

CHECK OUT OUR GUIDE TO THE PERFECT TREE SEE CLASSIFIED PAGE B7

LOOKING FOR FEATHERED FRIENDS
COMMUNITY LIFE, B5



HOLIDAY MASHUP: SCROOGE VS ALIENS
USA WEEKEND



Reserve a seat

You don't have be alone Christmas Day. That's the word from the folks at St. Dunstan Church, which is serving a holiday meal to folks from throughout the area who need a place to go Christmas Day. The free sit-down meal includes turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, salad, rolls, butter and an assortment of desserts. Guests need only bring their appetites. The dinner will be served 1:30-4 p.m. The doors open at 1 p.m. Reservations are preferred, however, no one will be turned away that day. For reservations, call Judy Larry at (734) 595-3049. The church is located on Belton, west of Inker Road and south of Ford, in Garden City.

Holiday show

The Action Pack, a group of local theater students, will present *Spread a Little Joy: A Christmas Play* 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 22, in Meeting Rooms A and B of the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford, Westland. Geared for youngsters and teens, the play is about a young girl named Chloe who learns to appreciate the holiday season after a visit to the North Pole. Refreshments will be provided. A canned food donation box will be available. The Action Pack was started by Sarah Mellas and Shannon Salisbury. Mellas wrote a Christmas play with the hopes of finding a way to get her friends together and start performing again. "We hope that you all enjoy the show, and keep an eye out for The Action Pack as they continue giving and performing for the city," she said. To sign up to attend, visit the library website at westland.lib.mi.us/teens/events.

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'... Never pay for what they have done'

Mother finds no comfort in sentencing of daughter's killer



Laurie Morse told Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Ulysses Boykin her daughter Carlee "was too beautiful to be turned into what she became."

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Justin Yoshikawa silently shook his head when asked if there was anything he wanted to say Thursday before being sentenced to spend 35 to 65 years in prison for murdering Westland teenager Carlee Morse. But the teen's mother, Laurie Morse, had something to say as she read a victim's impact statement, urging Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Ulysses Boykin to exceed the sentence specified in Yoshikawa's plea agreement. Both Yoshikawa and co-defendant Nicholas Cottrell pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of second-

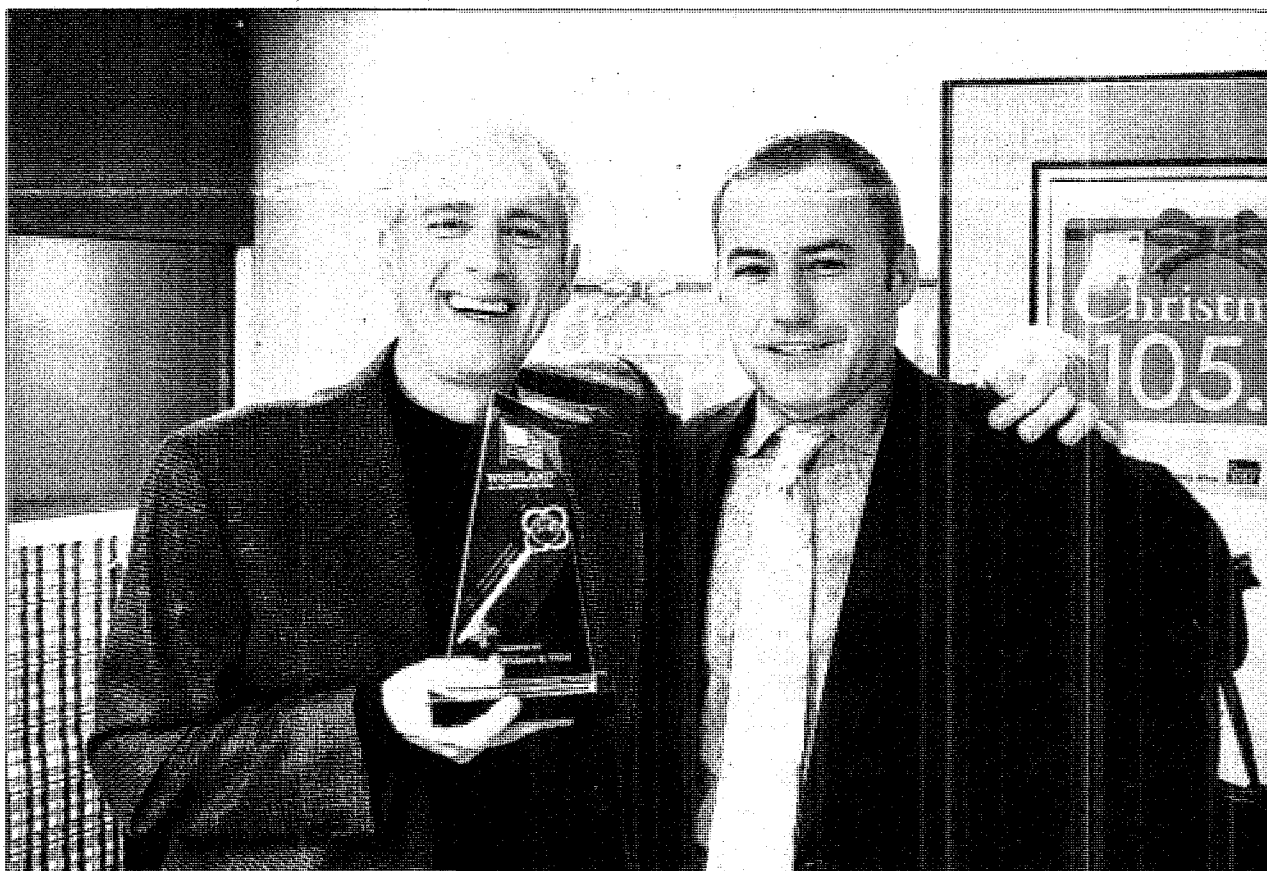
degree murder. They were originally charged with first-degree murder which carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole. "I was under the impression (guilty pleas for) premeditated and planned murders would keep these two off the streets forever," said Morse. "I know I agreed to the pleas but I didn't understand." A Belleville resident, Yoshikawa, 20, and Cottrell, 23, of Taylor, admitted luring Morse from the family apartment to kill her early Aug. 20, 2010. Yoshikawa, a former boyfriend of Morse, hid in the back seat of Cottrell's car as the girl got into the passenger seat. The men gave statements to

police and testified that Cottrell drove to a vacant nearby parking lot where he and Morse were to smoke marijuana. Instead, Yoshikawa used a dog leash to strangle Morse, described as 4-foot-8 and weighing about 80 pounds. "Carlee was in no way a perfect child but she was a girl who could light up a room with her jokes and antics," said Morse. Yoshikawa and Cottrell, already serving a 25- to 50-year prison sentence, described putting Morse's body into black trash bags before leaving it in a Dumpster. They told police they were unable to give a location where they had left her. Please see SENTENCING, A2

Westland honors hometown celeb, Jim Harper

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

As he wraps up his radio career, Jim Harper wasn't making an commitment about his retirement plans except for Dec. 16, 2012. "(Wife) Lynn and I will be cruising Ford Road waving like royalty," said Harper, after Dec. 16, 2011, was proclaimed Jim Harper Day in his hometown of Westland. A 1971 Westland John Glenn High School graduate, Harper has worked nearly 45 years in radio and mainly in the Detroit area. He officially retires on Friday, Dec. 23, with his last morning show at Magic 105.1/WMGC-FM where he has worked since July 2001 as morning host and program director. On Friday, Westland Mayor William Wild made a surprise visit to the Magic 105.1 studios in Ferndale to present



Long-time Detroit radio personality Jim Harper, who retires from his WMGC-FM morning show Dec. 23 received the key to the city from Westland Mayor William Wild. Harper grew up in Westland and is a 1971 Westland John Glenn High School graduate.

Please see HARPER, A2

W-W Salvation Army looks for help to reach this year's Red Kettle goal

By Julie Brown
Observer Staff Writer

The familiar Red Kettles of the Salvation Army are again out in full force, although Wayne-Westland donations are down from last year. "We're just asking for any additional support they can give," said Capt. Derek Rose, corps commander for Wayne-Westland with wife Capt. Joana Rose.

This year's Wayne-Westland kettle goal is \$165,000, with an additional \$20,000 goal for mail donations. As of Dec. 14, the corps had collected about \$110,000 total, about \$10,000 behind last year at the same time. Donations to the Salvation Army have been down across metro Detroit. "We've had some very rainy

days," Derek Rose said. "Our bell ringers produce a lot less due to the weather." Rose noted many people are out of work and there have been cuts to government programs. "Everybody is hanging on to those pennies, more than in years past," he said. Checks payable to the Salvation Army are welcome at the



Jackie Lee of Westland rings a bell at one of the Salvation Army's Red Kettles outside Westland Shopping Center on Friday.

Please see RED KETTLE, A2

INDEX

- Community Life..... B5
- Crossword Puzzle..... C2
- Health..... B11
- Homes..... C1
- Jobs..... C1
- Obituaries..... B10
- Services..... C2
- Sports..... B1
- Wheels..... C5

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HARPER

Continued from page A1

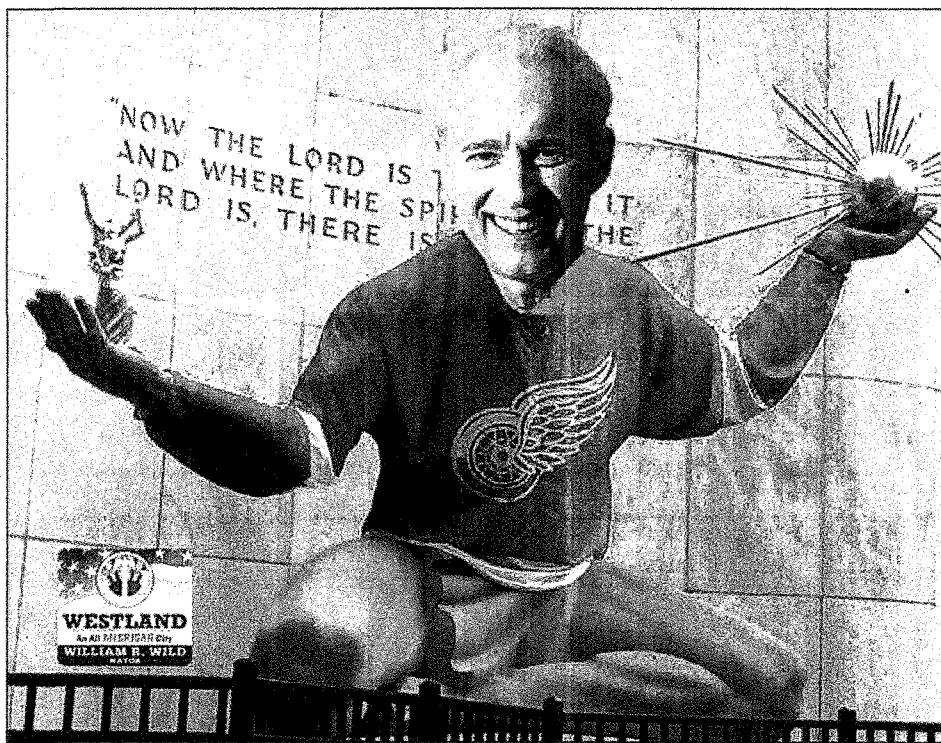
Harper with the proclamation, along with a key to city.

"I have no idea what is going on. My family is from Westland — did you finally discover a large oil well under my father's house," asked Harper, whose family name is Huzar. "My heart and soul are in Westland. It's my hometown. It's always a pleasure to see you — we love you."

Westland wanted to recognize Harper's long career and the fact that he's a Westland native, Wild said, so all 84,000 residents can celebrate Jim Harper Day.

"I don't know how they can celebrate except maybe moving their hairline back about three inches and expanding their foreheads," said Harper. "I'm really touched. I don't know what I will do to celebrate. I'll take time to reflect on how important growing up in Westland has been. That's where I got my values, my work ethic and my love of family."

Having moved to Westland in 1959, Harper recalled being part of the first family of what was then Nankin Township as his father served as the first township supervi-



This is a mock-up of the often-asked about statue of that radio personality Jim Harper that hasn't been built in Westland.

sor for six months. Harper also remembered his days as a *Westland Observer* carrier delivering about 400 copies per edition to homes — a task that required multiple trips home on his bicycle to pick up another load.

At 13 years old, Harper landed his first radio job in 1967 at WYNZ-AM, a small radio station in Ypsilanti. He hosted a 15-minute weekly Saturday show on teen issues.

Harper had stints at a number of radio stations in Michigan, a brief time in Texas and some time

in Ohio, but before his current work at WMGC had worked a couple of times for WNIC-FM as morning host, program director and later vice president of operations.

"It's not only Jim Harper Day, I also have the key to city to hand off to you," said Wild. "I gave it to Santa Claus a week ago and had to get it back from him."

Noting it was an actual metal key attached to plaque — not a chocolate key covered with gold foil, Harper said, "This is the coolest thing that

could happen."

But Wild had one more presentation for Harper.

"Jim always asks about his statue, it's under construction," said Wild, presenting a mocked up photo of the Spirit of Detroit statue with Harper's head and a Detroit Red Wing jersey. "We really have appreciated working with you."

Harper predicted the statue would prove to be a tourism boon for Westland.

irogers@hometownlife.com (313) 222-5428

SENTENCING

Continued from page A1

body, which hasn't been located.

"Why did it take two cowards to take her life? I find it amazing that they remember each word they spoke to each other and gruesome details," said Morse. "They drove on I-75 or I-96 but they can't remember where they went to throw what was to them a bag of trash."

Describing herself as angry and frustrated at her daughter's body not being found, Morse said she believes Yoshikawa, Cottrell and even Cottrell's mother, Tina Lowe, know where to find her. Lowe had pleaded no contest to a charge of interfering with a police investigation for trying to convince a witness not to come forward with information about the murder.

"She was too beautiful to be turned into what she became. Like any other family, we want to say goodbye and give her a proper burial," said Morse.

From her disappearance in August 2010

until Yoshikawa and Cottrell were arrested nearly four months later, Carlee's family searched for her not knowing she was murdered within an hour of leaving her apartment. Through the waiting and delays until the criminal case was resolved, Morse said she still doesn't know why her daughter was murdered.

"These criminals will never pay for what they have done," said Morse. "I don't know if Judge Boykin can change his mind but I would like a harsher sentence."

Sentencing Yoshikawa under the terms of the plea agreement, Boykin said that the sheer horror of the crime was beyond comprehension.

"This is a person whose life was taken in an extremely cruel manner. It makes it worse that the body has not been found," said Boykin, who urged Yoshikawa to provide information, if he remembers the location of Carlee Morse's body. "It would be of some comfort to the family."

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CORRECTION

A story about the Wayne-Westland Community Schools in the Thursday, Dec. 15, issue of the *Observer* should have state that the district's building and grounds department's list of things that need to be done totals \$100 million.

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RED KETTLE

Continued from page A1

Wayne-Westland Corps, 2300 S. Venoy, Westland, MI 48186. For information, call (734) 722-3660. Volunteer opportunities for bell ringers can also be found online at www.ringbell.org.

The local Salvation Army gives out toys and food to families in need

at Christmas, but efforts don't stop there. Rent, utilities, food, the feeding program for children, after-school program with tutoring, summer day camp and daily operations all depend on Christmas fundraising, Rose said.

"We have been praying quite a bit, we trust God provides what we need, he said.

Rose called this year "a little discouraging but

really it more challenges us" to avoid budget cuts. The corps has received some decent-sized checks, along with some \$100 and \$50 bills in kettles. So far, there haven't been any of the news stories seen elsewhere of gold coins dropped anonymously in a kettle.

"I think that would be amazing," Rose said, adding the Salvation Army appreciates all support given by the community.

Phil Hull, volunteer coordinator for the Wayne-Westland corps, agreed with Rose on the Christmas appeal's importance.

"It's absolutely critical," Hull said of the drive, which raises a significant part of the corps' budget. "A shortfall in our Christmas collections leads to further cuts which is something we desperately want to avoid."

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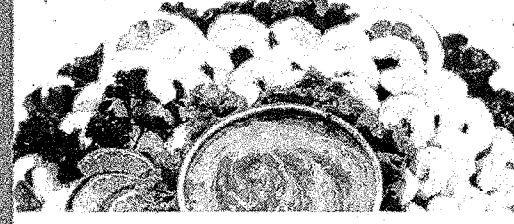
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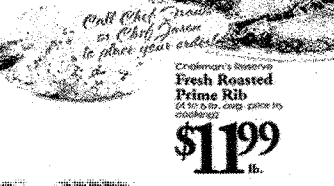
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Wayne High band sets sights on new uniforms

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

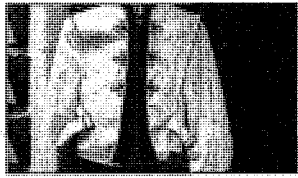
The members of the marching band at Wayne Memorial High School are looking for a few new friends — ones who would be willing to adopt a band uniform for \$350. If they find 75 people who would do that, the band would be on its way to have new, update uniforms by the 2012-13 school year.

The high school's Instrumental Music Boosters have begun a campaign, *New Stripes for 2012*, to fund raise to replace the 12-year-old uniforms that have begun to show their age. Some \$20,000 has already been raised, but it's estimated that the boosters will need close to \$50,000 to pay for 120-130 new uniforms.

"We've really been talking about it since last year, we want to update them for the time" said band director Matt Diroff. "We're looking for people who can donate a portion of the cost like for the pants, a hat, jacket."

The need for new uniforms was brought to the forefront this fall when Diroff ran out of uniform sizes for the musicians. It wasn't a case of not having enough big sizes, but having too many unusable uniforms. Diroff ended up dressing the pit in a slightly different all black uniform.

"It worked, it fit the music they were playing," he said. "We had other students who had to go to Kohl's and buy pants and make that fit as much as possible."



Instrumental Music Boosters are using a uniform jacket and pants to show why new ones are needed.

A problem with the current uniforms is that the white jackets get dirty very easily and the blue pants "are incredibly expensive and have to be ordered."

The new uniform that is in the design stages will have black pants which are easy to get because they're in stock. The current jacket is a two-piece while the new jacket will be a one-piece that zips in the back. Black will become the foundation color which will help the school's blue and gold colors "pop," Diroff said.

"We're still working on the design, it'll have a lot of black," said Diroff. "It'll be a much sharper look. What we really want to do is have a uniform style that is simple and design-wise will last awhile. It's a traditional look with updates."

Once the design is finalized the uniform company will create a sample so the school can get a feel the material and see how it will look as well as make adjustments. The plan is to have the uniforms done by the end of July or early August when the manufacture will come in fit the uniforms to the band members "and make sure they look the way they're supposed to be."

The boosters have to have the money secured by March 1 to try and provide a 90-day window to have them ready to wear. They don't want a situation where something doesn't come out right and the manufacture only has a week to fix it, Diroff said.

The boosters are doing a variety of fundraisers, including a bowling fundraiser at Wayne Bowl on Jan. 28 as well as a series of pancake breakfasts on Jan. 15 and 29 and Feb. 12 and 26. They have gotten support from Principal Valerie Orr who donated \$2,000 of the money she received from the Famous Footwear/Converse contest and are taking a tattered uniform around to businesses to get donations.

Donation levels tied to the cost of the uniforms. A friend's \$25 donation is the expected cost of a uniform accessory, \$50 the cost the hat and feather plume, \$100 a pair of uniform pants, \$250 the jacket and uniform accessories and \$350 a single uniform.

People or businesses who would like to make a donation can contact Diroff at diroffm@wwcsd.net or booster finance chair Susan Webb at webbs@wwcsd.net.

"The kids are so excited, they have nice uniforms that have been put to good use, but they like the idea of going out onto the field and have a new look," Diroff said. "I think the current seniors wish they could stick around for another year."

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W-W seeks volunteers for Literacy Corps

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools has put out the call for volunteers to work with students as part of its new Literacy Corps.

Having volunteers go into the classroom to read with children is nothing new for the district; however, the Literacy Corps is a more formal program that includes training for the volunteers.

"We're excited about it, the teachers are excited about it," said Paul Salah, deputy superintendent for instruction. "We hope it will rub off on the community."

Salah worked with Antoinette Griffith and Cyndi Morningstar in developing the initiative which will be offered initially at Adams Upper Elementary and Edison, Elliott, P.D. Graham, Hoover, Schweitzer, Wildwood, Taft-Galloway and Walker-Winter Elementaries.

"Our goals are to increase student achievement and increase community and student involvement," said Morningstar. "We know from research that the more the community is involved, the more students achieve. We want our students to be lifelong learners and readers."

The district has begun recruiting volunteers. In a letter that being sent out to parents, guardians, community stakeholders and business partners, Salah stressed that "families, community members and business stakeholders all have a vested interest in the growth and development of young people."

According to Salah, research has shown that linking the community to the classroom has a positive impact on academic achievement. Students who don't develop sufficient literacy skills are more likely to struggle with future employment, become incarcerated and less likely to continue their education beyond high school.

"We want this to be a huge partnership," Salah said. "We want to provide volunteers so student know what is a good reading habit. We had participation in reading programs the past like at Schweitzer, but those were like islands of excellence."

Volunteers also will be required to attend a two-hour orientation and training session. Two sessions will be

offered at 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., both on Tuesday, Jan. 17. The program will kick off at the start of the second semester on Jan. 23.

One of the tools volunteers will be provided with will be the Michigan Reading Association's *The ABC's of Reading Strategies for Volunteers*. Using every letter of the alphabet, the publication offers volunteers ideas and suggestions to help students learn to read.

"We don't want to put volunteers out there without providing some monitoring questions," said Griffith. "We don't want volunteers to give students the answers, we want them to help the students problem solve."

Opportunities to work in the classroom with youngsters will be flexible and based on the volunteer's schedule. It could be one hour a day or several days a week, once a week, even once a month.

"The need varies from building to building, we have some that have 100 percent participation," said Morningstar.

"As we go and talk about the Literacy Corps at staff meetings, we're asked if it's too late to sign up," added Griffith. "We have more children than volunteers right now."

The district has brochures available that explain the program that include a volunteer form to fill out. The information will be used to do a criminal background check. The completed form can be dropped off or mailed to the district's Human Resources Department at 36745 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185.


Volunteers will be notified in writing, if they are accepted into the program. And there is no deadline as to when people can sign up. Forms will be accepted at anytime.


"We're always looking for ways to improve student achievement," said Salah.

Board Secretary Cindy Schofield had her form filled out by the end of presentation on the program at this month's school board meeting.

"The Literacy Corps is something near and dear to my heart," she said. "I can't emphasize enough how we need the community to get behind this. There's a tremendous need out there."

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Marriage proposal comes with picture with Santa Claus

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Stefanie Redding wasn't that keen about a visit with Santa. And she was sure when her boyfriend led her past the children waiting in line to see him, their parents were going to kill him.

But they ended up applauding after Lester surprised her with a ring and a request to marry him.

"I had an idea he might when he told me to keep the day open," said the Westland resident. "I had a hunch that's why I started throwing a fit, and when he got down on his knee I thought, 'Oh, God, it's coming.'"

"I was shaking really bad, and when she didn't answer right away, I really started shaking," he said. "She was like a deer in headlights."

The Belleville resident got the idea of proposing when he tried to book a dinner reservation at Antonio's but found out there would be a delay because of a lunch with Santa. The idea hit him to propose with Santa there, but when he couldn't get in on Santa's visit at the restaurant, he decided to see if he could catch the Big Man at Westland Shopping Center where mall management was more than happy to make it happen.

"We were so excited," said Patrick Derrig, the mall's marketing manager. "It was so nice to be a part of something special like this."



Rob Lester slides an engagement ring on the finger of Stefanie Redding after proposing to her in front of Santa Claus at Westland Shopping Center Sunday.

Lester brought the ring and Redding to the mall. She insisted she didn't want to see Santa, but he was persistent, leading her past the youngsters because they had a "Fast Pass."

"It took a lot of persuading," said Lester. "She kept saying, 'I'm not going to do this.'"

While he pretended to try to reach his friend Patrick on his cell phone at worker took the ring he was holding behind his back and gave it to Santa.

"I wanted to buy a shirt and change and he said no," Redding said. "I texted a friend and she wanted to know if he was going to propose. I told her we were going to see Santa."

The couple met recently through a mutual friend and hadn't been seeing each other very

long. "It happened very quickly, we fell in love," said Lester. "I just wanted to do something different. Everyone got involved and it got a lot bigger than I thought it would be."

They're not sure when they will marry. Lester said it will be spontaneous. She wants a formal wedding, but they may do "the Vegas thing" first.

"It could be tomorrow, it could be next month," said Redding. "It likely be one day we'll say let's go to Vegas. My mother has told me to have a long, drawn out engagement, but she knows me better than that."

And their engagement photo? A picture with Santa.

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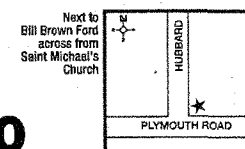
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Keep children safe this holiday season

Family gatherings, special traditions, delicious treats. The holiday season may be the most wonderful time of the year, especially for kids. Unfortunately, for emergency room doctors, it's also one of the busiest.

Trauma and Injury Prevention Experts at the DMC Children's Hospital of Michigan are offering tips to protect little ones from some common holiday dangers, so

families can enjoy a season that's happy and healthy.

In keeping children holiday safe consider:

Decorations

- Mistletoe, holly, poinsettias, Jerusalem cherry plants and others can pose potential poisoning risks. Symptoms can include rash, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Call the National Poison Center at (800) 222-1222,

if you suspect poisoning.

- "Bubble lights" contain methylene chlorides can be poisonous, if a child drinks the fluid from more than one light (even if labeled nontoxic).

- Snow sprays may be harmful, if the aerosol propellants are used improperly.

- Small tree ornaments, light bulbs, icicles, tinsel, small toys and common hol-

iday foods, such as peanuts or popcorn, pose a potential holiday choking hazard, if swallowed by small children, as these items may block the airway.

- Holiday tree needles, angel hair (made from finely spun glass) and ornament hangers can cause potential cuts, skin irritation or eye damage

Holiday feast

- Minimize potential food poisoning by practicing by washing hands, utensils, dishes, and anything else that comes in contact with raw meat, including poultry and fish, and raw eggs before and after use. Store leftovers properly and heat them thoroughly before serving.

- Alcohol poisoning - Remove all empty and partially empty cups out of reach of children. Remember, children become "drunk" much more quickly than adults, so even small amounts of alcohol can be dangerous.

Holiday trees

- Keep your live tree secured in a sturdy stand so that it doesn't tip over and keep it away from all heat sources, such as electrical outlets, radiators and portable space heaters. Replenish water receptacle regularly to keep tree from drying out.

- Be sure your artificial

tree is labeled "fire-retardant."

- Unplug all lights, both indoor and outdoor, and extinguish all candles every night before you go to bed.

- Avoid using real candles on a tree and keep them away from windowsills and mantles. Never leave the room with single candles or menorah candles burning.

- Use only flame-retardant decorations when decking your halls.

Fire-free holiday

- Don't overload indoor or outdoor electrical outlets.

- Have your fireplace inspected before you light your first fire of the season, and never burn paper or pine boughs, since those materials can float out of the chimney and ignite a nearby home.

- Practice fire safety. Have a family emergency plan in the event of a fire.

- Check smoke detectors before you put up your holiday decorations.

Accident-free holiday

- Keep pot handles turned away from the front of the stove and always keep the oven door closed. Keep watching eye on children while you bake or cook.

- Keep breakable ornaments out of young kids' reach — or keep them off the tree until your children are older.

- Parents can prevent a holiday ER visit by making sure the kids are buckled up securely during car rides and by not driving after drinking alcohol.

- Young kids should be supervised and should avoid dangerous sledding areas, such as rocky areas, steep hills, and crowded sledding hills.

Safe toys

- Toys made of fabric should be labeled as flame resistant or flame retardant.

- Stuffed toys should be washable.

- Painted toys should be covered with lead-free paint.

- Art materials should say nontoxic.

- Crayons and paints should say ASTM D-4236 on the package, which means that they've been evaluated by the American Society for Testing and Materials.

- Steer clear of older toys, even hand-me-downs from friends and family, as they may not meet current safety standards.

- Make sure a toy isn't too loud for your child as it could contribute to hearing damage.

- Always read labels to make sure a toy is appropriate for a child's age. Age levels for toys are determined by safety factors, not intelligence or maturity.

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MARK SAUNDERS	H019	Misc. household
PAUL DEMOS	C013/C014	Misc. items
DONALD HILLARD	G002/33	Misc. household
TERRI KAY	B127	Misc. household items
EASTER WILLIAMS	B001	Misc. household
CHARLES CLEMENT	A017	Misc. household items
MICHAEL BOYD	B049	Misc. household
KRISTINA CAIN	G010	Misc. household
LAURIE POIRIER	B057	Misc. household
ANDREW DOBBINS	G026	Misc. household
ASHANTI BYRD	G037	Misc. household items
RALPH MANDELKA	C038	Misc. household items
JEFFREY CLISH	B018	Misc. household items
LALITA CLEGG	B134	Misc. household items
NIKUNJ BRAHMBHATT	E016	Business furniture/equipment
CHRISTINE DIPPEL	B147	Misc. household items

Publish: December 15 & 18, 2011

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Three county detention workers win state awards

Three employees of the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility in Detroit have won awards for meritorious service in 2011 from the Michigan Juvenile Detention Association.

Brian Plowden of Redford Township was honored as a Child Care Worker of the Year. Support Worker of the Year awards went to nurse **Cleofas Anasco** of Dearborn and **Latonya Hardy** of Westland.

Plowden, a juvenile detention specialist, joined Wayne County in 1990. A trainer for staff in the area of the control room operator, Plowden is updating a training manual for workers in the area.

"Mr. Plowden is the first juvenile detention specialist the residents encoun-



Plowden

ter," said Leonard Dixon, executive director of the juvenile detention facility. "He is always professional and goes to extra lengths to explain procedures to juveniles, who are sometimes anxious about this experience."

Anasco has helped diagnose major illness in newly admitted patients as a member of the health services department. She has been a Wayne County employee since 1990.

"Nurse Anasco is persistent and communicates well with physicians, co-workers, the nursing supervisor and others to

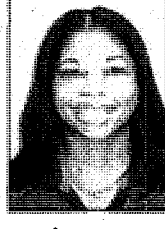


Anasco

ensure residents receive the best care," Dixon said. Hardy has managed the female youth at the detention facility. Since joining the social service staff two years ago, she has learned the rules of the facility and the state guidelines mandated to operate a child caring institution.

Said Dixon: "Hardy is a self-directed employee. She approaches each daily task as a goal to be accomplished."

The detention facility, operated by the Department of Children and Family Services, provides safe and humane services to



Hardy

juveniles pending completion of legal proceedings. Juveniles housed at the facility are

awaiting adjudication, sentencing or placement.

"We're proud of our Wayne County employees," said Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano. "Our three award winners are great examples of employees who take pride in what they do for the

public. They consistently provide quality services, often times under trying circumstances."

The employees received their awards at the annual Michigan Juvenile Detention Conference, held in Roscommon.

H.Y.P.E. brings basketball clinics to Bailey Center

The Westland Parks and Recreation Department is offering children ages 6-14 some H.Y.P.E. during their Christmas vacation.

The department is partnering with the H.Y.P.E. (Helping Youth Progress and Excel) Athletics Community to offer two basketball clinics 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Dec. 27-29 and Jan. 3-5, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland.

The clinics cost \$30 each, however, youth can register for the first session and get the second session for \$15. Registration can be completed at the Bailey

Recreation Center. Call (734) 722-7620 for more information.

The H.Y.P.E. basketball instructors include an experienced and reputable staff in the game of basketball. Jimmy King, former University of Michigan "Fab 5" member, McDonald's High School All-American and NBA player, will head a staff that includes Colin Wilkinson, a two-time national champion and captain at Rochester College.

For more information on H.Y.P.E., visit the website at www.hypeathletics.org or call (313) 357-5458 or (866) 988-HYPE (4973).

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Diversified portfolio is best way to minimize risks

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: I've been retired for a couple of years and because of some bad investments, I decided to go back to work. I'll be working part time and will make enough money to help me cover my living expenses. Last year I had to begin taking money out of my IRA because I turned 70½. I also took money out this year. Since I am going back to work and won't need the money from my IRA, am I still required to take a distribution? Currently, in my IRA I have about \$100,000. I am an aggressive investor and

I have the money divided as follows:

- 50 percent — Emerging Market Funds
- 40 percent — U.S. Small Cap Fund
- 10 percent — High Yield Corporate Bond

I originally had a lot more in my IRA, however, some of my investments did not pan out and that's why my portfolio is about a quarter of what it was a few years ago. I realize I should make some changes and become more conservative. I'm hoping you can help me with the portfolio allocation.

A: Unfortunately, when it comes to required minimum distributions from IRAs, there are no exceptions. When you turn 70½, and every year thereafter, you must take a distribution. It does not matter if you need the mon-



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

ey or not, you are still required to take your minimum distribution. Of course, that doesn't mean you have to spend the money, but it does mean you have to pay the tax on the money. Therefore, once you have withdrawn the money from the IRA, you can turn around and reinvest that money outside of a retirement vehicle. In your situation, that is a strategy that makes the most sense.

As to your portfolio, I agree that a realloca-

tion is required. The fact that you have 50 percent of your money in emerging markets is, as far as I'm concerned, irresponsible. Emerging markets are important places to invest, however, no matter how aggressive of an investor you are, 50 percent is just too much. Don't forget that emerging markets are new economies and subject to an inordinate amount of volatility.

In addition, I also believe that a 40-percent allocation to U.S. small companies is also too speculative. In your situation, the way I would reallocate the portfolio is to initially start with an allocation between stocks and bonds. The allocation I suggest is 65/35 with 65 percent in equity and 35

percent in bonds. I recognize that this is a much more conservative allocation than you had in the past and that bonds aren't paying high rates of return right now. However, it is important to remember that you're not just investing for today, you're also investing for tomorrow. You need a well-balanced and diversified portfolio, something that you did not have in the past.

Of the 65 percent that is in equities, I would allocate the money as follows:

- 5 percent — Emerging Markets
- 5 percent — Small Company International
- 10 percent — Large Company International
- 30 percent — Large Company U.S.
- 10 percent — Small Company U.S.
- 5 percent — Real Estate
- 10 percent — International Bonds
- 15 percent — High Grade Corporate Bonds
- 10 percent — U.S. Treasuries

I believe this portfolio would be more balanced and would certainly do a better job of managing risk. In this economic environment, managing risk is something that every investor needs to be concerned with. One of the best ways to manage risk is to have a balanced and diversified portfolio. Investors that are not balanced and diversified are taking unnecessary risks and that can cause problems in today's environment.

As we enter the new year, it is a great time for everyone to re-examine their portfolio and look for ways to better manage risk. It would be nice if we could eliminate risk, but we can't. However, we can manage it. Good luck!

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

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GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Blood drive
Garden City Hospital will hold an American Red Cross Blood Drive 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 22, in the Lower Level Classrooms of the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building, located on the Garden City Hospital campus at 6245 Inker Road.
Appointments can be scheduled by calling (734) 458-4259. Walk-ins are welcomed.

Coat Drive
The Garden City High School cheerleaders are conducting a coat drive for those in need.
Donations can be dropped off at boxes at the high school, Douglas 3-4 Campus and Memorial 1-2 Campus now through Thursday, Dec. 22. All sizes of new or gently used coats, mittens, hats and gloves will be accepted.

Toys for kids
Help the Garden City Goodfellows ensure there's no child without Christmas. Drop off new, unwrapped toys through

Please see CLIPPINGS, A9

WHY YOU MUST ATTEND THE DEC. 19TH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING:

Did you know?
Our Garden City Teachers have been working without a contract after months of negotiating with inaccurate numbers from the School District.

Did you know?
The School District budget was inaccurate by OVER 6 MILLION DOLLARS!

Did you know?
EVERY EMPLOYEE in our School District, BESIDES TEACHERS, already knows that they will pay 10% or LESS for their health insurance in 2012!

Did you know?
Teachers are asking for a 20% contribution to their insurance, as opposed to a "hard cap", but the Board has yet to secure EVEN THIS for them!

Our School Board URGENTLY needs to vote to secure Teacher contributions of 20% toward their health insurance at our NEXT School Board Meeting. State mandates will put the financial futures of our educators at risk for years to come based on THIS HEALTHCARE DECISION. Some of our best, brightest and most dedicated Teachers will struggle to provide for their families based on the outcome of this decision.

We need to keep these Teachers in GARDEN CITY for your children!

PLEASE DEMAND that our Teachers are allowed to get back to focusing on student achievement in the classroom, instead of defending their livelihood and family healthcare!

Call your School Board. Email your Superintendent. Tell them "NO HARDCAP!" on Health Insurance for Teachers!

WE NEED EVERY GARDEN CITY RESIDENT TO ATTEND THIS MEETING TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT:
Tell your School Board and Administrators what YOU think as a voter, a parent, or a community member!

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monday, December 19, 2011
Location: Memorial Elementary 1-2 Campus
Start Time: 7:00 PM
End Time: 9:00 PM

READ THE FACTS:
www.SupportGCEA.wordpress.com

Facebook.com/SupportGCEA

CLIPPINGS

Continued from page A8

Wednesday, Dec. 21, at Century 21 Castelli, 1812 Middlebelt, Garden City. For more information about donating, call Barb at (734) 644-2402.

Holiday shopping

A Kindle, a few good books or even some kitchen items. Residents who like shopping on Amazon.com can help the Garden City Public Schools support its staff and students by using the link on the bottom of the district's website at www.gardencityschools.com.

Simply use the link to enter the Amazon.com site, and a portion of any resulting purchases will be returned to Garden City Public Schools. Products do not cost any more by using the link, and shoppers don't have to do anything more than click on the link to start shopping.

However, shoppers must gain access to Amazon.com by clicking the link for Garden City Schools on the district's website for the GCPS to get credit for the purchases.

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



Holiday cheer

Second- and third-graders from St. Raphael School brought holiday cheer to the residents of Wayne Living Center in Wayne on Dec. 13. The youngsters sang Christmas Carols and then gave ornaments to the residents at the end of the program.

counties from January through mid-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.

Community Chat

Join Kerry Partin, a resident of Garden City, every Thursday night at 9 p.m. for his Internet talk show recorded live where the residents and surrounding communities are welcome to participate. Share your events, promotions or comments with your fellow residents and the communities. Also get the latest weather, entertainment, sports and much more.

Listeners can call in live at (724)444-7444 and enter the call ID 82757, or go to the chat room at <http://talkshoe.com/tc/82757>.

Garden City Kiwanis

The Garden City Kiwanis Club of is recruiting new members to help provide assistance to the disadvantaged residents of our community — especially children — who are having a difficult time during this economic recession. Founded in 1948, the Kiwanis Club

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

The club meets at noon on Thursdays at Aman-tea's Restaurant on Warren Road at Venoy in Garden City.

Anyone who is interested in attending one of the luncheons or with questions about the club's community involvement can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101.

Garden City Rotary

The Garden City Rotary Club is on the hunt for new members.

The local club was chartered in 1940 as part of the worldwide Rotary International organization and is guided by the Rotary motto "Service Above Self." Charitable involvement covers the spectrum from local activities, such as college scholarships, literacy training, coats for needy elementary children, to projects including school construction and orphanage support in Latin America, as well as pure water, polio vaccination,

and other international humanitarian efforts.

Rotary offers a wonderful opportunity for people to provide service for others on many different levels and to the extent they feel comfortable doing so. At the same time, it offers the availability for weekly contact and socialization with other, like-minded, nice people.

The club meets at noon on Thursdays at Aman-tea's Restaurant on Warren Road just east of Venoy in Garden City. Individuals interested in more information about the club can call Steve Kelly at (734) 748-1345.

Recycle for cash

Drop off used ink jet cartridges, cell phones, digital cameras and similar items at City Hall. Garden City Charities, a group formed by city staff, sends the items off to be recycled by Cartridges for Kids and gets cash in return. Money raised by Garden City Charities benefits local organizations.

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Holiday party brings families together at Four Seasons

Families socialize as they enter the Four Seasons dining room where tables are covered with festive green and red tablecloths. "It's great they do this for the residents so they aren't feeling lonely," said Carol Gannaway, party guest. "It's nice to see everybody together and happy," said Nancy Boland of Livonia. "It's great. It's fun," said Pat Lyden, RN, Four Seasons' Administrator. "It's an opportunity for families and residents to be together for the holidays."

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

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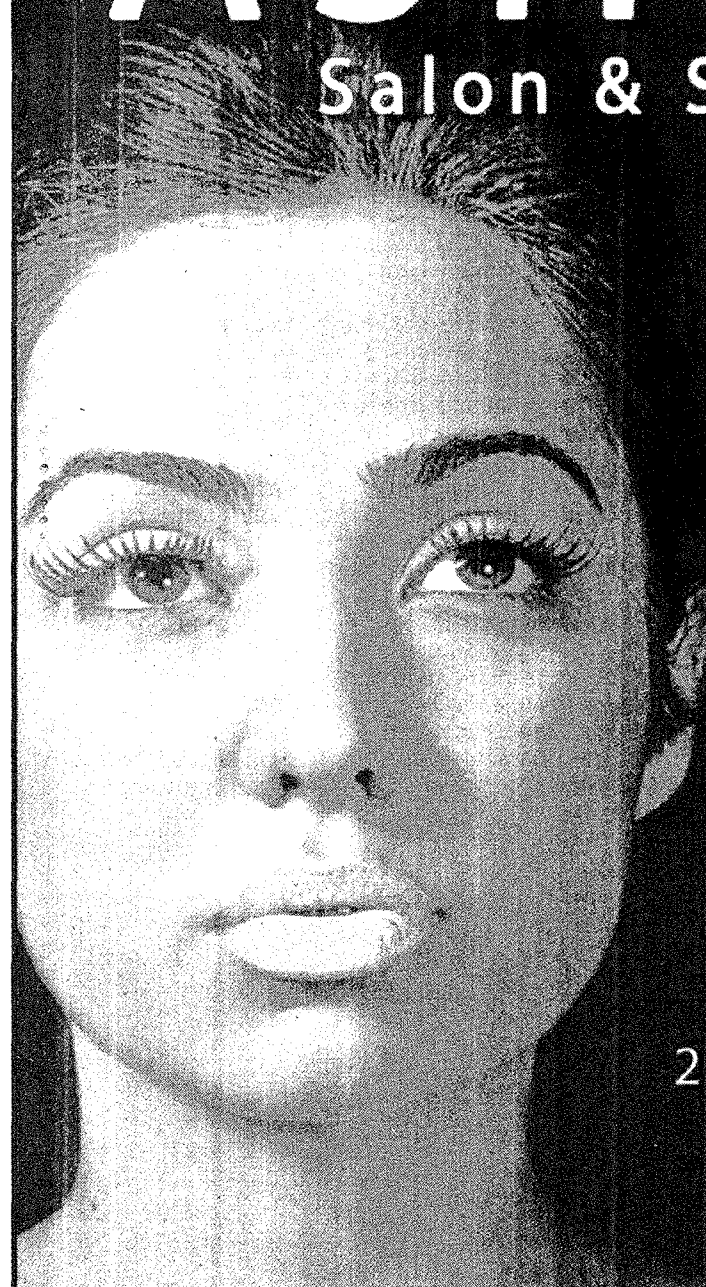
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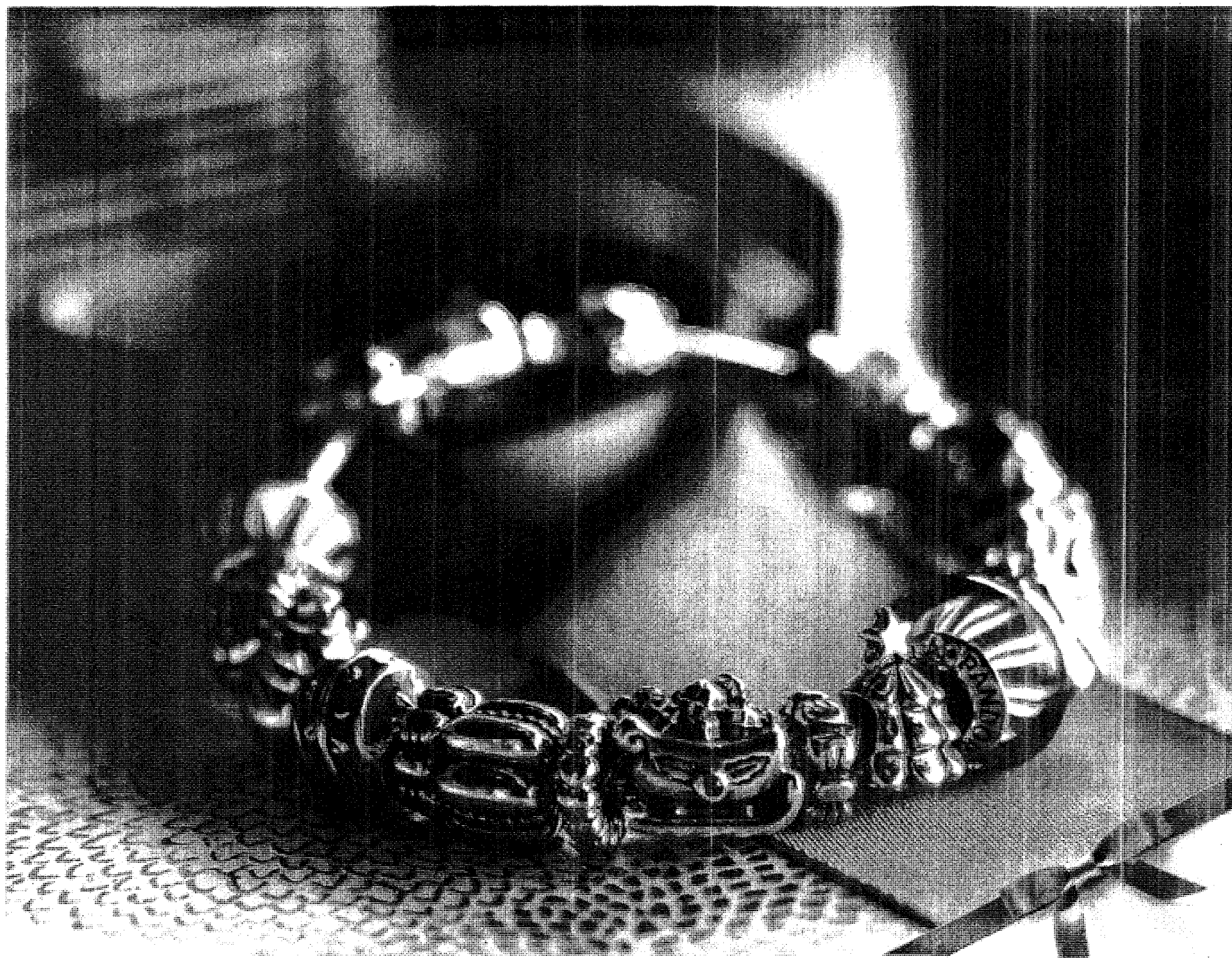
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Seniors ring in the holidays at Friendship Center

Westland's Friendship Center was the place to be and be seen during the recent seniors Christmas Party.

Decorated for the holidays, the event was packed with seniors, many wearing festive sweaters and other holiday attire. The holiday meal was catered by Chef Tony Paquette and his students at the William D. Ford Career and Technical Center.

The food was served by elected city officials, including Mayor William Wild, members of the city council, Clerk Eileen DeHart, Westland Police Chief Greg Angelosanto, Deputy Police Chief Dan Karrick, Assistant Fire Chief John Adams and Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski.

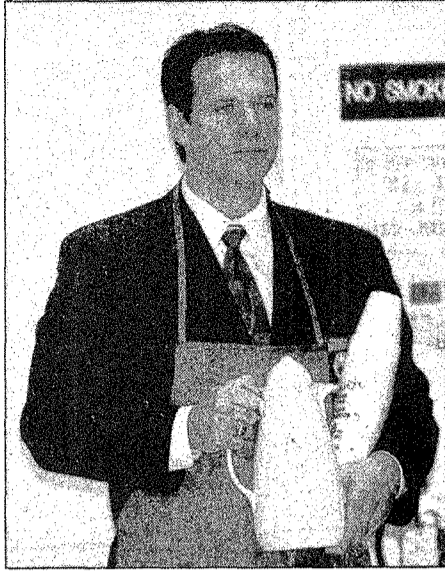
Westland 18th District Court judges Sandra Cicirelli and Mark McConnell also donned aprons and plastic gloves to help with the meal.

Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt (D-Livonia) helped serve the meal as did State Rep. Richard LeBlanc (D-Westland), who was joined by his wife Cheryl. Giving no quarter to working in the buffet line, LeBlanc donned a plastic apron but wore a long-sleeved white shirt.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano visited with the hundreds of seniors who came for the meal and entertainment.

Celisa Gutierrez played the harp to provide musical entertainment during the Christmas party. Music was also provided by the Capital City Ringers, who played the bells and also included a set of bongo drums.

The Friendship Center is now closed through Jan. 3 for the holidays.



Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski was ready to serve coffee during the Friendship Center Christmas Party.



Westland resident Earl Elliott (left) goes through the buffet line with food being served by Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt (D-Livonia), State Rep. Richard LeBlanc (D-Westland) and his wife Cheryl.



Ken Bauschat (left), Winnie Bauschat, Irene Kerr and Anna DeAguiar dig into the holiday meal at the Friendship Center.



Celisa Gutierrez played the harp during the Friendship Center's annual Christmas party.

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<p>All Christmas Floral Arrangements Swags Bushes Stems Wreaths Picks Garlands Ribbons 50% Off</p> <p>* DOES NOT INCLUDE CUSTOM DESIGNS</p>	<p>Furniture Always Marked... 30% Off</p>	<p>Christmas Crafts Labeled "MAKE IT CHRISTMAS", "ESSE JAMES" & CHRISTMAS CRAFTS 50% Off</p>
<p>Floral Categories Listed 50% Off</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ribbon & Trims By The Roll All Items Labeled "HIS & HERS" Wedding Sale CHOOSE FROM INVITATIONS, BIRTHDAY CARDS, BIRTHDAY GAMES, BIRTHDAY CAKE TOPPERS & MORE Floral Arrangements DOES NOT INCLUDE CUSTOM DESIGNS & POSTED FRIES Garland, Swags, Wreaths & Teardrops NOVEMBER & GREENERY 	<p>Hobbies Categories Listed 30% Off</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estes Rockets Science Kits & Telescopes Train Sets Plastic Model Kits 	<p>Needleart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Love This Cotton! 2.66 1/8 35 OZ. All Foam Products 30% Off "Yarnology" Knit & Crochet Tools & Notions 25% Off Artiste Cotton Floss & Craft Thread Packs 30% Off
<p>Framing Categories Listed 50% Off</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posters & Matted Prints Custom Frames Always 50% OFF THE MARKED PRICE APPLIES TO FRAME ONLY Photo Frames ALWAYS 50% OFF THE MARKED PRICE CHOOSE FROM OUR ENTIRE SELECTION OF BASIC, FASHION & WOODEN PHOTO STORAGE Ready Made Open Frames SIZES FROM 8" X 10" TO 30" X 40" Shadow Boxes, Display Cases & Flag Cases 	<p>All 2 oz. Acrylic Paint FEATURING AMERICANA, CERAMIC, FOLK ART & ANITA'S 30% Off</p>	<p>Crafting Most Categories Listed 30% Off</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candle Wax, Candle Gel & Glycerin Soap ALSO INCLUDES SHEA BUTTER & GOATS MILK SOAP Fuzzy Posters, Paint & Pencil by Number Kits Mosaic Tile, Gems, Chips & Stones Mayberry Street & Lilly Lane Dollhouse Furniture & Miniatures 50% Off
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<p>Glass Pendants by Bead Treasures</p> <p>Swarovski Elements</p> <p>Sterling Silver CHOOSE FROM BEADS, CHAINS, FINDINGS & WIRE</p> <p>Jewelry Making Categories Listed 50% Off</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timeline by Bead Treasures NOSTALGIC JEWELRY COMPONENTS FROM THE 40s THROUGH THE 90s 	<p>Color Gallery by Bead Treasures 7" STRANDS OF FASHION GLASS BEADS</p> <p>Home Decor Fabric CHOOSE FROM PRINTS, SOLIDS & SHEERS ALWAYS 30% OFF THE MARKED PRICE</p>	<p>Christmas Fabric 50% Off</p> <p>Fashion Fabric Calico Prints & Solids ALSO INCLUDES APRON PRINTS ALWAYS 30% OFF THE MARKED PRICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ribbon, Trim & Tulle Spools DOES NOT INCLUDE RIBBON, TRIM & TULLE SOLD BY THE YARD 50% Off Felt & Flannel CHOOSE FROM SOLIDS, PRINTS & PATCHES BY THE YARD 25% Off Fleece CHOOSE FROM PRINTS, SOLIDS & MICROFIBER ALWAYS 30% OFF THE MARKED PRICE

WAYNE WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Architect will receive sealed bids for:

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL CHILLER REPLACEMENT

Bid Proposals will be received until the time and the place, as follows, where and when the opening of bid proposals will be conducted by the Owner in public:

Date: January 10, 2012
Time: 11:30 a.m. EST
Place: Board of Education
Wayne-Westland Community Schools
38745 Marquette
Westland, MI 48185

Attn: David Kaumeyer, Senior Executive Director of Business and Operations

Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after December 15, 2011.

Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ARCHITECTURE, INC., 1191 West Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302; the MCGRAW-HILL CONSTRUCTION DODGE PLAN ROOM, Livonia, Michigan; or the CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Qualified Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Office of the Architect, consisting of one (1) set of Drawings and Specifications.

Return Bidding Documents to the Architect within ten (10) days after opening receipt of proposals. Documents are to be complete, in clean and usable condition and free of marks or other defacement.

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include this statement. This statement is on the proposal execution form.

A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 Fourth Street, Wayne, Michigan 48184 on: Thursday December 22, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. Attendance is highly recommended. Meeting shall be located at the boiler house adjacent to the tennis courts.

Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by the Architect, accompanied by a satisfactory Bid Bond or Certified Check for five percent (5%) of the Base Bid Sum maximum possible proposal amount.

Bidder shall agree not to withdraw Bid Proposal for a period of sixty (60) days after date for receipt of bids.

Accepted Bidder shall be required to furnish satisfactory Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The right to reject any or all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities therein is reserved by the Owner.

This project is to comply with the Michigan Prevailing Wage Rate for Wayne County.

Publish: December 18, 2011

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McClary: Laws help collaboration

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

Garden City Manager Darwin McClary is praising the passage of some new laws that will assist municipalities with regional cooperation.

Gov. Rick Snyder's signature Wednesday removed the road blocks, giving local governments greater flexibility in sharing services. According to the governor's office, the new laws also gives municipal leaders greater flexibility to work together.

Greater clarity to existing state law is another benefit. The changes were long sought by local officials and were called for by the governor in his message to the Legislature on Community Development and Local Government Reform.

"I applaud the efforts of the Michigan Municipal League in getting these changes passed," McClary said. "I am pleased that the governor signed these bills into law."

McClary said that these pieces of legislation are a fair compromise between municipalities and public employees while removing the barriers that used to exist in allowing communities to take advantage of economies of scale and efficiencies through collaboration and consolidation.

"While cities such as Garden City now have greater flexibility to work with its neighbors to provide public services, the rights of employees to collectively bargain on the impact of collaborative efforts remain intact," McClary said. "After all, our outstanding unions are our partners in any effort we undertake."

A press release from Snyder's office said that municipalities have been held back in the past.

"Local governments willing to share common services are often held back by the very laws intended to help them," Snyder said. "The reforms I have signed into law offer municipal leaders a clear path to common sense collaborations. By reaching across historical boundary lines, dynamic communities are built and valuable taxpayer dollars are saved."

The six bills the governor signed are:
• HB 4309, sponsored by state Rep. Eileen Kowall, HB 4311, sponsored by state Rep. Paul Opsommer, and HB 4312, sponsored by state Rep. Thomas Hooker amend various acts relating to locally consolidated services. These bills specifically lift the requirement of maintaining prior labor contracts, staff seniority levels and benefit packages.

• Senate Bills 8 and 9, sponsored state Sen. Mark Jansen, create the Municipal Partnerships Act that authorizes municipalities and public entities to enter into contracts to provide common services. The Municipal Partnership Act also defines what a shared service contract can or cannot contain, excludes shared service contracts from being subject to a local referendum under a charter or ordinance and sets guidelines for funding joint ventures.

• SB 493, sponsored by state Sen. Arlan Meekhof, amends the Public Employment Relations Act to prohibit bargaining of agreements that limit a public employer's ability to enter into an intergovernmental agreement. The bill does not eliminate the ability to collectively bargain on the effect of an intergovernmental agreement that results in consolidated services.

sbuck@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2249

BBB offers tips to avoid holiday travel headache

The holidays are a time of cheer, but they can also be a time for battling traffic and bad weather on the road. Staying safe should be a top priority for all travelers so Better Business Bureau recommends taking a few precautions when hitting the road this holiday.

"Before hitting the roads, give your car the attention that it needs," said Patrick Bennett, BBB director of community relations. "Make sure you are well-equipped and know where to turn should the unexpected happen."

BBB recommends taking the following steps for safe driving this holiday season:

- Create a car safety kit. Holiday driving often includes the threat of dangerous winter weather. Snow and ice lead to accidents, car troubles, long delays and road closures. You can prepare for bad weather by creating your own safety kit. Basics for the kit include blankets, flashlight with extra batteries, radio, first aid kit, jumper cables, non-perishable foods like granola bars and nuts, bottled water, an ice scraper and warm gloves.
- Take the car in for a checkup.

Breaking down on the side of the road can definitely put a damper on the holiday spirit. If your car is due for a checkup, take it in before making that long haul. At the very least, check the car's fluid levels, wipers and

tire pressure. Check the condition of your tires and, if you plan on driving through serious winter weather, consider getting snow tires.

- Take BBB with you.

When you're away from home or in the midst of an emergency, it's hard to know which businesses - such as tow trucks and locksmiths - you can trust. The good news is you can now rely on BBB's mobilized website or the BBB iPhone application for finding businesses you can trust when you're away from your computer.

- Start early and slow down. The best way to fight holiday traffic is to give yourself some extra time to make the trip, and don't speed. Speeding leads to accidents, which slow traffic and cause bottlenecks.

Also, if you're caught speeding by law enforcement, that adds travel time and puts a dent in your holiday spending.

- Drop the distractions.

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. When you're behind the wheel, don't text and drive, use a hands free headset when talking on the phone, and get someone else to fumble with the GPS.

For more advice on staying safe over the holidays, visit us online at www.bbb.org/us/consumer-tips-holiday.



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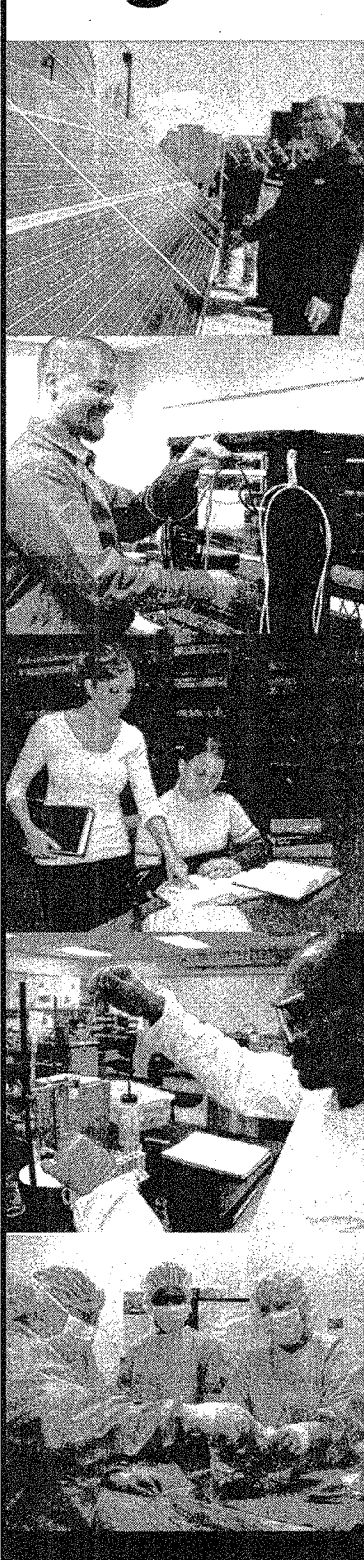
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www.hfcc.edu

NOTICE OF SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD DURING THE 2012 CALENDAR YEAR

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of Westland, Michigan will hold its regular meetings on the following dates during the calendar year of 2012, in the Council Chambers of the Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of the month, except when a holiday falls on that Monday, in which case the meeting will be held on the next secular day that is not a holiday.

Scheduled Meeting	Mon. Cut-Off Date	Scheduled Meeting	Mon. Cut-Off Date
January 3, 2012 (Tues)	Dec. 22 (Thur)	July 2, 2012	June 25
January 17, 2012 (Tues)	Jan. 9	July 16, 2012	July 9
February 6, 2012	Jan. 30	August 6, 2012	July 30
February 21, 2012 (Tues)	Feb. 13	August 20, 2012	Aug. 13
March 5, 2012	Feb. 27	September 4, 2012 (Tues)	Aug. 27
March 19, 2012	March 12	September 17, 2012	Sept. 10
April 2, 2012	March 26	October 1, 2012	Sept. 24
April 16, 2012	April 9	October 15, 2012	Oct. 5 (Fri)
May 7, 2012	April 30	November 5, 2012	Oct. 29
May 21, 2012	May 14	November 19, 2012	Nov. 13 (Tues)
June 4, 2012	May 25 (Fri)	December 3, 2012	Nov. 26
June 18, 2012	June 11	December 17, 2012	Dec. 10


January 7, 2013 Dec. 27, 2012 (Thur)

Proposed minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, not more than eight business days after the date of said meeting and approved minutes will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, at the same location, not more than five business days after the meeting at which the minutes are approved. This notice is given in compliance with Act. 267 of Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.

EILEEN DEHART
WESTLAND CITY CLERK-CMC

F:\ccsec\COUNCIL ITEMS\Schedule of Meetings\Council Meetings 2012.doc
Publish: December 18, 2011

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 themselves 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.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the 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.

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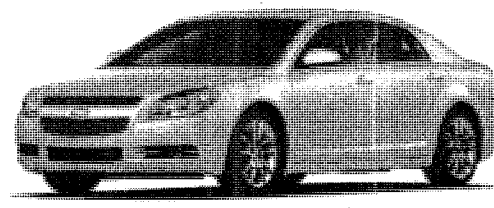
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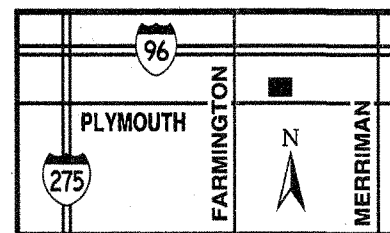
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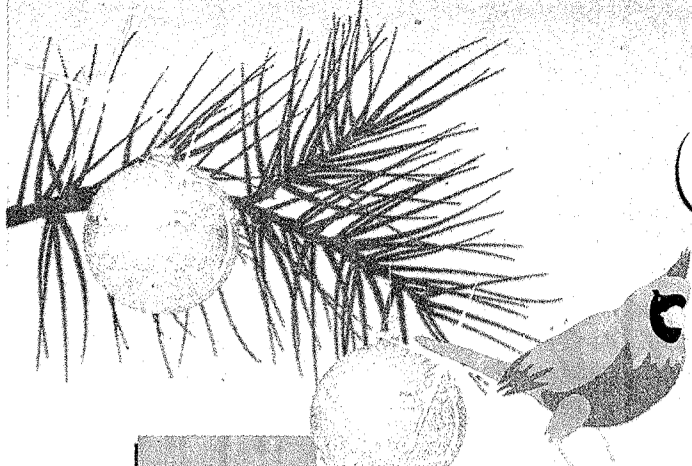
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Community turns out for Wayne High Holiday Night

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Janet Tomlinson thinks a miracle similar to the loaves and fishes story in the Bible might have happened at Wayne Memorial High School at its Holiday Night for the Community.

With 900 people showing up the first year and 700 the next year, they decide to plan for a crowd of 850. When the evening was done this year, at least 1,380 parents and children had enjoyed a spaghetti dinner prepared by the culinary arts students at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

"Chef Tony (Paquette) and the students made spaghetti, salad and bread sticks, and everyone ate," said Tomlinson who heads up the Upward Bound program at the high school. "I don't know what he did but it was like the loaves and fishes."

Families throughout the Wayne-Westland Community Schools were invited to the Dec. 2 event that included the dinner, a visit with Santa for the youngsters, a chance to make ornaments, decorate cookies and write letters to Santa, have fun in inflatables and even visit a Secret Santa Shop.

The crowd was so large that they ran out ornaments to make so they used decorated Cutie oranges with cloves



Santa Claus poses for a photo with two-year-old Marley Yun. He stayed at the high school until almost 9 p.m., visiting with youngsters.

and called them orange-ments, Tomlinson said.

The event was the third such one the staff have stage since school started in September. It hosted Wayne Pride Night, its annual open house in September and did a Spooktacular in October. Both were well-attended, but nothing beat the crowds that flowed through the doors for the Holiday Night.

"It was the best, really extraordinary and a true community event," said Tomlinson. "It was just wonderful. These experiences speak to who we are at Wayne Memorial."

Planning for the event began last summer. The

event was made possible through sponsorships and donations, like the 1,000 cookies, frosting and sprinkles provided by School Superintendent Greg Baracy, which Tomlinson calls the "Cookie Monster," and \$1,000 from the Wayne High staff. One hundred Wayne High students volunteered to help with the setup and teardown, while 50 teachers were also involved.

"One of our counselors' husband plays the keyboard and he performed, teacher Erica Hannah and her husband did the photography," said Tomlinson, whose husband Roger did a reprise as Santa Claus, sitting



Brandon Tomblin directs Wayne Memorial's Vocal Dimensions which performed carols for the dinner guests in the high school cafeteria.



Students Desilda Cela, Gabriel Garsia and Alicia Smith pour pop for families enjoying the spaghetti dinner at the Holiday Night.

ting in his chair and listening to youngsters well after the party ended at 8 p.m.

"Charles Stanley, one of our longtime substitutes, was the DJ at the North Pole and the folks in transportation let us use their professional costumes.

There were gingerbread men, a snowman, Christmas tree and elves.

"Something like this creates a desire in the community to be a part of the school," said Tomlinson. "We've become a hub in the community."

The gymnasium was transformed into the North Pole and that's where youngsters played with Legos, enjoyed the bouncers and visited with Santa. At the opposite end of the building, a room had been set aside for Wii Dance Revolution to holiday songs.

According to Tomlinson there was a lot of energy and electricity because of the people who came to the school.

"I'm glad the community wanted to be here, I'm glad they were comfortable with being here," she said. "When the kids walk in the door for Wayne Pride or for something like this, they realize this is a good place where they want to be."

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

INFANT CARE

Time/Date: 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12

Location: Classrooms 1 and 2 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Five Mile and Levan, Livonia

Details: St. Mary Mercy Hospital is offering a "Getting to Know Your Newborn and Caring for the Sick Infant Care Class. Gain knowledge about caring for your newborn. This class taught by a registered nurse, will teach new parents the basic characteristics and needs of a newborn to include diapering, bathing, feeding, growth and development patterns. In addition to baby basics the class will also include how to recognize when a baby is sick. Car seat and home safety will also be covered. This class is open to anyone who cares for an infant. We encourage spouses or support person to attend this class at no additional cost. The fee is \$55.

Contact: To register, call St. Mary Mercy Hospital's Marian Women's Center at (734) 655-1162, or register online at smarymercy.org and click on "classes and events."

ZUMBA FITNESS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursdays, beginning Jan. 5

Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Zumba Fitness classes at Merriman Road Baptist Church will feature rhythms set to high-energy Latin, international, and Christian music. Before you know it, you will be feeling fit and your energy level

will be soaring. It's easy to do, and suitable for all exercise levels. Registration is 7:30 p.m., class begins at 8 p.m. and is approximately one hour long. Adults 18 years or older only. Wear comfortable workout wear - a sweat towel and a bottle of drinking water are recommended, too. A donation will be taken at the door for every class to cover the cost of the certified Zumba instructor's services. Visit www.MRBC.us and click on Women's Ministries, 'Girlfriends of Grace', and 'Zumba Fitness for Women' or e-mail us at info@mrbc.us

Contact: For more information, call (734) 421-0472.

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.

YWCA PRESCHOOL

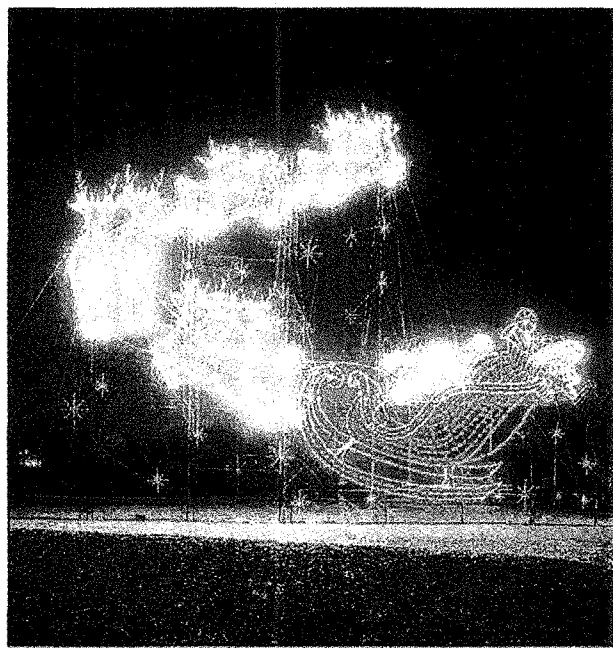
Details: The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available.

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)



Ho, ho, ho

Take time to visit the annual Wayne County Parks Lightfest open 7-10 p.m. daily now through Dec. 31, except for Christmas Day when it will be closed. The Lightfest display stretches from Merriman Hollow in Westland to Warrendale Park east of Telegraph in Dearborn Heights where youngsters can stop and visit Santa's Workshop. Santa will be there from Thanksgiving until Dec. 23. Enter Lightfest at the Merriman entrance to Hines Park, north of Warren Road. There's a \$5 fee per vehicle.

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. Check www.westlandrotary.com for more information about meetings, programs and events.

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.com or 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 or send an e-mail to shepry@yahoo.com

TOASTMASTERS

Location: Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club meets every Thursday at 6:45 P.M. in the lower level of the Bailey Recreation Center, located behind the Westland City Hall on Ford between Wayne Road and Newburgh.

Details: Toastmasters provides a supportive environment where members can overcome the fear of speaking in public. The membership is a diverse group from different walks of life.

Contact: For information, call Bill at (734) 306-3980 or Curt at (734) 525-8445.

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 theatricals and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.

Contact: www.earthangel-sontour.org or by e-mail to 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

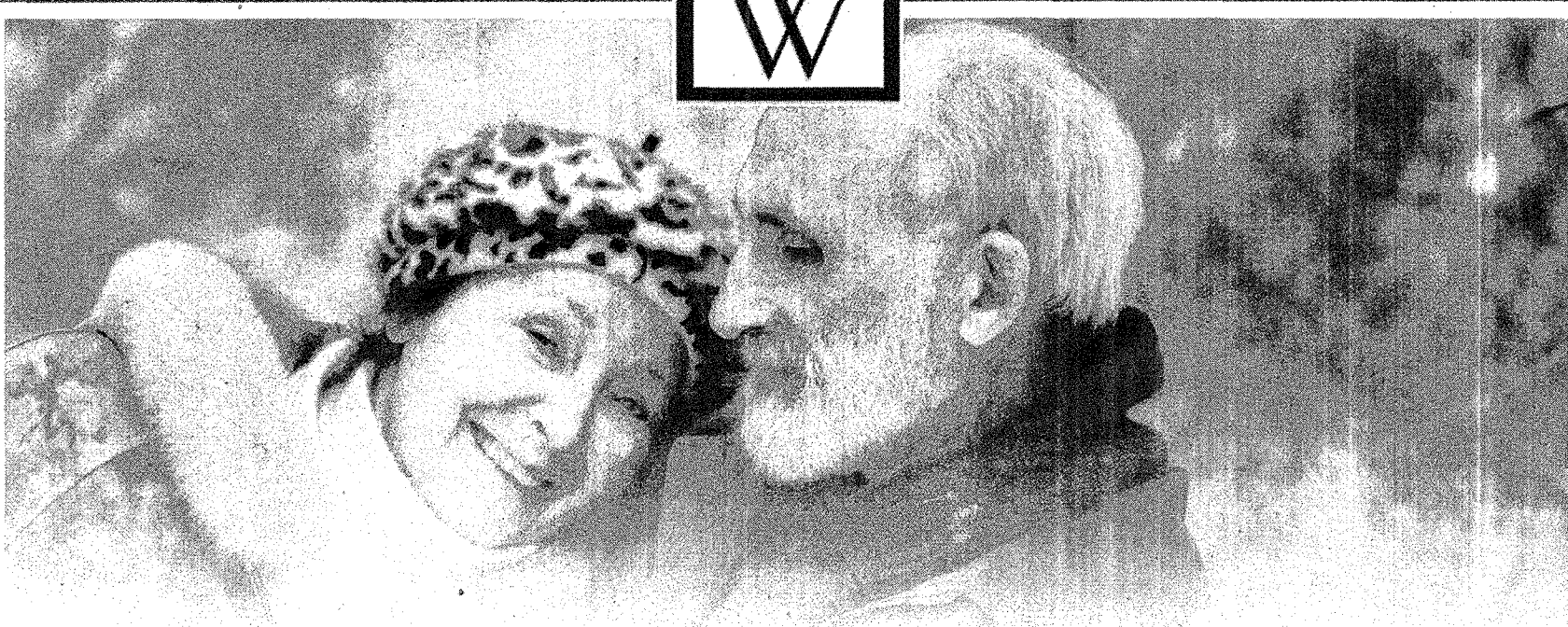
CITIZENS FOR PEACE

Time/date: 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month

Location: Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

Details: The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome.

Contact: Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079



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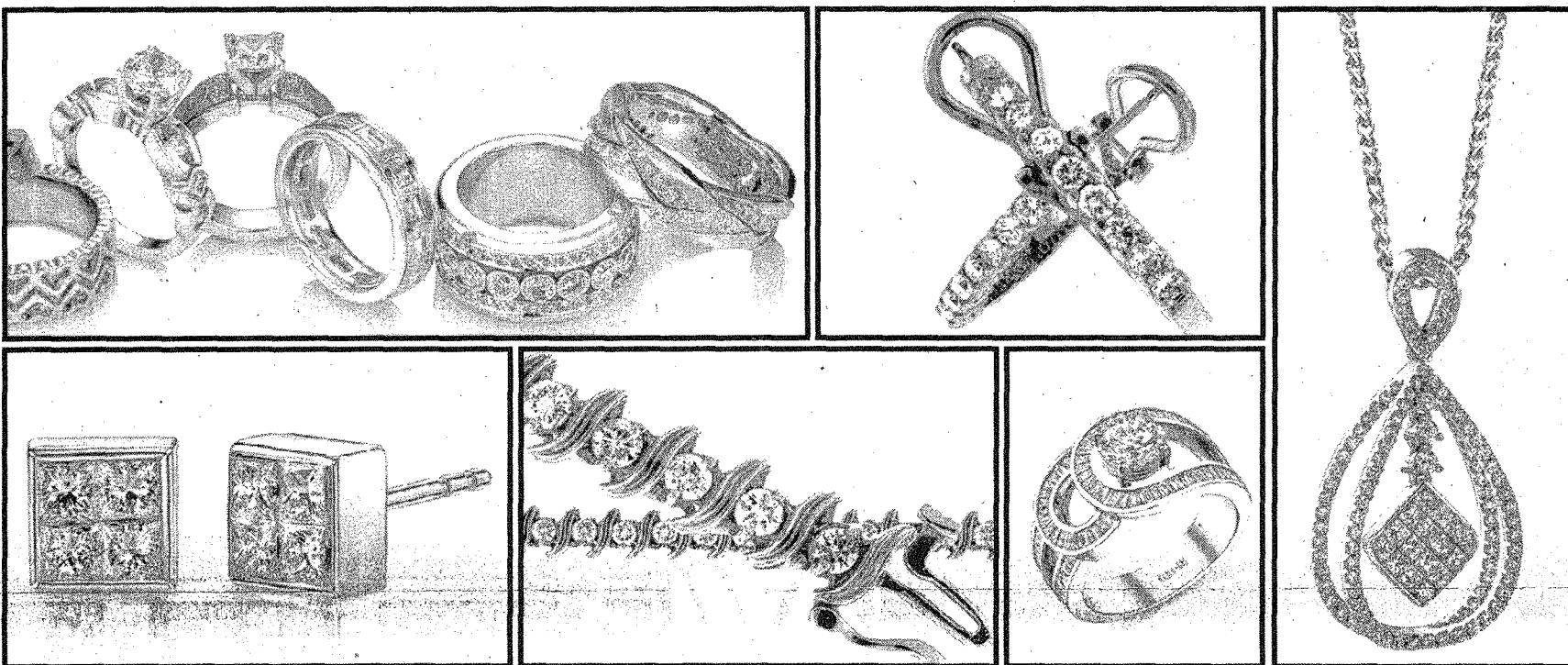
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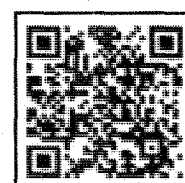


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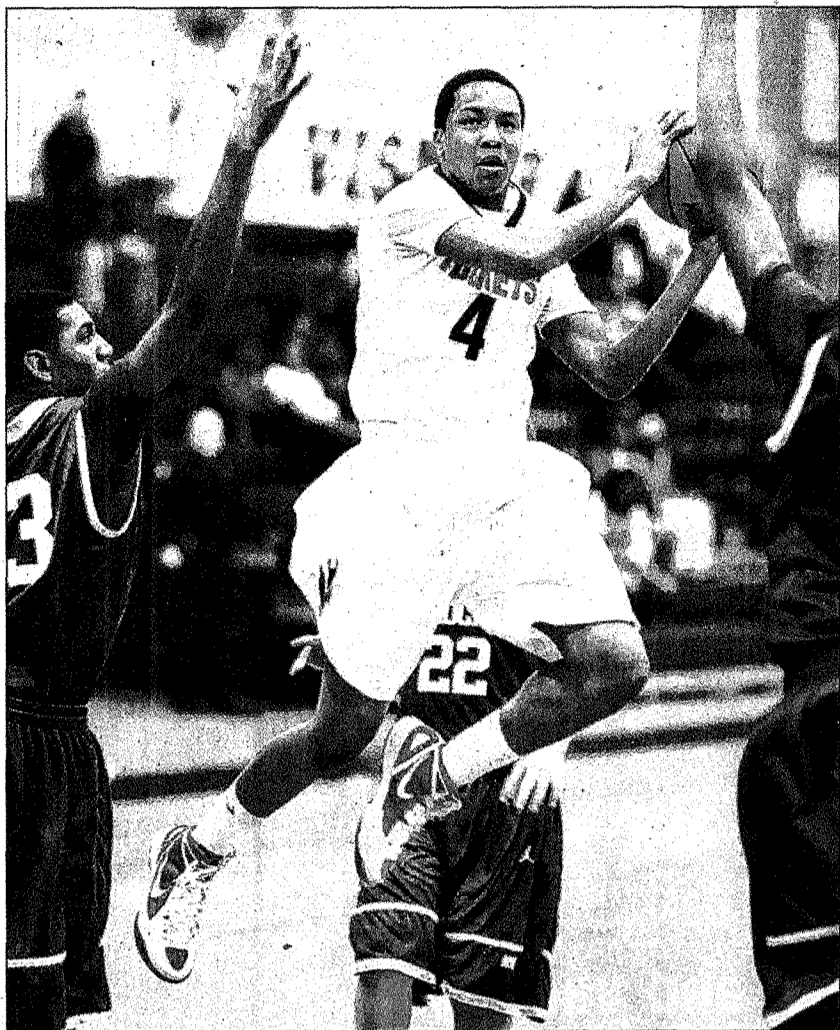


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Rockets pound Novi, 56-29



Westland John Glenn sophomore guard Isaac Everette (4) splits a pair of Novi defenders in the lane during Friday's convincing 56-29 victory.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn's backcourt of Nick Daniels and Marquise Graves can create havoc on both ends of the floor.

And Novi found that out up close and personal Friday night as the host Rockets rolled to a 56-29 boys basketball victory to even their record at 1-1.

Novi, the Kensington Conference champion from a year ago, slipped to 0-5 overall.

Daniels, a 6-foot-1 junior, led all scorers with a game-high 24 points, including four triples.

Meanwhile, the 5-10 Graves scored only two points, but made his presence known on the defensive end as the Wildcats committed 16 first-half turnovers and shot only 1-for-12 from the field as Glenn raced out to a 26-10 halftime lead.

"Marquise Graves is a four-year varsity guy for me," Glenn coach Dan Young said. "He's a tremendous on-ball defender and he set the tone defensively with that. And the rest of our guys are trying to get better. I thought we guarded pretty well."

Novi struggled just trying to get into any type of offense.

"Our guards really had a hard time bringing the ball up, getting into the offense, getting passes," first-year Novi coach Brian Tass said. "It was pretty much a turnover festival."

Daniels, a shifty left-handed guard with deft ball-handling skills, made 9-of-17 shots from the floor.

"We've been playing against him the last few years," Tass said. "He's gotten better and better as a player defensively and handling the ball. Pretty impressed with his progress."

Glenn, however, had 19 turnovers on the game and Young said that aspect of the game needs to become sharper.

"Offensively, we've got a ways to go," he said. "Our flow is not quite there. We've got to move it from side to side. We're getting inside a lot, which is good. We're getting better at that because we've got some guys that can score in there. But we've got some things we've got to work on."

Senior forward Eric Covile came alive during the second half by scoring 10 of his 11 points.

Isaac Everette, a 6-3 sophomore guard, added seven points, while Ivan Miller came off the bench to add six for the

Please see **ROCKETS, B3**

MSU's Gainer All-Academic

Michigan State University sophomore defensive end Jeremy Gainer (Livonia Clarenceville) was among 13 Spartan players named to the 2011 Academic All-Big Ten football team.



Gainer

To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be a letter winner in his second academic year and hold at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (on a 4.0 scale).

Gainer, a hospitality business major, carried a 3.13 grade point average.

The 6-foot-1, 228-pound Gainer was a standout on special teams appearing in all 13 games with six solo tackles and five assists, including two forced fumbles as the Spartans captured the Legends Division and finished 10-3 overall before losing 42-39 to Wisconsin in the inaugural Big Ten Championship game in Indianapolis.

MSU will be playing Georgia on Monday, Jan. 2, at the Outback Bowl in Tampa, Fla.

Stevenson staves off stubborn Wildcats

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's hockey team found out Wednesday night that "gimmies" are far and few between when it comes to the Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

The state-ranked Spartans improved to 7-1 overall and 3-1 in the KLAA's Central Division with a hard-fought 4-3 conference crossover triumph over Plymouth at Edgar Arena.

Despite a six-day layoff, Stevenson built a 4-2 lead after two periods before hanging on for the victory.

"We've been off a week, but that's high school hockey," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "Sometimes you play three games in five days, then the next thing you know you have a week off. It's still up to us to maintain our sharpness in practice and be ready throughout the year each and every night because this league is a tough league and this schedule is tough."

Plymouth, now 3-5 overall and 3-4 in the KLAA South Division, made things interesting when Michael

Schultz scored from Jeremy Cigile just 5:50 into the final period to cut the deficit to 4-3.

"It was one of our better efforts, first through third (periods)," Plymouth first-year coach Gerry Vento said. "We had a couple of periods where we kind of sat back and it cost us, but in the end I thought it was one of our best games of the season."

The Wildcats got off two shots on goal during the final minute of play after pulling goaltender Rich Guglielmi for the extra attacker, but couldn't tally the equalizer.

"I thought we were physical and really got our forecheck going, kept them hemmed in — especially the third period where I thought we did a nice job, had a lot of chances, just couldn't bury them," said Vento, who was replaced behind the Stevenson bench after only one season last May after Mitchell decided to return as head coach following a one-year hiatus to serve as middle school administrator.

Stevenson bolted out to a 2-0 lead

Please see **HOCKEY, B3**



Stevenson's Dominic Lutz (15) turns up the ice in Wednesday's 4-3 KLAA crossover victory over Plymouth at Edgar Arena.

DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

Abron HM All-Big Ten

Michigan State University senior middle hitter Kyn-dra Abron, a former Miss Volleyball from Livonia Churchill High, recently earned honorable mention All-Big Ten honors in women's volleyball.

The 6-foot-1 Abron won conference recognition for the second time in her career, having been named to the first-team as a sophomore.

She finished second on the team in kills behind Jenilee Rathje with

4201 (3.44 per set), setting a new career high.

Abron has

also set career marks in blocks with 89, which is tied for second on the team, and hitting percentage (.280).

"Kyn-dra really stepped up this year and carried a major part of our offense," MSU coach Cathy George said. "Her physicality was a major matchup concern for most teams in the league and her powerful attacking left a lasting impression on the coaches as well as opposing defenders."

MSU finished 22-12 overall and 10-10 in the Big Ten while earning an NCAA Tournament bid before losing to Texas, 3-0.

Abron had a team-high 22 kills in a 3-1 first-round NCAA win over Arizona.



Abron

Tumbler nearly medals Skinner takes 4th in Age-Group Worlds

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

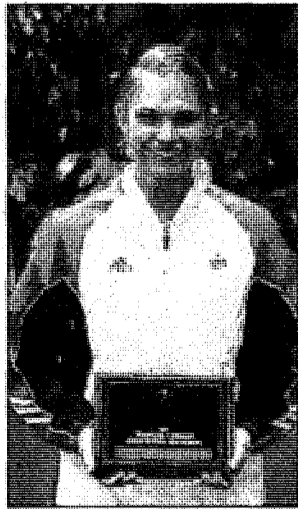
The summer bottle drive and the garage sale made it all worthwhile for 2011 Livonia's Cassandra Skinner.

The power tumbler, a junior at Stevenson High, nearly made it onto the podium before settling for fourth place for Girls 15-16 at the 2011 Trampoline and Tumbling Championships held Nov. 24-27 in Birmingham, England.

Skinner ranked third going into the finals after scoring 61,200 points in the preliminary qualification round. In the finals she finished with score of 29,900 points (tied for fifth).

Lucie Colebeck of Germany captured the gold with a 33,000, while Febe Demulder of Belgium and Darya Mironova of Russia tied for the silver at 30,900 each.

"In prelims, I did extremely well," Skinner said. "I felt amazing going in. I was nervous, but I pulled through and



Livonian Cassandra Skinner recently returned from the 2011 World Age-Group Trampoline & Tumbling in Birmingham England with a fourth-place finish for Girls 15-16 in power tumbling.

was really excited. I was third going in and I was really proud of that, and everybody was excited for me.

"In the finals, I couldn't throw my higher difficulty pass. I had to lay up. Instead of doing it straight, I had to tuck it

in. It wasn't a bad pass, but it wasn't the pass I originally planned for. I was a little disappointed, but overall I'm proud of my performance."

An injury hampered Skinner throughout the competition.

"On the first day of training, when we got there, I ended up pulling my hip flexor so I was training through that the whole week," she said. "After my performance, my ankles and my hips were tended to feel a bit sore. Overall, I was so excited and happy with myself it really didn't matter what happened to me."

The trip was strictly business for Skinner. There was really no sightseeing.

"We didn't have much time for that because we were training so much," she said. "We were having two or three practices a day. We stayed with the team for the most part. There was a lot of team

Please see **SKINNER, B4**

Grizzell lands grid position at Wayne

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Lee Grizzell is the latest hire to try and turn around the football fortunes at Wayne Memorial High.

The 35-year-old Grizzell, who spent the past six seasons at his high school alma mater Dearborn Edsel Ford as the offensive coordinator, was named varsity coach Tuesday by Wayne-Westland Schools athletic coordinator Greg Ambrose and Wayne Principal Valerie Orr.

Grizzell, who replaces Kevin Weber, is no stranger to Wayne. He served as the boys track and field coach for seven years (2004-10) and has taught world history in the social studies department during the past 10 years.

Weber stepped down after four seasons to become assistant principal at Wayne where he replaces Julie Lublin, who took a leave of absence.

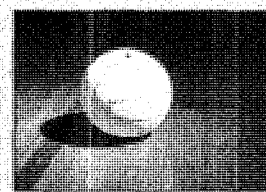
Grizzell played football at Edsel Ford and was an assistant to Jack Bridges, his high school coach, for four seasons. After Bridges retired, Grizzell stayed on to work nine years under current coach Mark Tyler.

"We're going to try and establish a strong work ethic and buy into the team concept," said Grizzell, a 1998 Kalamazoo College grad who played four years of football there as well. "My first goal is to make sure that they're student-athletes, and



Lee Grizzell

Please see **GRIZZELL, B4**





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PREP BOWLING RESULTS

BOYS DUAL MATCH RESULTS WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 24 NOVI 6

Dec. 14 at Super Bowl
John Glenn scorers: Steven White, 236-192-428; Jordan Hornes, 183-244-427; Mitch Dean, 211; Tommy Ruark, 189; Mark Kassab, 186; Daniel Ammons, 172; split score, 182-168-350. Team totals: 1,001-962-1,963; Baker games: 142-215-357 (10 points).
Novi scorers: Chad Smith, 209-198-407; Andrew Thorwall, 210-143-353; Mat Kotowicz, 173-137-310; Charlie Woods, 168-135-303; Cory Brown, 134-141-278. Team totals: 894-754-1,648 (2 points); Baker games: 149-168-317 (0 points).
Glenn's dual match record: 5-0 overall, 3-0 KLA Central Division.

GIRLS DUAL MATCH RESULTS WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 17 NOVI 13

Dec. 13 at Super Bowl
John Glenn scorers: Caity Lenard, 194-183-377; Sara Aulidge, 172-154-326; Olivia Cabildo, 135-166-301; Montana Graszak, 176; Yvette Ayers, 131; Jessica Pate, 125; Bre Riblett, 111. Team totals: 757-790-1,547; Baker games: 137-125-262 (0 points).
Novi scorers: Sara Schulz, 182-169-351; Shelby Limpert, 115-162-277; Abby O'Leary, 131-128-259; Jessie Snider, 110-129-239; Megan Engels, 115-114-229. Team totals: 653-702-1,355 (3 points); Baker games: 168-171-239 (10 points).
Glenn's dual match record: 4-1 overall, 3-0 KLA Central Division.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 17 CANTON 3

Dec. 13 at Novi Bowl
John Glenn scorers: Steven White, 282-214-496; Jordan Hornes, 279-173-452; Mitch Dean, 238-202-440; Thomas Brusseau, 199; Mark Kassab, 184; split score, 191-140-331. Team totals: 1,182-920-2,102 (17 points); Baker games: 205-160-365 (0 points).
Canton scorers: Kurt Kowalski, 243-181-424; Josh Pozen, 247-173-420; Alex Champagne, 181-177-358; Gary Barrett, 172-180-352; Mike Richards, 203; split score, 158. Team totals: 1,001-914-1,915 (3 points); Baker games: 254-230-483 (10 points).
Glenn's dual match record: 4-0 overall, 2-0 KLA Central.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 27 CANTON 3

Dec. 13 at Novi Bowl
John Glenn scorers: Caity Lenard, 153-171-324; Yvette Ayers, 142-137-279; Olivia Cabildo, 147-132-279; Montana Graszak, 179; Jessica Pate and Becca Lenard, 137 each; Bre Riblett, 125. Team totals: 896-756-1,452 (17 points); Baker games: 175-141-316 (10 points).
Canton scorers: Charlotte Zimmer, 163-177-340; Jessica Holowicki, 123-165-288; Bri Bailey, 132-119-251; Amber Holly, 125-116-241; Beth Stark, 115-123-238. Team totals: 658-691-1,349 (3 points); Baker games: 144-126-270 (0 points).
Glenn's dual match record: 3-1 overall, 2-0 KLA Central.



3/10

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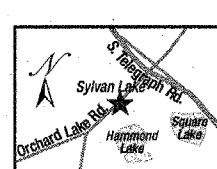
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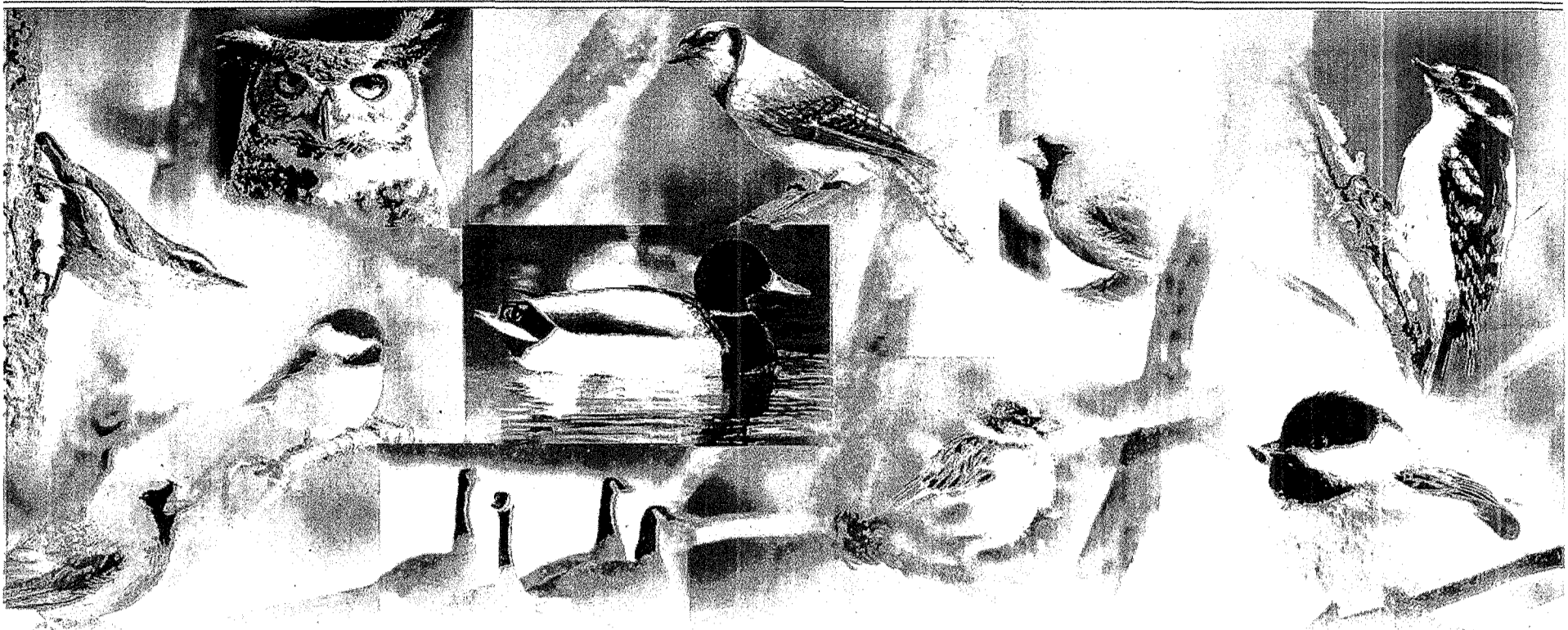
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Audubon volunteers look for feathered friends

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

Richard Jensen will count birds Sunday, Dec. 18.

It's a pre-Christmas tradition that the Farmington Hills man has maintained for 38 years.

"We start at five in the morning. We play a tape of owl sounds and owls respond," Jensen said. "Sometimes you can make out their shadows. Sometimes if you have a flashlight, you can just (shine) it quickly over the birds."

Jensen always brings along a flashlight for his pre-dawn ritual in northwest Oakland County the Sunday before Christmas. After sun-up, binoculars come in handy as he and count partner, Dorothy McLeer, an interpretive naturalist for University of Michigan-Dearborn, spend the next nine

to 10 hours sighting birds, listening for their sounds and counting the different species they see along roads, in fields and wooded areas west of Pontiac airport.

"I've had the same area since the 70s," said Jensen, who searches for birds in "section four" of a circle of land that's 15 miles in diameter. Volunteers with the Detroit Audubon Society, including Jensen, divvy up the territory into one-mile sections for the group's annual Christmas Bird Count. The Count, which collects data on numbers of birds and species, is part of the National Audubon Society's 112-year-old Christmas Bird Count, that runs from Dec. 14-Jan. 5, 2012 this season. During the three-week period, local Audubon chapters in North America choose one day to brave the elements and

collect data, which scientists use to look at trends in bird population and migration.

Tim Nowicki of Livonia leads the Detroit Count, which takes place in northwest Oakland County the Sunday before Christmas.

Nowicki, who works as a naturalist at Independence Oaks County Park near Clarkston, joined the Christmas Count as a teenager, while growing up in Dearborn.

"My parents would drop me off at Cranbrook (in Bloomfield Hills) and I would go out with a gentleman who surveyed section nine of the Count," said Nowicki, who also bird-watched while in college. "When I got back from college I got the same section I had when I was a teenager."

Revealing numbers
 As Count leader,

Nowicki collects results from Jensen and other section volunteers. He summarizes the work and submits it to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

"A lot of information is used to compare populations. We learn where birds overwinter, what species might be declining," Nowicki said. "There have been some remarkable shifts, in that years ago the house sparrow was commonly counted and it has dropped in numbers. Tree sparrows used to be commonly counted but because of changes in habitat and because of development they've dropped in high ranking status."

Volunteers used to see kestrels on every Count, but in recent years they've seen them less frequently.

Ducks and other water fowl, owls, mourning doves and many birds

seen at backyard feeders, such as cardinals, chickadees and blue jays are commonly seen during the Christmas Bird Count.

Volunteers try not to identify the same birds twice, but with common species there's no way they can be certain, Nowicki said.

Occasionally they sight a bird that's rarely seen during the Christmas Count.

"House wrens have been seen on occasion. Usually they are in southern states by now," said Nowicki, who recalls seeing a "cool" rough legged hawk during a previous Count. "You never know for sure what you'll see."

Hooked on birds
 Jensen became interested in bird-watching and counting after seeing a king rail at his first Christmas Count in Kalamazoo while visiting

in-laws. His father-in-law was treasurer of the Michigan Audubon Society and an avid bird-watcher.

"That's probably the only time a king rail has been seen on the Christmas Count in Michigan," Jensen said, recalling the event in 1972.

"I studied the field guides and got hooked. It's like a competition with yourself — it's a lot like golf. You're competing with yourself to see how many birds you can identify without checking the field guide. Or how many you can identify by their song."

Although the Detroit count has ended, there's still time to get involved with the Christmas Bird Count in southeastern Michigan. Both Jensen and Nowicki said participants should wear boots

Please see FRIENDS, B6

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ZOO ANIMALS CELEBRATE HOLIDAYS

Detroit Zoo animals will get their holiday presents right on time for Hanukkah and just a few days early for Christmas and Kwanzaa.

Naughty or nice, the animals will receive environmental enrichment in the form of treat-filled piñatas, wrapped like holiday presents in traditional colors of the three holidays, on Wednesday, Dec. 21.

The festively decorated packages and other enrichment treats will be prepared and placed in the animals' habitats to stimulate natural behaviors such as foraging and stalking.

Here's the enrichment schedule:

- 10:30 a.m. – Tigers and meat-filled piñatas
- 11 a.m. – Snow monkeys and holiday goodies.
- 11:30 a.m. – Bear-den bears and produce-filled piñatas

- Noon – Wolverines and meat- and bone-filled piñatas

- 12:30 p.m. – Polar bears and ice treats, along with a fish-filled piñata
- 1 p.m. – otters and ice treats

The holiday treats are among the many forms of environmental enrichment used daily at the Detroit Zoo to make the animals' habitats more dynamic and engaging.

The Detroit Zoo is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily, except Christmas and New Year's Day, at 10 Mile and Woodward, just off the I-696 expressway. Admission is \$12 for adults, 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens, 62 and older, and \$8 for children, 2-14; free for children under 2. For more information, call (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org.

Hungarian group offering scholarships

The Hungarian Arts Club will present the works of its scholarship winner and introduce girls of Hungarian descent to society at its annual debutante ball, Feb. 4, 2012, at the Dearborn Inn.

The organization, founded in 1958, awards a scholarship each year to a student of Hungarian descent who is enrolled in a fine arts college level program in dance, music, painting, sculpture, drama, theater or photography. Scholarships of up to \$2,000 are available.

The winner will perform or display their art at the White Rose Ball,

a formal, black-tie ball with traditional ballroom dancing. At the ball, debutantes and their escorts will perform the Palotas, a traditional dance of the Hungarian royal court. Each debutante will be introduced to the Hungarian community.

The Hungarian Arts Club has awarded more than \$60,000 in scholarships to students of Hungarian descent. It also has donated to the community to bring Hungarian culture to others. Funds were donated to establish the Hungarian Room at Alex Manoogian Hall at Wayne State University and to Michigan State

University to acquire an antique cymbalom—a traditional Hungarian instrument. A bust of Franc List, sculpted by a Hungarian artist, was donated to Ford Auditorium during a reception to honor Antal Dorati, then the director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

The Hungarian Arts Club also has been a strong supporter of other Hungarian cultural clubs and organizations. Not only was it one of the founding members of the Hungarian-American Cultural Center, but it also provided financial support to Dancers Hungaria, a group dedicat-

ed to the preservation of Hungarian folk dancing. The Club also has sponsored numerous activities at the Holy Cross Hungarian Church Festival.

Other efforts to bring Hungarian culture to the metro area have included hosting a Hungarian exhibit at Oakland University and a month-long Hungarian artifact display at the Livonia Library.

For more information about membership, tickets, scholarships, or participation in the Ball as a debutante or escort, call Linda Enyedy at (248) 352-0927 or Jana Johnson at (734) 459-5253.

Drum classes return to Plymouth arts center

Professional drummer and instructor Pat Paul Sorise will teach two series of classes beginning in January 2012 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, (PCAC).

Lessons for beginner and advanced drummers will be held at the Artsco House, adjacent to the PCAC building at 724 N. Sheldon, Plymouth.

Beginner Drum Set 100, ages 7 to adult, will cover holding drum sticks, drum rudiments, and how to count and play quarter and eighth notes. It will introduce the drum set. Classes will run 5-5:45 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11-Feb. 1. The

new Advanced Drum Set 200, for ages 7 to adult will run 5:45-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11-Feb. 1 and will identify drums/cymbals, wrist and hand techniques and basic foot patterns. Students also will learn about counting, measures, time signatures, different tempos and will get a chance to play a full drum set.

Prices are \$64 for members and \$74 for nonmembers for each four-class series. No drumming experience is necessary. All skill levels can participate.

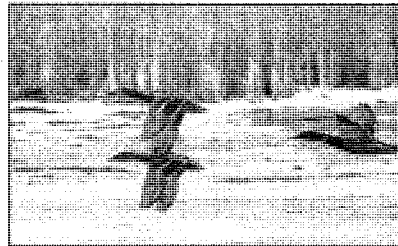
Sorise studied at East Detroit Conservatory under Ray Parker. He continued to drum through junior and high school and then

attended Eastern Michigan University playing with various bands. He has been teaching privately for over 25 years and taught classes at Apollo Music in Ann Arbor, Drum Shop in Dearborn, and East Detroit Conservatory. Pat also plays in the band All Directions, which performs at concerts, clubs and private parties. All Directions has recorded two CDs.

To learn about other opportunities at the PCAC or for a complete list of classes, visit www.plymoutharts.com, stop in the PCAC, or call (734) 416-4278.

joining the Audubon's Great Backyard Bird Count, Friday-Monday, Feb. 17-20, 2012. The count is a joint project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Audubon, and Bird Studies Canada.

Participants of all ages count birds anywhere for as little as 15 minutes a day during the four-day period. They tally the highest number of birds of each species seen together at any one time and report their findings to the Great Backyard Bird Count Web site. Check it out at www.birdsource.org/gbbc.



JOHN MEYLAND
Ducks are a common sight on the Audubon's Christmas Bird Count.

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WHEN GOUT IS IN DOUBT

The public may believe that a pain in the foot is gout. Physicians are taught that in the foot, gout can be everywhere, but what is anywhere in the foot is not necessarily gout.

Making a distinction between what is gout and what is not becomes important as other conditions that look and act like gout require treatments different from what treats gout.

These other conditions are pseudogout and hydroxy apatite crystalline arthropathy. These two conditions share common characteristics with gout that make them difficult to distinguish from gout. Both gout, pseudogout and hydroxy apatite come on suddenly, usually at night or on awakening in the morning, commonly involve the great toe, and if not treated, resolve in 4-5 days.

The only way that a physician can make a certain diagnosis between these three conditions is to see the crystals of each in a specimen of synovial fluid obtained when the patient has an acute attack of joint pain and swelling. Often the opportunity to obtain fluid for analysis occurs rarely making it difficult to make a firm diagnosis.

Making the correct diagnosis is important because the physician can treat gout with colchicine, allopurinol or Uloric. Pseudogout will respond at times to colchicine, but never to allopurinol or Uloric, and hydroxyapatite will only respond to steroids and never to colchicine, allopurinol or Uloric.

Making a correct diagnosis is of particular importance, because once on allopurinol or Uloric a person must take that medicine every day for the rest of his or her life.

FRIENDS

Continued from page B5

and dress for the weather.

"We've had years where it was snowing so hard, you couldn't see. Then you'd be lucky if you stepped on a bird," Jensen said.

Sign up

The Rockwood count is Monday, Dec. 26. E-mail Tom Carpenter at Tcarpen1980@yahoo.com

Join a Detroit River count with Jim Fowler on Jan. 1, 2012. E-mail to jafowl@comcast.net.

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Holiday gathering

Milena Cankovic of Dearborn Dynamic Toastmasters welcomes Ivory Williams, storyteller, to the group's Christmas party. Williams was the guest speaker at the organization's holiday dinner party on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at One Under Bar and Grill in Livonia. The Dearborn Dynamic Toastmasters, a group dedicated to developing public speaking and leadership skills, meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile.

Practice moves to new location in Livonia

Dr. Rita Sabbagh, Obstetrics & Gynecology, has opened a new office, Ladies Health Place, at 19924 Farmington Road in Livonia.

Sabbagh specializes in obstetrics, high-risk pregnancy, adolescent gynecology, menopause and more.

The Northville resident received her medical degree from Aleppo University, Aleppo, Syria, and was chief resident of Obstetrics & Gynecology at the North Oakland Medical Center, Pontiac. She is a dip-

lomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and member of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and American Medical Association.

Ladies Health Place is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through December. Starting next month, hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesday and Friday.

For more information, call (248) 442-2222.



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734-326-7320
www.firinglineguns.com

Save 20% or More with Our Award Winning Auto Loan Rates!

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EST. 1966
Your Guide To Financial Success

Dearborn Office
(Located just inside North entrance of AAA Headquarters Bldg.)
1 Auto Club Drive
Dearborn, MI 48126
313.336.1534
800.287.0046

Livonia Branch
(At Newburgh)
37401 Plymouth Road
Livonia, MI 48150
734.464.8079

Open 7 Days in Livonia Full Service

communityalliancecu.org

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www.naughtytimenovelty.com

Largest Selection of Adult Videos & Toys in the Tri-county Area

20% OFF ALL VIDEOS! including New Releases

NOW OPEN!

- Lingerie (including plus sizes)
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- Fantasy Costumes • Leather
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- Bedroom Toys • Shock Toys
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- DVD's • Candles & Incense
- Games • Gags • Adult Balloons
- Over the Hill Gifts • PVC
- Adult Gift Wrap & Greeting Cards

20% OFF ANY ONE ITEM
With This Coupon • Expires 12-31-11

FULL LINE of BACHELORETTE ITEMS

35592 Warren • Westland • Next to Westland Mall • 734-762-2000
21354 Hall Road • Clinton Township • 586-465-4688
Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10am - 9pm; Sun. Noon - 5pm

2011 CHRISTMAS TREE GUIDE

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

U-CUT-FIR, PINE and SPRUCE
Open 7 days, 10AM 'til DUSK
CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY

HOLTZ CHRISTMAS TREE PLANTATION

9381 Day Road near Maybee, MI
734-587-3155

Trees for higher ceilings (up to 20 ft. tall)

SPECIALS
Directions: South on US-23 to exit 25. Right on Plank, 7 miles to Day Rd., turn left 3 miles to farm P. Holtz Est. 1947

North Star Premium Christmas Trees

3ft-12ft Trees:

- Douglas, Fraser & Concolor Firs
- Scotch & White Pine
- Blue & White Spruce

• Potted trees • Tree stands • Wreathes
• Roping • Grave Blankets

10% OFF WITH AD!
Bring in your stand we will fresh cut, prune & fit your tree to your stand!

7300 N Wayne Rd • Westland
N of Warren, next to McDonalds
(734) 578-7038
Open 7-days a week

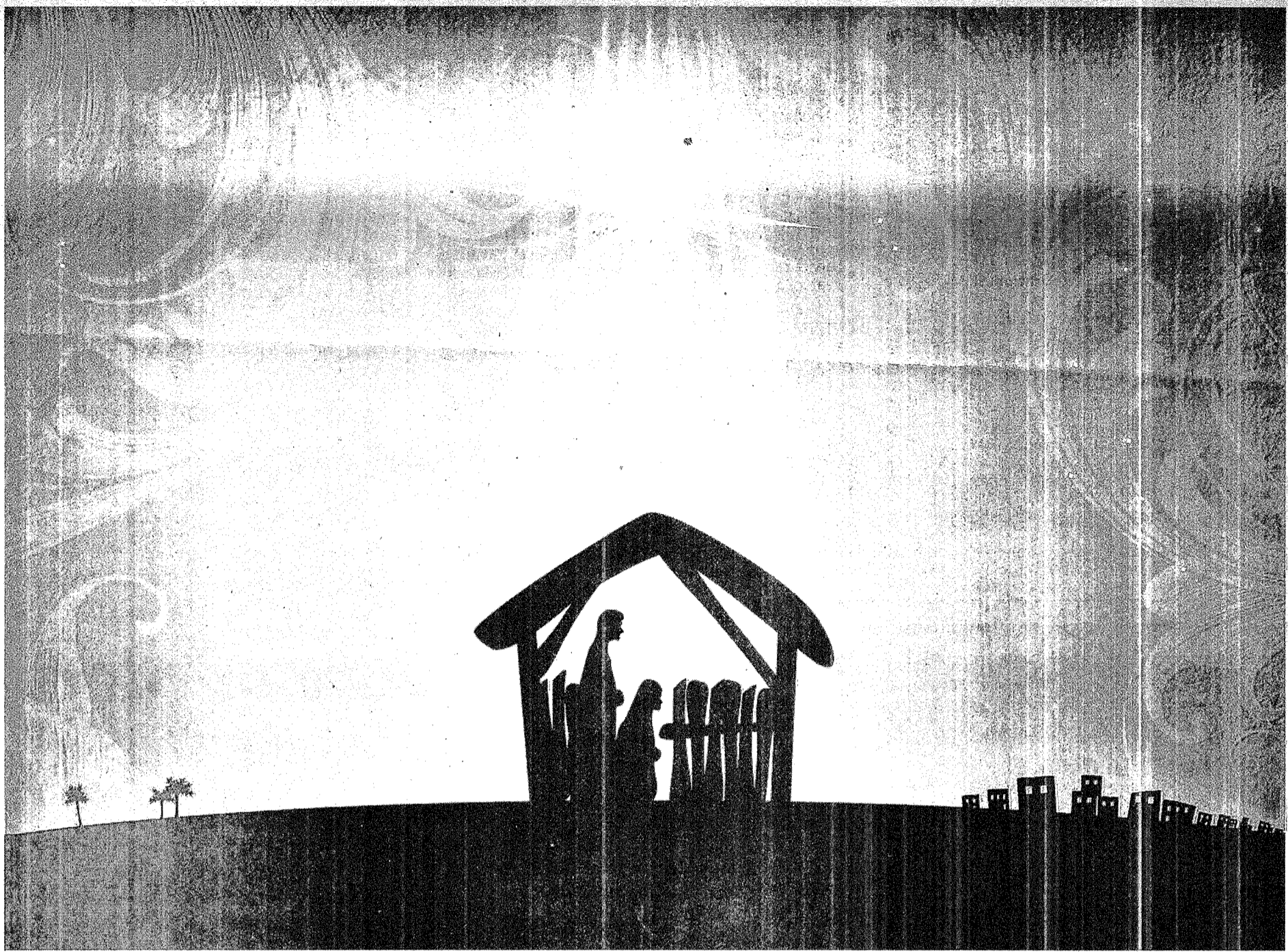
Northville • Salem
Tree Farm

4-35 ft Trees:

You cut • We Cut • Pre-Cut
Blue & White Spruce
Scotch & White Pine

FREE DELIVERY!
10% OFF WITH AD!

10045 Six Mile (6 Mile & Chubb Rd)
248-767-4447



Christmas Worship Directory

Christmas Eve, December 24
with lights and a Christmas Message
 Family Service: 7 PM
Children's Program
 Traditional: 11 PM
Chorus & Choir
Christmas Day, December 25
 Service: 10 AM

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH
 26425 Wellington Road, Franklin, MI
 (248) 626-6606 www.franklinchurch.us

Covenant Community Church

25800 Student - Redford, MI 48239 - 313-535-3100
 (1 block north of Five Mile on Beech Daly)
 www.covenantredford.com

Christmas Service Schedule

Saturday, December 24, 2011 - 6 pm
 Sunday, December 25, 2011 - 11 am

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

Christmas Eve

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

Christmas Day 10:00 am Holy Communion

Founded in Faith • Grounded in Scripture
 Surrounded by Grace
 Celebrating a 50 Year Faith Journey

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

Christmas Eve Children's Play at 4:30pm, FREE
Silent Mice, Holy Mice

Traditional service at 10:00 p.m.
 Christmas Day ~ Service at 10 am

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

WARD CHURCH

Home Christmas

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

4:00 PM
 5:30 PM
 7:00 PM

For more information
 www.wardchurch.org

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

Christmas Worship at St. Paul's

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

Come and worship with us!

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
 EPISCOPAL ANGLICAN

Please join us in celebrating Christ!

Christmas Eve — Saturday, December 24th
 The Vigil Mass of the Nativity (Family) — 6:00 pm
 The Solemn High Mass of the Nativity — 10:00 pm

Christmas Day — Sunday, December 25th
 The High Mass of Christmass Day — 10:30 am

New Year's Eve — Saturday, December 31st — 4:30 pm
New Year's Day — Sunday, January 1st — 10:30 am

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

Swingin Christmas Eve

Big Band Express Orchestra
 4 & 7.00 pm

Childcare provided infant to 6 yrs

Candlelight Service
 11:00 pm

Hors d'oeuvres & desserts served
 prior to the programs

Christmas Day Service
 11:00 am

Trinity Church
 10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd Plymouth www.trinityepc.org

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

~Christmas Eve Services~
Saturday, December 24, 2011

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

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

~Christmas Morning Worship~ 10:30 am
 Rev. Steve Clark, Pastor
 Rev. Kellie Whitlock, Pastor

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

LOOKING FOR AN EXCITING WAY TO SPEND YOUR CHRISTMAS EVE?
 JOIN US AT NORTHRIDGE FOR THE CELEBRATION!

DECEMBER 24

ANN ARBOR—SALINE 5:00P
 PLYMOUTH 1:00P • 3:00P
 5:00P • 11:00P
 BRIGHTON—HOWELL 5:00P

For more information, visit NorthRidgeChurch.com.

Christmas at the Kirk

December 18
 4:00 PM Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24 - Christmas Eve

11:00 AM Young Family Service
 Ms. Kelly Boubel Shriver

8:30 PM Holy Night Service
 Dr. Norman Pritchard

4:00 PM Family Service
 Rev. William Adams III

11:00 PM Holy Night Service
 Dr. Norman Pritchard

6:00 PM Family Service
 Rev. Carol Tate

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

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. If including a photo, it must be in jpg format, attached to the e-mail.

Dec. 18-31

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 18

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: All you can eat, pancakes, French toast, sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice, milk with appearance-by Santa Claus; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children, 2-10

Contact: (734) 425-4421

SOUP & SCRIPTURE

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

Location: Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road,

Livonia
Details: Hearty soup and bread supper followed by Advent service
Contact: (734) 427-2290

Jan. 1-11, 2012

CATHOLIC PROGRAM

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11-Feb. 15

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: "Catholics Returning Home," is a six-week series of meetings designed to answer questions and provide a forum for non-practicing Catholics who might be interested in discussing a possible return to the church. Each session will be facilitated by former lapsed Catholics in a very casual, non-threatening environment, with plenty of opportunities for practical and open questions, answers, conversation, and

discussion
Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 207

NEW SERVICE

Time/Date: 10:10 a.m. Sunday, beginning Jan. 8, 2012

Location: Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial Road in Plymouth

Details: A new 55-minute contemporary worship service called Impact will feature a praise band, lots of upbeat music and a powerful message in a relaxed atmosphere. Child care will be offered

Contact: (734) 453-5280

THESIS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Jan. 2, 2012

Location: Gesu Catholic Church, 17180 Oak Drive, Detroit

Details: Helen Marie Berg, senior at Catholic University, will present her thesis: "In Unity, There is Hope: A Story of a Detroit Parish." She will tell the story of how Gesu

Catholic Church and School has changed as Detroit has changed.

Contact: (313) 862-4400 or visit <http://gesudetroit.org>

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia

Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun.

Contact: Pastor Scott Sessler at (734) 673-2485 or e-mail to pastorscott@emmanuel-livonia.org

Faith Bible Church

Time/Date: 9:45-10:45 a.m. Sundays through May 8

Location: 34541 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: "Four Views of the End Times" adult study

Also ongoing: "Life's Healing Choices" Study Group, 6 p.m., fourth Sunday through September, is for men and women who want freedom from hurts, hangups and habits of the past.

Contact: (734) 464-7990

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays.

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: (734) 846-4615

Nicole's Revival

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m.,

Monday-Friday
Location: YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford Township

Details: KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer

Contact: (313) 531-1234

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study

Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesday.

Location: School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic author and bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of Letter to the Hebrews. The sessions are open to all, regardless of their faith or parish affiliation

Contact: (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200 or www.livoniastmichael.org

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

Christmas Eve:
7pm Family Service
8pm Candlelight Service

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

HOLY CROSS
Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

34500 Oak Rd, Livonia
1/2 mile west of Newburgh
734-427-1416 • WELCOME VISITORS

Christ the King Lutheran Church
www.ChristTheKingLivonia.com
9300 Farmington Road - Livonia, MI 48150
(734) 421-0749
The Rev. James L. Fogle, Pastor

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Communion
5:30 & 11:00 pm

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

ADVENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE
December 18th - Fourth Sunday of Advent
11:00 a.m. Worship: Christmas Pageant
Saturday, December 24th - Christmas Eve
5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, December 25th - Christmas Day
11:00 a.m. Worship

St. John's Episcopal Church
Where you will experience the joyful love of Christ
Christmas Services • Dec. 24

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

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

Celebrate Christmas at St. James!
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT 4:00 PM
Caroling, Caroling: An Alfred Burt Family Christmas

CHRISTMAS EVE, SATURDAY DECEMBER 24
5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Christmas Pageant
10:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist & choral service - Music at 9:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY, SUNDAY DECEMBER 25
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

355 W. Maple 248.644.0820
stjamesbirmingham.org
The Reverend Robert L. Hart

St. James
Episcopal Church
The Heart of Birmingham

North Congregational Church
36520 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI
248-848-1750 northcongregationalchurch.org

Sunday, December 18, 2011 10:30 a.m.
Worship, Children's Christmas Pageant

Saturday, December 24, 2011
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
7:30 P.M. — "The Light of All People"

Rev. Mary E. Biedron, Senior Minister

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Tridentine Latin Rite Mass 734-462-3200
38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154
One quarter mile West of Newburgh Road

Christmas Mass Schedule

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

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church
16360 Hubbard Drive
Between 5 & 6 Mile Roads
734-421-8451

Christmas Eve Candlelight
10:30 P.M.
Christmas Day
10:30 a.m.

Come home this Christmas
A warm welcome awaits you

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

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

December 25 we will have a Family Worship Service for all ages at 10:00 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Sunday, January 1st: Solemnity of Mary Mother of God—8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

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

First United Methodist Church of Birmingham
Christmas Worship

Contemporary Christmas Eve
Friday, December 23
7:00 pm in the Christian Life Center

Christmas Eve, December 24

2:00 p.m. Traditional sanctuary service
4:00 p.m. A worship service for children younger than five years old and their families
5:30 p.m. A family worship time led by children in first through fifth grades
7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m. Traditional Services

Christmas Day
December 25
10:00 AM only in the sanctuary
Family Worship

1589 West Maple Road
Birmingham, MI
(248) 646-1201
www.fumcbbirmingham.org

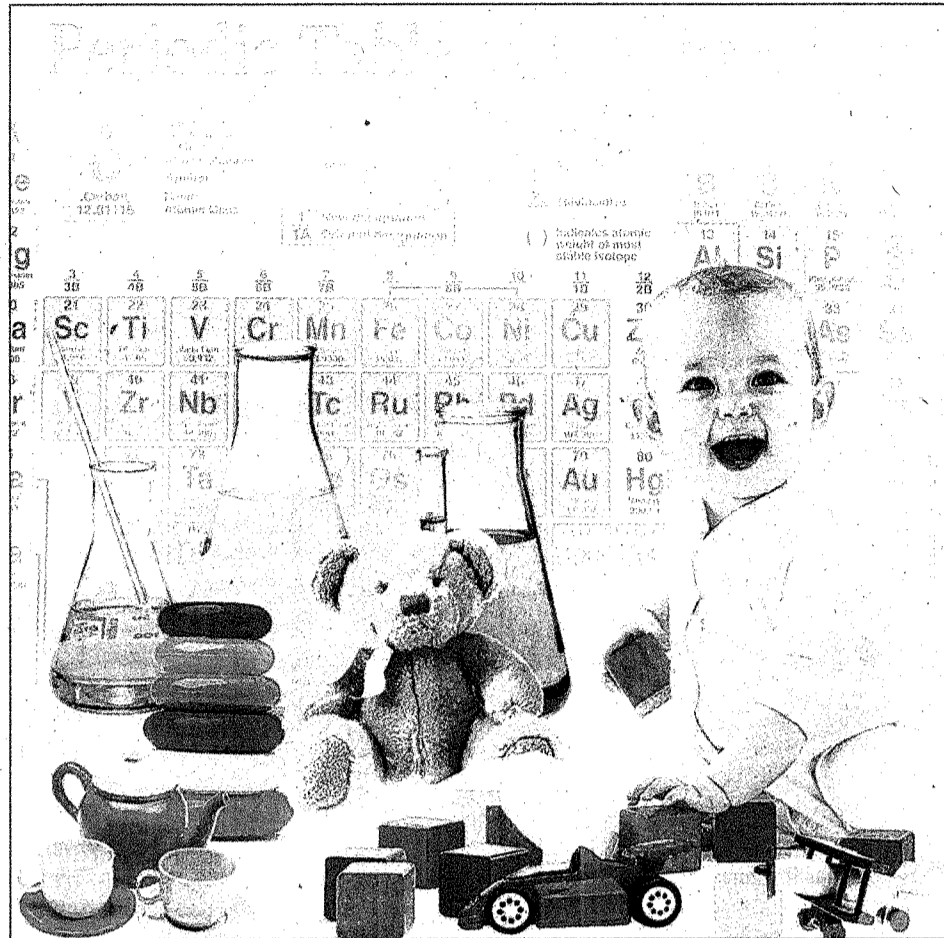
Consumer website lists chemicals in children's toys

Parents can check the amount of BPA — bisphenol A, the same toxic chemical already banned in plastic baby bottles and sippy cups — in 650 brand name toys on HealthyStuff.org, a Michigan-based Web site.

The information comes from a report based on industry data. It names toys that contain BPA, a toxic hormone-disrupting chemical, and it reveals a toxic ingredient, nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs) in 300 household paints, as well as several cleaners, wood finishes and home maintenance products.

Studies have shown that BPA and NPEs (nonylphenol ethoxylates) mimic the sex hormone estrogen. BPA harms brain development, behavior and the prostate gland, among other adverse health effects. NPEs are highly toxic to aquatic life, degrade into a long-lived chemical that builds up in the food chain, and may harm reproduction and development in humans.

Poison in Paint, Toxics in Toys, was released by the Environmental Health Strategy Center in Maine and summarizes the first chemical use reports submitted by product manufacturers under a new state chemical safety law passed in Maine. Similar state laws go into effect in Washington and California next year. Coinciding with the report's release, Senator Rebekah Warren, D-Ann



Arbor, introduced the Safe Children's Products Act, legislation similar to Maine's law that provides information to the public on chemical ingredients in children's products.

"This report illustrates the important role states have in providing chemical safety data in the absence of federal reform," said Rebecca Meuninck, who co-released the report. She also serves as environmental health campaign director for the Ecology Center — the organization that created

HealthyStuff.org — and Michigan Network for Children's Environmental Health.

"Michigan families deserve the same protections as families in Maine, so we applaud Senator Warren's introduction of the Safe Children's Products Act."

The Safe Children's Products Act would require the state to create a list of chemicals of concern in children's products, based on sound science and require toy importers and large manufacturers to disclose the

presence of chemicals of greatest concern in their children's products.

To read the lists of toys containing BPA and household products with NPEs, visit www.healthystuff.org.

The Michigan Network for Children's Environmental Health is a coalition of Michigan health professional, health-affected, and environmental organizations dedicated to changing policies and practices that expose children to environmental toxicants.

Mammogram service offers risk assessment

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia is offering a new mammography service, MammoPlus, that includes a digital mammogram and a lifetime risk assessment for breast cancer.



Mohindra

"We want to provide our patients with a bigger picture than simply traditional breast cancer screening," stated Medical Oncologist Dr. Ramesh Mohindra, a medical oncologist and medical director of Breast Health Services at St. Mary Mercy Hospital. "Regular mammograms are essential in the fight against breast cancer... a digital mammogram can detect breast cancer up to two years before the patient even experiences symptoms and this risk assessment provides an even more complete evaluation. The sooner breast cancer is discovered, or the threat of it, the better the chance of beating it."

With MammoPlus, each patient is offered the National Cancer Institute's Breast Cancer Risk Assessment as part of their standard mammography service.

"This tool helps us gather information about the patient's personal health and breast history that assist us in determining if she may be at increased risk for developing breast cancer," stated Diagnostic Services Director Mary Tocco, St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

If the patient's risk score requires further review, she and her referring physician are alerted and within 48 hours she receives a call to discuss MammoPlus results. An appointment can be scheduled at that time for more in-depth assessment, followed by an interview with the hospital's high risk coordinator. An analysis report is prepared based on the patient's answers to questions about her personal life and family risk.

There is no additional cost for MammoPlus. For more information, call the hospital at (734) 655-4216.

CHANGE is possible...

We Can Help!

With the New Year around the corner, now is the time to look back to the past, and more importantly, forward to the coming year. What do you want (or need) to do to follow through on those changes?

- Physical fitness
- Professional development
- Learn a new language
- Pick up a new skill
- Start a new hobby
- Financial stability
- Emotional sanity

Check out our schedules online at www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd

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Canton, Michigan 48187
(Located between Joy & Warren Roads)

(734) 453-3203
www.CrystalCreekAssistedLiving.com

ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA

SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

St. Mary Mercy Hospital's UPCOMING HEALTH INFORMATION PRESENTATIONS

- Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar**
Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD
Thursday, January 5, 6 p.m.
Call 877-WHY-WEIGHT to register or for more information.
- Keeping Your New Year's Resolution**
Be successful at keeping your exercise and nutrition goals.
Guest speaker Kevin Moore, OTR, MSA, WCC
Thursday, January 19, 7 p.m.
Call 734-655-8950 to register or for more information.
Location: Bailey Center in Westland
- Center for Joint Replacement Seminar**
Guest speaker David Mendelson, MD
Thursday, January 26, 6 p.m.
Call 734-655-2345 to register or for more information.
- Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar**
Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD
Thursday, February 2, 6 p.m.
Call 877-WHY-WEIGHT to register or for more information.
- "Stay Awake" Series: Insomnia and Sleep Hygiene**
Guest speaker Punitha Vijayakumar, MD
Neurologist and Board Certified Sleep Specialist
Thursday, February 9, 7 p.m.
Call 734-655-4640 to register or for more information.
- Let's Talk: Heart Health**
Guest speaker, an expert in Cardiology
Wednesday, February 15, 6 p.m.
Call 734-655-8940 to register or for more information.

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

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up to \$1,000 Ford Holiday Cash!

Extra \$250 Holiday Cash!

2012 FOCUS SE FWD



Offers Up To 40 MPG²

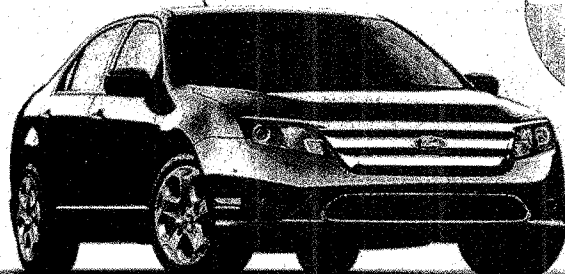
\$149

For 27 months for A/Z plan customers* \$1,800 Cash Due at Signing

- 2.0L Ti-VCT direct-injection I-4 engine
- SYNC Voice-Activated Communications and Entertainment System
- AdvanceTrac® Electronic Stability Control System • My Key

Great Lakes Value Package
2012 FUSION SEL FWD

MSRP: \$28,985⁴



Extra \$500 Holiday Cash!

23 city / 33 highway MPG²

\$179

For 27 months for current A/Z plan lessees* \$1,800 Cash Due at Signing

- Heated Leather Driver/Passenger Seats
- Moonroof • Blind Spot Information System
- Reverse Sensing System • Rear View Camera
- Sony Audio System • Rain Sensing Wipers
- Sync Voice-Activated Communications and Entertainment System

Extra \$750 Holiday Cash!

2012 ESCAPE XLT 4x4



21 city / 28 highway MPG²

\$179

For 27 months for current A/Z plan lessees* \$1,800 Cash Due at Signing

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

2012 TAURUS SEL

MSRP: \$29,250⁴



Extra \$500 Holiday Cash!

18 city / 27 highway MPG²

\$199

For 27 months for current A/Z plan lessees* \$2,175 Cash Due at Signing

- 3.5 L Duratec V6 engine
- MyKey • Perimeter Anti-theft Alarm
- 6-speed Select Shift Automatic Transmission with Paddle Activation
- Sync with Traffic, Directions and Information

Extra \$1,000 Holiday Cash + \$500 Trade-in Assistance

2012 EDGE SE FWD



19 city / 27 highway MPG²

\$189

For 27 months for current A/Z plan lessees* \$2,800 Cash Due at Signing

- 3.5 Ti-VCT V6 Engine
- 6-Speed Automatic Transmission
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™
- AM/FM Stereo/Single CD-Player with MP3 Capability • Dual Chrome Exhaust Tips
- 17" Painted Aluminum Wheels

2011 F-150 SUPERCAB XLT 4X4
THIS VEHICLE COMES FULLY EQUIPPED AND HAS A MSRP OF \$38,025⁴



17 city / 23 highway MPG²

\$750 Trade-in Assistance

\$159

For 27 months for current A/Z plan lessees* \$2,850 Cash Due at Signing

- Sync, Tow & Chrome package
- 5.0L V8 Engine
- 18" Chrome-Clad Aluminum Wheels
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control
- Trailer Sway Control

HURRY, THESE GREAT OFFERS END SOON!



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24 Hours a Day!

(1) Includes acquisition fee, waived security deposit, and excludes title, taxes and license fees. Some payments higher, some lower. Not all lessees will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low mileage lease. Residency restrictions apply. Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. Payments include \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash with exception of the 2012 Focus. F-150 payment includes \$750 trade-in assistance. Edge Payment includes \$500 trade in assistance. You must currently lease a Ford product and finance through Ford Credit. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. Take retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/3/12. \$250 Holiday Cash on Focus, \$750 Holiday Cash on Escape, \$1,000 Holiday Cash on Edge and \$500 Holiday Cash on Fusion, Taurus. All applicable Holiday Cash is included in payment shown. (2) MPG estimate based on 2012 Focus SE SEDAN with SFE Package- EPA-estimated 29 city/40 hwy, 2012 Fusion SEL 2.5L I-4 Engine with 6-speed automatic 23 city/33 hwy, 2012 Escape 2.5L I-4 Engine 21 city/28 hwy, 2012 Taurus SEL 3.5L V6 engine 18 city/27 highway, 2012 Edge SE 3.5L V6 engine 19 city/27 hwy, and 2011 F-150 Super Cab 5.0L V8 engine 17 city/23 hwy. (3) Horsepower and torque achieved with premium fuel. (4) MSRP, A Plan price is for qualified, eligible A Plan customers and excludes document fee, destination/delivery charge, taxes, title and registration. Optional equipment not included. Not all vehicles qualify for A Plan price. (5) Driving while distracted can result in loss of vehicle control. Only use mobile phones and other devices, even with voice commands, when it is safe to do so. Not all buyers will qualify. See dealer for qualifications and complete details.