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**Seventh term**

The reappointment of Thomas Dunigan to a seventh consecutive term on the Westland Board of Review was approved Dec. 5 by the Westland City Council.

Dunigan was first appointed to the Board



Dunigan

of Review on Jan. 17, 1994.

"The commitment and dedication of the residents of

our city who volunteer to serve on Westland's boards and commissions is to be commended," Mayor William Wild said. "Westland's board and commission members are a vital part of our community."

A Detroit Edison retiree, Dunigan has been a resident since 1959, well before Westland became a city. He is married with six children, 18 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**Skate with Santa**

Santa is making a special trip to the Mike Modano Ice Arena to join skaters in presenting a special holiday program to benefit the Westland Goodfellows.

Residents are invited to watch the Holiday Show at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, then join Santa on the ice for open skating 2:20-3:20 p.m.

The Mike Modano Ice Arena is at 6210 N. Wildwood, Westland. For more information, call (734) 729-4560.

**Santa letters**

Youngsters who would like to have their letters to Santa published in the Observer have until Monday, Dec. 12, to send them.

Santa Claus has given the Observer permission to print some of the letters in our Thursday, Dec. 22, issue.

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.

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**Parents of dead infant face murder, abuse charges**

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

The parents of a 2-month-old baby boy charged with abusing and killing him as well as abusing his surviving twin brother are scheduled for a preliminary examination Thursday in Westland 18th District Court.

Facing multiple felony charges, Inkster resident Antonio Pepalonia

Brandon, 22, and Nicole Susanne Roberts, 18, of Westland are each being held in lieu of \$1 million cash bond. Both have entered not guilty pleas.

An autopsy found that Kayden Brandon died



Roberts



Brandon

Monday from asphyxia and blunt force trauma to the chest. Police and Fire Rescue were called to a unit in the Westland Meadows mobile home park just before 5 a.m. about a baby not breathing.

Kayden was not responsive and pronounced dead a short time later at an area hospital.

Brandon is charged with first-degree murder, which carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole, and two counts of first-degree child abuse — one relating to Kaden, the other over injuries to his surviving twin Cameron Brandon.

Roberts has been charged with involuntary manslaughter/failure to perform legal duty, a 15-year felony, and two counts of felony second-degree child abuse/reckless act.

In a statement to police, Brandon indicated he would quiet the crying babies by placing his hand over their

Please see CHARGES, A2



Linda Hart watches as her daughter Samantha hangs a seed-encrusted bagel on a pine tree in front of the Bailey Recreation Center.

**Youngsters dress up city trees for holidays**

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

The pine trees between Westland City Hall and the Bailey Recreation Center are dressed for the holidays, thanks to the efforts of school children, Scout groups and church youths.

Colorful ornaments, paper and popcorn chains and bagels slathered with peanut butter and birdseed were the decorations of choice for the display that was presented to Mayor William Wild and his special guest Santa Claus at the annual event, held Wednesday afternoon.

"It was a great event, the turnout was our best ever and the elementary children did a great job decorating the trees," said Wild. "Santa had an incredible line of eager kids with long lists all evening."



Lisa Arnold of Westland waits at the craft tables with her daughter Ashlynn, eight months old.

Hundreds of youngsters from 19 schools, including Wayne-Westland's Schweitzer, P.D. Graham, Adams Upper Elementary, Wilwood and Elliott, Livonia's Cooper Elementary and the Westland Christian Union Church participated in the decorating before going inside the recreation center for

crafts, story time, music and a visit with Santa. The crowd of an estimated 400 children and their parents consumed 1,000 cookies and drank 15 gallons of hot chocolate, up from last year's 10 gallons.

"It was totally amazing,"

Please see TREES, A4

**W-W appoints two new finance officers**

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

Two of Plymouth-Canton's top finance people are saying goodbye after being appointed to positions in Wayne-Westland's business office.

James Larson-Shidler, Plymouth-Canton's assistant superintendent for business services, is taking over as Wayne-Westland's the deputy superintendent for administrative and business services, while David Kaumeyer, P-C's director of finance, has been appointed as the senior executive director of business and operations.

"I want to thank you for having the confidence in selecting me and letting me be a part of this team," said Larson-Shidler following school

board approval of his appointment.

Larson-Shidler will replace Gary Martin who is retiring as Dec. 31. Martin has been with the district for 12 years and created W-W's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report that has won state and national awards for more than 10 consecutive years.

A resident of Bloomfield Hills, Larson-Shidler was an assistant treasurer for the Toledo Public Schools district and the deputy chief financial officer with the Cleveland Municipal Schools district before joining Plymouth-Canton in 2008.

He has a bachelor of science degree in accounting from the

Please see OFFICERS, A2

**Hopefuls make pitch to be last 'Survivor' standing**

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

As big fans of the reality television show *Survivor*, Brooke Baranowski and Regina Snead jumped at the chance to audition for a shot to be the last person left on the island.

They were among hundreds of people who came to a *Survivor* open casting call held Wednesday at the MJR Westland Grand Digital Cinema.

"It's something fun to do. We watch it every Wednesday night," Wayne resident Baranowski said. "I like the different personalities."

"I like (host) Jeff Probst," added Snead, a Westland resident.



Brooke Baranowski hopes her audition will land her a chance to win \$1 million on the reality show *Survivor*.

The women arrived an hour before the auditions were scheduled to begin at 4 p.m.

"I'm surprised there are not as many people as I anticipated," Snead said.

The CBS television

Please see SURVIVOR, A2

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## OFFICERS

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University of Southern California, a master of arts degree in public policy and management from Ohio State University and is working on an educational specialist degree in educational administration at Oakland University.

He also is a certified public accountant and expects to receive his chief financial officer certification from Michigan School Business Officials next year.

Kaumeyer will replace Linda Kempton, who also is retiring. He is no stranger to the Wayne-

Westland district, having worked as the director of finance 1998 to 2000. Prior to that, he was P-C's assistant director of finance and purchasing. He also worked with the Birmingham Public Schools as the finance manager, before rejoining P-C as the director of finance.

He has a bachelor of science degree in atmospheric science, a master of business administration degree in finance and an educational specialist degree in educational administration, all from the University of Michigan.

"Thank you for the opportunity, I'm very happy to be rejoining the Wayne-Westland staff," said Kaumeyer, who lives

in Plymouth. "I look forward to working with all of you."

School board President Carol Middel extended a welcome to the two men, pointing out that the district is losing "some very good people" who are leaving "some big shoes to fill."

"I hope you are up to the task," she said. "We're all going to pitch in and help you. If you need help, say the word. You have some good assets while they're still here."

"Welcome to our family, I'm sure you will enjoy it here," added board Secretary Cindy Schofield. "We're a great place to be."

School Superintendent Greg Baracy also received approval of his appointment of Kevin Weber as assistant principal at Wayne Memorial High School. He described Weber as a "great asset to

the academic team" at the high school.

Weber has been with the school district since 2004, working as a special education teacher. He also worked in the Kalamazoo Public Schools as a pre-intern, intern and substitute teacher.

A Westland resident, he has his bachelor of science degree in emotionally impaired/communications from Western Michigan University and master of science degree in educational leadership from Concordia University.

"Thank you for this opportunity," said Weber. "I'm looking forward to serving the community in a new role."

"You're coming into a new position, but at a building you know," said Middel. "It has a great support system."

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## CHARGES

Continued from page A1

mouths for 10-20 seconds until they stopped breathing. Brandon would then bite the infant to startle them into breathing.

The autopsy showed bite marks on the baby. Brandon told police he also struck the baby on chest in an effort to stop him from crying or would squeeze the infant tightly to his chest.

In a statement to police, Roberts told police she heard Brandon beating Kayden early Dec. 5 and looked to see him striking the baby, but didn't intervene. Roberts, who told police that she would also place her hand over the babies' mouths to get them to stop crying, said she didn't want a conflict

with Brandon in hopes that he would remain involved with her and the babies.

The surviving twin, who was removed from the home along with a 2-year-old half sister, has a broken femur and ribs which police said resulted from being swung by his legs. The boy is being cared for by Wayne County Protective Services, while the girl has been returned to her mother.

A woman, apparently Roberts's mother with whom the couple and the children were staying, had to be escorted from Judge Mark McConnell's courtroom after the arraignment last Thursday when she began shouting, "I hate you now. Those were my babies."

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## SURVIVOR

Continued from page A1

program sends contestants to a remote location for weeks as they compete in individual and team challenges to avoid being voted off the island. The winning sole survivor receives a \$1 million cash prize.

"I'm kind of self-employed. I work on and off. I doing cleaning, painting, whatever," said Snead, who is married with a grown children. "My husband would be OK with me being away seven weeks. He just started a new job, so he couldn't be here."

A full-time student, Baranowski said she works as a nanny, in retail and as a caregiver for a cousin with Downs Syndrome, but would still be able to make room to participate on *Survivor*.



Westland resident Regina Snead was among the would-be contestants on the reality series *Survivor*.

Garden City resident Jeff Frantjuskos described himself as a huge fan of the reality show since it began airing. "I've often thought, 'I could do as well as that.' And who couldn't use \$1 million," said Frantjuskos, a married truck driver. "I can represent the over-50 group real well. I'm into fitness and health. I believe I can do some damage to those young pups."

Melissa Lehr may have traveled the longest dis-

tance to audition — she flew in from Annapolis, Md. A flight attendant, Lehr was accompanied by friend and co-worker Karen George.

"I came because I can win. It's been a dream of mine for a long time. I have the stability in my life to be gone that long," Lehr said. "I'm the ultimate warrior. I'm a mom. I'm very crafty and strategic. I'm smart. I think I can do it."

Describing herself as moral support, George said, "She organizes well. I wouldn't be here if I didn't think she had a shot."

Would-be contestants received a number as they arrived, then were taken in groups of 10 to video tape their one-minute audition, explaining why they should be a contestant on a future show.

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# Westland man puts box bass to test on 'Invention USA'

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

Christopher Badynee would like to hear that his cardboard Bogdon box bass is the next greatest invention from Reichart Von Wolfsheild and Garrett Lisi, hosts of the History Channel's new *Invention USA* show.

But the Westland resident figures that no matter what they say, he's a winner: 15 minutes on the show's premiere will attract attention to his fledgling business.

"If there's hope out there, it's this show," said Badynee, who has been making and marketing his inexpensive cardboard box bass for five years. "This is a marketing tool. It attracts attention."

Badynee spent several days in early June in Los Angeles, where three film crews spent 11 hours filming scenes for the show. The footage was boiled down to 15 minutes in which the hosts analyze the invention and then give an evaluation of its potential for success.

Badynee's segment aired 10:30 p.m. Friday and that's when he and everyone else found out what their opinion is of his box base.

"I don't know what to



Christopher Badynee used his father's middle name, Bogdon, in naming his cardboard box bass. He has played his invention at Badynee has shown off the cardboard box bass at Pine Knob and Nashville and on MSNBC's "Elevator Pitch" show.

expect, I wasn't allowed to witness the final analysis," he said. "I think the box bass met their expectations or exceeded their expectations. I can't imagine me going 'Oh no' when they give their answer."

A postal employee, Badynee spends a lot of time marketing himself. He describes himself as a "spammer," sending out thousands of e-mails to people who might be interested in his invention.

"I'm an old school spammer, I do everything

online," he said. "Ninety-nine percent of my business is e-mail customers. Think of all the junk mail you get. Somewhere down the line, someone's going to buy it."

He also spends a lot of time on Google, doing searches for things like music casting, bass casting or casting for inventions. It was one of those searches that turned up an item on Craigslist for a casting call for inventors for a new TV show. It had one small hitch — it was for Los Angeles residents only.

Badynee didn't have to think twice. He went to the website, filled out an application and sent it in. He ended up getting a call asking if he wanted to fly out to L.A. He was put up in a two-room suite in downtown L.A. and provided with the tools — a screwdriver, hot glue gun, packing tape and a knife — to assemble his box bass.

He believes they overlooked the fact he was from Michigan, not L.A., because he has TV experience. Two years ago, he did a three-minute performance in an elevator for MSNBC's *Elevator Pitch* in hopes of finding investors willing to provide \$500,000 in capital to take the instrument to a new business level.

"I know the box bass is great, but it's wacky, that's why they put it on the show," he said. "But when I let the producers know I'd already done TV, it was an edge. It all helps me market myself."

Badynee has been making and marketing the Bogdon bass since 2007. He came up with the idea while remodeling the bathroom of his home following a fire the year

before and with the help of cousins Alan Eden, an acoustical engineer, and brother Mark, an electrical engineer, created a musical instrument that sounds as good as its \$6,000 counterpart.

When he initially started selling the box bass, he saw it as a beginner's instrument, but he has since found that his clientele is professionals who have been playing 20-30 years and people who collect musical instruments. Much of his sales — he has sold more than 2,000 since 2007 — is overseas in Germany and England, but he also sells wholesale to Elderly Instruments in Lansing and Birdland in New York City.

"My dream is to become a wholesaler and sell in volumes," he said. "It's a young company. I still have a ways to go."

He has gotten letters of support from luthiers — manufacturers of musical instruments — who tell him that there was no beginning bass instrument until he started manufacturing the Bogdon box bass. Youngsters who took up the instruments were given cellos to start.

"I have a lot of people who don't play an instrument who buy my box bass and move on to a bass," he said. "That's why the luthiers love me. When I do trade shows, they shake my hand and tell me they think it's wonderful. It's because my instrument leads to one of their instruments."

Badynee doesn't plan on having a gala premiere party, just a bottle of wine and a bag of Doritos with the family. The air time is late for the postman who has to be up at 5 a.m. for work Saturday. The show will be repeated again late Saturday night and then at a more civilized 1 p.m. today (Dec. 11). The show will shown every day for an entire week at different times and every six weeks throughout 2012.

"I'm on the premiere show and that's awesome," Badynee said. "In this situation, I can't lose. This will create attention and sell my box bass."

For more information about the Bogdon Box Bass, visit the website [www.Bogdonmusic.com](http://www.Bogdonmusic.com).

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# TREES

Continued from page A1

a good thing," Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski said. "It was great to see the families come in and share the holidays with us. Everyone had fun."

The hallway on the center's second floor was transformed into the craft area. In the multi-purpose room, Music Lady Beverly Meyers had the youngsters up and dancing. Across the hall, guest readers like District Judge Sandra Cicirelli and council members Christine Bryant, Dewey Reeves and Meriem Kadi shared holiday stories with youngsters and their parents.

"Are they going to know what piffle and double piffle means?" asked Kadi, who was looking over her book, *Grumpy Badge Christmas*, while City Clerk Eileen DeHart Schoof read *Has Anyone Seen Christmas?* to the crowd.

But the place to be for many youngsters was the meeting room at the west end of the building, where Santa Claus was sitting fireside youngsters.

"We had the children do a wish list while they were waiting, so everyone had something to give Santa before leaving," Kosowski said.

Julia Kubus, a student at P.D. Graham Elementary, helped decorate a tree with her Scout troop. She couldn't wait to talk to Santa. She was also there working on a story for her school newspaper.

"I asked him what the most toys are given out for girls, he said kind of Barbie things," she said.

Her 4-year-old brother Jaden also chatted with Santa from a distance. His wish list included cars, animals and *Star Wars* toys.

This was Cody Johnson's second year participating



Mitchell Pattee and her sister Susan of Westland had a hard time thinking of what to tell Santa Claus what they wanted for Christmas.



Sydney Smith and Taylor Socola of Westland and Mackenzie Thurman of Canton ring bells during the Music Lady's performance at the annual children's tree decorating program.

in the event. A member of Westland Christian Union, the 14-year-old was there with youth leader David Krowl to decorate a tree and help with youngsters with the crafts.

"It was cold and hectic, I probably liked helping with the crafts best," Johnson said. "I lost count after 20 of the kids I helped with the crafts."

"This is a big part of what we want the teens to know. We want them to know what the community needs and reach out and help," Krowl said.

He brought seven youths from the church and had

almost as many adults and younger children to help decorate the tree. Unlike last year, when rain ruined the paper chain they had made, they used Fruit Loops as part of this year's decorations.

Inside, church members helped youngsters decorate suckers with gingerbread houses and snowmen.

"The best part was the young kids rushing up," Krowl said. "It was good to see the kids with smiles on their faces."

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(313) 222-6751

# Santa draws crowd at Octagon House

The Westland Historical Commission couldn't be happier with the turnout for the annual Visit with Santa at the Westland Historic Village Park.

More than 128 adults and children stopped by the Octagon House Dec. 3 to see Santa and enjoy cookies.

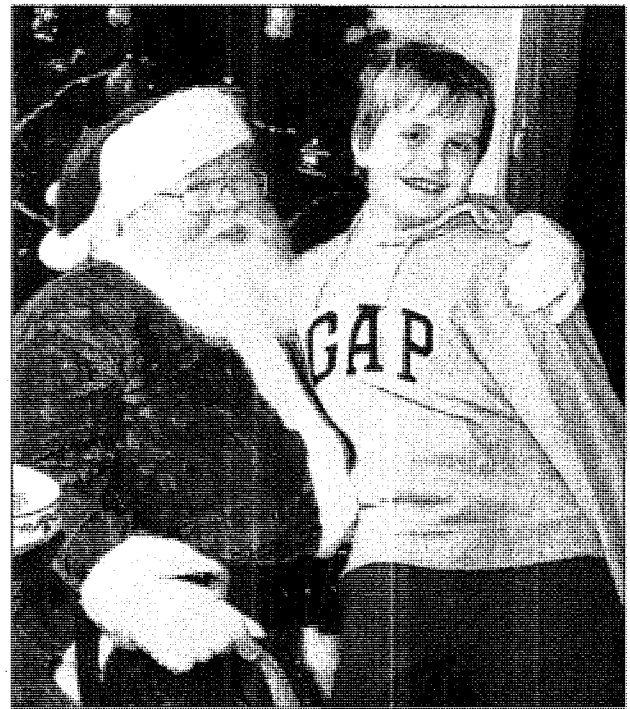
"He's such a perfect Santa," commission member Georgia Becker said. "People come here because the real Santa is here. That's how we announce at the council meeting."

"It's such a nice location," added member Janet Sowards, who kept track of attendance.

"The first year it was the grand opening of the Octagon House, each year after it's been a Visit with Santa. This is our fourth year."

By Sowards' tally, 60 adults and 57 children visited during the three-hour event. The latter number is up from last year, when 20 youngsters visited with Santa.

Commission member Jeff Koslowski believes



Curtis Lunn was among youngsters who stopped by the Westland Historic Village Park to talk to Santa Claus.

the setting has a lot to do with the turnout.

"Where can you go into a house, have cookies and see Santa?" he said.

And speaking of Santa, the Jolly Old Elf enjoyed his time visiting with youngsters.

"I've had requests for a lot of Barbie Stuff, Xboxes and iPods," he said. "Definitely a lot of request and even if the elves have to work around the clock, we'll have it out on time."

— By Sue Mason

## AROUND WESTLAND

### Conservation meeting

The Westland Homeowners Committee for Environmental Conservation is inviting the public to attend a general meeting 1-1:45 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, at Panera Bread, 35300 Warren Road, Westland. Find out about environmental issues that could impact our state.

For more information, call Lee Duffey at (734) 722-1184.

### Cancer benefit

The VFW District 4 Ladies Auxiliary Pool

League is having a dining to donate fund-raiser for cancer aid and research Tuesday, Dec. 13 at the Northville Applebee's. Just present the server with a flyer and a portion of the proceeds will go to fight cancer.

There are flyers available at the Bova VFW Post on Hix, also at Northville VFW on Main Street or e-mail [Conniekiner@hotmail.com](mailto:Conniekiner@hotmail.com).

### New Year's Eve

The Sgt. Romanowski VFW Post 6896 is holding a New Year's Eve Celebration Saturday,

Dec. 31.

Doors open at 7 p.m., and a show, featuring Sherman Arnold as Elvis. Brian Grob as Buddy Holly and Kathy Bressler as Patsy Cline, will start at 8 p.m.

The cost is \$18 per person and includes appetizers and hors d'oeuvres, snacks and cash bar. There also will be a basket of cheers and cash raffles.

Reservations must be made by Dec. 15. Call Lorraine (734) 788-4948 or John (313) 719-2748. The post is at 28945 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland.

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# Church serves dinner for those alone on Christmas

By Sue Buck  
Observer Staff Writer

Bring a hearty appetite, a joyful spirit and a voice ready to join in on a Christmas carols sing-along.

People from throughout the area who need a place to go on Christmas Day will be treated like family to a free holiday dinner at St. Dunstan Church in Garden City.

Judy Larry, an organizer of the annual dinner at St. Dunstan's Parish, wants fun to punctuate the occasion, and guests will be treated royally.

"We have people to take their coats," Larry said. The dinners are served from about 1:30-4 p.m. Christmas Day. The doors open at 1 p.m. Reservations are preferred but no one is turned away that day.

Larry's family knows how dedicated she is to this effort. They also volunteer with her.

Nicknamed Judy "O," she looks forward to the event which she called,



Denise Maier (right) makes punch for last year's Christmas Day dinner at St. Dunstan's and Diane Pietras makes salad.

"really, really nice." After serving her own family a Christmas breakfast at home, her children and grandchildren agree that if they want to see more of Grandma Judy, they can follow her over to the church complex on Belton, south of Ford in Garden City.

They roll up their

sleeves and pitch in to serve the guests.

Larry's volunteers haven't wavered through the years. Larry took over the task more than 10 years ago from volunteers John and Mary Surge.

Larry becomes emotional at the vision of the recipients' grateful fac-

es and when she recalls hearing their voices when they call and leave their names as they RSVP. The guests reach her directly when they call.

Recipients come from everywhere including Livonia, Plymouth, Wayne, Detroit and Dearborn. They have no one else to be with that day.



Judy Larry's granddaughter, Jessica Thomas, helps out as a server at the Christmas dinner.

"This whole church hall is filled on Christmas Day," Larry said. "People have no family, nowhere to go and just need to be with someone."

Larry said that St. Dunstan is the only church in the area that hosts a dinner Christmas Day. More than 100 people came to dinner last year; many were senior citizens.

People also make cash donations to help offset the costs for the dinner, which is funded through St. Dunstan's Christian Service fund. That money also feeds

hundreds of people during the year through the church's food pantry program.

The full sit-down dinner will include turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, salad, rolls, butter and an assortment of desserts. Larry likes to have a lot of baked goods on hand. People who want to donate something can drop them off at the parish office.

For reservations, call Larry at (734) 595-3049.

sbuck@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-2249

# College student from Westland spends break helping others

A Westland resident is part of a team of 12 Saginaw Valley State University students who will devote a portion of their winter break to helping out with natural disaster relief in Birmingham, Ala.

The students will depart on Saturday, Dec. 17 and return on Friday, Dec. 23.

Melissa Schmidt, a social work major, is serving as a co-leader for the group.

The students will volunteer at the Christian Service Mission, which provides a variety of services for its surrounding community, including community-related projects and partnerships related to tornado relief. In April, the largest tornado

outbreak ever recorded cause catastrophic damage across much of the United States, especially in Alabama. Tornadoes touched down in Birmingham and Tuscaloosa, causing more than 200 deaths and destroying more than 1,000 homes in the state.

The trip is part of SVSU's Alternative Breaks program, a drug- and alcohol-free student-led organization that sends service groups on week-long trips during

winter and spring breaks.

The program is a chapter of the national organization Break Away, a non-profit whose educational philosophy asks participants to examine root

causes for a social problem as well as their personal roles in perpetuating it. Students then travel and work to become part of a solution, and later perform service near

SVSU, based upon lessons learned during their Alternative Break.

For more information about the Christian Service Mission, visit www.csmmission.org.

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**CITY OF GARDEN CITY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 2012 MEETING SCHEDULE**

Regular meetings of the City of Garden City Zoning Board of Appeals shall be held at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Below is the Zoning Board of Appeals calendar for 2012.

Meeting Date
January 25, 2012
February 22, 2012
March 28, 2012
April 25, 2012
May 23, 2012
June 27, 2012
July 25, 2012
August 22, 2012
September 26, 2012
October 24, 2012
November 14, 2012**
December 19, 2012**

\*\*Changed due to holiday  
Publish: December 11, 2011

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# Ex-staffers recall glory days of Wayne County General

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

Kim Keener remembers precisely what she was doing when her mother Barbara called and asked her to come to work. She was watching TV.

"My mother calls and tells me to put a uniform on and get over here, we need help," Keener said. "At the end of the shift, the supervisor asked if I could come back and work the next night. After the second night, she asked if I wanted a job. After the third night, I filled out the paperwork. I'd only been a nurse a year."

Here was the former Wayne County General Hospital, where Barbara Keener, a Garden City resident, was charge nurse in the emergency room. Her daughter worked as a floater at Sinai Hospital.

Kim Keener said she "backed into that job" at the hospital in March 1983, just a year before the county closed the hospital.

"For a brief time, it was the best job I ever had. I learned so much," she said.

The two women were at Café Marquette in the William D. Ford Career Technical Center last week to visit with former WCGH employees who gather every December for a reunion. The event was started by Dennis Abraham, Calvin Sailor and Nancy Rowles shortly after Wayne County sold the hospital to Southwest General Hospital in 1984.

Abraham started with the hospital in 1968 and was working in inpatient billing. When it closed,



Nancy Roggero of Westland visits with Pat Ibbotson, also of Westland. Ibbotson and Dennis Abraham help organize the annual reunion.

he went to work in the county treasurer's office. He supervised the mail department and finished with accounts receivable when he retired.

"I'd get the documents and proof so patients could be discharged," the Westland resident said. "I had a degree in marketing and I'd look at my (county) pin and my ring and tried to figure out what the most important thing was... the ring won. I retired with 24 years."

"Dennis would take his time while the family was breathing down our necks," added Beth McClure, who started at the hospital right out of nursing school that same year. She started working on 4 North, the medical/surgical floor, and floated between the emergency room, intensive care and nursery before finally landing in pediatrics.



Russell Forbush and Josephine Montgomery of Westland were among those attending the Wayne County General Hospital employees reunion. She was a triage clerk in the hospital's emergency room.

"We were all family, everybody helped everybody," she said. "We didn't need a reason to party, we

didn't need a holiday." The Milford resident was among the staff that stayed on to work for the hospital, renamed the Westland Medical Cen-

ter after the sale in 1984, but left a few months later to work for the Visiting Nurses Association. "You'd open the curtains and see people in line out-

side waiting for your job," she said. "It was so disheartening because we'd done such a good job."

### Other jobs

Many of the nurses went on to other jobs with the county. Those with degrees could work in the health department. Some went to work at the jails like Barbara Keener, who after 20 years as the charge nurse in the ER moved over to the "junior jail," the county youth home.

"Fran O'Neill talked me into going to the county," Barbara Keener said. "I was working at Garden City Hospital at the time. I signed on for the newborn nursery and ended up in the ER."

Her daughter stayed with Southwest General and was there when Oakwood bought the hospital. She was there when it

Please see REUNION, A7

Blue Care Network of Michigan announces open enrollment for its non group product:

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**CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**

On Thursday, Dec 29, various items of the City Westland, Special Investigations Unit, will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, Belleville, MI, County of Wayne, at approx. 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

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8975905	1997	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	1G2WP12K9VP214889

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be previewed on Wednesday, December 28th, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Terms and Conditions will be applicable to any item sold, registration fees may apply.

Publish: December 11, 2011

**PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY SEMINAR**

**Dr. Greg Kramer, DC** is holding a **Peripheral Neuropathy Seminar** at the Livonia Charlestown Office Center 34441 Eight Mile Rd. • Suite 116

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The reunion attracted former hospital employees Lilly Ammons of Westland and Ida Hendricks of Inkster.

## REUNION

Continued from page A6

closed the medical facility on October 1990 and turned it into a mental health facility.

"I worked in the ER until it closed," said the Inkster resident, who now works at Heritage Hospital in Taylor. "When it closed, I packed up the supplies and turned out the lights and went upstairs to work in mental health."

At the time Kim Keener started at WCGH, she was married, which was a good thing. She wasn't permitted to tell anyone they were related.

"My name was Clark and I called her Keener," she said. "Arlene Betki said it was a waste of time working in the ER. She said she'd have in ICU, you have to work ICU to be a good nurse."

"She couldn't because I already had my hooks in her," her mother said. Having a mother who worked in the ER at the



Yvonne Bond of Inkster was among guests at the reunion.

county hospital made "growing up hard," according to Kim Keener.

"My mom knew every police officer, every sheriff and ambulance driver in the county, you got away with zip," she said. "They all went to the ER and they all knew her."

### Sharing stories

The group shared stories and caught up on former colleagues. There was also talk about the time Pauline Hampton's husband walked into the overflow room for the ER and found that "there was still some

life in one of the bodies."

"He came out and said someone's alive in there," she said. "They'd already pronounced him (dead). They had to call the doctor back."

Hampton, a Wayne resident, started at the hospital when it opened in 1962 and "worked there until Mr. Lucas (County Executive William Lucas) closed it." She worked in pediatrics and the ICU nursery and her last two years in endoscopy. It was the ICU nursery she loved the most "because they were sick babies and I wanted to help them get well."

"I went from birth to death at that hospital," she said. "It was nice to work there because everyone seemed like family."

Jane Vinson agreed. "I was there 22 years, I came with the hospital and when it closed, I left," the Garden City resident said. "I would have worked there forever. It was a good place to work."

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# Local heating contractors give free furnace inspections

Local heating contractors are doing their part to ensure that seniors and homeowners with limited incomes get free furnace inspections and tune-ups.

The Southeast Michigan Chapter of the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (SEMIACCA) celebrated its 25th year of "Al Keats Day - Project Heat" on Dec. 3.

Approximately 50 homeowners in Livonia and surrounding communities had their furnaces inspected and tuned up for free - and all received free carbon monoxide detectors, too.

"This is our way of giving back to our citizens who might not normally be able to afford a furnace check-up," said Craig Jones, co-owner of



Technicians from the 13 participating heating and air conditioning contractors: Air Temp Services (Redford), Airtronic (Redford), A to Z Total Comfort (Dearborn Heights), Dearborn Heating & Cooling (Dearborn), Diversified Heating & Cooling Inc. (Farmington Hills), Erv Ehlers Co. (Livonia), Family Heating & Cooling (Garden City), National Heating (Detroit), Reckinger Heating & Cooling (Dearborn), Royal Oak Heating & Cooling (Royal Oak), Slasor Heating & Cooling (Livonia) and Squeakey Clean Ducts (Canton).

Slasor Heating of Livonia and president of SEMIACCA. "We all put on our Santa hats and got into

the Christmas spirit." Homeowner Ray Summers of Livonia was happy to see the crew from

Slasor pull up to his home. "Slasor replaced my furnace last year, and I don't usually get annu-

al inspections," he said. "I'm glad they inspected last year because they found a cracked heat

exchanger."

Not only have the SEMIACCA contractors serviced more than 1,250 furnaces during the 25-year program, they have also replaced 60 furnaces that were in poor condition and needed replacing - free of charge.

Their labor was donated and parts and equipment were supplied for free to homeowners through local heating and cooling distributors.

All seniors participating in the program are referrals from local Community Senior's Coordinators and from the Area Agency on Aging for Wayne and Oakland Counties. For more information on SEMIACCA, visit [www.semiacca.org](http://www.semiacca.org) or call (734) 266-5475.

# CDs make sense to park investment money short term

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

**Q:** Dear Rick: After being married for 12 years, I recently became divorced. In addition to the house, which is paid off, I received about \$150,000 in cash. My divorce attorney, who I'm not thrilled with, recommended that I talk to his friend, a financial adviser. He was very aggressive and recommended that I put the entire amount into a variable annuity. I have read your columns enough to know that this is not the way to go. However, I'm not sure how I should invest this money. At this point I'm more focused on trying to get my life together, so I'm not sure what I should do. I work, have a 401(k) plan and my salary more than covers my living expenses. To be honest, I just don't want to think about the money at this point in time. What would you suggest?

**A:** I've always been a



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

believer that when it comes to investing, you need to focus on your goals and objectives. In other words, what are you looking for from the money?

Is this money for your retirement, which may be years down the road, or is it something shorter term?

Since you don't know what you want from this money and you do not have the energy to deal with it, my recommendation would be to invest the money short term, such as in a CD. I recognize that CDs aren't paying that much, however, the key is not the return,

but rather that you are buying time until you can think clearly and define your goals with this money. After all, since you were married for a considerable amount of time, it does take some time to adjust to your new life and get your thoughts together. Therefore, I believe a CD makes sense for you.

In today's world, certificates of deposits that you get through banks or credit unions are not paying great rates of return. However, there are ways to at least get a little better rate of return. Most people are under the misconception that all CDs pay the same - that is not true. You can shop CDs around the country in order to get better rates of return. One caveat to be considered is that whenever you invest in CDs, you must always make sure

they are federally insured. No matter what the return is, it is not worth it to invest in a non-federally insured CD.

In addition, with interest rates as low as they are, it doesn't make sense to invest in long-term CDs. In your particular situation, I recommend either a three-month or six-month CD. This will allow you to have some time to get your thoughts together so you can re-invest the money wisely.

When shopping for CDs, in addition to contacting your local bank, you should also consider credit unions. Credit unions tend to have more competitive rates than local banks. Credit unions are owned and operated for the benefit of their members. You should also consider out-of-state banks. A website I've recommend-

ed in the past to help shop CD rates around the country is [www.bankrate.com](http://www.bankrate.com).


One of the biggest mistakes investors make is that they invest before they've had time to think about what they want from their money. When investors are either pressured to make a decision or make a decision before they are ready, inevitably they make the wrong decision. Good investors take their time, don't get pressured into anything and only invest when they are ready. Therefore, when considering that you have recently gone through a life-changing event, it is only natural that it will take some time before your mind clears and you're able to make the right decision.

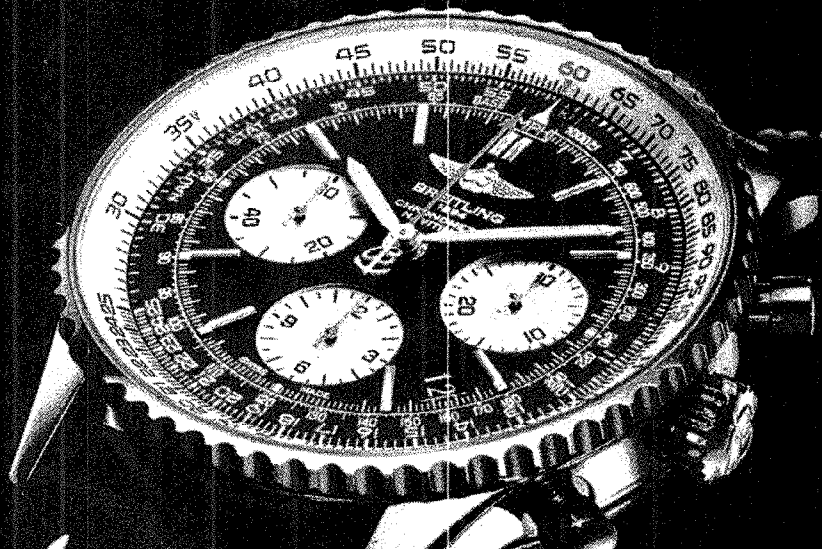
I recognize many people in the financial industry work on commissions and

their goal is to sell more. Those are the people that you must avoid. Inevitably, their only concern is the sale.

Good financial advisers are more concerned with making sure an investor has a portfolio that not only fits their needs, but one that they are comfortable with. Taking your time and investing when you're ready is always a smart move. Rushing into an investment or being pressured into doing something that you're not comfortable with will always lead to bad results. 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).





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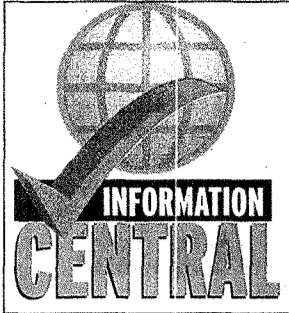


# National Cocoa Day is a sweet time

Although its origin is unknown, National Cocoa Day is celebrated annually on Dec. 13 across the United States.

Cocoa is the seed from the cacao tree. Cocoa seeds are bitter and have to be fermented in order to develop flavor. They are then ground up to produce dry cocoa powder and cocoa butter, which are used to make chocolate. The sweet chocolate we know today is made with cocoa solids, fat such as cocoa butter, and sugar.

Many people celebrate National Cocoa Day by drinking hot cocoa. It is believed that the first form of hot cocoa was developed by the Mayas about 2,000 years ago, and by 1400 AD a cocoa beverage was an essential part of Aztec culture. The chocolate drink, called xocolatl was a bitter, spiced drink, and it wasn't until the 17th century that sweet-tasting hot chocolate was developed. Hot chocolate was introduced to North America by the 1700s.



It wasn't until 1900 that Americans enjoyed the first Hershey's Milk Chocolate Bar. The Hershey's Kiss was introduced seven years later. By World War II, chocolate was so common that it was included as part of a soldier's K rations.

Enjoy some hot cocoa or chocolate today by making your own tasty drinks or snacks with recipes found in *Making Your Own Gourmet Chocolate Drinks: Hot Drinks, Cold Drinks, Sodas, Floats, Shakes, and More!* by Matthew Tekulsky, *Just Chocolate: Rich and Luscious Recipes for Cakes, Biscuits, Desserts and Treats* by Kathryn Hawkins or *Chocolate Chocolate* by Lisa Yock-

elson.

If you'd rather read about chocolate try *Chocolat: A Novel* by Joanne Harris or JoAnna Carl's *Chocoholic Mysteries Series*. Kids can learn more about chocolate with *Chocolate* by Claire Llewellyn or *The Story of Chocolate* by Caryn J. Polin, or for something fun, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Ronald Dahl. The library also has movies highlighting chocolate, such as *Chocolat* (2001), *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (2005), and *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* (1971).

Give us a call at (734) 326-6123, check the online catalog at catalog.westlandlibrary.org or stop by the library to learn more.

### HIGHLIGHTED ACTIVITIES

**Sunday Afternoon Holiday Music Series: 3 p.m.**

**Dec. 11, 'Nique LoveRhodes**

Join us for our second concert of the season with hip hop artist, 'Nique LoveRhodes. 'Nique brings her own positive spin to this genre known for its verbal dexterity. Note: this concert has a later 3 p.m. start time. Join us and get your groove on! No sign up necessary.

**Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting: 2 p.m. Dec. 13**

The Friends of the Library is an independent group of local residents and library users that helps support and promote the Library and its mission. They plan book sales and other fundraising activities for the library.

**Crafty Gifts: Glass Etching, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 13**

Turn ordinary glass into an extraordinary present. We'll show you how to etch wintry designs onto

water glasses to make a personalized gift. Seating limited, registration required.

**Library Board of Trustees Meeting: 7 p.m. Dec. 14**

The Library Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month the Library's meeting room. Board meetings are open to the general public.

**Friday Night Dinner and a Movie: 6 p.m. Dec. 16**

Need to relax during the holiday season? How about letting us provide the food and entertainment with a dinner and a movie? Tonight's dinner will be provided by Toarmina's Pizza and will get you pizza (pepperoni or cheese, cheesy bread, salad, dessert, and soft drinks). Cost is \$5 for dinner. Tonight's movie is *Water for Elephants*. A veterinary student abandons his studies and joins

a traveling circus as their vet, only to fall in love with one of the performers. This movie is rated PG-13. Doors for dinner attendees open at 5:45 p.m. Doors for movie-only attendees open at 7 p.m. Snacks and refreshments are served. Trivia and prizes before the movie.

**Sunday Afternoon Holiday Music Series: 2 p.m. Dec. 18** Kim Waldorf, harpist

Get away from the shopping blitz and join us for the last of our Winter Concerts as harpist Kim Waldorf performs soothing holiday music for young and old. No sign up necessary.

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

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**Dr. Cassius Drake**  
Dr. Cassius Drake, ER Medical Director, Henry Ford Center for Health Services, recently spoke with staff about compassion as the core of service.

**Compassion plays a major role in physical healing.** "I was terrible at holding hands when I began treating patients," admitted Drake. That all changed when he began thinking about the spiritual side of healing and vowed to start each day by saying, "Today I am here to serve, to listen and care. There's a magic that can happen when you decide to serve." Charles Dunn, Four Seasons owner, applauded his staff for listening and acting with a compassionate heart. "Our staff helps people heal every day. Just taking one extra step can make the difference."

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## Pull the plug on holiday stress

It's the start of the holiday season and its special celebrations. But that may also mean dealing with an extra serving of stress — enough to make you sick. Maybe the kids are hollering about visiting Santa or Christmas presents that exceed your budget. Or it's your turn to host Christmas dinner with the in-laws, and just thinking about it makes your stomach churn.



O'Dwyer

Whatever it is that's "stressing you out," therapist Dr. Phil O'Dwyer of Garden City Hospital said it's important for people to learn how to pull the plug on pressure.

For three decades, Dr. O'Dwyer has counseled patients about dealing with stress. When the brain senses a threat, it floods your body with hormones, particularly adrenalin and cortisol. These hormones increase your heart rate and blood pressure, as well as cause glucose levels to rise. One result — increased energy or a jittery feeling.

According to O'Dwyer,

the "fight or flight" response is the body's defense mechanism to a potential threat. If you don't actually do something, the stress reaction remains and over time frequent episodes may literally make you sick.

What are signs that anxiety has affected your health?

"You may experience excessive tiredness, muscle aches, decreased appetite and headaches," said O'Dwyer. Under pressure, others may consume alcohol excessively or binge on food.

Episodes of broken sleep and irritability may also be signals that something is wrong. Longer-term stress can result in more serious illnesses including bowel problems, colitis and infections.

Some people have a genetic predisposition towards anxiety. These individuals may be more vulnerable to stress than others. But stress can also be learned. It's important to understand what you can and can't control.

"If we believe something is catastrophic, then it will become catastrophic and we will react accordingly," said

O'Dwyer. "This is internal stress. External stress comes from the expectations others place on us, the daily demands of life, jobs, family and friends."

What's the solution? You can do more about internal stress because you're in charge of your thoughts.

"Be optimistic and keep the big picture in mind," O'Dwyer said. "Focus on what you can do, not what you can't do."

With the holiday season approaching, we often create our own anxiety by expecting perfection.

"Remember, everything in life isn't always going to turn out perfect," said O'Dwyer, "so don't sweat the small stuff."

If you are experiencing stress and would like to speak with someone, call Garden City Hospital's Center for Counseling at (734) 458-3395.

**Dr. Phil O'Dwyer** is an adjunct professor of counseling at Oakland University and is clinical director of Brookfield Clinics. He provides consultation and training to national, state and local organizations. He has been in clinical practice since 1982 and specializes in treating persons with addictive disorders and general mental health issues.

## Tickets available for Goodfellows benefit

There's still time to purchase tickets for the Party Animal Christmas Party that benefits the Garden City Goodfellows.

"This is the first year that we are trying something like this," said Barb

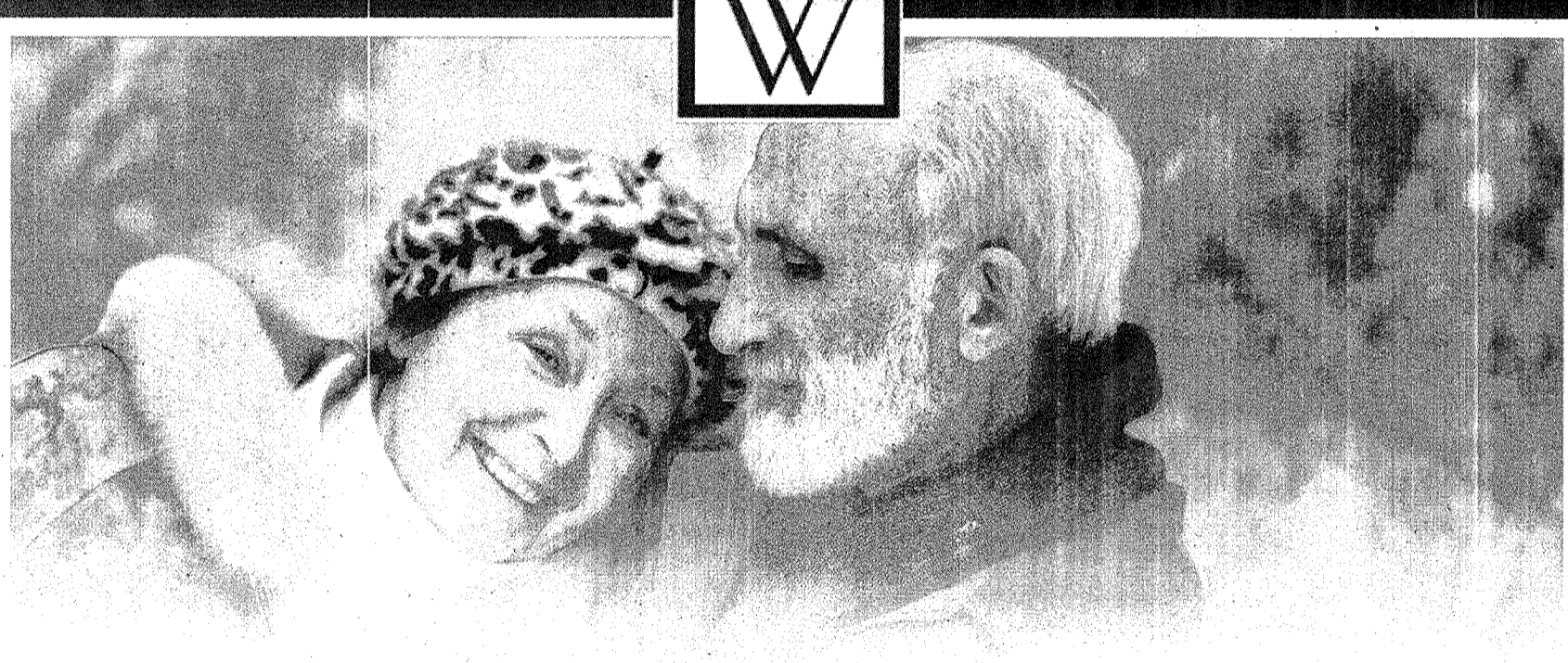
Main, a manager. "We want to make sure that no child goes without a Christmas."

The party is from 6-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16 at Joy Manor located at 28999 Joy in Westland.

The cost is \$39 per person. The night will include a buffet dinner with all of the holiday trimmings, a disc jockey to rock the dance floor, beverages, dessert, giveaways, raffles for a chance to win some of the Party Animal tours and a 50/50 raffle to raise money for the Goodfellows.

For more information, call Main or Jerry Thorne at Party Animal Travel at (734) 525-9777.

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# Museum store offers one-of-kind shopping

By Sue Buck  
Observer Staff Writer

Holiday shoppers can find many one-of-a-kind, inexpensive items at the quaint Lathers General Store located inside of the Garden City Historical Museum.

Located on Merriman, north of Ford, the store has a bevy of donated, new items, thanks to the Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum. Different members donate the items they purchase for resale at the store, which is somewhat of a well-kept secret with no published advertisements.

"A lot of them are pretty cheap, 50 cents," said Mark Hammar, president of the Friends group. "We have regular customers who come in and purchase things from time to time."

The revenue helps to support the Straight Farmhouse. The holiday products include dolls, jewelry, Santas, scarf and hat sets, ornaments, bead garland, candles, mugs, serving trays, plates, wooden reindeer and snowmen and stocking stuffers.

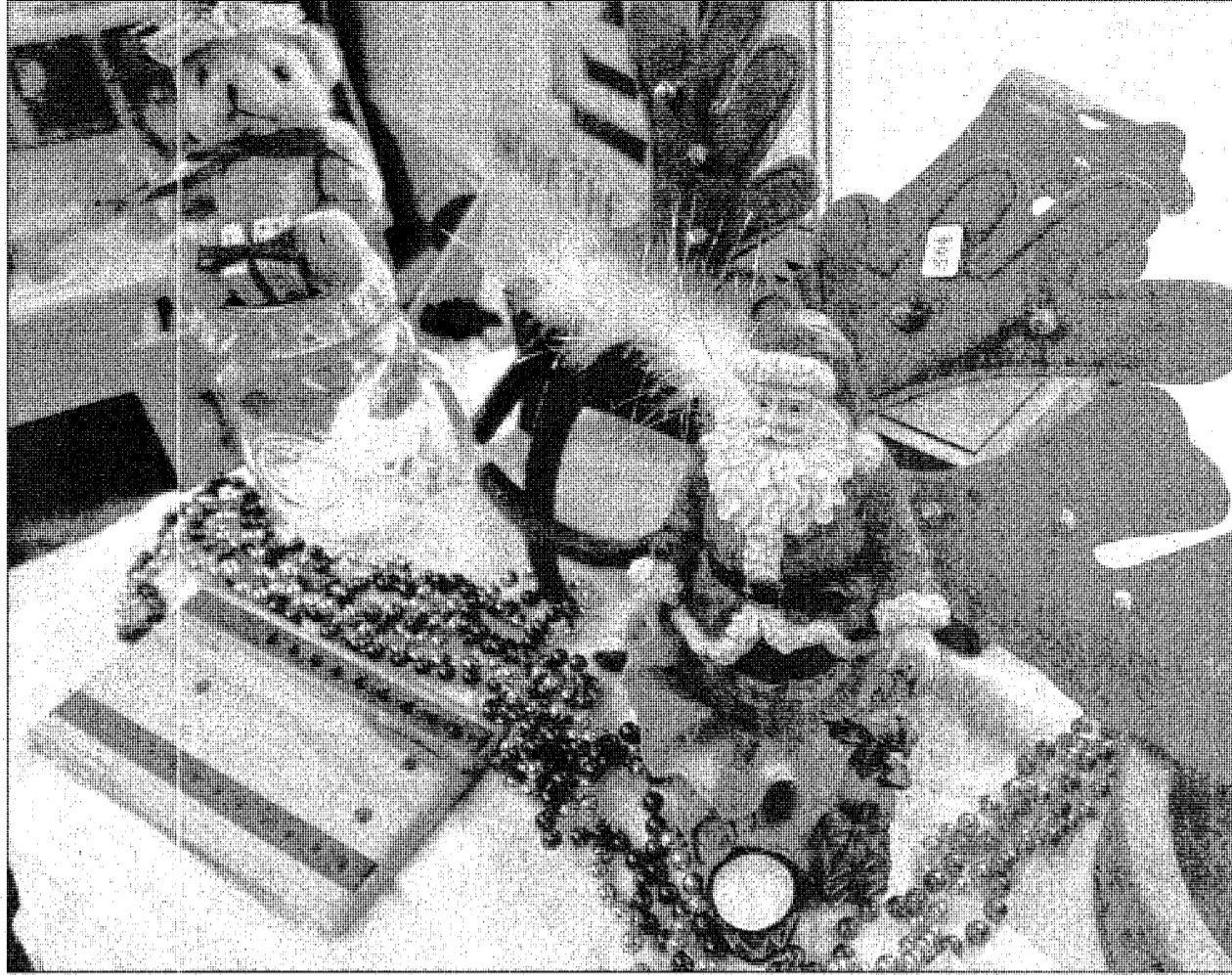
"A lot of things that you find in a Hallmark store, you can find here at half the price," Hammar said.

There are also all occasion greeting cards priced at \$2 each.

When Misty's Hallmark Shop at Sheridan Square went out of business, they also donated items to the store.

"We have a little bit of everything in here," Hammar said.

Vacuum-packed products like jams and pickled asparagus spears are available along with old-fashioned penny can-

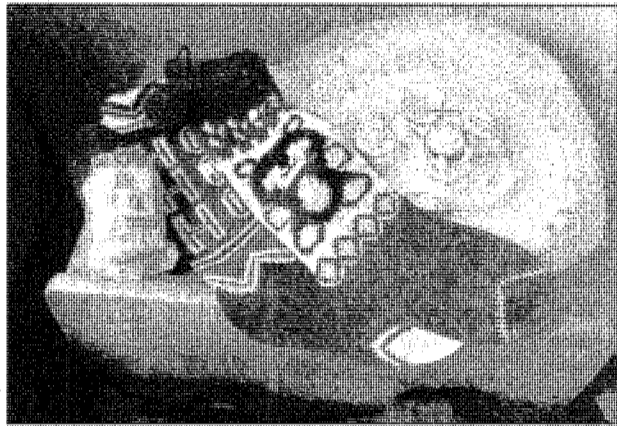


Many one-of-a-kind holiday items are available for sale at the Lathers General Store located inside of the Garden City Historical Museum on Merriman, north of Ford.

dy sticks. Pottery created by area artist Judy Buresh also line the shelves.

"We hope to increase our inventory," Hammar said. "Ideally, we would like to be like the General Store that you see in the Cracker Barrel restaurants. It would be nice to be able to stock to that point and have enough foot traffic to move the merchandise."

The Lathers General Store is modeled after a real-life store in the late 1800s. The Lathers family had a general store in Perrinville, which was in the area of Warren Road north to Ann Arbor Trail



Christmas stockings and stocking stuffers are among items available for the holiday season.

and the Warren Road and Cowan area which is now part of Westland. Lathers was one of the

original founders of Garden City, and the store was run by John Lathers' son, Robert. A post office

in the store was where residents got their mail. Former Garden City Postmaster John Shivnen recreated his post office at the farmhouse.

Volunteers Carol Hill, Rose Freeman and Linda Matthews also have organized the special Christmas exhibit of trees and antique dolls in the main parlor.

"There's 14 trees in here we spent five hours decorating," said Hill.

There are also Church Pew Babies, made from handkerchiefs. Children could be placated when a parent pulled out a handkerchief and fashioned a doll out of it.

"When preaching was loud and long, pews were hard and children kicked their feet," Hammar said. "The father would tie a hanky in a knot and occupy the child."

Church Pew Babies became popular during the Civil War when supplies for toys were hard to come by. Mothers would use a handkerchief to create dolls for their young children. The soft material was not only safe for babies to play with, the dolls also did not make noise in church if they hit a pew or the floor.

The new second-floor resource room is now open to the public. It was created from a former unused bathroom.

Garden City resident and historian Jack Kerstetter helped to design the shelves with Marshall Hill, Carol's husband, and Joe Street, her son-in-law, both Garden City residents, who built the shelves.

"There's a lot of family information in that room," said volunteer Bill Brooks. "Anybody who wants to come by can pull a book out, have a seat and use this desk."

Carol Hill believes the resource room holds more historical information than the Garden City Public Library.

It also has class pictures from the high school.

"All of us volunteers live and breathe Garden City here," Hill said.

The Lathers General Store and museum are open from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays. Call (734) 838-0650 for more information or visit [www.sfonline.org](http://www.sfonline.org).

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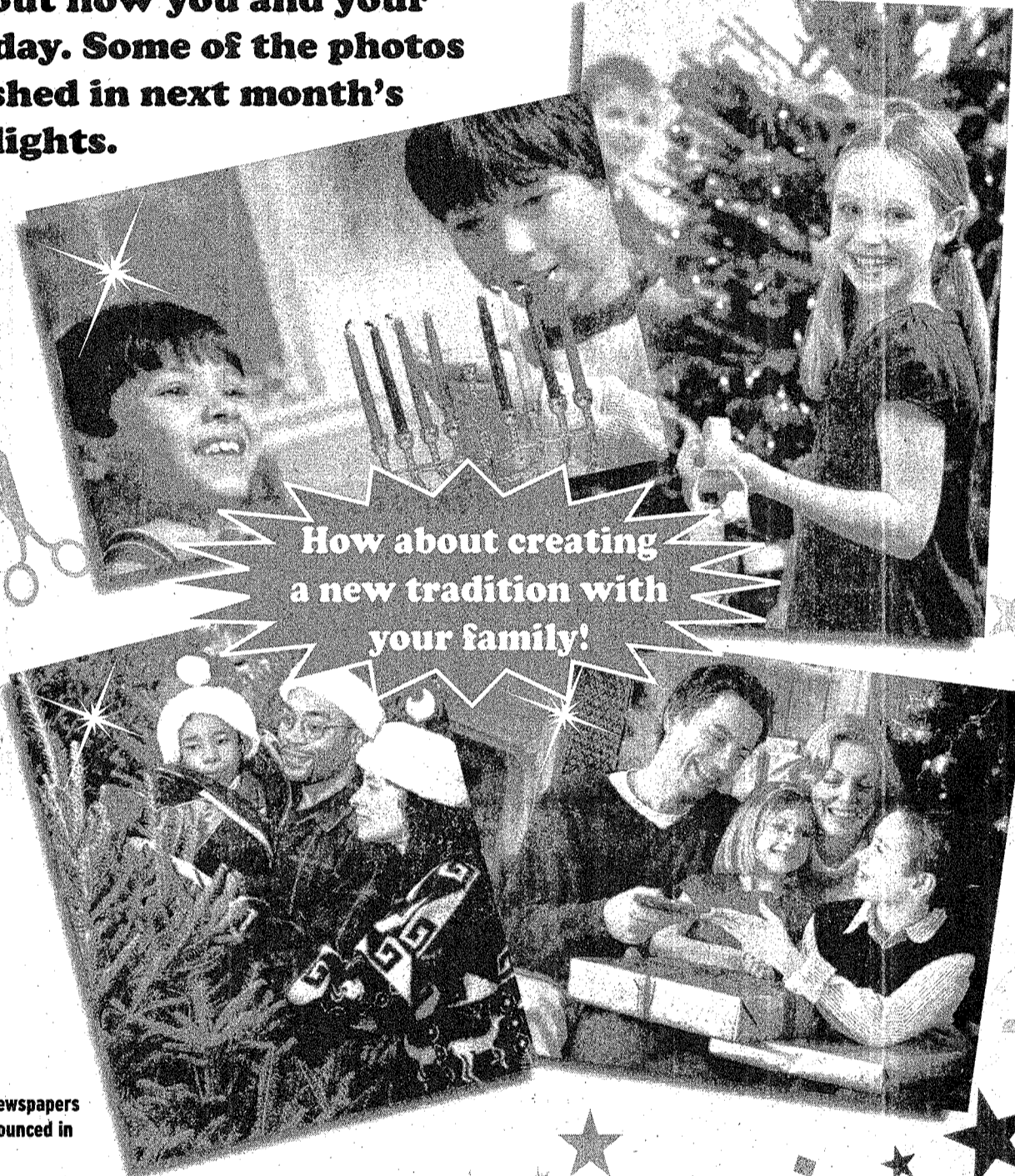
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**Deadline for submissions: 12/28/2011**

All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by close of the business day on Dec. 28th. Winners to be announced in the January Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

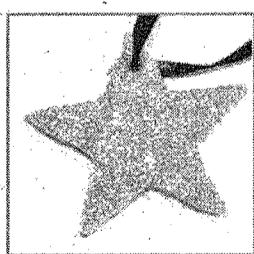
**Scoop's Craft Corner:**

Want to make a special ornament for your Christmas tree? It is super easy and lots of fun. All you need is salt, flour, water, vegetable oil, a rolling pin, a cookie sheet, decorations, some help from your parents and lots of imagination.

**Materials Needed:**  
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**Instructions:**  
 Mix together flour and salt. Add the oil and then slowly add the water and stir until you get a nice clay consistency. Once completely mixed, make into the desired shapes. Bake in a 250 degree oven for approximately 1 hour. This will vary depending on how thick your creations are. One hint, do not make shapes too thick or they will crack with baking.

Before star is placed in the oven, make a hole for the ribbon using the end of a straw. Once the star is out of the oven and cooled, use your creativity. Use colorful ribbon to hang your new ornament. Have FUN!




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# Foodies rate annual Taste Fest as 'great'

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

Attending her first Holiday Taste Fest, Rose Duran summed up her experience in one word — fabulous.

"Everything was so good. I especially enjoyed the salad from Olympic Coney Island and the desserts from the (William D. Ford Career Technical Center) culinary arts program," said Duran. "And the cheese ravioli from Marvaso's. It was all good, what can I say."

Duran attended the annual event at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland with family and friends, including her sister, Irene Klein of Garden City.

"I've been before. I like the sociability. It's a great night, a fun night," said Klein. "I like the idea of eating from all the different restaurants although I had been to most of them. They're restaurants I go to anyway."

One new food Klein sampled was from Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe which was serving a variety of cupcakes. "I'm full up to here," said Duran, holding her hand up to her neck. "Dessert put me over."

For the 13th annual Taste Fest hosted by the Westland Chamber of Commerce, 300 guests sampled food and beverages from 16 vendors ranging from national chains like Max and Erma's and Red Robin to local family-owned businesses like Knox Restaurant & Catering and Olympic Coney Island. Some were returning participants while others were first-



Westland residents Linda and Jeff Long (center) were among those who gathered to sample area restaurants and socialize at Taste Fest held at the Hellenic Cultural Center.



Cindy Cottrell samples the array of desserts offered by students from the William D. Ford Career and Technical Center culinary arts program.

timers. "Last year was our first year and we absolutely got a great response. We've had a lot of customers come in (to the restaurant)

from last year," said Daryen Knox of Knox Restaurant & Catering, which was serving greens, macaroni and cheese and corn bread. "Some customers have

never had soul food before. We have a variety of things like catfish, barbecued ribs and smothered pork chops."

Located at a nearby table, Mary Denning said she was back at Taste Fest after having missed the 2010 event due to a scheduling conflict. A longtime well-known Westland business, Denning said people come looking for her cupcakes which included bumpy cake, Boston cream, banana split, lemon and chocolate.

This was the first year Olympic Coney Island participated in Taste Fest serving lemon rice

soup, rice pudding, salad topped with chicken or gyro meat and grilled pita bread.

"When (Westland Chamber of Commerce President) Brookellen (Swope) approached us, we jumped on it," said Matt Tyranski, who works with father-in-law Bill Skotamis and other family members at the restaurant. "What a great way to show off our food and give back to the community."

Dressed in a seasonally appropriate red and green elf hat, Westland Biggby Coffee owner Mo Elfakir was another first-time participant in Taste Fest. Along

with coffee, ice caramel marble drinks, scones and doughnut holes, Elfakir was also providing guests with free drink coupons.

"It seems like we're getting a lot of really good response," he said.

While guests enjoyed food from area restaurants, there was also a live performance by Elvis embodied by Russ Weathers. There was a raffle and silent auction with part of the proceeds from the event going to the Joseph F. Benyo Scholarship Fund.

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Member FDIC

**Listings for the Community Calendar** can be submitted by e-mail at [smason@hometownlife.com](mailto: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**

**HOCKEY GAME**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17  
**Location:** Wayne Ice Rink, Howe at Annapolis, Wayne  
**Details:** The Garden City Gold Wings and the Wayne Firebirds is holding its second annual Winter Classic charity hockey game in honor of their late classmate late Robby Spellman. Spellman passed away too soon, a week after his high school graduation in 2010. WOF was created by Anthony Lietz to bring the game of hockey together between these two teams and to remember a great friend. This event will be a time to spend with friends and family and help raise funds to find a cure for children with cerebral palsy and also raise funds for kids that can't afford to play hockey.  
**Contact:** Cynthia Lietz at anotherday\_08@yahoo.com

**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](http://www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com) or call (734) 722-3660

**FOR YOUR HEALTH**

**W-W NAMI**

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

**Location:** St. Johns Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland  
**Details:** The Wayne-Westland affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) provides support and information for individuals and families dealing with mental illness.

**SAFE PLACE**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursdays  
**Location:** Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.  
**Details:** A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program.  
**Contact:** Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995

**ADULT DAY SERVICES**

**Time/Date:** 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays  
**Location:** 570 S Main St., Plymouth MI  
**Detail:** A structured week-day alternative for adults in need of supervision. Program provides activities and discussions to meet social, recreational and personal needs unique to dependent individuals  
**Contact:** Laurie Krause at [laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com](mailto:laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com) and (734) 956-2600

**METRO FIBROMYALGIA**

**Time/Date:** 1-3 p.m. Second and fourth Thursday of each month  
**Location:** Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, just west of Ford in Garden City  
**Details:** The first meeting has a speaker, the second meeting is open to discuss living with our fibromyalgia.  
**Contact:** Lucy at (734) 462-1768, [www.MetroFibro-Group.com](http://www.MetroFibro-Group.com)

**MENOPAUSE & MORE**

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month  
**Location:** Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** A support group for women, no registration is necessary, and the group

is free of charge.  
**Contact:** (734) 655-1100  
**COUNTERPOINT**  
**Details:** Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families.  
**Contact:** (734) 563-5005  
**TOUGHLOVE**  
**Time/Date:** 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays  
**Location:** Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington, Livonia.  
**Details:** Support group, newcomers welcome.  
**Contact:** (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748

**LIFECARE**

**Time/Date:** 7-9:15 p.m. Thursdays  
**Location:** 570 S. Main St., Plymouth  
**Details:** LifeCare is a care/support/recovery groups for everyone facing life's challenges.  
**Contact:** Lillian Easterly-Smith at [info.lifecarecc@gmail.com](mailto:info.lifecarecc@gmail.com) or (734) 956-2109  
**Location:** Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.

**EDUCATION**

**WILLOW CREEK**  
**Location:** 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland  
**Details:** Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool offers a Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4-year programs.  
**Contact:** (734) 326-0078

**ST. DAMIAN**

**Location:** 29891 Joy, Westland  
**Details:** St. Damian Catholic School offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8.  
**Contact:** (734) 427-1680, [www.stdamian.com](http://www.stdamian.com).

**YWCA PRESCHOOL**

**Details:** The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 years old at no cost to

most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available.  
**Contact:** (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10

**ORGANIZATIONS**

**FRIENDS OF ELOISE**

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

**WESTLAND ROTARY**

**Time/Date:** 12:15 p.m. Thursdays  
**Location:** Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland  
**Details:** Community Service programs and planning. Catered lunch; visitors welcome. The group also has an evening meeting the second Thursday of the month. Check [www.westlandrotary.com](http://www.westlandrotary.com) for time and place of the evening meeting.  
**Contact:** Jeff at (734) 261-5010

**AMERICAN LEGION**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month  
**Location:** Harris-Kehrer VFW Post, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland  
**Details:** American Legion Westland Post 251 meets at the VFW hall the first Tuesday of each month. The post welcomes all veterans male and female who have been honorably discharged.  
**Contact:** Bill Acton at (734) 326-2607, Ron Nickels at (734) 455-3415 or visit the website at [www.post251.org](http://www.post251.org).

**LIONS CLUB**

**Time/Date:** 11:45 a.m. the second Monday of the month and at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month  
**Location:** Big Boy Restaurant at Wayne Road and

Hunter in Westland.  
**Details:** The Westland Lions Club holds lunch and dinner meetings on Mondays.  
**Contact:** For more information, call Debbie Dayton at (734) 721-4216.

**WRITING GROUP**

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

**TOASTMASTERS**

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

**FISH DIAL-A-RIDE**

**Details:** Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers and phone messengers. Volunteer drivers, using their own vehicles, designate days, times, and areas they are willing to drive. Volunteer phone

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

**EARTH ANGELS**


**Details:** Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/performance non-profit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.  
**Contact:** [www.earthangel-sontour.org](http://www.earthangel-sontour.org) or by e-mail to [eangel1986@comcast.net](mailto:eangel1986@comcast.net)

**TOPS 869**

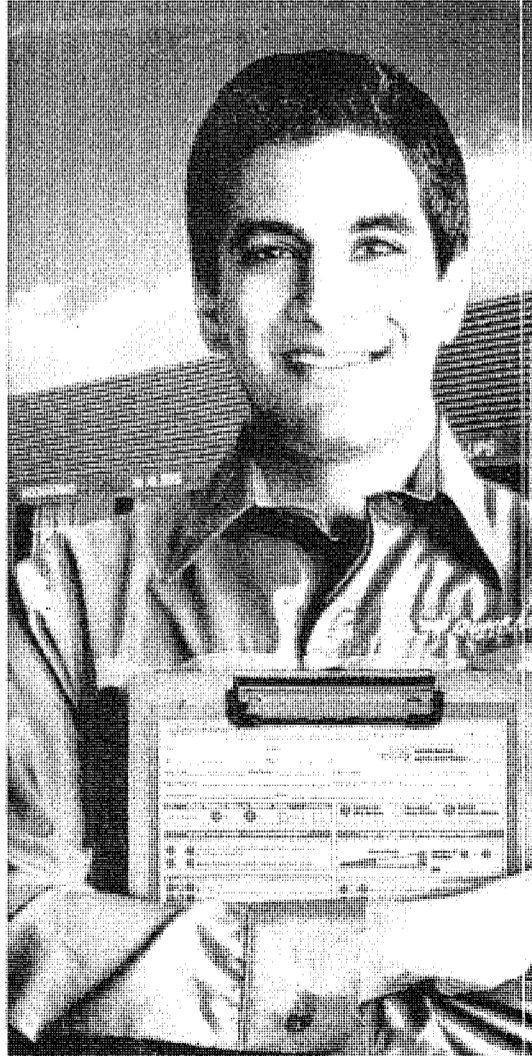
**Time/Date:** Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.  
**Location:** Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.  
**Details:** The group is for people age 18 and older.  
**Contact:** The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

**TOPS M128**

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



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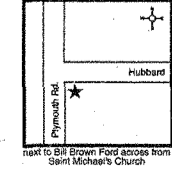
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# Principal placed on leave alleges civil rights violations at school

**By Karen Smith**  
Observer Staff Writer

The husband of a Livonia elementary school principal told the Livonia school board last week that administrators want his wife's contract terminated because she was working to resolve civil rights violations of children and parents at the school.

Jeff Cherry said admin-

istrators asked his wife, Heidi Frazer-Cherry, principal of Rosedale Elementary School, to clean out her office on Thursday, Dec. 8. She has been on paid administrative leave since Oct. 24.

He said he spoke at Monday's meeting to "get it on the public record." He said he works for the federal government as an engineer for the Environmental Protection Agency and the violations are

"very serious" and need resolution.

Frazer-Cherry was at the school board meeting, but did not address the board. However, in a telephone interview Tuesday she said she witnessed racial profiling and racist behavior by staff members at the school, which she said has a large minority population. She said she was told not to "discuss race in this district."

## LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Following Jeff Cherry's comments at the meeting, school board President Lynda Scheel said, "There are two sides to every story."

Superintendent Randy Liepa declined to discuss why Frazer-Cherry was placed on administrative leave, saying it was confidential. "We would do that for any employee,"

he said.

However, he said, many of the things that were said were "not accurate."

He said a "complete, thorough and objective investigation" has been completed, and the school board will possibly make a determination on the administration's recommendations towards the latter part of December.

Donna McDowell, administrator of communications for the district,

said one of the district's retired principals was assigned to take Frazer-Cherry's place after she was placed on leave. "Our focus has been on maintaining a welcoming and engaging learning environment at Rosedale Elementary School," she said. "While we work for a positive outcome to this situation, we maintain our primary focus on the children, staff and families at Rosedale Elementary."

## AROUND WESTLAND

### Poster contest

Youngsters have until 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, to enter their poster in the Westland Parks and Recreation Department's 18th annual "We Promise You a White Christmas" contest.

One family in Westland will definitely have a white Christmas. Even if there is no snow on the ground on Dec. 21, Parks and Rec will make sure the winner's house has a snow-covered yard. This contest is open to all elementary school children who live in Westland. All they have to do is draw a picture showing their house covered with snow on Christmas Day.

The winner will be announced and contacted on Dec. 20. If there is already snow on the ground, another prize will be awarded.

Drop off posters between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. daily at the Bailey Recreation Center or mail the poster to Poster Contest, Westland Parks and Recreation, 36651 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185.

### Surplus food

Eligible Westland residents north of Michigan Avenue can pick up their surplus federal food commodities for December 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey Road, south of Palmer.

Residents living south of Michigan Avenue should pick up their commodities from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the second Monday of each month at St. James United Methodist Church, which is located at 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt Roads. The phone number is (734) 729-1737.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers will pick up their food at Taylor Towers and must call their building manager for their day of distribution.

For the month of December, Tyson whole frozen chicken, frozen blueberries, egg noodles, green beans, peaches, yams and possible additional items will be distributed. For more information, call the Dorsey Center's surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366.

### 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](http://www.DowntownWayne.org) for details.

### Cookie Walk

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

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

### Tax preparers

The Accounting Aid Society seeks volunteers for the upcoming tax season to learn to prepare taxes and file credits for middle- to low-income families in southeast Michigan.

Accounting Aid Society estimates that it will need 674 volunteers who will help 20,613 families receive \$24.4 million in refunds and credits. Tax sites will be in community centers, libraries and other locations throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Livingston counties from January through April. Training includes tax law and tax computer software and is available at local colleges and universities, plus online.

For more information and to register, go to [www.accountingaidsociety.org](http://www.accountingaidsociety.org).

## Students find elevated nitrate levels

In October 2011, over 500 students monitored the water quality of the Rouge River as a part of the Rouge Education Project, a program facilitated by the Friends of the Rouge.

According to Friends of the Rouge officials, their data doesn't typically present anything too unusual or unexpected for this urban waterway. This year, however, the students from Inter-City Baptist High School of Allen Park and students from a biology class at the University of Michigan-Dearborn found something. Each group did testing at Ford Field in Dearborn off of Michigan Avenue on two separate occasions and in each case, they found a very high reading for nitrate. "Nitrate is naturally occurring in our environment and is usually found in small amounts in water," said Emily Hughes, Rouge Education Project Manager. "When

the students reported their findings, this caused concern and the staff of the Rouge Education Project reported the results to the Wayne County Department of the Public Services."

The WCDPS investigated the students' findings and did follow up testing along the lower branch of the Rouge River. They, too, found high nitrate readings at each location. This led the department to investigate potential sources of the nitrates and they did in fact narrow it down to some industrial sources that discharge into the Rouge River.

These industries, however, were not in violation of any permits because as it turned out, there are no federal regulations on the amount of nitrates that can be discharged into

the river, Hughes pointed out. Generally, an industries National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit specifies what discharges a company can emit into a river.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) was notified of the county and students findings and they are now taking these results into consideration.

"If it were not for the students doing this testing, no one would have known that this condition existed," Hughes said. "This situation exemplifies how student testing is not only educational, but also valuable in keeping our water bodies healthy."

For more information about the Rouge Education Project, you can visit [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org).

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### CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF ADOPTION

Please take notice that at its regular meeting of Monday, December 5, 2011, the City Council of the City of Garden City did adopt the following schedule.

#### 2012 - SCHEDULE OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday	January 9, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	January 16, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	January 23, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	February 6, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	February 20, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	February 27, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	March 5, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	March 12, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	March 19, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	April 2, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	April 16, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	April 30, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	May 7, 2011	Council Meeting
Monday	May 14, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	May 21, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	June 4, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	June 11, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	June 18, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	July 9, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	July 23, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	August 13, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	August 27, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	September 10, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	September 24, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	October 8, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	October 22, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	November 5, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	November 19, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	December 3, 2012	Council Meeting
Monday	December 17, 2012	Council Meeting

Publish: December 11, 2011

### CITY OF GARDEN CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

#### 2012 MEETING SCHEDULE

Regular meetings of the City of Garden City Planning Commission shall be held at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road on the second Thursday of each month. Below is the Planning Commission calendar for 2012.

Meeting Date
January 12, 2012
February 9, 2012
March 8, 2012
April 12, 2012
May 10, 2012
June 14, 2012
July 12, 2012
August 9, 2012
September 13, 2012
October 11, 2012
November 8, 2012
December 13, 2012

Publish: December 11, 2011

### \*\* ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNER \*\*

#### NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, December 19, 2011 at 6:55pm  
Council Chambers, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, MI 48135

A public hearing will be held to solicit comments, positive or negative, on the proposed special assessment roll regarding City-wide Street Lighting.

The assessment roll is available for viewing at the City Clerk's Office.

The assessment amount is the same for all improved parcels (\$37.30). This proposed assessment is to cover the costs of one fiscal year (11/12).

If you have any comments, please make them known to the City Council at the above-described meeting, or you may submit written comments to the City Clerk at the above address.

Publish: December 11, 2011

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When:

December 13, 2011

5:00pm-7:30pm

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- \* Arts and Crafts
- \* Milk and Cookies
- \* Drinks and Appetizers
- \* Reindeer Games

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Suburban Eye Care, P.C.

\*F.C.O.V.D. stands for a Fellow in College of Optometric Vision Development. In order to be a F.C.O.V.D. you have to complete post-graduate work and receive endorsements in • binocularly (two-eyed coordination) • perceptual issues • work with stroke and other closed head injury patients.

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Chin		\$600	\$300
Full Face		\$1,600	\$800
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Bikini		\$800	\$400
Brazilian		\$1,800	\$900
Full Legs		\$3,000	\$1,500
Lower Legs		\$1,000	\$500
Arms		\$1,200	\$600
Back		\$3,000	\$1,500
Stomach		\$3,000	\$1,500
Navel		\$300	\$150
Chest/nipples		\$600	\$300
Fingers/toes		\$200	\$100



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BOYS HOOPS

## Spartans overcome Chargers

Josh Campbell saves the day

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

It takes a lot to contain one Campbell on the Livonia Stevenson boys basketball team, but now there's another Campbell to contend with.

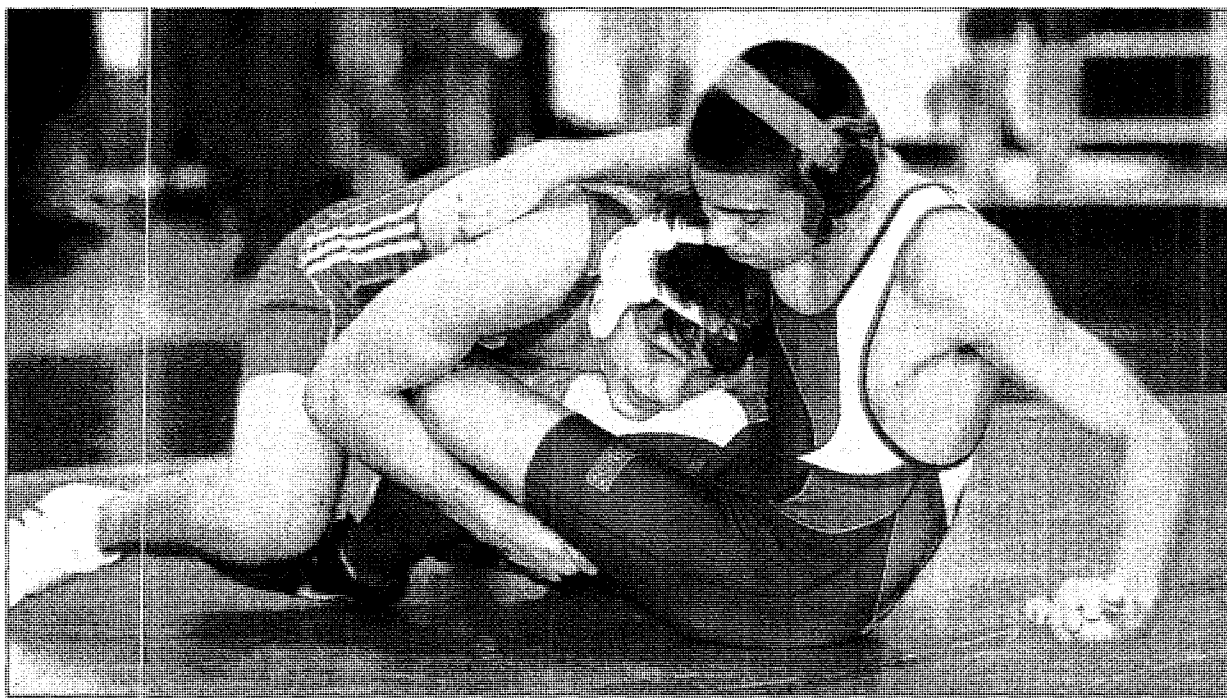
Livonia Churchill put the clamps on one of the area's top players in senior point guard Jonathan Campbell, but it was the play of junior guard Josh Campbell that proved to be the difference as the Spartans won their season opener Friday night on the road, 48-40.

Josh Campbell, making his varsity debut, finished with 11 points, including six in the decisive fourth quarter as Stevenson broke away from a 27-27 deadlock with a 21-13 spurt in the final eight minutes to earn the victory.

Jonathan Campbell and Austin Bumpus added 10 points apiece, while Vince Tomasi chipped in with nine.

"He's a gamer, he just makes plays on the floor," Stevenson first-year coach Brandon Sinawi said of Josh Campbell. "He's in the right spot at the right time offensively, defensively. And he's a hard-nosed player. Getting to the basket, getting tips on basketballs ... all the little things. It was all about Jonathan coming in, but he (Josh) stole the show late in the game, that's for

Please see SPARTANS, B4



Clarenceville's Aaron Bibik (left) won his first-round match over Franklin's Tyler Solnikowski en route to the 152-pound Livonia City title.

## Patriots 7-peat

Franklin pins down City mat crown

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

The number seven figured prominently in Franklin successfully defending its Livonia City Wrestling Tournament crown on Wednesday night.

The Patriots captured seven of the 14 weight classes en route to a team-high 196 points to earn a seventh consecutive team title under coach Dave Chiola.

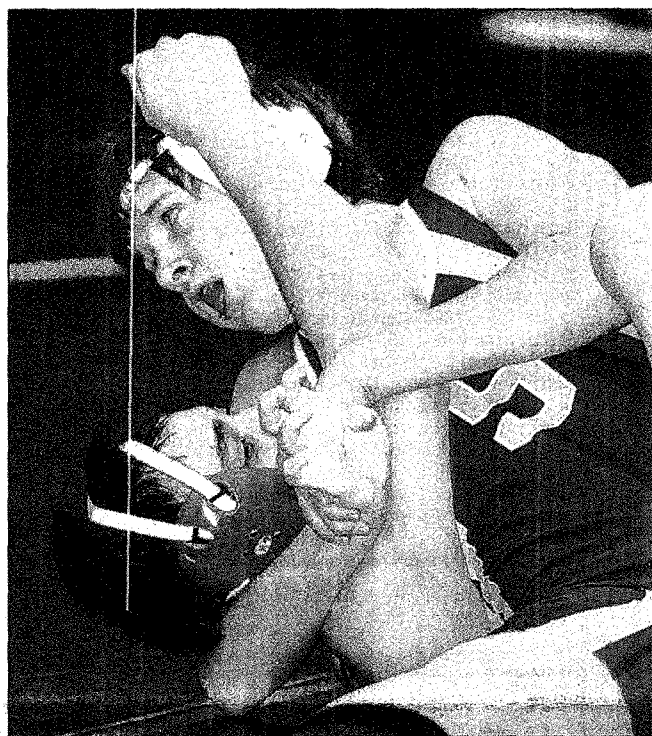
Host Stevenson was runner-up with 138, edging Churchill and Clarenceville with 131.5 and 116, respectively.

"I said we needed eight in the finals with seven champs," Chiola said. "We got seven in the finals with seven champs, and we took thirds where we needed to take thirds."

Individual winners for the Patriots included Jack Nawa (103 pounds), Dan Martinez (119), Gabe Martinez (130), Jordan Atienza (145), Avery Opperman (160), Allen Steele (171) and Omar Haymour (285).

Dan Martinez, who earned tournament MVP honors by a vote of the coaches, scored pins over Clarenceville's Mikey Weiss (5:28) and Stevenson's Heath Stilwell (0:20) to sweep his weight class.

Please see FRANKLIN, B2



Stevenson's Connor Vaughan (right) gets ready to pin Churchill's Matt Siemasz during a first-round match in Wednesday's Livonia City Tournament.

PREVIEW

## Gymnasts beaming over Flip for a Cure

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

It will be rivals Livonia Red vs. Livonia Blue in Tuesday's 2011-12 girls gymnastics season opener at Churchill.

But the predominant color will be pink as the two teams will raise money for breast cancer awareness in their annual Flip for a Cure meet, which starts at 6:30 p.m.

Livonia Blue, under sixth-year coach Lisa Broomfield, returns a talented group of Division 2 gymnasts who just missed going to the state finals by one place after finishing fourth at the regional.

The top returnee is three-time

state qualifier Alex Kitz, who finished fifth in the individual state finals on the uneven parallel bars (9.075) along with a 21st in the all-around. She also earned state qualifying berths on vault (28th) and floor exercise (30th).

Fellow senior Haley Olson also returns after an All-State showing on vault where she took fifth with a 9.275. She will also compete in the all-around.

Both Kitz and Olson are first-team All-Observer picks in Division 2.



Alex Kitz Stevenson



Haley Olson Livonia Blue

(vault, beam). Junior Allison White also lends experience in the vault, beam and floor.

Among the promising newcomers on the 18-member Stevenson quad include sophomore Jillian Zafarona and freshman Caitie McDougall and Nicole Solkolowski. All three will be in the all-around.

"We've got a lot of good talent and a good of good energy in the gym, which is nice," said Broomfield, who guided Blue to a 4-1 KLA dual meet record. "What I like is that we're competing as one team and that's why we have high hopes."

Livonia Red 10th-year coach Kelly Grodzicki remains optimistic as she tries to replace second-team Division 2 All-Observer gymnast Meghan Lark, who graduated after earning an individual state finals berth.

Leading returnees for the Churchill-Franklin unified team include junior Maggie McGowan, senior Rose Prebola,

Please see CURE, B4

## Wolfpack howls

### Wayne grapplers open impressively

By Ed Wright  
Observer Staff Writer

The Wayne Memorial gymnasium was an early-season proving ground for three area wrestling teams.

And it was the host Zebras who dominated by defeating Romulus Summit Academy, 84-0, and Garden City, 56-18.

Garden City then downed Summit, 44-32.

"I am a fortunate coach because my team gets better every year," Wayne coach Steve Vasiloff said. "In seven years, I haven't had to deal with a major drop off. This is because my young wrestlers are hungry, and challenging the upper-

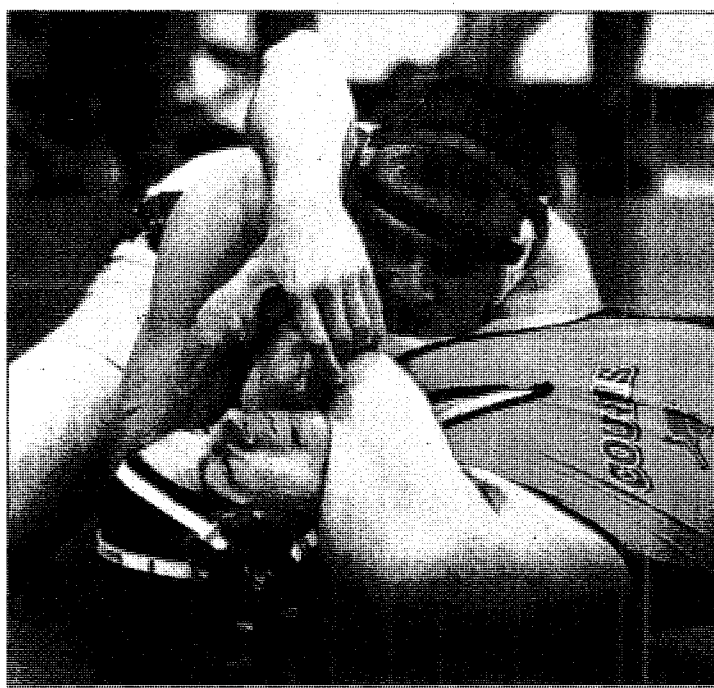
classmen for varsity spots.

"You could see our competitiveness in (Wednesday's) duals, and I am thankful for such a hardworking group of wrestlers."

Wayne grabbed control early against GC, winning the first five matches (starting at 160 pounds) until freshman Cougar John Segassor stopped the bleeding with an exciting 8-6 victory over Jake Preiss at 103.

Four of the Wolfpack's match-opening victories were pins, recorded by Lucas Hofbauer (171), Devin Korzetki (189), Dimitrus Renfroe (215) and Aaron Mullins (285).

Please see WAYNE, B2



Wayne's Devin Korzetki pinned Garden City's Henry Swann in 52 seconds Wednesday night.

## Area quartet sparks GVSU

The Grand Valley State University women's soccer team made its third straight appearance in the NCAA Division II National Championship game before falling to Saint Rose (N.Y.) in the finals, 2-1, Dec. 3, in Pensacola, Fla.

Four Livonia players figured prominently in the Lakers' 20-1-4 season led by junior defender Alyssa Mira (Churchill), the 2011 GLIAC Defensive Player of the Year along with being named to the Daktronics first-team Midwest Region and third-team All-America teams.

Sophomore defender Kayla Kimble (Stevenson), who appeared in 21 games, also earned second-team Midwest Region honors as the Lakers posted 16 shut-outs.

Lindsey Marlow (Churchill), who had a goal and two assists this season, was one of five seniors on the GVSU squad that posted a four-year record of 86-3-10 and 91.9 winning percentage.

Freshman defender Kelsey Rothermel (Churchill) also saw action in seven games.

## Cranes skate past Blazers

Sydney Sakwa scored a pair of goals Wednesday as host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood skated past Livonia Ladywood, 4-1, in a Michigan Metro Girls

High School Hockey League game at Wallace Arena.

Cranbrook led 2-0 after one period on goals by Tara Chelios and Sakwa before Ladywood closed the gap on a second-period goal by Hannah Pereira from Erin Cronyn and Brittany Galvin.

Sakwa gave the Cranes a two-goal cushion in the third period and Lucy Dembeck's empty netter sealed the win.

Goaltender Colleen Jacoby made 27 saves for the Cranbrook, which improved to 6-0 overall and 4-0 in the league, while Sarah Koch made 19 saves for the Blazers (0-5, 0-5).

## Arnold leads Zebras' win

Wayne Memorial opened its 2011-12 boys bowling season with a pair impressive wins last week at Novi Bowl.

Elliott Arnold's 442 two-game set led the Zebras improved to 2-0 on the young season Tuesday with a 30-0 win over Milford.

Wayne posted scores of 995-910-1,950 in the regular set for 20 points and added 10 more in the Baker set with a 193-230-423 total.

On Monday, Arnold posted a 267-212-479 set in a 29-1 victory over Walled Lake Western.

Wayne scored 19 points in the regular set (1,076-878-1,631) and added 10 more in the Baker games (176-179-355).

**PREP MAT RESULTS**

**LIVONIA CITY WRESTLING TOURNEY**  
Dec. 6 at Stevenson  
**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Franklin, 196 points; 2. Stevenson, 138; 3. Churchill, 131.5; 4. Clarenceville, 116.  
**CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS**  
103 pounds: Jack Nawa (F) pinned Alan Zhen (C'ville), 1:25; 3rd place: Zac Smith (C) by void.  
112: Josh Perez (C) p. Marco Lytwyn (S), 3:27; 3rd: Nick Robertson (F) p. Jake Ahn (C'ville), 1:01.  
119: Dan Martinez (F) p. Jon Locklear (C), 1:20; 3rd: Ian Bunker (C'ville) p. Emmanuel Austin (S), 0:58.  
125: Jake Hale (C) p. Joey

Walker (C'ville), 3:51; 3rd: Anthony Berrelez (F) won by major decision over Darren Tran (S), 10-5.  
130: Gabe Martinez (F) p. Mikey Weiss (C'ville), 5:28; 3rd: Brandon Glover (C) p. Heather Stilwell (S), 0:27.  
135: Corey Davis (S) p. Justin Baker (C), 3:45; 3rd: Kenneth Steel (F) p. Jayson Forrest (C'ville), 1:40.  
140: Kody Roy (S) dec. Ben Leck (C), 15-8; 3rd: Leonard Denzale (C'ville) dec. Austin Steele (F), 7-3.  
145: Jordan Atienza (F) p. Steve Spens (C'ville), 1:34; 3rd: Cameron Valentine (C) won by void.  
152: Aaron Bibik (C'ville) dec.

Samer Shebak (S), 4-3; 3rd: Tyler Solnikowski (F) p. Kevin Ruddberg (C), 0:21.  
160: Avery Opperman (F) p. Conner Vaughan (S), 0:35; 3rd: Dominick Slagle (C'ville) p. Matt Siemasz (C), 1:57.  
171: Allen Steele (F) p. Brad Scott (S), 4:59; 3rd: Alec Jones (C'ville) p. Jake Wirick (C), 2:34.  
189: Joe Scott (S) won by major dec. over Matt Horne (F), 9-0; 3rd: Ryan Rudberg (C) p. Chris Edwards (C'ville), 2:30.  
215: Jake Range (S) p. Ryan Groves (C'ville), 1:35; 3rd: Ryan Simmons (F) p. Jake Morcica (C), 2:05.  
285: Omar Haymour (F) dec. Manny Haddad (C), 1-0; 3rd: Ricky Roy (S) won by void.

**FRANKLIN**

Continued from page B1

"Danny Martinez is so tough, he'll wrestle anybody in the room," Chiola said. "He's 119 and he'll wrestle Atienza at 145, the 152-pounders, he'll wrestle anybody. He hangs with them and beats some of them. "He's going to do well. He stays very controlled on the mat. He stays very calm. He always knows what he's doing. He has a game plan, he sticks to it and is in great shape. You want a dozen kids like that. His brother (Gabe) is like that, too, but Danny is a little less emotional on the mat. He stays in focus a little more."  
Stevenson coach Dan Vaughan was encouraged by his team's showing getting individual titles from Corey Davis (135), Kody Roy (140), Joe Scott (189) and Jake Range (215).  
"We did real well today," Vaughan said. "We put eight kids in the finals, we had four seniors perform well, and had four freshmen perform real well, too. So, I'm pleased. "We didn't have any surprises. The big guns scored when they had to score, and pin when they had to pin. We just needed

the younger guys to take it a notch further than what they did.  
"Seventy-five percent of the lineup were ninth-graders, so the future bodes well. They're going to take some lumps, but every day they'll work harder and work to accomplish their goals." Churchill, meanwhile, got titles from Josh Perez (112) and Jake Hale (125).  
"It's a building block," Churchill coach Marty Altounian said. "We had some good moments and some bad moments. They all realize what they needed to do for the following meet.  
"I was upset with the fact that we took third, but the kids are all positive and they knew what they were doing wrong. Some of young kids were impressive in their attitudes, not backing down to the kids that were knowingly better than them. They did well, I was happy with that.  
"Jake Hale (125) surprised me. He came through with a nice win in the finals for us."  
In one of the closest matches of the night, Clarenceville's Aaron Bibik took the 152-pound class with a 4-3 decision over Stevenson's Samer Shebak.

"We had a really good showing today," Clarenceville coach Aaron Davis said. "We put six of the 12 kids we brought into the finals. Aaron Bibik was the only one who won, but as a whole we did really well and got a lot of third-place finishes. Team-wise we didn't finish where we wanted to, but as a whole, everyone that can see we're taking steps forward. Overall we looked good and got a lot of good compliments today."  
Franklin, meanwhile, is looking to fill some uncharacteristic holes in its lineup.  
"Depth is one thing we do not have," Chiola said. "We're going to have a lot of meets this year where we get six pins and give up six pins, and we're going to have to find a win out of the other two matches somewhere."  
"I have some good freshmen, but they all back up in the upper weights, but not in the middle weights. I've got kids in the middle weights, but they're wrestling way up where they shouldn't be to fill the weight classes, which we haven't done in years."

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**WAYNE**

Continued from page B1

Wayne's Sam Ekanem defeated Matt Wisniewski, 9-0, in the opener at 160.  
Following Segassor's win, Wayne's Tyler Mulligan notched a pin at 112 before GC rebounded with a 12-0 run thanks to back-to-back falls from Rob Doane (119) and Britton Borlace (125).  
The pin-fest continued in the 130-pound match when Wayne's Devon Adams pinned Nick Doane in 5:33.  
Mike Nicholson (135), Allen Parker (140) and Micheil Hood (152) recorded impressive wins for the hosts, while Patton Fickett edged Kyle Szalai, 6-3, in a tight 145-pound battle.  
"Overall, I thought we did a lot of things well, but we're still lacking execution in some of the basic moves," said Garden City head coach Don Giese. "We're going to go back to practice (Thursday) and work on the basics. We'll keep working until we get it right."

**DUAL MATCH RESULTS WAYNE MEMORIAL 56 GARDEN CITY 18**

Dec. 7 at Wayne  
160 pounds: Sam Ekanem (WM) won by major decision over Matt Wisniewski, 9-0; 171: Lucas Hafeauer (WM) pinned Jamal Sanders, 0:45; 189: Devin Korzetki (WM) p. Henry Swann, 0:52; 215: Dimitrus Renfro (WM) p. Adam Druz, 3:41; 285: Aaron Mullins (WM) p. D.J. Giese, 1:16; 103: John Segassor (GC) dec. Jake Preiss, 8-6; 112: Tyler Mulligan (WM) p. Brandon Collins in 1:01; 119: Rob Doane (GC) p. Tim Wey, 3:12; 125: Britton Borlace (GC) p. Joseph Frezee, 3:10; 130: Devon Adams (WM) p. Nick Doane, 5:33; 135: Mike Nicholson (WM) won by major dec. over Brian Spehar, 11-3; 140: Allen Parker (WM) p. Calen Woods, 0:43; 145: Patton Fickett (GC) dec. Kyle Szalai, 6-3; 152: Micheil Hood (WM) p. Colt Desmit, 0:56.

**WAYNE MEMORIAL 84 ROMULUS SUMMIT 0**

Dec. 7 at Wayne  
103: Jake Preiss (WM) won by void; 112: Tyler Mulligan (WM) pinned Brooke Waldon, 0:55; 119: Tim Way (WM) p. LeRoy Rutherford, 1:13; 125: Tristan Jarosicwicz (WM) p. Aarmani Gipson, 1:22; 130: Devon Adams (WM) p. Myle Burrage, 2:28; 135: Michael Nicolson (WM) p. Zack Kouba, 0:36; 140: Allen Parker (WM) p. Marcus Madison, 1:15; 145: Marcus Jordan (WM) p. Nash Deyampert-Hill, 1:56; 152: Sharif Hegazi (WM) p. Daniel Stratham, 5:40; 160: Sam Ekanem (WM) p. Savon Brown, 1:31; 171: Lucas Hofbauer (WM) p. Thomas VanAssche, 5:49; 189: Devin Korzetki (WM) p. Wills Black, 1:15; 215: Dimitrus Renfro (WM) p. Alec Madison, 1:08; 285: Tyler Casteels (WM) p. Adjetey Wilson, 2:59.  
Wayne's dual match record: 2-0 overall.


**BOYS HOOPS**

**Robichaud spoils Rockets' opener**

Lorenzo Bonam's game-high 30 points propelled Dearborn Heights Robichaud to a 66-53 boys basketball victory Friday night before a packed house at Westland John Glenn.  
David Rogers, hitting four triples, added 12 points for the Bulldogs, who led 36-31 at halftime and outscored the Rockets 37-30 in the second half.  
Junior guard Nick Daniels paced the Rockets (0-1) with 20 points, while Isaac Everett and Eric Coville chipped in with 14 and 13, respectively.  
Glenn made 13-of-20 free throws, while Robichaud connected on 9-of-10.  
Robichaud evened its overall record at 1-1.

**LUTH. WESTLAND 48, GREENHILLS 42:** Senior forward Dawson Davenport scored 14 points and Matt Sylvester chipped in with nine as Lutheran High Westland (1-1, 1-0) opened Michigan-Independent Athletic Conference play Friday with a win over host Ann Arbor Greenhills (0-2, 0-1).  
Alec Khouri scored a game-high 22 points for Gryphons, who led 20-16 at halftime before being outscored 32-22 in the second half.  
"We took control with our press the second half and played pretty good defense for the most part," Lutheran Westland coach Doug Haller said. "We were able to get it out at the end."  
**MILFORD 47, FRANKLIN 30:** On Friday, Joshua Corey's 13 points enabled the host Mavericks to earn a victory over Livonia Franklin (0-1).  
Jake Barham scored 10 points for the Patriots, who couldn't overcome a 19-7 halftime deficit. Franklin cut the deficit to 27-22 after three quarters before Milford went on a 20-8 final period run.  
Steve Sloboda added 10 points and 14 rebounds, while Chris Orr chipped in with 10 for Milford.  
**BELLEVILLE 68, WAYNE 48:** Dezman Burleigh's 14 points were not enough as Wayne Memorial (1-1) fell Friday to the visiting Tigers (1-0).  
Wayne was unable to overcome a 16-point deficit.  
**S'FIELD CHRISTIAN 93, C'VILLE 59:** Connecting on 8-of-10 three-point shots during the opening quarter, Southfield Christian (0-1) went on to a convincing 93-59 triumph Thursday night at Livonia Clarenceville (0-2).  
The Eagles led 27-9 after one quarter and increased their lead to 53-28 at intermission.  
"They hit 15 'threes' on the night and that's hard to overcome," said Clarenceville coach Justin Johnson, whose team slipped to 0-2 overall.  
Five Southfield Christian players scored in double figures led by Chris Dewberry and Gavin Toma with 20 points apiece.  
Lindsey Hunter IV and Lindsey Hunter III added 17 and 15, respectively, while David Johnson added 14 for the Eagles (1-0).  
Clarenceville got 17 points from Austin Douglass.  
Sam Brown added 12, while Nick Covin and Doug Wible chipped in with nine apiece.  
Clarenceville was 25-of-37 from the foul line, while Southfield Christian made 14-of-18.

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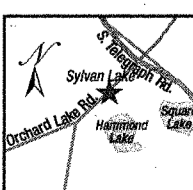
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# Chargers put on ice, 5-3; upstart Canton pulls off surprise

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Canton has thrown its hat into the ring as a serious contender in the KLAA South Division hockey race following a 5-3 win Wednesday night over previously unbeaten Livonia Churchill at Edgar Arena.

Taylor Baker's hat trick and Spencer Craig's solid goaltending enabled the Chiefs to improve to 4-1 overall and 3-0 in the South.

Meanwhile, second-ranked Churchill falls to 4-1 and 2-1. "We stepped up when we wanted to," said Canton coach Jeremy Majszak, whose team is ranked No. 10 in Division 1. "We knew tonight was going to be a big game and Churchill would be a test for us. Everybody has been talking about Churchill all

year long and our guys believed they could be the team that nobody is talking about that could really do some major things. We practiced hard all week and we had a lot of players step up."

Baker scored the first of his three goals just 2:48 into the first period on a power-play effort from Zack McArdle.

But Churchill's Brad Milks answered just 2.8 seconds before the same period ended with a goal from Jake Otto and Mike Rybinski to make it 1-1.

After a scoreless second period, Canton responded with three straight goals - Collin Smith from Duggan Tear just 20 seconds into the third and Baker's unassisted goal just 40 seconds later to make it a two-goal cushion. Baker then scored again with

7:25 remaining to make it 4-1 off assists from Tear and Brad Ceci, but the Canton forward got sent off for a 10-minute misconduct for excessive celebration.

"Taylor Baker played the best game he's ever played in the three years he's been in that jersey by scoring three of the five goals for us," Majszak said. "I would have liked him to finish the game, but that's not the first time the kids celebrated on the ice, so I can't really get too mad about it. That's really a big thing to take on a team like that and score three goals."

Churchill made things interesting with a pair of goals in the final 4:38 with Riley Brown scoring short-handed from Chris Mireles followed by Devin Smythe's goal with just under a minute remaining from Mike Gambino and Milks after

the Chargers pulled goalie Alex Estes (16 saves) for the extra attacker.

But an unassisted empty-netter by Matt Cox from Brandon Grillo with 42 seconds to go sealed the win for the Chiefs, who got 33 saves from Craig.

"He really kept us going and kept us in there," Majszak said of his netminder. "It was a shame they (Churchill) got those last two (goals) at the end there, but that's what happens when you're playing a good team and the pressure is on."

Churchill rang two shots off the goalpost and outshot the Chiefs 37-20 on the night.

"We were very undisciplined at times tonight," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "I thought we were our worst enemy. Spencer Craig is one of the best goalies in the state, but

when you outshoot two-to-one and on the wrong side ... at times I thought we played very well, but we made some big, big mental mistakes that we hadn't done up until this point and time."

**STEVENSON 11, FRANKLIN 0:** In a KLAA Kensington Conference crossover Wednesday at Edgar Arena, Livonia Stevenson (6-1, 2-1) went six-for-six on the power play through two periods to mercy Livonia Franklin (1-3-1, 0-3). Stevenson, which led 7-0 after one period, got four-point nights from Thomas Ross (two goals, two assists), Dominic Lutz (one goal, three assists) and J.D. Byrne (four assists).

Chris McDonald added two goals and one assist, while Mario Tomei, Eric Willetts and Devin Kelly each contributed a goal and two assists. Other Stevenson goal scorers included Cam Tetrault, Tim Kelly and Chris Catalano. Assists also went to Ryan Frazer and Dante Seychel. Goaltenders Connor Humitz (first period) and Brad Courts (second period) combined for the shutout.

## PREP BOWLING CAPSULE OUTLOOK

### BOYS PREVIWS LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE

Head coach: Phil Horowitz, fourth season.

League affiliation: Independent.

Last year's dual match record: 2-14.

Notable losses to graduation: Sean Diaz.

Leading returnees: Tyler McLean, Sr. (third-team All-Area); Michael Uren, Sr.; Brad Martin, Sr.; Kyle Kissandi, Jr.; Tyler Fox, Jr.

Promising newcomers: Ricky Rutenbar, Jr.; Kaylup Richards, Jr.; Niguel Evans, Sr.

Horowitz's 2011-12 outlook: "Last year the varsity boys had two wins all season and we have already won our first two matches against Walled Lake Central and Brighton. I have big expectations for the boys team as there is a great deal of potential with the team I have put together. In just a few weeks of practice, they are learning a great deal about the sport of bowling and what it takes to win mentally. I believe the boys have it what it takes to make a real statement this year, not only in league play, but tournaments, regionals and state competition as well."

**WESTLAND JOHN GLENN**

Head coach: Ron Brusseau, sixth season.

League affiliation: KLAA (Central Division).

Last year's dual match record: 13-2.

Titles won last year: Division 1 state runner-up, KLAA, Central Division and Plymouth Canton Tournament champions.

Notable losses to graduation: Brian Monty (first-team All-Area), John Cleavenger, Deandre Plear.

Leading returnees: Jordan Hornes, Jr. captain (first-team All-Area; Division 1 state sin-

gles champ); Daniel Ammons, Jr. (second-team All-Area); Thomas Brusseau, Sr. captain (third-team All-Area); Tommy Ruark, Sr.; Steven White, Jr.

Promising newcomers: Mitch Dean, Sr. captain; Mark Kassab, Jr.; Steven Brusseau, Soph.

Brusseau's 2011-12 outlook: "With five of the eight MHSAA runner-up team members returning - including one fourth year, one third year and three two-year state finalists - the boys have come back this season recharged and ready to make another run at state title. I feel we have the talent and experience to accomplish just that. There are two new additions to this year's varsity squad, Mitch Dean and Mark Kassab, both of whom have been moved up from the JV squad and will fill the vacated positions from our graduated seniors. This year's team through the tryouts looks to be stronger than last year's state runner-up team. I believe everyone built on last year's experience and elevated their game to another level. I feel real good about this year's team and every bowler has high expectations for the season."

**WAYNE MEMORIAL**

Head coach: Bob Jawor, sixth year.

League affiliation: KLAA (Central Division).

Last year's dual match record: 14-3.

Notable losses to graduation: Jeremy Brown (first-team All-Area), Scott Franklin, Tony Lave, Barry Banks.

Leading returnees: Elliot Arnold, Sr. (first-team All-Area; All-State; 230 average led state); Zack Huffman, Sr.; Shane Rambaldo, Jr.

Promising newcomers: Kody Wojewski, Jr. (transfer from

Westland John Glenn); Matt Mikulec, Soph.; Darrick Craig, Soph.; Austin St. Peter, Soph.

Jawor's 2011-12 outlook: "We got close to the state title last year, losing semifinal match to eventual winner (Macomb Dakota). While we took a big hit losing four to graduation, we have a chance to make a run at it again this year, Matt (Mikulec) is a year older and has one year experience, and we benefitted from a transfer from Glenn's program in (Kody) Wojewski. Darrick (Craig) and Austin (St. Peter) are talented, but a little raw and we will work on that. Zack (Huffman) is going to make his mark this year, he has improved tremendously over the last couple of years. I also believe we have the best high school bowler in the state in Elliot (Arnold), so I am looking forward to a great year."

**GIRLS PREVIWS LIVONIA LADYWOOD**

Head coach: Judy Jaeger, 11th season.

League affiliation: Catholic League (East Division).

Last year's dual match record: 6-6.

Notable losses to graduation: Taylor Buckley, Courtney Delonis, Emma McClorey, Kerry LaValley, Brigette Hutter.

Leading returnees: Sabine Hutter, Soph. (third-team All-Area; state qualifier).

Promising newcomers: Veronica Estigoy, Soph.; Sarah Czarnowski, Sr.; Victoria Ania, Sr.; Amy Lewandowski, Jr.; Shelby Fielding, Fr.; Sarah Knapp, Fr.; Kailyn Delonis, Fr.

Jaeger's 2011-12 outlook: "Having lost five seniors last year, Ladywood has a young team. However, this allows for younger and newer members to step up and make a name for themselves. Sabine (Hutter) brings with her the experience from state finals last year and along with the other returning members is hoping to build on last year's success. Aiding them will be three new freshmen and a junior who bring their own

talents and abilities to help round out this roster. Estigoy was anchor for the JV team and will be a great asset to the varsity, while Ania is in her third year and won high game at the Wayne County JV championship."

**LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE**

Head coach: Phil Horowitz, fourth season.

League affiliation: Independent.

Last year's dual match record: 8-6.

Notable losses to graduation: Kaycee Chappell.

Leading returnees: Bridget Moricz, Sr. (first-team All-Area; Division 3 singles semifinalist); Nikki Iuliano, Sr.; Stephani Quinn, Sr.; Casey O'Rourke, Sr.; Allee Harrison, Sr.

Promising newcomers: Caitlin Kissandi, Fr.

Horowitz's 2011-12 outlook: "The girls varsity has shown vast improvement over the past two weeks of practice and if they continue this pace, they, too, will have a major impact when it comes to regionals and 'states.' Bridget (Moricz) finished fourth in the state singles last year and hopefully will get first this year."

**WESTLAND JOHN GLENN**

Head coach: Steve O'Harris, first season.

League affiliation: KLAA (Central Division).

Last year's dual match record: 8-7.

Notable losses to graduation: Rachel Miller (second-team All-Area), Julianne Ayers (third-team All-Area), Khiry Sparks.

Leading returnees: Montana Graszak, Sr.; Sara Auldige, Jr.; Caity Lenard, Jr.; Yvette Ayers, Jr.; Breanna Riblett, Jr.

Promising newcomers: Jessica Pate, Fr.; Olivia Cabildo,

Fr.; Beccah Lenard, Fr.

O'Harris' 2011-12 outlook: "With five returning girls from last year's team and little varsity experience, it looked to be a rebuilding year. But with two incoming freshmen (Pate and Cabildo), replacing our two graduating seniors mixed with our senior and junior leadership, I expect us to challenge for the Central Division title and have a really good shot at qualifying for 'states' out of this year's regional."

**WAYNE MEMORIAL**

Head coach: Diane St. Louis, second season.

League affiliation: KLAA (Central Division).

Last year's dual match record: 11-4.

Titles won last year: Central Division and Division 1 regional champs.

Notable losses to graduation: Stephani O'Harris (first-team All-Area), Chelsea Morneau, Brianna Winn, Brianna Everett.

Leading returnees: Tiffany Markham, Jr. (first-team All-Area; Clarenceville doubles champion).

Promising newcomers: To be determined.

**St. Louis' 2011-12 outlook:** "This year Wayne will continue to have varsity and JV girls teams. Our varsity will consist of one player (Markham) from last year's regional championship team and four girls who have moved up from the 2010 JV team. We will work on skills, team building and experience in tournaments. Our JV consists of a team of newcomers who are anxious to work hard on learning and improving their skills. We are excited to include on our JV team two foreign transfer students."



Bridget Moricz  
Clarenceville



Tiffany  
Markham  
Wayne



Elliot Arnold  
Wayne



Jordan Hornes  
John Glenn

## MU men's cagers win 7th straight

In front of a raucous crowd, the 23rd-ranked Madonna University men's basketball team was able to grind out a 63-52 victory Wednesday night over visiting University of Michigan-Dearborn.

The win was MU's seventh straight - a program record - as the Crusaders improved to 3-0 in Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference play for the first time in school history.

Senior forward Tyler Coker hit 6-of-8 shots from the floor en route to a game-high 15 points for MU.

Sophomore guard Bobby Naudert added 14 points and eight assists, while sophomore forward Fred Williams came off the bench to add 12 points.

"I'm proud of the way our guys gritted through a tough game tonight," said MU coach Noel Emenhiser, whose team led 35-28 at halftime. "UM-Dearborn changed our game plan in a way. They were very tough and physical and play a style we weren't comfortable with. Our guys really found a way to get it done even though it wasn't pretty a majority of the night. I think our guys are confident in their abilities and know that if we play hard we can be a good team."

Three Wolves players scored in double figures led by Doug Sharples' 11 points. Julius Porter and A.J. Dombrowski added 10 apiece.

"I think tonight reminds us that we always have to be sharp in

all aspects of the game because there are no games you can step in and win without effort," said Emenhiser, whose team is 7-4 overall. "Everybody in our conference is good and we have to continue to play our best if we want to have success."

The loss drops the Wolves to 1-13 overall and 0-3 in the WHAC. **OWENS (OHIO) 85, SCHOOLCRAFT 70:** Justin Edmonds and James Kelly combined for 54 points to lead Owens Technical Community College (9-3) to a non-conference win Friday over host Schoolcraft College (6-3). Edmonds hit three triples en route to 28 points, while the 6-foot-7 Kelly added 26.

Karl Moore led the Ocelots, who trailed 49-30 at halftime, with 21 points and eight rebounds. LenDerrick Witcher chipped in with 12 points and five rebounds, while Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial) finished

with 10 points. Corey Reynolds (Livonia Clarenceville) added eight points, eight rebounds and three assists.

Schoolcraft was 9-of-14 from the foul line, while Schoolcraft hit 9-of-14.

**S'CRAFT 91, ROCHESTER JV 83:** Karl Moore paced a balanced attack with 22 points and 15 rebounds Wednesday to catapult host Schoolcraft College (6-2) to a victory over the Rochester College JV (3-12).

Corey Reynolds (Livonia Clarenceville) added his second straight triple-double for the Ocelots with 10 points, 10 assists and 10 rebounds.

Other contributions came from Richmond Jackson (15 points, six rebounds); Matthew King (14 points, including two triples); Mohamed Elhaj (five assists, six steals).

Deon Gunn (eight points) also paced the defense.

Schoolcraft won despite making only 22-of-43 free throws (51.1 percent).

Matt Mullins and Marvin Stokes tallied 18 and 14 points, respectively, for the Warriors, who trailed 44-35 at intermission.

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**FIGURE SKATING**  
Sunday, Dec. 11  
District 3 Team Comp. at Hartland, 10 a.m.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
Friday, Dec. 16  
(Crusader Classic at MU)  
Goshen vs. Marygrove, 5 p.m.  
MU vs. Roosevelt (Ill.), 7 p.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 17**  
Crusader Classic 1 & 3 p.m.  
TBA: time to be announced.

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## Lady Ocelots avenge earlier loss to Owens

The Schoolcraft College women's basketball team ran its NJCAA Division II-best home court winning streak to 67 Friday by avenging a loss earlier this season to Owens Technical Community College (Ohio), 70-57.

Domonique Jones led the victorious Lady Ocelots (8-2) with 22 points and eight rebounds, while Shawnicka Thomas added 17 points, 13 rebounds and seven assists. Ashley Beemon also contributed

a double-double with 16 points and 12 boards, while Charlise Slater finished with 12 points.

Schoolcraft overcame a 33-31 halftime deficit by going on a 16-5 run to start the second half. The Lady Ocelots led 47-38 with 14:12 remaining and never led the Express get any closer than five points the rest of the way.

Uniqua Mitchell and Aja Hall paced Owens (8-3) with 17 and 16 points, respectively.

Schoolcraft made 23-of-72 shots from the floor (31.9 percent) and 20-of-20 free throws (68.9 percent).

Owens, which defeated Schoolcraft 71-54 on Nov. 26, shot 32.9 percent from the floor (22-of-67) and 9-of-15 from the foul stripe (60 percent).

**MADONNA 73, UM-DEARBORN 51:** Madonna University (5-4, 2-1) sprinted out to a 42-20 halftime advantage on its way to a 1 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory Wednesday night over host University of Michigan-Dearborn

(0-11, 0-3).

The victorious Crusaders got 12 points apiece from Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) and Heather Pratt.

Michelle Lindsey chipped in with 11 points, while Shantelle Herring added 10. McGrath and Lindsey each grabbed eight rebounds, while Erin Bentley dished out seven assists.

The Crusaders shot a blistering 16-of-30 from the floor during the opening half (53.3 percent) and 27-of-60 for the game (45 percent), including 8-of-21 from three-point range (38.1 percent). Jaclyn Hood paced the Wolves with 11 points and nine rebounds.

GIRLS HOOPS

# Spartans cruise to win

## All 10 score in 61-26 win vs. Churchill

Sophomore center Charlesann Roy scored 13 of her 15 points during the opening quarter to catapult the Livonia Stevenson girls basketball team to a convincing 61-26 victory Friday night at home over rival Livonia Churchill.

Both teams are now 1-1 on the season.

All 10 Stevenson players scored with Katelyn Foster chipping in with 13 points, and Mara Murray adding eight.

The Spartans led 20-4 after one quarter and 36-12 at halftime before outscoring the Chargers 15-4 in the third period to take a commanding 51-16 lead.

Stevenson was coming off a 89-87 triple overtime setback to Dearborn Edsel Ford in a game where the Thunderbirds' Marie Gaedke scored game-high 54 points.

"We had awesome week of practice and we wanted to prove something," Stevenson coach Jen Knoph said. "We forced a lot of turnovers and everybody played a great game."

Cecilie Hansen scored seven and Erin Menard added six for the Chargers.

"We knew Stevenson is a very good team," Churchill first-year coach Matt McCowan said. "We came out very flat and Stevenson took advantage of us not getting back on defense and not rebounding. We cannot let teams get second,

third and fourth opportunities. We will learn from this, correct our mistakes and keep working hard."

**LAKELAND 44, WAYNE 34:** On Friday, Marlayna Malivich scored 17 points and Dominique Zigo added 13 as host White Lake Lakeland (1-4) overcame a 22-11 halftime deficit to beat Wayne Memorial (1-2).

Lakeland outscored the Zebras 20-5 in third period and 10-7 in the final eight minutes.

Senior Holland Boertje and sophomore Ashley Bland scored 14 and 12, respectively, for Wayne.

Lakeland was 12-of-24 from the foul stripe, while Wayne was only 3-of-8.

**GREENHILLS 37, LUTH. WESTLAND 34:** Jackie Oestreich scored 19 points as Ann Arbor Greenhills (3-1, 1-0) opened MIAC Red Division play Friday with a win over visiting Lutheran High Westland (1-3, 0-1).

Amanda Terranella led the Warriors with 14 points and 10 rebounds, while Aldreanna Fikes contributed seven points and 10 boards.

Greenhills was 9-of-17 from the foul line, while Lutheran Westland hit 8-of-15.

"This game was a battle," Lutheran Westland coach Sandi Wade said. "It was back-and-forth with many lead changes. We played hard right to the end. It was a well played game by both teams. We look forward to playing them again later on in the year at our place."

**LUTH. N'WEST 53, CVILLE 20:** Kim Lepor popped in 18 points Thursday to spark Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (3-1) past visiting Livonia Clarenceville (0-4).

Abbey Looker added 12 points for the Crusaders, who led 7-6 after one quarter before outscoring the Trojans 17-7 in the second period and 20-8 in the third to take a

commanding 44-21 advantage.

Sophomore Ayanna Buckley tallied 11 points for the Trojans, who hit 11-of-22 free throws.

**NORTHWEST MADE ONLY 6-OF-17. LADYWOOD 40, G.P. NORTH 29:** Junior guards Andie Anastos and Shelby Walsh each tallied 11 points to lead Livonia Ladywood (2-2) to a victory Wednesday night at Grosse Pointe North (1-2).

The Blazers also got eight points and six rebounds from Sara Even along with seven points and six boards from Morgan Chops.

"It was a hard-fought, scrappy game and our defense put us over the top," said Ladywood coach Anthony Coratti, whose team led 27-15 at halftime. "We made them work defensively."

Ladywood was 7-of-12 from the foul line, while the Norsemen were only 2-of-6.

**ARBOR PREP 45, HVL 37:** Freshman guard Zakiya Wells poured in 20 points Tuesday as host Ypsilanti Arbor Prep (1-0) downed Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (0-1) in a non-conference game.

Junior forward Megan Prieskorn led the Hawks with 12 points, while freshman forward Madison Dest added 11 points and six rebounds.

Dayna Schroeder also chipped in with 10 points and seven boards.

Thirty-one turnovers led to Huron Valley's undoing.

"Turnovers killed us tonight," HVL coach Kris Ruth said.

"We could not handle their half-court trap defense. Most of our points were layups off our turnovers. We did not play aggressive tonight and they (Arbor Prep) played harder."

It was 22-all at halftime before Arbor Prep went on a 13-7 third-quarter run.

"I liked my balanced scoring attack from my forwards," said Ruth, whose team was 7-of-13 from the foul line. "We need to work on our ball handling and handling pressure. I also thought we were too laid back on defense."

# SPARTANS

Continued from page B1

sure."

Josh Campbell also came up with some key steals, including three in the final quarter.

"He's one of our best defenders," Sinawi said. "He's not very tall, but he's got long arms and great defensive instincts. He knows where to be. He didn't show it tonight, but he can block shots and he can rebound. He got some great steals in that stretch of the fourth quarter. It was a close game and he got it to four, six points and that was the difference in the game."

Churchill hung close despite committing 20 turnovers and shooting 13-of-38 from the floor (34.2 percent). The Chargers made only 11-of-20 foul shots on the night, but evened the count after three quarters on a pair of free throws by Joseph Lewis with 20.4 seconds left heading into the fourth.

"Jim (Solak) does a great job with his guys," Sinawi said. "They did a great job on (Jonathan) Campbell tonight, better than any team that we'll see from here on out. A lot of our preseason stuff going in was a lot about Campbell, but we also had to figure out how to play without him. We did in spurts, but again they frustrated us. Give credit to my guys. They played through it."

Stevenson, which led 20-15 at halftime, struggled shooting as well, hitting only 15-of-42 from the floor (35.7 percent) and only 14-of-26 from the free-throw stripe (53.8 percent).

Stevenson, however, turned the ball over only 11 times.

"It's our first game of the year," Sinawi

said. "A lot of jitters, especially here at Churchill and opening night for us. They (Churchill) had a game in hand. We missed some bunnies early, we missed some late. We missed some free throws. We have a lot to improve upon, but we'll get better. We have the seniors that are going to improve. We're going to make those shots one of these days."

Churchill got a game-high 14 points from junior guard Dwayne Scott, while senior forward Chad Evans added eight. Robert Foster Jr. and Lewis finished with seven and six, respectively.

"The kids really worked extremely hard preparing for (Jon) Campbell," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "They executed, the whole team. We had a couple different things we were going to throw at them. The kids did a good job preparing and executing, but there's the other side of the game."

"We can execute and have all the X's and O's we want, but got to get that rebound and take care of the ball. It's the little things, but it will get solved. The effort was much better than Tuesday's."

The Chargers, now 0-2 overall, were coming off a 43-29 setback to Dearborn.

"Against Dearborn, there was a lot of finger-pointing," Solak said. "I think a couple of kids gave up, but that's on me. But tonight we played 11 guys and to every one of them it mattered. They competed instead of blaming each other. That's part of the growing process when you're playing a lot of kids and a lot of first-year varsity players. We'll get it and this team took some first steps, but there's a long way to go. The attitude and competitiveness was much better tonight."

hemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

# CURE

Continued from page B1

sophomore Shannon Diaz, senior Megan Martinez (Franklin), junior Mallory Dorton (Franklin) and junior Sarah Gudzinski (Franklin).

"Maggie (McGowan) will do all-around and is a solid anchor," Grodzicki said. "Shannon (Diaz) will do beam and bars and she's really pulling her weight in those two events."

Among the promising newcomers for Livonia Red include freshmen Sydney

Grenier, Jackie Dziurgot (Franklin) and Alysha Burd (Franklin).

Last year Livonia Red finished 2-3 in the KLA and 1-3 in the Kensington Division.

But Grodzicki's numbers are up this season from 12 to 16 gymnasts.

"Losing Lark hurt a bit, but there's more depth and they have the potential this year," Grodzicki said. "We have high hopes. This year we hope to have some state qualifiers, but we'll have to wait and see."

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Please send resume to: Attn: HR, CHM 2959 Martin Luther King Detroit, MI 48208. Fax: 313-463-2222. Email: dherndon@covenanthouse.org No phone calls please. Serious & qualified inquiries only please. EOE

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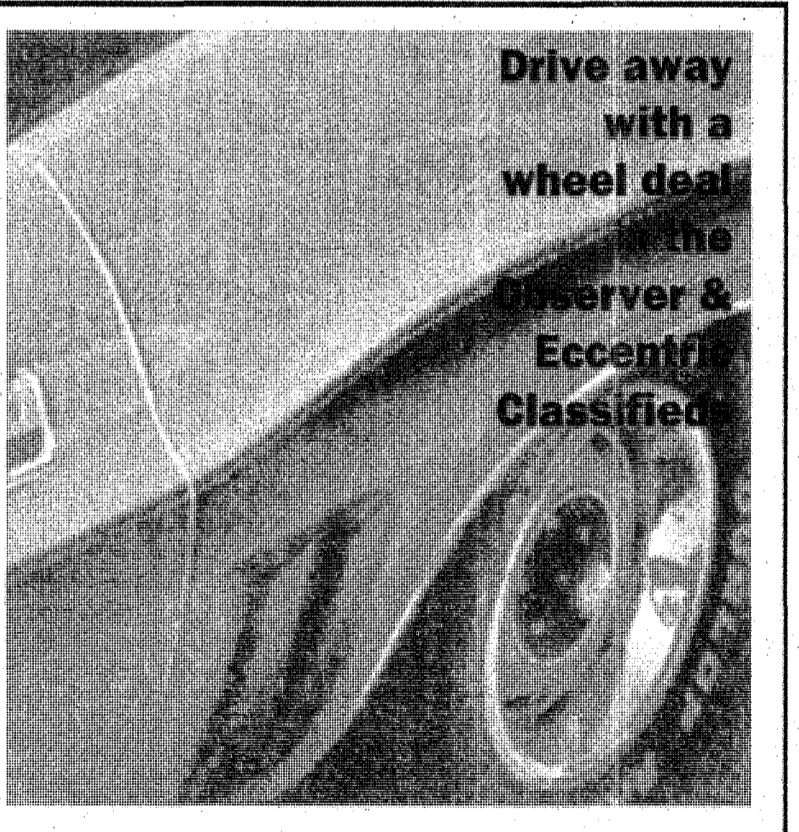
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## Overcoming holiday blues

Focus on good memories, delegate duties

By Sharon Dargay  
 O&E Staff Writer

The Rev. Joan Christoffers identifies with parishioners who feel more tearful than cheerful at the holidays.

Years before her ordination, she attended her first Christmas Eve worship service as a newly-divorced mom. There was music, pageantry, people and decorations, but none of the merriment could overcome her feelings of sadness at the time.

"I was divorced after 22 years and was devastated. The children were with their father that night. I didn't think twice about going to Christmas Eve service. I sat next to a gal who had recently lost her husband. The two of us cried through the whole service," she said, suspecting they had rained on the feel-good vibe shared by others in the pew that night.

Years later as a minister, she introduced a quieter, low-key alternative to traditional Christmas services at her former church in Capac. Now the pastor at Good Hope Lutheran Church in Garden City, Christoffers will bring that same "Blue Christmas" service to her new flock this year.

"It's a service of hope and healing. The first step is in recognizing that some of us are not happy at Christmas and the holidays are not a happy time



feelings of loss at the holidays. During sessions this year, participants learned to make memory boxes and memory stockings to honor their loved one's life. An art therapist worked with children to help their express their grief through drawings.

"The grief process is so unique. No two people grieve the same way. Not everyone has a Courier and Ives family," Campbell said. "We tell them that it's good to plan for the holidays. They may not feel as if they have control over their emotions. At least having a plan in place can calm anxiety. They do have some control with whom they spend the holidays. If they are going to



Campbell

tasks and compromising can go a long way toward alleviating stress in families at the holidays.

Both Campbell and Christoffers say reaching out to others by volunteering also can lessen the blues.

Visiting a nursing home, taking cookies to a shut-in, simply "looking outside yourself," can change your outlook while helping someone else, Christoffers said.

### Quiet service

Good Hope Lutheran Church's "Blue Christmas" service is 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21, at the church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City.

It will include quiet Christmas songs and will focus on message of hope rather than the Christmas story. Participants will get a chance to light votive candles and the service will include a laying on of hands for healing.

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia also offers a Blue Christmas service at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14. A coffee reception with care ministers will follow the service. The church is located on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road.

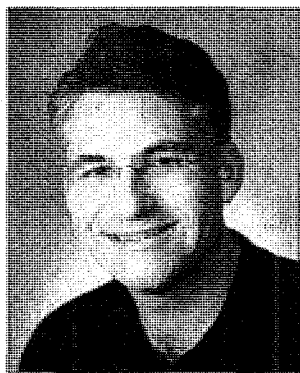
For more about Arbor Hospice's upcoming grief seminars, visit [www.arborhospice.org](http://www.arborhospice.org) or call (734) 656-0031.

because of illness, loss of family, financial woes. People come to this service because they want a quiet, meditative type of celebration of the birth of Christ rather than the craziness of Christmas Eve services."

### Stress or depression?

Dr. Theodore Ruza, D.O., a psychiatrist and medical director of Botsford Hospital's Geriatric Psychiatry Program in Farmington, says the notion of holiday "depression" is "a little exaggerated" for most individuals simply trying to "fit 25 hours into a 24-hour day" as they strive to meet holiday demands.

"It's not so much depression as it is anxiety and stress, which is a



Ruza

huge difference. People get angry, irritable, frustrated, hostile," he said. "Financial issues can be a huge concern.

"I see people get clinically depressed after the holidays, even if you don't have family, there are a lot of things going on... shopping, a lot of hustle and bustle, anticipation,

things on the radio, movies. On Jan. 1 it's all over and loved ones go back to work and the bills start coming in, it's cold here."

But Ruza acknowledges that the holidays can evoke feelings of sadness and depression over the loss of a loved one, even if they are no longer mourning.

"People can feel sad and depressed even if their mother passed away three years ago because they are remembering Christmases of the past. That is a normal response."

### Grieving

Vicki Campbell, Grief Support Services Coordinator for Arbor Hospice, presents workshops in Plymouth, Ann Arbor and Woodhaven to help individuals deal with their

grief process. "It's all about honoring that person's life," she added.

Lighting a candle for the deceased, honoring them with a memorial Mass or making a donation to a charity in their memory can become a part of holiday tradition.

Ruza suggests that families focus on "good memories" of deceased loved ones.

"Talk about the foods they made, what stories they told. If you look at it in a positive way, that can be reassuring and make you feel better," he said. He said delegating

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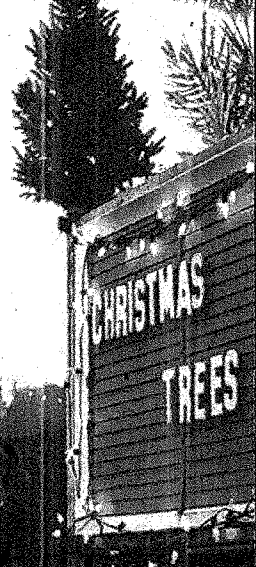
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## Job search help offered free of charge

Jewish Vocational Services will offer its Women to Work program in January 2012.

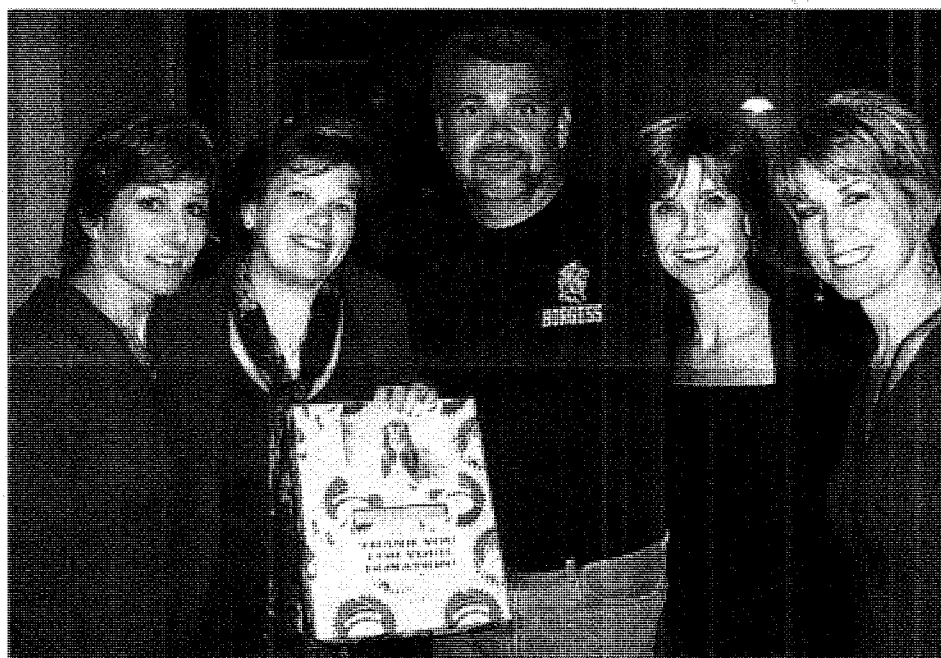
Women to Work is designed to help women and men, who have been out of the paid workforce because of family responsibilities, re-enter the work world.

An informational meeting will be held 9-11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, 2012 at 29699 Southfield Road, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Southfield.

The 10-session program will begin Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2012. Sessions will run 9 a.m.-noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Participants will receive help with resumés, interviewing and job search skills, and networking.

Advance registration is required. Call (248) 233-4232.



## Reunion

The Bishop Borgess High School annual reunion planning committee, Beth (McInchak) Gardner, (left) Mary Beth (Carpenter) Bazner, Brian Kerr, Mary (McCarty) Peters and Jane (McCarty) Browne is all smiles after collecting \$575 in donations to help Monaghan's K of C to help feed the needy this holiday season. They collected the donations at the school's annual reunion on Nov. 26 at Monaghan's K of C. Bishop Borgess was a Catholic high school in Redford. It closed in 2005.

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# Rescues seek donations for medical costs

By Sharon Dargay  
O&E Staff Writer

Sandra Mezza of Guardian Angels Animal Rescue in Livonia had been aware of Abby, a stray dog running the streets of Detroit, for nearly seven years.

One of her Detroit-based volunteers had tried trapping, chasing and following the dog that lived on scraps of food and slept in abandoned buildings.

"She was always too smart and even got out of a live trap they set for her," Mezza wrote in an e-mail. "Who knows how

she survived so many winters, she must have been so cold and so hungry."

Mezza and her volunteers gave a collective sigh of relief recently when they managed to capture the dog. But their celebration was tempered by the dog's medical needs.

"She has a very large tumor under her chest and will need it removed asap," Mezza wrote. "The tumor seems to be just a fatty tumor, which is good. The sad news is, she was tested positive for heartworm."

The group seeks dona-

tions for her treatment and surgery which will cost approximately \$1,000. Mezza also hopes to find a quiet foster home for her recovery. She said Abby is well behaved, quiet and has had no "potty accidents" in the house.

"She is so happy just to have a warm loving place to sleep."

To donate, write to Guardian Angel Animal Rescue, PO Box 511309, Livonia, MI 48151. Or pay online at [www.gaarmichigan.org](http://www.gaarmichigan.org).

**More rescues in need**

Tail Wagger's 1990, the Livonia organization that helps pet owners who are in need of assistance and provides funding for animals in emergency situations, set a fundraising goal of \$8,000 by Dec. 31 for prevention, treatment, and support programs. Laura Zain, Tail Wagger's founder, has plenty of rescue stories with happy endings this season, but also many cats and dogs that require veterinary care.

"Yesterday, I received an early morning call from the frantic owner

of two Himalayan cats named Bailey and Bentley," Zain wrote. "They had bought the cats for their daughter, but soon after, lost their jobs. Subsequently, they could not afford a trip to the veterinarian for vaccinations, spaying and neutering or food."

"Later the same night, I received a phone call about a puppy that had been found in an abandoned Westland home. Gullivar appeared to be in good spirits but had one of the worse skin conditions I'd ever seen. From head to tail, he was nothing but scabs with hardly any fur on his body. He had been

attacked by fleas for many months, causing a severe reaction."

Zain accepts donations of any amount at Tail Wagger's 1990, 28402 Five Mile, Livonia, MI 48154. Or pay on line through her Web site at [www.tailwaggers1990.org](http://www.tailwaggers1990.org).

Better Life Canine Center, headed by Brenda Woody of Westland, also accepts donations to help defray veterinary and dog training costs. The organization socializes and obedience trains all rescues before they are placed in permanent homes. Contribute at [www.betterlifecaninecenter.org](http://www.betterlifecaninecenter.org).

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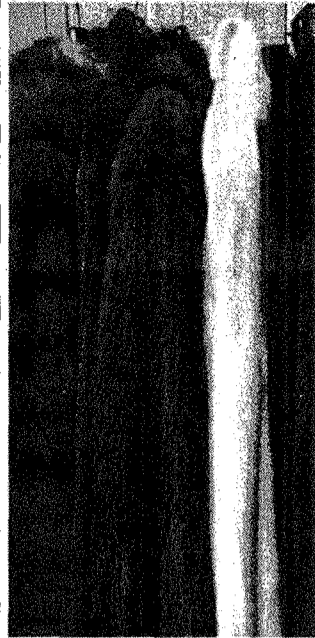
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- **"Stay Awake" Series:  
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taker@comcast.net or Fred Gregg at fredge1@comcast.net to receive a reunion packet.

**NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1971-75**  
The classes are joining together to celebrate with a reunion on Aug. 4, 2012. Reunion organizers are searching for classmates from those years. Send your name, address, phone and e-mail to nhs40yearreunion@gmail.com.

com. Spread the word to other classmates, too. The organizers will send more details after receiving your information.

**WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1962**  
Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion on May 19, 2012. E-mail to Judy (Ramsey) Oleson at joleson@sbcglobal.net or call her at (586) 268-1663 or e-mail to Kathy (Quinn) Hayes at bustchr@aol.com.

Urologists share data to improve care, treatment of patients

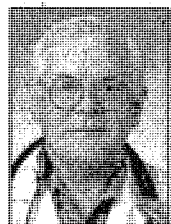
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and 21 urology practices work to improve care of patients with prostate cancer across state. Physicians share data and best practices to improve quality, reduce unnecessary procedures. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and 21 doctor offices throughout the state have launched a new initiative aimed at improving the quality of care for patients with prostate cancer. The Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative will look at how to reduce unnecessary testing in men with low-risk cancers, and how to provide more appropriate treatment for men with high-risk cancers. Urologists across Michigan also will share data and information to develop guidelines for the use of certain therapies. Standards are designed to reduce variation in practice patterns, which can in turn improve the quality and cost-efficiency of care provided to men with prostate cancer. "Our initial efforts will focus on improving pat-

terns of care in the staging of men with newly diagnosed prostate cancer," stated Dr. James Montie, professor of urology at the University of Michigan Health Center, (UMHC) the initiative's coordinating center. "We will use clearly defined evidence to guide us in staging bone and CT scans." Montie will lead the initiative along with Dr. David Miller, an assistant professor of urology at UMH. Montie and Miller worked with colleagues in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Virginia to establish the Urological Surgery Quality Collaborative in 2009. That project has successfully reduced variations in practice patterns and improved adherence to recommended staging practices within participating urology groups. The Michigan initiative is based on the principles of the successful multi-state collaborative. The new Michigan Urological Surgery Quality Collaborative joins 30 other collaborations among primary care and specialty physicians par-

ticipating in BCBSM's Physician Group Incentive Program. The program connects physician organizations across Michigan, supporting them in their efforts to collect data, share information and collaborate on initiatives that improve the way health care is delivered in Michigan. Local urology practices that are participating in the Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative include Affiliates in Urology in Westland, Dearborn, and Taylor; Huron Valley Urology Associates in Brighton, Canton, and Ypsilanti; Oakland County Urologists, in Waterford, Milford, and Novi; University of Michigan Department of Urology, Ann Arbor; and Wayne State University Physicians Group - Urology in Detroit, Farmington Hills, Dearborn, and Southfield. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan is a nonprofit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. For more information, visit bcbsm.com.

Appliance repairs can be tricky, may be best to go with a pro

This e-mail from Bob has a story to it that I'm sure will interest all you do-it-yourselfers. Bob writes: "My 8-year-old Whirlpool washer makes a retching noise when it is selected to spin. I took it into the garage and I had it on a dolly and laid it on its front. I rotated the joint between the motor and the transmission and heard one click. I thought maybe that it was in between spin and agitate. Now it will not run at all. Does it need water pressure to run? Does a tip switch need to be reset? I worked on these years ago."



Appliance Doctor Joe Gagnon

Well, folks, I called Bob because I'm sure he needed a little help. Come to find out that Bob during the 1960s had a part-time job after high school classes. He worked in a laundromat in Milford maintaining commercial washers and dryers and just loved the man he worked for. This man taught Bob the inner workings of a washer and dryer but those lessons were not doing him much good on his current 8-year-old washer. He didn't know how to take this machine apart. With a little help, Bob was able to remove the cabinet from this washer and determined that he needed a new coupler which cost him \$25 and he completed the repairs himself. Once he was told how the cabinet came off he was amazed at how easy it was to repair the product. Once again, knowledge became power. The fact of the matter is that manufacturers do not want homeowners to repair their own major home appliances. They have made entry into the components of these products a sometimes very tricky thing and many times the do-it-yourselfer will cause more damage than good. Now ask yourself why a

manufacturer would do this to someone who they wish to become a loyal customer. It doesn't make sense to me but it does to them because service profits make the bottom line look good. The more service calls available for their own technicians the more revenue realized by the company. It's almost as if they want to force you to call for a technician, but remember that many independent service companies will gladly explain how you can take things apart. Another e-mail from Ed tells a story hardly ever told. He writes: "Last night we had an unusual event. Barb was baking cookies and was approaching the oven when the glass from the door exploded all over the floor. She didn't get that close, so she wasn't injured. She went on the Internet to find out if this was something that just happened to her. It was not, it has happened numerous times and it seems by other makers of ovens with glass doors. Ours is a Kenmore purchased September 2010. Lucky for us it came with a three-year warranty." Now Ed and Barb are going to have their oven door glass repaired and I'll bet that when Barb is baking something and has to open the door you will hear her call for Ed, to "open the door." Not so long ago I had a lady tell me that she wasn't using her kitchen range, walked by it and the glass blew out of the door and cut her legs. Another lady I met once had a big scar over her right eyebrow and told me that the top burner on her electric range blew up and a piece of hot metal caused a severe burn where the scar is today. It just goes to show that not only are appliance repairs tricky, so are the appliances themselves. Stay tuned. Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com

VOICES & VIEWS COMMENT ONLINE

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

**WINTER AND ARTHRITIS**  
We enjoyed a slow onset of winter, but it was arrived. For anyone with arthritis, winter represents a time for caution and planning. The first winter rule is: Do not hurry. Allot ample time to dress warmly and to put on boots. Muscles, tendons and joints stiffen quickly when cold; for a person with arthritis, that stiffness adds on to the hazards of winter walking. Any amount of snow or the possibility of ice necessitates wearing boots; putting them on is a nuisance for everyone. For a person with arthritis of the hands, hips or knees, the process is even more annoying. The only way around the aggravation is to give ample time to the job. The second winter rule is: Keep moving. Winter in Michigan raises obstacles to hiking, biking, or walking malls with friends. No ready answer exists to what to substitute in winter for the outdoor facilities offered by Nature in spring and summer. Treadmill equipment is not always available or practical, pool facilities are scarce and getting to an enclosed mall if the weather turns nasty, may prove impossible. Winter weather not only keeps the person with arthritis a prisoner in his or her home, but turns the car into a straightjacket on wheels. I refer to the prolonged time on the road because of traffic jams, poor road conditions or the limited visibility that accompanies snow storms. While anyone who must stay for a prolonged period in a cramped position feel joint aches, the individual with arthritis suffers infinitely more. No ready answer exists to overcome these winter circumstances, we must do whatever possible to keep moving.

Blue Care Network of Michigan announces open enrollment for its Personal Plus product:

**PERSONAL PLUS**

Open enrollment dates are January 1 - January 31, 2012 for a March 1, 2012 effective date.

Please contact Blue Care Network's Customer Service department at 1-800-662-6667 for additional information.

**SOCIAL SECURITY**

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits. Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges. subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be **no fee charged until after the case is won**. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits. Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits. [www.ssdfighter.com](http://www.ssdfighter.com)

Classical Days & Jazzy Nights

**90.9 WRCJ**

The Michigan Tax Credit Ends Soon! Support classical music and lower your 2011 taxes. Listen December 16th for details. **WRCJ 90.9 FM** [wrcjfm.org](http://wrcjfm.org)

This space is provided by the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies.

# Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



**ALLHOUSE, NANCY DOROTHY**

December 3, 2011. Age 90 of Birmingham. Beloved wife of the late G.W. "Bill" Allhouse. Dear mother of Mark (Vaughn Babcock), Margaret Allhouse Suter (the late H.W. Suter II), Jeff (Nancy) and Steve (Lori). Grandmother of Amanda Jones (Eric), Lauren Allhouse and Courtney Allhouse Corbin (James). Great grandmother of Leila Jones. Also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services were held Saturday at First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. Memorial tributes to the church or Western Michigan University.

View obituary and share memories at [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)

**DUPRIE, BETTY HARDY**

Age 86 December 5, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Albert Hardy, Jr. Dear mother of Thomas Hardy, Donald Hardy and Gerald (Barbara) Hardy. Grandmother of 6. Great grandmother of 4. Sister of Russell Johnson. A Memorial gathering was held at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home.

[www.santeiufuneralhome.com](http://www.santeiufuneralhome.com)

**FINN, PETER GREGORY**

88, of Hudson, FL, passed away Dec. 4, 2011. Born July 23, 1923 in Detroit to Grace Johnson Finn and Russell Finn, he lived in Birmingham, MI until 1972. He is survived by his loving family, his wife, Joan Campbell Finn; daughters, Cindy Apter (Lewis), Carolyn Seckinger, Patty Lift (predeceased him), son John Finn; mother of the four, Joan Dodge Finn; five grandchildren, one great grandson, nephew, Paul LeClair (Beth).



**JENDER, MD JOSEPH GUNTHER**

Ann Arbor, MI. Age 81, died Monday, December 5, 2011, peacefully at home, surrounded by his family. He was born December 22, 1929 in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, the son of Joseph G. and Martha (Kolakowski) Jender. Joseph completed his undergraduate, medical school and residency at the University of Michigan. He served in the US Army Medical Corp from 1955-64, earning the rank of Major. Joseph was a pediatrician serving the Plymouth-Canton areas from 1964-1998, and was on staff at U of M and St. Joseph Mercy Hospitals. He enjoyed classical music, reading, and spending summers at his cottage on Beaver Island. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Sue; his son, Joe (Maureen) Jender of Herndon, VA; four daughters, Kathleen (Bill) Moran, Laura Jender, Nancy Jender and Alice Young, all of Ann Arbor; a brother-in-law, Nick Grandy; a sister-in-law, Anne (Paul) Duey; five grandchildren, Katie Moran, Madeleine and Zachary Young, Mallari and Colleen Jender; a niece, Paula (Tevfik) Nas; a niece, Diana Emou; and close friends, the Anderson family. A private family service was held. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Arbor Hospice or Mott Children's Hospital. Arrangements by Cole Funeral Chapel, Chelsea ([www.colefuneralchapel.com](http://www.colefuneralchapel.com)).



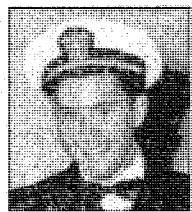
**GALE, NANCY J.**

Age 66, passed away December 8, 2011. She was born on April 20, 1945, in Ionia, daughter of the late Harry and Helen Martin. Nancy grew up on her parents' dairy farm, in Ionia, giving her a love of cows and livestock. She traveled extensively throughout the country with her family and the NSDCA. She was the past president of the local chapter of NSDCA named the "Traveling Squares". She loved doing crafts and quilting. Nancy was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother and will be sorely missed by all who knew her. She is survived by her beloved husband Walter; her loving children: Tina Marie Gale Bailey, Beverly Jean (Justin) Marlow, and Walter Edwin Gale; 9 grandchildren and her foster children: Jahmelah and Ahmenah. She is also survived by her sister Lucille Bates and her brother James Martin. She was preceded in death by her parents and her siblings: Joane, Gerald and Donald. Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 11 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. Funeral services will be held on Monday, December 12, at 11:00 a.m. at the Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 22200 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to the Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church or to the Arbor Hospice Foundation. She will be laid to rest in Almer Township Cemetery. Online guestbook at [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)



**LAINÉ, ARMAS ARTHUR**

On December 1, 2011, Armas Arthur Laine entered eternal life at Portage View Hospital in Hancock, Michigan. Armas was born on August 14, 1922 in Oskar, Michigan to John & Fannie (Solomonson) Laine. He is survived by his wife Norma, son Dr. Edward Laine, and granddaughter Reagan Victoria Laine. Also surviving are his sisters Ruth (George) Manninen, Marjorie (late Edward) Zollinger, Catherine (Paul) Leach, and Betty (Dr. Hal) Williams. In addition he is survived by multiple nephews, great nephews, and great great nephews; multiple nieces, great nieces and great great nieces; and cousins including Milly Pekkala. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers (John (Marie) and Reino (Katri)) and sisters (Helen, Viola (Philip) LeLievre, and Gertrude). Armas spent his early years including the Great Depression assisting his parents care for younger siblings and herding the dairy cows. He attended the Hancock Schools graduating from Hancock High School in 1942. After working briefly in Detroit he entered World War II for service to his country in the US Army from 1943-46. He was stationed on Attu in the Alaskan Aleutian Islands suppressing Japanese invasion until the end of the war. During his lifetime he worked at a bakery, on an iron ore freighter, and in the automotive industry. From 1950 until 1989 he was employed at Detroit Diamond retiring as Director of Shipping & Receiving from the Wyandotte, Michigan Site. He met Norma Leppanen originally from Bruce Crossing, Michigan at Dexter Dairy in Detroit in the early 1950's and married her on May 9, 1953. This year they celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary defining what marriage was intended to be. They lived briefly in Detroit and then moved to Garden City, Michigan in 1956 where they raised their family. Armas returned to Hancock in 2006 living out his golden years in a local nursing home. Armas enjoyed spending time with his family, friends, and neighbors, working, playing cards & pool, Kaleva Park, vacationing in Michigan's UP (especially Otter Lake and Bruce Crossing), fishing, bowling, taking care of his dogs, lawn and garden, bike riding, attending neighborhood and school functions, and Detroit Tiger and Red Wing games. He will be remembered for his dedication to his family and work (missing only one day of work while employed for 39.5 years at Detroit Diamond), honesty, helping others, sense of humor, and always telling people like it was. Springtime burial with a private graveside service will occur in Bruce Crossing, Michigan. The date will be announced via personal invitation. The family requests that any donations be made to your local Humane Society or the Ernie Harwell Foundation in memory of Armas Arthur Laine. The Memorial Chapel Funeral Home of Hancock, Michigan has been assisting the family with the arrangements.



**GUETHING, THEODORE HERVEY**

Age 92, born February 16, 1919, Ted passed away peacefully and went Home on November 16, 2011. Ted grew up in New England, graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy and MIT. An accomplished athlete, he played tennis, golf, squash and skied. His passion, however, was sailing and he won many championships, both locally and on the national level. Ted served in WWII as a Lt. Commander in the US Navy. While stationed on the USS Ticonderoga in the Pacific, he lost many friends and colleagues when two kamikaze almost destroyed the ship. While in the service, he met and married Camille Guyton, his loving wife of almost 68 years. They resided in Birmingham, Michigan while Ted worked with his father, holding the patent on machine tools needed in the automobile industry. Ted went on to become President of Mackinac College, a liberal arts school. Ted and Camille moved to Key Biscayne, Florida in the early 70's and he established an irrigation company. Upon retiring, Ted's routine was simple. He read the Bible every morning, walked the beach and swam in the ocean. He loved his wife Camille, his children, Theodore Hervey Guething III, Avery Ann Guething, both of whom predeceased him and his younger children Stephanie Giering and Carl Thomas Guething. He is also survived by four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He was a member of Biscayne Bay Yacht Club, Riviera Country Club, Key Biscayne Yacht Club and Old Cutler Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Miami Rescue Mission as Ted was passionate about providing for the poor. Interment has taken place at Greenwood Cemetery, Birmingham. Offer condolences at: [lynchfuneraldirectors.com](http://lynchfuneraldirectors.com)



**BURRESS, J.W.**

Age 89, Dec 4, 2011 of Westland, formerly of Canton. Beloved husband of Nadene. Dear father of Jan Munday, Peg McElroy, and the late Michael, Ronnie and Barbara Kay Burress. Loving grandfather of Julie Kelley and the late Jimmy and David Owens. Proud great-grandfather of Jordan and Brendan Kelley. Dear brother of the late Clarice Bruce and Frankie Walker. Visitation Thursday, 2-8pm and Friday 2-8pm at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N Newburgh Rd., (btwn Ford & Cherry Hill), Westland. Funeral service Saturday 10am at the funeral home. Interment Washtenog Memorial Park. Memorials may be made to Alzheimer's Association or to Merriman Road Baptist Church. To share a memory, please visit: [vermeulenfuneralhome.com](http://vermeulenfuneralhome.com)



**DOLMETSCH, MARY LOU (DEACY)**

Age 80, December 8, 2011. Born in Chicago, resident of Livonia for 44 years. Beloved wife of Bob. Loving mother of Bob (Sharon) & Jim (Lisa) Dolmetsch, Mary Jo (Mark) Westbrook, Patti (Rick) Galli. Dear grandmother of Edward, Kristin, Mike, Anthony, Sara, Gina, Jeanette, Jackie, Troy. Visitation at Harry J. Will in Livonia Sunday, December 11 from 2-9. Rosary at 8:00pm. Funeral service on Monday, December 12 at 10:00am at St. Colette Church in Livonia. In lieu of flowers, donations directed to Angela Hospice or Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Please view memorial tributes at [www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com](http://www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com)

**MAKEPEACE, NANCY L.**

Age 81, of Hendersonville, NC, formerly of Plymouth, former resident of Tonquish Creek Manor, Plymouth. Loving sister of Phyllis (George) Maddox and Ruby (Ray) Lawrence. Beloved aunt of Terry Wasalawski, Linda Wall, Larry Wasalawski, Penny Wasalawski, Dennis Lawrence, Deborah Price, Merle Maddox and Laurie Maddox. Dear friend of Betty Brink, Clara Cervelli, and Karen Dingleday. Visitation Saturday (12/10) 11 AM until 1PM, funeral service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (Btwn Sheldon & Beck), Plymouth. Interment Parkview Memorial Cemetery. To share memories please visit: [vermeulenfuneralhome.com](http://vermeulenfuneralhome.com)

**MASHNI, NABIH BOULUS**

Of Ann Arbor, Michigan, died peacefully on December 7, 2011. Nabih was born on February 8, 1929 in Ramallah, Palestine. He came to the U.S. to attend college in the early 1950's and met and married Barbara Jean Jones, his wife of 57 years. Nabih graduated from the University of Kentucky with a degree in business and moved to southeast Michigan to take a job with the Ford Motor Company. He later received an MBA from the University of Michigan and continued working as a financial analyst at Ford until his retirement. Nabih was instrumental in helping his family from Ramallah—his parents, siblings and grown nephews—immigrate to the United States and establish lives and community here. He is survived by Barbara and their six children, Laila (Donn) Shull, Lisa (Eric) Olson, David Mashni, Carol (David) Simmons, Janet Mashni-Seeburger and Kathie Mashni. Also surviving are 9 grandchildren, Christine, Ryan and Madeleine Olson, Stephen, Elizabeth and Erin Simmons, and Job, Mara and Violet Seeburger. Nabih was predeceased by his parents, Boulos and Jalileh Mashni, a sister, Rose (Fuad) Haddad and a brother, Wadia (Aneesa) Mashni. He leaves behind three brothers, Naim (Mary) Mashni, Fuad (Lucy) Mashni and David (Nohad) Mashni, four sisters, Waddad (Herbert) Faiman, Laila (George) Mashni, and Aneesa (Najeeb) Nakhle, and many nieces and nephews. Visitation will be Sunday December 11th from 3-8 p.m. at Metropolitan Seventh Day Adventist Church in Plymouth, MI. Funeral service Monday December 12th at 11 a.m. at church, followed by interment at Parkview Cemetery in Livonia. [www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com](http://www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com)



**POTOCZAK, JAMES J.**

December 2, 2011. Beloved husband of 44 years to Loretta. Loving father of Todd and the late Terri. Loving brother of Rose (Lawrence) Kulik, Monica (William) Reinhold, and the late Leonard. Dearest brother-in-law of JoAnn Potoczak, Dolores Cwik, Henry (Karen) Kopicko and Elaine (Henry) Micallef, and many nieces, nephews and beloved friends. Memorial services were held Friday, December 9 at 1pm at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City. Visitation from 10am until time of service at 1pm. Memorial contributions may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. ([www.pancan.org](http://www.pancan.org)) Please sign the on-line guestbook at [www.rggrharris.com](http://www.rggrharris.com)

**REINHARDT (BOYER) AUDREY HELEN**

Age 87, of Redford Township, MI, died Tuesday morning, December 6, 2011, at Borgess Medical Center, Kalamazoo, MI, following a three week illness. Audrey, the daughter of Stephen Boyer and Marie (Herb) Boyer (Ostlund), was born on February 4, 1924 in Detroit, MI. Her only brother, Harold, died in infancy. She was raised in Lincoln Park, MI and graduated from high school there. On September 4, 1948, she married to Robert W. Reinhardt in Detroit. They lived in Redford Township for many years and he died in 1996. Surviving are her sons, Robert W. (& Cheryl) Reinhardt, Jr. of Ross Township, MI and Mark E. Reinhardt of Clinton Township, MI. Audrey had five grandchildren, Kristy, Kara (& Taylor Henshaw), Matthew (& Adrien), Eric and Ross Reinhardt at Audrey's request, cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held on Wednesday, December 28th at 1:00 PM at St. James Presbyterian Church, of which she was a member, 25350 West 6 Mile Road, Redford, MI. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Red Cross, Southeastern Michigan Chapter, 100 Mack Avenue, Detroit, MI, 48201, where she was a blood drive volunteer for many years. Arrangements by Farley-Estes & Dowdle Funeral Home, Richland (MI) Chapel, (269-629-6022). Personal messages for the family and/or favorite memories of Audrey may be placed at [www.farleyestesdowdle.com](http://www.farleyestesdowdle.com)

## Milestones

### Siecinski-Convery

Maggie Siecinski and Michael Convery announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Polly Siecinski of Livonia and Doug Siecinski of Brighton, graduated in 2011 from Central Michigan University with a teaching degree. She currently works as a substitute teacher in the Clarenceville and Livonia school districts.

Her fiancé, son of Don and Karen Convery of Livonia, is finishing his last year at Ferris State University and plans to



graduate in May 2012. He is earning a degree in heating, cooling, air conditioning and refrigeration engineering technology.

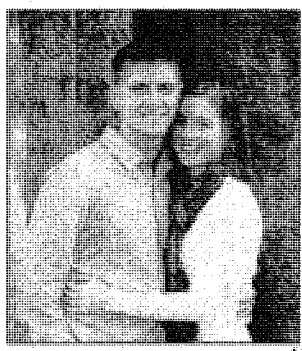
A July 2012 wedding is planned at St. Robert Bellarmine in Redford.

### Ret-Domzalski

Nicole Kathryn Ret and Raymond Thomas Domzalski, Jr. announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Daniel Ret of Plymouth and the late Diane Ret, graduated from Michigan State University in 2010 with a B.A. degree in family community services. She is employed as a foster care and adoption specialist in Southfield.

Her fiancé, son of Raymond and Jane Domzalski of Northville, graduated from College for



Creative Studies in 2011 with a B.F.A. in Illustration. He's employed as a graphic designer in Detroit.

A May 2012 wedding is planned at St. James Catholic Church in Novi.

### Sheryl Ann Sarafian

Sheryl Ann Sarafian and James C. Karo of Royal Oak are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Christina Sarafian Karo.

Christina was born at 8:12 a.m., Jan. 4, 2011 at Providence Hospital in Southfield. She weighed 7 pounds 13 1/2 ounces and measured 20 3/4 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Eddie and Carolyn Sarafian of Northville, and Dr. James J. and Lucretia Karo of West Bloomfield.

Great-grandparents are the late Joseph and Louise Carson, the late



Edward and Helen Sarafian, the late Robert and Catherine Koss and the late Leo and Helen Karo. The Carsons lived in Canton and the Sarafians and Karos both were from Livonia.

## RELIGION CALENDAR

### Dec. 11-14

#### ADVENT SERVICES

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Dec. 21  
**Location:** Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Special worship services

#### SPECTACULAR

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14  
**Location:** NorthRidge Church, 49555 N. Territorial, Plymouth  
**Details:** An all-star cast of Christian artists, along with special guest authors/speakers Max Lucado and Randy Frazee, perform favorite Christmas carols. Tickets are \$30-\$75. Order at [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com) or (800) 965-9324

**CONCERT**  
**Time/Date:** 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11  
**Location:** St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Christmas Music featuring the Madonna University Chorale directed by David Wagner. Admission free  
**Contact:** (248) 474-0584

**CONCERT**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11  
**Location:** Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia  
**Details:** Advent Collage Concert will include the adult Chancel Choir; the Rosedale Praise Team; the adult Carillon Handbell Choir; the instrumental group, Grace Notes; youth ensembles including the Cherub Choir, Chapel Singers, Chapel Bells, Chime Choir, and Cathedral Bells. Free  
**Contact:** (734) 422-0494

**CONCERT**  
**Time/Date:** 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11  
**Location:** Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** "A Trinity Family Christmas." Admission is free  
**Contact:** (734) 425-2800

**CONCERT**  
**Time/Date:** 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11  
**Location:** St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** 30th Christmas Concert, featuring Adult and Children's Choirs, and the St. Aidan Contemporary Ensemble. Minimum donation of \$5 per person, along with two non-perishable food items.  
**Contact:** (734) 425-9333

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May you find comfort in Family and Friends

## Give the gift of good health

This holiday season, help your loved ones start their New Year's resolutions a little early with gifts that encourage eating better and moving more.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation, a national non-profit founded by the American Heart Association and the William J. Clinton Foundation to combat childhood obesity, offers 10 healthy holiday gift ideas:

### Exercise class gift cards

Inspire a little gym motivation by giving your friends exercise class gift cards. Whether it's yoga, spinning, Zumba or their personal favorite, you can help them stay physically active this winter. Bonus points if you offer to be their buddy and join.

Local options might include a punch card for Summit on the Park in Canton, (\$55 residents, \$130 nonresidents) offering 10 visits to use the facility and attend fitness classes; [www.leisure.canton-mi.org/summit/](http://www.leisure.canton-mi.org/summit/). Or a gift certificate to classes at the Michigan Tai Chi Association in Livonia. Classes start the week of Jan. 2 and are taught at the Association, 38121 Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275, at the Plymouth Council on Aging Friendship Station and at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Call (734) 591-3530 or visit [www.taotachi.org](http://www.taotachi.org)

### Race Registration

Racing is a great way to work towards an objective. Whether it's a local 5K or a full marathon, giving the gift of a goal will provide an important



PATRICIA A. ELLIS

Breast cancer survivors walk, roll and even dance on the pink carpet with loved ones during the annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

benchmark on the path to a healthier lifestyle.

Locally, the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute has begun registration for the 21st Annual Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure on May 26, 2012, at Comerica Park in Detroit. Sign up by Jan. 1, 2012 for the early bird price of \$25 for adults and \$15 for youths, 6-17 and seniors, 65 and older. After Jan. 1, prices jump \$10 for adults and \$2 for youths and seniors. Race day cost is \$50 for adults and \$25 for youths. Visit [www.karmanos.org/detroitracefortheure](http://www.karmanos.org/detroitracefortheure) to register.

### Water Bottles

Staying hydrated is essential during physical activity. Show your family and friends you support their commitment to fitness and exercise with this personal gift they will bring on every workout.

Add a green twist to the gift by including a hand-

made certificate promising to accompany the recipient to the 5th Annual Green Street Fair in downtown Plymouth. Be sure to take your water bottles to the fair, which runs May 4-6, 2012.

### Homemade granola

Granola can be a healthier alternative than pre-packaged breakfast foods. By making your own granola you can customize your gift to someone's tastes while also ensuring only wholesome ingredients make it into their morning meals.

Here's a recipe from Sun-Maid to get you started:

### Granola Fruit Cups

- 1 ½ cups old-fashioned oats
- ¼ cup wheat germ (or oats)
- ¼ cup chopped pecans or walnuts
- ¼ cup chopped almonds
- ¼ cup pumpkin seeds or sunflower seeds
- 2 tablespoons sesame seeds
- ½ cup maple syrup or honey
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 large egg white

1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1 cup Sun-Maid Fruit Bits  
Preheat oven to 350 F. Coat a 12-cup muffin tin with cooking spray, or line with muffin papers. (A dark metal non-stick pan produces best results). Spread oats, nuts and seeds on a rimmed baking sheet. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until fragrant and lightly toasted. Reduce oven temperature to 300 F. Combine syrup or honey, butter, egg white and vanilla in a large bowl. Add Fruit Bits and toasted oats mixture; stir well. Spoon 1/3 cup mixture into each muffin cup and pack firmly using the bottom of a flat measuring cup. Bake at 300 F for 35-40 minutes for dark pan, or 40-45 minutes for regular pan, until well browned. Cool completely in pan, preferably several hours. Gently release by running a blunt knife around edges. Store in an airtight container.

easy way to prepare vegetables and meats in a nutritious, delicious fashion.

### Fresh Fruit

This holiday season, hold the cake and give sweet, healthy fresh fruit. Order in a store, online or express yourself by purchasing and arranging the fruit on your own.

### Jump ropes

Jumping rope is a great workout and is the perfect indoor activity during inclement winter weather. Make your gift extra special with a jump rope technique video.

### Sports balls

Soccer balls, kick balls, basketballs and other sports balls are fun ways to cut down on screen time and encourage kids to get active.

### Local Produce Membership

Fresh produce is a healthy and delicious addition to any household. Many neighborhoods offer community-supported agriculture programs that are open for membership. Give the gift that keeps your pantry and your family full of seasonal, local vegetables.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation aims to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity by 2015, and to empower kids nationwide to make healthy lifestyle choices. For more tips on ways you can cultivate a healthy lifestyle and help reverse the trend of childhood obesity visit: [www.HealthierGeneration.org](http://www.HealthierGeneration.org).

### Bike tune-up

Are there bikes gathering dust in the garage? Get them working good as new with a professional tune-up and inspire your family to start riding.

Want to try a winter ride? The Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society offers daily treks including routes through Kensington Metropark, along Hines Drive, and starting in downtown Plymouth. Visit [www.aabts.org](http://www.aabts.org) for an events calendar and membership information.

### Cooking gear

A portable grill top or a steamer for a stove is an

— Sharon Dargay

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### December

#### ST. MARY MERCY

• Dr. Harmesh R. Naik, an oncologist at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, will give a presentation, "Nutrition, Medication and Treatment of Breast Cancer," from 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, in the Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center Atrium at the hospital, located at Five Mile and Levan, in Livonia. Call St. Mary Mercy Hospital's Marian Women's Center at (734) 655-1162 for more information or visit [stmary-mercy.org](http://stmary-mercy.org).

#### GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

- Get up and Move exercise program runs 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, 20, 27, and Thursday, Dec. 15, 22, 29. Cost is \$30 monthly. Call (734) 458-3242.
- Yoga class meets at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the hospital, located at Maplewood and Inkster Road; (734) 458-3242
- Eating Disorders Support Group meets 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, 21 and 28; (734) 458-4330 for information
- Hearing Loss Association of America Support Group, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14; (734) 458-3381 for more information.
- Alzheimer's Support meets 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, in the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building, lower level classrooms, 6255 N. Inkster Road, Garden City; (734) 458-4330.
- Cerebral Aneurysm and Stroke Club meets 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, in the hospital's Rehabilitation Unit dining room; (734) 458-4392.
- Free blood pressure testing for senior citizens will be held at 10 a.m. Dec. 20, at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway and 10:15 a.m. Dec. 21 at the Maplewood Community Center, located on Maplewood just west of Merriman in Garden City; (734) 458-4330.

## Home Not Comfortable?

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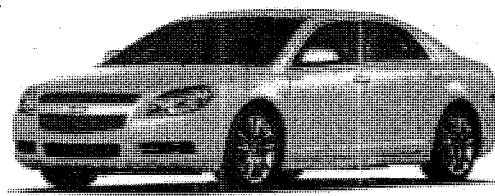
## 2012 CRUZE

LEASE FOR	<b>EVERYONE PRICE</b>	BUY FOR
<b>\$169</b>	<b>ZERO DOWN</b>	<b>\$254</b>
39 Months		A Month



## 2012 EQUINOX

LEASE FOR	<b>EVERYONE PRICE</b>	BUY FOR
<b>\$269</b>	<b>ZERO DOWN</b>	<b>\$320</b>
39 Months		A Month



## 2012 MALIBU

LEASE FOR	<b>EVERYONE PRICE</b>	BUY FOR
<b>\$179</b>	<b>ZERO DOWN</b>	<b>\$272</b>
39 Months		A Month



## 2012 CORVETTE COUPE

LEASE FOR	<b>EVERYONE PRICE</b>	BUY FOR
<b>\$549</b>	<b>ZERO DOWN</b>	<b>\$634</b>
39 Months		A Month



## 2012 TRAVERSE 2011

LEASE FOR	<b>EVERYONE PRICE</b>	BUY FOR
<b>\$239</b>	<b>ZERO DOWN</b>	<b>\$364</b>
39 Months		A Month



## 2012 IMPALA

LEASE FOR	<b>EVERYONE PRICE</b>	BUY FOR
<b>\$286</b>	<b>ZERO DOWN</b>	<b>\$291</b>
39 Months		A Month



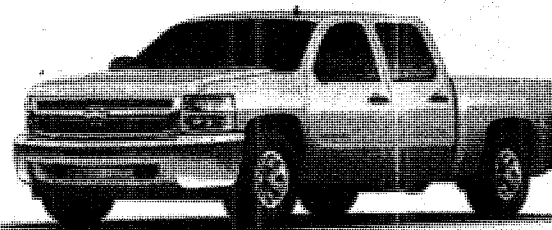
## 2012 SONIC

BUY NOW	<b>EVERYONE PRICE</b>	BUY FOR
<b>\$15,530</b>	<b>ZERO DOWN</b>	<b>\$223</b>
		A Month



## 2012 SILVERADO 2011 EXT. CAB 4X4

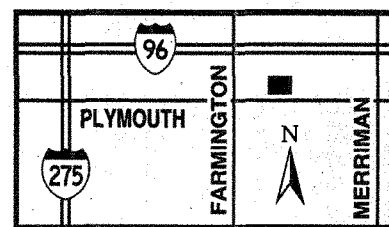
LEASE FOR	<b>EVERYONE PRICE</b>	BUY FOR
<b>\$297</b>	<b>ZERO DOWN</b>	<b>\$379</b>
39 Months		A Month



## 2012 SILVERADO 2011 CREW CAB 4X4

LEASE FOR	<b>EVERYONE PRICE</b>	BUY FOR
<b>\$329</b>	<b>ZERO DOWN</b>	<b>\$388</b>
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