for last-minute stocking stuffers. Most stores will open Christmas Day, but there's no guarantee, according to Margaret Chabris, 7-Eleven director of public relations.

7-Eleven stores are run by individual franchisees who have an option to close, "but

typically, because it is such a big sales day for us and we are one of few retailers that are open" most will be open, she added.

If you need to fill a prescription or snag a last-minute gift, CVS stores open 24 hours will operate stores and pharmacies 24 hours Christmas Day, according to Mike DeAngelis, CVS spokesperson. Other non-24-hour CVS locations will

open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., but pharmacies will be closed Dec. 25.

Rite-Aid pharmacy at 37399 Six Mile in Livonia will be open, according to Ashley Flower, Rite Aid manager of public relations. Some Rite Aids in Livonia, Farmington and Plymouth are open, however, the pharmacies are closed. The Rite Aids in Canton and Garden City will be closed Christmas.

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<p style="text-align: center;">DORITOS Tortilla Chips</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><i>Save up to \$2.00 ea!</i></p> <p>\$1.99 ea.</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>From the Deli</i> Krakus Ham</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>\$4.99 lb.</p> </div>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dearborn • 5 lb. pkg</i> Smoked Kolbasz</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>\$1.99 lb.</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ground Fresh Daily • 5-7 lb. pkg.</i> GROUND BEEF Chuck</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>\$1.99 lb.</p> </div>

OE08724940

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smaison@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at fax at (313) 223-3318. For more information, call (313) 222-6751.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Tea
Time/Date: 11 a.m. Dec. 20
Location: Alexander Blue House at Greenmead on Newburgh north of Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Daughters of the American Revolution-Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter will be holding a Christmas Tea. Bring one dozen of your favorite Christmas Cookies with several copies of the recipe to share. Also bring one of your treasured Christmas ornaments and be ready to tell what it means to you.
Contact: (248) 477-7375

Blood Drive
Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 22
Location: f Garden City Hospital, 6255 Inkster Road, Garden City
Details: Garden City Hospital is holding its annual holiday American Red Cross Blood Drive in the Lower Level Classrooms 1 - 4 of the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building on the hospital campus. Appointments are suggested but not required. Walk-ins will be welcomed.
ontact: To make a blood donation appointment, call the hospital's Public Relations and Marketing department at (734) 458-4259.

Fish Dial-A-Ride
Details: Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers and phone messengers. Volunteer drivers, using their own vehicles, designate days, times, and areas they are willing to drive. Volunteer phone messengers arrange client rides with our volunteer drivers one day each week from the comfort of their home. Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is a not-for-profit community service that provides free door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia, and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation.
Contact: For more information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Earth Angels
Details: Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/ performance non-profit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.
Contact: www.earthangelsontour.org or by e-mail to eangelf1986@comcast.net

Higher Rock Cafe
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Fridays of the month.
Location: Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer,

Westland.
Details: Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands.
Contact: www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660

ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of Eloise
Time/Date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December)
Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland.
Contact: Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

Westland Rotary
Time/Date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays
Location: Salvation Army, 2300 S. Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland
Details: Community Service programs and planning. Catered lunch; visitors welcome.
Contact: Mary at (734) 729-5401

Writing Group
Time/Date: 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month
Location: Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne
Details: The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle's National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free.
Contact: www.storycircle.org or send an e-mail to shepry@yahoo.com

Toastmasters
Location: Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club meets every Thursday at 6:45 P.M. in the lower level of the Bailey Recreation Center, located behind the Westland City Hall on Ford between Wayne Road and Newburgh.
Details: Toastmasters provides a supportive environment where members can overcome the fear of speaking in public. The membership is a diverse group from different walks of life.
Contact: For information, call Bill at (734) 306-3980 or Curt at (734) 525-8445.

TOPS 869
Time/Date: Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.
Location: Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.
Details: The group is for people age 18 and older.
Contact: The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

Legion Post 251
Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month
Location: 1217 Merriman Road, between Avondale and Palmer, Westland.
Details: All veterans, male and female with a honorable discharge are welcome to join.

Contact: www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607
TOPS M128
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays
Location: Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland
Contact: Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879

Garden City Dems
Time/Date: 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June)
Location: Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City
Contact: Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344

Citizens for Peace
Time/Date: 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month
Location: Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia
Details: The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome.
Contact: Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

In Harmony
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays
Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland
Details: For men interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting
Contact: call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal

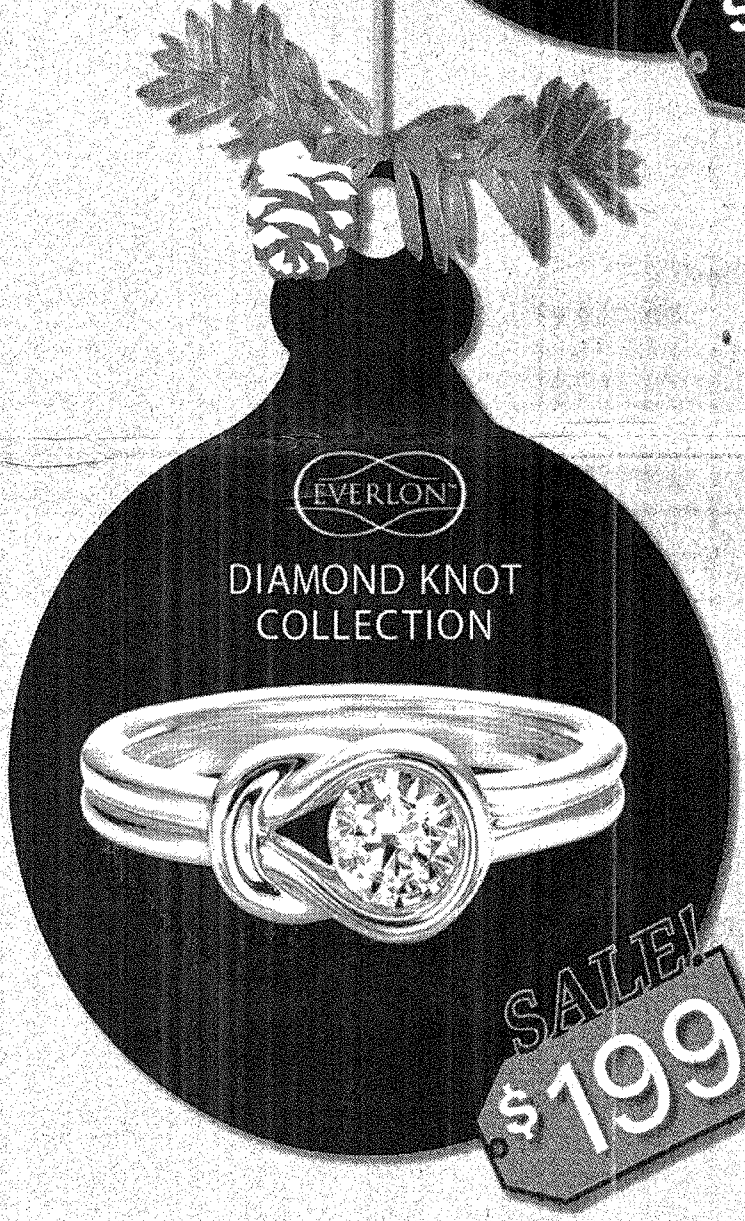
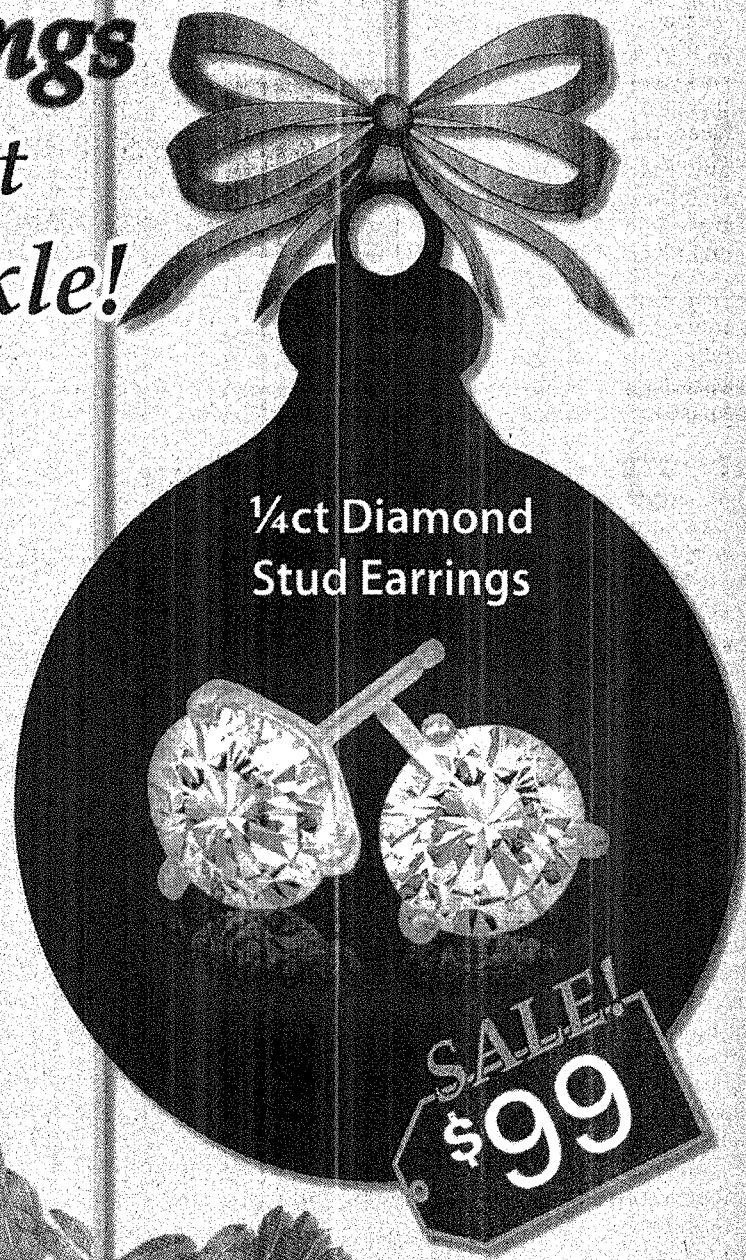
Veteran's Haven
Location: Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne.
Details: Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays.
Contact: (734) 728-0527

Silver Strings Dulcimer
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month
Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City
Details: Musicians and listeners are welcome to stop by and visit a traditional music jam. Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concertina, auto-harp, recorder, pennywhistle, ukulele and upright bass.
Contact: (734) 482-2902, <http://geocities.com/ssdsociety>

Garden City Kiwanis
Time/Date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays
Location: Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City
Details: Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to bettering the world one child and one community at a time. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.

Garden City Rotary
Time/Date: 12 noon Thursdays
Location: Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City
Details: Community service planning, lunch and socializing are enjoyed.

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Anderson hails incentive as plus for county

State Sen. Glenn S. Anderson is applauding the Michigan Economic Growth Authority (MEGA) Board's approval of a \$889,293 tax credit for Piston Automotive to enable the company to expand its Redford Township facility to manufacture electric battery packs for the 2012 Ford Focus.

The project is expected to generate \$15 million in private investment and create up to 467 local jobs, including 135 directly at the company. The MEGA incentive helped secure the company's investment over a competing site in Kentucky.

"This growth in Michigan's auto industry, especially in Wayne County, is very encouraging and highlights the success of incentives that create a favorable business environment," said the Westland Democrat. "Our auto manufacturing industry is what built Michigan's economy and made us great, and it will help us rebuild as we utilize our manufacturing facilities to develop new technologies like building hybrid, electric cars and wind turbines."

Piston Automotive is a tier one auto supplier of chassis and interior parts, and with this incentive, the company

plans to expand its facility in Redford Township to manufacture electric battery packs for the 2012 Ford Focus. The Michigan Assembly Plant in Wayne will begin production of the 2012 Ford Focus in January 2011.

The company also plans to grow its workforce and investment in Redford with several other new projects related to the assembly of chassis parts for Ford, General Motors, Honda and other auto companies. Piston Automotive will also expand its facility in Detroit to assemble chassis parts, such as brake corners and struts for GM and Honda.



PHOTO COURTESY GOSKIMICHIGAN

The Michigan Snowsports Industries Association has produced a card that allows the holder to ski at 29 different Michigan ski areas this winter for just \$189.

Ski card is great value

The Michigan Snowsports Industries Association has produced a card that allows the holder to ski at 29 different Michigan ski areas this winter for just \$189. Called the MSIA White Gold Card, purchasers are entitled to ski one time at each of the participating ski areas during the 2010-11 ski season. Also included is one free ski tuneup (edge sharpen and wax) at participating MSIA ski retailers.

"The White Gold Card is an exceptional value," said Steve Kershner, chairman of the MSIA and director of skiing for Shanty Creek Resorts in Bellaire.

"If you paid for a lift ticket at each of these ski areas and brought your skis in for a tune-up, you would be spending over \$960," said Kershner.

The card looks like a credit card, divided into squares. Each ski area is assigned to a square and one square is designated for the ski tuneup.

White Gold Card skiers are allowed to ski one time at each ski area, midweek or weekend. The card is valid for the entire ski season, except for Dec. 24, through Jan. 2, 2011. The cards are nonrefundable and non-transferable. To get the tuneup, White Gold Card purchasers take their skis or boards to one of the over 40 participating ski

shops.

MSIA developed the White Gold Card as a fund-raising endeavor and limits its production to 400 cards.

"We've found from past years' sales that they go quickly," said Kershner.

To add a little excitement, MSIA has also created a challenge for White Gold Card participants.

"The first person to use the White Gold Card at all 29 Michigan ski areas will win a card for the 2011-12 ski season," Kershner said. He added that MSIA is hosting the challenge to encourage skiers to try all the great slopes in Michigan. To win, White Gold Card holders must ski at all the ski areas and then send MSIA their punched-out White Gold Card accompanied by a used lift ticket from each of the ski areas.

Participating ski areas include: Alpine Valley in White Lake; Apple Mountain in Freeland; Big Powderhorn Mountain of Bessemer; Bittersweet in Otsego; Blackjack Resort in Bessemer; Boyne Highlands in Harbor Springs; Boyne Mountain in Boyne Falls; Caberfae Peaks in Cadillac; Cannonsburg Ski Area in Cannonsburg; Cross-Country Ski Headquarters in Roscommon; Crystal Mountain

in Thompsonville; Hanson Hills in Grayling; Indianhead Mountain in Wakefield; Marquette Mountain in Marquette; Mont Ripley in Houghton; Mt. Bohemia in the Keweenaw Peninsula; Mt. Brighton in Brighton; Mt. Holly in Holly; Mt. Zion in Ironwood; Norway Mountain in Norway; Nubs Nob in Harbor Springs; Pine Knob in Clarkston; Pine Mountain in Iron Mountain; Shanty Creek in Bellaire; Snow Snake in Harrison; Swiss Valley Ski Area in Jones; The Homestead in Glen Arbor; Timber Ridge Ski Area in Gobles and Treetops Resort in Gaylord.

White Gold Cards will be sold at participating MSIA ski shops throughout the state through December, while supplies last. MSIA local shops offering the cards and the ski/snowboard tuneups are: Boyne Country Sports in Bloomfield Hills, Novi and Traverse City; Don Thomas Sporthaus in Birmingham; Nichol's Ski & Patio in Dearborn and Waterford; Sun & Snow Sports in Plymouth and Ann Arbor.

The White Gold Cards can also be purchased online at www.goskimichigan.com. For more information, visit www.goskimichigan.com or call MSIA at (248) 620-4448.

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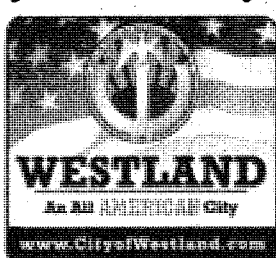
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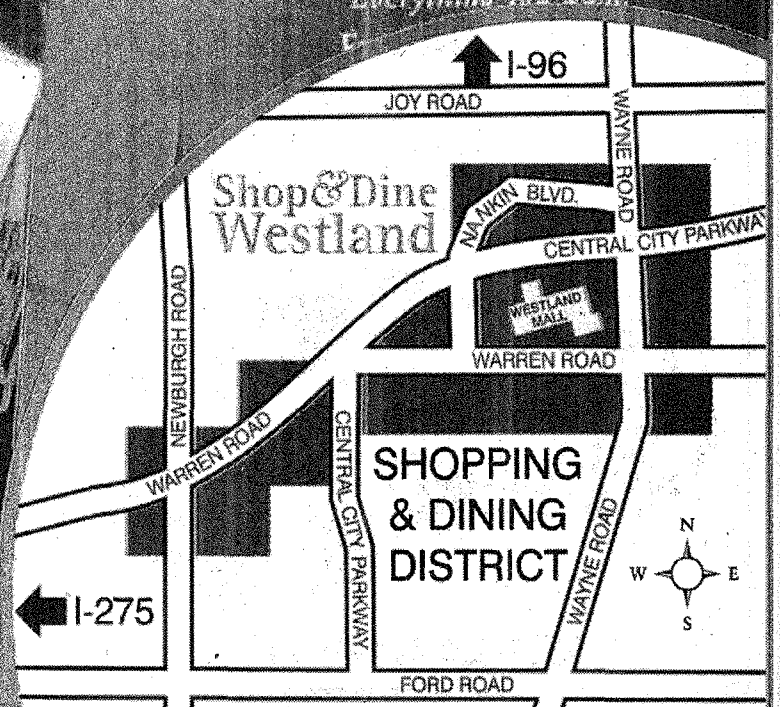
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New director knows metroparks inside and out

BY CHRISTOPHER NAGY
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

David Moilanen is a company man. His company just happens to have one of the most scenic offices in southeastern Michigan.

For the past 36 years, the Genoa Township resident has served the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, which operates the Metroparks system in southeastern Michigan, in one capacity or another, starting off with a part-time job in the maintenance department at the Kensington Metropark golf course in 1974.

Through the years, Moilanen has climbed just about every branch the metroparks have to offer, working to get his foot in the door at every opportunity that piqued his interest.

Now, the branches are all below Moilanen. He's reached the treetop.

In mid-October, the 61-year-old was appointed as the new director of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, a grouping of 13 parks and recreation facilities covering some 25,000 acres and attracting 9.1 million annual visitors in the five-county region of Oakland, Livingston, Wayne, Washtenaw and Macomb.

"Every job I've had here I've enjoyed," Moilanen said. "I just kept seeing new aspects of this organization that I thought I would enjoy, so I kept trying new things. I think to be a good director, you have to be a generalist. You can't really be a specialist."

If there's one person in the metroparks system that knows a little bit about a lot, it's Moilanen.

After graduating from the University of Michigan with a degree in economics in 1971, Moilanen began attending law school. It only took a year to realize that wasn't the right fit.

"I had been to law school for a year, but I didn't like law," he explained. "I wanted to be outdoors."

Growing up, his parents lived on a golf course, and he found summer employment there for five years. The experience earned Moilanen part-time work at the course at Kensington in 1974. He also began volunteering at the Kensington Metropark Nature Center, giving him an in on his ultimate career goal to become a naturalist.

"So I got a foothold in at the nature center and they got to know me," he said. "In May of 1976, a part-time position opened up for me."

Part-time work expanded into full-time employment. When the Kensington Metropark Farm Center opened, Moilanen was named its first manager, a job he held for 11 years. Then he went back to school to take a handful of classes in journalism and public relations, helping him to land the spot as chief of interpretive services and communications for the metroparks. In March 2006, Moilanen was named as the deputy director of the parks system, leaving him with only one more rung to climb.

DELAY IN DIRECTOR

Yet the director's post proved to be a climb diverted — and, in retrospect, much to Moilanen's thanks.



GILLIS BENEDICT | GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

New metroparks Director David Moilanen traces his roots to working at Kensington Metropark's golf course and Nature Center. Moilanen stands on a bridge portion of the Wildwing Trail, part of Kensington's Nature Center area.

When longtime Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Director Jim Bresciamia stepped down in June 2009, Moilanen had hoped to be tapped as his replacement. Instead, the authority's Board of Directors took a different route — for the first time hiring someone from outside the metroparks system as director.

Like the rest of the state, the parks system was facing rough financial waters with declining property tax revenues. Moilanen was passed over for the promotion and Jayne Miller, a former city administrator with Ann Arbor, was brought in to helm the organization.

However, in the long run, it turned out to be the best scenario for Moilanen.

In the summer of 2009, Moilanen's son was on a study-abroad program from Alma College. His travels took him from Peru to Ecuador before tragedy struck.

"He got blood clots in his brain, and he was in a coma," Moilanen said.

His son was airlifted back to the United States and eventually came out of the coma after 12 days, but he was paralyzed on his right side. The recovery process was slow, gradual and is still ongoing; however, the youth was able to return to his college studies this fall.

"In retrospect, had I got the position in 2009, I wouldn't have been able to handle it well," Moilanen said.

Yet things with Miller didn't work out, and she resigned as director in September.

"There were some differences of opinion there, but it wasn't anything super dynamic," said Jack LaBelle, Livingston County's representative on the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Board of Directors.

Miller's resignation came just a few days after Moilanen's son returned to Alma College.

He took that as a sign. After serving one month as interim director, Moilanen was officially offered the director's post Oct. 14.

"He's the right guy," LaBelle said. "He's well-experienced and he knows the ins and outs of the profession. I was very pleased when they finally determined he was going to be the new director. He's well-schooled in the parks and recreation field, and he will do a great job."

The sentiment was echoed by Kimberly Jarvis, park superintendent at Kensington Metropark, who has known Moilanen since she worked the

park's toll booth in high school in 1976.

"I'm very pleased to call him my director, and I think he'll do a fantastic job," she said.

ROUGH WATERS AHEAD

Still, it won't be easy sailing out of the gate.

The same financial difficulties that Miller was brought in to address remain. The majority of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority's funding comes from property-tax revenue, so the trickle effect of the state woes has reached the parks system. In 2009, the parks brought in \$35 million in revenues. By 2013, it's projected that the parks will see a \$10 million drop in those funds to \$25 million — leaving the system struggling with the same question being asked all over Michigan: How do you do as much with less?

"We're having to control our costs and to cut costs," Moilanen said. "We're looking at reorganizing the system to meet the funding. We have been trying to prepare for this by adding to our reserves ... and we have banked enough funds, we think, to get through the next two years at least."

Yet there are more measures to be taken, he added, including downsizing. While no layoffs are anticipated, the parks system has been eliminating posts through attrition. As older employees retire, those jobs are cut and a reshuffling of duties and job descriptions follow. In addition to its army of 800-plus part-time summer help, the metroparks employ 225 full-time workers, which is down from 252 employees two years ago.

"We'll probably reduce it another 15 to 20 people in the next few years," Moilanen said.

In addition, some capital improvements will be delayed or eliminated altogether. Next year's budget calls for \$6.9 million in parks improvements, which is considerably lower than the \$14 million spent in other years. Moilanen said the concentration is on renovations, rehabilitation and replacement work, primarily at the system's older facilities, such as Stony Creek on the Macomb-Oakland county line, Lower Huron in the Belleville area and Kensington.

"I've looked forward to ever-increasing responsibility for this organization," Moilanen said. "I like a challenge — and this is not an undoable challenge. Our employees have really gotten on board with the need to control costs and still provide the public with a quality product."

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<p>GRADE A FRESH BONE-IN CHICKEN BREAST 99¢ LB.</p>	<p>U.S.D.A. INSPECTED BUTTERFLY PORK CHOPS \$3⁶⁹ LB.</p>	<p>GRADE "A" FRESH TURKEYS 99¢ LB.</p>
<p>U.S.D.A. INSPECTED LAMB CHOPS \$6⁹⁹ LB.</p>	<p>CITY CHICKEN \$5⁹⁹ LB.</p>	<p>COOKED SHRIMP \$6⁹⁹ LB.</p>

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Mahatma Gandhi: fascinating man

Mahatma Gandhi is one of the most interesting historical figures of the 20th century. Whenever you hear someone talk about leaders who were instrumental in promoting social justice and nonviolence, you always hear his name. Gandhi's first name was really Mohandas. Mahatma is an honorific that was applied to him meaning "Great Soul" in Sanskrit.

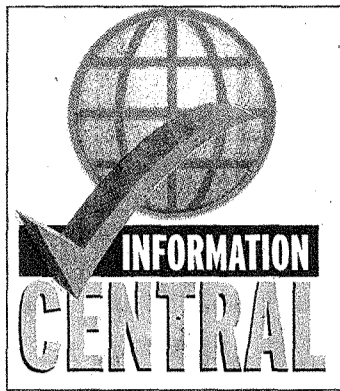
Gandhi was born in 1869 and spent much of his early career as an attorney in South Africa. He experienced firsthand how the Indians were treated outside of India and came back to his country ready to help his people escape the tyranny of British occupation.

One of Gandhi's greatest beliefs was in respect for all sentient beings and as a result he did not believe in violence as a way to resolve a conflict under any circumstances. He successfully encouraged others to use non-cooperation, peaceful resistance and mass civil disobedience to get the British to stop their oppressive governance. Gandhi is often cited as being a major influence in the philosophy and leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

To learn more about this fascinating man, stop by the Westland Public Library and check out one of numerous biographies on Mahatma Gandhi. Some titles include "Mahatma Gandhi: Nonviolent Power in Action" by Dennis Dalton, "Gandhi's Passion: The Life and Legacy of Mahatma Gandhi" by Stanley Wolpert, "Gandhi: The Power of Pacifism" by Catherine Clement, and "Gandhi: A Life" by Yogesh Chadha.

You can also read some of Gandhi's own writings: "The Book of Gandhi Wisdom," "Autobiography: The Story of My Experiment with Truth" and "The Essential Gandhi: An Anthology of his Writings on his Life and Work."

Please feel free to give us a call (734) 326-6123, check the online catalog at catalog.westland.lib.mi.us/ or stop by the library to learn more. The library 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. Dec. 20

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 will be scheduled in January. Call the library for more information.

Crafty Gifts: Gift Wrapping Party, 6 p.m. Dec. 20

Need a place to wrap your gifts, away from prying eyes? Looking for the best way to wrap that oddly-shaped present? We'll have paper, ribbons, scissors, tape and a little hot cocoa! Arrive with extra gift-wrapping odds and ends to share, and leave with beautiful gifts! We'll even go over some crafty wrapping tips to give your presents that extra something. Seating is limited, sign-up required.

Adult Book Discussion Group: 7 p.m. Dec. 21

Join us as we discuss "City of Thieves" by David Benioff. During the Nazis' brutal siege of Leningrad, Lev Benioff is arrested for looting and thrown into the same cell as a handsome deserter named Kolya. Instead of being executed, Lev and Kolya are given a shot at saving their own lives by complying with an outrageous directive: secure a dozen eggs for a powerful Soviet colonel to use in his

daughter's wedding cake. In a city cut off from all supplies and suffering unbelievable deprivation, Lev and Kolya embark on a hunt through the dire lawlessness of Leningrad and behind enemy lines to find the impossible. Copies of the book will be available at the Reference Desk. All are welcome.

Last Chance: Food for Fines, Dec. 23

Get your fines reduced by bringing in non-perishable, unexpired food items. Call (734) 326-6123 for more information or stop by the Circulation Desk with your food items.

Red Cross Blood Drive: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 27

We will be hosting a blood drive. Make an appointment by calling the library at (734) 326-6123 or just drop in! **Job Seekers Lab:** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays and 1-4 p.m. Fridays.

Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job-related activity? Stop by the library, where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help. Drop in. No reservation needed.

Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the Library: 7 p.m. every Wednesday. Everyone welcome, including crocheters.

Chess Group: 7-8:45 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays

Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to Chess Masters are all welcome. No sign-up required.

Computer classes are offered all year long. Contact the library at (734) 326-6123 to find out more.

The Library will be closed Dec. 24-26. We will resume regular hours Dec. 27. Happy Holidays!

Information Central was compiled by Webmaster and Volunteer Coordinator Krsty Cooper. 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.



Members of Parkside Credit Union who adopted six families through Volunteers of America include Jessica Tackett (front row), Nancy Maitland, Vicki Dean, Debbie Allen, Judy Moyers (back row), Lisa Olson, Nancy Schwartz, Patricia Barrett and Michelle Carter.

Parkside Credit Union adopts six families for the holidays

Six families will have a merry Christmas, thanks to employees at Parkside Credit Union.

The families, five who live on Westland and a sixth that recently relocated to Detroit from Westland, were adopted for the holidays by the credit union staff through the Volunteers of America's "Adopt A Family" program.

"Our staff is very close and caring to begin with, but once we decided to adopt six families through Volunteers of America, they really banded together to make these families Christmas special," said Dave Bickley, CEO of Parkside Credit Union. "They went shopping on Black Friday to buy presents, and we had a big gift wrapping party after hours at the credit union one evening. Not only did we have employees attend the gift wrapping party, we had members of our Board and employee family members helping too."

"This truly is a special cause. I am so proud of this Parkside

family," he added.

The Volunteers of America Adopt a Family program accepts applications from families in need. A story is submitted from each family that describes their situation and why they would like to be adopted for the holiday.

Through the direct sponsorship program, people wishing to adopt a family can read the various family stories and choose which family they would like to adopt. By adopting a family, donors provide a present to each family member, a toy for each child and a meal.

"When we were reading the stories, we were in tears," said Kristie Lemieux of Parkside Credit Union. "I am grateful that Parkside Credit Union could adopt 6 families, but it was really hard to not adopt all of them."

Parkside Credit Union is delivering the gifts to their adopted families on Tuesday, Dec. 21.

"It was recommended to us to deliver them earlier, but we wanted to make sure that the kids were home from school to receive the delivery," said Michele Cruz, a teller at Parkside.

Parkside Credit Union has always taken a proactive approach to giving back to the cities of Westland and Livonia where their main branches are located as well as and their surrounding communities.

"It was truly a pleasure to be part of this very special cause," said Anna Waszkiewicz, Accounting Manager at Parkside.

Parkside Credit Union, a Michigan based non-profit financial institution has been serving its members since 1953. Main branches are at 36535 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150 and 1747 S. Newburgh Road, Westland. For more information, call (734) 525-0700 or visit www.parksidecu.org.

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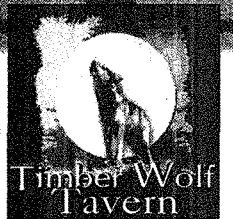
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Ice-cold Clarenceville can't deck Cards, 47-24

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

BOYS HOOPS

Sometimes the numbers just don't lie. That was the case Friday night as host Livonia Clarenceville shot only 8-of-51 from the floor and committed 21 turnovers in a 47-24 boys basketball setback to Melvindale. The Cardinals, who improved to 4-0 overall, led 8-5 after one quarter but took control with a 14-1 run in the sec-

ond period. Clarenceville, which slipped to 2-1 overall, made just 2-of-27 first-half field goal attempts. "We saw this coming," said Clarenceville coach Justin Johnson, whose team shot only 15.6 percent on the night. "Eight-for-52, or whatever we were, that speaks for itself. And it's not like they (Melvindale) were forcing

us to shoot 'threes.' A good chunk of those are in the paint and makeable. Those are shots varsity basketball players need to make." Clarenceville never got closer than 12 the rest of the way after trailing 22-6 at halftime. "It boils down to practice," Johnson said. "Our first two games we didn't have to do much. We were superior athletically. We didn't run our offense as well. We got better shots because we were better basketball players. We

could miss a shot and get an offensive rebound because we outsized them." "It's focus, fundamentals, square your body, and they're not doing it in practice. They're goofing around too much and times are going to change." Javan Thomas, a 6-foot-2 junior, paced the Cardinals with 14 points. Senior Courtney Williams added 12, while Ameer Gaston Rashid chipped in with 10.

Please see **HOOPS, B3**

SIDELINES

Gay sparks MU

Junior guard Josh Gay had the hot hand Friday night as he tallied a career-high 21 points to propel host Madonna University into the finals of the Crusader Classic with a convincing 92-55 triumph over East-West International (Ill.). Gay, a Woodburn (Ind.) native, was the only Crusader to score in double figures as he connected on 7-of-10 three-point attempts in just 19 minutes. Fourteen of 15 players who saw action got into the scoring column as Madonna improved to 4-9 overall and moved into Saturday's championship final against Spring Arbor College.

Freshman guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) and sophomore forward Kevin Henry each added nine points.

Sophomore Connor Leidal (Livonia Franklin) grabbed a team-best seven rebounds, while junior Mike Clark dished out five assists.

The Crusaders jumped out to a 40-25 halftime lead and never looked back. They outscored East-West 52-30 in the second half.

East-West (4-14) got nine points from Dexter Newkirk.

Madonna shot 47.8 percent from the floor (32-of-67), while East-West made only 19-of-60 (31.7 percent).

GC alumni hoops

The Garden City boys basketball program will stage a pair of alumni games on Monday, Dec. 27 at the high school gymnasium.

Players from the 1950s, 60s, 70s and 80s, along with parents, will take on the Cougars' junior varsity squad at 6 p.m.

The GC varsity will take on players from the 1990s and 2000s at 7 p.m.

For more information, call Garden City varsity coach Greg Williamson at (734) 679-1548.

McGrath saluted

Madonna University sophomore center Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) was honored at Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Women's Basketball Player of the Week (ending Dec. 12).

McGrath averaged 23 points per game last week as the Crusaders split their two games.

In a 66-53 win on Dec. 8 at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, the 6-foot nursing major tied her career-high with 24 points.

On Dec. 11, McGrath had 22 points in a loss at Siena Heights.

During the two-game stretch McGrath shot 69.2 percent from the floor and 90 percent from the free throw line.

She leads MU (3-6, 1-3) with 15.7 points per game average.

44-3 start fuels John Glenn girls

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If the late Harry Carey had described the play of the Westland John Glenn girls basketball team Thursday night, he may have repeated the phrase "Holy Cow" many times over.

The Rockets were hitting on all cylinders as they improved to 4-0 with a 62-21 win over Northville.

Glenn started the game with a 19-0 run and led 34-3 after one quarter hitting their first 13-of-17 shots from the floor.

With 5:07 remaining in the second quarter it was 44-3.

Glenn's scoring attack was led by senior forward Andrew Gordon-McClain, who had 15 points.

Freshman guard Kaira Barnes and sophomore guard Shakeya Graves each added 12, while 6-foot junior Erica Covile, a transfer from Detroit Cody, added 10 before going down with a knee injury midway through the final period.

The Rockets patiently ran their offense and made crisp passes which led to easy baskets.

"I was really impressed by the unselfish play of our girls," Glenn coach Mark Anderson said. "Our practices are really intense and very competitive. We talk about sharing the ball, but

today they were really into being a team player. All of them."

And how did Anderson describe his team's 34-point first quarter output.

"Wow, wow," he said. "They were focused. What can I say? That's all on the girls. That has absolutely nothing to do with coaching. They play with one another and you see the results."

The Mustangs' first basket came with 2:09 left in the half on a shot by Katie Giacomini, who had a team-high seven points.

"They (Glenn) have got speed, they've got some height, they've got good guard play — it was just a nightmare first half," said Northville coach Todd Gudith, whose team trailed 44-5 at intermission. "We really didn't execute anything in any phase of the game. I think a lot of it was that our girls were really tight. I think a little nervous, and it showed."

Northville committed 12 first-half turnovers and shot 2-of-23 from the floor. The entire second half was played under a running clock.

"Even the open shots we did get in the first half didn't fall," Gudith said. "And once that started happening everything started

Please see **GLENN, B2**

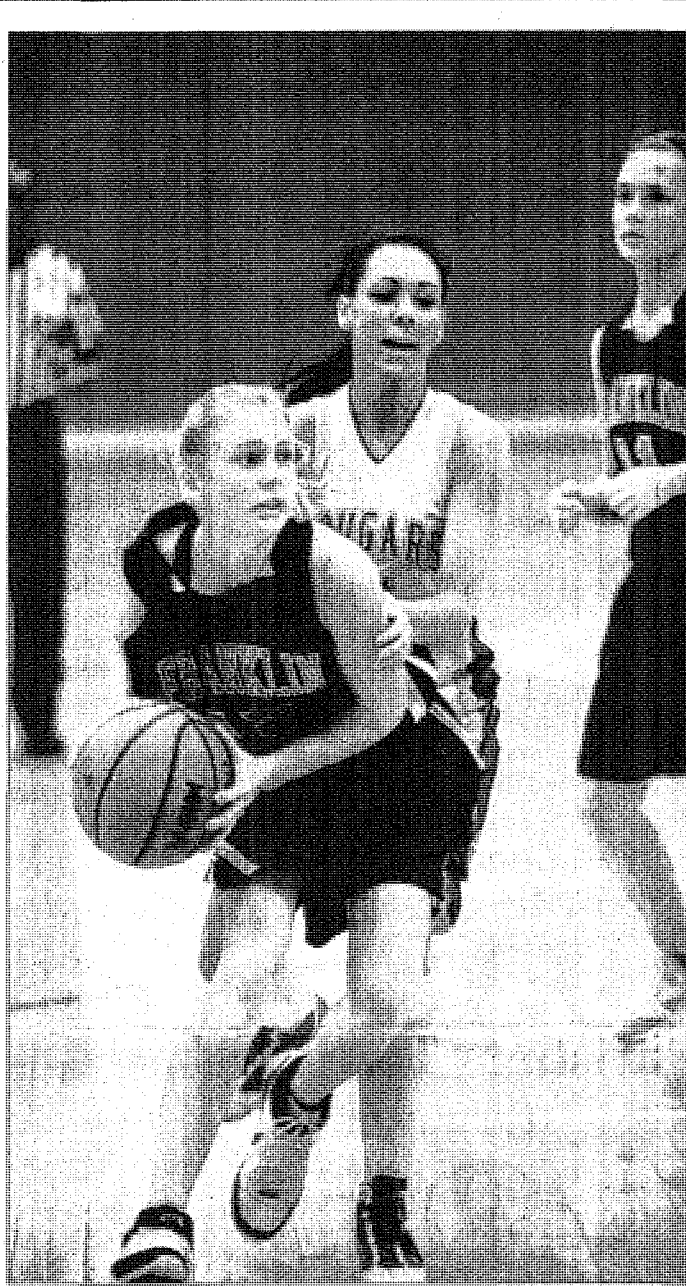


PHOTO BY THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Blanket coverage

Franklin's Katelyn Devers (with ball) is harassed by Garden City defender Samantha Fischer during Thursday's non-league encounter. Franklin earned a 57-42 victory. See girls basketball roundup on page B3

Gift-wrapped: Vanover back with Rockets

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Christmas came early for Westland John Glenn's Michelle Vanover.

And Rockets girls basketball coach Mark Anderson couldn't have received a better birthday present Wednesday when he learned the 5-foot-7 senior forward was eligible to play again after a ruling handed down by the Michigan High School Athletic Association.



Vanover

Glenn, which has already blown out its first four opponents, now adds Vanover to its already potent lineup, which includes two high profile 6-foot transfers from the Detroit Public School League, including Joslyn Massey, who becomes eligible Jan. 18.

Vanover was second-team All-Observer pick from a year ago who averaged 19 points, eight rebounds, four assists and four steals per game.

She played at Romulus Summit Academy North for four semesters before

Please see **VANOVER, B2**

Klisz notches 4 goals in 9-1 Churchill win vs. Patriots

Senior Steven Klisz scored four goals Wednesday as Livonia Churchill went on to mercy Livonia Franklin in a KLAA South Division boys hockey game, 9-1, at Edgar Arena.

Klisz had a power play and short-handed goal as the Chargers improved to 3-3 overall and 1-3 in the KLAA South.

Jake Otto also added two goals, one on short-handed effort and the other on a power play, to go along with two assists as the Chargers led 2-0 after one period and 5-1 after 34 minutes.

Churchill, 3-for-5 on the power play, also got a goal and assist from Mike Kutek and one goal each from Tommy Carey and Kevin Louwers.

Ben Proben chipped in with two assists as the Chargers ended the game with 3:44 to go.

PREP HOCKEY

Franklin's lone goal came from Tyler Dewhirst in the second period from Adam Michael and Kevin Webb to make it 4-1.

Netminder Matt Slinder made 31 saves for the Patriots, who slipped to 2-6 overall and 0-4 in the KLAA South.

Churchill, meanwhile, used three goaltenders including starter Alex Estes followed by Jesse Chambers and David Turel.

"It was a nice way to head into the holiday break," said Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni, whose team outshot the Patriots, 40-13. "Everybody got a chance to play and we have some things now to work on during our time off."

Churchill doesn't return to the ice until 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 5 at Edgar to face Brighton.

STEVENSON 5, NORTHVILLE 0: Andrew Palushaj tallied a pair of power play goals Wednesday as Livonia Stevenson (7-1, 5-0) blanked the Mustangs (3-4-1, 0-2) in a KLAA Central Division clash at Edgar Arena.

Thomas Ross, Cam Humitz and Devin Cragin also tallied goals for the Spartans, who got untracked with four in the second period after going scoreless in the opening period.

"We got off to a slow start in the first period and then we picked it up in the second," Stevenson coach Gerry Vento said. "We started moving our feet and after that we played a pretty good game."

Justin Shureb and Brendan Hay each collected two assists, while Tim Pruchnik, Nick Barr, Max Humitz, J.J. Petterson, Chris McDonald and Ryan Urso contributed one apiece.

Goaltenders Connor Humitz and Scott

Massa combined for 21 saves and the shutout for the Spartans, who outshot Northville 38-21.

David Ketelhut started in goal for the Mustangs before giving way to Sean Bretz in the second period.

FRANKLIN 10, LINCOLN PARK 1: Sophomore Adam Stadler scored twice as Livonia Franklin (3-6) snapped a six-game losing skid Friday in a victory over the Railsplitters in the Taylor SportsPlex Holiday Tourney.

The Patriots, outshot Lincoln Park 38-8, led 8-1 after one period and invoked a running clock six minutes into the second period.

Frnaklin used two goaltenders — Matt Slinder and Travis Ferrier.

"We came off playing three of the top teams in our conference in Stevenson, Plymouth and Churchill and our kids were sick of being looked down upon," Franklin coach Scott Wrigau said. "They came out with vengeance and there was no way they were going to lose. They were really focused."

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Novi triple-fest sinks Churchill

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

There was no coming back from the hole that was dug last Thursday when winless Livonia Churchill visited undefeated Novi.

The Chargers (0-4) didn't have a field goal until the final minute of the first quarter when senior Cecil Anthony hit a running jumper in the lane for his only basket of the night.

The score would only cut the host Wildcats' lead to 15-4 before they rolled to a 54-29 boys basketball victory.

Novi senior Rob Laney (14 points) was dominant for the Wildcats (4-0) early on, hitting the first three field goals of the game to get seven of Novi's first eight points during an 8-2 opening run.

"He was really aggressive," Novi coach Cory Heitsch said. "He wasn't pleased with the way he played Wednesday night and he came out with the intent that he was going to set the tone."

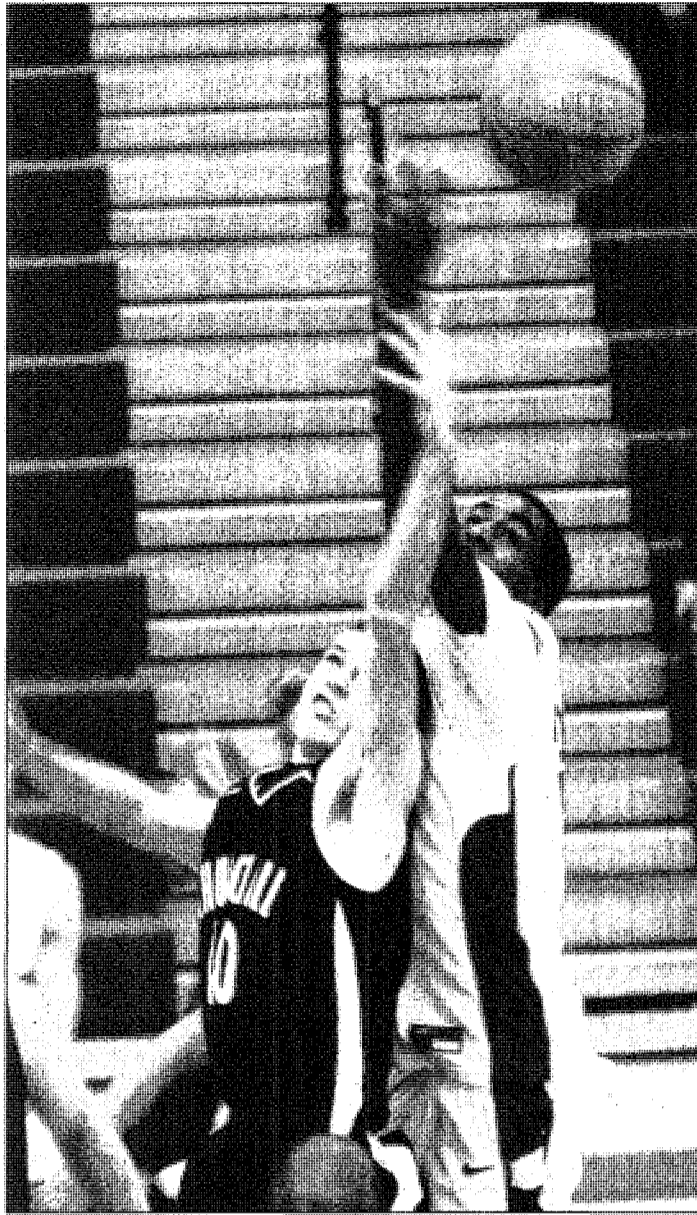
The 'Cats poured it on in the second quarter as senior Samer Ozeir (game-high 16 points), junior Scott Kempa and senior Chris Milon joined in for a 20-7 advantage that led to a 35-11 halftime score.

"Things are going his way right now," Heitsch said of Ozeir. "He didn't have as many rebound opportunities because he was playing perimeter defense."

During the first half, the Chargers shot only 4-for-24 from the field and 2-for-6 from the free throw line.

"We're starting to find our way," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "I thought our effort was much better tonight. We're going to fight through this. Second half, our kids played better. We didn't panic. That's why I think we got better."

Although Churchill came out hitting half of their first few shots in the second half, Novi came out on fire. Three different Wildcats contributed by hitting four straight three



JOHN HEIDER | NORTHVILLE-NOVI NEWS PHOTO

Churchill's Tom Windle (10) goes up for the rebound with a Novi's Chris Milon during Thursday's KLAAs boys basketball crossover.

pointers during the first 2:13 of the third quarter as Novi built a 47-15 advantage.

"I thought they were good shots," Heitsch said. "I'm glad Brian (Bush) got to knock down a couple for us. He's done so much for us on defense."

A senior, Bush hit two of the four 3-pointers that sent the starters to the bench and the reserves to the floor.

The Chargers outscored

Novi's bench 9-0 to close out the final 5:47 of the third quarter, including five points from junior Bryan Bartig, which tied senior Josh Dillard's first half point total for the team high.

"We'll take this break as we're going to start over," Solak said.

Chris Jackett is a special writer for the Northville- Novi News.

VANOVER

FROM PAGE B1

being home-schooled in 2008-09. Vanover then transferred to Glenn.

"Based on the information we had previously she was not eligible," said Wayne-Westland Schools Athletic Administrator Greg Ambrose. "She had taken some certified online classes, but did not attend our school in 2008-09 and she was never enrolled or completed anything. There was some new information presented and she had only six semesters. Based on the (MHSAA) guidelines, she did not have all (eight) semesters."

"I credit her mother for pursuing and checking it out when everybody thought it was a dead issue."

Vanover, who turns 18 in February, scored seven points — all in the second quarter — in her season debut as Glenn routed visiting Northville, 62-21.

To say Vanover was rusty would be an understatement. The only time she said she had touched a basketball was in gym class.

"I was so excited," said Vanover, who turns 18 in February. "It was time to play when he (Anderson) told me."

"I haven't been at practices or anything. It felt so good. I was pretty tired, out of shape. Didn't know I had seven points. Thanks for telling me that. I lack conditioning, and I don't know some of the plays. I was trying to act like I knew what I was doing."

Anderson, meanwhile, couldn't hold back his glee over Vanover's return.

"It's great to have her back," he said. "I'm happy for Michelle. Most of all, I'm so excited for her. This something she has been working on and her mom has been working on. To have her as an addition to our program is just great. She just brings another element and another dimension to our program."

Anderson was pleased with Vanover's play despite little preparation.

"She had some great passes," the Glenn coach said. "Defensively, she was extremely aggressive. Again, it's another weapon by having her on our team that we have."

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Hawks still searching for that elusive 1st win

Westland Huron Valley Lutheran will have to wait until next year to get its first boys basketball victory of the season. The Hawks, who don't play again until Tuesday, Jan. 4 at home against Washtenaw Christian Academy, are off to an 0-3 start.

Two of those losses came in the St. Joseph Michigan Lutheran Tournament on Dec. 10-11. International Academy of Flint (1-2) handed HVL its latest setback, 70-38, as Darius Wilson led four players in double figures with 19 points.

Others in double figures for the Phoenix include Dwayne Hopkins and Jalen Snyder with 13 each, while Mike Mack added 10.

Andy Barber paced the Hawks with 18 points, while Shawn Schaffer added 12.

HVL committed 25 turnovers and shot only 2-of-9 from the foul line.

On the previous night, host Michigan Lutheran (2-0) got 15 points from Nate Rosenbaum and 12 from Drew Thorson in a 56-18 triumph over the Hawks, who shot only 8-of-31 from the floor (25.8 percent) and committed 28 turnovers.

In the 2010-11 season opener on Dec. 6, Dearborn Advanced Technology Academy (1-0) downed HVL, 71-36, as Travis Snipes led the victorious Lakers with 24 points. Trevell Snipes and Dennis Blanchard added 13 and 10, respectively.

Ryan Schaffer and Matt St. John chipped in with 11 and eight for the Hawks, who shot only 28 percent (11-of-38) and committed 25 turnovers. HVL was 14-of-24 from the foul line.

ANNAPOLIS 74, LUTH. WESTLAND 51: Zach Fields poured in 26 points and Colton Mallia added 20 Thursday as host Dearborn Heights Annapolis (1-0) romped to a non-conference win over Lutheran High Westland (1-2).

"They beat us up inside and Fields at 6-5 is a pretty athletic kid," Lutheran Westland coach Doug Haller said. "They (Annapolis) got a lot off the boards and a lot of 'bunnies' inside."

Marc Rosin led the Warriors with 16 points. Kent Krzyske added 10 as Lutheran Westland shot only 5-of-16 from the foul stripe.

GLENN

FROM PAGE B1

unraveling from there.

"But obviously John Glenn is a really good team. They throw a lot of different things at you. They press the ball, they're very aggressive on the defensive end. They rebound very well and when they do take chances — if they miss on a steal or opportunity — they come right back on the next play and get right back at it. They don't give up. You never see them get down. When Glenn missed or we'd get by them, they'd recover really quick and just kept playing. That's what we have to do — just keep playing and not let one play take us out of the next couple."

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Franklin's Chelsea Williams (20) goes in for two of her 14 points over Garden City defender Aleah Smith during Thursday's 57-42 victory.

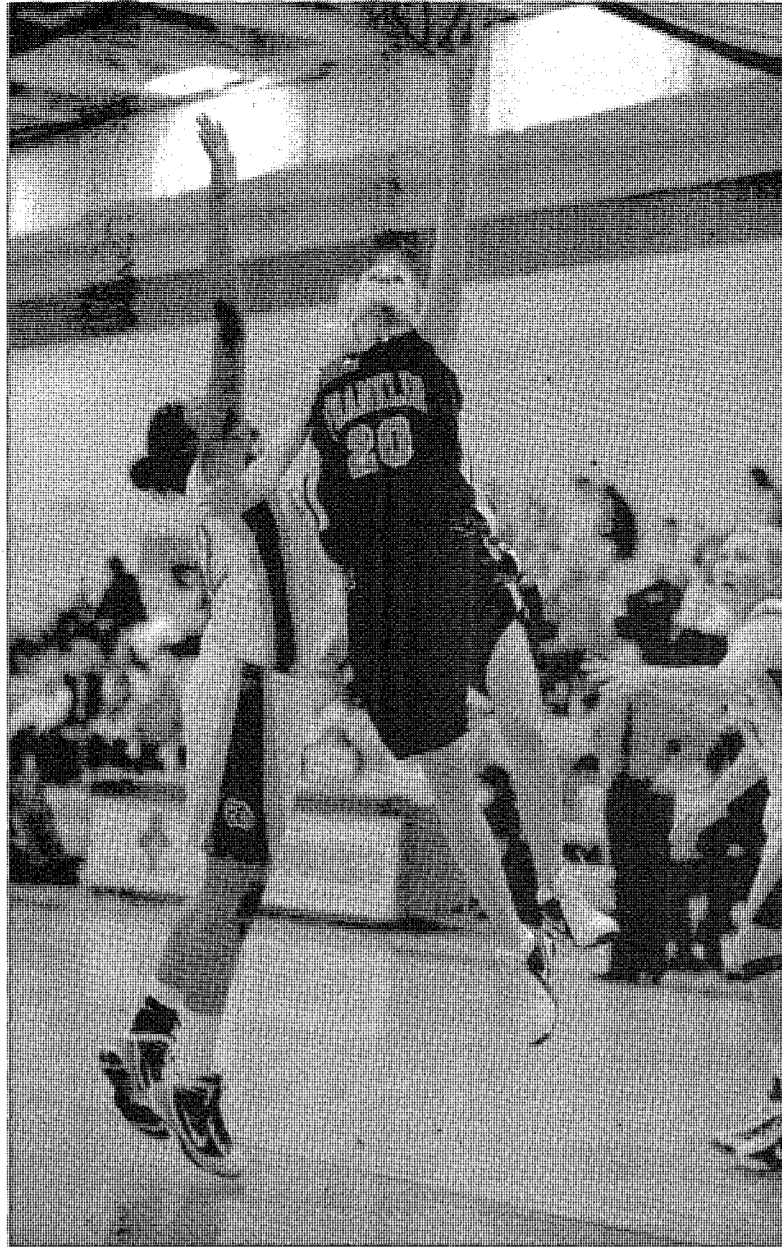


PHOTO BY THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Pats' 2nd-half surge clips GC

Livonia Franklin exploded for 39 second-half points Thursday en route to a 57-42 girls basketball victory at Garden City.

Senior guards Chelsea Williams and Jessica Emery led the Patriots' scoring attack with 14 points apiece. Senior forward Amanda Borio chipped in with 10.

It was 18-all at intermission before Franklin took control with a 18-10 third-quarter run followed by a 21-14 surge during the final quarter.

"Defensively we wore them down in the third quarter - we played real good solid man-to-man defense the second half," said Franklin first-year coach Bob Ostrowski, whose team is 2-2 overall.

Carley Shattleroe led the Cougars with 13 points, while teammate Samantha Fischer added 10.

"Franklin played a much higher intensity and its tough to win any game when you give up 39 points in a half," said Garden City coach Barry Patterson, whose team is 2-2 overall. "Lack of defensive intensity and rebounding led to our demise. Hopefully we'll

come back after the holiday break, fix things and go back at it."

Franklin was 13-of-17 from the foul line, while GC made 10-of-19.

LADYWOOD 72, EDEL FORD 37: Four players scored in double figures Thursday as host Livonia Ladywood (4-0) cruised to a non-league win over Dearborn Edsel Ford (3-2).

Sophomore Andrea Anastos and junior Briana Combs led the balanced scoring attack with 13 points apiece.

Senior Teresa Wojnarowski added 12 points, while sophomore Shelby Walsh added 10.

"We shared the ball and did a good job hitting shots," said Ladywood first-year coach Anthony Coratti, whose team was 10-of-15 from the foul line.

Marie Gaedke scored a game-high 16 points for the Thunderbirds, who couldn't overcome a 35-15 half-time deficit.

WAYNE 56, S.L. EAST 50: On Thursday, junior Holland Boertje tallied 16 points as host Wayne Memorial (2-2) turned back South Lyon East (0-3).

Freshman Ashley Bland contributed 10 for the victorious Zebras, who outscored East 37-25 in the second half after trailing 25-10 at intermission.

Katie Devertilio and Sarah Kleitch scored 11 and 10, respective-

ly, for the Cougars, who shot only 12-of-28 from the foul line.

Wayne was 4-of-11 from the foul stripe.

OLD REDFORD 44, LUTH. WESTLAND 25: Jade Gaines notched 12 points Thursday as host Detroit Old Redford Prep (4-1) downed visiting Lutheran High Westland (1-3).

Amanda Terranella paced the Warriors, who couldn't overcome a 20-14 halftime lead, with 11 points. Aldreana Fikes also grabbed 12 rebounds.

FORDSON 49, REDFORD UNION 38: Guard Yazmeen Hamid racked up a game-high 30 points Thursday to lead Dearborn Fordson (6-0) past host Redford Union (1-4).

Heba Bazzi added 12 for the Tractors, who led by only three at halftime, 22-19.

Junior Kayla Griffin paced RU with 10 points and 21 rebounds. Kim D'Arcangelo also added 10 points.

The Panthers were 20-of-34 from the free throw line, while Fordson was 6-of-17.

NOVI 48, CHURCHILL 10: Joanna Beaton scored 10 points as the Wildcats (5-0) romped to an easy victory over host Livonia Churchill (1-3).

"Novi is quick, aggressive and they shoot the ball inside and out," said Churchill coach Chad Jenkins, whose team trailed 30-2 at halftime.

Cincy squad upends Stevenson

Garden City rallies past Woodhaven; RU falls by 1

Livonia Stevenson got waylaid in Friday's Romulus Holiday Classic Boys Basketball Showcase.

Cincinnati (Ohio) Shroder Paideia got 19 points from 6-foot-6 senior Jalen Billups and 13 from Kairo Cannon to hand the Spartans their first setback in four starts, 60-50.

Shroder improved to 3-2 overall with the victory, while Stevenson falls to 3-1.

Senior guard C.J. Mwila and junior guard Jonathan Campbell were Stevenson's leading scorers with 16 points apiece.

The Spartans' 6-foot-9 senior center Jalen Reynolds, a recent signee with Xavier University, added 13 points.

"We had two total team assists and made only 4-of-22 from three-point range - that's not going to win many games," Stevenson coach Mike Allie said.

Poor foul shooting also hurt the Spartans, who connected on just 13-of-25.

Shroder, meanwhile, was 10-of-14.

GARDEN CITY 60, WOODHAVEN 55: Senior Brandon Kennedy tallied 17 points and junior Tyler Steele added 14 Friday as the Cougars (3-1) rallied in the second half to beat host Brownstown Woodhaven (1-1).

Garden City trailed 36-31 at halftime, but outscored the Warriors 29-19 in the second half to earn the come-from-behind victory.

"We made some great plays at critical times late in the game, took the lead and held on from there," GC

coach Greg Williamson said.

Senior Jordan Buck chipped in with nine points and six rebounds, while Zach Vera-Burgos added five steals for the Cougars.

Mike Harvey tallied a game-high 22 for Woodhaven, which shot only 10-of-21 from the foul line. Jason Lezotte added 12.

EDEL FORD 41, REDFORD UNION 40: On Friday, guard Charles Melekian notched a game-high 25 points as Dearborn Edsel Ford (2-0) held on to beat the host Panthers (0-4).

Junior guard Anthony Stadler paced RU with 19 points.

Anthony Stadler's three-point with only 12 seconds remaining pulled the Panthers to within one.

The Thunderbirds then missed a one-and-one free throw attempt, giving RU a chance at victory. But the Panthers never got off a shot after turning the ball over in the waning seconds.

Edsel Ford was 9-of-17 from the free throw line, while RU was 7-of-13.

JOHN GLENN 47, NORTHVILLE 43: Ayeon Simmons scored 17 points and Nick Daniels chipped in with 13 as Westland John Glenn (1-1) earned a hard-fought win Thursday against the host Mustangs (1-1).

Kelly Maxwell added nine points for the Rockets, who led 22-20 at halftime and 37-33 after three quarters.

Andrew Baldwin and Bryce Groshek each tallied 16 points for Northville. Groshek made three triples.

Glenn was 12-of-18 from the foul stripe, while Northville made 9-of-12.

WAYNE 51, S.L. EAST 38: All 10 players who dressed scored Thursday as Wayne Memorial (1-2) notched a vic-

tory at South Lyon East (0-2).

Thomas White led Wayne's balanced scoring attack with 13 points. Michael Cooper added seven as the Zebras jumped out to a 22-13 halftime lead.

Colin Wedesky led the Cougars with 12 points.

"We played hard," said Wayne coach Mike Schuette, whose team went 7-of-16 from the foul line. "Offensively we struggled, but got the job done on the road and got our first win. It's something to build on."

STEVENSON 66, FRANKLIN 25: Senior guard C.J. Mwila scored 16 of his game-high 18 points in the first half Thursday as host Livonia Stevenson (3-0) downed Livonia Franklin (0-3).

"C.J. played very well in transition and got the team going," said Stevenson coach Mike Allie, whose squad led 38-9 at halftime.

Jalen Reynolds notched a double-double with 15 points and 16 rebounds. He also blocked six shots. Junior guard Jonathan Campbell added eight points.

Franklin got 11 points from Jake Barham.

Both teams made 9-of-14 free throws.

LINCOLN PARK 59, THURSTON 35: Joe Bell popped in 18 points, while Marcus Cornett-Tillman added 12 Thursday to lead the Railsplitters (3-0) past visiting Redford Thurston (1-1).

Anthony Barley scored a team-high 15 points for the Eagles, who trailed 31-18 at halftime and 45-24 after three quarters.

"They (Lincoln Park) played really good defense - straight-up man-to-man - took us out of what we wanted to do and forced us into bad shots," Thurston coach Brian Bates said.

Lincoln Park made 17-of-23 free throws, while Thurston was 7-of-11.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 20
 (Macomb Dakota Cougar Classic)
 East Detroit vs. Royal Oak, 2 p.m.
 Redford Union vs. Macomb Dakota, 5:30 p.m.
 (Franklin Holiday Tournament)
 South Lyon vs. Brighton, 5:30 p.m.
 Franklin vs. Farmington, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 21
 Dakota Cougar Classic, 3:30 & 7 p.m.
 Franklin Holiday Tourney, 5:30 & 7 p.m.
 (Roundball Classic at John Glenn)
 Wat. Kettering vs. Ferndale Univ. High, 11 a.m.

Ferndale vs. Plymouth, 12:30 p.m.
 Bellefonte vs. Det. Univ. Prep, 2 p.m.
 Clarenceville vs. N. Farmington, 3:30 p.m.
 Old Redford vs. Melvindale AB&T, 5 p.m.
 John Glenn vs. Willow Run, 6:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 20
 Hazel Park at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
 Ladywood at L'Anse Creuse North, 7 p.m.
 (Macomb Dakota Cougar Classic)
 Warren Fitzgerald vs. Luth. North, 3:30 p.m.
 Redford Union vs. Macomb Dakota, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 21
 Dakota Cougar Classic, 2 & 5:30 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Dec. 22
 Franklin vs. Lakeland
 at Lakeland Ice Arena, 5:20 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Wednesday, Dec. 22
 Gibraltar Carlson Tourney, 9 a.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 20
 Madonna at Spring Arbor, 6 p.m.

HOOPS

FROM PAGE B1

But Melvindale's play was less than stellar as well.

"It was so sloppy," Melvindale coach Ryan Vranesich said. "It was really an ugly, ugly game. It's one I'll forget, but I'm never going to be mad about winning a game. It's a win and we're not going to cry over it. But at the same time we have a lot of improving to do."

The Cardinals shot only 15-of-56 from the floor (26.7 percent) and made 19 turnovers.

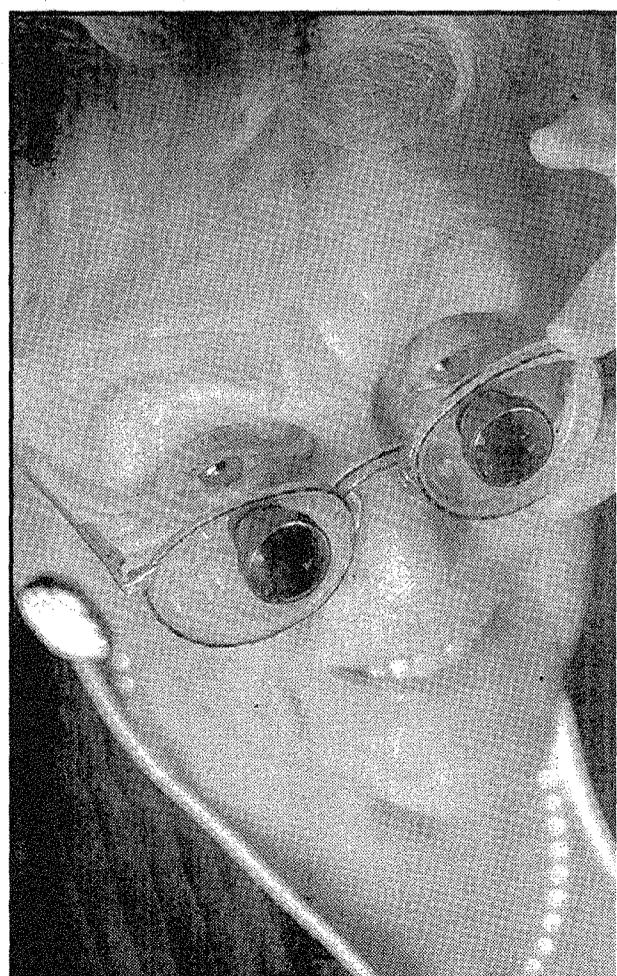
"We pride ourselves on defense and rebounding," Vranesich said. "We can rely on those things, so it doesn't matter how we shoot. Obviously we don't want to throw the ball in the stands 25 times. We rely on our defense and most of the time we're pretty steady. We just didn't play hard at part of the game."

Senior Adrian Myers as Clarenceville's top scorer with eight points, while junior Samuel Brown added seven.

The Trojans play again 3:30 p.m. Tuesday against North Farmington in the Roundball Classic at Westland John Glenn.

"I think this is going to be a turning point," Johnson said. "Sometimes you need this, especially early. If it happens early, it ends up being good things most times. We'll just see Sunday (in practice) how they respond to it and I'm confident they'll respond well."

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Fasami champs

Team Rachada captured the Filipino American Sports Association of Michigan 2010 Fasami Women's Volleyball championship with a 3-0 win over defending champ Tirada on Nov. 13 at the Bailey Recreation Center in Westland...



Alpha spikers 1st

Team Alpha captured the Filipino American Sports Association of Michigan 2010 Fasami Men's Volleyball title last month by sweeping the finals and semifinals in three sets apiece at Westland's Bailey Recreation Center.

Glenn matmen sweep

Westland John Glenn upped its dual match wrestling record to 11-5 overall with a pair of wins Wednesday in quad meet at Wayne Memorial.

and Charles Crawford (285) and Charles Crawford (285) also won. RU pins Robichaud On Wednesday, Redford Union (3-1) posted five pins en route to a 52-12 dual match win at Dearborn Heights Robichaud.

GIRLS GYMNASICS

GIRLS GYMNASICS TRI-MEET RESULTS Dec. 16 at Walled Lake Central TEAM SCORES: 1. Livonia Red, 129.55 points; 2. Walled Lake Western, 118.10; 3. Walled Lake Central, 62.3...

Rocket bowlers roll to dual wins

Both the Westland John Glenn boys and girls varsity bowling teams emerged victorious in Thursday's KLAA Central Division sweep of Novi at Canton's Super Bowl.

and co-captain John Cleavenger (219-215-434). Other high games were turned in by Thomas Brusseau (260), Steven White (221) and captain Brian Monty (214).

Lave-Scott Franklin, 158-201-359. Team totals: 887-113-2,000 (13 points); Baker games: 151-180-331 (4 points).

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SPORTS TEAM

Name: Dan O'Meara
Sports Editor

Beat: Farmington/Farmington Hills youth/prep sports

Experience: Has covered sports in the Farmington community for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for more than 23 years and, for seven years, worked the same beat in Plymouth-Canton. Before joining the Observer, Dan worked for three daily newspapers - the Big Rapids Pioneer, The Daily News in Greenville and the Ypsilanti Press - from 1979 until early 1987.

Education: Graduate East Detroit High School; B.A. Journalism (minored in history and English) Central Michigan University in 1978.

Awards: Honored for sports writing, sport column writing and best sports sections by the Michigan Press Association and Suburban Newspapers of America

Personal: Lives in Westland. Attends annual homecoming reunions with former 'Shamrocks' from EDHS and enjoys covering the gridiron sport.

In his own words:
"I enjoy reporting and making the Observer the go-to source for sports information, especially when covering big games and events of heightened interest in the community."

It's always been my objective to make the Observer the paper of record for Farmington sports and the place where readers go for more than game coverage."

Name: Brad Emmons
Sports Editor

Beat: Livonia, Westland youth/prep sports, Madonna University, Schoolcraft College.

Experience: Joined the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers in December 1977 and has covered the Livonia, Westland, Redford, Canton, Plymouth and Garden City sports beat for nearly three decades.

Education: Livonia Franklin High School grad where he played high school basketball on the Patriots' first district championship team B.A. Journalism, Franklin College, Franklin, Ind.

Awards: Catholic League Hall of Fame (1996) Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan Hall of Honor (2008) O&E Journalist of the Year (1996) College Tennis MVP, Franklin College 1977 Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association Finish Line Award (2003) Honored for sports column writing by the Michigan Press Association

Personal: Lives in Plymouth and is an active distance runner with two local clubs (Northville and Downriver). He averages 30-35 miles per week.

In his own words:
"Covering community sports is rewarding because it's remains the last bastion of amateur sports. The athletes and schools remain appreciative of the coverage."

Name: Jim Toth
Sports Editor

Beat: Garden City and Redford youth/prep beat

Experience: Has covered prep, youth and community sports at the O&E for 24 years in Troy, Rochester, Southfield, Royal Oak, Ferndale and Berkley. Before joining the O&E, Jim worked for the Dearborn Press & Guide from 1982-86.

Personal: Lives in Dearborn. An avid golfer, who enjoys covering football and basketball equally but knows the importance of reporting on all levels of athletic competition and the notoriety it brings to the community as a whole.

Education: Graduate of Dearborn Fordson High School, B.A. Journalism Michigan State University.

Awards: Many state and national writing awards throughout his career from the Michigan Press Association and Suburban Newspapers of America. In 2010 he received MPA awards for sports writing and sports feature writing.

In his own words:
"I enjoy covering the prep and youth sports scenes because of the excitement it generates, the life-long lessons learned, and the character it builds in facing life's ups and downs. In conversations with athletes, you find the passion within to reach the pinnacle and lay to the foundation for success after athletics."

Name: Tim Smith
Sports Editor

Beat: Plymouth and Canton youth/prep and Plymouth Whalers of the OHL.

Experience: Joined the O&E in 1986, as a news reporter for the Southfield Eccentric. He also covered news beats in West Bloomfield/Lakes (1991-97) and Farmington (1997-2001).

Joined the sports staff in 2001, covering the Redford-Garden City communities, Madonna University and Schoolcraft College.

Education: Graduate of Livonia Clarenceville High School, B.A. Mass Communication Wayne State University.

Personal: Lives in Livonia with wife Donna and 16-year-old daughter Elizabeth. He is the author of "Miracle Birth Stories of Very Premature Babies -- Little Thumbs Up!" (1999). Is a longtime recreational ice hockey goalie.

Awards: Finalist for Society of Professional Journalist's (Detroit Chapter) Journalist of the Year Award in 1996, O&E Journalist of the Year 1998. Writing, reporting awards from the Michigan Press Association and Suburban Newspapers of America.

In his own words:
"I cover teams from year-to-year, all season long. You almost feel part of the teams yourself and can't help silently cheering when an athlete or team does something incredible. Another plus: When moms and dads thank us for what we do, chronicling the efforts of their sons and daughters in a way they can't get anywhere else."

HEALTH

Sunday, December 19, 2010

hometownlife.com

Yes, I can: Doable, sustainable advice for getting healthier in '11

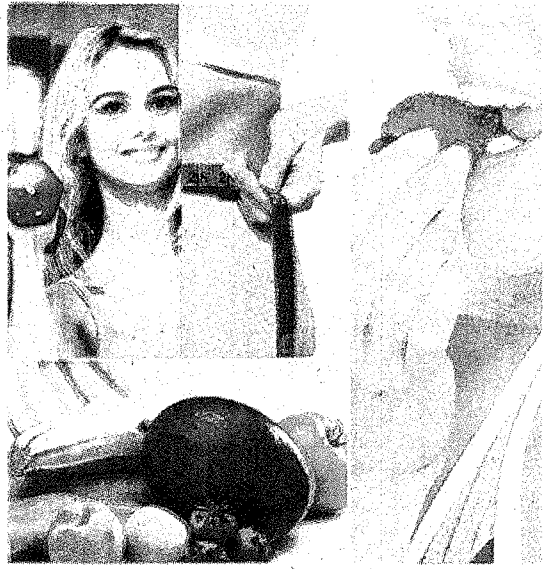
The fat-laden, high-sugar, spirit-soaked roller coaster ride of the holidays will be over before you know it and many individuals will head into 2011 resolving to take better care of their health in the New Year. Losing weight and improving fitness are two of the most common New Year's resolutions in America — year, after year, after year.

It is possible, however, to make 2011 the last year you'll have to resolve to eat better and exercise more. Start by looking for trusted resources that can help you focus on changing habits and developing a healthier, yet still enjoyable, lifestyle. And learn the truth behind some common obstacles to sustained weight loss.

Members of the Mayo Clinic staff, authors of The Mayo Clinic Diet, offer some advice for improving your healthy lifestyle in the New Year:

You may have heard of fad diets that have you counting carbohydrates, bulking up on pure protein or eating bushels of grapefruit. Weight loss comes down to burning more calories than you take in. Reduce extra calories from food and beverages, and increase calories burned through physical activity.

A sustainable weight loss plan should include food from all the major food groups, feature foods you can easily find at the grocery store, fit your lifestyle and budget, include proper amounts of nutrients and calories and encourage regular physical activity. The Mayo Clinic Diet starts off



with a two-week focus on breaking unhealthy habits and adding healthy habits.

• Being active is an essential part of a weight-loss plan. Cleaning the house, making the bed, shopping, mowing the lawn and gardening are all forms of physical activity. Exercise is a structured and repetitive form of physical activity that you do on a regular basis. Aim for 30 to 60 minutes of moderately intense physical activity or exercise most days of the week.

• Learn to make healthy food choices you can live with. The Mayo Clinic Diet relies on the Mayo Clinic Healthy Weight

Pyramid, which guides you toward a general direction of smart eating. The base of the pyramid focuses on generous amounts of healthy foods that contain fewer calories in a large volume of food, like fruits and vegetables. As you progress toward the peak of the pyramid, you eat lesser portions of categories like whole grains, lean protein, dairy, healthy fats and even sweets.

• Resolve to manage stress in the New Year. While stress is a normal reaction to life's demands, the nonstop stress of modern life can be harmful to your health. Relaxation techniques such as meditating, visualization, exercise, hypnosis,

massage and listening to music can all help manage stress.

• To help keep yourself on track with your healthy lifestyle in 2011, be sure to set goals. Make exercise fun by choosing sports and activities you enjoy. Incorporate physical activity into your daily routine. Seek support from friends and family, and reward yourself for meeting goals.

• Every weight loss plan faces challenges. Learn what yours are and how you can cope with them. The Mayo Clinic Diet provides an action guide that lists a number of challenges and recommends ways to cope with them.

"Many patients I see have tried several diets in an attempt to lose weight, yet the weight keeps coming back," says Dr. Donald Hensrud, a Mayo Clinic specialist in preventive and internal medicine, and medical editor-in-chief of the book. "The key to weight loss is to eat well and obtain regular physical activity. Our goal with this book is to give people real tools for doing that."

You'll find more information on living a healthier lifestyle in 2011 at www.MayoClinic.com.

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

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.ooa.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.

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Holiday party brings families together at Four Seasons Rehabilitation and Nursing

ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER PRESENTED BY FOUR SEASONS ATTENDED BY 230 GUESTS



L to R: Bob Anderson, June Daly, Bob Anderson Jr., Cheryl Hartman, Debra Anderson, Jim Hartman, Derek Anderson, Janis Boyless; seated front: Barbara Anderson, Four Seasons resident

Families socialized as they waited to enter the Four Seasons dining room where tables were covered with festive green and red tablecloths. "It's a good idea," said Ronald Bellanger whose mother, Christine, is a resident. "It gives her something to look forward to and she gets to see her family."

This was the first time Carol and Clifford Gannaway of Canton joined Habard Gavin, a seven month resident. "It's great they do something for the residents so they aren't feeling lonely," said Carol Gannaway.

"It's nice to see everybody together and happy to see everyone," said Nancy Boland, Livonia.

Boland came with husband Charles to see his Uncle Jerry.

"It's clean. It's great," said Bea Colling of Westland who's happy with her mother's care. Rose Butcher, a Four Seasons resident for two years, celebrated her 100th birthday in September at Four Seasons. "The staff all brought food. We brought food. We had more food than a wedding," said Colling. "Their meals are so good even during the week. The name's Four Seasons, but it should be Four Stars."

"... the name is 'Four Seasons', but it should be 'Four Stars' ..."

"It's great. It's fun," said Pat Lyden, Four Seasons' Administrator and an RN. "It's an opportunity for families and residents to be together for the holidays."

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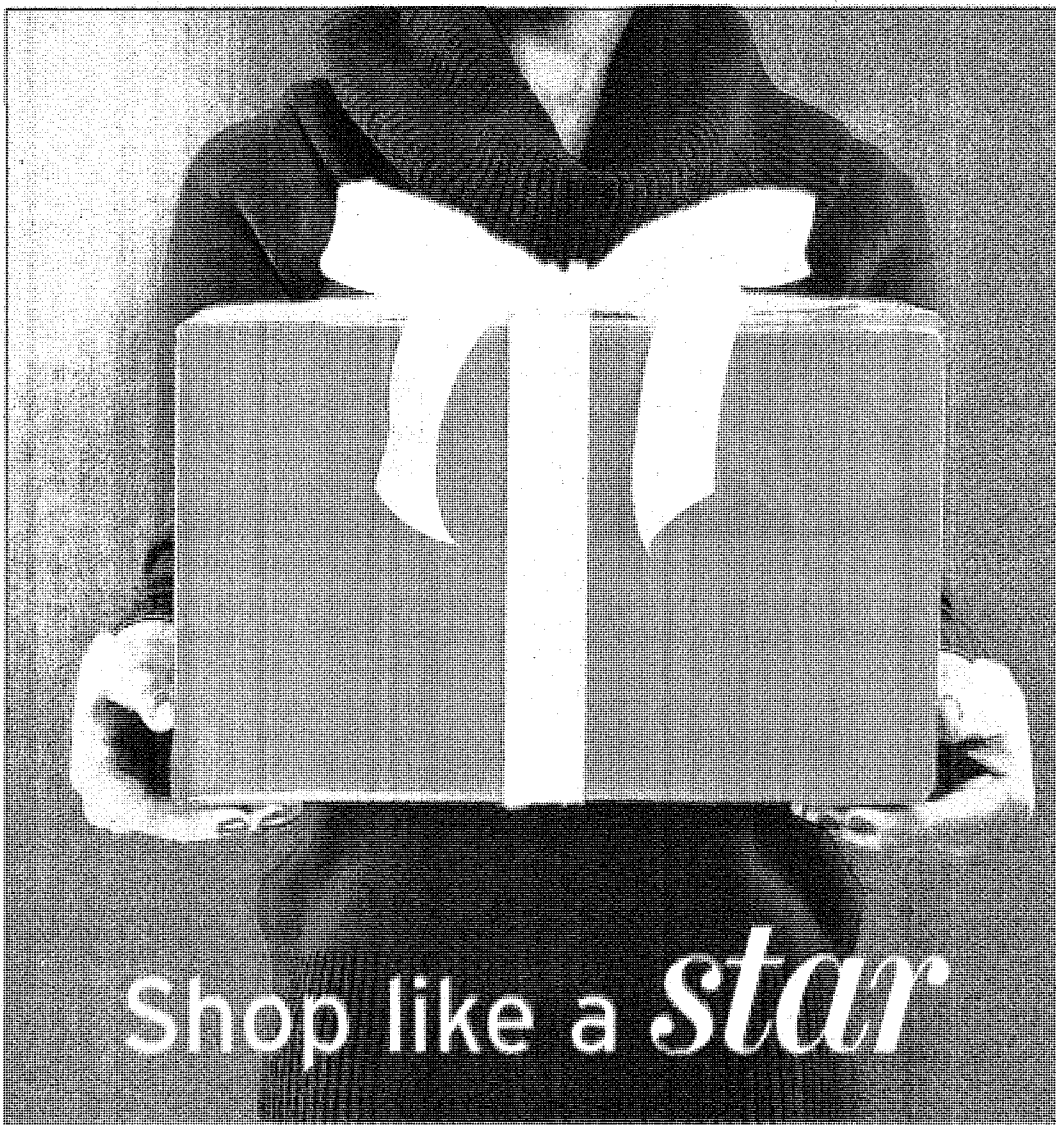
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COMMUNITY LIFE

Sunday, December 19, 2010

hometownlife.com

PHOTO GALLERIES
hometownlife.com



Shop like a *star*

Last-minute shopping tips to delight your loved ones

If your holiday gifts aren't already under the tree or in the mail, you're not alone. One-fifth of the people polled in a recent Bing.com survey expect to last-minute shop this holiday season. Here are some great tips from Bing to help you avoid the stress last-minute shopping can bring:

Simplify Online Shopping
— Read reviews. Look for product reviews, especially when shopping for electronics and home appliances. You don't want to spend good money for a product that

doesn't perform well or breaks down after just a few uses.

— Compare prices. Going online makes getting the best deal a snap. But don't forget to factor in additional costs such as shipping and taxes. They can add up and turn a great bargain into a bust.

— Go easy on the eyes. The Visual Search gallery at Bing lets you see beautiful pictures of what you're looking for — which helps you make confident decisions and shop faster.

— Get guidance. Not sure

what to get? Online gift guides are a great way to see a quick round-up of different categories so you can find just the right gift for each person on your list.

Best Holiday Gift Bets from Brooke Burke

Brooke Burke, co-host of *Dancing with the Stars* and mom of four, offers a helpful gift guide at bingholiday.com, sharing these ideas for your loved ones.

— For Mom: The holidays can be stressful, especially for busy mothers. Brooke suggests

pampering Mom with home spa products or gifts from the heart, like beautifully framed family photos or handmade artwork. Her favorite spa product is Bliss Body Butter, which comes in both scented and unscented varieties.

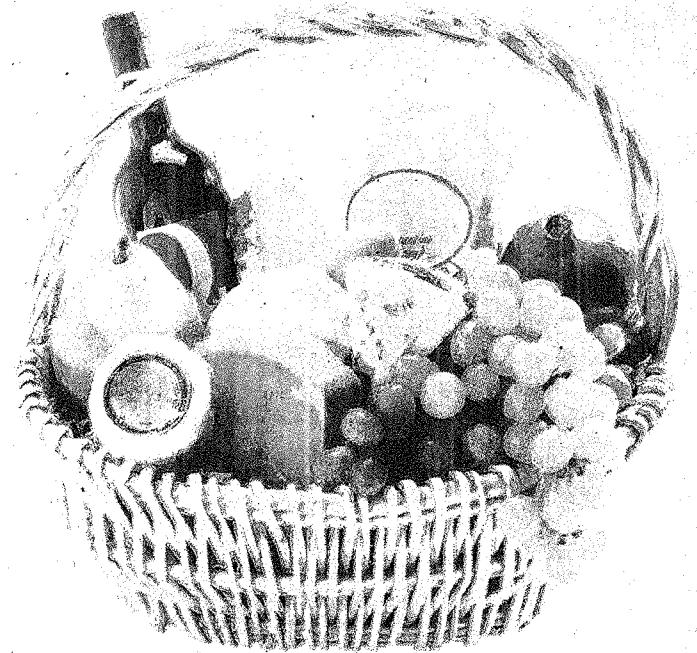
— For Dad: If Dad is a gadget lover, a new Windows Phone 7 like a Samsung Focus or HTC HD7 would thrill him this season. The latest smartphones make it easy to navigate the Web, enjoy entertainment, social network and use a wide variety of apps — all from one phone.

— For Kids: For kids ages two through eight, Brooke is a fan of recordable story books. These books take story time to a whole new level by letting you read and record the tale right into the book itself. Your children will hear you read their favorite stories at any time or place. And they make a great keepsake. For kids of all ages, Brooke suggests personalized charm bracelets for girls or ID bracelets for boys. She's also a fan of the Sing-a-ma-jigs, one of the holiday season's hottest toys that jitters, jabber and chatter as your child interacts with them. Get more great toy deals at www.bing.com/shopping.

Last-Minute Treasures

Whether it's to save money or because they ran out of time, almost half of the women polled in the Bing Shopping survey admitted to having re-gifted at least once in the past couple of years. It helps to be prepared with a few extra gifts, so you're not surprised at the last minute, leaving you rummaging through your closets for a reciprocal gift. To avoid becoming a re-gifter this year, take a look at these last-minute gift ideas from Bing Shopping:

— Wine gift baskets. Beautiful and delicious, a wine gift basket will please the foodie on your list. Search by price, user ratings or expert



ratings to find the perfect match.

— Birthstone jewelry. From pendants and charms to earrings and necklaces, you can find beautiful and affordable jewelry that celebrates your loved one's birthday.

— Spa sets. Treat someone to a day at the spa without ever leaving home. Soothing or invigorating, fun or romantic, there are plenty of ways to help pamper a friend or someone in

the family.

People also re-gift because they received something they didn't actually like. This year, make sure your family knows just what you want — use the Bing Shopping List feature to select an item on Bing Shopping, add it to your list, and share it via Facebook. You'll never have to regift again.

Courtesy of Family Features



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There's more to come. Randolph students add to the collection.

Students donate to animals; lobbying seminar on tap

BY SHARON DARGAY
OSE STAFF WRITER

Barbara Johnson has asked her second grade classes at Randolph Elementary School to collect 100 items in 100 days for the past several years.

Sometimes, they'd collect pennies and create a project. Other times, it was macaroni, glued into a piece of art. This year, the popular math lesson focuses on items that benefit pets — anything from food and treats to kitty litter and leashes — that will be donated to Livonia-based Tail Waggers 1990, an organization that strives to keep pets with their families.

"We sort items, weigh them, graph them," Johnson explained the educational component of the charitable project. "I've always been able to talk one of my (second grade) teammates into doing it with me. This year, one of the fourth grade teachers is an animal nut like I am. She went to the other fourth grade classes and now we've got six classes doing it. Hopefully we'll have 600 items by the 100th day of school."

That's sometime in February 2011, when all items will be donated to Laura Zain, Tail Waggers' founder. The classes sent some of the donations home with Zain earlier this week so that pets in need will have something to celebrate on Christmas.

"They'll continue to collect donations when school resumes next month."

"I try to encourage the kids to do chores to earn the money. I'd really like the kids to do the work and then go to the dollar store to buy something. I think a lot of the parents buy the stuff, but there's always that possibility they earned the money when they bring in something," Johnson said treats have been a popular donation among her students.

"A little girl brought in a bag of dog food. A boy brought in a stuffed animal for dogs to chew on," she said, recounting a few of the items donated last week. I think we're close to 60 items in my class," she said. "One mom wrote to me last week and asked if it was okay to send a check. So, I opened the check yesterday and I almost fell over. It was for \$100."

Johnson said her classes collected objects for the "100 items" project for several years, and then donated goods for the Michigan Humane Society. Johnson decided to designate Tail Waggers 1990 as the class project this year.

Johnson bowls in the organization's annual bowling fund-raiser and worked with Zain when Tail Waggers helped out in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina.

"When Katrina hit she called and asked if there was anything we could do. I said give me a week and we'll see what I can put together. I sent out a note asking for a collection for the



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Second-grader Adele VanderWeg holds a bag of dog food, just one of 100 items being gathered in 100 days, by her classmates at Randolph Elementary. Next to Adele is Laura Zain of Tail Waggers 1990, who will distribute the pet goodies.

animals. Within a week we had collected a pick-up truck full."

Johnson invited Zain into her class last fall to talk about animal rescue. She brought her own dogs and a kitten that she was bottle-feeding into the second grade class, showed tools used in animal rescue and talked about animal care.

"I think a lot of kids hear about poor people or people losing their homes but now they also think, oh, wow, they also have to feed their pets."

Johnson, who owns a dog and three birds, hopes other teachers who offer the "100 items" project to their students, will consider benefiting an animal rescue or shelter.

"I also have a therapy dog that comes in and my kids read to her. The kids love that dog. She's a Boxer. She flops into the middle of the circle and they pet her as they read."

For more about Tail Waggers 1990 visit www.tailwaggers1990.org.



PET PROJECTS

LEGISLATION SAVVY

Sharpen your lobbying skills and learn what it takes to pass legislation that protects animals at a free seminar presented by The Humane Society of the United States and southeastern Michigan's Puppy Mill Awareness MeetUp group, 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, in the Caroline Kennedy Library, program rooms A and B, 24590 George, Dearborn Heights.

The Lobby 101 seminar will cover everything you need to be an effective citizen advocate for animals. The organizations will teach effec-

tive, basic lobbying techniques. You'll learn how a bill becomes a law, what influences a legislator, and what animal-related bills and issues are being considered by the Michigan legislature — and what you can do to get them passed!

An RSVP is required. Visit www.humane-society.org. Click on "take action," then on Michigan and then events and grass roots events calendar.

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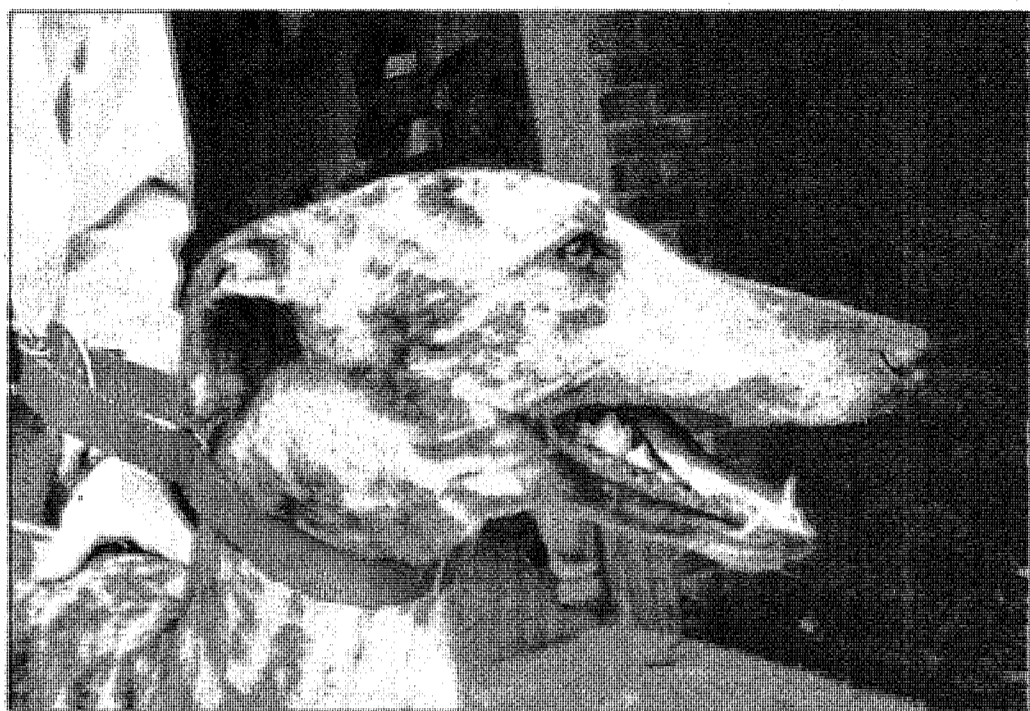
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Strike, a busy and playful Greyhound, is 2 1/2 years old.



Sadie is a quiet, gentle girl.

ADOPTABLE GREYHOUNDS

Striker and Sadie hope to find new homes in time for Christmas. Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption found homes for 38 other Greyhounds over the past year. Here's what volunteers say about these two pooches:

Striker is quite magnificent. She's a 2 1/2-year-old fawn Greyhound and although she's a playful girl, she really loves to cuddle.

Sadie, 3, is a very "girlie" Greyhound. She's a little shy and quiet, but would learn quickly how to love. She has a dark brindle coat that is shiny and beautiful and eyes that will make you instantly fall in love.

To meet Striker or Sadie, call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739 or visit www.greyheart.org

TAKE A WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY AT CAMP

Families may spend an afternoon in the winter wonderland on Saturday, Jan. 8, 2011 at Camp Linden, the Girl Scout camp in Deerfield Township. Membership in Girl Scouting is not required.

Family members of all ages will enjoy sledding, broomball, ice fishing, cross-country skiing, snow sculpting and snow painting, along with hot chocolate and smores around a raging fire in Hunter Lodge. Indoor and outdoor activities will be available from 1-5 p.m. Camp Linden is a premier all-seasons playground, with 400 acres of hills, valleys, woods and wetlands. It's located 30 minutes from Flint and 45 minutes from Ann Arbor. Downhill skiing at Mount Holly is nearby.

Winter Family Fun Day is part of a larger initiative by Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan to introduce its camp properties to the general public. Families of four can join in the fun at a cost of \$20; and \$5

for each additional family member. As a special incentive, any girl or adult who joins Girl Scouts through Family Winter Fun Day will receive a \$5 discount on the \$20 registration fee to become a member of Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan.

For more information and to pre-register, call or e-mail Pam Grubaugh, Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan outdoor education specialist and director of Camp Linden, at (800) 49-SCOUT, Ext. 7261, or pgrubaugh@gshom.org.

Pre-registration is required by Monday, Jan. 3, 2011.

Through Girl Scouting, girls discover their strengths, connect with others and take action to make the world a better place. Girl Scouting offers girls the tools they need to be successful leaders and to develop strong values. To learn more, visit www.gshom.org or call (800) 49-SCOUT.

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JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860



AGING OR ARTHRITIS?

Say a person over age 65 arises in the morning feeling stiff, finding that slipping into a bathrobe brings on a pain in the shoulder, and that walking to the kitchen causes an ache in the knees. Is that person aging or experiencing the beginning of arthritis?

A blood test will not be helpful. As an individual ages the immune system falters in many small ways. Often the test used to confirm arthritis such as the rheumatoid factor, the A.N.A. test, the sedimentation rate and the CRP test will show levels that in younger people indicate inflammation and arthritis. However, in older people the same values are just evidence of an aging immune system.

X-rays of the hands, knees, back and shoulder may show wear and tear but often little relationship exists between the changes of time that x-rays show and the activity that the individual can undertake.

The best way to differentiate the presence of aging from the start of arthritis is to ask the person how long it takes before the stiffness and aching resolves. If after being up and moving for a half hour or less the person limbers up, then the problem is aging. If the discomfort lingers for over an hour or for the day, then the physician will look for arthritis, particularly osteoarthritis.

Joint aching that lasts more than a half-hour but less than a day usually reflects that the person is out of shape. In such instances, the first approach is to see the effect of exercise. The regimen should be at least a half-hour a day, 6-7 days a week. The exercise can be biking, walking, swimming or cycling but must be sustained. Usually after a month of such a schedule the aching resolves or uncovers an underlying arthritis.

OE08726049

Stores collect scarves

Lush cosmetics is helping to keep Detroit area residents warm through its winter apparel collection for Open Door Rescue Mission.

The company is collecting gently-used scarves, hats, gloves and coats for the Mission from Dec. 13-Jan. 3, 2011.

Those who donate items to any of Lush's Detroit-area stores will receive a free bath bomb for each article given.

Lush stores are located at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi — in Macy's and as a free-standing store in the mall — and at Lakeside Mall inside Macy's.

Twelve Oaks is located at 27500 Novi Road, north of I-96 in Novi and Lakeside is at 14000 Lakeside Circle, south of M-59 in Sterling Heights.

LEARN ABOUT LIVING WELL AS A SENIOR

They aren't called "The Golden Years" for nothing, but finding out how to live your best life in those years is sometimes easier said than done. That's why the Botsford Commons Senior Community, Robert Ficano and the Wayne County Seniors and Redford Seniors have joined together for the "Living the Fullness of Life" forum, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2011.

The free event will provide information on aging safely and other helpful resources for seniors. The forum, which includes refreshments, will be held at the Redford VFW, 27345 Schoolcraft.

"Living the Fullness of Life" includes informal presentations by Botsford Commons experts and their affiliates. Those include: "Aging and Fitness to Drive" by Dr. Richard Young of Wayne State University, "Healthy Aging" by geriatrician Dr. Annette Carron, "Brain Fitness" by Diane Zide, and "Getting Your Documents in Order; Community Resources" by Dawn Doyle.

Space is limited. RSVP by Jan. 10, 2011 at (248) 426-6908, or call for more information.

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MAY 2011 WEDDING

Cassandra Loacano and Ryan Kandah announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Marilyn Loacano of Garden City and Michael Loacano of Dearborn, attended Wayne State University and is employed by Community Links in Novi.

Her fiancé, son of Dr. Domian and Carol Kandah of Northville, attended Walsh College and is employed by Northern Trust in Chicago, Ill.

A May 2011 wedding is planned in Livonia.



Loacano-Kandah

AUGUST 2011 WEDDING

Kelli Stickney and Brandon Carlson announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Peggy Schneider of Plymouth and Bill Stickney of Stockbridge, is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and Grand Valley State University. She teaches seventh and eighth-grade social studies at Walker Charter Academy in Grand Rapids.

Her fiancé, son of Fran Carlson of Howard City and Mike Carlson of Newaygo, graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in agronomy. He is the owner of Carlson Arbogast Farms in Howard City.

Kelli and Brandon will wed in August 2011 in Grand Rapids.



Stickney-Carlson

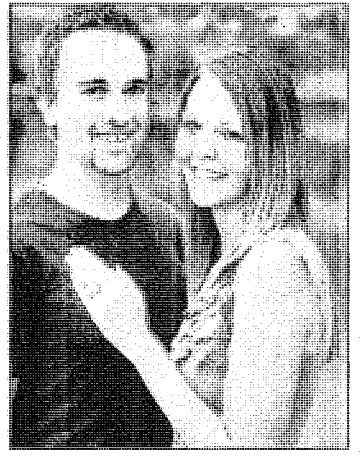
JULY 2011 WEDDING

Robbie Camann and Beth Yeakel announce their engagement.

Robbie, the son of Rick and Sue Camann of Plymouth, is a 2001 graduate of Salem High School. He earned a B.S. degree in civil engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder, and a master's degree in structural engineering from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, Calif. He is employed as a structural engineer with Summit Engineering Group in Littleton, Colo.

Beth, daughter of Doug and Cece Yeakel of Leadville, Colo., is a 2003 graduate of Glenoak High School in Canton, Ohio. She earned a degree in biology from Denison University in Granville, Ohio and is studying to become a physician assistant at the University of Colorado Denver.

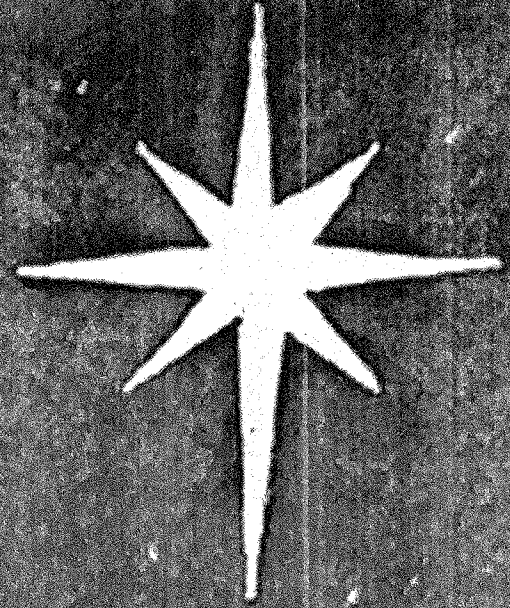
The couple plans to wed in July 2011 in Vail, Colo.



Yeakel-Camann

Glory

to the New Born King



Psst in case you haven't noticed

Trinity Church

It's Christmas

Join us Christmas Eve
4:00 6:00 11:00 p.m.

Put your "to do" list in the drawer
Come just as you are
Take a moment to enjoy the wonder of the season

10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170
www.trinityepc.com

Childcare
Infant-4 yrs.
4:00 & 6:00 only

St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church
555 S. Lilley Rd., Canton
(just south of Cherry Hill Rd.)

Christmas Eve Masses:
4:00, 6:00, 9:00 and Midnight

Christmas Day Masses:
10:00 AM and Noon

More info. at www.abecket.org

GLORY To The Newborn King
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Farm.Hills 23225 Gill Rd. 248-474-0584

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

Christmas Day
10:00 am - Traditional Service
Holy Communion at all services
www.stjohn-elca.com

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
EPISCOPAL-ANGLICAN

Farmington First United Methodist Church
33112 Grand River, Farmington 48336
Just east of Farmington Rd.

Christmas Eve Children's Play, FREE
The Christmas Puzzle, 4:30 p.m.
Traditional service at 10:00 p.m.

December 26, 2010 - 1 service at 10:00 a.m.
January 2, 2011 - 1 service at 10:00 a.m.

God loves you and there is nothing you can do about it
www.farmingtonfumc.org

Christmas Eve, December 24
Candlelight, Carols & Celebrated Message

Family Service: 7 PM
Children's Nativity Pageant

Traditional: 11 PM
Chancel Choir

Franklin Community Church
26425 Wellington Road, Franklin, MI
(248) 626-6606 www.franklinchurch.us

Come celebrate Jesus!

Christmas Eve - Friday, December 24th
The Vigil Mass of the Nativity (Family) - 5:30 pm
The Solemn High Mass of the Nativity - 9:30 pm

Christmas Day - Saturday, December 25th
The High Mass of Christmas Day - 11:00 am

Christmas Sunday - Sunday, December 26th
Feast of the Holy Family - 9:30 am

555 S. Wayne Road, Westland, Michigan
www.stjohnswestland.com • (734) 721-5023

WARD CHURCH
48000 SIX MILE ROAD
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(248) 374-7400

Christmas

Through the eyes of a man, a woman and a child...

Find a calendar of events with complete details online at www.wardchurch.org

JOIN NORTHRIDGE CHURCH AT ONE OF OUR SIX CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24!

For more information, visit NorthRidgeChurch.com

- PLYMOUTH**
1:15P • 3:15P • 5:15P • 7:30P
14702 North Territorial Pk.
Plymouth, MI 48170
- ANN ARBOR-SALINE**
7:30P
7190 N. Maple Road
Saline, MI 48176
(Incl. Middle School)
- BRIGHTON-HOWELL**
7:30P
600 Wright Road
Howell, MI 48843
(Incl. High School)

Christmas at the Kirk

December 19
4:00 PM Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24 - Christmas Eve

11:00 AM Young Family Service
Dr. Norman Pritchard

4:00 PM Family Service
Rev. Tres Adams

6:00 PM Family Service
Rev. Tres Adams

8:30 PM Holy Night Service
Dr. Norman Pritchard

11:00 PM Holy Night Service
Dr. Norman Pritchard

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

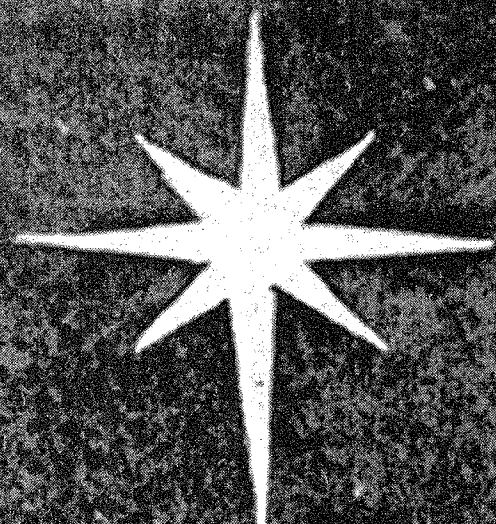
ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

~Christmas Eve Services~
Friday, December 24, 2010

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

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

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



Glory

to the New Born King

Celebrate Christmas!
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
 14175 Farmington Rd, Livonia
 (Just north of I-96)

Christmas Eve:
 7pm Family Service
 11pm Candlelight Service

Christmas Day:
 10am Worship
 (734) 522-6830
 www.christsaviors.org

OE08724170

North Congregational Church
 36520 W. Twelve Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 248/848-1750

Sunday, December 19, 2010, 10:30 a.m.
 Fourth Sunday of Advent: "Emmanuel"
 Worship, Children's Christmas Pageant

Friday, December 24, 2010
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
 7:30 P.M. - "At the Manger"

Ministers: Rev. William C. Lange, Rev. Mary E. Biedron

Risen Christ Lutheran
 David W. Martin, Pastor
 46250 Ann Arbor Road
 Plymouth
 (1 Mile W. of Sheldon)
 (734) 453-5252

Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am
 Christmas Eve
 Candlelight Worship
 4:30 pm

All are welcome.
 Come as you are.
 www.risenchrist.info

OE08725080

HOLY CROSS
 Evangelical Lutheran Church

Traditional
Christmas Eve Worship
 Carols, Candlelight and
 Holy Communion
 4:30* 7:30 and 11 pm
 *For families with young children
 All are Welcome
 http://holycrosslivonia.org

30650 6 Mile Rd., Livonia
 (1/2 Mile West of Middlebelt)
 734-427-1414 • WELCOME VISITORS

OE08725080

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Tridentine Latin Rite Mass 734-462-3200

38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154
 One quarter mile West of Newburgh Road

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve	Confessions	11:00-11:50 pm
Christmas Day	Midnight Mass	12:00 am
	Morning Mass	10:00 am
	Confessions	9:30 am

OE08725080

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, MI
 Rev. Marsha M. Woolley, Lead Pastor
 Rev. Paul Perez, Deacon

CHRISTMAS EVE
 5:00 p.m. Children/Family Service
 7:00 p.m. Worship and Candlelight
 11:00 p.m. Lessons, Carols,
 Candlelight & Holy Communion

December 26 Family Worship Service for all ages at 11:00 am

OE08723167

St. John's Episcopal Church
Where you will experience the joyful love of Christ

Christmas Services • Dec. 24

4:00 pm Family service with Holy Eucharist and Pageant
 10:30 pm Carols and Anthems
 11:00 pm Traditional Holy Eucharist with Adult Choir & Organ

574 S. Sheldon Rd. • Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-0190
 www.stjohnsplymouth.org

OE08725080

Christmas Services at Starr Presbyterian Church

"Blue Christmas" Service
 December 23 at 5 p.m.
Christmas Eve - December 24
 Family Service at 5 p.m.
 Candlelight Service at 11 p.m.

Starr Presbyterian
 1717 W. 13 Mile Road • Royal Oak
248/288-3230
 www.starrchurch.org

OE08723164

Covenant Community Church
 25800 Student - Redford, MI 48239 - 313-535-3100
 (1 block north of Five Mile on Beech Daly)

Christmas Service Schedule
 Friday, December 24, 2010
 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
 Sunday, December 26, 2010 11 a.m.
 Morning Worship

OE08724617

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church (WELS)
 17810 Farmington Road ~ Livonia, Michigan
 734-261-1360 ~ website: stpaulslivonia.org

Christmas Worship at St. Paul's

Christmas Eve Worship	6:30 p.m.
Christmas Day Worship	10:00 a.m.
New Year's Eve	6:30 p.m.

Come and worship with us!
 Pastor James Hoff Pastor Eric Steinbrenner

OE08729614

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-DETROIT
 21200 Southfield Rd., Southfield
 (248) 569-2972 www.fbc-detroit.org

ADVENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE
December 19th - Fourth Sunday of Advent
 11:00 a.m. Worship: Christmas Pageant
Friday, December 24th - Christmas Eve
 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
 "Candlelight Service"

OE08723345

Resurrection Parish
 48755 Warren Rd., Canton, MI 48187
734-451-0444

Friday, December 24th: Christmas Eve Masses—4:30 PM (Church);
 4:30 PM (All Saints Catholic School Gym); 10:00 PM (Church)

Saturday, December 25th: Christmas Day—10:30 AM

Sunday, December 26th: Feast of the Holy Family—8:30 AM and 10:30 AM

Friday, December 31st: Solemnity of Mary Mother of God—4:30 PM

Saturday, January 1st: Solemnity of Mary Mother of God—10:30 AM

Sunday, January 2nd: Solemnity of the Epiphany—8:30 AM and 10:30 AM

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE SAVIOR'S BIRTH!

OE08729614

Lola Park Lutheran Church
 14750 Kinloch, Redford 48239
 (313) 532-8655
 lolaparklutheran.com
 Rev. Gregory D. Gibbons, Pastor

Christmas Eve Service 7:00 p.m.
Christmas Day Service 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.
 Radio Broadcast 10:30 a.m. Sunday
 WLQV 1500 AM

OE08724675

PILGRIM Congregational Church

Sunday Worship: 11:00am

Christmas Eve Services
 Gift of Music - instrumental prelude
 7:00 p.m.
 Christmas Eve Worship - 7:30 p.m.

All are welcome -
 please join us!

3061 Adams Road
 (Just North of Big Beaver)
 Phone: 248/642-2290
 www.pilgrimcongregationalchurch.org

Or visit us on Facebook -
 Pilgrim Congregational Church
 of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

OE08725080

Historic Mariners' Church
 A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE
 Traditional Anglican Worship - Since 1842

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve
 7:30 and 11:00 p.m. • Duplicate Services • Festival Choral Communion
 No services on Christmas Day

Sunday, December 26 - St. Stephen Deacon and Martyr
 One service only • 11:00 a.m. - The Holy Communion

Regular Service of Holy Communion - Sundays at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
 Thursdays at 12:10 p.m.

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 with entrance in the median strip of Jefferson at Woodward
 (313) 259-2206
 www.marinerschurchofdetroit.org

OE08725491

First United Methodist Church of Birmingham

Christmas Worship
 Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

2:00 p.m.
 Traditional sanctuary service
 including lessons, carols,
 Holy Communion, a homily
 and candle lighting.

7:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.
 Traditional services in
 the sanctuary, featuring
 beautiful music and a
 Christmas Eve sermon.
 At 7:00 PM, nursery
 care is available for
 children younger than
 kindergarten age.

4:00 p.m.
 A worship service for
 children younger than five
 years old and their families.

5:30 p.m.
 A family worship time led by
 children in first through fifth
 grades. Nursery care
 provided for children two
 years and younger.

1589 West Maple Road
 Birmingham, MI
 (248) 646-1240
 www.fumebirmingham.org

OE08725491

Christ the King Lutheran Church • ELCA
 www.ChristTheKingLivonia.com

9300 Farmington Road - Livonia, MI 48150
 (734) 421-0749
 The Rev. James L. Fogle, Pastor

**Christmas Eve Candlelight
 Worship with Communion**
 7:00 & 11:00 pm

OE08725491

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia 734.464.0211 www.holytrinitylivonia.org

Christmas Eve
 5:00 pm Family Worship with Holy Communion
 7:00 pm Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion
 10:30 pm Festival Prelude of Christmas Music
 11:00 pm Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion

Christmas Day 10:00 am Holy Communion

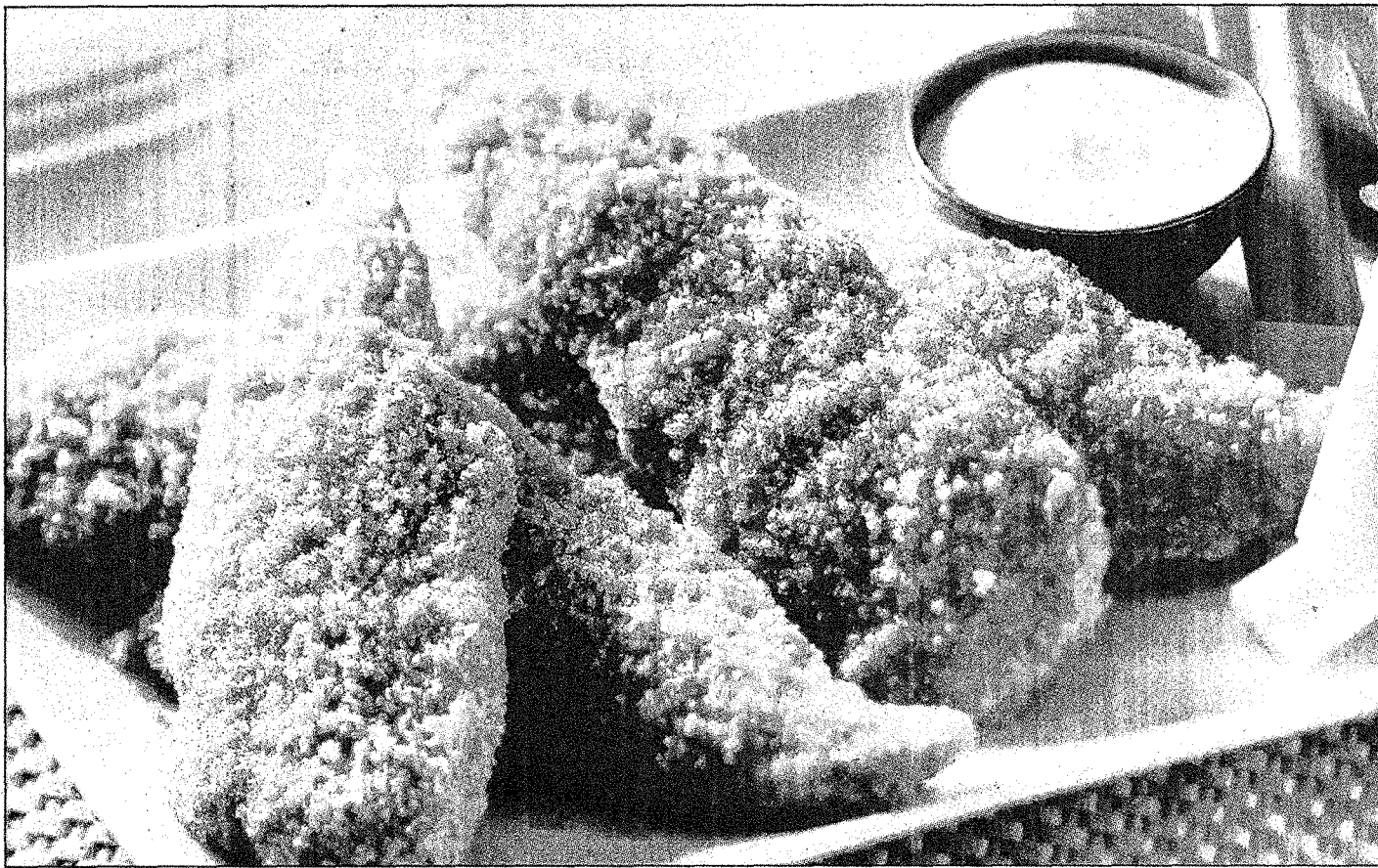
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

OE08724103

FOOD

Sunday, December 19, 2010

hometownlife.com



Avoid the hosting blues

The entertaining season is here, and whether you're supporting your favorite team, or hosting your friends and family, it's easy to get stressed out with all the planning and preparation. A great way to avoid the hosting blues is to add a little spice to your get-togethers. Don't fall into the habit of serving the same-old boring small-talk and appetizers - keep things fun and fresh by shaking things up.

There's nothing wrong with go-to standards, but remember too much of anything can get old quick. Try these tips to "shake over" your party:

- An easy way to keep the conversation moving and exciting is to play a game. From a favorite board game to trivia contests or cards, there is a fun game for every party and crowd. Have your friends and family team up and compete against each other. Small prizes or gifts are a great way to acknowledge the winners and spice up the competition and entertainment.

- When considering your party menu, start with a few staples, like chips and dip, veggies, and cheese and crackers, and then spice it up a bit with something different. You can even kick up your party menu a notch with something new like Shake 'n Bake Crispy Buffalo. Cooking shouldn't be a chore when you're hosting friends and family, and Shake 'n Bake offers an easy snacking solution to jump start your party.

- A great way to spice up your party is to always be on the lookout for new and exciting recipes. Try a new recipe each time you host. From appetizers to entrees, there are a lot of different ways to kick things up a notch. And when time is not on your side, look for recipes with short prep and 5 ingredients or less.

Need more ways to shake things up? Visit www.shaken-bake.com to download discounts and find easy-to-prepare recipes that friends and family will love.

BUFFALO CHICKEN WING SNACKERS

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Total Time: 35 minutes
Makes: 8 servings

What you need

1 1/2 pounds chicken wings, separated at the joint, tips removed.
1 packet Shake 'n Bake Buffalo Seasoned Coating Mix
1/2 cup Kraft Ranch Dressing

Make it

HEAT oven to 400°F.
SHAKE chicken with coating

mix as directed on package.

BAKE in foil-lined pan 25 minutes or until chicken is done. Serve with dressing.

Nutrition Information Per Serving (8 servings): 250 calories, 16g total fat, 4g saturated fat, 45mg cholesterol, 570mg sodium, 11g carbohydrate, 0g dietary fiber, 4g sugars, 14g protein, 6% DV vitamin A, 0% DV vitamin C, 0% DV calcium, 4% DV iron.

BUFFALO CHICKEN EXPRESS SALAD

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Total Time: 25 minutes
Makes: 6 servings, 2 cups each

What you need

1 pound chicken tenders, cut crosswise in half
1 packet Shake 'n Bake Buffalo Seasoned Coating Mix
1 package (10 ounces) torn salad greens
2 stalks celery, diagonally sliced
2 carrots, peeled, diagonally sliced
1/2 cup Kraft Light Ranch Dressing
1/2 cup Athenos Crumbled Blue Cheese

Make it

HEAT oven to 400°F.
COAT chicken with coating mix

as directed on package; place on foil-covered baking sheet.

BAKE 15 min. or until done.
COVER platter with greens; top with vegetables, dressing, chicken and cheese.

Nutrition Information Per Serving: 230 calories, 8g total fat, 2.5g saturated fat, 55mg cholesterol, 840mg sodium, 20g carbohydrate, 2g dietary fiber, 6g sugars, 18g protein, 90% DV vitamin A, 15% DV vitamin C, 8% DV calcium, 6% DV iron.

- Family Features

Gluten-free holiday entertaining with almonds

For those living with celiac disease or gluten sensitivities, holiday eating - or entertaining - can be a tricky task. Fortunately, leading a gluten-free lifestyle doesn't have to mean sacrificing taste, versatility or the seasonal treats you crave each year. Almonds are an ideal solution for holiday entertaining because they are available in so many forms and functions - and they're always gluten free.

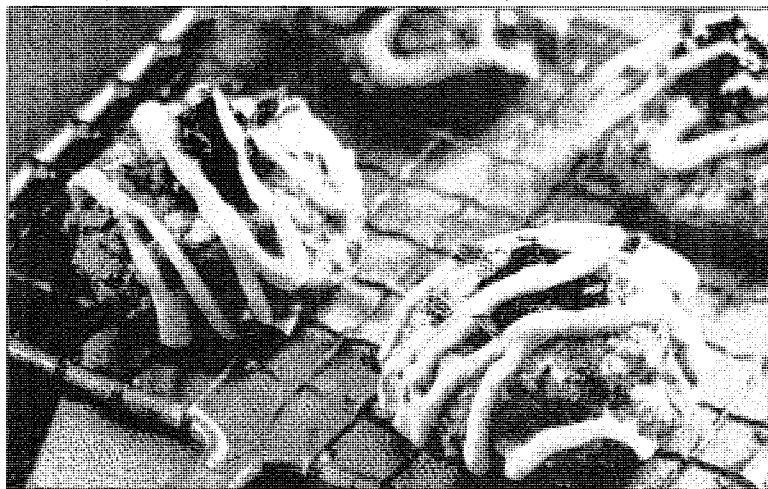
"Avoiding gluten during the holidays doesn't mean you have to feel deprived," says Shelley Case, registered dietitian and author of "The Gluten-Free Diet." "Almonds are naturally gluten free and delicious. With a little planning you can create dishes that everyone will enjoy."

Adding the allure of taste and texture from the various forms of almonds to your diet makes it easier and more satisfying to live without gluten. They're a perfect solution for the gluten-free diet because they provide important nutrients such as fiber (3.5 g), calcium (75 mg), iron (1.1 mg) and protein (6 g) that can be lacking in many other gluten-free foods. Plus, a one-ounce serving of almonds (about 23) has 13 grams of good unsaturated fats, just one gram of saturated fat, and is always cholesterol- and gluten-free. What's more, almonds offer 7.4 mg vitamin E, 0.3 mg of riboflavin and 1 mg of niacin.

Gluten-free flour alternatives are often complicated mixes of many different types of ingredient flours, but almond flour is the one simple component that is easy to use and gets great gluten-free baking results, says Case. It brings great consistency to breads, cakes and cookies and acts as an ideal thickening agent for almost any sauce. Chopped almonds make for an interesting culinary twist when used to coat chicken or fish, and whole natural almonds are the perfect snack to provide lasting energy when busy in the kitchen or on-the-go. And, for a nearly guilt-free gluten-free indulgence, dark-chocolate-covered almonds are always a holiday hit.

Whip up a batch of these Gluten Free Amaretti Sage Cookies and impress your guests with a holiday cookie that will please any palate.

For more gluten-free recipes and information, visit www.AlmondBoard.com.



GLUTEN-FREE AMARETTI COOKIES

Yield: 30 cookies

Cookies:

2 cups California almonds, whole natural
1/2 cup sugar
5 egg whites
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
30 cherries, dried, whole

Icing:

1 cup powdered sugar
6 tablespoons heavy cream
1/8 cup sage, minced, for garnish
Preheat oven to 325°F.
Using a blender or food processor, grind almonds and sugar together until mixture looks like coarse grits. Set aside.

With an electric mixer, whip egg whites and vanilla stiff peaks form. Gently fold the almond and sugar

mixture into the egg whites until fully incorporated.

Transfer mixture to a pastry bag with large, round tip. On a parchment-lined greased baking sheet, apply cookies in 1-inch rounds roughly 3/4-inch apart. Press a whole dried cherry into the center of each cookie.

Place cookies in middle rack of oven and bake for 10 to 12 minutes, until golden brown. Remove from oven and place on a cooling rack.

For icing, whisk together powdered sugar and cream until smooth. When cooled, drizzle icing over each cookie followed by a sprinkling of the sage.

- Family Features

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

Festive flavors for the holidays

Updating holiday menus doesn't have to mean out with the old and in with the new. Having a bit of fun by mixing up seasonal flavors can reinvigorate comfortable family classics while still evoking cozy memories of holidays past.

This is good news for the eight out of 10 people who described their 2009 holiday meals as "predictable," according to the National Pork Board's "Holiday Table Trends 2010" survey. To help break free from holiday predictability, celebrity chef Michael Symon has created pork pairings inspired by the survey results.

"Pork's versatility makes it my first choice for holiday dinners," said Symon. "I can pair pork with sweet holiday favorites like cranberry and cinnamon - and explore unexpected flavors like chocolate - when recreating holiday classics."

The survey also found that chocolate was a top-rated festive flavor that many people would never consider pairing with pork. But Symon insists that mole, a savory Mexican sauce that incorporates chocolate, is a perfect pork pairing. He created this "Cider-and-Bear-Braised Pork with Chocolate Mole" recipe to show how pork's savory flavor can be enhanced by almost any holiday ingredient.

Chef Symon has created more holiday recipes, such as "Coriander and Cumin Roasted Rack of Pork with Five Spice Pumpkin Puree." For these recipes, a free brochure filled with tips, and videos for how to celebrate the season with pork, visit www.TheOtherWhiteMeat.com and facebook.com/TheOtherWhiteMeat.

CIDER-AND-BEAR-BRAISED PORK WITH CHOCOLATE MOLE

8 servings

Prep time: 55 minutes

Cooking time: 2 hours

Chilling time: up to 24 hours (optional)

1 2 1/4-pound boneless pork shoulder roast (Boston Butt roast), exterior fat removed, cut into 1-inch cubes

1/2 teaspoon salt

3 tablespoons canola OR olive oil

1 small onion, finely chopped

1/2 cup slivered almonds

1 large jalapeño chile, seeds removed and minced

1 clove garlic, minced

2 teaspoons whole coriander seed

2 teaspoons cumin seed

2 teaspoons smoked paprika

2 teaspoons ancho chile powder

16 ounces lager beer (2 cups)

2 cups pure pressed, pasteurized apple cider OR juice (not from concentrate)

3 ounces grated or very finely chopped Mexican chocolate*

3 limes, juiced and zested

6 cups hot cooked rice

Pat pork cubes dry with paper towels; season with salt. Heat 2 tablespoons oil over medium-high heat in 5- to 6-quart heavy Dutch oven. Add half the pork. Cook 2 to 3 minutes or until browned, stirring occasionally. Using slotted spoon, transfer pork to bowl. Brown remaining pork in remaining 1 tablespoon oil. Add all pork back to Dutch oven.

Stir in onion, almonds, jalapeño and garlic. Cook, uncovered, over medium-low heat for 5 to 7 minutes or until onion is crisp-tender and translucent.

Stir in coriander seed, cumin seed, smoked paprika and ancho chile powder; cook for 1 minute. Add beer and apple cider and bring to a simmer. Cover and gently simmer over medium-low or low heat for 2 hours.

If desired, cool mixture. Cover and refrigerate for up to 1 day. Spoon and discard fat from top of chilled mixture. Heat mixture over medium-high heat.

Stir in lime juice and zest, and chocolate into hot mixture. Serve over rice.

* If Mexican chocolate is unavailable, use 3 ounces bittersweet chocolate plus 1 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon and 3 drops almond extract.

To Plate:

Spoon rice into shallow bowls and top with pork in mole sauce.

- Family Features



JUST ANNOUNCED!

YEAR END

CELEBRATION



SIGN AND DRIVE LEASE OFFERS!

\$0 down payment | **\$0** cash due at signing | **\$0** first month's payment

Up to \$2,500 Holiday Bonus Cash!²

2011 FOCUS SE FWD

Extra \$1,250 Holiday Bonus Cash!



25 city / 35 highway MPG⁴

Current Ford Lessees get:

\$0 down payment | \$0 cash due at signing | \$0 first month's payment

\$219 per month for 27 months¹

- 2.0 Duratec I-4 Engine • MyKey
- 4-Speed Automatic Transmission
- 15" Alloy Wheels
- AM/FM Stereo/Single CD-Player with 4 Speakers

2011 FUSION SE FWD

Extra \$450 Holiday Bonus Cash!



23 city / 33 highway MPG⁴

Current Ford Lessees get:

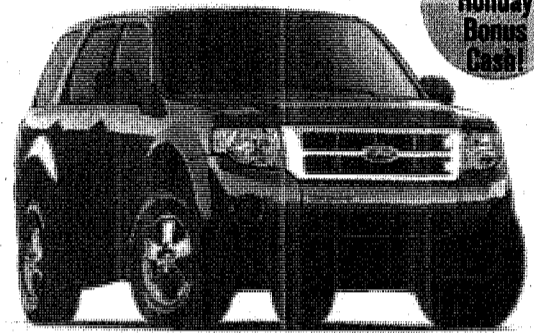
\$0 down payment | \$0 cash due at signing | \$0 first month's payment

\$239 per month for 27 months¹

- 2.5L Duratec I-4 Engine
- 6-speed automatic transmission
- Sync with traffic, direct and information
- 17" Design wheels with silver paint

2011 ESCAPE XLT FWD

Extra \$900 Holiday Bonus Cash!



21 city / 28 highway MPG⁴

Current Ford Lessees get:

\$0 down payment | \$0 cash due at signing | \$0 first month's payment

\$288 per month for 27 months¹

- 2.5L Duratec I-4 Engine
- 6-speed automatic transmission
- AdvanceTrac with Roll Stability Control
- 16" Cast aluminum Wheels

Ford Employees lease for even less!



Extra \$2,500 Holiday Bonus Cash!

0% APR + \$2,500 ...or

2010 F-150 XLT 4X4
\$369 For 27 months for current A/Z plan customers⁵
PER MONTH LEASE
\$2,243 Cash Due at Signing

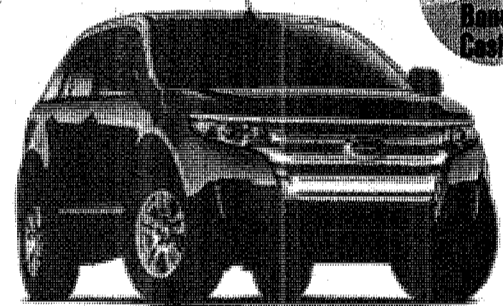
- Sync, Tow & Chrome package
- 4.6L 3V V8 Engine • 18" chrome-clad aluminum wheels
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control
- Trailer Sway Control



18 city / 27 highway MPG⁴

2011 TAURUS SEL FWD
\$299 For 27 months for current A/Z plan customers⁵
PER MONTH LEASE
\$2,201 Cash Due at Signing

- 3.5 L Duratec V6 engine • MyKey
- Perimeter anti-theft alarm
- 6-speed select shift automatic transmission with paddle activation
- Sync with traffic, direct and information



Extra \$500 Holiday Bonus Cash!

19 city / 26 highway MPG⁴

2011 EDGE SE
\$249 For 27 months for current A/Z plan customers⁵
PER MONTH LEASE
\$2,283 Cash Due at Signing

- 3.5 Ti-VCT V6 Engine • 6-Speed Automatic Transmission
- Single-Zone Manual Air-Conditioning
- AM/FM Stereo/Single CD-Player with MP3 Capability
- Dual Chrome Exhaust Tips • 17" Painted Aluminum Wheels

Or if you purchase, get 0% APR Financing plus \$1,500 toward your first three payments!⁶



Available on most vehicles.⁷



Southeast Michigan Ford Dealers
ThinkFordFirst.com

(1) Includes waived security deposit, acquisition fee; excludes title, taxes, and license fees. Some payments higher, some lower. Payment includes \$750 on Edge, \$1,000 on Focus and \$1,500 on Fusion and Escape renewal cash. Renewal cash for current RCL/RCO customers. You must currently lease a Ford product and re-lease through Ford Credit. Not all lessees will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low mileage lease. First months payment on Focus up to \$250 and up to \$300 on Fusion and Escape is paid by Ford. See dealer for details. Residency restrictions apply. (2) \$2,500 Holiday Bonus Cash on F Series models (excludes Raptor model) (3) Includes acquisition fee, waived security deposit, and excludes title, taxes and license fees. Some payments higher, some lower. Not all lessees will qualify. Residency restrictions apply. Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. Payments include Renewal Bonus Cash for current RCL/RCO customers. You must currently lease a Ford product and finance through Ford Credit. Take delivery out of dealer stock 1/3/11. Edge Limited and Flex SEL model shown. (4) MPG estimate based on 2011 Focus SE 2.0 Duratec I-4 engine 25 city/35 highway, 2011 Fusion SE 2.5L I-4 Engine with 6-speed automatic 23 city/33 highway, 2011 Escape XLT 2.5L Duratec I-4 engine 21 city/28 highway, 2011 Taurus SEL 3.5L V6 engine 18 city/27 highway, and 2011 Edge SE FWD 3.5L with 6-speed automatic 19 city/26 highway. (5) Excludes title, taxes, and license fees. Some payments higher, some lower. Not all customers will qualify for 0% APR Ford Credit financing. \$27.77 per month \$1,000 financed for 36 months. For all offers, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/3/11. See dealer for details. Excludes Raptor models. (6) Available on 2011 Focus, Fusion (excluding Hybrid), Taurus (excluding SE), Escape (excluding Hybrid), Flex, Ranger, 2010 Explorer, Sport Trac and F-150 (excluding Raptor). Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit limited-term financing. \$1,500 Cash Back may be used to make payments; customer is required to make all actual payments. Program ends 1/3/11. See dealer for complete details. Residency restrictions apply. (7) Driving while distracted can result in loss of vehicle control. Only use mobile phones and other devices, even with voice commands, when it is safe to do so. All applicable holiday bonus cash is included in payments shown. (8) Excludes SE AWD model.