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Holiday closings

City buildings and rubbish collection will be affected by the Thanksgiving holiday. The Bailey Recreation Center and the William P. Faust Public Library will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23. All city offices, including the library, the recycling center, 18th District Court and the Bailey Center, will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 24 and Friday, Nov. 25. There also will be no rubbish pickup on Thanksgiving Day. Pickup will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week. In addition, the Westland Historical Museum and the recycling center will be closed on Saturday, Nov. 26.

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W-W gets state's best practices money

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Wayne-Westland schools officials got good news from Lansing in the district's most recent state school aid payment — an extra \$100 per student. The money is tied to the district meeting the benchmarks for best practices. It comes after

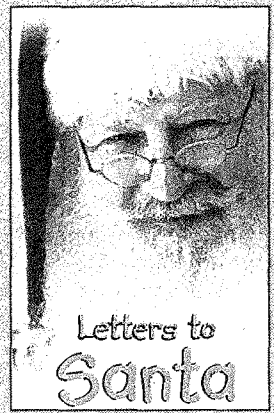
the district sent a school board a resolution that certified that the district had met four of the five best practices needed to receive the incentive. "It's worth about \$1.2 million," Gary Martin, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services, told the school board in seeking approval of

the resolution. "We comply with four of five and I feel confident that we will meet all five with the development of a service consolidation plan." The incentive is one of two one-time \$100 state aid categorical offers by the state to offset the rising retirement rate and massive losses in state school aid. Wayne-

Westland saw its state school aid cut by \$470 per student this year and lost another \$238 per student when the \$6 million it received in lieu of millage disallowed at the start of Proposal A cut in it half this year. "This \$100 helps and we are grateful, but it is a drop in the bucket to the \$750 per pupil we were

cut this year," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. Schools districts received an additional \$100 per student this year to soften the jump in the percentage of payroll paid for retirement, and could get an additional \$100 per student, if they meet at least four of

Please see **SCHOOLS, A4**



Letters to
Santa

Santa letters

While Christmas is a very busy time of year for Santa Claus, he always makes time to read letters from children. Youngsters can be sure Santa knows what they want by writing a letter to Santa. Santa Claus has given the Observer permission to print some of those letters in our Thursday, Dec. 22, issue. But to do that, we need letters. So youngsters, get out some paper and a pen or pencil or a computer and start writing. Letters should be e-mailed to smason@hometownlife.com. Parents, be sure to include a JPEG photo of your child, with their name, age, address and phone number. Only your child's name and age will be published. Letters can also be mailed to Letters to Santa, c/o Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. The deadline for all Santa letters is Monday, Dec. 12.

Hines Park lights up for the holidays



Santa Claus and Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano throw the switch to officially open Wayne County Parks' annual Lightfest in Hines Park.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

You'll find more coverage of Lightfest in Thursday's Westland Observer.

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Benjamin Lucas could have cared less about the fireworks. Ditto for the lights, the music and dancing. The two-week-old infant was too busy sleeping in a baby carrier against to mom Crystal's chest. "It's his first fireworks," said the Garden City resident as she stood with family members in Merriman Hollow in Hines Park Thursday evening to watch the fireworks display that signaled the opening of Wayne County Parks' annual Lightfest. "This is my third year coming. All of us lived in the apartments behind this and never came out for this until we moved out." Tim West pointed to Lucas, his sister, as the reason for his attending the ceremony for the



Fireworks fill the sky as cars begin to move along Hines Drive through the lightfest. The display will be open through Dec. 31.

first time. "She made me come out," he said. "I like the idea of fireworks when it's cold. What other time of the year can you wear a snow hat and gloves..." "And feel like it's the Fourth of July," added

Maria Hanley of Westland. "Fireworks and hot chocolate, it's the best thing to mix together." Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano was joined by Santa Claus in flipping the switch, carried live on Fox-2, to turn on the 4

1/2-mile long light show that stretches from Merriman Road in Westland to Warrendale in Dearborn Heights. More than 100 people gathered beside the

Please see **LIGHTS, A2**

Residents respond to call for donations

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

It's just over a month until Christmas and that means the Westland Goodfellows are working hard to make sure no child in the city is without gifts and food for the holiday. In October and November, the Goodfellows sent letters out soliciting financial contributions. It's the second year the Goodfellows solicited donations instead of selling newspapers. Now containers to collect nonperishable food, unwrapped new toys, mittens, hats and scarves are in place at more than 40 different locations as the Goodfellows accept applications for Christmas assistance.

"We had a really great

Please see **DONATE, A2**

Hearing delayed in assault of woman, 80

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A preliminary examination for a Westland man charged with assaulting his mother and setting fire to her home has been delayed until Dec. 15. Scheduled for a hearing Thursday in Westland 18th District Court, Yousef Dughman has been described as having a history of mental illness and had resided in an adult group home. He had been undergoing additional psychiatric examinations.

Please see **HEARING, A2**

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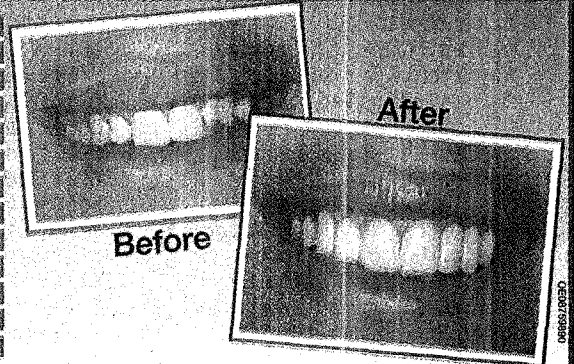
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Before

After

HEARING

Continued from page A1

Following his arrest on June 19, Dughman was taken to a psychiatric unit. He was later found competent to the extent of understanding the criminal proceedings.

Held in lieu of \$500,000 cash bond, Dughman is charged with arson, felonious assault and domestic violence. A not guilty plea was entered for Dughman following his arraignment.

A fire was reported about 9:30 a.m. June 19 at a unit in the London Townhouses located at Ann Arbor Trail and Middlebelt. Police said that Dughman had been beat-

ing his mother, 80, with a belt before she fled to a neighboring unit.

Once his mother had left her home, police said a fire was started in the living room of her unit. Neighbors reported the fire after seeing smoke.

When officers arrived, Dughman was reported to have been sitting on the curb in the parking lot and told police that he had started the fire.

Dughman's mother complained of some soreness following the assault, police said, but had no visible injuries. Police also reported several previous responses to domestic violence complaints at the home.

irogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

LIGHTS

Continued from page A1

Hines Drive entrance to the light show, chasing the chill with hot chocolate and enjoying music and dancing by Dance Extreme.

Bryn McGuigan and his son, Troy, of Westland were in the crowd, there to watch Troy's friend perform.

"We've seen the lights before, but have never come to the opening," said McGuigan. "I want to see the new lights, the music notes."

Many in the crowd dressed for the near freezing temperatures, but Zackery Stephens and Brandon Burroughs of Garden City had to admit their sweat shirts weren't enough to keep out the cold.

"It's kind of cold, but we got hot chocolate," said Burroughs who likes "the fireworks, watching the lights and seeing people have a good time."

"I like to see all the



The Tuesday night Lightfest Bike Ride through Hines Park attracted a group who dressed as Toy Story characters to pay tribute to the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots. Tonia Paduan Caribardi (from left) was T-Rex, Karen Hubbard was Woody, Calvin Shrewsbury was Buzz Lightyear, Christine Shrewsbury was Mrs. Potato Head, Laura Gillis was Sarge, Lisa Loerlein as Mr. Potato Head and Kayla Loerlein was the Alien. The group collected toys and plans to continuing collecting them for the foundation until Dec. 2. Caribardi also took second place for her T-Rex outfit in the costume competition.

lights and the fireworks," said Stephens.

Lightfest features more than 45 giant animated displays and more than one million lights and is the Midwest's largest and

longest light show. The display is open from 7-10 p.m. now through Dec. 31, except Christmas Day. The charge is \$5 fee per vehicle. Although Lightfest

begins at 7 p.m., Hines Drive will be closed to traffic beginning at 5:45 p.m. nightly.

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751

NEWS BRIEF

Holiday pics

This Thanksgiving, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers want to share Thanksgiving dinner with you and your family.

We're asking local families to take their Garden City Observer to dinner and take a family photo with your paper —

be as creative as you'd like. The best pics will be named the Feast Photos and the photographer will be awarded movie passes to Imagine Theater.

Send your photos to Sue Mason by e-mailing in JPEG format to smason@hometownlife.com. We'll publish the photos during the holidays.

DONATE

Continued from page A1

response to the mailer this year," said Goodfellows secretary Donna Knight. "Our collection boxes are at all the locations from last year and a few new ones."

Additionally, Knight said the Goodfellows adopt-a-family program has had a really big response with 16 families already sponsored by local businesses.

Families must be Westland residents and must demonstrate financial hardship to receive assistance. Recipients are then given shopping vouchers to be used at the Westland Target store to

purchase items for their children. The vouchers are restricted to items for the child, such as clothing, toys and small electronics. Purchases are reviewed in detail to maintain program guidelines.

In addition, children also receive hats and gloves, coloring books and crayons, school supplies, and donated toys collected by the Goodfellows. And finally, families will receive a food voucher to use at Heartland Market, a Westland grocery store, and a box of donated food collected by the Goodfellows.

The application deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 30. Applications are available at Westland City Hall, the Westland

Chamber of Commerce, the Dorsey Center and the Wayne-Ford Civic League.

A major fundraiser for the Westland Goodfellows is the annual UAW-Ford Chairman and Westland Councilman Bill Johnson bowling event. This year, the event will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at Westland Bowl, 5940 N. Wayne Road. The cost is \$20 per person with five-person teams. The donation includes two games, shoes and pizza. Bowling isn't required for participation in the event and sponsorships are available.

There will also be 50/50 and other raffles will be available during the event. Contact Mike Smith at (734) 721-2531

or msmithvplocal900@gmail.com, Don Conger at (734) 467-0082 or dconger@ford.com or Chad Erickson at (734) 467-0181 cericks4@ford.com

The Goodfellows could also use some help sorting and packing donated items on Friday, Dec. 2, and the distribution event Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh.

Donations can be mailed to The Westland Goodfellows, 32715 Dorsey, Westland, MI 48186 or send an e-mail to info@westlandgoodfellows.org to arrange pickup of donated items. Call (734) 788-2270 for more information.

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Hugs, music: Storytimes have it all

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

During a recent session of Toddler Tales, one little boy realized he had forgotten something — he had intended to hug Cari Fry when he arrived.

Once he remembered, the boy hugged Fry and about 10 other youngsters followed suit.

"We have a good time, they are my regulars. They're my favorite group," said Fry, a children's associate at Westland's William P. Faust Public Library.

Offered at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Toddler Tales is an interactive storytime for children 18 months to 3½ years old. Older or younger siblings are welcome and parents stay with the youngsters during the program.

Being a program for



Children's Associate Cari Fry reads a story during Toddler Time at Westland's William P. Faust Library.

toddlers, Fry said repetition is important, so each session starts out with the same song.

"Colors has been a focus. We will review our colors. This week we will be thankful for the things around us

for Thanksgiving," Fry said.

A popular part of Toddler Tales is when the youngsters get to choose an instrument to play along with recorded music and march around the room.



Creighton Buckalew wants to get a closer look at the book being read during Toddler Tales at Westland's William P. Faust Library.

"They are so good now that when the music ends, the put their instruments away," Fry said.

For older children, Preschool Storytime is

offered Thursdays. That storytime is for children 3½ to 5 years old who aren't in kindergarten.

"That is an independent storytime — mom



Amanda Drouillard and three-month old daughter Lainey listen to the story during Toddler Tales.

waits outside. They are learning to separate, being introduced to preschool — the sitting and listening structure and literacy concepts," Fry said.

Toddler Tales and Preschool Storytime will be taking a break after this week, but will return in January. The programs are free and no advance registration is required.

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Gregory Zambo came to Four Seasons following a stroke at age 54. His sister, Deborah Taracuk, appreciates the care her brother received at Four Seasons. "He was in the hospital for 54 days — intensive care for a long time, and then rehab in the hospital. It was difficult for him to move his right arm and leg. With the guidance of Four Seasons physical therapy team, Gregory worked on strengthening equipment as part of his treatment plan. Today he is walking without assistance. He was in some kind of therapy every day," said Deborah, and especially appreciated the individual attention given to patients. "Everybody knew my brother's name and made a point of checking on his progress," said Deborah. "The care was fabulous."

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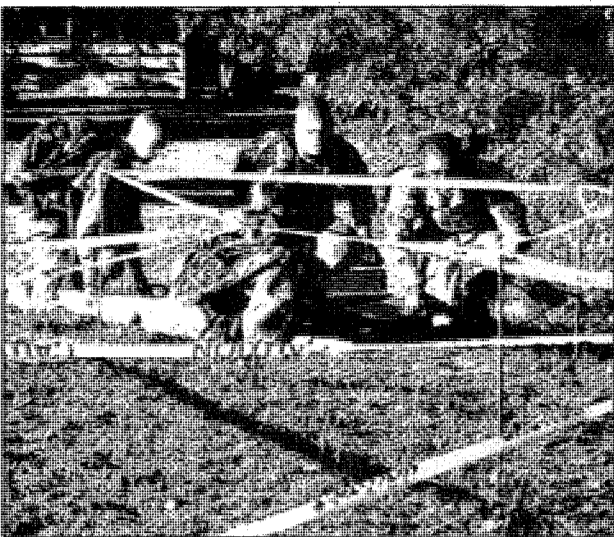
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Wayne's JROTC Raider Team places 5th in national event



Members of the Zebra Battalion Raiders Team work through the obstacle course at the national competition.

After two heartbreaking runner-up finishes at competition in Jackson, Mich., and Hobart, Ind., the Wayne Memorial High School JROTC Raider team rested, regrouped and retrained to meet the challenge of the National Raider Competition in Molena, Ga.

"This was supposed to be a rebuilding year, but our cadets stepped up and demonstrated what it means to have Wayne Pride," said by retired 1st Sgt. Steven LaHaine, senior instructor of Wayne's Zebra Battalion. "Success was the objective, and although the Wayne Raiders did not win the Georgia competition, it was still a success. Our goal was

reached and surpassed which made it a success."

The Raider team placed fifth in the 5-kilometer team run, fitness test and the Gauntlet, a 1.5-mile uphill road march with rucksacks over rough terrain. Their strong finish in other events put them in the top six in the nation, or higher, for the fifth consecutive year, LaHaine said.

"Motivation pushed us through every event as the day wore on," said Cadet 1st Lt. Donte Burton.

Cadets Staff Sgt. Darren Hombirg and Cadet Command Sgt. Maj. Aimee Papineau also competed in the Ultimate Raider Challenge. Although they did not



Posing with their trophies are Raider Team members Aimee Papineau, Brian Browning, Isabelle Letts, Stephanie Hyams, Jillian Matheson, Elysia Decker, Zachary Woodworth, Marcus Jordan, Anthony Hardesty, Devin Person, Donte Burton and Darrin Hombirg.

win the challenge, they put out a maximum effort and tried their best.

Members of the team included Papineau, Brian Browning, Isabelle Letts, Stephanie Hyams, Jillian Matheson

Elysia Decker, Zachary Woodworth, Marcus

Jordan, Anthony Hardesty, Devin Person, Burton and Hombirg.

The Raiders also broke another record at nationals - not having any penalties throughout the entire competition which had never been done before.

In the he Raiders also

broke another record, which was not having any penalties throughout the entire competition. It has never been done before and could be repeated in the future.

In the Jackson competition in October, the Zebra Raiders team placed first in the fitness

test and was third overall. In Hobart, they came home with first place in the cross-country rescue, first place in the push-ups and sit-ups, second place in the tire moving event, second place in the road march, and were overall runners-up in the competition.

SCHOOLS

Continued from page A1

five of Gov. Rick Snyder's best practices.

According to Martin, Wayne-Westland's four best practices include:

- Employees contribut-

ing 10 percent to the cost of their health care.

- The district as the policy holder for the health care policies.

- Having Aramark do the districts food services, done through competitive bidding.

- Providing a link with the Michigan Department

of Education for Michigan School Data, which meets a dashboard (or government transparency) requirement.

"We have 99 percent of the (dashboard) information on our website, but they want us to go through the state," said Martin.

"However, the state hasn't created the format yet."

The fifth best practice is a consolidate service plan that the board also has approved. The plan spells out the steps Wayne-Westland has taken to consolidate services with other districts.

While the district has many consolidated services in place, Martin

highlighted two in the resolution — the county-wide special education center program the district operates for six disability categories and the shared time agreements it has with districts like Crestwood and Melvindale-Alan Park to provide their students with

career/technical classes at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

"We have 10 in place," said Martin of the agreements. "This saves money for our district and for our sister districts."

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Anniversary concert features renowned pianist

St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne is kicking off a year-long celebration of the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1862 with a concert, featuring renowned pianist and Michigan native Kevin Cole, at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, at the church at 34530 Michigan Ave.

Cole will perform a solo piano program, featuring the music of one of America's greatest 20th century composers - George Gershwin. The concert will also feature the St. Mary Adult Choir, performing songs from the late 19th and early 20th century American song book.

The concert is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. A free-will offering will be taken at the event,



Cole

and light refreshments will follow the performance. Call the parish office at (734) 721-8745 or e-mail saintmary150@gmail.com for ticket information and reservations.

Born in Bay City and a graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy, Cole is considered America's foremost interpreter of Gershwin's music and has performed with orchestras throughout the country and around the world. Noted classical music critic Howard Reich of the *Chicago Tribune* opined that "When Cole sits down at the pia-

no, you would swear Gershwin himself was at work... Cole stands as the best Gershwin pianist in America today."

In addition to his piano virtuosity, Cole also is an acclaimed musical director, arranger, composer, vocalist and archivist. He also has released four compact discs, featuring selections from George Gershwin, Ira Gershwin and Christmas holiday vocal and instrumental favorites.

The observance of St. Mary's 150th anniversary will feature a variety of events, including special Masses, dinners, dances, school reunions, the parish picnic and more. Full details of the year's events will be found on the parish website at www.stmarywayne.org.

AROUND WESTLAND

Santa Visit

Children and adults are invited to visit with Santa in an historical atmosphere at the Westland Historic Village Park's Octagon House and Felton Farmhouse from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11.

Tour the houses, talk with Santa, and enjoy holiday entertainment and refreshments. Westland Historical Village Park is at 857 N. Wayne Road, between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

Hospital reunion

The 27th annual holiday reunion for Wayne County General Hospital retirees and former staff will be held at the Café Marquette in the William D. Ford Technical Center in Westland from 5-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6.

The cost is \$16, including tip, for a buffet dinner, featuring beef, chicken, fish, potato, vegetable, salad, dessert and beverage (coffee, tea or soda). Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m.

For information and reservations contact Dennis Abraham at (734) 721-2917 or fightingirish316@scbglobal.net, Kay Shafi at (734) 427-3437 or chknlit@wideopenwest.com or Pat Ibbotson at (734) 331-9291 or pibboto@aol.com.

For retirees and retired staff who are on Facebook, the group now has a Friends of Eloise page.

Trivia tourney

The Sgt. Romanowski VFW 6896 is holding a Trivia Tournament at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, at the post, 28945 Joy, Westland. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Tables are \$20. There will be a cash bar, pizza, raffles and cash prizes. Call for reservations.

The post also is holding a "Euchre Friday" at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2. The donations \$5. Practice starts at 6 p.m. For more information, call the post at (734) 525-9454.

Cookie Walk

First United Methodist Church of Wayne is holding a cookie walk 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 10. Homemade holiday cookies and candies will be available. Cookies will be sold by containers, candies sold by the pound.

The church is located at 3 Town Square, Wayne across from the Wayne Post Office. The event is handicapped accessible. For more information, call (734) 721-4801.

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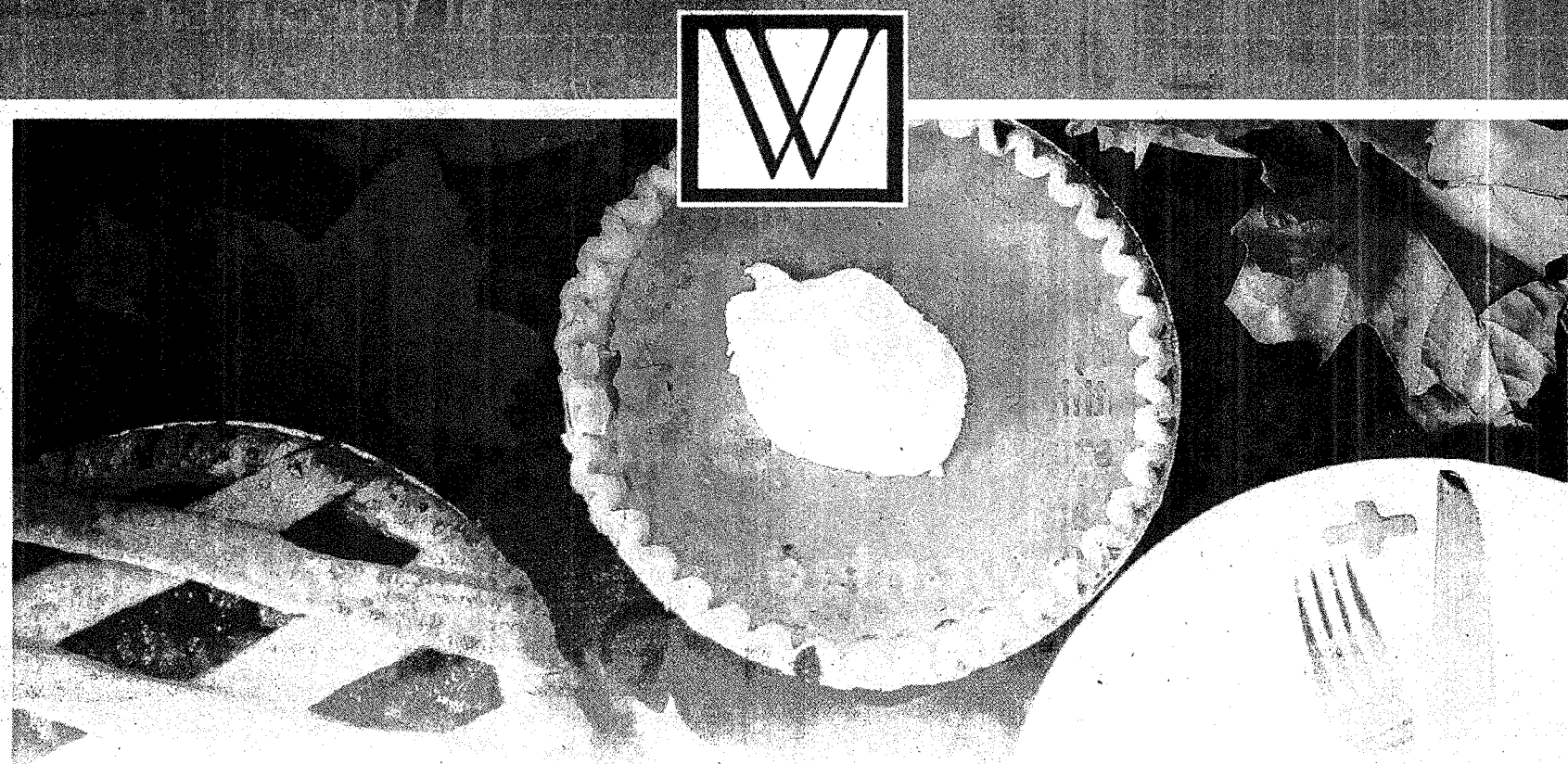
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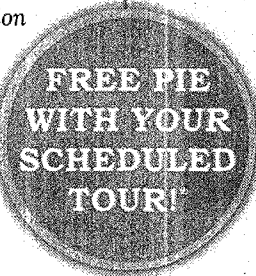
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Take Back lets residents get rid of unwanted drugs

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

Susan Nicholas was delighted with the returns Nov. 16.

Nicholas, executive director of the Garden City Community Coalition, watched as residents brought bags of leftover, unused, expired or over-the-counter drugs to the Prescription Drug Take Back event held at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.

Mary Pickert, a pharmacist from Garden City Hospital, recorded all the drugs that were turned in while a Garden City police officer also kept watch at the table. He took the controlled substances back to the station.

Nicholas believed the number of drugs turned in increased from last year's event.

"We collected more controlled drugs," Nicholas said.

While the event drew senior residents, Nicholas had hoped that the afternoon schedule this year would have attracted more families to turn in drugs after school or after work.

Patients also turned in their used needles often

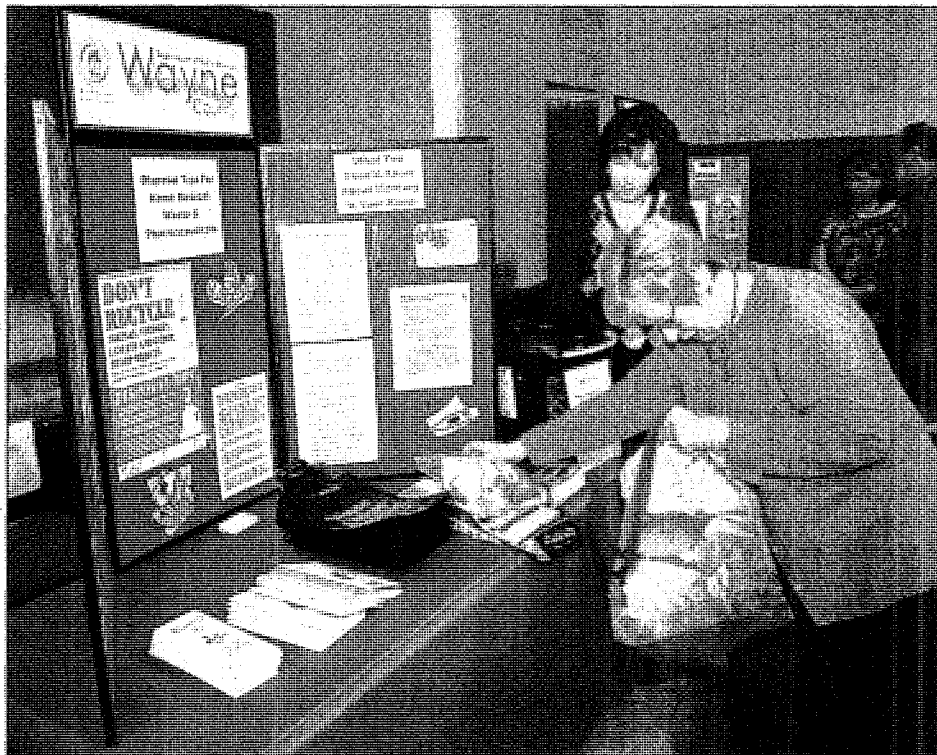
referred to as Sharps. Pickert explained that there are mailing programs available to return Sharps. Another way is to dispose of the Sharps in a hard plastic laundry detergent bottle and to throw it into the trash.

"But that's not the best way to do it," Pickert said. She advised that patients to get involved with take back programs or mail-in programs.

Mary Vangieson, Resource Recovery coordinator for Wayne County Public Services, provided information on how to dispose of drugs and Sharps. For those who brought in old mercury thermometers, she exchanged them for new digital thermometers.

The idea of the drug take back program at the Maplewood Community Center was to prevent diversion of the drugs to others and to protect watersheds.

"There were lots of reasons to bring your unused or outdated prescription or over the counter drugs to this event," Nicholas said. "Prescription drug abuse has increased substantially across the country. Recent local and national data shows that as many as one in three



Nancy Rowles returns expired drugs as Wayne County Solid Waste Manager Mary Vangieson looks on at the Maplewood Community Center. The prescription drug take back program was sponsored by the Garden City Community Coalition.

or four young people under 18 admit to using prescription drugs without a doctor's orders."

In most surveys, young people report getting drugs from family and friends, she said.

"Making drugs unavailable or inaccessible to youth is one of the best deterrents," she said. "Young people often inac-

curately believe that prescription drugs are safer to use than street drugs because doctors recommend them."

Narcotic pain relievers like Oxycontin, Darvon and Percocet also have high value on the street which makes them an appealing source of income, especially in a depressed economy, she

said.

"This type of prescription drug use often leads on to heroin use because it is so much cheaper for someone who is dependent," she said.

Medications used for treatment of attention deficit disorder, like Ritalin and Adderall, are popular among college students who use them to

stay awake when they want to "power study." "Since so many people are prescribed these meds, they can be found in lots of medicine cabinets — the No. 1 place for drug seekers to find what their looking for," she said.

Prescription addiction frequently leads to criminal activity, too.

"Drug dealers and addicts steal prescription pads, plagiarize doctor's signatures, doctor shop and steal meds where ever they can find them, from friends, family and co-workers," she said.

Doctors who run pill mills commit criminal acts by supplying addicts.

"People frequently ask how these drugs are disposed of, we contract with a licensed waste removal company from Livonia, Environmental Recycling Group," she said. "The drugs are incinerated and mercury from thermometers is recycled by an Ohio company."

Nicholas is available to answer questions at (734) 793-1868. To reach Vangieson, call (734) 326-3936

sbuck@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2249

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Cookie Walk

A Cookie Walk and crafts will be offered from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 10 at Garden City First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman at Maplewood.

New items this year include homemade candies and breads, advent wreaths and Rada paring knives.

For more information,

call (734) 421-8628.

Cougar 4 Sports

Cougar 4 Sports also will holding a fundraiser at the Sports Venue Bar and Grill Wednesday, Nov. 23. Ten percent of all sales for the day between 11 a.m. and closing will go to the organization.

Sports Venue is at Maplewood and Middlebelt, north of Ford.

Guns vs. Hoses

The Garden City Fire Department will square off against the Garden City Police Department for the "Guns vs. Hoses" charity hockey game from 6:30-9:30 p.m. this evening (Nov. 20), at the Garden City Ice Arena in Garden City Park at Cherry Hill and Merriman.

There will also be raf-

file prizes, 50/50, and more. All proceeds will benefit the Burger School for Students with Autism.

Tickets are \$10 for adults; children are free with parents. Tickets can be bought in advance at the police and fire departments in the Civic Center complex on Middlebelt north of Ford. Tickets can also be purchased

at the arena on game day.

Project Graduation

Garden City High School's Project Graduation 2012 will have a fundraiser at Applebee's at 26582 Ford Road, Dearborn, on Tuesday, Nov. 29. Dine at Applebee's and 15 percent of the bill will be donated

to Project Graduation. Mention Project Graduation when ordering. The fliers can be printed from Project Graduation Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Project-Grad2012 or requested by sending an e-mail to sjenglen@yahoo.com.

Project Graduation sponsors the all-night party for the Class of 2012 following graduation ceremonies.

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Angela Hospice offers 'Tree of Life' to remember loved ones

Angela Hospice is inviting people individuals to remember someone special throughout the holidays during its "Tree of Life" program Nov. 30 to Dec. 27 at Westland Shopping Center in Westland.

Individuals and families can place golden angel ornaments with the names of their loved ones on one of several Christmas trees on site. The angel ornaments are provided by Angela Hospice.

"This is one of our most wonderful projects because it gives people the opportunity to honor and remember their loved ones in a beautiful setting during the holiday season," said Rebecca DeRaad, bereavement and social work manager for Angela Hospice. "I've seen how meaningful the experience can be for those who participate, whether it is something they do year after year or if it's the first time they've hung an ornament for a loved one, it really touches them."

An opening ceremony will take place at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30. The event helps families honor the memory of loved ones by hanging an angel ornament bearing their name on a Tree of Life.

Geri Neracher of Garden City has been donating her for seven years to Angela Hospice's "Tree of Life" event at Westland Shopping Center. She comes back year after year because she sees the comfort the event provides to everyone from three-years-old to the elderly.

Neracher decided that she wanted to volunteer

at Angela Hospice after driving down Newburgh Road, seeing the Angela Hospice facility and thinking it was beautiful. She looked into classes to become a volunteer seven years ago and hasn't stopped since.

Each year during Tree of Life, as people hang their marked ornaments, Neracher hears how much Angela Hospice has helped their family members go through the grieving process and says it makes her "feel good to volunteer for an organization that helps people so much."

Memories from "Tree of Life" events in years past stick out in Neracher's mind - a three-year-old girl who lost her grandfather had scribbled his name on an ornament and showed to her mother saying, "This is for grandpa," and another of a woman who spent an hour looking through multiple trees covered in angels to find her loved one's ornament she had sent through the mail.

Neracher has been coming back to volunteer year after year because she's seen the comfort Angela Hospice has provided to those touched by the nonprofit.

Angela Hospice also holds free support groups throughout the holidays to help individuals cope with and understand their grief so not only can they face the holidays with a renewed outlook, but they can better communicate how they will spend the season with their family members.

It's stories like that of Debbie Bennett of Westland that pull at the heart-



Robin, Debbie, Chris and Kelly Bennett pose for a family portrait.

strings, but also provide hope and support to those going through similar tragedies of losing a child.

When Bennett's son Chris passed away at age 26, she turned to Angela's Heartstrings parent support group to talk with parents facing a similar journey.

Bennett, who describes her son Chris as "a beautiful child, a wonderful, fun loving little boy," said the family began noticing that Chris was having trouble walking around at age 10. After going through a series of tests to determine what was wrong, at age 12, he was diagnosed with a rare disease called Friedreich's Ataxia, a neuromuscular disease also in the Atax-

ia family of "orphan" diseases.

The Bennetts tried to keep a normal family life as much as possible, hoping it would create a sense of security for their children despite their circumstances. That's where you learn that you more fully understand where the war will take you, but you want to win every battle you can along the way, according to Bennett.

"Our son led the way for our family in how to cope with this terminal disease, he fearlessly lived his life, loving most every minute of it," she said. "He was a loyal friend, a wonderful big brother and a treasured son among many other relationships. He was

smart, funny, independent, creative in so many ways, including graphic arts, poetry, tattoos and more.

Chris died at home on Aug. 16, 2004.

"I suppose I never thought that Chris would die, but in hindsight, I know it was because I didn't know how we would go on without him," Bennett said. "He never let Friedreich's Ataxia define who he was as a person."

A few months prior to his death, the family was introduced to Angela Hospice. They met the Bennetts at the hospital when Chris was admitted for congestive heart failure. They were kind and supportive not only to Chris but to the entire family, and the Bennetts made arrangements to get some home help from Angela when the time came, she said.

"Angela does so much more than people know, they were a comfort to Chris and to our family then and we still have connection with them through the Heartstrings parent support group, which I began attending a few months after his death," she said.

Heartstrings is "a safe and loving place to share your heart and your journey" with other parents who know all too well the heartache. The facilitator would tell participants, "this is not a club

you plan on joining," Bennett said.

"Only another parent who had lost a child could fully relate to all that I was dealing with, even though I have an amazing and loving family," she added. "It was such a joy to be able to talk openly about my son with people who had never met him, yet wanted to know about my amazing child. Heartstrings is all about loving and caring for each other as we take one day at a time towards hope and healing."

"Losing a child isn't something you get over, it is something you work through. The hole in your heart never goes away, you just begin to figure out how to live around it."

Angela Hospice will honor lost loved ones with a Tree of Life ceremony at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, in the East Court of Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road, Westland.

Individuals and families are invited to place golden angel ornaments provided by Angela Hospice on one of several Christmas trees it will have at the mall, adorned with the names of their loved ones. The trees will be available to decorate through Dec. 27 during mall hours.

For more information about the Tree of Life or Angela Hospice, call (734) 464-7810.

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Girl, 11, wins prestigious philanthropy award

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

An 11-year-old Livonia student shared the stage in Detroit Thursday night with A. Alfred Taubman, Phillip Wm. Fisher and Anthony and Catherine Viviano.

Shirley Brown, a sixth-grader at Johnson Upper Elementary School, joined the others in receiving a 2011 Philanthropy Award from the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals during a dinner at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center.

The former foster child was presented with the Sparky Anderson Award for Youth in Philanthropy for collecting a classroom of clothing for other foster children. The only youth to receive an award, she received a standing ovation from the 700-some attendees.

"I just wanted to help some children," she said, adding she didn't collect the clothes to receive an award. She said if she were still an orphan, she would appreciate the clothing.

Shirley came up with the idea for the clothing drive earlier this year after her teachers urged her and her classmates to think of a project for Livonia Public Schools' Youth Making a Difference program.

When the Wyandotte police took Shirley and her younger brother from their parents almost nine years ago, they were naked, sick and lying in the own vomit. The officers had to put adult-sized T-shirts on the then toddlers just



A former foster child, Shirley Brown received the Sparky Anderson Award for Youth in Philanthropy for collecting a classroom of clothing for other foster children.

to remove them from their home because they couldn't find any children's clothing to dress them in.

"I knew how it was when I was little," she said in a previous interview, explaining why she held the clothing drive. "I didn't have any clothes."

Shirley, a Westland resident, got her entire school involved, sending a letter home to every one of the 600-plus students.

She and four classmates spent their recesses and lunch periods for several weeks sorting the clothing by sex, size and season — with help from two teachers.

The clothing was donated to Orchards Children's Services, the agency through which Shirley was adopted.

Shirley was nominated for the award by Gilda Hauser, campaign director for Orchards Children's Services, based in Southfield. She included with the nomination form a copy of an article the *Livonia Observer*

published April 24 about Shirley's clothing drive.

Her adoptive parents, Tim and Mia Brown, are understandably proud. Mia said she's always told Shirley that "if everybody did a little bit, it would make a whole world of difference."

Shirley has also participated in fundraising for the Kids Helping Kids Walk, part of the Children's Charity Coalition, and speaks to potential donors at Orchards Children's Services about her experiences and desire to help other kids.

After the dinner, where she heard about the contributions of the Vivianos, Fisher, Taubman and other notable Detroit-area philanthropists to organizations like the Henry Ford Health System, Starfish Family Services and Lawrence Technological University, Shirley said she was inspired to do more.

"I want to go farther," she said. "I'm going to change the world."

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Hearing the words "You have breast cancer" once in a lifetime is more than enough. But to hear those words twice, it's life-shattering.

That's how wife and mother Amy Rauch Neilson described the news she received back on Jan. 12, 2011.

"I couldn't believe what my oncologist was telling me, I was diagnosed with Stage 4 breast cancer - and this diagnosis came after I had already had a double mastectomy and had been pretty much declared 'cured' following my Stage 1 diagnosis in 2006," she said. "I looked at her and said, 'How is it possible to get breast cancer when I don't even have breasts anymore.'"

Sadly, it is possible in a small number of women who have undergone a double-mastectomy in the hopes of getting rid of their breast tissue - and any chance of a breast cancer recurrence.

"When I was diagnosed as a Stage 1 in 2006, our son was just six months old," said Neilson. "I told the doctors that I wanted to do everything possible to get rid of the cancer and ensure it would never come back."

A former *Observer & Eccentric* employee who lives in Belleville, Neilson learned she was a carrier of the BRCA 1 gene and

had opted for a double-mastectomy and four preventative rounds of chemotherapy - given to her as a type of "insurance policy" against any rogue cells that may have been floating around in her body. She was four years and 10 months clear of breast cancer when she found a lump in early January 2011.

"I couldn't believe it," she recalled. "It was wedged between my left implant and my skin."

Neilson began twice-weekly chemotherapy treatments Feb. 1, and has so far undergone 44 treatments. Her breast cancer, which spread into her breast lymph nodes and lungs, has remained stable or shown signs of shrinkage in periodic CT Scans and MRIs.

Unfortunately, the reality is that, due to her ongoing chemotherapy treatments, Neilson, who is self-employed, has not been able to work a full schedule since her diagnosis.

While Neilson is "praying for the Lord's healing and remission," her friend, Kristi Kahl, is organizing a Dec. 3 benefit to help Neilson pay some of the medical expenses.

"The Sky Lights of Love Benefit is the way her friends and family are coming together to help her and her fami-



Amy Rauch Neilson is finding support in her battle against stage 4 breast cancer from her husband Don and son Theo.

ly get through this crisis," Kahl said. "At first, Amy didn't want to accept the help. That's when I told her that asking for help doesn't mean you've failed, it means you're not in it alone."

A few weeks ago, Neilson's husband, Don, was

driving home from work in his pickup truck when he first heard *I'm Gonna Love You Through It* by Martina McBride on the radio. He was so deeply moved by the song that he had to veer over to the side of the road afterwards and pull himself

back together.

The next day, he forwarded the music video to his wife with a simple message: You need to watch this, babe. Neilson did, and her reaction mirrored her husband's. Tears flowed and she found great strength in the knowledge that, like her husband, so many people everywhere stood strong in this fight together with their loved ones, right by their side, every day, every moment, every surgery and treatment.

"I can't imagine what it would feel like to have so many people gather around you to release lanterns of pure white light heavenward," Neilson said.

That's when Kahl decided it was time for her friend to experience it for herself. That was the inspiration behind Sky Lights of Love at the Van Buren Township Lookout Point in Van Buren Township.

Lanterns are \$10 each, with proceeds to go to Amy's Benefit for medical bills. To purchase a lantern, go to www.itsinthegenes.org, and click on the "Events" tab. Lanterns are available by advance purchase only, via PayPal, through Nov. 27. The event will be held 4:30-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at the park at 50901 S. 1-94 Service Dr., between Belleville and Rawson-

ville roads. Check-in will begin at 4:30 p.m. Neilson will speak at 5:30 p.m. and the lantern release will happen at 6 p.m. sharp.


Neilson and her family are aiming for complete remission. In between treatments, "Amy lives life to the fullest," said Kahl.

"You'd never know by watching her on her off-chemo days that she has cancer," Kahl said. "She is out there, carving pumpkins with her husband and son, going on hayrides, riding tractors, hosting a barbecue - you name it. She is a true inspiration."

Neilson, who is a professional writer and editor, began blogging about her experiences in May 2009. But following her January 2011 diagnosis, hits and subscribers to her blog, www.itsinthegenes.org, skyrocketed. She now has thousands of subscribers in all 50 states and 18 countries.

To subscribe, go to www.itsinthegenes.org. Enter an e-mail address in the E-mail Subscription box and click Sign me up! Then, watch for an e-mail to confirm your request. Notifications of new posts are sent by e-mail. According to here friends, subscribers will quickly find out why people are saying, "Amy. Small Name. Big Impact."

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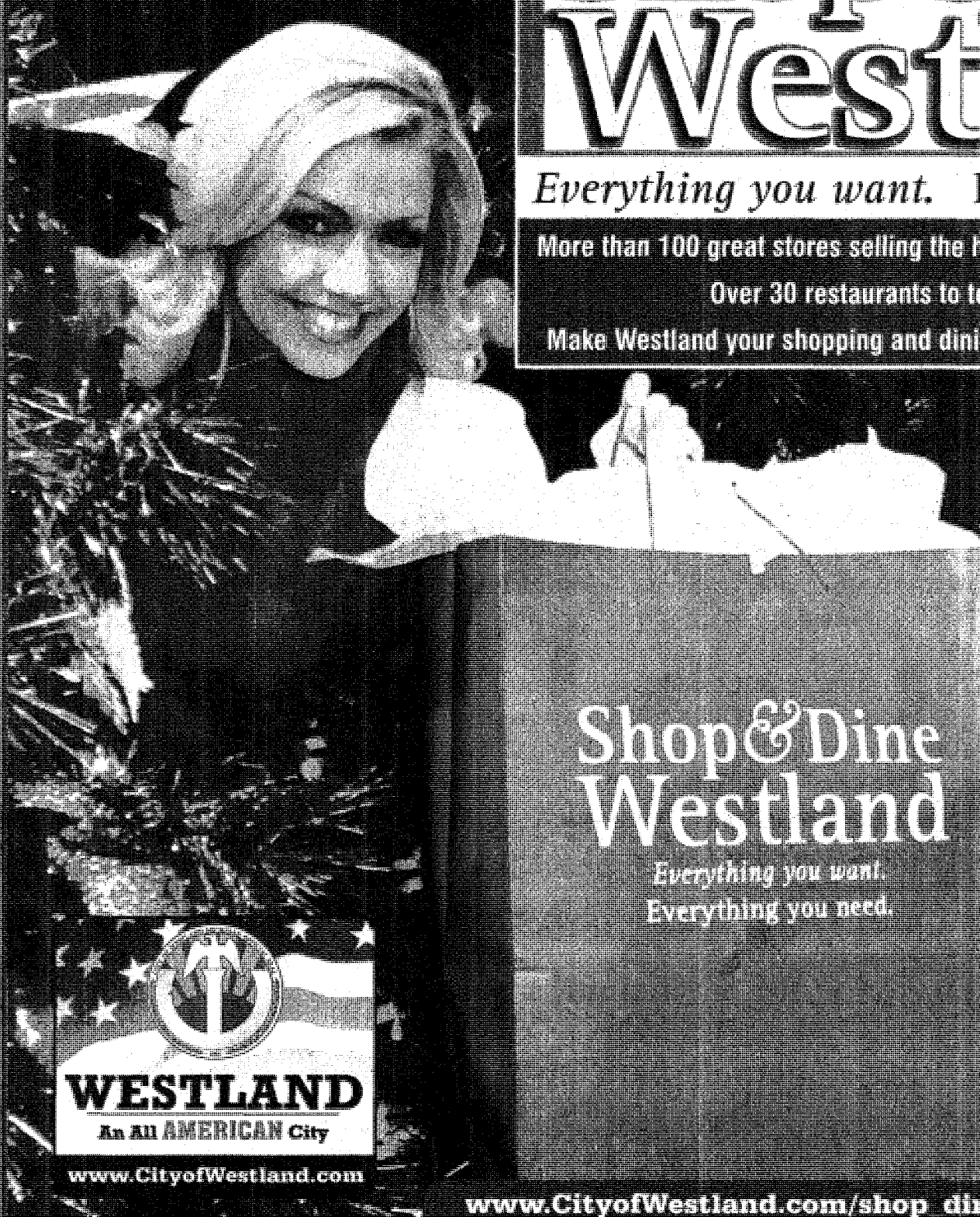

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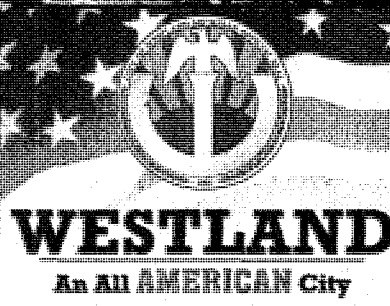
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Finishing touches for Thanksgiving dinner

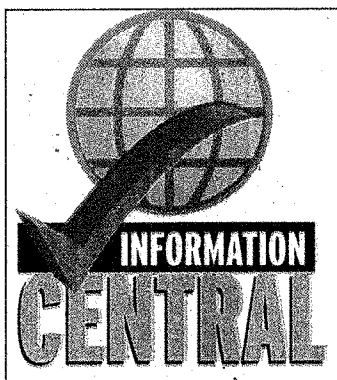
Besides a nap, what's the best way to finish off a Thanksgiving meal? With a piece of pie, of course.

When asked what their favorite Thanksgiving dessert is, most people say pumpkin pie, followed closely by pecan pie then sweet potato pie or apple pie.

Pumpkin pies as we know them most likely were not served at the first Thanksgiving but rather some form of stewed pumpkin. Pumpkin pie recipes first appeared in 1675, but did not become popular in America until the early 1800s.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland can help you if you need ideas for the whole Thanksgiving experience. You might want to take a look at these books: Paul Dickson's *The Book of Thanksgiving*, Kristine Kidd's *Thanksgiving*, *Vegetarian Times Complete Thanksgiving Cookbook*, Diane Morgan's *The Thanksgiving Table*, *The Perfect Thanksgiving Book*, *How to Cook a Turkey* and Laurie Hillstrom's *The Thanksgiving Book*.

If you can't have someone else bring the pie to you, there are lots of places to find recipes for that tasty dessert. Websites like www.kraftrecipes.com, www.recipe.com, and www.allrecipes.com, and



www.foodnetwork.com are very popular. The library subscribes to "foodie" magazines such as *Bon Appetit*, *Chile Pepper*, *Cooking Light*, *Cooking with Paula Deen*, *Food & Wine* and *Vegetarian Times*.

If you're looking for pie recipes for any time of the year, check out these titles: Ron Silver's *Bubby's Homemade Pies*, Lisa Cherkasky's *The Artful Pie*, Rise Beranbaum's *The Pie and Pastry Bible*, Lauren Chattman's *Icebox Pies* and Ken Haedrich's *Pie*.

Special hours for the Thanksgiving holiday: The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23. The library will be closed Thursday, Nov. 24, and Friday, Nov. 25. We will resume our regularly scheduled hours Saturday, November 26.

Normal hours for the library

are 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

Circle the Dates: Daily Bread Photo Exhibit, Nov. 15-29, on exhibit every day

In honor of Homelessness Awareness Week, we are hosting an exhibit of photos by Lad Strayer, a photographer from Adrian. Strayer originally took many of these photos as part of a newspaper piece to run in the *Adrian Daily Telegram*. When journalist and poet Jennifer Burd saw something more expressive the project and photos than a news story could project, she asked Strayer to do a book with her. The photos you will see in the library are from that book. On Tuesday, Nov. 29, Burd will be here to read from her book. Anyone inspired to write a poem, reflection, short story based on the photos exhibited are asked to read their work at this reading. Contact andy.schuck@westlandlibrary.org or call (734) 326-6123 for more information.

Knitting Basics: 7-8:30 p.m. Nov. 21, teens and adults. If you have ever considered stopping by the library's weekly knitting group but your learning style is adapt-

ed more toward one-on-one instruction, then this might be works for you. Linda Sparkman of Black Sheep Northville (and coordinator of our weekly knitting club) will provide beginning instruction and resources for teens and adults who would like to learn to knit. Each registered participant will receive a beginner's set of needles and yarn, and will learn about the knit stitch, casting on and binding off a project. Seating is limited. Sign up online at westlandlibrary.org or call (734) 326-6123 to reserve your seat today.

Afternoon Movie Classics - 1996: 3-5:15 p.m. Nov. 22

Help us celebrate 15 years of serving the Westland area with afternoon showings of Best Picture nominees from 1996. Today's movie is *Jerry Maguire*, a humorous story about a sports agent who has a moral epiphany and gets fired for expressing it, and the athlete who sticks with him. This movie is rated R. Snacks and refreshments available.

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

Preschool needs votes to win Pepsi grant

Online voting that could earn a local preschool funding for an outdoor playground continues through Nov. 30.

McKinley Cooperative Preschool in Westland.

A non-profit school established in 1975, McKinley has been accepted in the Pepsi Refresh Project for a chance to win \$10,000. The school is looking for support from the entire community to get money for the outdoor playground.

There are three ways to vote - text, online and Facebook - and a vote can be cast each way daily. That means one person can cast three votes each day.

- Text 109398 to PEPSI (73774).
- Online from the Refresh Everything page: <http://pep.si/saWCEu>. Sign in once and then you're set to vote each day.

- From McKinley's Facebook page: <http://tiny.cc/267nc> Check a Youtube video about the project at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QiTRIG7oreQ>.

McKinley Cooperative Preschool is located at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland.



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You Should Tee!

Visitors find plenty of info at expo

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

A myriad of vendors took part in the Family Informational Expo Nov. 16 at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.

Huron Valley Ambulance, a local non-profit agency which services eight counties in southeastern Michigan, took part to explain what services they have for local seniors. Nicole Karbacz, an HVA development

coordinator who also coordinates the in-home medical monitoring program talked about the program.

The program is called LifeLink which is a response method for seniors who often fall.

The small sealed, waterproof, call button can be worn around the neck, wrist or is wall mountable. It's the recognizable, "I've fallen and can't get up call button."

Karbacz said that it is monitored by medical dispatchers in Ann

Arbor.

"Our dispatchers can give medical self-help tips," she said.

There are options which can provide a combined monitoring service of neighbors, family, friends and the HVA.

HVA offers another services to Garden City residents which is not emergency-based. They have the ability to transport, non-emergency, wheel-chair bound patients to doctors appointments and hospitals.

"It's like when they need to get to a doctor's appointment and they can't get into a cab," she said.

This helps the patient's comfort level, Karbacz said.

Mike Fearon, owner of Prestige Eyewear on Ford in Garden City, had two reasons to participate in the expo. He is a local businessman and a longtime member of the Garden City Community Coalition which organized the drug take-back program which was ongoing with the expo. His business carries eye-glasses and contacts and specialty products.

"We want to let them know that we have been here for 22 years," Fearon said.

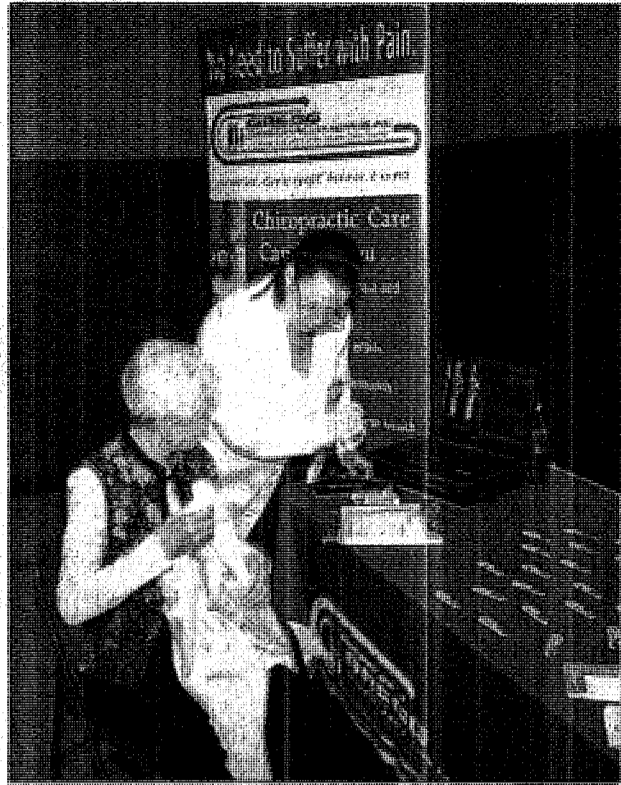
He is offering a raffle for a new pair of glasses, frames and lenses, estimated at a \$500-\$600 value for anyone who wants to fill out a form at his store before Dec. 10.

Garden City Detective Sgt. Brian Aure, who heads up the Neighborhood Watch program, answered residents' questions and provided copies of his monthly newsletter. He said that residents can access the newsletters on the city website, www.garden-citymi.org, by clicking under the police department heading.

Residents were interested in crime prevention.

"They asked a lot about house break ins and vehicle break-ins," Aure said. "They were looking for prevention information."

Neighborhood Watch meetings are held four times a year on the first Tuesday of the month during March, May, October and December at the Garden City police station.



Mary Cussen has a chiropractic evaluation by Lisa Marshall of Gregg Chiropractic, one of many vendors at the Family Informational Expo at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.



Roxanna Martin, clinical coordinator for Akler Eye Center, answers questions from seniors about eye care at the expo.

Cheryl Stepanian described the response to the Nov. 17 expo at the Maplewood Community Center as "terrific." Lunch was provided by the doctors of the Dear-

born Surgery Center. "The vendors did a great job," Stepanian said.

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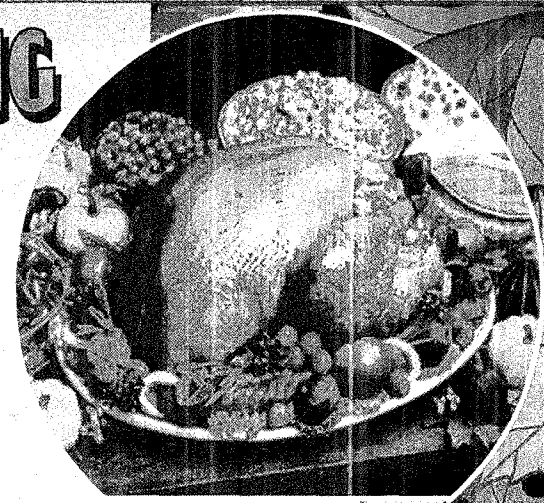
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Patriots settle for 4-4 tie

Franklin outchances Skyline

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Franklin's 2011-12 boys season hockey opener Friday night against Ann Arbor Skyline was met with mixed reviews.

The Patriots certainly had more scoring chances with a 33-17 shots on goal advantage, but had to settle for a 4-4 deadlock at Edgar Arena as Skyline's Nate Wegryn tallied the game-tying goal with only three minutes remaining.

"The pluses certainly outweigh the minuses," Franklin fifth-year coach Scott Wirgau said. "We out-forechecked them, outshot them, outchanced them. We had three leads in the game."

Franklin led 1-0 after one period on sophomore Joshua Dudek's rebound goal after fellow sophomore C.J. Cromie fired a shot from the corner at 7:20.

The score remained 1-0 in favor of the Patriots until 9:57 of the second period when Kyle Hagen popped in a shot past Franklin freshman netminder Matt Monendo with Blake Hill and Marcus Knight assisting.

Skyline then took a 2-1 lead just 51 seconds into the final period on Hagen's second goal

Please see PATRIOTS, B3



Franklin sophomore Craig Cromie (13) rushes down the ice against Skyline's Ryan Gibson (9) during Friday's game at Edgar Arena.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Altman leads MU honorees

Senior middle hitter Karie Altman (Allen Park Cabrini) and junior middle hitter Nastija Baranovska (Riga, Latvia) were named to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first-team and All-WHAC Academic squads in women's volleyball.

Also named to the first team was MU sophomore setter Evia Prieditis (Milford).

Senior defensive specialist Amanda Koszela (Dearborn) was also honorable mention and All-Academic for the 30-11 Crusaders.

Sophomore outside hitter Lauren Mora also earned WHAC Champions of Character honors who best displays the NAIA's Five Core Values of respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership and sportsmanship.

MU baseball ranked 23rd

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) announced its 2012 Baseball Preseason Coaches' Poll and after capturing the program's fourth straight Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference championship and sixth in the last seven years in 2011, the Madonna University baseball team was ranked 23rd in a vote of a panel of head coaches representing each of the conferences, independents and unaffiliated groups.

Oklahoma City topped the preseason poll with defending national champion Concordia (Calif.).

Coach Greg Haeger and the Crusaders return 22 letter winners from last season's 32-14 squad that finished 17-3 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Junior right hander Jeremy Gooding (Livonia Divine Child Catholic) is a preseason All-America selection after earning All-America first team honors in 2011.

The 5-foot-10 Gooding led the nation with his 1.10 earned run average and was named the WHAC's Pitcher of the Year.

MU opens its 2012 season on Feb. 10 at Point Loma Nazarene.

WYAA meets

The Westland Youth Athletic Association will hold its annual meeting at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1 at the Lang Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

The annual meeting agenda includes electing the 2012 board of directors, year in review and other WYAA business.

Harbowy gets All-Mid-South

Georgetown College (Ky.) junior Alex Harbowy was named to the All-Mid-South Conference first-team in women's soccer.

Harbowy finished as the team's second leading scorer with six goals and two assists as the Tigers finished 13-6-2 overall and finished runner-up in the Mid-South.

PREP HOCKEY

The puck drops

Milks' 4 goals lift Churchill, 9-2

Livonia Churchill got off to a rousing start to the 2011-12 boys hockey season with a convincing 9-2 victory over Clarkston in Friday's opening round of the Metro Invitational at Novi Ice Arena.

Junior right winger Brad Milks had a big night scoring four goals and adding one assist as the Chargers led 1-0 after one period and 6-0 after two.

"I was very pleased with the first

two periods," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "We were moving the puck and playing sound defensively. By the start of the third period we figured it was over, but all-in-all a lot of guys played and contributed."

Senior left winger Mike Gambino chipped in with two goals and two assists, while senior center Jake Otto

Please see HOCKEY, B3

MENS HOOPS

Naubert's 13 assists spark Madonna win

Make it two in a row for the Madonna University men's basketball team.

Sophomore point-guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) dished out a career-high 13 assists as the Crusaders cruised to a 76-48 win Friday night over Olivet College in the WHAC/MCC Challenge hosted by the University

of Michigan-Dearborn.

Sophomore guard Travis Schuba led MU (2-4) for the second straight game with 16 points, including 4-of-8 from three-point range.

Matt Jenkins added 11 points, while Fred Williams came off the bench

Please see HOOPS, B4

WOMEN'S HOOPS

Lady Ocelots stop Raiders

The unranked Schoolcraft College women's basketball team extended its NJCAA record home court winning streak to 65 in a row with a 91-78 triumph Wednesday night over Grand Rapids Community College.

Schoolcraft overcame a 36-point outburst by Grand Rapids forward Janelle Ellis-Johnson to improve to 4-0 overall.

Sophomore forward Shawnicka Thomas led the Lady Ocelots with 20 points and eight rebounds.

Domonique Jones contributed 15 points and eight boards, while Diamond Tolliver also contributed 15 points and five assists.

Charlise Slater added nine points and five assists.

Ellis-Johnson made 13-of-18 shots from the floor, including 8-of-11 from three-point range to go along with six rebounds and four assists.

Tinisha Elliott added 12 points, while Caitlyn Patterson had a game-high 13 rebounds. Kristina Cousins also dished out 10 assists.

It was 36-all at halftime before Schoolcraft opened the second half on a 17-5 run to take a 53-41 advantage with 16:13 remaining.

Grand Rapids (2-2) would get no closer than nine the rest of the way.

The Raiders shot 51.8 percent from the floor and committed 39 turnovers on the night.

Schoolcraft shot 48.8 percent

(39-of-80) and had 19 steals.

Crusaders fall

Four players scored in double figures Friday as host Indiana Wesleyan improved to 5-0 with a 67-52 triumph over Madonna University in the opening round of the WHAC/MCC Challenge at Luckey Arena.

Krystal Stoneking and Stephanie Burtch led Indiana Wesleyan with 17 and 16 points, respectively.

Claire Freeman added 15 points, while Paige Smith came off the bench to add 13 points and 10 rebounds for the Wildcats.

Michelle Lindsey paced the Crusaders (2-2) with 14 points and four assists, while junior center Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) added 11 points.

Becca Wojcinski contributed a team-high eight rebounds, while Erin Bentley finished with eight points.

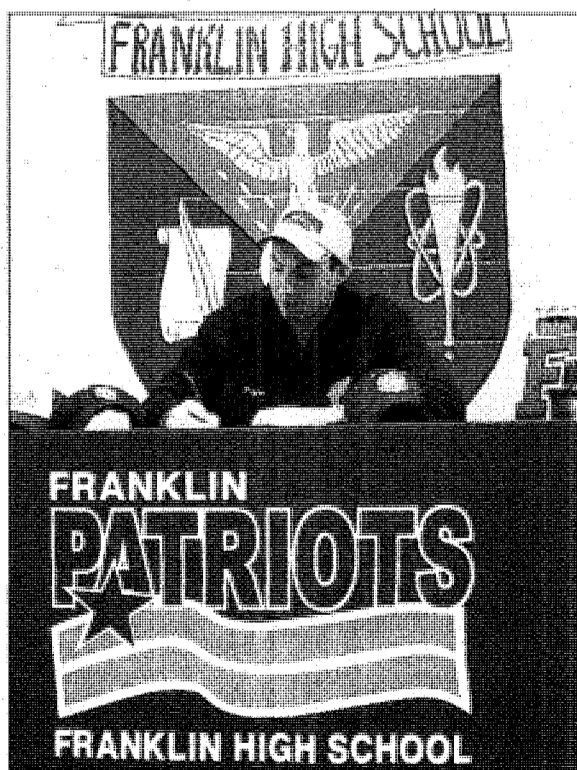
MU trailed 32-23 at halftime and got as close as five, 50-45, on a jumper by Kristie Porada with 7:06 remaining but could get no closer.

The Crusaders shot 21-of-52 from the floor (40.4 percent), but only 3-of-16 from three-point range (18.8 percent).

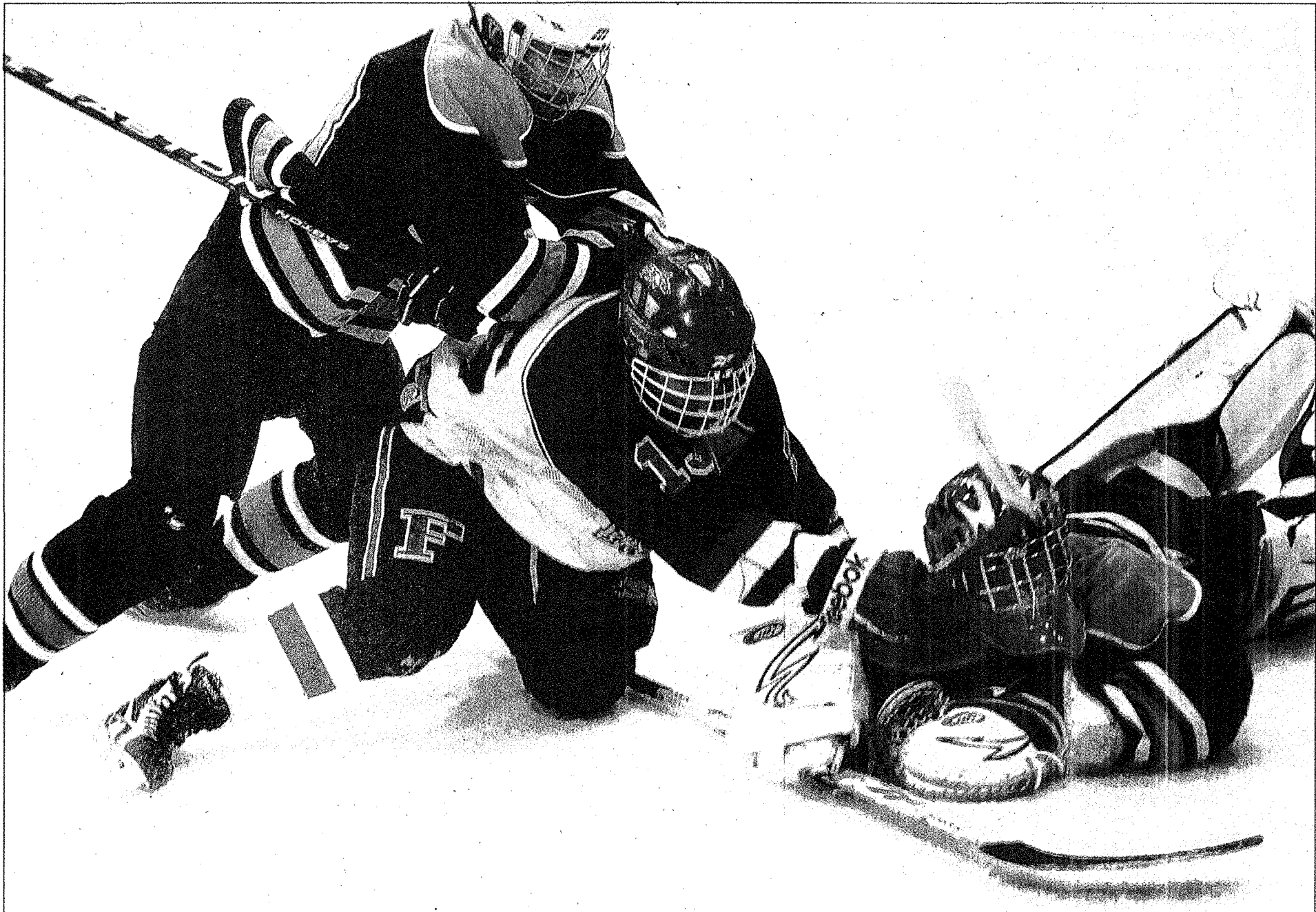
The Wildcats committed 16 turnovers to MU's 21.

Madonna closed out the WHAC/MCC Challenge Saturday against Bethel (Ind.) College.

Future Bronco



Livonia Franklin senior Stephen Payne signed an NCAA letter-of-intent Wednesday to play tennis at Western Michigan University. Payne, the Patriots' No. 1 singles player, reached the quarterfinals of the MHSAA Division 1 finals this fall after winning his third straight regional. He is a three-time regional champ at No. 1 singles and owns a 108-15 career record including a 31-3 mark this season. Payne is one of three recruits for the 2012-13 season by WMU coach Dave Morin joining Jim Beckwith of Battle Creek Lakeview and Michael Treis of Brookfield, Wis. "Stephen came to us late in the recruiting process but he's been a great find," Morin said. "He reminds me of Michael Calderone, who is our program's all-time wins leader. Stephen is roughly 6-foot-5, and has great volley skills and a very big serve. As he continues to develop his game, he will have the ability to play high in our lineup."



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Franklin's Joshua Dudek (15) gets squeezed in between Skyline's Randy Strassburg (23) and goaltender Ethan Hiltner (1) in Friday's game at Edgar Arena.

PATRIOTS

Continued from page B1

of the night from Knight and Noah Wegryn.

Franklin, however, scored the next two just 50 seconds apart as Tyler Hewitt tied it with 6:45 remaining off assists from Dylan Smith and Richard Wieczorek followed by Tyler Satkowiak's goal on a nifty three-way play with Dan Donahue and Joshua Leonard.

But the 3-2 Franklin lead lasted only 46 seconds as Yis-hai Ribon answered for the Eagles with 5:09 remaining off an assist from Hagen.

Not to be denied, the Patriots came right back with 4:25 to go on Dudek's second goal from Cromie to make it 3-all.

But only 1:25 later, Nate Wegryn's unassisted goal for Skyline knotted the score at 4-4.

"It was a little more exciting finish than I would have liked," Skyline coach Mike Hagen said. "I liked it when it was a tighter game and then it just kind of opened up. We started trading goals with those guys. Livonia — they were not ready to give up — that's for sure. I got to credit both teams for working hard. It was a real, good, physical, hard game."

Skyline, a new school boasting its first senior class, was coming off a 2-0 loss Wednesday to rival Ann Arbor Huron.

"This is our second game as a varsity team and I'm real pleased with the guys,"



Franklin's Michael Dibble (16) fights off a sliding check from Skyline's Randy Strassburg (23) during Friday's game at Eddie Edgar Arena.

Mike Hagen said. "We got down, they came back. The guys didn't give up and that's one of the lessons they had to learn in their first game, which they didn't. I liked what I saw tonight."

Franklin took a total of 13 penalties to Skyline's nine, but ironically did not give up a power-play goal.

"The minuses — we got to stay out of the (penalty box)," Wirgau said. "There's a maturity level that needs to be reached to know when to turn it on and when to turn it off. Emotion is one thing, but learning to con-

control emotions is another. It's good when you're passionate, but it's another thing when you can't control your passion. That's our negative."

Meanwhile, the Patriots have only one goaltender listed on their roster and it's Monendo, a ninth-grader.

"We're going to play all the goalies we have — and that's him," Wirgau said. "We've got one. He's our man. If they run him, we're going to protect him. That's all I'm going to say."

Skyline started sophomore goaltender Ethan Hiltner, who

came up with 29 saves.

"Even the last six minutes of the game, we controlled the play," Wirgau said. "It was a couple of errant passes deep on D-to-D. They came in two-on-ones, odd-man rushes. When we were controlling in their zone, it was our game. I hate to say it this way, but they out-goaled us tonight based on the chances we had against their goalie. In every other aspect of the game we had them."

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HOCKEY

Continued from page B1

added one goal and two assists.

Jim Lelekatch and Matt Sinclair tallied the other Churchill goals, while junior right winger Riley Brown finished with three assists.

Churchill used two sophomore goaltenders as David Turel made seven saves over the first two period before giving way to Chris Adams, who stopped 6-of-8 Wolves shots.

Chase Wiedmann and Gabe Combs each tallied a goal for Clarkston.

Spartans win, 4-2

A strong first two periods carried Livonia Stevenson to a 4-2 victory Friday over Farmington in a Metro Invitational held at the Novi Ice Arena.

Stevenson outshot the Falcons, 29-22, and built a 4-0 advantage through the first 30 minutes.

Tim Kelly tallied a first-period goal for the Spartans off an assist from Cam Tetrault.

In the second period, Stevenson put three more on the board — J.D. Byrne from Dominic Lutz; Dante Seychel from Eric Willetts and Tetrault; and Ryan Frazier from Chris MacDonald and Willetts.

The Spartans, however, took six third-period penalties allowing Farmington to score twice.

"It was a good start, it was a real good first two periods and then we were able to hang," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "With those six penalties we kind of let them back in the game."

Stevenson junior goaltender Connor Humitz made 20 saves en route to the victory.

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For the cause: Churches serve dinner, fellowship on Thanksgiving Day

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

Forget the frozen dinner for one this Thanksgiving Day.

You can eat a turkey meal with all the trimmings for free and find good conversation to boot at local churches on Thursday, Nov. 24.

Volunteers are gearing up to ensure that individuals don't have to eat alone on Thanksgiving. Some churches also welcome couples and families to their traditional feasts.

"They want everyone to come together and have fellowship and a Thanksgiving Day meal as well," said Ingrid Anderson, who helps coordinate Good Hope Lutheran Church's role in the annual joint meal held at St. Mel Catholic Church in Dearborn Heights. "They have a real good time. There are prizes and we get a lot of seniors."

Volunteers from both churches donate foods, time and effort to the cause. Children and teens help usher and serve at the meal.

"We have around 100-125 people who end up serving turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, pies, cheesecake ... everything," Anderson said. "We're appreciative of St. Mel's having it at their church. They have a larger facility."

The meal, served at noon on Thanksgiving Day, is billed as a dinner "for persons dining alone," although Anderson said the church

doesn't turn anyone away.

Both Our Lady of Loretto in Redford and Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia open their Thanksgiving Day feasts to individuals, couples and families of any size.

Our Lady of Loretto has welcomed the community to its free turkey dinner for nearly a dozen years. Newburg United Methodist Church will serve a free Thanksgiving Day feast for the first time on Thursday.

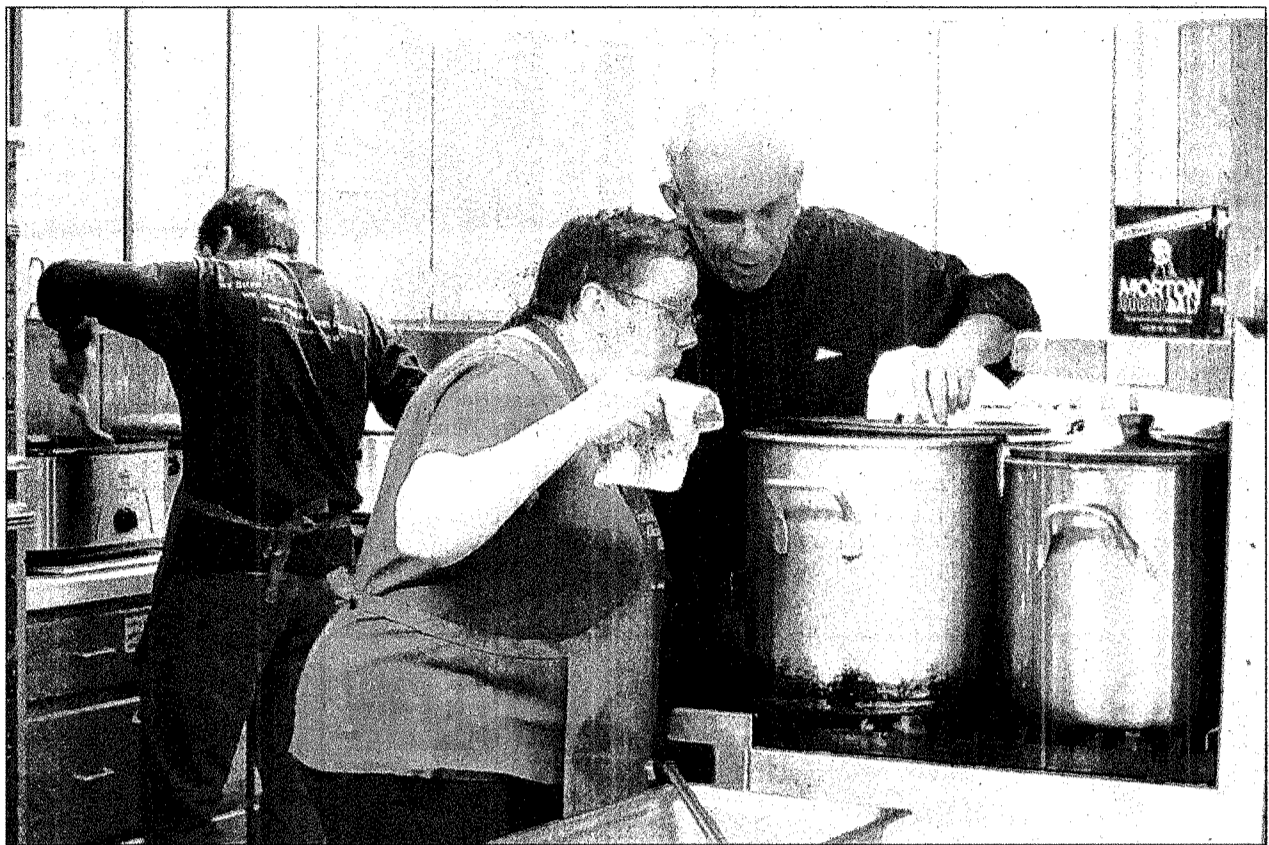
"Last year we found that more people were hanging around and there was less going out of town for Thanksgiving," said Sarah Nadeau, Newburg's youth and young adult ministry coordinator. "With the economy, a large dinner is out of the picture for families. With the amount of church folks we have around and the economy, it was a good year to try something like this."

"Hopefully it will be a success and will meet the needs of the community."

The church will provide the turkey, stuffing, vegetables, cranberry sauce and rolls for the meal. Volunteers have donated pies. Nadeau expects 30 volunteers will help with set up on Tuesday and Thursday, with more pitching in on Thanksgiving Day.

Nadeau said the dinner is open to all and not just the needy.

"We're even having whole families come from the church just to be in fellowship and community," she said.



Daughter-father team, Betsy Galligan and Jim Galligan tend to cooking pots earlier this month at Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia. Church members will be busy in the kitchen again when they serve free Thanksgiving Day meals on Nov. 24.

"It doesn't matter what your marital status is or income. Everyone is welcome."

The church will accept donations for the meal. Estimated cost is \$3 per person.

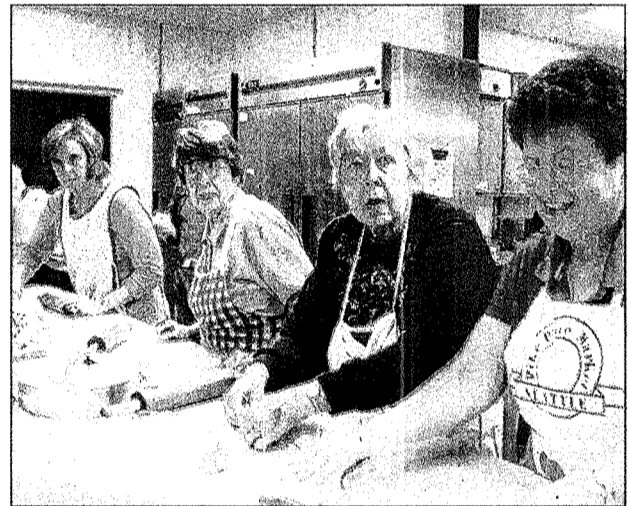
Newburg United Methodist Church will serve at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Thanksgiving. The church is located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail. RSVP for the dinner by calling the church at (734) 422-0149.

Good Hope Lutheran in conjunction with St. Mel will serve at noon, at 7506 Inkster Road, in Dear-

born Heights. For reservations, call (313) 274-0684.

Our Lady of Loretto will serve Thanksgiving Day meals from 2-5 p.m. in the church family center, 17116 Olympia, north of Six Mile and east of Beech Daly. Monday, Nov. 21 is the final day for reservations at (313) 274-0684.

Karen Schiffman, (left) Audrey Greenleaf, Lee Wilkinson and Diana Oatley make pasties earlier this month at Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia.



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Red carpet rolls out for movie premiere

By Julie Yolles
Correspondent

If you want it produced, they will come — to Michigan, that is. When the Hallmark Hall of Fame wanted to make Mitch Albom's New York Times best-selling book, *Have a Little Faith*, into a made-for-TV movie to air on ABC and the Hallmark Channel, Albom said it had to be on his terms.

Instead of pow-wowing in a ritzy board room in Hollywood, Albom insisted that the powers-that-be come to Albom's beloved turf — Detroit. And even more beloved, he had them come to the central "character" of the book — and the eventual catalyst for the formation of Albom's A Hole in the Roof Foundation — the I Am My Brother's Keeper Ministries/Pilgrim Church.

They met Senior Pastor Henry Covington who is portrayed magnificently by Laurence Fishburne. Sadly, Covington died last December at the age of



Plymouth residents Monica and Heith Jacobson at the red carpet premiere of the film.

attended the VIP Charity Red Carpet Premiere *Have a Little Faith*, along with all of the stars from the movie.

The Hallmark Hall of Fame production of *Have a Little Faith* will air at 9 p.m. EST, Sunday, Nov. 27 on ABC, WXYZ-TV. The film will also air the week of Dec. 4 on the Hallmark Channel.

The gala was held at the Emagine Theatre in Royal Oak and raised \$60,000 for the Rabbi Albert Lewis Fund and the A Hole in the Roof Foundation, founded by Albom. Both charities are associated with the two heroes in Albom's non-fiction book.

For more about the I Am My Brother's Keeper Ministries/Pilgrim Church, located in Detroit, visit www.iammybrotherskeeper-pc.org.

53. His widow, Annette Covington, who is portrayed by Tony Award-winner Anika Noni Rose,



Livonia resident Laura Dardini of event corporate sponsor CoopersStandard, attended the VIP Charity Red Carpet Premiere of Mitch Albom's "Have a Little Faith." Dardini is with Academy Award winner Martin Landau who stars as Rabbi Albert Lewis in the upcoming Hallmark Hall of Fame production.

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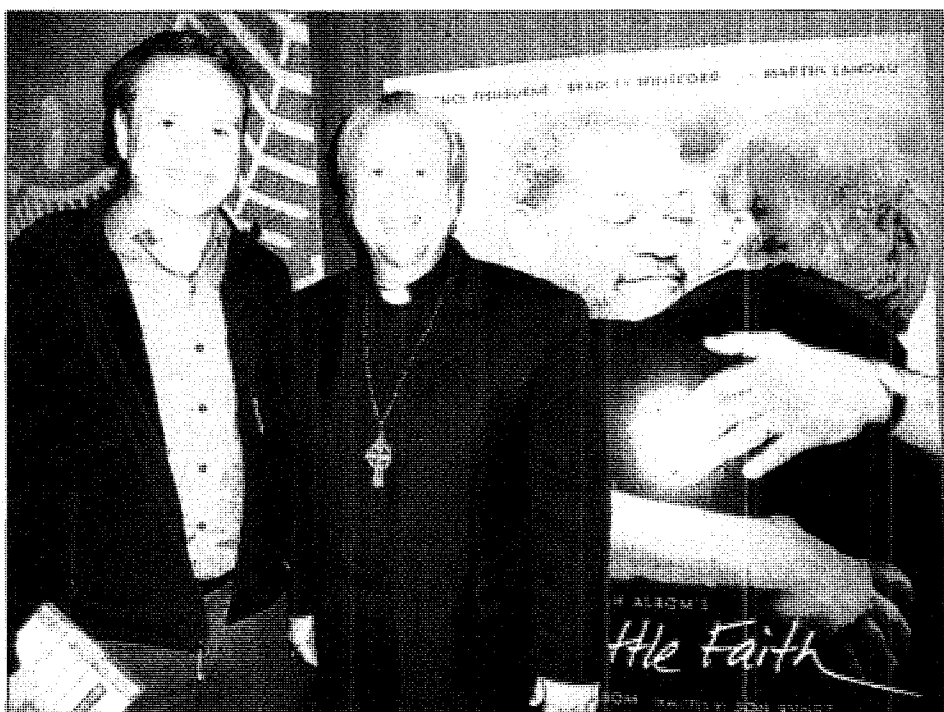
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Kyle Kaufmann (left) of Plymouth and pastor Rennie Kaufmann of Living Word Church in Plymouth.

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Volunteer and help feed hungry neighbors

Editor's note — This is the first in a series of stories about volunteer opportunities at organizations in the community.

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Got a spare Thursday and a heart for giving? Open Door Ministry's food bank in Canton always needs helping hands.

The food distribution center draws about 75 volunteers every Thursday to help sort canned goods and fresh produce, box the items and deliver them to waiting cars. A small crew also gathers on Wednesday to divide large deliveries into smaller-sized bags. Earlier this week, for example, volunteers sorted frozen chicken patties into 550 freezer bags and braced themselves for the busiest distribution day of the year — the Thursday before Thanksgiving. The food bank is closed Thanksgiving Day and will reopen for its next weekly distribution on Dec. 1.



Open Door Ministry's food bank bustles with activity every Thursday, when food is distributed to families and individuals in need.

"We don't need nearly as many volunteers on Wednesday, maybe 15 or 20. For the rest of the year we've got groups coming in every single week," said Steve Darr, food bank director. "Thursday is our busy night. It takes at least 50 volunteers. We distribute about 30,000 pounds of food a week. We do that in three hours. It takes a lot of hands.

Distribution starts at 4:15 p.m. at the ministry's warehouse at 4301 S. Lilley. Some volunteers arrive earlier to help begin placing foods in boxes. Food comes from larger banks, such as Gleaners and Forgotten Harvest, as well as organizations that collect food for the ministry. "Sometimes stores have food drives and we get that. There's

also an organization in Romulus that gives us their surplus. They manufacture pizza items, like calzones and personal pizzas. They used to have a surplus store, but now they give it to us," Darr said, adding with a laugh, "and they deliver."

Working smoothly
From 4:15-7:30 p.m. volunteers work



Volunteers pack boxes of food in car trunks.

assembly line-style to fill food orders and send them out to waiting cars. The ministry uses a color-coded cart system — with each color representing a different size box of food — to transport the correct order from warehouse to car trunk.

"If we have enough hands it goes really smooth. We're a well-oiled machine," Darr said.

Volunteers greet each arrival and then send a food request via walkie talkie to the warehouse. The only drivers who need to leave their cars are those who are interested in meeting with a representative from the ministry's job bank inside the facility.

Darr said the largest number of those who

receive food are from Westland and Canton. Volunteers — both individuals and groups — come from other churches, civic organizations and schools. Many help out on a regular basis.

"We can train someone in about 30 minutes," he said. "A lot of people want to volunteer this time of year, but we also need help all year round."

Open Door, now in its 11th year, is an offshoot of Connection Church in Canton. Individuals who are interested in volunteering can stop in from 4-9 p.m. on Thursdays. Groups should schedule a visit by calling Darr at (734) 397-1777, Ext. 201, or by e-mailing him at stevendarr@sbcglobal.net.

Foundation president earns board seat

Melinda Conway Callahan, president of the Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Foundation, recently was elected to the Grantmakers in Aging (GIA) board of directors.

GIA is a national organization dedicated to promoting and strengthening grantmaking for an aging society. GIA, an educational nonprofit membership organization for staff and trustees of foundations and corporations, is the only national professional organization of grantmakers active in the field of aging.

Callahan joined Presbyterian Villages of Michigan in 2004. Under her leadership, the Presbyterian Villages of Michigan Foundation has raised more than \$20 million for innovative projects and programs for Michigan seniors. Among those projects the Foundation has funded is Mich-

igan's first Green Houses, an alternative to the traditional medical-model skilled nursing homes. The Foundation raised \$2.6 million to support this new model of caring for the most frail seniors and has sparked a national movement to open hundreds of Green Houses throughout the country.

The Foundation has supported many other projects and programs for Michigan seniors including wellness programs, parish nursing programs and support for benevolent care to meet the growing needs of seniors. In 2010 alone, the Foundation provided more than \$3 million in support for innovative projects and programs.

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan (PVM), headquartered in Southfield, MI, is a faith-based, nonprofit, multi-site system that has served seniors

of all faiths since 1945. The organization serves more than 3,500 seniors and currently has 25 senior living communities including continuing care retirement commu-

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WHEN CONDITIONS COLLIDE

Both patient and physician face a dilemma when a joint problem occurs with another problem of gait and walking. For example: a 70 year old man with diabetes develops osteoarthritis of a knee. Often, a patient with diabetes will lose the ability to know if the feet are moving solidly over the ground or floor. This difficulty is called diabetic neuropathy and occurs because nerve endings in the feet cannot transmit changes in position so the brain can know the position of the feet.

The uncertainty of location that the body feels translates into an unsteady, strained, and uncoordinated gait. If the person suffers from worn out knees, the ability of the knees to accommodate to the strain is compromised. Even worse, because of the strain, wear and tear on the knee accelerates.

For treatment of the knee arthritis to succeed, the physician caring for the patient needs to control two conditions: stopping the neuropathy and limiting progression of the arthritis. Treating the diabetes is key to preventing the arthritis. As a result, the physician finds himself limited in using steroid injections into the arthritic joint, usually an important therapy in treating knee osteoarthritis.

The reason is that injection of steroids raises the patient's blood sugar levels, but in a diabetic the goal is bring down blood sugar levels as close to normal as possible.

In instances when two conditions interact to compromise the therapy of each, physician and patient must come to agreement on what compromises in outcomes are acceptable to both parties.

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Start holiday season with a healthful Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving doesn't have to kick-off a month of unhealthy eating. The holiday season provides the perfect opportunity to make healthier choices for your family meal.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation, offers these tips to ensure a healthy and delicious Thanksgiving meal:

1. Bake, mash and smash: Sweet potatoes are a fantastic source of energy and one of the most nutritious vegetables around. Bake 'em, smash 'em, mash 'em, or stuff 'em. Toss them in salads, or in with other baked veggies.

2. Talking turkey: Turkey is a great source of lean protein and is healthiest if you skip the skin and go for the white meat. If you prefer the dark meat, mix and match in order to get a little extra flavor without adding too much fat.

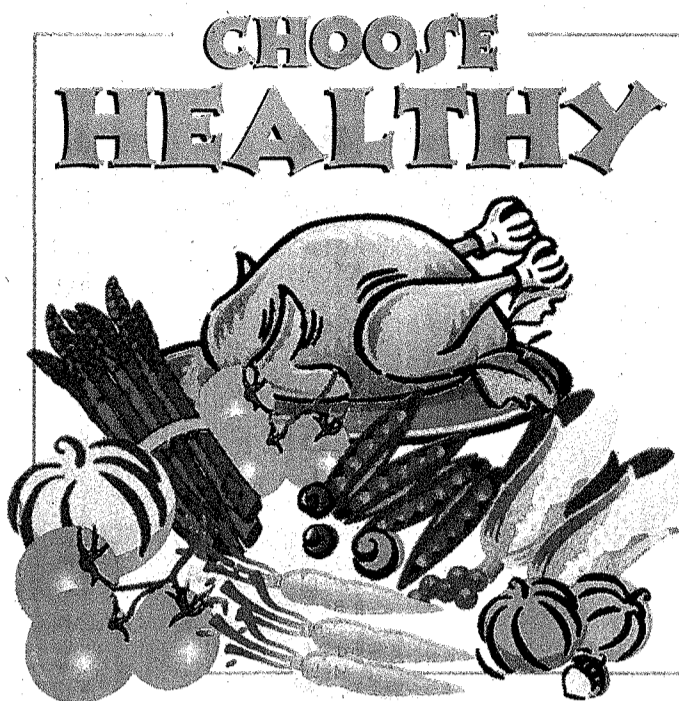
3. Don't forget the fruit: Baked apples or poached pears are perfect, healthy ways to end any autumn meal.

4. Stuffed with nutrition: Try adding fresh veggies and whole wheat bread to stuffing for a delicious, nutritious traditional dish.

5. Add some color: Fall vegetables such as radishes, carrots, squash and green beans are great side dishes that can add color and variety to the meal.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation is a national non-profit founded by the American Heart Association and the William J. Clinton Foundation to combat childhood obesity. The Alliance aims to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity by 2015, and to empower kids nationwide to make healthy lifestyle choices. For more information on tips and tools to help you serve more healthful holiday meals, visit www.HealthierGeneration.org.

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MEDICAL DATEBOOK

November

ST. MARY MERCY

• Dr. Jeffrey Mendels will lead a free educational seminar in joint replacement, 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, in the hospital auditorium. He'll answer questions, discuss joint pain, joint replacement procedures, and available implant options. To register, call (734) 655-2345. The hospital is located at Levan and Five Mile in Livonia.

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

• Get Up and Move, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22 and 29, is an invigorating exercise program and is the perfect complement to a diet program. These classes will help you to make an easy transition back to an exercise program or help you to get started for the first time. Fee is \$30 per month; for more information call (734) 458-3242.

• PATH meets 6 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 22 and 29. PATH is a support group/workshop designed to benefit adults with any long term health problem including arthritis, heart disease, diabetes, emphysema, asthma, bronchitis, obesity, depression and more. This interactive health promotion workshop meets each Tuesday for 6 weeks, at the Westland Specialty Center, 35600 Central City Parkway, Westland. There is no charge. For more information or to register, call (734) 458-4330.

• The hospital's Eating Disorders Support Group meets at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23. This support group is for individuals with anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive and binge eating disorders. Men, women and teens may attend. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.

• Diabetes Self-Management Education starts at 9 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 29. This comprehensive series is planned to help you "live well with diabetes." You will learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. The program is certified by the Michigan Department of Community Health to assure quality and compliance with State and National Diabetes Education Standards. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information or to register.

Garden City Hospital is located at 6245 Inkster, Garden City.

December

JINGLE BELL RUN

Mark 9 a.m. Dec. 3 on the calendar for the annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk to benefit the Arthritis Foundation. The event, held at Northville Downs, offers competitive timing, awards in fourteen different age categories and a post-race party sponsored by Qdoba, Busch's, Bigby, Powerade and more. There is even a "Snowman Shuffle," a quarter-mile fun-run for kids under 12. Prizes include signed Red Wings memorabilia offered for biggest team, biggest fundraiser and most inventive costume. Those interested in participating can head to www.arthritis.org, keyword "Jingle Bell Run/Walk" to register or call event manager Samantha Mertins at (800) 968-3030, Ext. 232, for more information.

Stay safe, avoid cooking fires

The number of home cooking fires on Thanksgiving Day was three times the national average of fires per day in 2009, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). NFPA is urging the public to keep fire safety in mind when preparing holiday meals.

"Thanksgiving can be a whirlwind of cooking and entertaining guests," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of communications for NFPA. "With so much multitasking taking place, fire hazards around the oven or stovetop can easily be overlooked. Cooks should be conscious of fire safety this Thanksgiving whether the menu is meant to serve two or 20."

Cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and related injuries. In 2005-2009, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 155,400 home fires per year involving cooking equipment. These fires caused an annual average of 390 deaths, 4,800 injuries, and \$771 million in direct property damage.

To reduce the risk of cooking fires this holiday, NFPA recommends the following safety tips:

- Keep anything that can catch fire such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains away from the stovetop.
- Always stay in the kitchen while frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you have to leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- When simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Stay alert. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove or stovetop.
- If you have a cooking

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number after you leave.
- If you try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and you have a clear path to your way out of the home. Make sure someone has called the fire department).
- Keep a lid nearby when cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn



off the heat and keep the door closed.

NFPA, founded in 1896, advocates for consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. Visit NFPA's website at www.nfpa.org for more information.



St. Mary Mercy Hospital's UPCOMING HEALTH INFORMATION PRESENTATIONS

- **Center for Joint Replacement Seminar**
Guest speaker Jeffrey Mendelson, MD
Wednesday, November 30, 6 p.m.
Call 734-655-2345 to register or for more information.
- **Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar**
Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD
Thursday, December 1, 6 p.m.
Call 877-WHY-WEIGHT to register or for more information.
- **Fall Prevention**
Guest speaker Kevin Moore, OTR, MSA, WCC
Wednesday, December 7, 7 p.m.
Call 734-655-8950 to register or for more information.
- **Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar**
Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD
Thursday, January 5, 6 p.m.
Call 877-WHY-WEIGHT to register or for more information.
- **Keeping Your New Year's Resolution**
Be successful at keeping your exercise and nutrition goals.
Guest speaker Kevin Moore, OTR, MSA, WCC
Thursday, January 19, 7 p.m.
Call 734-655-8950 to register or for more information.
Location: Bailey Center in Westland
- **Center for Joint Replacement Seminar**
Guest speaker David Mendelson, MD
Thursday, January 26, 6 p.m.
Call 734-655-2345 to register or for more information.

REGISTER NOW!

Presentations are free, but registration is required. Visit stmarymercy.org and click on *Classes & Events* or call designated number above.

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23 city / 33 highway MPG²

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- 2.5L Duratec I-4 Engine
- 6-speed Automatic Transmission
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control
- 16" Cast Aluminum Wheels

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19 city / 27 highway MPG²

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- 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

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MSRP: \$36,325⁴



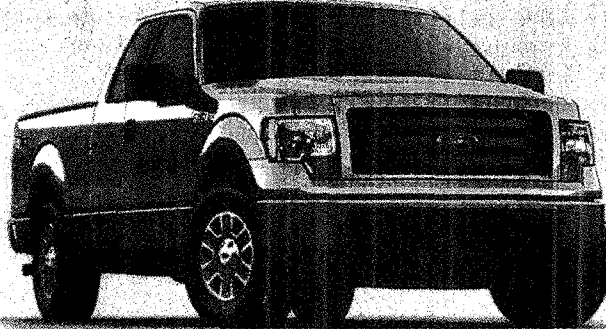
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(1) Includes acquisition fee, waived security deposit, and excludes title, taxes and license fees. Some payments higher, some lower. Not all lessees will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low mileage lease. Residency restrictions apply. Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. Payments include \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash with exception of the 2012 Focus. F-150 payment includes \$750 trade-in assistance. You must currently lease a Ford product and finance through Ford Credit. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. Take retail delivery from dealer stock by 11/30/11 and 1/3/12 on Fusion, Escape and Explorer. (2) MPG estimate based on 2012 Focus SE SEDAN with SFE Package- EPA-estimated 29 city/40 hwy, 2012 Fusion SEL 2.5L I-4 engine with 6-speed automatic 23 city/33 hwy, 2012 Escape 2.5L I-4 Engine 21 city/28 hwy, 2012 Edge SEL 3.5L V6 engine 19 city/27 hwy, 2012 Explorer XLT with 2.0L I4 optional EcoBoost engine 20 city/28 hwy mpg, and 2011 F-150 Super Cab 5.0L V8 engine 17 city/23 hwy. (3) Horsepower and torque achieved with premium fuel. (4) MSRP, A Plan price is for qualified, eligible A Plan customers and excludes document fee, destination/delivery charge, taxes, title and registration. Optional equipment not included. Not all vehicles qualify for A Plan price. (5) 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. Not all buyers will qualify. See dealer for qualifications and complete details.