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## PICTURES OF HOPE

LOCAL NEWS, A8



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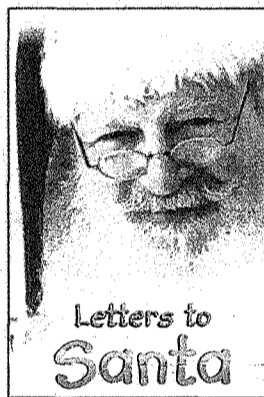
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### Goodfellows

UAW Ford chair Bill Johnson will hold his sixth annual Bowling Fundraiser for the Westland Goodfellows' No Child Without a Christmas Program 7-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at Westland Bowl 5940 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Cost is \$20 per person and there will be five-person teams. It includes two games of bowling, shoes and pizza. There also will be raffles, 50/50, silent auction and bucket raffles. Prizes include iPods, laptop computers, jewelry, sports tickets, vacations and golf packages.

For more information, call Mike Smith at (734) 721-2531 or mikesmithwplocal900@gmail.com, Don Conger at (734) 467-0082 or dconger@ford.com or Chad Erickson at (734) 467-0181 or cericks@ford.com.



### 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.

### INDEX

Business.....	A11
Crossword Puzzle .....	B11
Entertainment .....	B5
Food.....	B8
Homes.....	B10
Jobs.....	B11
Obituaries.....	B4
Opinion.....	A12
Services.....	B10
Sports.....	B1
Wheels.....	B12

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## W-W opposes proposed tax reform

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland school board has put Gov. Rick Snyder and state lawmakers on notice that reform may be fine but not if it comes at the expense of students' education.

The board unanimously approved resolution opposing Senate Bill 34 which would exempt all personal property from tax collection after Dec. 31, 2011.

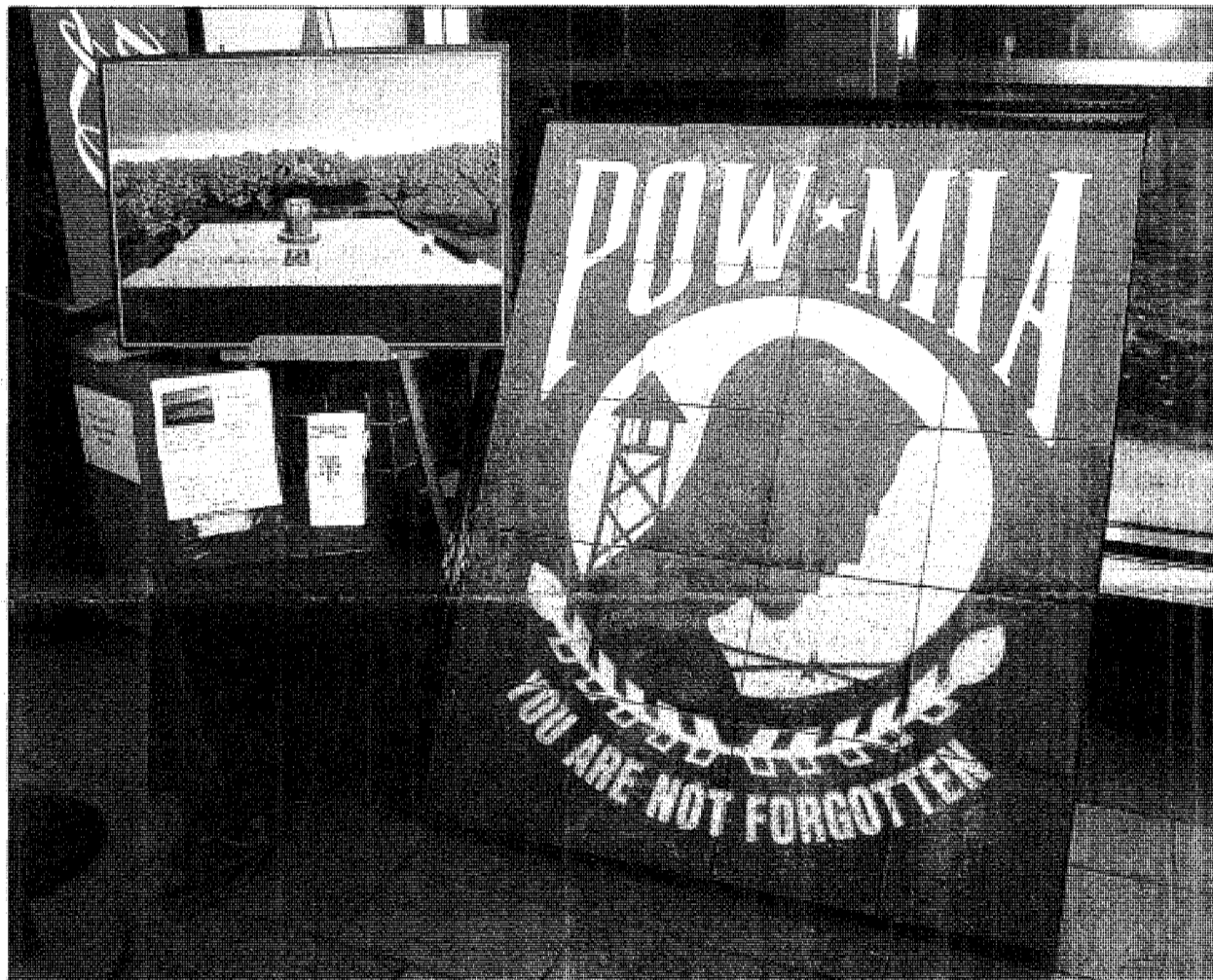
"We need to send a message to Lansing to protect school funding," said Superintendent Greg Baracy is asking board approval of the resolution. "SB 34 would repeal the personal property tax and there has been no discussion about replacing it. This would be another significant hit on school finances."

According to an analysis of the bill by the Senate Fiscal Agency, the effect of SB 34 would be a decrease in revenue for the State School Aid Fund and an increase in revenue for the state's General Fund.

Based on 2010 taxable values, the School Aid Fund received approximately \$103.8 million in personal property taxes under the State Education Tax, while the General Fund received approximately \$52.7 million from taxes on utility property. The net impact on the General Fund

Please see BOARD, A2

## Veterans group helps troops, fundraises for new memorial



The POW/MIA logo has been reproduced on paver bricks and will be the focal point of a Westland Veterans Memorial is on display at the William P. Faust Public Library.

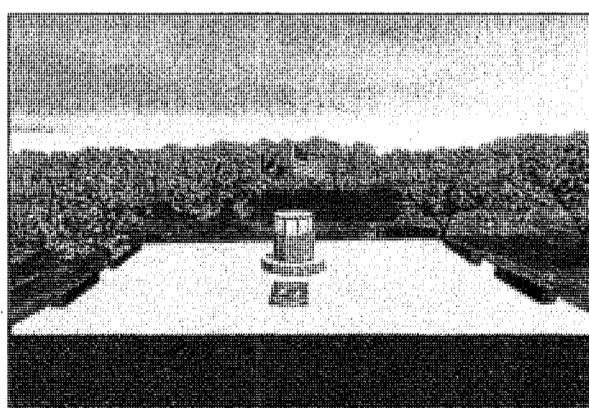
By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

Kenneth Mehl estimates that is every household in Westland donated just \$10 to the Westland Veterans Memorial, organizers would have enough to build it.

That hasn't happened so the Westland Veterans Association has been doing fundraisers and seeking donations as they close in on a goal of dedicating the memorial in November 2012.

"I wish more people would get behind it," said Mehl. "I do know no one has done something like this around here."

Three years after announcing plans to



The Westland Veterans Memorial will feature a column with 10 panels depicting wars Americans have fought in.

build the memorial on the east side of Central City Park beside Friendship Lake, the WVA will be at the William P. Faust Public Library 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3 and 10, to collect items

for packages to send to military personnel overseas in places like Iraq, Afghanistan, Korea and Japan. They also will be selling WVA T-shirts, sweat shirts, hoodies and engraved mugs to raise

funds for the memorial.

The memorial was designed by students at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center in Westland. The memorial will include a column with 10 panels representing the wars in which U.S. military personnel have served.

"We already have a commitment for a half of a panel and with that we have \$75,000 which is pretty good," Mehl said. "Just the center part will cost \$150,000, maybe more."

He added that the memorial will be more than a tribute to veterans, "it'll be a teaching tool."

Please see MEMORIAL, A2

## Westland honored for work with Habitat

The city of Westland has been recognized by Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne for its partnership with the agency.

Mayor William Wild accepted the Raymond and Theresa Carrott Service Award at Habitat's ninth anniversary gala. He commended the Westland City Council and city staff and congratulated Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Alice Dent for her dedication to the work of Habitat for Humanity and her compassion for the partner families.

"We are fortunate for this great partnership," said Wild. "This is an excellent opportunity for the community to see new homes for deserving families and the positive effect it has on our neighborhoods."

Since 2009, the City of Westland has dedicated more than \$1 million in grant funds, land and houses to Habitat for Humanity. That commitment has resulted in seven new homeowners and seven families, consisting of 24 children, who can provide a better life for themselves.

The partnership between the city and Habitat for Humanity is an important part of the Westland's Neighborhood Stabilization Program. In addition to new homes, it improves property values for neighboring homeowners by removing blighted, foreclosed houses and replacing them with brand new or newly renovated homes.

The Carrott Service Award was established in 2006 to honor the memory of Raymond Carrott. From 1995-2004, Mr. Carrott served as board member, construction manager and volunteer coordinator.

He adopted his philosophy for retirement based on a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, "Somewhere along the way, we must learn that there is nothing greater than to do something for other."

The award is presented to individuals who demonstrate significant supportive contributions on behalf of Habitat for Humanity Western Wayne County.

## Party helps Salvation Army meet families' needs

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

It started out as a Christmas party among friends and grew into the Westland Community Foundation. Fifteen years later, the annual gathering, which benefits the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, has become what Glenn Shaw Jr. calls the city Christmas party. And he's extending an invitation to everyone to

attend the event on Tuesday, Dec. 13.

"It's a Christmas party where we ask people to bring toys and food donations," said Shaw. "We had 250 people attend last year and would like to see more this year."

The party will be 6-8 p.m. in the media center of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette. There will be refreshments and hors d'oeuvres prepared by the students

in the culinary arts program at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center. There also will be a performance by the Glenn Singers. Members of Glenn's JROTC program will handle coat check for the evening.

"We get the kids involved, we get the community involved," Shaw said.

Guests are asked to bring two new unwrapped toys, includ-

ing items for teenagers, and make a \$5 donation.

Faced with a need that keeps increasing, the foundation is increasing the amount of money it will spend to help the families that will receive assistance from the Salvation Army this holiday season. Its allotment for food purchases, including gift certificates for turkeys and hams, will

Please see PARTY, A2



# Lawmaker: Latest anti-bullying bill 'does nothing'

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

Gov. Rick Snyder is expected to sign into law an anti-bullying bill that one state senator says "basically does nothing." Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, was one of two state senators to vote no on a House bill that requires all districts have an anti-bullying policy that must be reported to the Michigan Department of Education. "It's hard to vote no on an anti-bullying bill, but when you look at the substance of the bill, it's not what it should be by a long shot," said Anderson, who joined Sen. Mike Greene, R-Mayville, in voting no. "The reporting requirement

is ridiculous, there's no review at the state level. It's one of the most questionable things in the bill. It's telling school districts to report to themselves and we'll turn our heads." The bill, introduced in the State House of Representatives by Rep. Phil Potvin, R-Cadillac, came out of committee a week after the Senate approved a bill that attracted national attention for exempting bullies who have a "sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction." Anderson, who has been battling to get anti-bullying legislation passed since 2005, offered several amendments to add items that were not included in the

House version of the bill, including a requirement to report bullying statistics to the state and include enumerated groups that are most often bullied. The amendments were defeated along party lines. "The easy thing for the Legislature to do was to pass the bill in a hurried attempt to erase what this Senate did two weeks ago," said Anderson. "The easy thing was to ignore the glaring flaws in this legislation and pass it because something is better than nothing. We weren't elected to do the easy thing. We were elected to do the right thing. The right thing to do would be to pass a comprehensive

law that includes reporting to the state and protects children against the growing threat of cyberbullying." According to Anderson, the bill does not include many key components of what would make an effective anti-bullying law. Some of these would have specified potential consequences or remedial action for bullies and those who falsely accuse of bullying, required the reporting of statistics on bullying to the state to determine if the policies are effective, strengthened protections for students against cyberbullying, and ensured that this bill does not preclude other legal action. "It's discouraging, but I'm not throwing in the

towel," he said. "I'm going to keep pressing for a more meaningful policy. Passing this bill as it is today is at best a let-down to the thousands of kids and will not do enough to protect our young people. What's worse, passing this bill will allow the legislature to be complacent for even more time." Michael Flanagan, the state superintendent of education, voiced support for the legislation. Michigan was one of three states without an anti-bullying law. "The protection of our children from physical and emotional harm is a moral obligation and responsibility of everyone," Flanagan said in a prepared statement.

"This has been an emotional issue, and I appreciate the Senate showing the leadership to reconsider its position today and completing this cooperative process with respect to every side of this debate for the protection of all schoolchildren." Anderson believes people will take a look at the legislation and realize that it "does not take care of the problem." "It's important for people to see that and not let the legislature off the hook," he said. "We need to continue to push for comprehensive bullying legislation that will actually protect Michigan's children and send the message that bullying is never OK."

## MEMORIAL

Continued from page A1

"Teachers will be able to take their students there to learn about the different wars," he said. The column was originally surrounded by a reflecting pool, however, organizers took it out for "safety and maintenance reasons," Mehl said. It will now be surrounded by a plaza made up of engraved brick pavers which WVA is selling to raise money. The focal point will be a 20-by-20-foot replica of the POW/MIA logo sandblasted onto gray pavers and then painted white. The logo is currently on display at the library. The pavers come in three sizes. The smallest is 6 inches by 6 inches and costs \$100. The 6-inch by 12-inch is \$250 and the largest a 12-inch by 12-inch paver is \$500. The organization has more than 75 sold so far. The plan is to have

the whole center covered with the engraved pavers and eventually take the along the memorial's path, Mehl said. "You don't have to be in the military or be a veteran to buy a brick paver," said Mehl. "State Rep. Richard LeBlanc bought one with his family name on it." The association has gotten businesses to help with the fundraising. Barry's Professional Barbers in Garden City and Legends Official Hair Cutter for Men in Westland are selling baseball caps emblazoned with the decals for the four branches of the service — Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines — for \$15. A special POW/MIA hat also is available for \$20, as is a 24-ounce POW/MIA mug for \$15. There's a special 16-inch by 20-inch picture collage with "Never forget our troops" across the bottom for \$50 and a set of four pictures representing the four branch-

es of the service for \$130. Individual photos are \$40. Westland Lock and Key also is selling apparel — long-sleeved WVA T-shirts for \$18, sweat shirts at \$20 and hoodies for \$28. And Buffalo Wild Wings is donating 20 percent of a total order for patrons who have reusable cards that are available at the Westland library or by calling Mehl at (734) 335-7943. While the association had hoped to dedicate the memorial on Veterans Day this year, Mehl said the group is committed to doing it on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2012. To help with costs, the group is in discussions with "the building trades about them helping out as much as they can with labor and materials." "The last two years have been better fundraising, but if we had support like that of (Westland City Councilmen) Bill Johnson and Jim Godbout, we would be doing better," Mehl said.

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## AROUND WESTLAND

### Season of Lights

Downtown Wayne will host its family friendly "Season of Lights" 4-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9. A thousand luminaries will light Michigan Avenue between Wayne Road and Second Street. Come join in celebrating the season with strolling carolers, hot chocolate and fun holiday activities. Afterwards continue the cheer at one of the many great eateries that will have exclusive specials for the evening. Visit

www.DowntownWayne.org for details.

### 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 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3. 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.

### American Legion

The American Legion, Westland Post 251, meets at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. All veterans, male and female with an honorable discharge are welcome to join. Visit the post Web site at www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607 for more information.

## PARTY

Continued from page A1

total \$16,000 this year. It also will spend \$8,000 to sponsor families and buy coats. Groups like the Motor City HOGS have contributed \$4,000 and the toys collected from its fall toy run. Palace Food helps out by selling discounting the food it sells to the foundation as well as making a contribution. Local businesses also have heeded Shaw's

call for bigger donations to buy more food, and he in turn is urging people to shop locally and consider giving gift cards from those businesses. "A lot of people are hurting, and a lot of local businesses are, too," he said. "We need to work together and spend our money at businesses in our town." When all is said and done, Shaw estimates this year's contributions will total \$30,000 in toys, gifts and food. "I serve on the Salvation Army board and in

the last few years, the need has become greater, the numbers keep increasing," he said. "There's more than 800 families that will receive help from the Salvation Army and a majority of them are from Westland." People can reserve a spot by calling (734) 595-7727 by Dec. 5. "It's a great party," said Shaw. "There's no limit on who can attend, but get there early, the parking lot gets filled up quickly."

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BOARD  
Continued from page A1

was a loss of \$93 million. However, if passed, the bill would reduce School Aid Fund \$103.8 million and increase General Fund revenue by \$93 million. The bill would affect millages levied by local entities with tax-

ing authority and would include taxes levied for local school district debt, county levies, and city/village/township levies, as well as levies by other authorities such as library authorities, zoo and park levies, and public safety levies for police and/or fire service.

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Baracy told the board that the proposed bill would reduce school funding statewide by more than \$550 million and result in a loss of \$173,000 to the district's sinking fund as well as a loss of \$790,000 in local school debt fund collections which would increase the tax burden on homeowners. Baracy pointed to Ford Motor Co.'s Wayne Assembly Plant and the equipment inside it, saying it's like that in other businesses. "We have to send a message to Lansing and make it clear: If you're going to implement significant reform, you have to replace what you take out," he said. "This will really have an impact on the State Education Tax with a loss of more than \$1 billion and affect the state School Aid Fund." "It's another raid on the School Aid Fund, and we know that last year when they did this they took hundreds and hundreds of million of dollars from education and put it elsewhere," he added. "This is the same concept, another act of taking money from education and there's no discussion about replacing it."

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# Christmas show conjures up a ghost of a good time

Christmas might be just around the corner, but Inspire Theatre has been working on its upcoming production, *Christmas Eve on Woodward Ave*, since August.

Named after the local holiday classic by Detroit Red Wings singer Karen Newman, the play is set at the Scrooge Television Network, owned by the tight-fisted Ebenezer Scrooge. As the cast awaits the arrival of Santa and Karen at the "Woodward studio," fun and frivolity ensues.

All of this enchanting jocularly takes place Friday-Sunday, Dec. 2-4 and 9-11, at 33445 Warren Road, east of Wayne Road, Westland. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$12 and can reservations can be made by calling (734) 751-7057.

Using Christmas classics, the IT cast presents its own version of several holiday favorites. O. Henry's tale of sacrificial love is presented in the telling of "Madge & Guy," while "12 Days of Christmas" gets new life and several classic movies are reduced to a 30-second telling. Things get precarious when Scrooge shuts down the show because his major backer and girlfriend, Belle, dumps him for greener pastures.

As the cast uses "dramatic" persuasion techniques to get Scrooge to recant, a reporter from the show continues to stalk Karen Newman.

In addition to the retelling of a *Christmas Carol*, players from Redford, Livonia, Garden City, Westland, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Canton, Wayne, and Romulus have joined in the fun as music and laughter fill the stage. Included in the lineup



Cara Ball of Westland plays the ghost of Bob Marley in Inspire's Theater's production of "Christmas Eve on Woodward Ave."



Toni Hammond of Farmington Hills and Jessica Sprunger of Westland rehearse a scene from "Christmas on Woodward Ave."

are musical guest Kylee Phillips of the Mean Reds from Plymouth and Sue Fisher of Westland. Karen Newman also is rumored to pay a visit.

All of this madcap madness is the result of Artistic Director, Len Fisher's hosting of improv nights at the rented space Inspire Theatre calls

home. Located on Warren Road inside Warren Road Light and Life Church, IT transforms 2,600 square feet into an intimate setting for captivating presentations. Realizing that they cannot compete with the grand productions of other nearby venues, Fisher has capitalized on the smallness of the



Artistic Director Len Fisher of Westland shares an awkward moment on stage with Bobbi Gladden of Livonia.

space. "Its intimate but a always a challenge," Fisher said, "We also consider ourselves a

very green theatre as we rarely throw anything away that just might be used for another purpose. We shop sec-

ond hand and locally and when its time to get rid of stuff, we list it on freecycle. So storage is also an issue."

"Right now we operate solely on ticket sales and so the space is affordable. Also the church has been very gracious to our ever expanding needs," added Fisher, who seems to oversee all aspects of the production, from lighting and set design to writing most of the plays. However he admits that he couldn't do it without his right arm, Administrative Producer Wendy Hardy of Livonia.

"She's the one who dots the I's dramatically speaking," he said. "And she calms the waters when I have to be a little forthright with actors."

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## Flat screen TV taken from apartment clubhouse

### WESTLAND

#### Attempted break-in

A resident in the 7200 block of Lakeview Boulevard told police that he had discovered someone had tried to break into his apartment sometime between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. Nov. 28.

Police observed smudge marks where the suspect had tried to kick in the door, and that the dead bolt assembly was bent but still able to secure the door.

#### Burglary

Jewelry, a laptop computer, television and digital camera were reported stolen in the break-in of a home in the 2000 block of North Parent sometime between 7:30 p.m. Nov. 25

am 6:30 p.m. Nov. 26.

The homeowner told police that he had locked the house when he left on Nov. 25 and when he returned on Nov. 26 he saw lights on inside. The dead bolt on the front door was unlocked, but the other lock wasn't. When he went inside, he found that someone had kicked in the door to his roommate's bedroom.

Missing was a 42-inch TV, digital camera, laptop computer and safe containing his mother's jewelry, including a silver charm bracelet, pearl necklace and opal earrings and a pendant, and a 9mm handgun. There also were several credit cards in the safe, but the roommate wasn't sure which ones had been activated.

The homeowner told

police that no one else has a key to the house and that when he checked for a spare key hidden under a fake rock in landscaping next to the porch, it was missing.

The residence hadn't been ransacked and that other firearms, TVs and jewelry that were left in the open weren't taken, leading police to believe that the suspect knew what he wanted and where to find it.

#### Break-in

A 50-inch plasma flat screen TV, a diamond ring and miscellaneous jewelry were reported missing from an apartment on North Orchard Circle Nov. 24.

The resident told police that someone entered her apartment through the front door and took

the TV in the living room and jewelry, including the ring, from a container she had kept in a bedroom closet. The woman said she wasn't sure how much jewelry was missing, but the thief took most of it and left the container on the bed.

Police found minor damage to the front door near the handle.

#### Stolen property

A 48-inch flat screen TV and remote was reported stolen from the clubhouse of the Westwood Apartments between 6 p.m. Nov. 27 and 7:26 a.m. Nov. 28.

The maintenance supervisor told police that entry was gained by prying the door from the weight room to the clubhouse area. He believes a resident may be respon-

sible since access to the weight room is done by using an apartment key.

The TV had been mounted on the south wall. The bolts were found on the floor. The TV remote also was missing.

Officers saw pry marks on the door leading from the weight room to the clubhouse. The maintenance supervisor said that the clubhouse doesn't have an alarm.

#### Break-in

A 42-inch plasma TV was among items reported stolen Nov. 25 from an apartment in the 7000 block of Lakeview Boulevard.

The roommate of the tenant told police she was the last person to leave the apartment at 1:30 p.m. and that she had

secured the door. When she returned at 10:30 p.m., she found the door wall open and the television missing.

The tenant said her bedroom had been ransacked and a PlayStation 3 game console and five games were also missing.

#### Larceny from a vehicle

A catalytic converter was reported removed from an Oldsmobile Cutlass while it was parked in the lot in the 6600 block of Lakeview Boulevard sometime between 10 p.m. Nov. 25 and 11 a.m. Nov. 26.

The daughter of the owner had been the last person to drive the vehicle and told police she hadn't seen a suspect or evidence of the theft.

## H.E.A.T. offers tips to protect shoppers, their vehicle

The race is on! With the holiday season now in full swing, department stores, malls and downtown streets are packed with shoppers looking for great gifts and last-minute deals.

Unfortunately, it's that hustle and bustle of long lists and large crowds that opportunistic criminals are counting on to distract holiday shoppers and make them easy targets for vehicle break-ins, carjacking and other auto theft-related crimes.

According to Help Eliminate Auto Thefts (H.E.A.T.), law enforcement agencies report an increased number of auto

break-ins during the holiday season. H.E.A.T. is Michigan's statewide auto theft prevention program that coordinates citizen action with law enforcement agencies through a confidential toll-free tip line (1-800-242-HEAT) and website (1800242HEAT.com).

"The holidays are a joyous time of year filled with family gatherings and gift giving," said Terri Miller, director of H.E.A.T. "But, with overflowing parking lots and vehicles filled to the brim with purchases, the holidays are also a dream for car thieves."

The following tips from

H.E.A.T. will help you to be more careful and prepared while shopping this holiday season.

- Stay alert and watchful. While walking to your car, take a moment to observe your surroundings. Talking or texting on cell phones, digging for keys or juggling multiple packages can be a distraction, all of which make you an easy target.

- Park in well-lit, high-traffic areas. Try to avoid shopping alone after dark. If possible, avoid parking near objects that block your view of the surrounding area such as dumpsters, bushes, large vans or trucks.

- Place valuables and purchases in the trunk or out of view. Before leaving your car, make sure anything of value is locked in the trunk or out of sight.

- Remember where your car is parked. Walk directly to your car and do not spend unnecessary time wandering around the parking lot. Walk confidently and with purpose.

- Move your car. If you return to your car in the middle of a shopping trip, move to another area of the parking lot, even if it means giving up a prime spot. This will deter a thief who may have been

watching you unload your purchases and then return to shop.

- If threatened by a carjacker, give up the car. Don't resist or argue. A life is more important than any vehicle, and most carjacking's involve a weapon.

- If you witness an auto theft or carjacking, call the police immediately. If you have any information regarding auto theft, insurance fraud or carjacking, call the 24/7 H.E.A.T. tip reward line at 1-800-242-H.E.A.T.

H.E.A.T. works with Michigan law enforcement agencies to follow-up on tips. Tipsters are

awarded up to \$1,000, if the tip leads to the arrest and prosecution of a suspected car thief or a person suspected of auto theft-related insurance fraud.

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The H.E.A.T. tip line is monitored by the Michigan State Police and funded by Michigan's auto insurance companies.



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# Diaper giant donation 'overwhelming'

By Darrell Clem  
Observer Staff Writer

An 18-wheeler hauling 250,000 diapers donated by Huggies rolled into Canton Monday morning, providing a huge boost to the nonprofit Detroit Area Diaper Bank and its volunteer founder, Marybeth Levine.

"It's overwhelming," Levine said, "and yet it's satisfying to have a huge company like Huggies acknowledge the need and to support it."

The semi-trailer pulled up to M.S.A. Delivery Service, on Hannan south of Michigan Avenue, where owner Jerry Rozum and other volunteers unloaded pallets of diapers as 36 of DADB's nonprofit partners lined up to accept diapers for needy families they help.

Metro Detroit marked the 11th stop as Huggies donated 12 million diapers in 12 days in 12 cities, showing its support for the newly formed National Diaper Bank Network.

Kevin Brown, a Farmington native and Wisconsin-based commercial program manager for Huggies, said the project marked the company's 12 Days of Thanks program as the Thanksgiving holiday approached. He said studies have shown that one in three U.S. families with children faces decisions such as cutting back on food to buy diapers, which aren't covered by government assistance programs.

"We felt as an industry leader that this is not acceptable," Brown said.

Huggies donated more than 22 million diapers in 2010 and pledged a similar amount over the next three years to diaper banks such as the one Levine started in April



Jerry Rozum, owner of M.S.A. Delivery, put down his desk duties Monday morning and helped unload diapers that will be distributed to needy families across metro Detroit.

2009. In all, the DADB has collected and donated some 657,000 diapers.

Monday's delivery of 250,000 Huggies came after the DADB already had collected more than 203,000 during its pre-Thanksgiving fall campaign, boosted by partners such as the Canton Public Library. Levine said the two projects will help meet a need through the first of the year for agencies such as Starfish Family Services, First Step domestic violence shelters and The Salvation Army.

"It's an incredible thing," Levine, a mother of three, said as husband Steve and other volunteers helped out Monday morning.

Huggies also has indicated it plans to donate as many as 182,000 more diapers to DADB in the coming weeks.

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, stopped by to help and show her support for the DADB and Levine. "Canton is very fortunate to have her in the community," Slavens

said. Levine's father, John Burnham, came all the way from Virginia Beach, Va., to help with the latest diaper-collection efforts. He was visibly proud of his daughter, saying she proves "how one person can make a difference."

Janice Strozier showed up at M.S.A. Delivery to pick up diapers for the Michigan Department of Human Services office in Inkster, which services numerous communities such as Westland and Canton. The DADB's partners are spread across southeast Michigan.

"Organizations like this really help us out," Strozier said, adding that struggling families shouldn't have to decide between buying food and diapers.

Volunteers Joan Carr and Kathy Lancaster came to collect diapers for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which distributes diapers through Sts. Simon & Jude Church in Westland. They voiced deep appreciation for the



Marybeth Levine's Detroit Area Diaper Bank receives a donation of 250,000 diapers from Huggies.

we get these?" Carr asked. "Marybeth and the diaper bank have been a godsend for us."

For more on the DADB, go to [www.detroitareadiaperbank.org](http://www.detroitareadiaperbank.org).

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gift of diapers. "Honestly, where would

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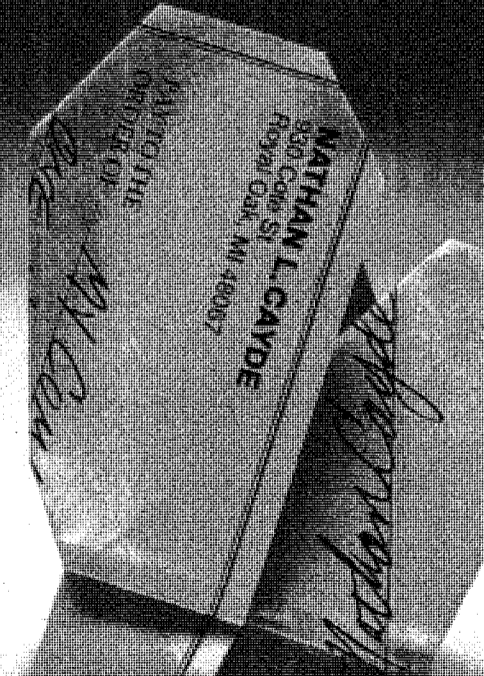
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## Beware of bogus charities

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

Recently, I was doing some reading and came across some figures that dealt with identity theft and how it increases at this time of year. When you take a step back and think about it, I guess that's not so surprising. After all, this is the time of year that people are using their charge cards more than ever. That being said, I thought it would be important to remind you about how important it is to protect your sensitive information.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Identity theft is a crime that's probably been with us since the beginning of time. However, over the last decade or so with the explosion of technology, identity theft has been one of the fastest growing crimes. What makes identity theft so dangerous is that the crooks can be anywhere. Today, with the Internet and technology, people can be anywhere around the world and steal your identity. Although, there is no 100 percent way of assuring yourself that no one steals your identity, there are things that you can do to reduce the risk. In addition, being aware that there are crooks that specialize in stealing your identity will hopefully add another line of defense. After all, that's what this is all about — reducing the chance of your identity being stolen and also, if it is stolen, to reduce the consequences.

During the holiday sea-

son, one of the major sources of identity theft is bogus charities. This time of year we're inundated by phone solicitations and e-mail blasts appealing to our good nature to give to this cause or another. There are a fair number of these solicitations that have no charitable goal whatsoever, but rather are attempts to get your personal information, such as charge card numbers. Therefore, be extremely careful as to what charity you choose to support. My general rule is I never give through a phone solicitation. It's not like the old days where kids from the local high school called you, hoping that you would donate to the school. Today with the solicitation calls coming from all over the world, I have no idea what will happen to my charge card information. Therefore my rule to protect myself is, if I am not familiar with a charity and have not given to them in the past, I will never give through a phone solicitation and that includes my local fire and police departments.

This time of year there are all sorts of deals that will give you discounts to sign up for a charge card. Most of these deals are legitimate and there are good ways to save a few dollars on your purchase. However, once again you have to be careful as to who you give this information to. A reputable store is one thing, but solicitations you see on the internet to get discounts are another thing. I'm very cautious as to whom I give information to and that includes solicitations for charge cards. The discount you receive is certainly not worth the aggravation if your identity is stolen.

People are buying more and more on the Internet.

The Internet has some great advantages, but one of the disadvantages is that it's easy for crooks to operate. Therefore, during this holiday season, be extremely careful of the sites that you use for your purchases. Particularly, be very careful about linking to a site directly from an e-mail. Some of these crooks are so good that you can't tell the difference between a legitimate e-mail and a phony one. Therefore, my advice if you are going to go shopping on the Internet, type the web address in yourself as opposed to linking from an e-mail. This will protect you from being sent to a bogus site.

We must be careful at all times regarding who we give our sensitive information to. In addition, it is also important that when we get statements and invoices that we review them for accuracy. It is always important to remember that when it comes to identity theft, you are the last line of defense for yourself. Being diligent and aware of the possibility of identity theft will not only reduce your risk of having your identity stolen, but also limit the damages that may occur.

It used to be when they said shop responsibly they meant, staying within your budget. In today's world, shopping responsibly means more than staying within your budget; it also means making sure that you protect your sensitive financial information at all times. Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit his website at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gail Lafferty of Livonia reads the names of children lost to their families during The Compassionate Friends candlelight vigil last year in Plymouth's Kellogg Park. This year's vigil is set for Sunday, Dec. 11.

## Vigil to honor loved ones lost too soon

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

Members of the Compassionate Friends know the holidays are tough times for people who've lost loved ones, especially children.

In an effort to help with the grief, The Compassionate Friends, Western Wayne County (Livonia) Chapter, sponsor their 15th annual Worldwide Candle Lighting ceremony in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth Sunday, Dec. 11, in conjunction with Children's Memorial Day.

"The holidays are especially difficult for parents who have lost children," said committee member Gail Lafferty. "This candle-lighting ceremony honoring

them helps their memory live on."

The ceremony will include the dedication of at least two trees decorated with ornaments featuring the children's names, a candle-light vigil, a reading of the children's names, poetry and songs.

The local ceremony includes the candle-lighting at 7 p.m. in conjunction with the worldwide candle-lighting. The idea is that, as candles burn down in one time zone, they're lit in another, creating a 24-hour memorial.

Recognized in communities around the world, International Children's Memorial Day is already officially sanctioned by the U.S. Congress.

"Hundreds of families will gather near a tree

specially decorated with the names of children who have died too soon," Lafferty said.

The vigil annually includes the reading the names of those lost too soon. Organizers are recommending people arrive by 6:30 p.m.

Friends and family are invited to the remembrance and candles will be provided. You do not have to attend to register your child. Anyone with a name they'd like read, or who wants more information about the event, can call or e-mail candle-lighting committee members Gail Lafferty or Brenda Hernandez, [tcfcandlelight@yahoo.com](mailto:tcfcandlelight@yahoo.com) or (734) 778-0800.

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# How to deal with grief during the holidays

By **Cathy Clough**  
Guest Columnist

Looking ahead to the holidays can be overwhelming when you're grieving after the death of someone you loved. Holidays are times that bring families together and the absence of an important member of the family can cause those who are grieving additional pain as they anticipate those upcoming days.



Cathy Clough

I've had many people say to me that they could eliminate all of the days between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day from the calendar! But they can't, and it's almost impossible to ignore the season. Everywhere you go you find holiday

decorations and Christmas carols playing. And, everyone expects you to be merry – after all, it's the holiday season!

There are some things you can do to help yourself get through the days ahead if you're grieving. Let me share with you some of the things that helped me after the death of my first husband and many others I've been privileged to help over the years:

**Plan realistically**

If you don't plan and just let the holidays hit you expecting that they will be OK, you may be disappointed. Grieving people often have trouble planning ahead, but this is the one time that I suggest you think about what you can do to make the holidays less intimidating. Do you want to do things the same or differently? Oftentimes, trying to do things the same doesn't work –

someone very important is missing and things can't be the same. Many people find that making some changes helps. Some of these changes could include changing where you have the holiday meal, planning a different menu or travelling.

If you make changes, be sensitive to the needs of others who have been affected by the death including small children. When my husband died, my children were very young so I didn't have the option of ignoring or running away from Christmas. We still had to have a tree and observe many of the traditions that were so important to them. I encourage families to talk about the things that are important to them. Decide which traditions are important and need to be continued and which traditions can be dropped or changed this year. Changing something this year

doesn't mean that you can't do it again. It may take a lot of honest discussion and negotiation to decide what is important to all family members involved.

**Take care of yourself**

Mourning after the death of a loved one is exhausting! If you don't take care of yourself, you may feel worse. As difficult as it might be, try to eat right, exercise and don't over-commit. And, you don't have to do everything you've done in the past. Prioritize! Do you really need to put up all those Christmas decorations? How about a tabletop tree instead of the full-sized tree you've always had. Shop on-line, buy gift cards or patronize your local stores rather than going to the mall. Ask for help! Friends can shop for you, help you decorate ... you just need to ask. And, you don't need to send Christ-

mas cards. People should understand if you don't this year.

**Include loved one**

He was an important part of your life and did exist. Many people will avoid mentioning his name because they don't want to make you feel sad or bring up something that could cause discomfort during this happy season. If you are like most grievers, you want your loved one to be remembered this holiday season. It's probably going to be up to you to make sure that happens. Bring his/her name up in conversation. Ask others to share memories or pictures. You could even go around the holiday table and ask people to share a memory. Light a candle in your loved one's memory. Make a donation in his or her memory to your church or charity. Do something because of your loved one.

**Reach out to others**

Sometimes just putting the focus on something or someone other than yourself can help you. Maybe you could invite someone to share a holiday meal with you – someone who has no family or has lost their job. You'll be amazed at how good this will make you feel.

I hope that some of these suggestions will help you as you face this holiday season. And hold on to this hope ... eventually you'll face the holiday season with a mild sadness or happiness and anticipation again. You'll remember the good times of holidays past, rather than those early days soon after the death of the one you loved.

**Cathy Clough** is the founder/executive director of New Hope Center for Grief Support located in Northville. She can be reached at (248) 348-0115 or cathy@newhopecenter.net.

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# Pictures of Hope let children share dreams

## PICTURES OF HOPE

Gordon Chevrolet is joining with the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries in selling 15-card sets of the children's Picture of Hope cards for \$20. All of the money will go to DRMM which provides services ranging from emergency shelter to job training for men, women and children in the Detroit community. Cards can be ordered by calling Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries at (313) 993-4700 or stopping by Gordon Chevrolet at 38150 Ford, west of Merriman in Garden City.

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

Hope comes in all shapes and sizes. It can be as simple as having furniture, as touching as donating to homeless people and as big as feeding all the people in the world. It can be a hope and dream to go to college or have people pick up the trash so people can walk outside in their socks.

Those were the hopes depicted in photographs taken by a group of children served by the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries for Linda Solomon's nationally acclaimed program "Pictures of Hope" Project.

"We had so much fun together, we'll be friends forever," said Solomon, who joined the children in an unveiling of their Picture of Hope cards at a party Tuesday at Gordon Chevrolet in Garden City. "I'm so proud of them, I'm thrilled to see their faces. This builds their self-esteem."

Solomon has been doing her Pictures of Hope Project since 1990 and has reached out to more than one million children. She provided the lesson in photography and then gave children one-time use cameras and an assignment to capture photos of hope. She processed the film and selected one photograph for each child and turned them into cards. Five hundred sets of cards were made and are being sold at \$20 each this holiday season to raise money for the DRMM.

"They did a wonderful, wonderful job," said Susan Ianni, general manager of Gordon Chevrolet. "Linda had lots of photos to chose from because the children took fabulous pictures."

Solomon had been partnering with GM on the project since 2006, but this year, she was joined by Chevrolet which asked Ianni in what she would like to be involved.

"Part of our philosophy is charity work, we participate in something every month," she said. "It's been ingrained in this dealership. I think that's probably why GM approached us. It took 30 seconds to say yes. I think they knew we would do it."

"I felt honored to be asked, I felt honored to work with these children," she added.

Dr. Chad Audi, president and CEO of the DRMM, thanked Solomon for selecting "our children" for the project.

"We service people from cradle to grave," he said. "We have been serving the community since 1909. We serve 3,500-4,000 meals a day and provide shelter for 1,400 men, women and children each day. They come to us homeless and leave with hope. We could not do it without the support of GM and Chevrolet."

The children each received backpacks filled with goodies including two packs of the Pictures of Hope cards, provided by Gordon Chevrolet.



Linda Solomon was greeted by Heaven Shepard, one of the children involved in her Pictures of Hope Project at the Detroit Rescue Mission.

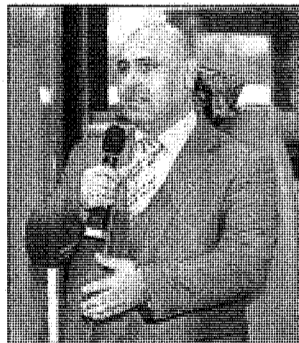


Youngsters pose around the Christmas tree in the showroom of Gordon Chevrolet in Garden City while waiting for the unveiling of their picture cards.

One pack was to open, the other pack was a keepsake and had the business cards of Ianni and managers James Schram and Tim Swimea.

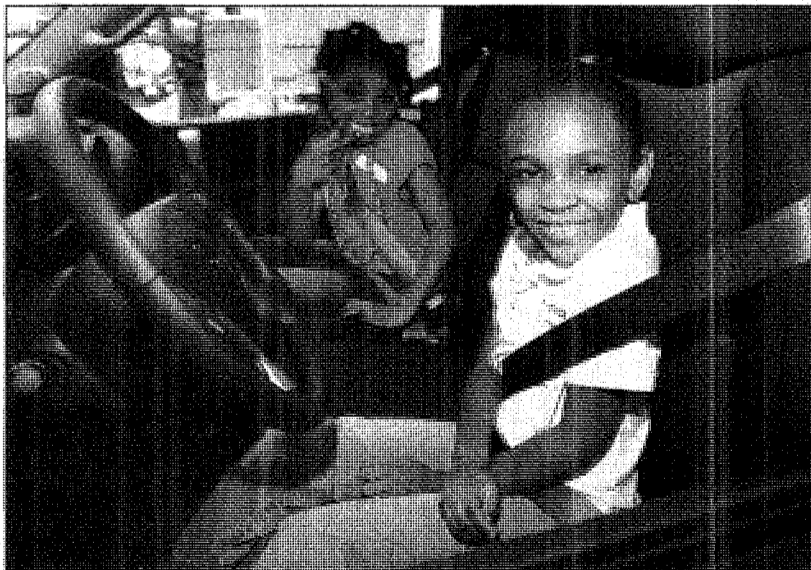
"The whole point to putting those cards on those packs is that down the road when you're in school and have a question about a career or want to tell us you tried your best in school, we're here," Ianni told the children. "If you keep in contact, we may be able to help you with your hopes and dreams."

Eleven-year-old Shalson Knight's hope is that everyone can have a home and not be on the streets. She conveyed her hope in her photograph



Dr. Chad Audi, the chief executive officer of the Detroit Rescue Mission, thanks Linda Solomon for choosing "our children" for her Pictures of Hope Project.

of a playset. Her mother and her five siblings were sheltered by DRMM, which helped them get a house.



Keziah Wilson (left) and Diamond Leshell try out a Chevy pickup truck in the showroom at Gordon Chevrolet.

"My dream came true," she said. "I didn't know they we're making them

into cards. That makes me feel happy."

Sales of the cards is expected to raise \$10,000 for DRMM, and the goal isn't to far off after Ianni presented Audi with a check for \$6,000. The check represents 300 sets of the cards the dealership purchased. It plans to give a set to each customer who buys a new car between now and Christmas.

Gordon Chevrolet is also helping the DRMM in selling the remaining sets of cards. And it didn't take long.

Susie Chargo of Plymouth heard Solomon talking about the project on the radio and stopped by the dealership to inquire about volunteering.

"I came here to get information about the project, I didn't know the kids would be here," she said. "I did get some cards. It's a great project."

Solomon is doing her Pictures of Hope in 10 cities. She left Tuesday evening for Texas where she will work with children in Dallas, Houston and San Antonio. Other cities on the list include Tucson, San Diego and Brooklyn and Queens in New York.

"A camera to these children is a way to visualize their dreams," she said. "I can't tell you how much this means to me to have the children do this."

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Susan Ianni, general manager of Gordon Chevrolet, tells youngsters they did "a wonderful job" in capturing their hopes and dreams in pictures.



# Lawmakers alert consumers to change in item pricing law

Six state representatives are trying to get the word out to consumers about the modified consumer rights under the new item pricing law which took effect Sept. 1.

State Reps. Douglas Geiss, D-Taylor, Andrew Kandrevas, D-Southgate, Vicki Barnett, D-Farmington Hills, Dian Slavens, D-Canton, Bob Constan, D-Dearborn Heights, and George Darany, D-Dearborn, held a press conference to highlight the changes in advance of one of the busiest shopping days of the year.

The 2011 Shopping Reform and Modernization Act or "Scanner Law" made changes to how item prices had to be displayed. The new law permits the price to be displayed by signage, electronic reader or any other method that clearly conveys the price to a consumer when in the store at the place where the item is located.

The most fundamental change is that retailers are no longer required to individually mark the price on the item itself.

"I saw firsthand what can happen when an item's price is merely shown in the vicinity



State Rep. Bob Constan (second from right), who House district includes Garden City, joins Reps. Douglas Geiss, D-Taylor, Andrew Kandrevas, D-Southgate, Vicki Barnett, D-Farmington Hills, Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and George Darany, D-Dearborn, at a press conference in Taylor about the 2011 Shopping Reform and Modernization Act or "Scanner Law."

of the product and not on the product itself," said Geiss. "I was overcharged on an item at the Taylor Wal-Mart, had to document the difference, and prove that I was misled by the signage."

"There is a 'Scanner Error Bill of Rights' and the public deserves to be educated on their rights," he added. "The attorney general was appropriated \$100,000 to develop and implement a public consumer education pro-

gram to provide general information and advice regarding the advertising and pricing requirements of this act and the remedies available to consumers. Thus far, the attorney general has established and maintained a website however, not only have there been no other efforts to educate the public, but there has been no effort we are aware of to educate the retailers."

Also tied onto the leg-

islation was an appropriation that makes the law referendum proof meaning the voters cannot vote to have the law changed.

"Voters had twice before vetoed changes to the item pricing law but with this measure they will unfortunately have to live with the changes without proper recourse or information," said Barnett. "If those that passed this legislation do not want to educate the

public then we are more than happy to do it for them."

According to the State of Michigan Attorney General website, if an automatic checkout system charges you more than the displayed price of an item, and the transaction has been completed and you have a receipt indicating the item purchased and the price charged for it, you must notify the seller that you were overcharged within 30 days of the transaction, either in person or in writing.

Within two days of receiving your notice, the seller may choose to refund you the difference between the amount charged and the price displayed plus a "bonus" of 10 times the difference, with a minimum of \$1 and a maximum of \$5. If the seller refuses to give you both the refund and the bonus, you may bring a lawsuit to recover your actual damages or \$250, whichever is greater, plus reasonable attorney fees up to \$300.

"We are out here today, not to call out any businesses specifically, but to let consumers and retailers alike know that we see the lack of education

in the implementation phase of this legislation," said Slavens. "We really just want consumers to be armed with information and recourse, if they feel their rights as consumers have been violated."

"Our hard working Michigan residents are watching their money carefully these days and should not run the risk of being overcharged, especially this time of year," said Kandrevas. "We want to stress this issue as many people are busy holiday shopping. We came here to explain the changes in the law, urge consumers to be vigilant when shopping and provide a contact, if they feel they are duped or overcharged or frustrated when shopping."

Complaints regarding a store's failure to properly display the price of consumer items offered for sale should be directed to the Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, Weights & Measures Section in the E.C. Heffron Laboratory, by calling (517) 655-8202 or toll-free (877) 765-8388; in writing addressed to 940 Venture Lane, Williamston, MI 48895 or visit [www.michigan.gov/ag](http://www.michigan.gov/ag).

# Zuckerman elected chairperson of airport authority

The Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) board has elected Mary L. Zuckerman of Livonia to serve as its chairperson for 2012.

The seven-member board oversees the operation of Detroit Metropolitan Airport and Willow Run Airport, which together comprise Michigan's busiest airport system and the anchors of Southeast Michigan's Aer-

otropolis development initiative.

"Mary is widely respected for her business acumen and strong leadership, and I look forward to working with her and her fellow board members as we chart a course for the Airport Authority's exciting future," said WCAA Interim CEO Tom Naughton.

Zuckerman is executive vice president and

chief operating officer for the Detroit Medical Center (DMC), where she oversees operations of all DMC hospitals and numerous corporate functions including construction, revenue cycle, laboratory, retail pharmacy, nutrition services, radiology, customer service, the chief nursing office and certificate of need.

She joined DMC in 2004 following eight years with

Wayne County, where she became deputy county executive responsible for the day-to-day management of all executive branch departments and a budget of \$1.5 billion. She holds a master's degree in public administration from Northern Illinois University and a bachelor's degree from Winona State University.

Appointed to the board by then-Gov. Jennifer Granholm to a six-year term in 2008, Zuckerman was elected unanimously by the board to serve as its next chair at its last regular meeting of the year held Wednesday. At the meeting, the board also moved to table the election of a vice chair and secretary to its next

meeting in January.

Established in 2002 by the Michigan State Legislature, the WCAA is an independent agency.

The Airport Authority is completely self-sustaining and does not receive any tax dollars for airport operations. For more information about WCAA and its airports, visit [www.metroairport.com](http://www.metroairport.com).

Open 7 Days a Week, 11-6pm. Wednesdays 11-8pm

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Prices start at \$15\*  
\*1x2 remembrance ad  
(Larger remembrance may be purchased)

Publications:  
Sunday, December 25th  
Observer & Eccentric Newspapers:  
Thursday, December 22nd  
Hometown Weekly Newspapers:  
(Milford, Northville, Novi and South Lyon)

Deadline:  
Monday, December 12th  
For all publications

Call: 800-579-7355  
Fax: 313-496-4968  
Email: [oads@hometownlife.com](mailto:oads@hometownlife.com)

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**Listings for the Community Calendar** can be submitted by e-mail at smason@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**

**IN CONCERT**

**Time/Date:** 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4

**Location:** Novi Civic Center, 10 Mile Road between Taft and Novi Road

**Details:** The Novi Concert Band will present their holiday favorites concert, featuring holiday favorites from across the ages and the globe will include Leroy Anderson's perennial *Sleigh Ride* and *A Christmas Festival*, John Rutter's *Candlelight Carol*, Franz Liszt's *Two Noels*, *Greensleeves*, traditional Hebrew melodies in *Shalom Aleichem*, *Bach's Jesu*, *Joy of Man's Desiring*, selections from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*, Mel Torme's *The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire)*, a medley of Christmas songs *A Most Wonderful Christmas*, and a Christmas sing-a-long. The concert is free and fun for all ages.

**COLLEGE PLANNING**

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7

**Location:** John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, Westland

**Details:** Parents of college-bound students are invited to attend a free College funding presentation by College Funding Solutions Inc. **Details:** Discover how to pay for college without spending your life savings.

Find out why an expensive private university can actually cost less out-of-pocket than a state college, how to reduce your expected family contributions and maximize the amount of money from each school, how to get your child through college in four years vs. the average 5.5 years and how to pay for college without eliminating your retirement.

**Contact:** Seating is limited. To make a reservation, call (800) 763-9285.

**CRAFT SHOW**

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3

**Location:** Lutheran High Westland, 33300 Cowan, east of Wayne Road, Westland

**Details:** the public is invited to attend the "Winter Wonderland" Arts and Crafts Show. In addition to crafts, there will be a bake sale, entertainment, door prize drawings and lunch. Admission is \$2 and kids under 12 get in free.

**Contact:** For more information, call (734) 422-2090.

**HOSPITAL REUNION**

**Time/Date:** 5-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6

**Location:** Cafe Marquette in the William D. Ford Career Technical Center, 36455 Marquette, Westland

**Details:** Wayne County General Hospital retirees and former staff are invited to attend the 27th annual holiday reunion. Doors open at 5 p.m., dinner will be at 5:30 p.m. The menu will be beef, chicken, fish, potato, vegetable, salad, dessert and beverage (coffee, tea or soda) for \$16 including tip.

**Contact:** For information and reservations contact Dennis Abraham at (734) 721-2917 or fightingirish316@scbglobal.net, Kay Shaffi at (734) 427-3437 or chknlit@wideopenwest.com or Pat Ibbotson at (734)



**Wish You Were Here**

Jerome Weingarden of Westland poses with his Observer by a waterfall in the Diamond Botanical Gardens on the Island of St. Lucia. Weingarden was vacationing at the Smugglers Cove on St. Lucia and "went on an adventure" to the botanical gardens. "If you ever visit St. Lucia in the Caribbean, I recommend you see the botanical gardens and see everything it has to offer," he said. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason as a jpg at smason@hometownlife.com or by mail to her attention at 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

331-9291 or pibbotso@aol.com. For those retirees and staff on Facebook we now have a Friends of Eloise page.

**COOKIE WALKS**

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 10

**Location:** First United Methodist Church, 3 Town Square, Wayne

**Details:** Shop for holiday cookies and candies. Cookies will be sold by contains, candies sold by the pound. All are homemade.

**Contact:** Call (734) 721-4801.

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 10

**Location:** First United Methodist Church, 6443 Meriman, Garden City

**Details:** The church is holding a Cookie Walk and Crafts. In addition to cookies, there will be Advent wreaths and Rada paring knives.

**Contact:** For information, call (734) 421-8628.

**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

**VOLUNTEERS**

**FIRST STEP**

**Details:** First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program.

**Contact:** (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223

**FAMILY CAREGIVERS**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. first Monday of the month

**Location:** Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

**Details:** For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

**Contact:** Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

**CAREGIVERS - SPOUSES**

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. second Tuesday of the month

**Location:** Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

**Details:** For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for a spouse age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

**Contact:** Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

**CAREGIVERS - WESTLAND**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. the third Thursday of the month

**Location:** American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland

**Details:** For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and

older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

**Contact:** Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

**VNA HOSPICE**

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

**Contact:** (248) 967-8361, www.vna.org

**SEASONS HOSPICE**

**Details:** Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community.

**Contact:** (800) 370-8592

**LITERACY COUNCIL**

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

**Contact:** (734) 416-4906

**HEARTLAND HOSPICE**

**Details:** Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services.

**Contact:** (888) 973-1145

**SCHIZOPHRENIC ANONYMOUS**

**Time/Date:** 4:30-5:30 p.m. every third Thursday of the month

**Location:** Room 124 of Hegira Programs Inc. from in at 8623 N. Wayne Road, Westland

**Details:** Schizophrenics Anonymous meetings are open to those with this mental illness or related conditions. The remaining days the group will meet are Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15.

**SUPPORT GROUP**

**Time/date:** 7-8:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month

**Location:** American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland

**Details:** Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance is sponsoring a support group that provides support and guidance for families caring for an older person.

**Contact:** Chris Goldberg at (734) 629-5004. Call to confirm meeting, if coming for the first time.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5-A-8**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 50, ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 50-36, 50-38, and 50-39 OF THE WESTLAND CITY CODE TO ADOPT THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION CODE, AS AMENDED**

**Section 1.** That Chapter 50, Article II, Section 50-36 of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to provide as follows:

**"Sec. 50-36. Adoption of code by reference.**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Home Rule Cities Act, Act No. 279 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1909 (MCL 117.1 et seq., MSA 5.2071 et seq.), as amended, a certain document, three (3) copies of which are on file in the Office of the City Clerk for the City of Westland, being marked and designated as "The International Fire Prevention Code" as promulgated, amended and published by the International Code Council, is hereby adopted as the fire prevention code of the City of Westland and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said fire prevention code, and such amendments as may be made thereto, are hereby referred to, adopted and made a part hereof as if fully set out in this article, with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes, if any, prescribed in section 50-38 of this article."

**Section 2.** That Chapter 50, Article II, Section 50-38 of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to provide as follows:

**"Sec. 50-38. Amendments.**

The ICC INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE is amended and changed in the following respects:

- a. Section 101.1 Insert "The City of Westland" in line 2 after "of" and before "hereinafter".
- b. Section 109.3 Insert "misdemeanor" at the end of line 6 after "a". Insert "five hundred (\$500)" in line 7 after "than". Insert "ninety (90) days" in line 8 after "exceeding". After "offenses" in line 11, insert "nothing herein shall be interpreted to conflict with or supersede Sec 50-39."
- c. Section 114.4 Insert "two hundred fifty (\$250)" in line 5 after the first use of the word "than". Insert "five hundred (\$500)" in line 5 after the second use of the word "than".
- d. Section 3204.3.1.1 At the end of line 2 after "prohibited" insert "in district" that are zoned R-1, R-2, R-5, R-6, THR, GAR, MRR, MHR, OB, CB-1, CB-2, CB-3. Stationary containers are permitted in CB-4 and I-1 zoned districts provided that they are more than one thousand (1,000) feet from any R-1, R-2, R-5, R-6 THR, GAR, MRR, or MHR zoned district. (Strike the balance).
- e. Section 3404.2.9.5.1 At the end of line 2 after "prohibited" insert "in districts" that are zoned R-1, R-2, R-5, R-6, THR, GAR, MRR, MHR, OB, CB-1, CB-2, CB-3, CB-4 and I-1, unless otherwise set forth in the City of Westland Zoning Ordinance." The balance of this section shall be stricken.
- f. Section 3406.2.4.4 In line 2 after "within" insert the following: "in districts that are zoned R-1, R-2, R-5, R-6, THR, GAR, MRR, MHR, OB, CB-1, CB-2, CB-3, CB-4 and I-1, unless otherwise set forth in the City of Westland Zoning Ordinance."
- g. Section 3804.2 In line 4 after "(7570 L)" insert the following: "in CB-1 CB-2, CB-3, CB-4, and I-1 districts in which it is a valid accessory use."

**Section 3.** That Chapter 50, Article II, Section 50-39 of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to provide as follows:

**"Sec. 50-39. Penalty for violation.**

Any person violating any of the provisions of the ICC INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, or any amendments, supplements, rules or codes lawfully promulgated or adopted under this article shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished as provided in section 1-8 of this Code. Each day that a violation of this article is continued or permitted to exist without compliance shall constitute a separate offense punishable upon conviction in the manner prescribed in this section."

**Section 4.** That all other provisions of Chapter 50 of the Westland City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 5. Severability.** The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

**Section 6. Repeal.** All other Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such inconsistencies, hereby repealed.

**Section 7. Publication.** The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

**Section 8. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

**ADOPTED:** November 21, 2011  
**EFFECTIVE:** December 1, 2011

**CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 24 11/21/11**

Presiding: President Godbout  
Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer, Reeves  
197: Approved purchase of vehicle for PD; amt. \$28,975.  
- Intro. Bud. Amendment 2012-02; General Fund \$41,497.00.  
- Adopt Ord. 5-A-B, to amend Ch. 50, Art. II, Sec. 50-36, 50-38, & 50-39 of the Westland City Code to adopt International Fire Prevention Code as amended.  
- Approval to use unallocated funds in the EECBG for LED street lighting in Annapolis Pk.; amt. \$20,755.94.  
- Adopt. Prep. Res. to approve tax exemption & PILOT Program for Thomas Taylor Towers.  
199: Adopted Prep. Res. regarding Public employers to share costs of health care with union & non-union employees.  
200: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 11/7/11.  
201: Appr. Spec. Land Use for prop. Auto Salvage Yard, 300 S. Newburgh Rd.  
202: Appr. Site Plan for prop. addition to Rocky's Coney & Family Grill, 1622 S. Wayne Rd., w/contingencies.  
203: Appr. prop. Land Division, 225 N. Sybald w/ contingencies.  
204: Appr. Rev. Site Plan for prop. McDonald's Drive-Thru addition, 31355 Joy Rd. w/contingencies.  
205: Appr. checklist: \$ 381,627.08 & Prepaid: \$ 3,347,324.29.  
Mtg. adj. at 8:09 p.m.  
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout  
Council President

Eileen DeHart  
City Clerk, CMC



## Garden City Hospital joins effort to get children insured

Garden City Hospital has joined a coalition of Michigan hospitals, urban school districts and community-based health centers statewide to support Enroll Michigan, a campaign to enroll eligible children in the state's low-cost and free health insurance programs known as MICHild and Healthy Kids.

Enroll Michigan is spearheaded by the Michigan Primary Care Association (MPCA), the Michigan Health and Hospital Association (MHA) and the Middle Cities Education Association (MCEA) and will work to connect the families of eligible children to MPCA enrollment teams and simplified online, telephone and in-person enrollment processes.

It is estimated nearly 90 percent of the state's 172,000 uninsured children are eligible for one of the programs but have not enrolled for reasons including language barriers, lack of transportation or means of communication (telephone access) and unawareness of eligibility and/or how to enroll.

In Wayne County alone, more than 31,838 children are uninsured, and most of them are eligible for either MICHild or Healthy Kids.

"Garden City Hospital is dedicated to improving the overall health of our community and the families who live here," said Gary Ley, Garden City Hospital president/CEO. "We know the value of preventive care and the tremendous potential Michigan's children have. The Enroll Michigan campaign takes the critical steps need-



Garden City Hospital is part of a campaign to enroll eligible children in the state's low-cost and free health insurance programs known as MICHild and Healthy Kids.

ed to break down barriers to coverage for our kids and help us build a healthier future for our state. We are proud to be a part of this program."

"Michigan's community hospitals are proud to join with Michigan public schools and community health centers on a campaign to connect as many children as possible to health insurance," said MHA President Spencer Johnson. "The MHA and our member hospitals know the critical role high-quality, preventive health care plays in shaping kids' lives. Enroll Michigan aims to help eligible but unenrolled children get the care they need at little or no cost to their families."

Enroll Michigan will focus on helping families enroll their eligible children, using the MPCA's simplified enrollment process that takes 30 minutes or less and requires no paperwork from the family. MPCA

Community Navigators assist families both in-person at locations and events across the state and over the phone.

During the back-to-school season, designated school buildings, hospitals and community health centers will host MPCA enrollment teams in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, Jackson, Ingham, Genesee, Kalamazoo and Berrien counties. The localized campaigns are being held to coincide with the start of the next public school year in geographic areas where the largest populations of uninsured Michigan children live.

To help raise awareness and get families in Wayne county to connect with the affordable MICHild and Healthy Kids programs, Garden City Hospital will be distributing flyers in the emergency room and registration areas, posting the Enroll Michigan information on Garden

City Hospital's website, [gchosp.org](http://gchosp.org), and displaying posters throughout the hospital.

The regional campaigns will be supported by a significant donation of signs from the state's major billboard companies, who are members of the Outdoor Advertising Association of Michigan, and Comcast.

For more information about the campaign, visit [www.enrollmichigan.com](http://www.enrollmichigan.com).

Garden City Hospital provides comprehensive health care services, osteopathic medical education, and health care related programs to the community at large. For more information about Garden City Hospital, call (877) 717-WELL or visit [www.gchosp.org](http://www.gchosp.org).

## BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

### Appointments

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan announced the appointment of Ellen Byrne as executive director/administrator for The Village of Westland.

Byrne has a wealth of experience in senior services and healthcare most recently as executive director at Arden Courts Assisted Living in Livonia. Byrne holds a degree in Music (Music Therapy) from Southern Methodist University and is a resident of Commerce Township.

The Village of Westland is at 32001 Cherry Hill Road in Westland.

Linda Sisco has been appointed the new housing administrator for The Village of Spring Meadows in Jackson. A resident of Holt, Sisco has more than 35 years experience in leadership positions in property management.

Denise Mazzetti Hood was named the new director of sales and marketing and has several years of experience in the senior housing field. Her experience includes expertise in media sales, advertising promotion, magazine publishing and event planning. Mazzetti Hood holds a degree in business administration from Central Michigan University. She is a resident of Oakland Township.

### Top performers

All four Oakwood hospitals are among the best in the region, according to the *U.S. News & World Report*.

The organization routinely ranks hospitals across the nation in 16 different specialties.

While only 140 of the 4,825 hospitals evaluated across the country performed well enough to rank in even one specialty, three Oakwood acute-care hospitals were ranked as high performers in several categories.

The Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center was ranked fifth in the region with high-performing specialties in cancer, gastroenterology, geriatrics, gynecology, heart surgery, nephrology (kidney disorders), neurology and neurosurgery, orthopedics, pulmonology and urology.

Oakwood Southshore Medical Center was ranked 18th, with high-performing specialties in diabetes and endocrinology, gynecology, pulmonology and urology. Oakwood Annapolis Hospital was ranked 21st, with high-performing specialties in diabetes and endocrinology and nephrology, while Oakwood Heritage Hospital came in at 25th, with a high-performing specialty in nephrology.

The *U.S. News & World Report* uses several factors to determine if hospitals are considered high-performers in any specialty, including hard data, such as mortality rates, volumes and patient safety scores, and care-related indicators like nurse-to-patient ratios, translation services and palliative care. They also factor in the adoption of technology, such as digital mammography and robotic surgery, and reputation scores which are taken from surveys of physicians who are asked to name hospitals they consider tops in their specialty.

## Tablets top 2011 gift list

By Jon Gunnells  
Guest Columnist

In the '90s, holiday shopping was all about grabbing the hard-to-find Tickle Me Elmo dolls.

Now, holiday shopping is about finding the hottest tech gifts — and in 2011 no gifts are hotter than tablets.

If you are one of the many technologically challenged shoppers out there you may not even know what a tablet is. Think of a tablet as a small, light weight, portable computer. Tablets are larger than a smartphone, more versatile than a netbook and sleeker than a laptop.

The most revered of them all is the iPad2 — which is available starting at \$499. The iPad2 checks in at about nine by seven inches and weighs a mere 1.33 pounds. It has built-in Wi-Fi so you can search the net for free — and like smartphones — it can access the fast 3G data networks.

There are a number of reasons the iPad2 is the best selling tablet — including a front facing camera, a 1GHZ processor, Bluetooth capabilities and up to 64gb of internal storage.

Most important, the iPad2 has up to 10 hours of battery life — which includes surfing the web

through a Wi-Fi connection. And like most Apple products, you can visit the Apple App Store to download programs, games, books and more to keep you busy on your iPad.

For those who want a tablet to read e-books, the new Kindle Fire is a good challenger to the iPad2. The Kindle Fire weighs less than a pound and can carry all the e-books on its 8GB frame. More storage can be added to the Amazon Cloud — a free online storage service.

The 7-inch color display on the Kindle Fire is a bit smaller than the iPad but also, much larger than your average novel.

Samsung also produces a line of bright, engaging tablets including the Samsung Galaxy Tab Wi-Fi which is available from \$350. This Wi-Fi only tablet is cheaper than an iPad but does not have wireless connectivity options. Samsung also offers the original Galaxy Tab which has wireless network connectivity options.

If you are however, always near Wi-Fi hotspots, this unit could be the right fit for your lifestyle. As could be the HTC Flyer, a Wi-Fi only unit that costs \$499 for a model with 16gb of storage.

The HTC Flyer is a 7-inch tablet that comes with a stylus and a 1.5ghz processor. The Flyer is recommended for gaming and reading.

In true BlackBerry fashion, the company has made a tablet which sadly, is about as well respected as their

phones. The Blackberry Playbook is no match for the iPad 2 or of the other tablets listed here.

Users looking for the best tablet experience should stick with the iPad 2, or a unit like the Galaxy Tab or HTC Flyer which both run on the Android platform — Apple's main challenger.

Sony also has an Android power tablet called the Tablet S which retails for \$599 for a 32gb model or \$499 for a 16gb model. The Tablet S is Playstation certified for mobile gaming.

### Best bets

If you are shelling out a couple hundred dollars for a tablet, either for personal use or for a gift, make sure you pick the one that suits the proper lifestyle. Here are the best tablets for each intended function.

For general computing, web surfing and productivity: iPad2

For reading: Kindle Fire

For gaming: Sony Tablet S

For those who only use Wi-Fi: HTC Flyer

For those who don't buy Apple products: Samsung Galaxy

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. A 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, he holds a B.A. in journalism. When he's not working, Gunnells enjoys college sports, social media and playing basketball. He can be reached at [jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com). Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.

[hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

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Bring a new unwrapped gift to one of the office locations below and as our way of saying thank you, receive a coupon for a free Buddy's 4 square cheese pizza.\*

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at these two locations

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101 N. Lafayette  
South Lyon, MI 48178

Friday,  
December 9, 2011  
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
41304 Concept Drive  
Plymouth, MI 48178

All unwrapped gifts will be accepted Nov. 6 through Dec. 9 at the addresses listed above.

\*while supply lasts



## OUR VIEWS

# Shop locally

You, others will benefit greatly

Congratulations! You made it through Thanksgiving dinner and the hoopla over Black Friday, with the crowds and the come-ons. You wove your way through mega parking lots and then hauled bulky packages back to your car.

You deserve a pat on the back, but what you more than likely have are sore feet from tromping through mega stores, and maybe a queasy stomach from eating that second piece of pie after all the guests left on Thanksgiving.

So sit down, put your feet up and plan your next foray into the marketplace. After all, you still have to find that elusive gift for your picky sister and something for your mother-in-law who has everything and knows it. That's not to mention a little something for the classroom teacher, piano teacher, swim coach and your local clergyman. The list goes on.

This time, plan to shop at local Livonia businesses. When you do, 68 percent of what you spend is reinvested in the community, according to Small Business Saturday. Patronizing small local businesses helps to keep unemployment and property taxes low and property values high. Some local businesses have also supported kids and local organizations with their charitable good works. Now you can reward them for that effort with your business.

Small Business Saturday is a new initiative established last year between Black Friday and Cyber Monday. This year, it was held on Nov. 26. But you can shop locally any day of the year, including the remaining days leading up to Christmas.

According to the Small Business Saturday website, there are four reasons to shop at small businesses.

- The taxes local businesses pay help support the local community's infrastructure and services, maintaining a safe and high-quality lifestyle for residents.

- Small businesses employ half of all private sector employees.

- Small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all employer firms.

- During every year of the last decade, 60-80 percent of new jobs were generated by small businesses.

If that isn't reason enough, consider that you're likely to receive more attentive, personal service. Small business owners get to know their customers by name and often stock merchandise according to their customers' preferences. They're also more likely to special order items for their customers.

In addition, you'll save time and money on gas shopping close to home.

Look for an antique, collectible or handmade craft at Town Peddler; pick up a pair of cold weather riding gloves at Dick Scott's Classic Motorcycles, choose a "chocolate diamond" from Golden Gifts Jewelers, or start a loved one on a news favorite pastime at My Hobby Place & Toys.

These are among Livonia's unique merchants.

If you're already done with your holiday gift buying, plan your holiday menu around Michigan-made products. There are plenty to choose from like Faygo pop, Germack nuts, Just Baked cupcakes — made in Livonia — and chocolate-covered Traverse City cherries.

As luck — and good municipal planning — would have it, there will be no long walks in the rain to park.

With no crowds to fight, you'll likely make it home with plenty of time to hide those gifts — and taste test those food items — before the rest of the family makes an appearance.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What's your favorite Christmas TV program?

We asked this question at Westland Shopping Center in Westland.



"'Charlie Brown's Christmas.' The story is awesome, it's great."  
**Ryan Stewart**  
Westland



"I like 'Rudolph.'"  
**Michelle Grech**  
Canton



"'The Christmas Story,' everybody watches it."  
**Kristy Giese**  
Garden City



"It's got to be good old 'Charlie Brown.' It's a classic."  
**Kari McWhirter**  
Westland

## LETTERS

### Stop wasting money

Glenn Anderson is a hypocrite when he claims that distribution of technology funding will be based on "political favoritism" instead of merit if the Small Business Innovation Program is eliminated (Glenn Anderson, "Small Business Innovation Research Program, Michigan jobs, in jeopardy.")

The A123 battery plant that he cites as a success story was touted by politicians such as Mr. Anderson and former governor Jennifer Granholm as a company that will create "green" jobs. What they failed to point out was that each job created came at a cost of approximately \$113,000 to taxpayers, according to the Mackinac Center. If this is what politicians like Mr. Anderson consider a success, I shudder to think what a failed subsidy would look like.

The fact is that the government picking winners and losers has proven to be an incredibly inefficient — not to mention unfair — use of taxpayer dollars. Programs like the Small Business Innovation Program must be sacrificed in order to reform the tax code and level the playing field so that all businesses have a chance to succeed. Politicians like Mr. Anderson should be looking for ways that taxpayers can keep more of their hard-earned money and stop wasting it on government boondoggles.

**Andy Specht**  
Livonia

### Auto no-fault: no benefits, no repeal

On an ordinary day in June 2004 and on our way home, my daughter and I were involved in a catastrophic multi-car auto accident. My daughter sustained fractures to both arms and I sustained a broken leg, arm and neck with a cervical level spinal cord injury resulting in quadriplegia. I awoke from the accident finding my ability to use my arms and legs gone and my ability to breathe at jeopardy. Over time, I lost my job as a professional, and the independence that my family and I were accustomed to were also gone.

Today, like the last seven years, I am able to function due to No-Fault Auto Personal Injury Protection (PIP) benefits. The very benefits provided to me by paying a small fraction of my total auto insurance premium that provides to fix me rather than my vehicle.

However, a recent Michigan House bill, HB 4936, proposes to change all that by capping the availability of these benefits — benefits for people like me and all future accident victims that give access to attendant care,

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

**Web:** www.hometownlife.com

**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

**Fax:** (313) 223-3318

**E-mail:** smason@hometownlife.com

**Blog:** You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

**Deadline:** Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

chronic medical care and the chance to work hard at recovery through rehabilitation programs. These types of benefits are not covered by health insurance, disability insurance or Medicare. Access to attendant care also enables my husband to continue his employment so that we can remain financially solvent and not fall onto public assistance and Medicaid.

Equally unfortunate is the \$50,000 appropriations called for in this bill to print pamphlets and fund a study on the bills effect. Appropriations are typically provided for in separate appropriation bills, but not this time! The inclusion of an appropriation is being used as a tool to take yet another facet of my independence away by stripping my right and all Michigan residents' right to a veto referendum ... legislators cannot possibly hope to make an informed decision on the issue until the insurance industry and the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA) become transparent and share the numbers behind the "unsustainable" system they are so fond of referencing.

We are strongly asking all lawmakers to vote in opposition toward this bill. Put it on your to-do list. You must call, e-mail or write today. Tell him or her to vote no on HB 4936.

**Natalie J. Kottman**  
Commerce Township

### Be careful with 'bully' law

The idea of making a law to punish a bully is good. But such a law is not just a simple cut and dried easy thing. As a born again Christian, if someone asks me a direct question about whether or not certain things are right or wrong, I will answer the question based on my beliefs. If my answer expresses a disagreement with the questioner about lifestyle choices,

answering with my opinion does not make me a bully.

While Jesus taught clearly the difference between right and wrong, there was also the sense of not taking things into your own hands — taught in the New Testament. Tolerance is not the act of going against your beliefs, but of agreeing to be nice about the way you disagree with others. One of my best friends at work is a Muslim. Our friendship works, not because either of us has watered down our individual beliefs, but because we are free to express our opinions in a manner that does not belittle the other for their different beliefs.

The simple act of expressing an opinion does not make a person a bully. But there is a line where our American freedom of speech crosses over from stating a mere opinion to trying to punish the other person for their beliefs. In the recent past, the act of a Howell school teacher kicking a student out of a classroom because he would not change his belief was wrong. The teacher was being a bully. But to flip the coin the other way, the individual who went after the student body president at U-M, in a disagreement over the same subject, was being a bully by the way he expressed his disagreement.

Part of the problem of writing up this kind of law is the tendency of some to want to make it about disagreements about certain subject matters, rather than over the fact that one person (or group) should not be allowed to just pick on others. When I was a child, due to the fact that my family was poor, I wore hand-me-down, out-of-style clothes. I was verbally picked on, and in fact even beat because of this. One teacher even cracked jokes constantly about my lack of in-style clothes. Even when brought to the attention of the powers that be, nothing was ever done about the verbal abuse — only when it became physical abuse would the powers step in.

To outlaw someone from picking on someone else is a good thing. But we should be very careful to word the law in such a way that the mere act of expressing certain opinions in a polite way does not make a person a bully. It is when they cross the line from their right to mere freedom of speech, to pushing things too far is the problem. So I would ask the powers that be to carefully write this new law so that no one can use it as a shield when they bully someone for their beliefs.

**John C. Kelly**  
New Hudson

**WESTLAND**  
**OBSERVER**  
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**Sue Mason,**  
Community Editor  
**Susan Rosiek,**  
Executive Editor

**Grace Perry,**  
Director of  
Advertising



# Jingle Bell Run/Walk this Saturday

## Annual event raises awareness of arthritis

By Lonnie Huhman  
Correspondent

The Arthritis Foundation's signature event, the Jingle Bell Run/Walk, is taking place this Saturday morning in downtown Northville as a part of a larger effort to bring awareness and raise funding to help with finding a cure.

Organizers are looking to the community to help with their cause.

Local honoree Taylor Gray, 13, of Farmington Hills, will be participating for the third time.

The goal of the 24th annual Jingle Bell event is to fight the number one disease in America. At just 16 months old, Taylor was diagnosed with Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis,



Taylor Gray

which has affected her wrists, ankles, knees, toes and fingers.

She and her family believe it is important for people to realize that children get arthritis, too.

"I would like people to understand that it's not just your grandparents who have this," Taylor said. "Many young people like me are living with this and the difficulties it brings."

She said she has not only endured joint pain, but injections and infusions as well. It also doesn't help that a general unawareness has caused some confusion amongst her classmates when they wonder why she can't fully participate in some gym class activities.

However, she has not let this disease slow her down. Walking the 5k as a part of Team Deter-

### DETAILS

**Event:** 2011 Jingle Bell Run/Walk  
**Time:** 9 a.m.  
**Date:** Saturday, Dec. 3  
**Location:** Northville Downs Race Track (Center Street and Seven Mile Road)  
**Register:** online at [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org) (keyword "Jingle Bell Run/Walk") or the day of the event

mination this weekend is an example of her resolve.

This event is one of four similar competitive fundraisers in Michigan, the next being in Grand Rapids. It offers competitive timing, awards in fourteen different age categories and a post-race party sponsored by Qdoba, Busch's, Biggby, Powerade and others.

For kids there is a "Snowman Shuffle," which is a ¼ mile fun-run for kids under 12.

There will also be prizes, including signed Red Wings memorabilia, given to the biggest team and fundraiser and for the most inventive costume. Participants are encouraged to wear a holiday-themed costume.

Tying jingle bells to one's shoelaces is a popular look.

This is a great chance to help with funding critical research at Michigan universities, heightening arthritis awareness, and growing the portfolio of services and life-improvement programs the Arthritis Foundation offers to aid in the prevention, control and cure of Arthritis. The event will also support Camp Dakota, the Arthritis Foundation, Michigan Chapter's one-week, residential camp for kids with Arthritis, which Taylor participates in.

### JINGLE BELL RUN - WALK

**Directions:**

1. Begin at Main St. and Cady
2. Turn RIGHT on Griswold
3. Turn LEFT on Beal St.
4. Turn RIGHT on Main St. Northville Rd.
5. Continue onto Northville Rd.
6. Turn RIGHT onto Cass Benton Pkwy.
7. Turn RIGHT on Edward Hines Dr.
8. Turn RIGHT on 7 Mile Rd.
9. Turn LEFT on River St.
10. Turn LEFT to finish on Northville Downs Race Track

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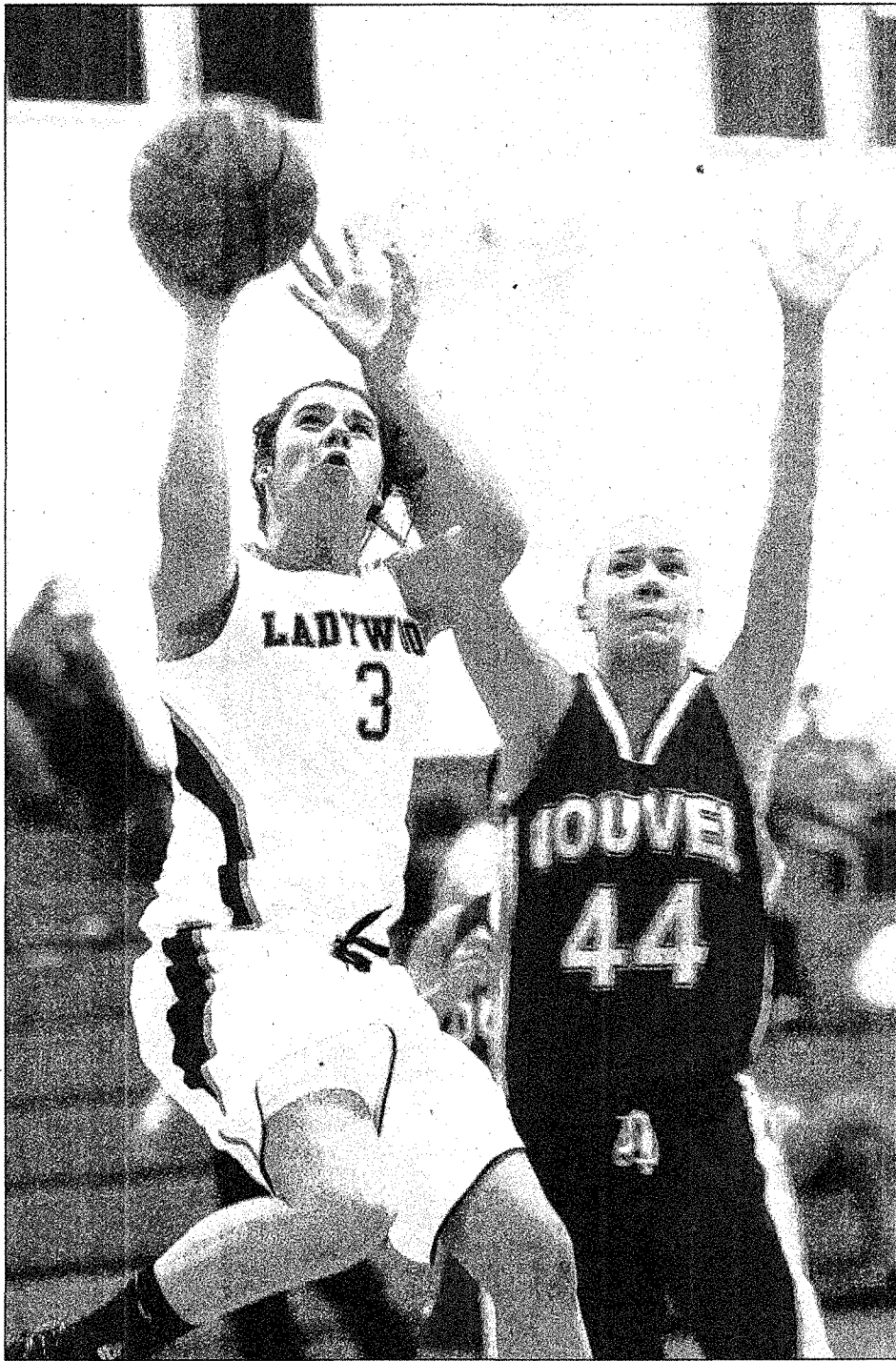
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## Blazers win early litmus test



Ladywood's Andrea Anastos (3) takes the ball to the basket over Saginaw Nouvel's Taylor Hengesbach during Tuesday's season opener. Anastos, a junior guard, finished with a game-high 18 points.

### Anastos' FTs beat Nouvel, 52-49

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Ladywood second-year coach Anthony Coratti wanted to test his team early for the start of the 2011-12 girls basketball season.

And the Blazers got off on the right foot Tuesday night with a hard-fought 52-49 home court victory over a formidable Saginaw Nouvel squad.

Two free throws by Andie Anastos with only 12.7 seconds remaining helped seal the victory for Ladywood. The 5-foot-8 junior point-guard finished the night with a game-high 18 points to go along with six rebounds and five steals.

Senior guard Briana Combs chipped in with 12 points, including three of the Blazers' six three-pointers.

Nouvel, under 11th-year coach Kris Hengesbach, finished 18-7 a year ago reaching the Class C regional finals. The Panthers captured the 2006 and 2008 Class C state titles.

"They (Nouvel) were a very good team," said Coratti, who guided Ladywood to an 18-6 record and a berth in the regionals in his inaugural varsity season as coach. "They have some big kids, which we kind of lack in size. But we made up for it in other areas with our grit and our kids really did a good job of battling and fighting through. They (Nouvel) did a good job of exe-

cuting."

Ladywood led 12-10 after one quarter and took a 24-20 halftime lead.

In the third quarter, the Blazers connected on three triples and led by as many as nine with 1:11 remaining on a basket by junior Sara Even.

Leading 40-34 going into the final period, Ladywood found itself in a dogfight after the Panthers crept to within one, 43-43 on a banker by junior Taylor Hengesbach with 4:32 left.

A big rebound basket by Haley Walter with 2:34 to play gave the Blazers some breathing room at 50-45, but Nouvel refused to fold despite having to give three fouls as Ladywood milked the clock.

Rachel McInerney scored on a rebound with 1:42 to go pulling Nouvel within three, 50-47.

A steal and two free throws by Lindsay Stroebel cut the deficit to 50-49 with 50.1 seconds remaining.

Nouvel then fouled Anastos, who missed the front-end of a one-and-one giving the Panthers an opportunity to take the lead, but couldn't convert with less than 20 seconds left.

"We had that one possession — Lindsay (Stroebel) could have shot from the top, but actually we made a better pass down inside to Rachel (McInerney)

Please see BLAZERS, B2



Martin

### Martin HM All-Big Ten

Michigan State University senior wide receiver Keshawn Martin (Westland John Glenn), who has piled up 996 all-purpose yard this season, earned honorable mention All-Big Ten honors by both the writers and coaches.

Martin, a 5-foot-11, 189-pound senior, has 53 catches for 627 yards and has rushed 12 times for 98 yards while completing his only pass attempt.

In Saturday's 31-17 victory at Northwestern, Martin returned a second-quarter punt 57 yards for a touchdown, his seventh of the season. He also had two catches for 57 yards and ran for eight more as the Spartans improved to 10-2 overall and will represent the Legends Division in a rematch Saturday night against Wisconsin in the inaugural Big Ten Championship game at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis with the winner going to the Rose Bowl.

## Quite an ace

### MU's White goes into ASA Hall of Fame

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Prior to his induction into the American Softball Association Hall of Fame on Nov. 9 in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Al White admitted, "I didn't get much sleep that night."

The Madonna University women's softball coach, now 64, proved to be a worthy honoree after giving opposing hitters nightmares throughout his storied career as a standout modified fast-pitch pitcher.

White, who resides in Canton, began his modified days in 1966 and retired from the sport in 1997, only to emerge from retirement in 2001 to pitch his team to a ninth-place finish in the nationals.

White played for 31 years, pitching for two ASA National Champions teams and earning five first-team All-America honors, along with being named MVP in 1985.

Bobby Lawson, chief of umpires for the Metro Detroit ASA, first nominated White in 1998.

"Just to be nominated was a great honor," White said. "It's just unbelievable."

White's whole family attended the ceremony, including his wife, Marilyn, and son Curt.

One of Al's greatest thrills was playing with Curt for Little Caesars where they qualified for the ASA Nationals every year. Curt, a catcher, graduated from Salem High in 1985, and the two began a formidable bat-

tery only three years later.

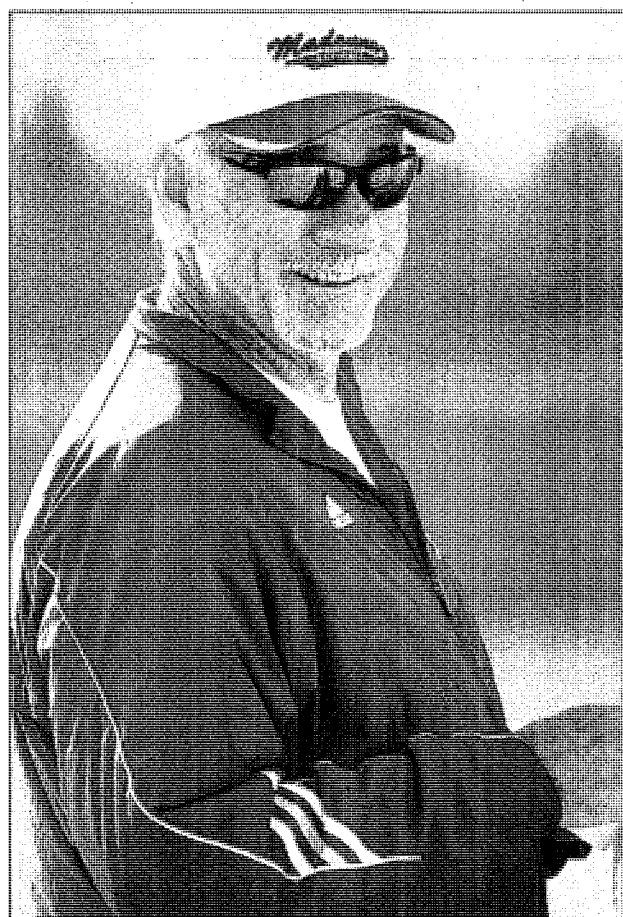
"I told him he played hockey so you wouldn't be compared to your dad," said Al with a laugh. "He played baseball at Salem. He was good and they were good. They had some good ballplayers at Canton and Salem in those days."

During the 1960s, men's modified softball became popular as an alternative to the men's fastpitch game.

'It was everywhere'

"It's the full windmill, but you can't go all the way around," White said. "Some guys, even coach (Greg) Haeger (MU's baseball coach) could probably throw 83-84

Please see WHITE, B3



MADONNA SPORTS INFORMATION  
Madonna University women's softball coach Al White was inducted last month into the American Softball Association Hall of Fame.

### MU's Brda All-Academic

Madonna University senior women's soccer player Diana Brda (Livonia Franklin) was named to the 2011 Capital One College Division Academic All-America second team as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) on Monday.

The College Division Academic All-America soccer teams are comprised of student-athletes from NAIA, Canadian and two-year institutions.

A psychology major with a 3.83 grade point average, Brda becomes the fourth Academic All-America selection in Madonna history, joining softball's Erin Brockert along with volleyball's Karie Altman and Natalija Tinnina.

The Westland native, a three-time Academic All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference selection, was named to the All-WHAC honorable mention team this fall and led the WHAC in assists with 13.

She currently ranks fifth nationally in assists per match and 14th in total assists.

To be eligible for Capital One Academic All-America consideration, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.30 or higher, have reached sophomore academic and athletic standings at its current institution and be nominated by the school's sports information director.

## Spartans feast on Cranbrook for crown

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

The Livonia Stevenson boys hockey team enjoyed a bountiful Thanksgiving weekend complete with all the stuffings.

The Spartans captured the Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Tournament Saturday against the host Cranes with a 4-0 triumph after defeating Grosse Pointe South on Friday, 4-1.

Stevenson, which improved to 4-1 overall, got 32 saves from junior goaltender Connor Humitz to earn the victory over Cranbrook.

"We definitely played

our most complete game of the year against a very good Cranbrook team," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "Connor was very good in goal for us, and it was nice to see four different guys do the scoring."

Stevenson took a 1-0 lead with 1:28 remaining in the opening period on J.D. Byrne's goal from Devin Kelly and Dominic Lutz.

With 14:52 to go in the second period, Mario Tomei's short-handed goal from Lutz and Travis Harvey made it 2-0 followed by Lutz's power-play goal from Chris

Please see HOCKEY, B3



Members of the Livonia Stevenson boys hockey team celebrate after winning the Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Thanksgiving Tournament following a 4-0 win Saturday over the host Cranes.



## Lady Ocelots fall to Owens

Two glaring statistics contributed to Schoolcraft College dropping its first women's basketball game of the season on Saturday.

The Lady Ocelots committed 19 of their 23 total turnovers in the first half and shot only 8-of-40 (20 percent) during the second half as host Owens Technical Community College came away with a 71-54 win.

Owens (6-2) also made 13-of-22 first-half foul shots, while Schoolcraft went 0-for-4 as the Express built a 39-29

advantage.

Schoolcraft (5-1) trailed by as many as 19 points in the second half, 50-31, before going a 10-0 run to close the gap to 56-49 with seven minutes remaining, but could get no closer.

Owens connected on 26-of-37 total free throws compared with 7-of-15 for the Lady Ocelots.

Forward Emma Ricketts led the Express with 17 points, while center Aja Hall added 16.

Uniqua Mitchell chipped in with 10 points, while Kieo-

na Foster and Karahn Scott snared 13 and 11 rebounds, respectively.

Guard Charlise Slater paced Schoolcraft in scoring with 12 points, while forward Domonique Jones added 11 points. Forward Shawnicka Thomas also contributed a double-double with 10 points and 10 boards.

Owens shot 38.9 percent from the floor (21-of-54), while Schoolcraft made only 21-of-79 total field goal attempts (26.6 percent).

Schoolcraft was out-rebounded 54-44.

## Schuba's 3s sparks MU men's cage win

Don't look now, but the Madonna University men's basketball team is on a roll.

Sophomore guard Travis Schuba connected on six 3-pointers en route to a game-high 29 points as the Crusaders captured their fourth straight with an 89-80 win Saturday at Mount Vernon Nazarene (Ohio).

Schuba, who went 9-of-15 from the floor, also added seven rebounds and three assists as MU improved to 4-4 overall.

The Crusaders' four other starters scored in

double figures including Tyler Coker, 14; Matt Jenkins and Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson), 12 each; and Eoghann Stephens, 11.

Naubert led in assists with eight, while Coker finished with a team-high eight rebounds.

Madonna shot a blistering 61 percent from the floor (36-of-59), including 10-of-23 beyond the three-point arc (43.5 percent).

Ben Severns led Mount Vernon (4-4) with 20 points.

Four others also scored

in double figures including Bryce Barnes (17), Robbie Taylor (15), Zach Zeltman (14) and Caleb Williams (11).

Madonna led 45-33 at halftime before Mount Vernon cut the deficit to 77-75 on a layup by Zeltman with 1:49 remaining, but would get no closer.

The Crusaders opened Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference play Wednesday night against nationally ranked Indiana Tech.

(Visit [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) for the latest game information.)

# Solid start

## Glenn, Wayne, Pats win openers

After undergoing extensive knee surgery in early August, Erica Covile was finally given the green light to play in Westland John Glenn's 2011-12 season girls basketball opener Tuesday at Dearborn Edsel Ford.

And the 6-foot senior guard-forward, bound for Temple University, showed she hasn't missed a beat as she delivered a 20-point, 10-rebound effort as the Rockets downed the Thunderbirds, 60-42.

"The most important thing going into this game was for our players to give maximum effort," said first-year coach Eric Kovatch, who won in his debut as Glenn varsity coach. "And I thought our girls played really, really hard and that's what we expected from our coaching staff."

Sophomore point-guard Kaira Barnes added 15 points in the Glenn victory, while 6-1 senior Joslyn Massey, bound for Purdue University, got into foul trouble and finished with just four points and five rebounds.

Glenn led 18-8 after one quarter and 34-20 at halftime.

Marie Gaedke paced the Thunderbirds with a game-high 26 points.

The Rockets made 17-of-30 free throws, while Edsel Ford hit 17-of-26.

Glenn doesn't return to the court now until Tuesday, Dec. 13 at home when takes on South Lyon East. **WAYNE 46, TRUMAN 37:** Senior Holland Boertje and sophomore Ashley Bland each tallied 12 points Tuesday as host Wayne Memorial (1-0) rallied in the second half to beat Taylor Truman (0-1) in the season opener for both schools.

Boertje also grabbed four rebounds and had three steals in the victory as the Zebras overcame a 25-22 halftime deficit by outscoring the Cougars 8-0 in the third period and 16-12 in the fourth.

Chelsea Bedwell led Truman and all scorers with 14 points. Wayne connected on 8-of-18 foul shots, while Truman hit 9-of-18.

**FRANKLIN 42, C'VILLE 34:** Junior Katelynn Devers and sophomore Julie Magdowski each tallied 10 points Tuesday as host Livonia Franklin (1-0) turned back Livonia Clarenceville (0-1) in the season opener.



OBSERVER STAFF PHOTO

Franklin's Alexis Smith (11) shoots over Clarenceville's Ayanna Buckley during Tuesday's season girls basketball opener. The host Patriots won, 42-34.

Franklin jumped out to a 25-14 halftime lead before Clarenceville cut the deficit to under double-digits during the second.

"We did not capitalize on open baskets," said Clarenceville coach Katrina Vanover, who got a game-high 12 points from sophomore center Ayanna Buckley. "Our free throws (7-of-19) were also off. Those two things led to our downfall."

"The second half we started forcing turnovers and our players woke up and started to play."

Sophomore guard Mikala Kielling also added nine points for the Trojans.

Franklin, meanwhile, went 6-of-10 from the foul stripe. **LUTHERAN N'WEST 46, LUTH. WESTLAND 38:** Kim Lepor scored 17 points and Kallie Washburn added 13 as Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (1-0) opened the

season Tuesday with a non-conference win over host Lutheran High Westland (1-0).

Aldreanna Fikes paced the Warriors, who trailed 22-18 at halftime, with a team-high 12 points.

Taylor Wiemer chipped in with 10 points, while senior center Amanda Terranella added eight points and 10 rebounds.

The Warriors won the free throw battle hitting 10-of-11 compared with the Crusaders' 4-of-11.

"I thought we played really well for our first game," Lutheran Westland coach Sandi Wade said. "We have worked hard in the off season and these first two weeks of practice, and I believe it showed today in our game. We gave up some 'threes' and a few transition baskets, but all-in-all it was a well-played first game by both teams. We're looking forward to the rest of the season."



## Hawks soar

The Livonia Junior Athletic League Hawks went undefeated to capture the Portland Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament for sixth-graders. The Hawks defeated Okemos in the finals after a semifinal victory over Ionia. Team members include (front row, from left): Joe Kubeshesky, Cole Bushart, Dalton Gasior; (middle row, from left) Matt Wagner, Chris Fazica; (back row, from left) coach Mike Mars, Mark Mettie, Dan Morris, Connor Beck, Chris Mars, Josh Marquedant and coach Mark Wagner.

## BLAZERS

Continued from page B1

and unfortunately she missed the layup," Kris Hengesbach said. "They executed it well. That's all you can ask for. I can take away a lot of good things from this game. I'm proud of what they did."

Anastos then nailed a pair of free throws to seal the victory. The Panthers tried one last-ditch three-point attempt, but it missed the mark.

Taylor Hengesbach and McInerney scored 15 and 14 points, respectively, for the Panthers. Allie Kendall and Stroebel each added eight.

Senior center Morgan Chops, who fouled out in the fourth quarter, added six points and 11 rebounds for the Blazers, who connected on 19-of-51 shots from floor (37 percent) and 8-of-15 foul shots (53 percent).

Nouvel, meanwhile, was 17-of-52 (32 percent) from the floor and 12-of-18 at the free throw line.

"We played like a first game," Coratti said.

"Schematically it was the ball-screen stuff, making sure we didn't switch on 'bigs and littles,' which they were killing us at the first half feeding the post. We wanted to stay relentless, keep getting after them and play at our pace. I think in the end we kind of wore them out."

The Panthers committed 16 turnovers to Ladywood's 13.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ladywood's Morgan Chops (14) gets squeezed going to the basket by Saginaw Nouvel defender Paige Albito (10) during Tuesday's 2011-12 season opener.

"They (Ladywood) run the floor very well," Hengesbach said. "They were beating us down the floor, so that was a big adjustment (at halftime). I thought we did well in the second half stopping their transition game a little bit better."

"We took better care of the ball and that was a halftime speech or emphasis of eliminating turnovers."

"I have high expectations. We're a young club, but we're athletic and we showed our mental toughness. We kept coming back and kept fighting back against a

very good team. I like our chances."

Ladywood played without starting 5-10 junior forward Kiley Gorski, who is recovering from minor knee surgery.

The schedule, however, doesn't get any easier for the Blazers, who have stiff road tests coming up Friday at Flint Powers Catholic followed by another non-league matchup Monday at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett, last year's Class C state runner-up.

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## THE WEEK AHEAD

- GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Dec. 1  
Inter-City at C'ville, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 2  
W.L. Western at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
Stevenson at Edsel Ford, 7 p.m.  
Ladywood at Powers, 7 p.m.  
Luth. W'sid at Annapolis, 7 p.m.
- PREP HOCKEY**  
Tuesday, Nov. 29  
Ladywood at Liggett, 5:45 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 30  
Franklin vs. Plymouth at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.  
Churchill at Novi, 8 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 2  
Franklin vs. Brighton at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.  
Ladywood vs. Port Huron at McMorrin Arena, 8 p.m.  
Stevenson vs. Salem at Ply. Cultural Ctr., 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 3  
Franklin vs. A.A. Skyline at U-M's Yost Arena, 6 p.m.  
Ladywood vs. G.P. South at Arctis Pond, 7:30 p.m.
- GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER**  
Saturday, Dec. 3  
Novi Fire Up Inv., 7:30 a.m.
- MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**  
Friday, Dec. 2  
S'craft at Lorain (Ohio), 1 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 3  
S'craft at Lakeland 1 p.m.  
Cornerstone at MU, 3 p.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**  
Friday, Dec. 2  
(Gillette Inv. at K'zoo Valley)  
S'craft vs. Sinclair, 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 3  
MU at Cornerstone, 1 p.m.  
Gillette Invitational, 1 or 3 p.m.



SPORTS ROUNDUP

**WYAA volleyball**

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association girls volleyball will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays and 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays (or until teams fill) at the WYAA's Lange Compound, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

Registration will be for the following age groups: 9-11, 12-14 and 15-17. Games and practices will be held at the Bailey Recreation Center. Coaches are also wanted.

The WYAA will also stage a volleyball clinic for ages 9-11 from noon to 1:30 p.m.; ages 12-14, 1:45-3:15 p.m.; and ages 15-17, 3:30-5 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Bailey Center.

You can also register for WYAA volleyball the day of the clinic.

For more information, call Keith DeMolay at (734) 722-1251; or (734) 516-9269. You can also call the WYAA Compound at (734) 421-0640.

**WYAA meeting**

The Westland Youth Athletic Association will hold its annual meeting at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at the Lange 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.

For more information, call Keith DeMolay at (734) 516-9269.

**Elks Hoop Shoot**

The 2011 Elks Hoop Shoot contest, sponsored by the city of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation, will be Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Registration is free and starts at 8:30 a.m., followed by competition at 9 a.m. for boys and girls ages divisions 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13.

Each contestant will shoot 25 free throws. Age-group winners advance to district competition in January.

For more information, call (734) 466-2410.

**Pom Pon clinic**

Livonia Franklin will stage a pom pon clinic for girls ages 5-12, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at high school.

Included in the \$20 cost is T-shirt and snack.

Participants will do a performance during the Franklin boys basketball game Friday, Dec. 16.

The registration deadline is Monday, Dec. 5. To pre-register, call Nancy at (734) 502-0877.

**Learn to Skate**

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will offer its Learn to Skate winter session II beginning the week of Jan. 9 through Feb. 27 at Edgar Arena, located at 33841 Lyndon (one half mile south of Five Mile and just west of Farmington Road).

Each class for the eight-week program is 25 minutes.

Classes offered include: ages 4 and up - 5 p.m., 5:25 p.m., 6 p.m. or 6:25 p.m. Mondays; hockey skills - 6:25 p.m. Mondays; and 3-year-olds only - 5 p.m. Mondays. (No equipment is needed for boys hockey skills. No sticks or pucks are used. Limited skate rental is available at no charge.)

Walk-in registration will be from 6:30-8 p.m. (residents) and 7-8 p.m. (non-residents) on Wednesday, Jan. 4 at the Livonia Community Center, 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile).

The fee is \$62 (residents) and \$76 (non-residents).

Private lessons are also available.

For more information, call (734) 466-2412.

**Softball camps**

Coach Al White of Madonna University will stage a series of winter softball camps for ages 7-18 including:

Hitting - 9-11:30 a.m. (session 1) and noon to 2:30 p.m. (session 2) on Sunday, Dec. 18 (cost \$30);

Fundamentals (session 1) - 9-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 7, 14, 21 and 28 (cost \$125 before Dec. 1 or \$150 after Dec. 1);

Fundamentals (session 2) - noon to 2:30 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 5, 12, 19 and 26 (cost \$125 before Dec. 1 or \$150 after Dec. 1).

For more information, visit [www.MadonnaCrusaders.com](http://www.MadonnaCrusaders.com); or e-mail White at [awhite@madonna.edu](mailto:awhite@madonna.edu).

na.edu.

You can also call the MU softball office at (734) 432-5783 or Steve Gentilia at (734) 776-1716.

**K-8 wrestling club**

The newly-formed Livonia Wrestling Club for youths in kindergarten through eighth grade will be run 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Nov. 29 through March 29, at the Franklin High School wrestling room, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia.

The \$75 registration fee can be paid at the first practice of the season (includes T-shirt).

Checks should be made payable to: Livonia Wrestling Club.

For more information, e-mail Dave Chiola at [chiola44@yahoo.com](mailto:chiola44@yahoo.com) or call (248) 752-2340.

**Holiday soccer**

The Michigan Bucks will stage its third annual holiday soccer tournament, Thursday-Friday, Dec. 29-30, at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac.

The 8 vs. 8 format will guarantee all age boys and girls teams a minimum of three 50 minute games, with a championship final to be played for the top two teams in each group.

Team registration is \$395 (until Dec. 26), but all teams registering by Dec. 10 will receive a \$45 early registration discount (\$350 team fee).

For more information, visit [www.bucksoccer.com](http://www.bucksoccer.com) or call tournament director Brandon Sizemore at (248) 977-9133.

Shamrocks find themselves at mercy of Cass

By Jeff Theisen  
Staff Writer

Cass Tech walked as a team from its campus Saturday at Ford Field.

Once there, the Technician offense picked up the pace and ran by Novi Detroit Catholic Central for a 49-13 victory and the Division 1 State Championship.

"We got outplayed today," CC coach Tom Mach said. "I was very proud of our team throughout the whole year, we met our match today. They did a great job."

Cass Tech freshman quarterback Jayru Campbell passed for 240 yards and five touchdowns to lead the explosive offense.

"We wanted to get a little more pressure on him, but we didn't," said Mach. "They did a very good job of keeping us out and not putting pressure on him so he could stand back there and wait until people came open and hit them. They had us spread across the field. They used the talent they had very well."

"Every time we would blitz or go to a sixth man in the middle, they would throw. When we went to a fifth man in the middle, they ran. They put us in a bind."

The Technicians scored the lone points of the first quarter when Royce Jenkins-Stone broke free for a 32-yard run. The extra point was no good.

The lead grew to 14-0 when Campbell connected with Ruben Lile for a 46-yard strike and threw added a two-point conversion via the pass.

Catholic Central answered right back on the ensuing drive when quarterback Kyle Cooper delivered a screen pass to Anthony Darkangelo who got a block and was gone for a 47-yard touchdown with 7:25 remain-

ing in the half.

Cass Tech regained a 14-point edge right before the half when Campbell hit Terry Richardson with a 36-yard TD.

The Technicians (11-3) added two more scores in the third quarter for a 35-7 lead entering the fourth quarter and they didn't let up as Campbell found Jordan Lewis for a 46-yard score in the opening minute of the fourth.

The Shamrocks aren't built for big comebacks, and the next play proved it. Jenkins-Stone picked off a CC pass and returned it for a score and a 49-7 lead.

The final score came with a little more than two minutes to play when CC's David Houle crashed in from a yard out, but the point after was no good.

Catholic Central was held to 83 yards rushing on 30 attempts. Cooper did hit on seven of 14 passes for 143 yards, but a third of that came on the screen to Darkangelo.

"We're a pound-it-out type of team and that's what we like to do," said Mach. "We weren't able to do that today."

Houle led the ground game with 57 yards on 11 attempts. Zach Bock was next with 18 yards on eight carries.

Darkangelo was lone Shamrock with multiple catches. He hauled in four for 97 yards.

Despite the way the season ended, Mach was impressed with what his group accomplished along the way to the State Finals.

"I'm very proud of our team," said Mach. "Until this game, we were fighting and clawing through a pretty tough league. Very few teams in our league have lost at all. We've been great up this point. Today, it just came unraveled."

HOCKEY

Continued from page B1

McDonald with 4:22 left in the same period.

Thomas Ross then scored on a breakaway with 10:39 to play in the third with Nate Sink assisting.

Aaron Alkema played the first two periods in goal for the Cranes (3-1), while Tristan Neeb finished up in the third. The two combined for 19 saves.

"Many of our players are starting to understand what it is going to take to play at this level and the staff is just very proud of their effort this weekend," Mitchell said. "But as always, there is room to grow and we'll get back to doing that next practice ... our schedule doesn't get any easier."

Stevenson returns to the ice 8:30 p.m. Friday at the Plymouth Cultural

Center to face host Salem in a KLA Central Division clash.

LIGGETT 3, LADYWOOD 2

On Tuesday, unassisted goals by Hannah Hodges and Haleigh Bolton in the final period gave host Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett (1-0, 1-0) the Michigan Metro Girls Hockey League victory over Livonia Ladywood (0-2, 0-2).

The Blazers lost despite outshooting Liggett 25-6. Liggett led 1-0 after one period on Hannah Marchese's power play goal from Tia Peruzzi at 12:33.

Ladywood led 2-0 after two periods on Abby Pelon's goal from Hannah Pereira and Brittany Galvin at 11:24 followed by Pereira's goal from Galvin at 14:55.

Hodges got the game-tying goal just 46 seconds into the third period and Bolton tallied the eventual game-winner with 11:05 remaining.

Ladywood goalie Sarah Koch had to make just four saves, while Annie Grec had 22 stops for the Knights. The Blazers return to action 8 p.m. Friday against host Port Huron at McMorran Arena and play 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth's Arctic Pond against visiting Grosse Pointe South.

WHITE

Continued from page B1

MPH. He pitched a little bit.

"You still have to have defense. It's more like baseball. You've got a lot of small game that works - bunting, stealing. The pitchers don't quite dominate. There's few guys out of the New York and Miami areas who could throw pretty darn hard. (Full) Windmill started dying out with 15-16 strikeouts and people wanted to get the hitting in."

"We played in the Livonia (Parks and Recreation) league and back then we played four nights per week. That's how popular modified was. And when the ASA took over in 1975, it really took off like gangbusters. It was everywhere in the United States then."

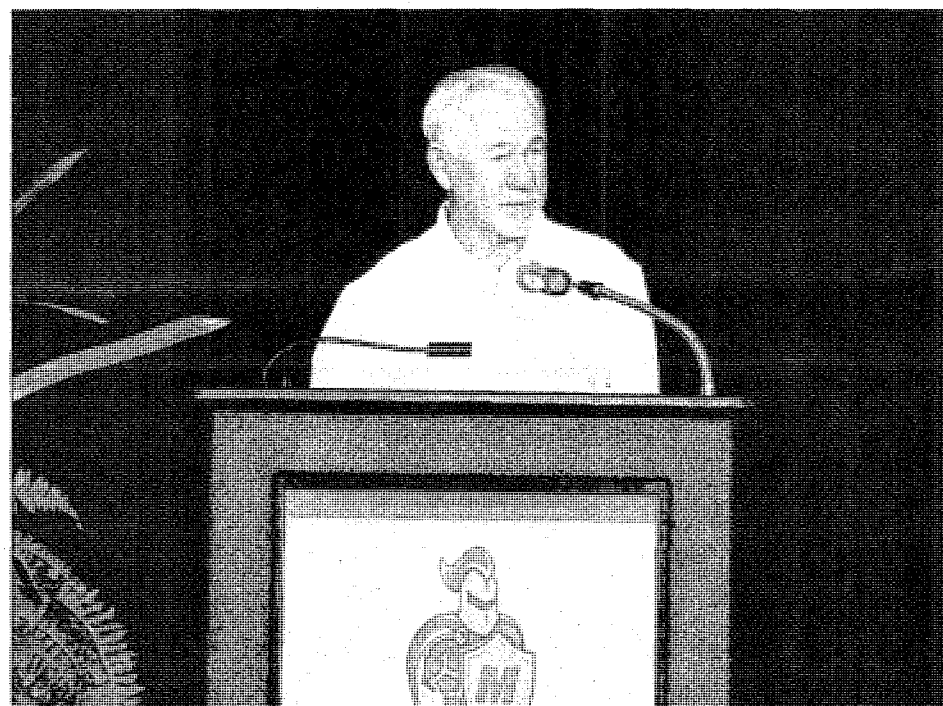
White grew up in Ramage, W.Va., and attended Madison Scott High, which was 12 miles away from his hometown.

"Back in southern West Virginia, Saturdays and Sundays, all the neighborhoods would get together and watch fastpitch softball," White said. "On Saturday night they always had a double-header and Sunday afternoon, after church, they always had a double-header. People would just spend the whole day ... the coal mines down there sponsored top-notch players."

White was first approached about playing softball by a local team.

"Even after my high school days they wanted to get me a job in the coal mine, but I said, 'I ain't going to work in no damn coal mine,'" White recalled. "They said, 'No, no, no, you'll be in the office.' I still had dreams of playing baseball like every young kid that was 17 or 18 years old. Every kid wanted to be the next Mickey Mantle."

"I made All-State in high school and fortunate enough to make the American Legion team and go to the regionals with that. Baseball was my dream and I really didn't play a lot of softball, but I always screwed around with it. Everybody did down there."



TIM BUSCH | MADONNA SPORTS INFORMATION

Madonna University women's softball coach Al White, a Canton resident, was thrilled to be even nominated and then inducted into the ASA Hall of Fame.

White's modified career took off when he moved to the Detroit area in 1966 where he quickly established himself as an ace on the mound. He also became a hired gun with out-of-state teams bidding for his services. He played for Florida powerhouses such as Miami Hardware and the Miami Stings where his teams earned ASA National titles in 1985 and 1991.

"I worked in heating and air conditioning," White said. "In 1985 construction just dried right up. They put me in contact with people down there who I knew I could get a job with. I moved down there for two-and-a-half months. But after I established playing for them, I stayed at home, fly down there for a week or two, or they'd just fly me right to the tournaments they were playing in."

His run with the Miami teams lasted for nine years.

**'Outstanding guys'**

"I played with some outstanding guys, unbelievable ballplayers," White said. "We had 15 guys on our team that played AAA (baseball) or better. We had four or five guys who played in the big leagues."

One of White's biggest regrets was not winning the 1989 ASA crown.

"We finished second

and that was our best team ever," he said. "The manager just didn't pitch the right pitcher in the winner's bracket, then we got beat, and had to come back and win three tough games next day. I pitched two of them and we won both of them, and the third one we got beat 2-1."

White transitioned from playing to coaching where he has spent the past 13 seasons as Madonna University's head women's softball coach compiling an overall record of 447-234-4, including four Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference tournament and four WHAC regular season crowns. He's been named WHAC Coach of the Year four times and has guided to Crusader teams to the NAIA Nationals twice.

Meanwhile, men's modified softball, once popular, has become nearly extinct.

"Kids just don't want to play - it's unreal," White said. "I really don't know.

It's like the baseball programs. It's like pulling teeth to get kids to play. There's just so much other stuff for these kids to do and they sit on that couch."

"But the girls (fastpitch) softball has taken off like gangbusters because of the Olympics in 1996. That's why the girls are so popular."

White's plaque will be enshrined in Oklahoma City, the home of the NCAA Division 1 College Women's Softball World Series.

During his induction ceremony in Myrtle Beach, White also received a Hall of Fame ring, but will also cherish another memento.

"A member of the (ASA) Hall of Fame works for Louisville Slugger and made a everybody life-size baseball bat, with my name stenciled in," he said. "One of the neatest things I got out of the whole thing. 'Unreal.'"

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# Livonia church offers two Christmas concerts



Members of Newburg United Methodist Church, in Livonia rehearse. They'll sing the story of Christmas during worship services Sunday, Dec. 4.

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Head to Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia over the next two weekends for a lively dose of Christmas music.

The church's choirs will sing the story of Christmas at two worship services, 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 4. The following Sunday, Dec. 11, Measure for Measure, a men's choral society, will perform a Christmas concert at 4 p.m. to help raise money for a mission trip to Haiti planned by 10 Newburg members.

It's the second year the Newburg choirs will present a cantata during worship services. They'll sing *The Mystery and the Majesty* by Joseph Martin.

"It's a new work that follows the story from the Old Testament prophecy of the Messiah's coming through the whole story of Christmas through the birth. It sets the tone for the whole season," said Richard Lenz, choir director. "It takes practically the whole service. It's about 45 minutes. There is no sermon."

The services are open to the public and Lenz said last year's cantata drew

*The Haiti mission team, which includes two teens and eight adults, hopes to raise \$3,500 through the Measure for Measure concert. The Global Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church will match what the group raises to help cover project costs.*

individuals from outside the church.

At least one Newburg member, Gary Fry of Plymouth, also sings in the men's choir that will perform at a fundraising concert on Dec. 11. The group, Measure for Measure, was formed in 1988 and draws its more than 80 members from throughout southeastern Michigan. Its repertoire incorporates songs from a variety of musical styles and periods.

The concert will run approximately 90 minutes, followed by a reception in the church's social hall, at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail. Tickets are \$12, available by calling (734) 459-5631.

The Haiti mission team, which includes two teens and eight adults, hopes to raise \$3,500 through the Measure for Measure concert. The Global Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church will match what the

group raises to help cover project costs.

"The team will be working in Port au Prince in partnership with the United Methodist Church in Haiti, building either a school, community center, children's center or church," said Sarah Nadeau Alexander, youth and young adult ministry coordinator. "Partnering with the UMC in Haiti allows the team to use their resources to the fullest of their ability."

Alexander said each team member pays a fee to participate in the trip. Fundraising will raise money for project costs, such as building supplies.

"Hopefully they'll just have to do this concert and will be all set."

For more about Measure for Measure visit [www.measure4measure.org](http://www.measure4measure.org). For more about Newburg United Methodist church visit [www.newburgumc.org](http://www.newburgumc.org).

## RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at [sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com). Or mail items to Dargay, Observer, 615 Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

### Dec. 1-7

#### CAROLFEST

**Time/Date:** 10:15 a.m. church service, 11:45 a.m. brunch, 12:45 p.m., CarolFest, Sunday, Dec. 4

**Location:** St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia

**Details:** St. Paul's Singers, children, instrumentalists and congregation, will present a plethora of carols — traditional, folk and contemporary — in the church sanctuary; RSVP for the brunch

**Contact:** (734) 422-1470

#### CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1

**Location:** Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City

**Details:** Silver Strings Dulcimer Society presents a free Christmas concert

**Contact:** (734) 427-3660

#### CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3; seating begins at 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Old St. Mary's Church, 646 Monroe, at St. Antoine, in Greektown, Detroit

**Details:** The Madrigal Chorale of Southfield presents its 2011 Holiday Concert. Advance tickets are \$18 for adults and \$12 for students. Cost at the door is \$20

**Contact:** (248) 804-1377, e-mail [yournmcs@yahoo.com](mailto:yournmcs@yahoo.com) or order online at [msc-notes.org](http://msc-notes.org)

#### HANDEL'S "MESSIAH"

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4

**Location:** Fort Street Presbyterian Church, Fort and Third in downtown Detroit

**Details:** The Fort Street Chorale and Chamber Orchestra present Handel's Messiah. Tickets are \$20

**Contact:** [www.fortstreet.org](http://www.fortstreet.org) or by calling (313) 961-4533

#### SOUP & SCRIPTURE

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. supper, followed by service at 7 p.m. Dec. 7, 14 and 21

**Location:** Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia

**Details:** Hearty soup and bread supper followed by Advent service

**Contact:** (734) 427-2290

#### SUPPORT GROUP

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m., Thurs-

day, Dec. 1

**Location:** Our Lady of Good Counsel School, Junior High Commons, 1062 Church, Plymouth

**Details:** New Beginnings is a support group for divorced Catholics. This will be the first of regular monthly meetings featuring guest speakers who will address topics central to the experience of divorced Catholics. The evening will begin with a talk by the Rev. John Riccardo, pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel, followed by a Q&A session. Participants can discuss issues related to divorce and faith in a safe, confidential, and prayerful environment. Pre-registration recommended

**Contact:** [newbeginning-solgc@gmail.com](mailto:newbeginning-solgc@gmail.com)

### Dec. 8-14

#### CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9

**Location:** Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Detroit Lutheran Singers Christmas concert; \$10 general admission; \$7 for senior citizens and students, 12 and older

**Contact:** [detroitlutheransingers.com](http://detroitlutheransingers.com)

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#### BOSKER (PAGEL) CATHERINE C.

84, of Lake City, MI formerly of Plymouth, MI. November 27, 2011. See online obituary at [www.youngfuneral.com](http://www.youngfuneral.com)

#### CASADAY, ANNABELLE CATHERINE (COGUT)

November 18, 2011. Age 81. Beloved wife of the late William. Dearest mother of Patrick Louis and Anita Louise. Grandmother of Douglas Ryan Ziembowicz and Bryan David Ziembowicz. Sister of Theodore (Marie), Delores Gary (Jesse), Angie Newman Pierce (the late Bob & Charles), Joseph (Sally), Larry (Vicki), the late Virginia Martin (Keith), Carolyn and William. Survived by 23 nieces and nephews. Sister-in-law of Patricia. Visitation Monday 2-8pm at the Sajewski Funeral Home, 19111 W. Warren. Service 6:30pm at the Funeral Home. Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery. [www.sajewskifh.com](http://www.sajewskifh.com)

#### DALE, ROSALIE E.

Age 83, passed away November 25, 2011. She was born on August 21, 1928, in South Lyon, daughter of the late Harold and Evelyn Darling. Rosalie was a loving and devoted mother, grandmother, great grandmother and great-great grandmother. She could often be found working on her favorite crossword puzzles, watching golf, curling or football. She is survived by her beloved daughters: Sandy McDaniels and Audra (Mike) Renner; her grandchildren: George, Leigh, Tim, Melissa, Michael, Gracie; her great grandchildren, Jonathan, David, Jackie, Jasmine, Jesse, Siena, Jimmy, Zach and Melissa. She is also survived by one great-great grandchild Preston and her sister Bonnie and her brother Don. She was preceded in death by her husband Lewis and four children. Visitation was held on Tuesday, November 29 with funeral services Wednesday, November 30, at 1:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to Cystic Fibrosis. Online Guestbook [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)

#### LOGIE, JR. ROBERT G.

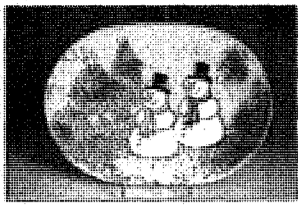
85 yrs. old, died November 27, 2011. A devoted husband to Marjorie (deceased) and loving father to Cherie (Gary) Van Vliet, he is also survived by his sisters Jessie Clemens and Helen (Jerry) McMillan, and many nephews and nieces. An outdoor memorial ceremony and interment will be held on Monday December 5, 2011 at 10:00a.m., Parkview Memorial Cemetery, 34205 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48154. Donations to charities serving our local communities requested in lieu of flowers.



# Your Invitation to Worship

<p><b>CATHOLIC</b></p> <p><b>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200 Mass Schedule: First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m. Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses 7:30 &amp; 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p><b>UNITED METHODIST</b></p> <p><b>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills <a href="http://www.orchardumc.org">www.orchardumc.org</a> 248-826-3620</p> <p><b>Worship:</b> 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter</p>	<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</b></p> <p><b>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)</b> 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman &amp; Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit <a href="http://www.rosedalegardens.org">www.rosedalegardens.org</a> For information about our many programs</p>	<p><b>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</b></p> <p><b>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church</b> 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia just north of I-96 <a href="http://www.christoursavior.org">www.christoursavior.org</a></p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 &amp; 11:00 am - Traditional Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413 Staffed Nursery Available Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, &amp; Creedon 734-522-6830</p>	
<p><b>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</b></p> <p><b>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 45901 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>Fellowship Presbyterian Church</b> Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • <a href="http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org">www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</a></p>	<p><b>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>WARD CHURCH</b> 49200 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48169 248.574.7400 <a href="http://www.wardchurch.org">www.wardchurch.org</a></p> <p>Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 &amp; 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship at 9:30 &amp; 11 a.m. Children's Programs available at 9:30 &amp; 11 a.m. The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p>	<p><b>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</b></p> <p><b>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH &amp; SCHOOL</b> 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360</p> <p><b>WORSHIP SERVICES</b> SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. &amp; 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: <a href="http://www.stpaulslivonia.org">www.stpaulslivonia.org</a></p>	
<p><b>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</b></p> <p><b>OPEN ARMS CHURCH</b> Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Children's Programs Available Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248.474.0001 Meet our New Pastor Grady Jensen &amp; Assoc. Pastor Abe Fazzini 33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington &amp; Merriman Across from Joe's Produce 248.471.5282</p>	<p><b>For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: <a href="mailto:dhart@dnp.com">dhart@dnp.com</a></b></p>			<p><b>CONGREGATIONAL</b></p> <p><b>North Congregational Church</b> 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake &amp; Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship &amp; Church School Faith - Freedom - Fellowship Rev. Mary E. Biedron Senior Minister</p>

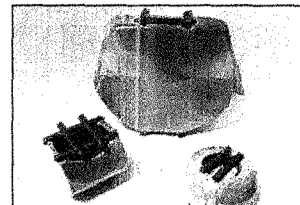




Kathy Sandberg of Plymouth will sell works, like this plate, at the annual Potter's Market.

## Potter's Market

Artists show 40,000 clay items at annual sale



Akiko Kawano of Novi will show clay art with a Japanese flair at the upcoming Potter's Market.

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

David Albrecht has been up to his elbows in clay more than a few times the past nine years. During his second semester in Oakland Community College's (OCC) ceramics program, he served as the ceramic studio's clay maker and made 500 pounds of clay three times a day. "It was quite an experience," he said. "Clay used in pottery isn't just one kind of clay that you'd dig up in the backyard. It's three kinds of clay, six different ingredients — all earthen materials — and a little silica. "It wasn't a fun job, but someone had to do it."

These days, the Farmington Hills artist is finishing requirements for a certificate in the program, producing his own ceramic pieces and selling them at both the summer farmer's market in his hometown and at the annual Potter's Market in Madison Heights.

When he and 134 other artists show 40,000 ceramic works at the 36th annual Potters Market, Dec. 2-4, they'll have more on their hands than just clay.

Formerly sponsored by Oakland Community College, the largest pottery sale of its kind in the country is now an independent potters' event, with a collective of artists — calling themselves Ceramics Community Network — presenting and running the show.

Shoppers aren't likely to notice the difference between previous college-sponsored shows and this year's event because the artists have always taken a hands-on approach to the sale. Since its beginning, they've assisted customers, restocked the selling floor, worked the checkout, wrapped items and served coffee and sweets to shoppers. This year will be no different.

"We had our last board member meeting yesterday and it's coming together even better than I expected," said Albrecht, who serves as "personnel chief" at the show. "We have all the bases covered. I think it's going to be a great show. We have plenty of merchandise and potters signed up."

Albrecht said Alan Paulson, OCC's ceramics program director, along with several advanced ceramics students



David Albrecht of Farmington Hills, shapes a clay piece on the wheel at Oakland Community College, Royal Oak campus.

jury the show, which includes room for 100 advanced students and 35 guest professional potters.

"Sometimes you're on a waiting list. But every year there's turnover. I had to

earn my way in. It took me three years."

### Arts after retirement

Albrecht was an art major at Ohio State University, where he focused

on sculpture in a variety of materials. After graduation he began working in pharmaceutical sales, a job that took him from Illinois to western Michigan and in 1989, to Farmington Hills.

"I missed it all those years but was never able to participate, being married and having two kids and little time."

He discovered the OCC ceramics program after retiring, and took the plunge into clay art, signing up for both wheel throwing and hand building classes. He's been hooked on ceramics ever since.

He also organized a clay sculpture group that met every Friday for six years in the ceramics studio at OCC. Participants spent three hours each time sculpting pieces based on a live model.

### Garden art

Albrecht will sell bowls and pagoda lanterns — which are wheel thrown and assembled — at the upcoming Potter's Market. The pagodas are glazed in different colors, including midnight blue and pale green and stand approximately 20 inches. Most customers set them outdoors in the summer and use them as garden art.

Other local artists who will participate in the Potter's Market include Joe Conti of Livonia, Donna Williams of Plymouth, Kathy Sandberg of Plymouth, Jack Adelman, Gaylin Bates, Robert Crisp and Julie Gaynett, all of Farmington Hills.

Albrecht said the artist collective also will sell reusable shopping bags and 2012 calendars featuring the works of 12 advanced students.

Potters Market hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 2; 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 4. Admission is free. A special preview sale is 6-9 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 1. Admission is \$10 for the preview sale. Strollers are not permitted at the show. The UF & CW Union Hall is located at 876 Horace Brown Drive, one block south of 13 Mile, between I-75 and John R in Madison Heights. From northbound I-75, exit at 12 Mile, go west one block to Stephenson Highway, then north to 13 Mile and east to Horace Brown Drive. Call (248) 246-2686 or visit [www.thepottersmarket.com](http://www.thepottersmarket.com).

# 2011 CHRISTMAS TREE GUIDE

Find your perfect tree by visiting one of these fine businesses!

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303 W. Newark Rd. Lapeer (1/2 mile east of M-24)  
Featuring: Fraser, Canaan, and Blue Spruce  
• Visit our 150 year old barn for gifts, wreaths, hot chocolate and more!  
• Wagon rides • Visit with Santa from 10am to 4pm Sat. & Sun. only  
Business Hours:  
Friday, November 25, 9:00am-5:00pm  
Friday's Dec. 2, 9, 16, 12:00pm-5:00pm  
Saturdays & Sundays, Nov. 26-Dec. 18, 9:00am-5:00pm  
810-667-2711 [www.mutchshiddenpines.com](http://www.mutchshiddenpines.com)

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Concolor • Fraser • Balsam • Canaan • Blue Spruce  
OPEN 7 Days Nov 19th to Dec 23rd  
ALL U-CUT TREES \$40  
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**The Ho Ho Ho Company**  
www.hohoho.com  
Celebrating 30 years on Woodward  
**FRASER FIRS**  
We Deliver  
Weekly (No. Name) Guarantee  
Coloring contest 1st, 2nd & 3rd place  
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We fresh cut, bail & load on your car  
We stock fresh Pine Wreaths & Pine Garland  
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Next to Fior 1 Imports, 1315 Escalade

**North Star Premium Christmas Trees**  
3ft-12ft Trees:  
• Douglas, Fraser & Concolor Firs  
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**10% OFF WITH AD!**  
Bring in your stand we will fresh cut, prune & fit your tree to your stand!  
7300 N Wayne Rd • Westland N of Warren, next to McDonalds  
(734) 578-7038  
Open 7-days a week

**HOWELL CONFERENCE & NATURE CENTER**  
Christmas Tree Sales  
Open Daily, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. starting November 25  
1005 Triangle Lake Road, Howell  
1 Mile West of D-19 (Pinckney Road), 6 Miles South of Howell  
HUGE SELECTION OF FRESH-CUT FRASER, DOUGLAS, AND CONCOLOR FIR, POINSETTIAS, WREATHS, & ROPING ALSO AVAILABLE.  
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U-CUT-FIR, PINE and SPRUCE  
Open 7 days, 10AM 'til DUSK  
CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY  
**HOLTZ CHRISTMAS TREE PLANTATION**  
9381 Day Road near Maybee, MI  
734-587-3155  
Trees for higher ceilings (up to 20 ft. tall)  
SPECIALS  
Directions: South on US-23 to exit 25. Right on Plank, 7 miles to Day Rd., turn left 3 miles to farm P. Holtz Est. 1947

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We Grow: Canaan, Concolor, Corkbark, Fraser & Korean Fir, Black Hills, Blue, Norway & Serbian Spruce.  
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TREES UP TO 19 FT. • WREATHS  
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Take D-19 (at I-96 ext 137) South to Coon Lake Road. West to Dutcher Road, follow the signs.  
(517) 546-3890 for more information and a map [www.Waldocktreefarm.com](http://www.Waldocktreefarm.com)



# Out On The TOWN

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Try our Popular Bubble Tea...  
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Open Sun.-Thurs. 7am - 9pm; Fri.-Sat. 7am - 10pm  
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Between Cherry Hill and Palmer  
**734-895-7111**

**New Year's Eve CELEBRATION**  
Monaghan Banquet Center  
19801 Farmington Road • Livonia, MI 48152

December 31, 2011 • \$100 per couple

Cocktail hour will start at 6pm  
Hors d'Oeuvres from 6 to 7 pm  
Dinner served from 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Entertainment by CCKing Productions  
Party favors, Pizza at 1:00am

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## Art

### ART & IDEAS

**Time/Date:** Through Dec. 24; gallery hours are 1-6:30 p.m. Thursday and 1-7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, or by appointment

**Location:** 15095 Northville Road, in Plymouth

**Details:** "Downtown Foot Art" includes works by the gallery's artist-in-residence, Shaqe Kalaj. She focused on historical buildings in downtown Plymouth for her series of works which she sketched and painted with her feet in the outdoors over the summer

**Contact:** (734) 420-0775

### DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

**Time/Dates:** 2 p.m. Sundays

**Location:** 5200 Woodward, Detroit

**Details:** Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission

**Exhibits:** Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus exhibit runs through Feb. 12, 2012 and includes 64 works. Tickets are \$16 for adults; \$8 for youth, 6-17. Other exhibits include Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010, an exhibit of 50 photos through April 8, 2012; Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection of drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs through March 18, 2012

**Contact:** (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

### NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

**Time/Date:** Through Dec. 10

**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville

**Details:** The seventh annual Northville Holiday Art Market includes hand-crafted work in painting, printmaking, glass, mosaic, fiber, photography, jewelry and mixed media for sale by well-known local artists. Hours for the market are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. On "First Fridays" in December hours are 1-9 p.m.

**Contact:** (248) 344-0497

## Comedy

### Go Comedy!

**Time/Date:** Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

**Location:** 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

**Details:** Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

**Contact:** (248) 327-0575; gocomedy.net

### JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

**Time/Date:** Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

**Location:** 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

**Details:** Stand-up shows, 8



Detroit Chamber Winds will perform Dec. 13 at the Farmington Players Barn Theatre.



PHOTO BY KEN HOWARD OF THE METROPOLITAN OPERA  
Renée Fleming as the title character and Andreas Scholl as Bertarido in Handel's "Rodelinda."

p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

**Contact:** (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

### JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

**Location:** 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

**Details:** Alex Ortiz through Dec. 3; Chad Daniels, Dec. 7-10; Joey's Comedy All Stars, Dec. 22; John Roy, Dec. 28-31

**Contact:** (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

### MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

**Time/Date:** Mike Green, Dec. 1-3; Kivi Rogers, Dec. 8-10; Lars Callieou, Dec. 15-17; David Dyer, Dec. 22-23; Joe Devito, Dec. 29-31

**Location:** 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

**Contact:** (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

### REDFORD THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9

**Location:** 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

**Details:** Cedric the Entertainer; tickets are \$52-147, available at ticketmaster.com

**Contact:** www.thecrofoot.com

## Dance

### MOON DUSTERS

**Time/Date:** 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

**Location:** Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Singles and couples dance to music of the '30s, '40s and '50s; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members

**Contact:** Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

## Film

### METROPOLITAN OPERA

**Time/Date:** 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3

**Location:** Canton Cinema, 43555 Ford Road, Canton and AMC Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty, Livonia

**Details:** "Rodelinda" features Renée Fleming in the role of a queen who must fight treacherous enemies to keep her son safe and the memory of her exiled husband alive. Running time is four hours and 15 minutes. Tickets at Canton Cinema are \$21 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$13.50 for children and students, along with a \$1 service fee if purchased online. Tickets at Livonia 20 are \$22 for adults, \$18 for children and \$20 for seniors

**Contact:** (734) 844-3456 for Canton Cinema and (888) AMC-4FUN for Livonia

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NY Daily News

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Groups 15+ and subscribers SAVE! Call 313.471.3099

www.CirqueProductions.com

OlympiaEntertainment.com

FOX THEATRE

## Santa meets with special needs children

Children with autism and other special needs can meet with Santa Claus in a relaxed environment, 9-10:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at 12 Oaks Mall in Novi.

Because the mall is open only to walkers and employees during that time, special needs children won't have to endure the crowds, noise, chaos and lines that can occur during busy shopping hours.

Professional photographers will be on hand at the free event to take

20

### PENN THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3 and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4

**Location:** 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

**Details:** "It's a Wonderful Life," \$3

**Coming up:** "White Christmas," 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8; "Polar Express," 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 17-18; and "Elf," 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 22 and 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23; all seats \$3

**Contact:** (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

### REDFORD THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Dec. 2 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 3

**Location:** 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

**Details:** "Miracle on 34th Street," tickets \$4

**Coming up:** "Christmas Here We Come," featuring Laurel & Hardy in "Big Business" and guest artist Walt Strony on the Barton pipe organ, 8 p.m. Dec. 10, tickets \$12 for adults and \$8 for ages 12 and under; "It's a Wonderful Life," 8 p.m. Dec. 16 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 17

**Contact:** (313) 537-2560

## Museums

### CHARLES H. WRIGHT

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

**Details:** Dance Theatre of Harlem, through Dec. 31 Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free

**Contact:** (313) 494-5800

### CRANBROOK

**Time/Date:** 2 p.m., Thursday-Sunday

**Location:** 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills

**Details:** Docent-guided public tours of Saarinen House, a rare integration of art, architecture, design and nature, depart from Cranbrook Institute of Science front desk. The tours are about 90 minutes long and take place rain or shine.

**Contact:** (248) 645-3200 for house tours; http://science.cranbrook.edu

Please see GET OUT!, B7



**GET OUT!**

Continued from page B6

**KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday, through Dec. 18

**Location:** In the heart of the University of Michigan campus, 434 S. State, Ann Arbor

**Details:** "Karanis Revealed: Discovering the Past and Present of a Michigan Excavation in Egypt" will explore the story of a site excavation initiated by U of M in the 1920s and 1930s. It will illuminate the historical records of a single vil-

lage community, located 80 kilometers southwest of Cairo in the Egyptian countryside, during Egypt's Greco-Roman period

**Contact:** (734) 764-9304

**PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday through Dec. 31

**Location:** 155 S. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** "A Red Ryder Christmas Story" features vignettes of scenes from the film, "A Christmas Story," information about the history of Red Ryder BB guns, which were sold by Daisy Manufacturing Company of Plymouth, and artifacts of the 1940s. Santa visits the museum every Saturday in December.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17  
**Contact:** (734) 455-8940

**Music**

**THE ARK**

**Time/Date:** Judy Collins, Dec. 1; The April Verch Band, Dec. 2; Justin Roberts and the Not Ready for Naptime Players, Dec. 3; Shawn Colvin and Rose Cousins, Dec. 3; Bill Kirchen Honky Tonk Holiday Show, with George Beard, Dec. 4; Riders in the Sky, Dec. 5; Lee Murdock: The Christmas Ship Concert, Dec. 6; Open Stage, Dec. 7; Melissa Ferrick, Dec. 8; Student Songwriter Series, Dec. 9; Commander Cody Band, Dec. 9; The Ragbirds present Ebird

and Friends, Dec. 10; The Wheeler Brothers, Dec. 11; Raul Malo Christmas Show, Dec. 12; Decembersongs: An Acoustic Holiday Celebration, Dec. 13; Emerson Hart of Tonic, Dec. 15; Graham Colton, Dec. 16; The RFD Boys, Dec. 17; 10th Annual Concert for Peace, Dec. 18

**Location:** 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

**Contact:** (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

**BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY**

**Time/Date:** Third Saturday of the month  
**Location:** JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth  
**Details:** The show in-

cludes eight open mic performances and a featured performer. Admission is \$5. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and \$50 for families and offer free admission to monthly concerts

**Contact:** (248) 347-6881

**BECKRIDGE CHORALE**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Dec. 9

**Location:** Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

**Details:** Christmas concert; tickets are \$10

**Contact:** Call (888) 459-4887 or e-mail to sing@beckridgechorale.org; www.BeckRidgeChorale.org

**DETROIT CHAMBER WIND AND STRINGS**  
**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Tues-

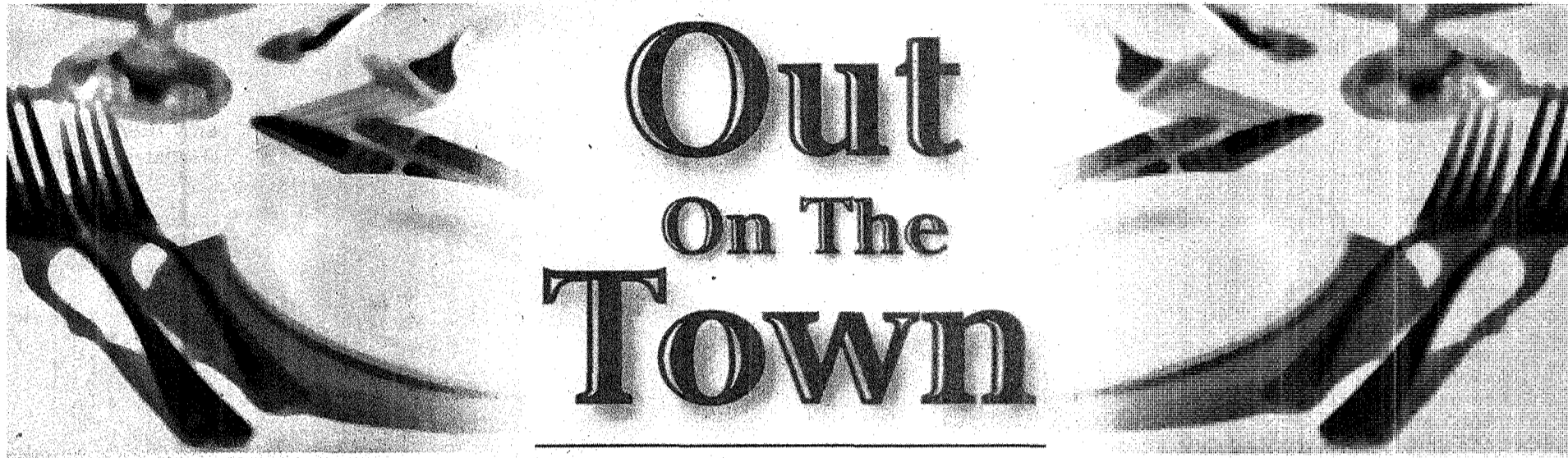
day, Dec. 13  
**Location:** The Farmington Players Barn Theatre, 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Holiday Brass concert; tickets are \$19 for adults; \$17 for students and seniors. Advance tickets available at https://rec-reg.fhgov.com, by calling (248) 473-1848 or 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile  
**Contact:** Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1856

**MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC**

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15

**Location:** Penn Theater, 760 Penniman, Plymouth

**Details:** Home for the Holidays Concert



Check out these local businesses.

Many are offering great values and are ready to serve you...ENJOY!

**Rocky's ROTISSERIE**  
37337 Six Mile Newburgh Plaza Livonia  
**Chicken • Ribs Fish & Chips BBQ • Meatloaf**  
We use locally grown produce and our soups are made from scratch!

**FAMILY DINNER** Includes 2 homemade sides & Rocky's House Bread. Feeds 4! **\$16.99**

**ROCKY'S HOUSE SALAD & BREAD** blue cheese, red onion, walnuts, cranberries, raspberry & maple dressing **\$4.99 Large \$2.99 Small**

**PULLED PORK SLIDERS** **\$6.99**

**PORK TENDERLOIN DINNER** **\$10.99** Includes choice of 2 side dishes  
With coupon. Can't be combined with other offers. Exp. 12-31-11.

**HOLIDAY CATERING!** Any Size Party  
Call or Order Online: www.rockysrotisserie.com  
**734.462.6240**

STRIKE! Gutter Ball Aces Spare Spurt Headpin

**DJ Dancing Bowling**  
Fridays & Saturdays 9 pm to 1am

**DRINK SPECIALS**

**PLAZA LANES**  
42001 Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth  
734-453-4880

Bowling subject to lane availability

**Cinnamon Nuts and More**  
Cinnamon Roasted Almonds, Pecans and Cashews  
**\$3 OFF** ANY \$25 PURCHASE  
With this coupon • Expires 12-31-11  
• Nostalgic Holiday Treats • Unique Gift Items • Decorative Gift Tins  
313-303-2497

**China House Inn**  
33018 W. 7 Mile Road Livonia  
Just E. of Farmington Road Next to Joe's Produce  
248-888-9540

**Dinner for 2 \$4 off** Dine-in Only China House Inn  
With this coupon. Not valid on holidays. One coupon per customer, per party, per table. Coupon may not be combined with any other offer. Expires 12-30-11.

**Buy 1 Entree Get 2nd Entree 50% off** Dine-in or Carry-out. All Day China House Inn  
With this coupon. Not valid on holidays. One coupon per customer, per party, per table. Coupon may not be combined with any other offer. Expires 12-30-11.

**Open All Year!**  
**George Murphy's AT THE CREEK**  
Bring Your Camera!  
Lunch with Santa Sun. Dec. 11 Noon-3 pm  
Pizza • Pasta • Salad  
Ice Cream Sundae Station  
Adults \$10.95  
Kids Under 12 \$5.95  
Reservations Suggested

Enjoy Our View and Our New Daily Specials!

Ideal Setting for **Holiday Parties**  
Book your party by Dec. 18  
Receive **10% OFF** Total Food Bill

Buy 1 \$25 Gift Certificate, Get a **FREE** \$5 Gift Certificate

Call 15 minutes ahead...ready to go when you arrive!  
**Family Feast**  
Extra Large 1 Topping Pizza with House Salad & Side of Pasta with choice of Marinara or Bolognese. **\$21**  
Carry Out Only • Valid thru 12/18/11

**George Murphy's** Overlooking Fox Creek Golf Course  
36000 Seven Mile • Livonia  
Between Farmington & Newburgh Roads  
248.473.1300  
HOURS: Sun, Mon. 11am-9pm  
Tues, Wed., Th. 11am-10pm  
Fri., Sat. 11am-Midnight

**BOACH'S CORNER** Livonia's Family Friendly Neighborhood Sports Bar  
BAR & GRILL • LIVONIA  
Dine In Carryout

**Appetizers • Homemade Soups & Chili • Burgers Sandwiches • Full Lunch & Dinner Menus**

• Happy Hour M-F 3-5 pm **42" HI Def TVs**  
• 15 Draft Beers with surround sound

Best Wings in Livonia! All Day-Every Day!  
**50¢ Wings 75¢ Boneless Wings**

All Day Monday 8 oz. Angus **\$4.95** Beef Burger with Chips or Fries Dine In Only w/beverage order

All Day Friday All You Can Eat **\$10.95** Fish & Chips Dine In Only w/beverage order

Wednesday Night 12 oz. N.Y. **\$8.95** Strip Steak with baked potato & corn on the cob Dine In Only w/beverage order

Friday & Saturday After 5 pm Slow Roasted Prime Rib **\$12.95 14.95 16.95** 10 oz. 12 oz. 16 oz.

All New Late Night **HAPPY HOUR** up to **1/2 off** all menu items Su 9pm-12am Mo-Th 11pm-2am

19170 Farmington at 7 Mile Livonia  
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**The Maple House**  
Simple Food, Done the Right Way!

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Dine-in or Carryout

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Fri.-Sat. 7 am - 9 pm  
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Your Way **\$3.49**  
3 Eggs, Meat, Hash Browns, Toast & Jam  
With purchase of beverage Expires 12-10-11

First Time Guest Special Offer **FREE**  
Biscuit & Fresh Strawberry Jam  
Limit one per customer Expires 12-10-11

Visit our web site for complete menu:  
www.MapleHouseRestaurant.com

Don't be left behind...call 734.582.8363 today to learn more about advertising in the OUT ON THE TOWN!



## \*TIS THE SEASON

*easy recipes for the holidays*

If time and money are in short supply, use creativity to turn small splurges into celebrations. Here are holiday ideas and recipes that won't break the bank nor leave you exhausted afterwards.

Each recipe features an affordable import — butter and cheeses from Ireland, where cows are grass-fed and milk from small farms is used to make prized dairy products.

### The Family Holiday Dinner

Keep the main course simple with a no-fuss roast. Make a splash with a festive salad featuring creamy and elegant Cashel Blue Irish farmhouse cheese. Serve on your best china.

### Pear, Roast Onion, Hazelnut and Cashel Blue Cheese Salad

- 1 red onion, peeled
- Olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 3 pears (not too ripe)
- 2 tablespoons Kerrygold Unsalted Irish Butter
- 2 ounces hazelnuts, lightly toasted, halved
- 5 ounces baby greens (watercress, baby spinach and frisée)
- 10 ounces Cashel Blue cheese, crumbled

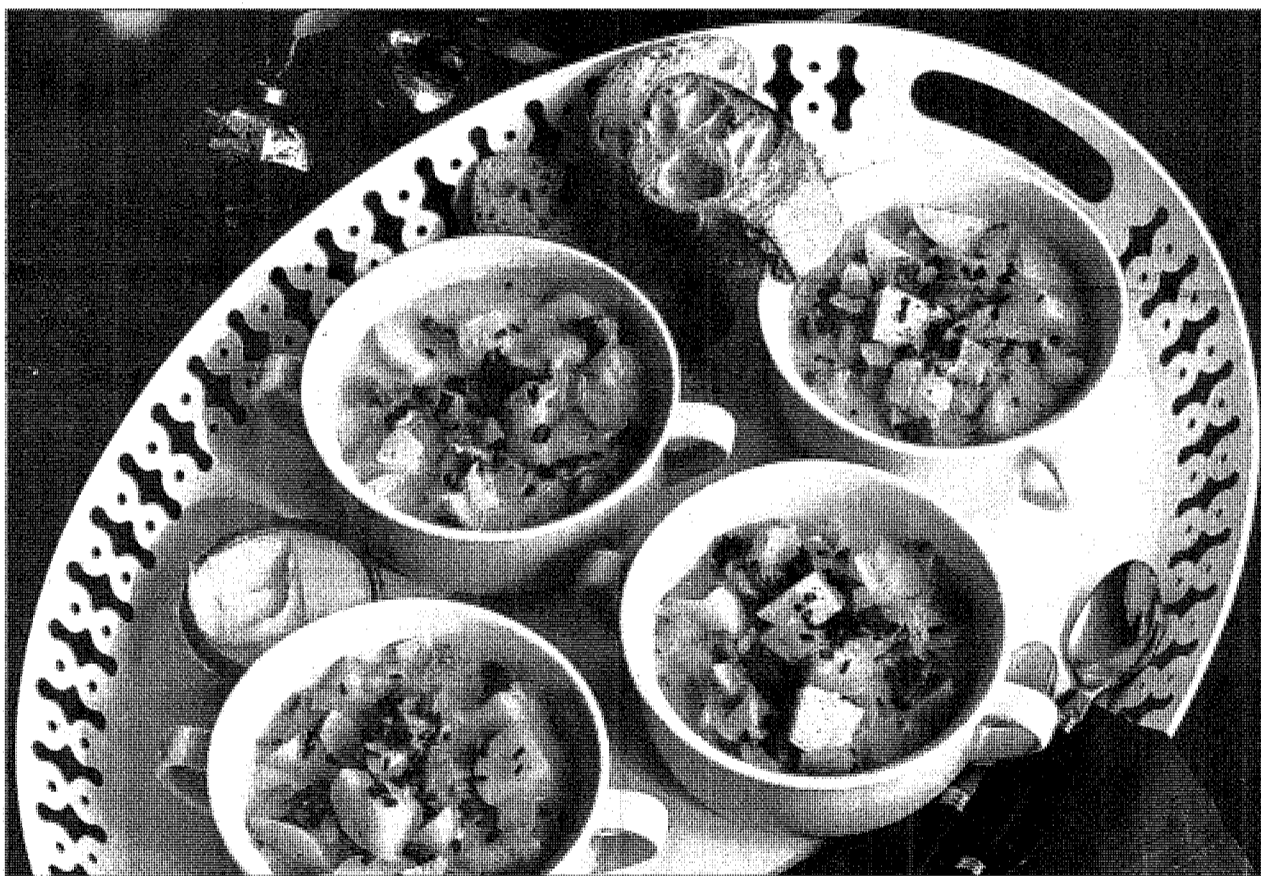
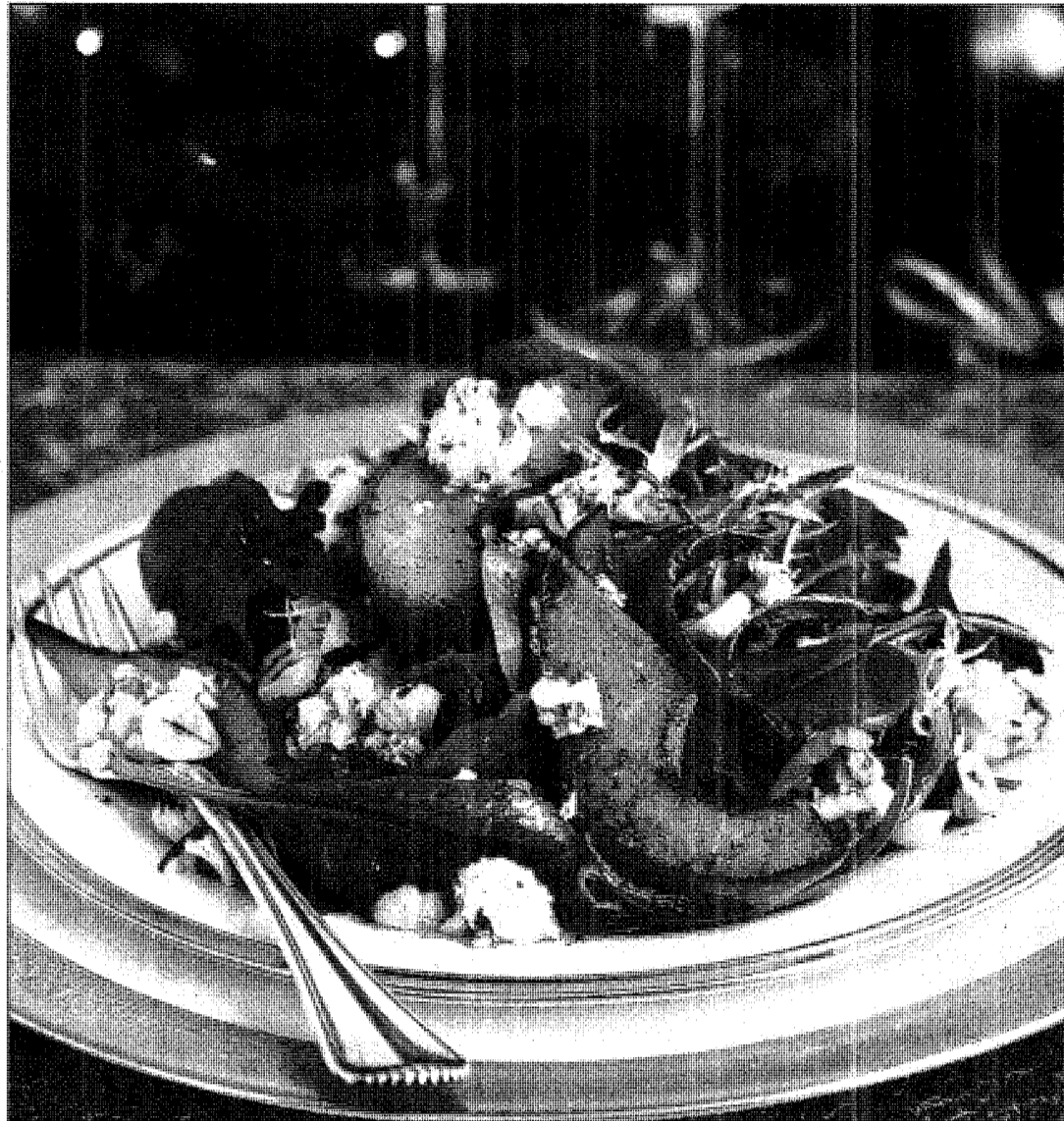
#### Dressing:

- 2½ teaspoons white wine vinegar
- ¼ teaspoon Dijon mustard
- Salt and pepper
- 4 tablespoons hazelnut oil
- 2 tablespoons light olive oil
- 1½ teaspoons superfine sugar (or to taste)

Preheat oven to 350°F. Halve onion and cut it into crescent slices. Put into a small ovenproof dish, drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Roast about 20 minutes, or until soft with slightly caramelized tips. Keep warm.

Whisk dressing ingredients together. Halve and core pears, then cut lengthwise into slices slightly thicker than ¼ inches. Melt butter in a frying pan and quickly sauté on each side until golden. Don't overcook — they should still hold their shape.

Toss salad greens with nuts, using most of the dressing; divide among 6 plates. Add pear and onion slices to each plate and scatter with cheese. Drizzle each plate with the rest of the dressing. Serves 6.



### A Tree Decorating Party

A holiday party doesn't have to be fancy; any simple excuse to gather informally, like trimming the tree or decorating the house, will do. It's a great way to include children in the festivities. Serve up mugs of chowder enriched with Irish Cheddar, plenty of bread and Irish butter, a salad and some Christmas cookies.

### Potato Chowder with Pancetta and Aged Cheddar

- 6 ounces pancetta or bacon, chopped
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 pound Yukon Gold potatoes, unpeeled, cut into ½-inch chunks
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1½ cups chicken broth
- 1 cup low-fat buttermilk
- Salt and pepper
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Kerrygold Aged Cheddar

In large saucepan over medium-high heat, cook pancetta, stirring, until crisp, about 5 minutes. Remove pancetta and drain on paper towels. Discard all but ½ teaspoon fat from pan. Add onion and sauté over high heat until lightly browned, 4 to 5 minutes. Add potatoes, celery and broth. Cover, bring to a boil and simmer until potatoes are tender, about 12 minutes. Add buttermilk and pancetta and stir until hot, 1 to 2 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Remove from heat, stir in cheese and serve immediately. Makes 4 servings; multiply recipe for a crowd.

### Gifts from the Kitchen

Give a gift of love and save money, too, with home-baked goods wrapped in pretty packaging. Let the kids help with the decorating.

### Slice and Bake Butter Cookies

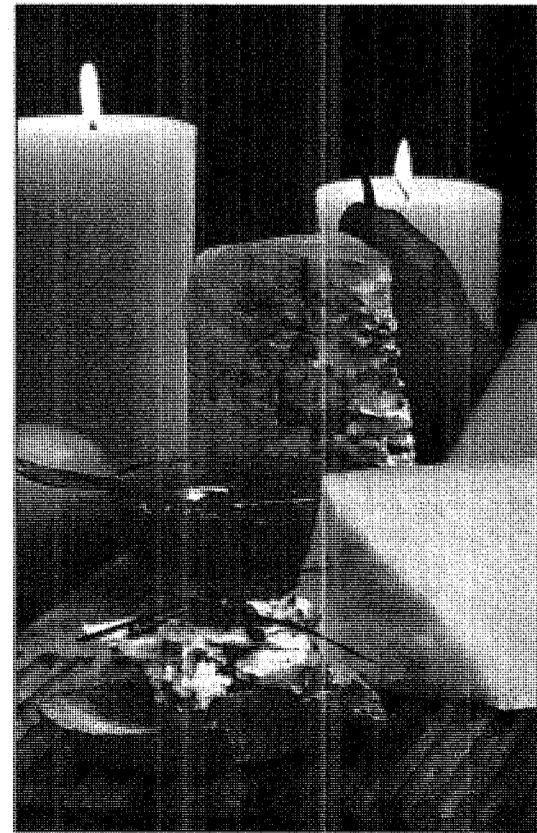
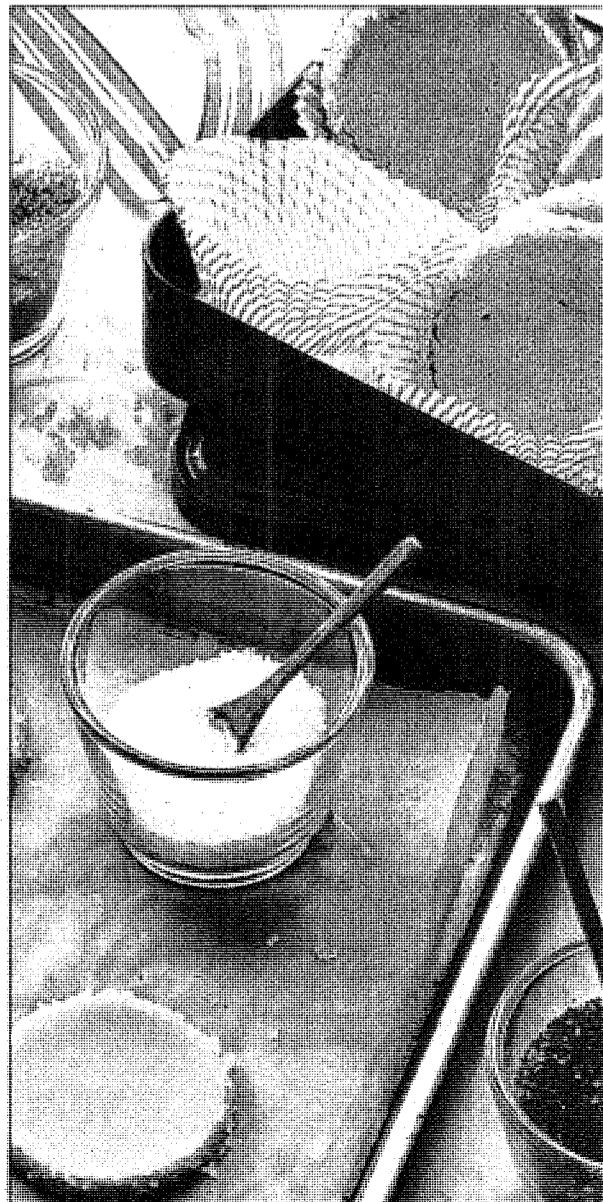
- 2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 package (8 ounces or 1 cup) Kerrygold Salted Irish Butter, at room temperature
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- 2 large egg yolks
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 large egg white
- ½ cup granulated sugar or coarse sugar crystals for rolling the cookie log

Sift flour, baking powder and salt into medium bowl and set aside. In large bowl beat butter and sugar with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Mix in egg yolks and vanilla. Add flour mixture, mixing on low just until flour is incorporated and soft, smooth dough forms.

Divide dough into 2 pieces; form each into a log about 7½ inches long and 1½ inches in diameter. Wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate about 1 hour until cold and firm, or overnight. Or freeze, wrapped securely, for up to 1 month. (Defrost in the refrigerator before slicing and baking.)

Preheat oven to 325°F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper. In small bowl, beat egg white with fork until foamy, about 30 seconds. Brush each log with egg white. Sprinkle the ½ cup sugar on strip of wax paper then roll each log back and forth in sugar to coat lightly. Use sharp knife to cut each log into ¼-inch-thick rounds. Place 1 inch apart on baking sheets.

Bake one sheet at a time on middle rack of the oven until cookie edges and bottoms are light brown, about 18 minutes. Cool 5 minutes, then transfer to wire rack to cool completely. Store tightly covered. Makes 60 cookies.



### And for Every Holiday Get-Together, a Cheese Board

A universal favorite of guests and the easiest choice for the host is a cheese board. An assortment of Irish cheeses like Dubliner, Cashel Blue and Kerrygold Aged Cheddar with fresh fruit and chutney make a spectacular presentation.

For more holiday recipes, visit [www.kerrygoldusa.com](http://www.kerrygoldusa.com).



## Safety practices reduce risk of wintertime home fire

As we move closer to winter and home fire deaths begin to increase, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) remind everyone that fire safety and prevention are especially important in the coming months. Because home fires are more prevalent in winter than in any other season, NFPA and USFA are once again jointly sponsoring a special initiative — Put a Freeze on Winter Fires — to help raise public awareness about winter fires.

"These fires are a painful reminder of what we see every year — the temperatures drop and fires increase," said NFPA President Jim Shannon. According to NFPA statistics, space heaters account for about one-third of home heating fires and approximately 80 percent of the home heating fire deaths.

The USFA's Winter Residential Building Fires (PDF, 1 MB) report shows that each winter an estimated 108,400 residential building fires occur in the United States, resulting in 945 deaths, 3,825 injuries, and \$1.7 billion in property loss. Cooking is the leading cause of winter residential building fires at 36 percent followed by heating at 23 percent. Winter residential building fires occur mainly in the early evening hours, peaking from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"The winter season brings the highest number of home fires, more than at any other time of year," said USFA's Deputy Fire Administrator Glenn Gaines. "Home fires increase in part due to cooking and heating. Winter storms can also interrupt electrical service and cause people to turn to alternative heating sources that contribute to the increased risk of fire during the winter months."

The NFPA and USFA recommend following these safety tips to prevent winter home fires:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period, turn off the stove.



- Space heaters need space; keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from each heater.

- Check electrical cords often and replace cracked or damaged electrical or extension cords. Do not try to repair them.

- Never use your oven or stovetop to heat your home. They are not designed for this purpose and can be a fire hazard. In addition, carbon monoxide (CO) gas might kill people and pets.

- Do not put your live Christmas tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with

- Avoid using lighted candles. If you must use candles, place them in sturdy candleholders that won't burn.

- If you smoke, use only fire-safe cigarettes and smoke outside.

"Winter fires are preventable," Gaines emphasized. "Everyone should find out what they need to know to prevent a tragedy and have a safe winter season."

For more information about the causes of winter fires, winter storm fire safety, holiday fire safety, and tips that will help prevent the incidence of fire in the home, visit the USFA website at [www.usfa.fema.gov/](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/) winter and the NFPA website at

[www.nfpa.org/winter](http://www.nfpa.org/winter).

As an entity of the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency, the mission of the USFA is to provide national leadership to foster a solid foundation for our fire and emergency services stakeholders in prevention, preparedness, and response.

NFPA is a worldwide leader in fire, electrical, building, and life safety. The mission of the international nonprofit organization founded in 1896 is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education.

## N.Y., N.Y., place to be

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist

Q: I note that they have built a "High Line" in New York between 10th and 11th Avenue and I am wondering if you have any knowledge of the consequences on the real estate market there.

A: Having just walked the High Line, I can tell you that there have been a number of restaurants that have sprung up near the stairs that go to the High Line at every five or six blocks. Of particular interest to you would be the fact that a number of buildings are being renovated for residential use, and because of the



Robert Meisner

landscaping of the High Line, shops, restaurants and boutiques are springing up along the line. In addition, it is giving an opportunity to various

merchants to sell merchandise in buildings where the High Line traverses. Generally it has become a tourist attraction which, of course, increases the residential and commercial value of the buildings surrounding the High Line.

Q: I am thinking about buying a condominium in New York and I am wondering what suggestion you may have with respect to getting a reasonable price on a place near Central Park.

A: Unfortunately for you, the real estate glut has not affected the condominium cooperative market in New York and, in particular, around the Central Park area. Indeed, prices continue to increase as well as the relative assessments that are being charged by the associations in order to meet the increasing costs of operation. My experience recently in observing the market there is that New York continues to be one of the most expensive places in the world for residential housing. You are best advised to get a knowledgeable real estate agent who can point out to you areas where a bargain may be possible.

Q: Our condominium association is considering posing a restriction on the installation or use of solar energy devices such as panels and associated devices by a homeowner. Is there any state prohibition on it in Michigan?

A: To the best of my knowledge, Michigan and 11 other states do not have provisions to address solar rights issues and usage within their state codes. Only three states currently prohibit covenants or restrictions placed upon homeowners which would prevent the installation of solar powered panels and associated devices. Fifteen states currently have laws that protect easements and their establishment on a legal contractual basis without having an express solar rights law. Therefore, if you are in Michigan, your association can enact whatever restrictions you wish to place on the installation of solar panels and/or solar devices to the extent that the documents are so amended.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit [bmeisner@meisner-associates.com](http://bmeisner@meisner-associates.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 22-26, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

City	Address	Price
<b>CANTON</b>		
47462	Adriana Ct	\$312,000
44012	Ardmore St	\$110,000
41614	Bedford Dr	\$54,000
42618	Boulden Ct	\$178,000
445	Constitution St	\$250,000
1754	Dunston Rd	\$200,000
7188	E Spring Dr	\$178,000
44945	Fair Oaks Dr	\$110,000
7359	Green Meadow Ln	\$120,000
42067	Hartford Dr	\$150,000
48442	Inveraray Rd	\$295,000
44937	Lemont Rd	\$160,000
45093	Lemont Rd	\$157,000
50250	Mott Rd	\$375,000
7966	N Lilley Rd	\$53,000
47728	River Woods Dr	\$233,000
268	Robyn Ct	\$145,000
4746	Sherwood Cir	\$192,000
543	Stoneherge Dr	\$230,000
<b>GARDEN CITY</b>		
31010	Dawson St	\$84,000
1231	Gilman St	\$35,000

30616	Pierce St	\$60,000
836	Venoy Rd	\$40,000
<b>LIVONIA</b>		
36800	Seven Mile Rd	\$238,000
32200	Allen St	\$185,000
9619	Arcola St	\$110,000
9655	Arcola St	\$100,000
9824	Arden St	\$155,000
33101	Barkley St	\$235,000
28709	Bayberry Ct W	\$148,000
30489	Bonnydale St	\$142,000
33315	Broadmoor Ct	\$180,000
15081	Cavell St	\$95,000
14201	Deering St	\$74,000
36732	Grove St	\$149,000
30676	Hathaway St	\$105,000
9904	Ingram St	\$145,000
9623	Loveland St	\$93,000
14362	Melrose St	\$148,000
19490	Norwich Rd	\$160,000
32125	Oakley St	\$92,000
32202	Oakley St	\$94,000
32240	Oakley St	\$110,000
20135	Rensellor St	\$45,000
19030	Shay Ct	\$210,000
38823	Summers St	\$105,000
18149	University Park Dr	\$63,000
31811	W Chicago St	\$140,000
17494	Wayne Rd	\$202,000
14428	Yale St	\$126,000
<b>NORTHVILLE</b>		
41230	Aldea Dr	\$318,000

16256	Brook Trout Ln	\$130,000
19444	Cardene Ct	\$125,000
39577	Dun Rovin Dr	\$210,000
48682	Freestone Dr	\$98,000
48794	Freestone Dr	\$98,000
48878	Freestone Dr	\$98,000
15605	Johnson Creek Dr	\$145,000
15966	Johnson Creek Dr	\$125,000
16122	Johnson Creek Dr	\$458,000
16154	Johnson Creek Dr	\$125,000
47960	Manorwood Dr	\$757,000
510	Randolph St	\$275,000
15825	Spyglass Dr	\$620,000
41032	Stone Haven Rd	\$208,000
18043	Stonebrook Dr	\$430,000
39557	Village Run Dr	\$240,000
15711	Winchester Dr	\$235,000
40104	Woodside Dr S	\$325,000
<b>PLYMOUTH</b>		
40467	Brecken Ridge Ln	\$215,000
46351	Curituck Ct	\$368,000
42669	Five Mile Rd	\$80,000
11180	Gold Arbor Rd	\$85,000
11180	Gold Arbor Rd	\$119,000
165	Hamilton Ave	\$95,000
15036	Plymouth Xing	\$243,000
11729	Sycamore Dr	\$72,000
9382	Timberline Ct	\$315,000
390	W Ann Arbor Trl	\$169,000
770	York St	\$93,000
<b>REDFORD</b>		
19146	Delaware Ave	\$54,000

17461	Denby	\$27,000
12035	Farley	\$35,000
19339	Gaylord	\$31,000
19443	Glenmore	\$63,000
19972	Indian	\$10,000
9245	Jerome	\$33,000
20173	Kinloch	\$26,000
15095	Kipke	\$88,000
13101	Leverne	\$62,000
27065	Lyndon	\$81,000
24979	S Sylbert Dr	\$47,000
9307	Sarasota	\$84,000
25432	Southwick	\$35,000
23817	W Chicago	\$43,000
<b>WESTLAND</b>		
2251	Ackley Ave	\$23,000
32536	Anita Dr	\$81,000
32027	Avondale St	\$23,000
8572	Berwick Dr	\$82,000
36003	Booth St	\$62,000
36791	Canyon Dr	\$80,000
770	Easley Dr	\$65,000
38456	Meghan Ln	\$130,000
8325	Melvin Ave	\$93,000
8330	N Henry Ruff Rd	\$55,000
32053	Parkwood St	\$57,000
1536	S Parent St	\$28,000
2420	Stieber St	\$21,000
33718	Tawas Trl	\$87,000
7743	Terri Dr	\$87,000
1341	Windham St	\$68,000

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 15-19, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

<b>BEVERLY HILLS</b>		
15913	Amherst Ave	\$238,000
22210	Nottingham Dr	\$425,000
<b>BIRMINGHAM</b>		
111	Abbey St	\$370,000
643	Ann St # 645	\$719,000
1050	Davis Ave	\$440,000
2655	E Maple Rd	\$28,000
801	Hazel St	\$269,000
1832	Melbourne St	\$364,000
1075	Oxford St	\$240,000
630	Wallace St	\$573,000
282	Wimbleton Dr	\$372,000
<b>BLOOMFIELD HILLS</b>		
3199	Pebble Ln	\$167,000
6963	Sandalwood Dr	\$240,000
1750	Tiverton Rd Unit 31	\$130,000
3542	W Bradford Dr	\$125,000
620	Willow Glen Ct	\$480,000
1251	Winchcombe Dr	\$139,000

<b>BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP</b>		
1320	Forestglen Ct	\$142,000
1961	Golf Ridge Dr	\$278,000
6222	Indianwood Trl	\$243,000
242	N Glengarry Rd	\$355,000
7160	Parkhurst Dr	\$360,000
1199	Peveril Rd	\$120,000
1972	Post Chaise Ct	\$175,000
7435	Saint Auburn Dr	\$235,000
<b>COMMERCE TOWNSHIP</b>		
9510	Garden Ter	\$116,000
3510	Newton Rd	\$58,000
850	Ridgemont St	\$75,000
<b>FARMINGTON</b>		
32030	Grand River Ave Unit 3	\$29,000
35167	Oakland St	\$170,000
32808	Slocum Dr	\$119,000
<b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b>		
29768	Briarton St	\$170,000
24082	Creekside Dr	\$119,000
29610	Gilchrest St	\$140,000
22147	Harsdale Dr	\$325,000
38940	Holsworth Ct	\$205,000
33133	Hopecrest Ct	\$155,000
23054	Potomac Cir	\$147,000
36785	Quakertown Ln	\$180,000
28809	Ramblewood Dr	\$165,000
30227	S Stockton Dr	\$79,000
28464	Westerleigh Rd	\$120,000

<b>MILFORD</b>		
110	Bensfield	\$460,000
<b>NOVI</b>		
43000	12 Oaks Crescent Dr #	\$94,000
22340	Cascade Dr	\$240,000
24065	Cranbrooke Dr	\$100,000
43038	Oxford Ct	\$390,000
24500	Riverview Ln	\$185,000
24585	Sarah Flynn	\$170,000
39786	Village Wood Cir	\$21,000
1181	West Lake Dr	\$300,000
<b>SOUTH LYON</b>		
54210	Birchwood Dr	\$30,000
147	Easton Dr	\$200,000
61248	Greenwood Dr	\$34,000
24327	Heatherwood Dr	\$125,000
834	Norchester St	\$137,000
23731	Prescott Ln W	\$61,000
1116	Vassar	\$119,000
<b>SOUTHFIELD</b>		
29869	Brentwood St	\$42,000
23866	Merrill Ave	\$37,000
21669	Potomac St	\$65,000
22570	Shevington Dr	\$142,000
<b>WHITE LAKE</b>		
1307	Round Lake Rd	\$65,000

### BRIEFS

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Learn how to finance your purchase and rehab projects in and around Detroit. Hear from an expert in the lending business, Trent Dalrymple. Real estate and investment professionals are welcome. Seating is limited so call (248) 547-3006, or sign up at [www.metro-mi.com](http://www.metro-mi.com). Free seminars will be 6-7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month at Metro Mortgage Investments, 26711 Woodward Ave., Suite 301, Huntington Woods. Next seminar is scheduled for Dec. 1.











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Summit White, PL, CD, 52K, and ABS! Perfect work van! Reduced to \$16,971!  
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Gray, sharp, only \$7,995  
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Bronze Metal, PL/PW, ABS & OnStar! Cruisin' in style! Reduced to \$21,983!  
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73K \$19,650  
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Red, loaded, 22K \$17,995  
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Silver Star, LT, OnStar & remote start! Only 600 miles! Just \$20,795!  
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AWD, Dark Blue, \$27,995  
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Silver, only \$24K, \$24,795  
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Blue Harmony, SLT, leather & AWD! Roomy & loaded!  
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Red, mint condition \$14,595  
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Dk. Blue 39K \$13,495  
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Silver, auto \$14,995  
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