

SPICY TRENDS
FOOD, B&B

DANCERS NEED HELP GETTING TO BELFAST, B5

PARTNERSHIP CREATES TRANSPORT SERVICE
BUSINESS, A11



Food drive

Open your heart and be a valentine to someone in need by donating nonperishable food items to Westland Shopping Center's Grateful Hearts food drive.

The center is collecting nonperishable food now through Friday, Feb. 10 at a table by the Guest Service Desk in the mall's East Court. Bring in three items and enter to win a \$100 mall gift card. Details are available at Guest Services.

All food collected will go the Lighthouse Home Missions in Westland.

Appointments

The Westland City Council unanimously confirmed the reappointment of Jim Fausone as Westland city attorney, Robert Kosowski as parks and recreation director and Bruce Thompson as the city's planning director.

Approved at the council's Jan. 17 meeting, the appointments are effective through Dec. 31, 2013.

The council also voted to retain the firm of Plante Moran as city auditors to provide auditing and financial consulting services for the city through Dec. 31, 2013.

Confirmation of other appointments and reappointments included Westland residents Timothy Bailey, Ron Graunstadt, Jerome VanHook, Earl Lamp, Bud Prough, Greg Green and Robert Freich to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council to terms that expire Dec. 31, 2013.

Former Zoning Board of Appeals member R. J. C. [Name] also was appointed to the Westland Planning Commission to fill an unexpired term. The appointment is through July 20, 2013.

Valentine's Day contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win a \$400 package for a romantic night at the Townsend Hotel and an \$80 voucher for the Rugby Grille. Nine second-place winners will get two tickets to Emagine Theatres. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five chances to win if they also enter the contest.

Pairs of movie tickets will be awarded from Feb. 1 to Feb. 10. The grand prize drawing is Feb. 13. To enter, go to our website, hometownlife.com, and click on the Valentine's Contest link, which is located on our Don't Miss module on the right-hand side of the site.

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W-W provides information about sinking fund renewal request

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Wayne-Westland school officials are hoping voters in the district will say yes to the renewal sinking fund tax levy when they go to polls in February for the state's presidential primary election.

The district is seeking a 10-year renewal of the .9922-mill tax request.

The money will be used to make significantly large repairs or renovations "that will impact the students."

"This will be used for the maintenance and replacement of large items that tend to go bad after 10-15 years," School Superintendent Greg Baracy said. "Most residents understand how severely schools have

been cut by the state of Michigan and that without a capital improvement fund, we can't make the repairs because the state doesn't provide us with enough money."

The millage would replace a sinking fund levy approved by voters in 2003. The last time taxes can be collected for that levy will be July 2012. The new tax,

if approved, would be levied in 2013 and run through 2022.

School officials are meeting with parent groups and civic organizations to provide information about the sinking fund. They're stressing that the tax is not a new tax nor is it an increase. The levy represents a tax of .9922 cents for every \$1,000 of taxable value. It

would cost the owner of a home with a \$40,000 taxable value \$39.69 a year.

The tax levy would raise approximately \$1.93 million the first year and an estimated \$19.1 million over 10 years. The money will be used for such things as replacement of roofs, boilers, chillers and cooling towers, exterior

Please see FUND, A2

Youth Assistance recognizes mentors, mentees

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer



Danielle Prough with her former mentor Pam Blake who was honored as Westland Youth Assistance's Mentor of the Year.

Pam Blake had to admit Danielle Prough was her biggest challenge. She realized that if she was going to get the high school sophomore to turn her life around, she had to get tough.

"I told her failure wasn't an option," Blake said. "I told her I was so hurt and so disappointed she had got into trouble. I made her cry."

Blake and Prough were among the honorees when The Westland Youth Assistance program held its annual recognition dinner at Angelo Brothers Restaurant on Tuesday evening. Blake was tapped as the agency's Mentor of the Year, while Prough received a special recognition award.

The agency also tapped Jeff Oswell, a 10th-grader at John Glenn, and Samantha Duzak, an 11th-grader, as this year's Male and Female Youth

Please see AWARDS, A2

Lost too soon

Community gathers to remember Kent Morton

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Fawn Salvatore knows there was a smile on her son Kent Morton's face Sunday afternoon when a community came together Sunday afternoon to remember him as a great father, a great son and a great friend.

"Kent would have loved to see everyone come out for his daughter," Salvatore said. "I know he was looking down and I know he was smiling."

An estimated 1,500 people filled the chapel and visiting rooms at the John Santieu and Son Funeral Home in Garden City for the memorial service held to remember Kent Morton who died Jan. 11 after a fall from the Ambassador Bridge where he had been working. He survived the 150-foot fall into the Detroit River and even managed to swim briefly before being carried off by the current. He was last seen near the Bob-Lo docks south of the bridge. His body has not been recovered.



Fawn Salvatore, Makayla Morton and Kristi Waltsgott hug each other during the memorial.

"He was so caring," said his aunt Lisa Zube who passed out memorial folders to people waiting to enter the crowded chapel. "He would do anything for anybody. He was very family oriented."

Zube wore an orange Garden City Cougars sweatshirt, and many of those standing in line

also wore orange, Kent Morton's favorite color. Even funeral director John Santieu hung up his suit coat to put on a long-sleeved orange jacket and Pastor Earl Duncan wore an orange Detroit Tigers T-shirt under his sports coat.

Please see MORTON, A8

City extends shared service agreement

Westland has extended an agreement to share the services of a required water department operator with Canton Township.

The agreement, which the communities entered into in June 2011, calls for the city to share the cost of a Canton Township employee who will assist Westland in monitoring its water distribution system and overseeing Westland's compliance with the State of Michigan.

The agreement complies with Michigan Safe Water Drinking Act requirements and affords Westland the professional expertise of Canton employees who will regularly meet with Westland Department of Public Services officials, perform site visits as needed, collaborate on reports and on other matters related to Westland's water system.

The agreement with Canton Township has proven to be a success

and has helped both communities fulfill requirements concerning municipal service sharing put forth by Gov. Rick Snyder, said Mayor William Wild. Canton Township will continue to bill the City of Westland on an hourly basis as work is performed.

"Westland and Canton Township have a good working relationship, and this agreement makes sense for all involved," said Wild. "Westland looks forward to more agreements with Canton Township and other cities to collaborate in endeavors, such as this, for providing high quality services to area residents and businesses."

This agreement has been a win-win situation for both communities. Westland has saved the legacy costs of hiring new employees and Canton Township has brought in additional revenue to offset current employee costs, Wild added.

INDEX

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

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AWARDS

Continued from page A1

of the Year award winners.

Blake has been a mentor for three years and spent seven months working with Prough who was in the program from three years.

"Seven months is a long time," she said. "She had been in the program for three years. I wasn't her first mentor, but I was her last."

A retiree, Blake decided to become a mentor because she enjoys working with kids and had the time. Prough was the third teen she has worked with since signing up to be a mentor.

"Pam is very open and down to earth, she does a great job of building a close relationship with her mentees," said Michele Bracy, Youth Assistance deputy director. "She even shared her wisdom and experience with new volunteers to help them gain insight on what it takes to be an effective mentor."

"I think we would be in a whole different situation if we hadn't had you with a stern upper hand," said Prough's father. "I don't know how we would have gotten through this. You don't know how much this family appreciated what you have done over and over and over again."

Paul Motz, Youth Assistance director, said Blake "does what it takes to solve problems."

"Pam is wonderful,



Westland Youth Assistance selected Jeff Oswell as its Male Youth of the Year and Samantha Duzak as its Female Youth of the Year.

when she locks onto something, she locks on," he said.

Prough, a 10th-grader at John Glenn, was referred to Youth Assistance "because of a poor choice in school." She was received the special recognition for "her determination to improve her behavior and make positive life choices," Bracy said.

Showing growth

"Despite making a number of poor choices in the past, Danielle now strives to avoid negative peers and better herself," Bracy said. "She was involved in mentoring and tutoring and has showed impressive leadership, maturity and growth."

"Pam made me the person I am today," Prough said. "I don't think I would have gotten here without my family, Paul

(Motz) who yelled at me and made me cry, and you."

"I know you're going to do great things," Blake said. "I know you will be successful. You go girl."

Oswell also was referred to the program because of a poor decision in school. Unlike Prough, he spent 11 weeks in the program and was praised for the leadership and maturity he showed by volunteering at the DTE Community Garden.

"It was a pleasure to get to know him," YA staffer Justin Thomas said. "He always did a great job."

Thomas was impressed that even after being told it would be a lot of hard work at the garden, Oswell came "rain or shine with a fantastic work ethic and good attitude."

"Jeff went above and beyond in completing far more community service hours than was required of him," Thomas said. "One day he was stung by bees and he kept pushing on. He was always polite and thankful and it was great to watch him grow and mature."



Youth Assistance Director Paul Motz recognizes the Westland Rotary as Agency of the Year for its contributions to such things as the Teen Court at John Glenn High School. Accepting the award was Rotary President Mary Vellardita. She's joined by 18th District Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli and Rotary members Margaret Harlow and Antrouette Martin.

Oswell said he ended up in Youth Assistance by default. It was either take part in the program or go to court.

"Everything is going great, thanks to them," he said. "Youth Assistance was actually very fun — at first I didn't think that — and the DTE garden was the better part of the class."

Also the better part of the program was meeting his girlfriend of five months, Nikki Owens.

"I was riding by one day and saw the people in the garden, so I stopped," Owens said.

She stayed and according to Oswell, they "spent the entire time flirting."

"I'd tell teens who need help to go to Youth Assistance and find a mentor that fits best," he said. "That's what's important."

Positive decisions

Like the other teens, a poor decision led to Duzak's referral to Youth Assistance in February 2011. She has been "open and willing to share

her conflicts" with staff members and participants in the Life Choices group, said Jackie Haase.

"Sam was always polite and respectful and has taken the initiative to make positive decisions in her life," she said. "Now she has the tools and determination to reach her goals. I hope you continue to set goals for yourself."

Motz talked about how her two grandmothers "pinned me to the wall" when Duzak entered the program. He told the teen that she "really has a neat family" and that she is "lucky to have these grandmas who adore you."

Her mentor told the crowd that when she began working with Duzak she would have a scowl on her face when she picked her up. By the end of the five months, she was smiling when she dropped her off at home.

"Sam really benefitted from this intervention," said her grandmother. "It has made her a more confident, trustworthy young

woman." Also honored for their involvement in Youth Assistance was the Westland Rotary Club which has donated \$7,500 including \$2,500 for the construction of a Teen Court inside John Glenn High School.

"It would not have been possible without the generous support of Westland Rotary," Bracy said.

"I think you do live up to your motto of Service Above Self," Motz added. "We're inspired by the work you do. Thank you for continually looking out for Westland and the children."

Rotary President Mary Vellardita accepted the award telling Motz that "wherever in life you can use a little help, let us know."

"We're very proud of Paul Motz, he's young people's greatest friend," she said. "Thank you, Youth Assistance, for all you do and thank you for recognizing Rotary."

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FUND

Continued from page A1

doors and windows, elementary kitchen remodeling and renovations, parking lot upgrades and expansions and bathroom renovations.

There will be no additions like the gymnasiums and elementary libraries that were constructed as part of the current 10-year levy, Baracy said.

At the top of the list is the John Glenn High School roof.

"Three-quarters of John Glenn's roof needs to be replaced, that would

cost \$1.7 million," Baracy said. "If we don't do it now, in the next couple of years, it will have to be replaced."

Officials are also stressing that sinking fund money can only be used for significantly large repairs or renovations — the threshold is a cost of more than \$20,000, Baracy said — and it can't be used for such things as salaries, insurance and benefits.

"We can't do that, it's prohibited by law," Baracy said.

The district placed the millage request on the February ballot after the state passed a law mov-

ing school elections to November in odd-numbered years. Wayne-Westland had planned to put the renewal before voters in the this year's May school election.

"By doing it this way, we won't have to pay for a special election that would cost us at least \$40,000," Baracy said.

Because it is a partisan election, all voters need to designate a party affiliation to receive either the Republican or Democratic presidential primary ballot. But residents of the Wayne-Westland district will have a third option — voting only on the ballot question and

not participating in the presidential primary.

Baracy is hoping residents will approve the tax renewal, especially since it is less than the original 1-mill request.

"Ant ballot question is a concern, but our hope is that community members realize how important it is to maintain good school buildings for our students to learn in and for us to provide them with a quality education," he said.

Residents have until Monday, Jan. 30, to register to vote in the Feb. 28 election.

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CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, February 9, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the following:

- 11-017, Special Land Use. 7153 Middlebelt Road is proposing to construct a gas station. The property is zoned C-3, General Business. Gas stations are a special land use in the C-3 zoning district.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

Publish: January 26, 2012

Westland's Old Country Buffet closes after bankruptcy filing

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Westland lost a longtime business with the sudden closing of Old Country Buffet last week. The popular dining spot closed Jan. 19, just a day after its parent company, Minnesota-based Buffets Inc. and all of its subsidiaries, filed voluntary petitions for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

"I was a little surprised it closed, considering it was a busy store," Westland Economic Development Director Lori Fodale said. "I think the community was truly supportive of the business, but maybe Fire Mountain and Golden Corral (buffets) drew down their business. It's unfortunate that this had to happen."

More readily known as OCB, it opened in 1989 and was a major tenant in a strip mall at Wayne Road and Hunter. It was among three Old Country Buffets closed in the Detroit area. Also shuttered were Old



A popular dining spot in Westland, Old Country Buffet closed last week after its parent company, Buffets Inc. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

Country Buffets in Southgate and Ann Arbor. Unaffected was the Fire Mountain Buffet on Warren Road in Westland, which also is part of Buffets Inc.

Westland resident Leonard Poger discovered the buffet was closed when he went there Sunday "and saw an undated notice that it is closed effective immediately."

"I have pleasant mem-

ories of the place. My three kids worked there as teens," he said. "I also liked OCB because it was clearly the best food value in town."

Buffets Inc. closed 81 restaurants as part of \$275 million restructuring plan. It also is seeking more favorable lease arrangements at other locations and, if leases can't be modified, there may be more

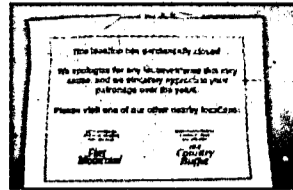
closings.

This is the second filing for Buffets Inc. The company went through a similar bankruptcy in 2008, and closed about 50 restaurants. At the time, company officials said a decline in discretionary spending and rising costs and commodity prices forced that restructuring.

Buffets Inc. CEO Mike Andrews said the decision

to close "these underperforming restaurants" was difficult and resulted from a comprehensive, store-by-store analysis of financial performance, occupancy costs, market conditions and the long-term strategy of Buffets' reorganized restaurant portfolio.

"We deeply regret the impact on our dedicated associates in those restaurants that will be closed,"



A note alerts customers to Old Country Buffet's closing.

he added.

Fodale admitted that losing a business in Westland is tough, but city officials are meeting with developers everyday to bring business to the city.

"We're seeing a lot of activity," she said. "We lose a business, but we're seeing more interest in business coming to the community than going. Interest has increased in Westland in over the past four months."

"Residents can expect to hear some exciting news about new businesses coming to Westland in the future," she added.

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Recovery of stolen autos up in 2011, H.E.A.T. reports

Since its inception in 1985, Livonia-based Help Eliminate Auto Thefts (H.E.A.T.) has been working in partnership with citizens and law enforcement to keep Michigan communities safe from the dangers and expense associated with auto theft-related crimes.

To date across its 26-year history, H.E.A.T. has managed more than 9,100 anonymous tip calls and website submissions, which have led to the recovery of more than 4,400 vehicles valued at over \$54 million. As a result, more than 3,500 suspects have been arrested and more than 2,200 tipsters have

been awarded some \$3.7 million for their information.

In 2011, H.E.A.T. saw an increase over its 2010 statistics across nearly every category. Additionally, the number of tips paid, the amount of tips awarded and the value of property recovered all saw increases over both 2010 and 2009 figures.

From Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2011, H.E.A.T. managed 338 tip calls, which led to the recovery of 97 vehicles (up from 77 in 2010) valued at over \$1.6 million (up from approximately \$90,000 in 2010 and \$89,000 in 2009). Seventy-seven suspects were

arrested and 55 anonymous tipsters received rewards valued at nearly \$117,000 (a nearly 30 percent increase from last year).

"We continue to be encouraged by and grateful for the active participation of Michigan citizens in protecting themselves and their neighborhoods from auto theft-related crime," said Terri Miller, H.E.A.T. director. "Thanks to their information and our tenacious partners in Michigan's law enforcement agencies, we are steadfast in our efforts to chip away at auto crime statewide."

To further assist in H.E.A.T.'s auto theft awareness and prevention in Michigan moving forward, the organization recently unveiled a revamped website at www.1800242HEAT.com. Visitors will find a more streamlined site and enjoy a more user-friendly format for learning about the H.E.A.T. program and auto theft prevention, as well as reporting anonymous tips.

H.E.A.T. works with Michigan law enforcement agencies to follow up on tips. Tipsters are awarded up to \$1,000, if the tip leads to the arrest and prosecution of a suspected

car thief or a person suspected of auto theft-related insurance fraud.

Rewards of up to \$10,000 are issued, if a tip results in the arrest and binding over for trial of a suspected theft ring or chop shop operators. H.E.A.T. rewards up to \$2,000 for information leading to the issuance of a warrant for a carjacking suspect.

The H.E.A.T. tip line is monitored by the Michigan State Police and funded by Michigan's auto insurance companies. Follow H.E.A.T. on Facebook and @1800242HEAT on Twitter.

Madonna honors criminal justice alumni, top cops

Madonna University of Livonia has rebuilt its Wall of Honor highlighting the many police chiefs and high-ranking law enforcement officials who have graduated from its criminal justice program over the past 40 years.

"The Wall of Honor was established several years after the criminal justice program began in 1972 as more of our graduates were promoted," said Barry Sherman, chair of the criminal justice program. "The wall has continued to grow larger every year and it became evident we needed to expand and re-build it."

The redesigning of the wall coincides with the 75 birthday of Madonna University.

"The numerous chiefs on the wall represent many communities throughout Michigan and some in other states," Sherman said. "Of Madonna's many dis-

tinguished alumni is retired Livonia Police Chief Robert Stevenson who was recently appointed executive director of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police. And retired Police Chief David Harvey of Garden City is now the executive director of the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards. Both of these individuals are presently members of the Madonna University Criminal Justice adjunct faculty."

The renewed display of photographs will be rededicated in a ceremony at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, at the University Gallery on Madonna's main campus. Stevenson and Harvey will be guest speakers at the event.

The University Gallery is located outside the library on the second floor in the main academic building.



Madonna University student Arjun Thakar takes a look at the new Wall of Honor for Criminal Justice alumni.

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- Richard Connema, critic for Talkin' Broadway



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- Cate Blanchett, Academy Award-winning Actress

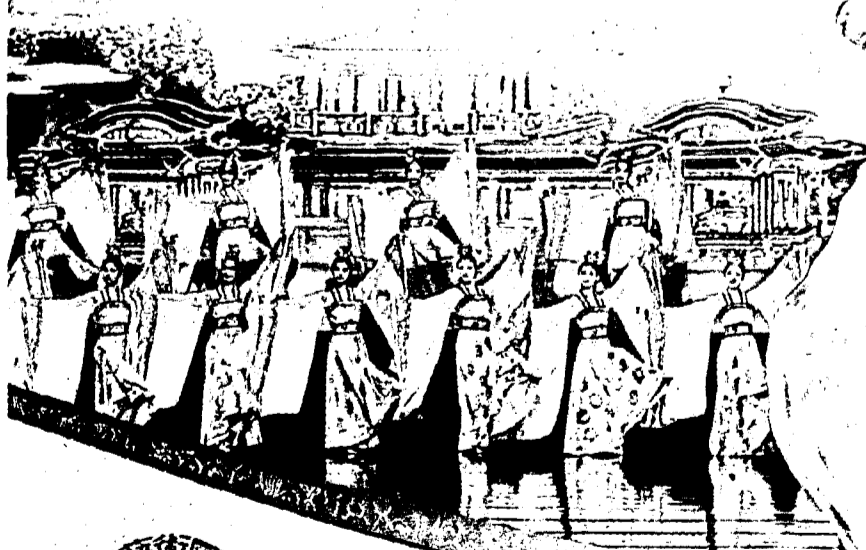


"It's absolutely beautiful, it was so inspiring, I think I may have found some new ideas for the next Avatar. It was a very unique performance."

- Oscar-winner Robert Stromberg, Production Designer for Avatar and Alice in Wonderland

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- Robln Dale, a popular Scottish musician



Ladies of the Tang Palace, 2011.

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- Amerigo Fabbri, Dean, Yale University

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- Joy Behar, Co-host of ABC's The View

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Gebhardt to chair Special Committee on Ethics

Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt (D-District 12) was appointed Monday by Commission Chairman Gary Woronchak (D-Dearborn) to chair the Commission's



Gebhardt

newly organized Special Committee on Ethics.

The Special Committee on Ethics is preparing the county's first comprehensive ethics ordinance for final approval by the commission. The committee will take the draft ethics ordinance presented last month by the commission's Ethics Task Force, which Gebhardt chaired, and work out details of how it will be enforced and funded.

"Wayne County will benefit greatly from the organization of this committee as we strive to continue to strengthen our ethics policies," said Gebhardt, whose district includes Westland, Inkster and the southern portion of Livonia.

"I am honored to be named as chair of this committee, and along with the other members, will push forward to assure greater transparency is achieved and ethical guidelines are met."

Joining Gebhardt on the

committee will be Woronchak, Commission Vice Chair Alisha Bell (D-Detroit), Vice Chair Pro-Temp Laura Cox (R-Livonia) and Commissioner Irma Clark-Coleman (D-Detroit).

Woronchak created the Ethics Task Force — which in addition to Gebhardt and Bell, included Commissioners Diane Webb (D-Garden City), Tim Killeen (D-Detroit) and Ilona Varga (D-Lincoln Park) — shortly after being elected chair of the commission a year ago. The ethics ordinance was expected to take about a year to develop so the process remains on schedule.

"The Ethics Task Force did a lot of work to put this document together, and the county will benefit from their service," said Woronchak.

Events that have become known in recent months include relationships between the county and contractors to a federal investigation and FBI subpoenas for county records.

"This ethics ordinance will help to resolve many of those issues that have generated quite a fury in Wayne County," Gebhardt said.

An ethics ordinance generally sets standards of conduct for officials and employees and rules for disclosure and

openness designed to avoid conflicts of interest and improper business practices.

Ethics policies currently exist in the county's procurement ordinance, which sets policy for contracting.

As part of its deliberations, the task force examined ethics ordinances from other governments, discussing what best practices could be applied to Wayne County.

Controversy has surrounded the county since late September when it was revealed that its former economic development director got a severance payment of \$200,000 when she left her county job to become CEO of Metro Airport.

The furor that followed resulted in the termination or resignation of high-ranking appointees in the administration of County Executive Robert Ficano. The new airport CEO returned the money and later was fired from the airport position.

Federal authorities continue to investigate the county in the wake of the severance scandal. The FBI subpoenaed county records to determine whether laws were broken. Meanwhile, news media reports have brought scrutiny to county contracting practices, projects, employment packages and more.



Verdi Opera singers Rebecca Eaddy and Zeshan Bagewadi perform a piece from Verdi's La Traviata.

Italian American Club holds Culinary Extravaganza

The Italian American Club of Livonia is once again sponsoring its annual Culinary Extravaganza to benefit St. Louis Center in Chelsea.

The event will be held Sunday, Jan. 29, beginning with a Mass at noon. The Culinary Extravaganza, starting at 1 p.m., features food from 15 area restaurants and five bakeries. "A Taste of Opera," featuring artists from the Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan, will follow.

The St. Louis Guanella Humanitarian Award will be presented by the Servants of Charity, and a silent auction and a gift raffle are also included.

St. Louis Center is a residential family, living and learning environment providing for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of children and adults with developmental disabili-

ties. Managed by the Servants of Charity congregation, St. Louis Center has been operating in Chelsea since 1960, and celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2010. It was built by the Archdiocese of Detroit under the leadership of Archbishop John Francis Dearden.

The money raised from this event will be earmarked for the transportation needs of the residents, and include a portion of a driver's salary.

Participating bakeries and shops include Dunia Sweets, Heritage Bakery, Kilwin's Chocolates, Mary Denning's Cake Shop, and Tuscan Cafe.

Dinner tickets are \$50 each. To order tickets, contact Gianna Prokop at (866) 990-IABC, ext. 2, or Joseph Yekulis at (734) 475-8430. More information about St. Louis Center is available at www.stlouiscenter.org.

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WMR offers help close to home

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

Many local residents probably wouldn't consider World Medical Relief as a place to obtain help with prescriptions. But that's what Betty Hughes, a Senior Alliance representative who is also a Medicaid and Medicare counselor, told those in attendance at a special seminar for the uninsured held Thursday at the Maplewood Center.

"World Medical Relief has been around for many, many years," Hughes said.

The WMR, known for its international assistance, is ready to help Michigan residents, too. Recipients don't have to be unemployed to receive medical and prescription assistance. Some employers don't provide medical insurance coverage and part-time employers often don't qualify.

WMR's state-licensed pharmacy may be the answer with prescriptions at \$8.30 each, and "in most cases, your medicine can be mailed directly to your home," according to information provided by Hughes and found on the WMR website.

Qualifications include being older than age 18, earning \$24,000 or less per year, if single, and \$37,000 for a couple, adding \$300 for each additional dependent. People can also qualify if they do not have prescription drug coverage, even though they may have health insurance or are not currently enrolled in Medicaid. They may still qualify if they have a discount

prescription card or are a senior on Medicare Part D. Documentation of income is required.

The WMR has other services available, including durable medical equipment like hospital beds, wheelchairs, shower chairs, walkers, canes and commodes. They carry basic medical, diabetic and colostomy supplies, liquid nutrition and incontinent products.

Cheryl Stepanian, senior coordinator at the Maplewood Center, heard good things about WMR.

"I had a woman in my office yesterday who said that they treated her wonderfully," Stepanian said.

Contact World Medical Relief Inc. at 11745 Rosa Parks Blvd., Detroit, call (313) 866-5333, fax (313) 866-5588 or send an e-mail to info@worldmedicalrelief.org. More information is available on the website at www.worldmedicalrelief.org.

Free clinics

Hughes said that Michigan is not the worst in the number of uninsured people. It falls 17th on the list, with 13.8 percent of the total population uninsured.

Some people work and are still uninsured because they are not offered health insurance. In Wayne County, one option for help is the Wayne County Four Star program, a health insurance program. Students can also purchase this insurance.

"This is something that is known as a best-kept secret," Hughes said. "Insurance can be purchased. You don't

have to be working."

For the Four Star program, call (866) 780-6655 or visit waynecountyfourstar.org.

Clinics also are available for medical and dental needs. With the Affordable Care Act, lower cost insurance should become available in 2014 where there will be exchanges and choices, she said, adding that it's difficult to align different programs right now.

There also is the Hope Clinic, which is looking for a permanent location after the clinic was destroyed as a result of the William C. Frank's Furniture Store explosion in Wayne in 2010. It is temporarily located in the Metromall on Michigan Avenue east of Wayne Road near the Wayne Post Office. The clinic will be moving in the next couple of weeks.

"They are still in a temporary location, but the phone number is still the same," Hughes said. "If you have no insurance at all, they will take you. Not only is this a completely free clinic, it is a Christian clinic which runs on a bunch of different grants. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti and St. Mary Mercy Hospital help to facilitate the programs. We have doctors who volunteer their time."

Patients can't choose their hospital, though, because they are sent to the facility corresponding to their ZIP code. Hope Clinic's phone number is (734) 710-6688.

Western Wayne Family Health Center, a federal clinic, also accepts

people with no insurance and charges on a sliding scale. A full-service clinic, it is located at 2500 Hamlin Court in Inkster and can be reached at (313) 561-5100.

Hughes cautioned about discount prescription cards.

"There are many out there and many are fraudulent," she said. "They are just looking for your personal information. To know what is the best discount card, talk to the pharmacist." The Needy Meds program is one which she likes. It can be found online on the Internet.

Something for everyone

When it comes to medical insurance and prescription assistance, Hughes said that "there is something for everyone."

Many people had inquired about Social Security and health insurance during permanent disability which prevents working. An application can be done online and documentation is required from a physician in chronological order.

"This will be looked at through many magnifying glasses," she said. "They are looking for any possibility that you will be able to return to work. Social Security is income coming from your work history. It is not insurance. It is only income."

The process can get going in six months. Checks will come from two years after which, if still disabled, the recipient will be automatically enrolled in the Medicare

program.

"That's how you get your health insurance," she said.

With Medicaid, income has to be less than \$908 and assets less than \$2,000.

"Medicaid is for those under the age of 18 and over the age of 64," she said. "The middle group has to go through a lot of different things."

If there is a disability and the person applied for Social Security, they could possibly be approved for a Medicaid program, she said. It is a complex process and she advised that the person get everything clarified.

"It will not always be smooth," she said. "There are a lot of bumps in the road."

There is a low-cost, private insurance coverage which is minimal, she added.

Information available

Irene Bertuca, a Garden City resident, said the seminar was helpful because she was able to receive information for her son, Lawrence, who receives Social Security.

"But it is over the limit and he can't get insurance," she said. "We have to look for some insurance that he can have until he can get on Medicare."

Stepanian has a variety of information in her office at the Maplewood Center, located on Maplewood, west of Merriman, in Garden City. She urges everyone to call her at (734) 793-1856.

sbuck@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2249

Pantries help provide food

Many people are struggling today financially and could use a helping hand in providing food for their families.

Several food pantries are available in the area.

The list was compiled by Cheryl Stepanian, a senior coordinator at the Maplewood Center in Garden City.

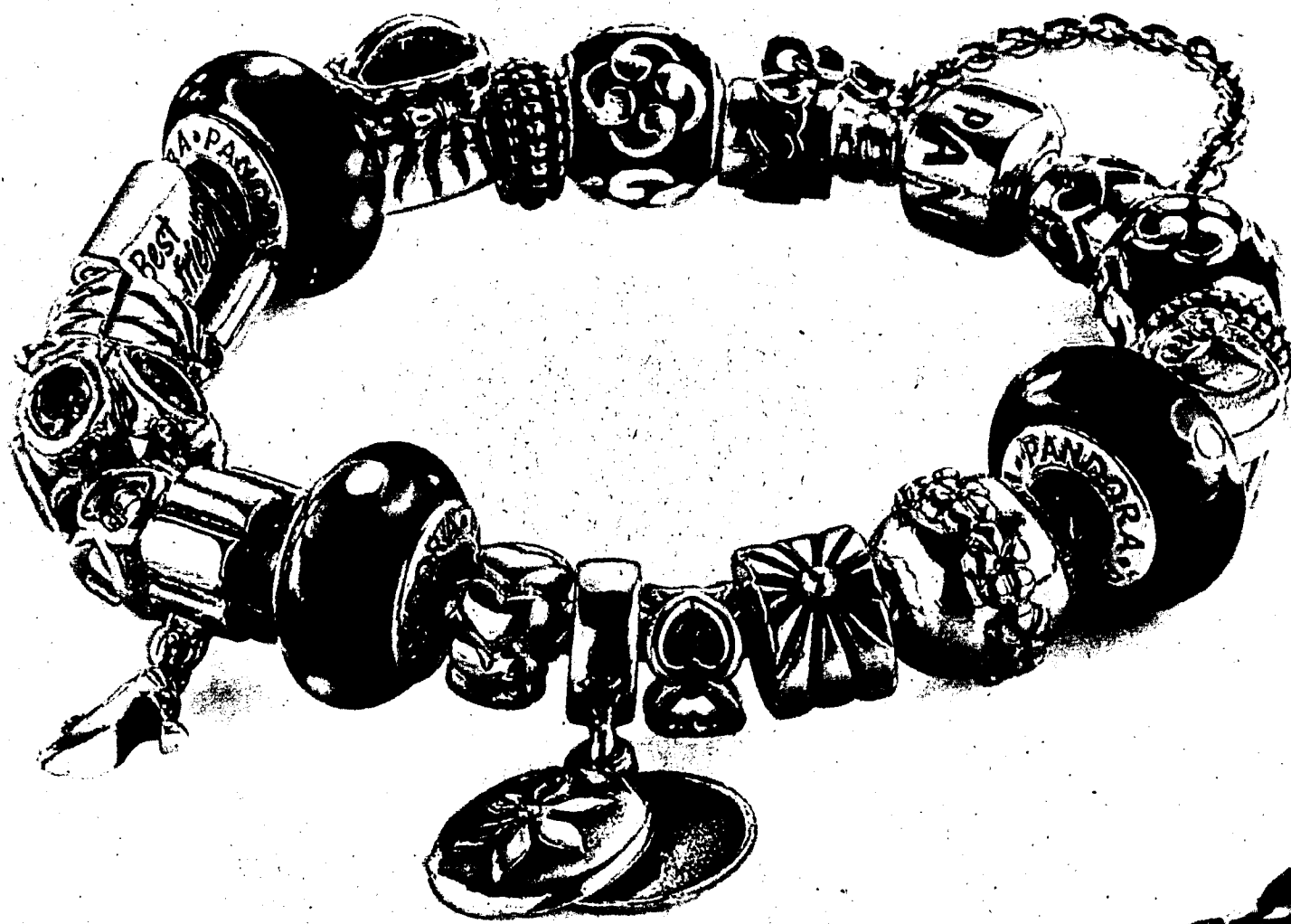
The pantries are:
• St. Dunstan's Parish, 1526 Belton in Garden City. This is by appointment. Call (734) 425-6720.

• Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill in Garden City. It is open 9 a.m.-noon every other Saturday. Bring identification. Call (734) 427-3660.


• Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile in Livonia. Recipients receive a box of food and a \$15 Kroger card. Arrive early the third Saturday of the month. Call (734) 464-6722.

• United Methodist Church located on the northwest corner of Merriman and Maplewood in Garden City. Walk-in 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Saturdays.

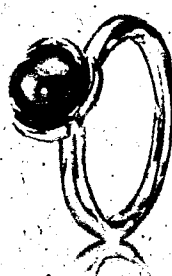
• Light House Home Missions Soup Kitchen, 34033 Palmer in Westland. The hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call (734) 326-3885.



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Don't just forget about U.S. savings bonds

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

I recently sat down with a woman whose husband had just passed away. As is all too common, their financial affairs were all over the place and it was hard to know what their assets and liabilities were. After reviewing tax returns and a variety of statements, I was able to get a good idea of the family's financial situation.

As I was going through the contents of their safety deposit box, I discovered a substantial amount of U.S. savings bonds. In looking at the bonds, there were two problems that, unfortunately, are very common. The first problem was that the bonds did not have any beneficiaries. The problem is that while you are not required to have a beneficiary, the widow

is forced to go through a probate process to have the savings bonds put in her name. My philosophy is, avoid probate whenever you can. I believe the more you keep judges, courts and lawyers out of family affairs, the better things are.

The other problem was the fact that the bonds had matured and were no longer paying interest. On average, the bonds had matured more than 10 years ago so, for the last decade, they paid no interest. The result is that the family had lost thousands of dollars in interest. Unfortunately, this is a situation that occurs all too frequently. Many people buy U.S. savings bonds, put them in a drawer or safety deposit box, and then forget about them. This is OK as long as the bonds have not matured. The problem is, once they mature, you no longer receive interest. In other words, you're giving the government an interest-free loan.

I know some people don't cash out their U.S. savings bonds because they don't want to have to pay the taxes. U.S. savings bonds are subject to

income tax once they are liquidated. The strategy of not cashing the bonds in because you don't want to pay taxes is one that makes no sense whatsoever. After all, it's not like you can avoid the tax. Even if you do not cash the bonds out and you pass away, when your beneficiaries cash the bonds, they will have to pay the income taxes. In addition, there is also a little-known rule that says that if you have not cashed out your U.S. savings bonds before maturity, taxes are then due in the year the bond matures. Therefore, if the Internal Revenue Service decided to aggressively enforce this provision, it could result in many taxpayers having to pay not only the taxes, but interest and penalties as well. To my knowledge, the IRS does not have plans to aggressively enforce this provision, but who knows what it may do in the future?

The bottom line is if you are holding on to matured U.S. savings bonds, cash them, pay the taxes and move on.

When it comes to U.S. saving bonds, there is so much misin-

formation out there. I believe that is because the rules regarding U.S. savings bonds have changed over the years. Not only have the types of bonds changed, but also how interest is calculated has changed throughout the years. Therefore, what you think you know about U.S. savings bonds may not be totally accurate. The U.S. Treasury's website, www.publicdebt.treas.gov, has a wealth of information about U.S. savings bonds as well as some tools to help you determine what interest rate your U.S. saving bond is paying.

One question about U.S. savings bonds that I'm frequently asked is whether people should cash in their existing U.S. savings bonds. Many people are under a false impression that you can only cash out your savings bonds when they mature. That is not the case. There are some rules, but generally you can liquidate your bonds when you choose. The real issue is what interest you are receiving vs. what you plan to do with the money. If you plan to liquidate your bonds and put your mon-

ey in the bank, I would suspect that most people would find they are getting higher rates in U.S. savings bonds. On the other hand, if you're going to liquidate bonds to pay off high-interest rate charge cards, it's probably a good idea. The key is to know what interest rate your U.S. savings bond is paying.

Unfortunately, we don't get statements from the U.S. Treasury telling us about our savings bonds. Mutual funds and brokerage houses have to send statements. The U.S. Treasury does not. Therefore, it's up to consumers to properly keep track of savings bonds. If you have U.S. savings bonds, now is a great time to check out their maturity, determine the interest that they're paying and make a decision whether you should keep them or liquidate. 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.

Money Matters

Rick Bloom

AROUND WESTLAND

Democratic Club

The next meeting of the Westland Democratic Club will be 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, at Venoy, in Westland. Refreshments will be served. For information, call club president Nan Melke at (734) 674-7327.

Spaghetti dinner

The monthly spaghetti dinner at the Dyer Senior Center in Westland will be 4-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and desert, as well as entertain-

ment, for just \$6.

The center also has pinochle and bingo at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and pinochle is played at 1 p.m. Fridays.

The time also has changed for its popular game night due to early darkness. It'll be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26.

The Dyer Center is at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland. For more information, call (734) 419-2020.

Community prayer

Harvest Bible Church is holding a Community Prayer Open House Friday,

Jan. 27.

Drop in anytime between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Anyone from the community who needs prayer is invited to stop by. Pray by yourself or pray with one of volunteer prayer partners.

Harvest Bible Church is in the former Patchin School at 6420 Newburgh, south of Warren Road, in Westland.

Zumba class

Get in shape for the New Year at a free Zumba class offered by the Westland Youth Assistance Program is 6-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, at the Bailey Recreation

Center, 36651 Ford Road. Wear comfortable clothes and athletic shoes and bring a towel and water bottle. Space is limited. To reserve a spot, call (734) 467-7904.

Train show

The Ss. Simon and Jude Usher's Club will sponsor a buy and swap train show, Railroadiana, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, in the church hall, 32500 Palmer, west of Merriman Road, Westland.

Admission is \$2 per person and \$4 per family. Food is available and parking is free.

There will be operating train layouts of various gauges and more 130 dealer tables. Tables are available at \$10 per table. To reserve tables, or for more info, call (734) 595-8327. Dealer set-up is 9 a.m. on the day of the show.

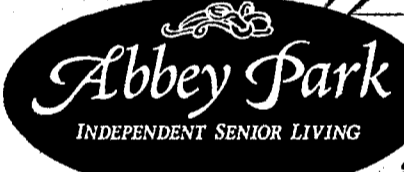
Bowling benefit

St. Damian Parish in Westland is hosting its 11th annual 9-pin No-Tap Cosmic Bowling fundraiser Friday, Feb. 3, at Merri-bowl Lanes on Five Mile, east of Merriman, in Livonia.

The event starts with check in at 9:15 p.m. and

bowling begins at 9:45 p.m. Advance tickets are required. The cost is \$20 per person and includes three games of bowling, snacks, pizza and pop. There also will be many raffles.

Lanes can be reserved for either four or five bowlers, and there is room for 160-200 people. Contact the parish office at (734) 421-6130 weekdays to purchase tickets or for more information. Proceeds will help defray the costs of the youth groups' upcoming events, including a youth conference, retreat and summer mission trip.



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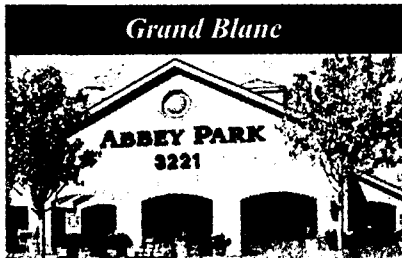
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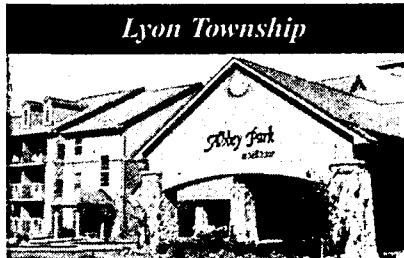
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MORTON

Continued from page A1

Poster boards filled with photos of a smiling Kent Morton were set up in the chapel, and his number 11 orange and white softball shirts and softball were on display. Orange ribbons with his initials and the word Hope on them were available as well as a card with a message from his daughter Makayla:

*To Daddy,
I miss you and I love you!
You are the best Dad
any little girl could ask
for.*

In talking about his brother, a tearful Shane Morton recounted what happened when he told his niece Makayla her father wasn't coming back.

"She said, 'My daddy's surrounded by angels and they have white wings, my daddy is an angel and he has orange wings,'" he said. "He leaves some huge shoes. He was an amazing man, an amazing father."

Pastors Earl and Jordan Duncan of Morning Star Church officiated the memorial which included readings from Scriptures and messages from friends.

"Kent would want you to laugh, he would want you to rejoice," said Pastor Jacob Duncan who read several remembrances, many of which have been posted on a In Memory of Kent Morton Facebook page.

One friend recalled when he and Kent Morton had strung fishing line through the Commons of Garden City High School the last day of their senior year.

"We saw the principal coming and we ran and hide," the message read. "The bell rang and people came running to get out

of school. Some fell and some got caught in our web, including the principal."

Many of the messages also attested to Kent Morton's love of his daughter: "The only one thing I can say is he was in love with his daughter Makayla," one message stated. "I know this to be true, Kent was a great dad," another stated.

Makayla and her cousin Summer Morton stood on chairs to reach the microphone and sang the chapters of the New Testament, which she had learned in the Pioneers Club at Morning Star Church. They then performed a Garden City Stars cheer and stood by Shane Morton as he spoke to the crowd about his brother.

"All of you tell me you're sorry, but I don't feel sorry for me," Shane Morton said. "I feel sorry those who lost a friend. I feel sorry for those who lost a great family member. I feel sorry for my mom who lost her son way too soon."

"Kent is gone, we're going to miss that smile. We'll never forget you, we love you, Kent."

Pastor Earl Duncan said he respected men like Kent Morton. In an age of deadbeat dads, he was doing what he was doing for his daughter, he said.

"I respect these kind of men who love these kids and do everything for them," he said. "Kent worked hard. He was a loving dad, a loving son. He made people laugh. I thank Fawn for giving us Kent. I'm sure his brothers and sisters thank you. His life was a gift to us all. Because of his acceptance of Jesus, I know where he is at."

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751



Sarah Minich, sister of Kent Morton, hugs a friend at the memorial.



An orange tie hangs on a photo board, honoring Kent Morton. Orange was his favorite color.



Jason Bonner and Sarah Minich listen as Pastor Jacob Duncan reads messages posted on Facebook about her brother, Kent Morton.



Garden City School Superintendent Michelle Cline speaks to Makayla Morton and Kristi Waltsgott before the start of the memorial.



Makayla Morton (right) and her cousin Summer Morton sing the names of the books of the New Testament during the memorial.



Lisa Zube (from left), son Nick, daughters Kayleigh and Cassidy and husband Bob dressed in orange or in commemorative clothing for the memorial service.



Debbie Compagnoni consoles her sister-in-law, Fawn Salvatore, at a memorial for her son, Kent Morton.



Emotion overcomes Bret Morton and Jason Bonner as they listen to Pastor Jacob Duncan.



Kent Morton's daughter Maylayla points out picture of her father to her cousin Caiden Daniel.



Shane Morton takes a moment to remember his brother before the start of the memorial.



Many people wore an orange ribbon with Kent Morton's initials and the word Hope on it.

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

LENDING WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11
Location: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, north of Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Become an investor without spending any money of your own at a Mother/Daughter Micro-Lending Workshop 2012, hosted by Schoolcraft College and the Zonta Club of NW Wayne County. Each participating mother/daughter team will choose a small business in a developing country to support with a small loan, and will learn about strategies to make investment decisions, cultures around the globe, and the economic impacts of micro-lending. Discover the ways that small loans make a big difference to entrepreneurs all over the world. Explore their unique businesses, and learn how Zonta International clubs support them.

Contact: Register online today at zontanorthwestwayne.eventbrite.com.

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8
Location: Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, west of Inkster Road, Livonia
Details: Widowed Friends welcomes widowed men and women to attend a social hour at 5 p.m. and an Italian buffet dinner at 6 p.m. The cost of \$14.00 includes buffet, beverage, desert, tax and tip. Pay at the door (cash only) with exact amount. Cards, games and conversation until 9:30 p.m. Must RSVP by Feb. 1, no drop-ins. Cannot accommodate without reservations nor latecomers once dinner is served.
Contact: To RSVP, call Cookie at (248) 357-2183 or Carol at (248) 946-0300.

MOM2MOM SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 10
Location: Hillside Elementary School, 36801 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.
Details: \$2 early admission, \$1 general admission. About 100 tables of gently used baby, maternity and children's clothing, toys, equipment and furniture. A great opportunity to get items you need and save money off of retail prices. Proceeds of the sale will benefit Hillside Elementary and

its students. Now accepting resale table registrations.

Contact: E-mail hillsidemom-2mom@gmail.com

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)

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

FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Monday of the month
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.
Contact: Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS - SPOUSES

Time/Date: 1 p.m. second Tuesday of the month
Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for a spouse age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.
Contact: Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS - WESTLAND

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the third Thursday of the month
Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland
Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.
Contact: Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

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 shephy@yahoo.com

TOASTMASTERS

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

FISH DIAL-A-RIDE

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

EARTH ANGELS

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

IN HARMONY

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

VETERAN'S HAVEN

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

SILVER STRINGS DULCIMER

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

GARDEN CITY KIWANIS

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

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

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Chefs cook up plans for remodel, anniversary bash

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

A 20th anniversary celebration and a dining room remodel are on the menu for 2012 for Chefs Charles "Rocky" Rachwitz and Steve Allen, owners of three restaurants in Northville, Novi and Livonia.

Rocky's of Northville will celebrate its 20th anniversary in November, and Steve and Rocky's in Novi will get "a whole dining room face lift."

The partners also own Rocky's Rotisserie in Livonia.

Rachwitz hasn't decided yet how Rocky's of Northville will celebrate its anniversary later this year, but Allen is already meeting with designers at Steve and Rocky's in Novi.

"It needs a change," he said of the look of the four-star restaurant that draws 10,000 people a month from all over the Metro Detroit area. "It's been five years since it was last remodeled."

Allen said the restaurant will remain open during the renovations, all expected to be cosmetic. The work is expected to start in four to six weeks. Other than that, the two chefs plan on continuing to offer people quality food at affordable prices.

Business is up

Despite the economy, they said business has been up significantly at their restaurants the past two

THEIR RESTAURANTS

ROCKY'S OF NORTHVILLE

41122 W. Seven Mile Road, Northville
(248) 349-4434; www.rockysnorthville.com

STEVE & ROCKY'S

43150 Grand River Avenue, Novi
(248) 374-0688; www.steveandrockys.com

ROCKY'S ROTISSERIE

37337 Six Mile Road, Livonia
(734) 462-6240; www.rockysrotisserie.com

years.

Growing even faster is their catering business. They have so many catering requests — from breakfast in bed for two to parties for 600 — they have to turn some down.

The two became partners when they opened Steve and Rocky's 14 years ago this month after being formally introduced by Chef Milos Cihelka, Rachwitz's personal hunting friend and Allen's mentor at the Golden Mushroom in Southfield.

Rachwitz already owned Rocky's in Northville. He previously worked for the C. A. Muer Restaurant Corp. for 18 years guiding their culinary departments as corporate executive chef. Prior to Chuck Muer's untimely death in a sailing accident, Muer helped Rachwitz turn the former Northville Charley's into Rachwitz's own restaurant.

Rachwitz wanted to partner in another restaurant with a slightly more upscale menu, and Allen wanted to own his own place. Cihelka, the first Certified Executive Chef in the United States with 50 years of cooking experience in first-class hotels,



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chefs Steve Allen, left, and Chuck (Rocky) Rachwitz toast to their successful restaurant ventures in Northville, Novi and Livonia.

restaurants and private clubs, thought Rachwitz's business plan and menu savvy and Allen's culinary skills and taste abilities would be a great match.

It's been a recipe for success ever since.

Four years ago, they opened Rocky's Rotisserie in Livonia, a counter service restaurant with a Midwestern menu formed by Rachwitz, Allen and Dan Meier, the former chef at Rocky's of Northville.

Key ingredients

Ronald J. Hoffman, who handles their publicity, said value, quality and staff longevity are the ingredients to their success.

"These guys are key on keeping prices to the consumer down," he said.

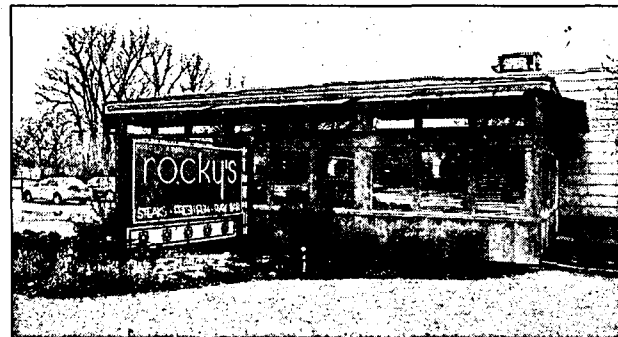
Both Rachwitz and Allen do their own butchering, a savings of \$4 to \$5 a pound that they pass on to diners. They use the trimmed off meat and fat to make stock as a base for soup and sauces.

"Nothing here gets wasted," Hoffman said.

Menus can be changed daily to take advantage of seasonal pricing on fruit, vegetables, meat and fish. Allen, 48, of Fenton also uses produce he grows on his six-acre gentleman's farm. Last year, he harvested 3,000 pounds of heirloom tomatoes. He also uses turkeys he raises for Thanksgiving.



Diners enjoy a meal at Rocky's of Northville.



Rocky's of Northville will celebrate its 20th anniversary this year.

Both Rachwitz and Allen are award-winning chefs.

Rachwitz is a member of the American Culinary Federation, and has won such events as the American Seafood Competition, Best of Michigan Meal, Taste of Plymouth, Taste of Northville, and is a four-time winner of the Novi Chili Competition. Allen has won many American Culinary Federation gold and silver medals during his years of competition.

Rachwitz, 57, of Brighton Township got his start in the restaurant business at age 13 working for a South-

field deli. He made \$1.25 an hour, working and saving enough to buy a brand-new Ford Maverick at age 16.

He liked washing pots because that meant he could help work the broiler. One Saturday night the broiler cook called in sick, and Rachwitz told the owner he'd do both jobs. "Sunday, guess who was the next broiler cook?"

Rachwitz started working for Muer in the same building he now owns. He went all over the country working for Muer during his 17-year career with him.

Allen was in high school when he started working in the restaurant business. He hired in at Nanny's Soup Kettle at the Oakland Mall in Troy, but that restaurant didn't survive the recession of the early 1980s.

A friend who was a valet at the Golden Mushroom told him about the apprenticeship program they had there. "I didn't even know what an apprentice was," said Allen, who was 18 at the time. He applied, and was hired a few months later to work in the cold meat station.

Cihelka had just become the first Certified Executive Chef in the United States, and Allen became "enraptured" with the food preparation, especially for food shows. "I didn't know it was a true art and a profession," he said.

He told Cihelka he wanted to be an apprentice and started working full-time at the restaurant and attending school one day a week. After 10 years under Cihelka, Allen succeeded Cihelka as executive chef when Cihelka retired. He held that position for five years until forming the partnership with Rachwitz.

The restaurant business continues to be a labor of love for both chefs.

"I still enjoy what I do," Allen said.

So does Rachwitz. "It's something different all the time," he said.

ksmith@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2098

Twitter: @KarenS87

PUBLIC NOTICE

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the of Eric C. Bohn please contact H. Gregory Briese, Attorney at Law, 25355 Fairgrounds Blvd., Bush, La. 70431 or 985-886-1184. This pertains to foreclosure proceedings filed by Teche Federal Bank.

Publish: January 26, 2012

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CITY OF WESTLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 29-W-38-1

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE II OF THE WESTLAND CITY CODE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS OF THE STATE CONSTRUCTION CODE

Section 1. That Chapter 22, Article II of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to amend section 22-39 to provide as follows:

"Sec. 22-39. Enforcement of FEMA Floodplain Management Regulations.

a. Pursuant to the provisions of the state construction code, in accordance with Section 8b(6) of Act 230, of the Public Acts of 1972, as amended, Appendix G of the Michigan Building Code and the State Construction Code shall be enforced by the Westland Building Director - Inspections within the City of Westland, and the City of Westland assumes responsibility for the administration and enforcement of said Act throughout the corporate limits of Westland.

b. Designation of Regulated Flood Prone Hazard Areas. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Entitled "Wayne County, Michigan (All Jurisdictions)" and dated 2/2/12 and the Flood Insurance Rate Map(s) (FIRMS) panel numbers of 26163C; 0208E, 0210E, 0216E, 0220E, 0227E, 0230E, 0231E, 0233E, 0240E, and 0243E dated 2-2-12 are adopted by reference for the purpose of administration of the Michigan Construction Code, and declared to be a part of Section 1612.3 of the Michigan Building Code, and to provide the content of the "Flood Hazards" section of Table R301.2(1) of the Michigan Residential Code."

Section 2. That all other provisions of Chapter 22 of the Westland City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. Severability. The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 4. Repeal. All other Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such inconsistencies, hereby repealed.

Section 5. Publication. The City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication.

EILEEN DEHART CMC
WESTLAND CITY CLERK

ADOPTED: January 17, 2012
EFFECTIVE: January 28, 2012

Publish: January 26, 2012

0E08766280 2x7

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 2 01/17/12

Presiding: President Godbout

Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer, Reeves
08: Appr. 1 yr. contract ext. w/Canton Twp. for Water Distribution Operator Services; hourly rate \$100.12.

- Appr. Contract with SME for CC Pk. Remediation & Redevelopment project.

- Intro. Bud. Amendment 2012-07; General Fund \$55,000.

- Intro. Bud. Amendment 2012-08; Water/Sewer Fund \$250,000.00.

- Intro. Ord. 29-W-38-1, an ord. to amend Ch. 22, Art. II of the City Code to provide for the enforcement of the Floodplain Management Regulations of the State Construction Code.

- Waived procedure & declare emergency to introduce and adopt Ord. 29-W-38-1, an ord. to amend Ch. 22, Art. II of the City Code to provide for the enforcement of the Floodplain Management Regulations of the State Construction Code.

- Adopted Ord. 29-W-38-1, an ord. to amend Ch. 22, Art. II of the City Code to provide for the enforcement of the Floodplain Management Regulations of the State Construction Code.

- Adopted Prepared Resolution to manage Floodplain Development for National Flood Insurance Program.

- Adopted Prep. Land Div. Resolution PID 045-01-0380-000, 2055 N. Berry.

- Adopted Prepared Resolution authorizing Wayne Co. annual pavement restoration permits.

- Adopted Prepared Resolution authorizing Wayne Co. annual special events permits.

09: Appr. bid for Off. City Newspaper to Observer; am't \$4.75 per col. in.

10: Appr. request for Closed Study Session Re: Library Mediation.

11: Appr.: minutes of regular meeting held 1/3/12.

12: Appr. Spec. Land Use for prop. Restaurant w/Carryout, 8565 N. Wayne Rd.

13: Appr. Spec. Land Use for prop. Auto Race Shop, 6049 Executive Dr.

14: Appr. Spec. Land Use for prop. Dining Rm. Exp. to Mr. Mikes, 6047 N. Wayne Rd.

15: Appr. prop. Land Division, PID #050-99-0005-007 w/contingencies.

16: Conf. re-appt. of J. Fausone as City Atty. thru 1/31/13.

17: Conf. re-appt. of B. Thompson as Planning Dir. thru 1/31/13.

18: Conf. re-appt. of R. Kosowski as Parks & Rec. Dir. thru 1/31/13.

19: Conf. appt. of Plante Moran & Assoc. as city Auditors thru 12/13/13.

20: Conf. re-appt. of R. Dunajski to Planning Comm. to fill unexp. term to exp. 7/20/13.

21: Conf. appt/re-appt. of T. Bailey, R. Graunstadt, J. VanHook, E. Lamp, B. Prough, G. Green & R. Froreich to Parks & Rec. Advisory Council.

22: Conf. appt. of G. Green to Parks & Rec. Advisory Bd. for 2 yr. term to exp. 12/31/13.

23: Conf. appt. of R. Froreich to Parks & Rec. Advisory Bd. for 2 yr. term to exp. 12/31/13.

24: Appr. checklist: \$454, 506.49 & Prepaid: \$932, 443.69.

Mtg. adj. at 8:08 p.m.

Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
Council President

Publish: January 26, 2012

Eileen DeHart
City Clerk, CMC

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Partnership creates transport service

Garden City Hospital and Rapid Response EMS have partnered to create Pulse EMS, an emergency transport service for patients. Pulse EMS was developed to strengthen the level of service and response times available to residents in need of hospitalization.

In addition to improving patient care at GCH, Pulse EMS is an important element in Garden City Hospital's efforts at maintaining a competitive edge with other health systems in the area.

"Pulse EMS will have a significant, positive impact on controlling the quality of health care we deliver to our patients," said GCH President and CEO Gary Ley.

With a mission to provide integrated, high quality, medical transportation to the patients, facilities and communities in which we serve,



Garden City Hospital and Pulse EMS representatives gathered to celebrate the introduction of the new service with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Participating were Chelsea Blow, Pulse EMS EMT (from left), Harold Powell, Pulse EMS EMT, Jason Hosmer, Pulse EMS manager, Jamie Feld, Pulse EMS transportation director, Gary Ley, Garden City Hospital president, Debra Williams, GCH vice-president operations, Terri Kalinski, director revenue cycle, Tommy Widmer, Pulse EMS director, Justin Wessel, Pulse EMS manager (rear), Steve Solomon, GCH vice-president human resources, Brandon Cook, Pulse EMS CCT medic and Melissa Deyo, Pulse EMS paramedic.

Pulse EMS is providing backup coverage to existing city emergency

response, if needed in the community. This patient care service provides the

highest quality treatment to patients, before and after hospitalization and/

or medical treatment, and results in more efficient patient transfers.

Pulse EMS is building relationships with area nursing homes and extended care facilities, providing emergency response and transport to physician offices, and offering assistance to the community and businesses.

Pulse EMS is servicing the community with two brand new, state of the art medical transport and response vehicles operating primarily out of GCH. The first is licensed at the "Advanced Life Support and Critical Care" level and is staffed by Critical Care Paramedics. The other ambulance is licensed for Basic Life Support, and will be utilized primarily to transport patients to and from GCH on a daily basis. One of the main goals is to grow and expand service calls for the addition of a

third transport within the first year.

A call center for the physical dispatching of the ambulances is manned within the headquarters of Rapid Response EMS located in Redford. Every call is routed through a computer-aided dispatch system. Advanced technology prioritizes runs, tracks each ambulance, and ensures timely and appropriate attention is provided to each and every patient.

A Pulse EMS transportation coordinator working inside GCH will work with the Rapid Response Call Center and GCH staff to ensure Pulse EMS manages all transports in an efficient and timely manner. By using the online application "Net Transit," all parties are provided real-time updates and guaranteed the most effective outcome for all transportation activities.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dr. Sheldon Smith works to maximize the vision of a low-vision patient.

Specialist helps low-vision patients live independently

Low Vision of Michigan, a division of Suburban Eye Care in Livonia, opened in 2005. Dr. Sheldon Smith, a low-vision specialist, answered the following questions about the business:

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature.

I prescribe custom telescopic eyeglasses for people with advanced vision loss or low vision. Low vision is defined as insufficient vision to do a desired activity even with conventional vision corrections. It is often a result of macular degeneration, diabetic eye disease, glaucoma and other conditions. We take time to understand what is important to each individual and design special eyeglasses to help them meet their goals.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

What makes my service unique is our experience and commitment to provide the best solutions available. We are uniquely skilled in prescribing advanced telescopic eyeglass systems that allow patients to have both hands free. This is a huge benefit for those engaged in writing activities. These special glasses can be set for reading, of course, but another unique aspect is that unlike simple



Different types of lenses can maximize vision for patients with macular degeneration, retinopathy, glaucoma and other diseases of the eye.

magnifiers they can be set for seeing across the room for faces and TV as well. By contrast, many others in the field mainly offer simple hand-held magnifiers or electronic reading machines that make reading and writing more challenging. Others in the field use therapists to teach people to function without sight or "how to be blind." I use eyeglasses to help people see the best they can. I have worked with thousands of patients with vision loss. If there is some vision present, even if people are legally blind, we can usually help about nine out of 10 people we see.

Observer: How did you first decide to open your own business?

LOW VISION OF MICHIGAN

Name: Low Vision of Michigan, affiliated with Suburban Eye Care
Address: 32415 Five Mile Road, Livonia.
Hours: By appointment Monday through Friday
Contact: For more information, call (734) 525 8170 or (877) 677 2020 (toll free) or visit www.lowvisionofmichigan.com.

In 2004, my colleague Dr. John Jacobi and I recognized the visually impaired were not having all their needs met. Dr. Jacobi has always emphasized implementing specialty care in order to better serve even those needing unique care. He had been serving people with vision-related learning disorders and eye coordination deficits in Livonia for two decades so I joined him in Livonia to serve the visually impaired.

We have had people visit us from all across Metro Detroit, Michigan and the Midwest. People have come from Canada, Sweden, Africa and the Middle East. What we do empowers people to live as independently as possible. When patients have been moved to tears you get really present to the impact this has on people's lives.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Moving up

SERVPRO®, a disaster recovery and restoration company with franchises in Westland and Garden City/Dearborn Heights, has jumped up four notches on the Entrepreneur Franchise 500 ranking this year, moving to the No. 4 spot in 2012 from the No. 8 spot in 2011.

This year's results make SERVPRO® No. 1 in the cleanup and restoration industry for the ninth consecutive year.

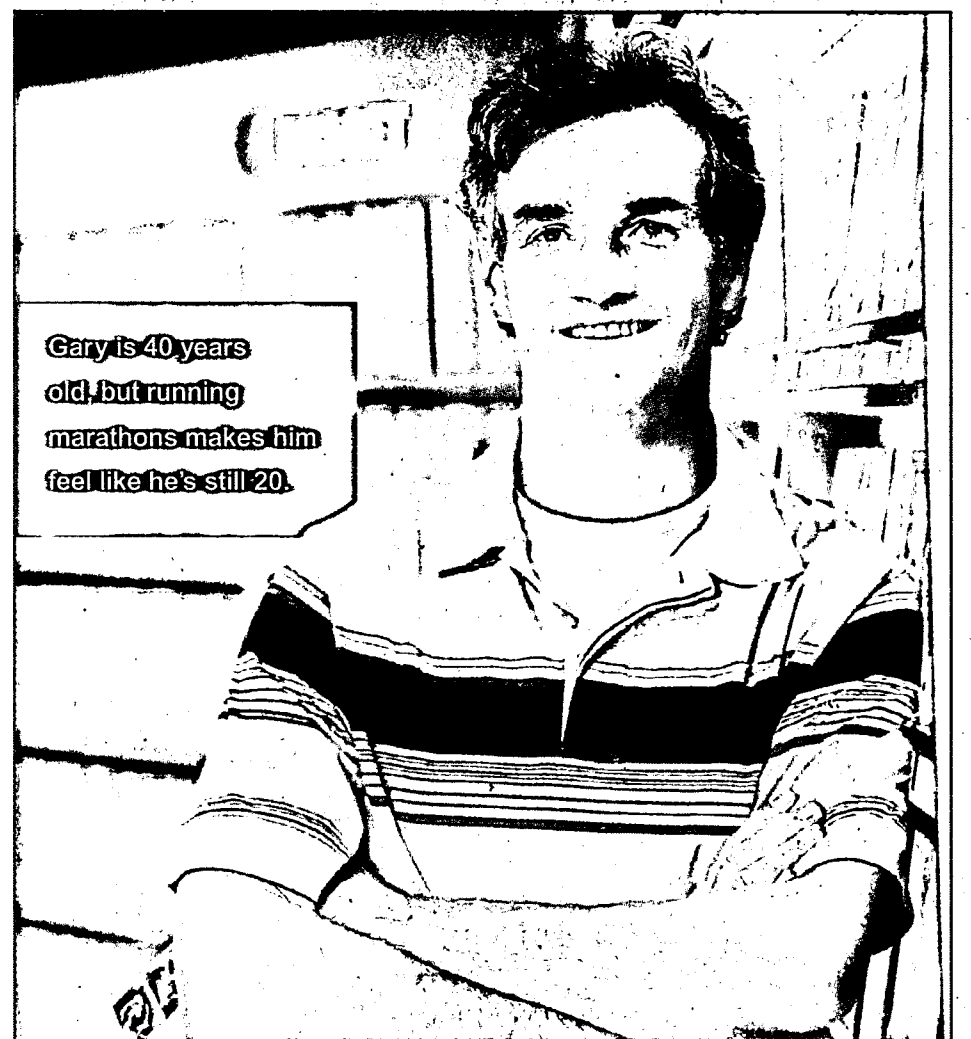
"It's very satisfying to see our franchisees' efforts recognized year after year in this prestigious ranking," said

Rick Isaacson, Executive Vice President of Servpro Industries, Inc. "It is a blessing to have the opportunity to help customers restore their lives and Franchisees pursue their dreams at the same time."

SERVPRO® specializes in fire and water cleanup and restoration and repair services helping both commercial and residential customers. SERVPRO® also offers large loss, national storm response, mold remediation and other property maintenance and restoration services.

"We are proud of the culture of our employees and Franchise owners," added Sue Steen, Chief Executive Officer of Servpro Industries, Inc. "Our mission is to build a team of quality people who focus on excellent service, and we thank them for their efforts on behalf of each and every client we serve."

For more information about SERVPRO® in the Detroit area, call Jeffrey Whitmarsh, SERVPRO of Dearborn Heights North/East Garden City, at (313) 228-5134 or by e-mail at servpro9764@aol.com, or Gary Gasser, SERVPRO of Westland, at (734) 721-5699 or by e-mail at ggasser9357@yahoo.com.



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OUR VIEWS

A salute Time to thank our local school board

There are lots of days, weeks and months to recognize worthy achievements. One that stands out is January's School Board Recognition Month.

It is a time to salute the work of 4,100 elected, volunteer school board members; a time to celebrate public education in Michigan's 552 local and 57 intermediate school districts; and a time to acknowledge the combined commitment to leadership and accountability assuring that all children succeed.

It's an exciting and challenging time in public education. School board members in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools develop policies and make tough decisions that help shape the future of our education system. They bear responsibility for an annual budget of more than \$112 million, 12,800 students, some 2,000 employees and 20 school buildings. They are citizens whose decisions affect our children and build our communities.

Wayne-Westland's Board of Education, and the hundreds like it across the state, preserves the core of our democracy — public education. They ensure that decisions on school programming are made by people we've elected to represent our community's values, culture and circumstances.

School board members put in long hours with little recognition and sometimes a fair amount of controversy. Showing appreciation for the important work of the school board should be a year-round process, but too often we neglect to recognize their dedication and hard work. We're asking all members of the community to take a moment and thank a Wayne-Westland school board member: Carol Middel, president; John Goci, vice president; Cindy Schofield, secretary; Shawna Walker, treasurer; and trustees Frederick Weaver, Thomas Buckalew and Andrea Clawson.

The mission of the board is simply stated on the district's website: "The Wayne-Westland Community Schools, in cooperation with parents and the community, will educate and prepare all of our students to be knowledgeable, responsible, contributing members of a global society."

That's a tidy paragraph that works well for web surfing. But Kathy Hayes, the executive director of the Michigan Association of School Boards, sums up the role of the state's 4,200 elected school board members more succinctly, stating they are "responsible for making fundamental policy decisions that affect the present and future lives of children."

A pretty heavy role for someone who is better recognized as your neighbor or friend. Yet these individuals receive little recognition for the countless hours committed to serving students, staff, administrators and the community. More often, they're called to the carpet on this very same page by others who are suspect of the decisions made on a mind-boggling array of complex issues.

Most people think that attending the official board meetings is the only thing these folks do, but in reality that's just a small part. There are hours of preparation and studying; numerous other meetings; a variety of school functions; and educational leadership training. And, of course, they get to make no-win financial decisions as each and every district in this state fights for survival.

All this and for little pay. Who wouldn't want to be a school board member?

We say thank you to these men and women who dedicate countless personal hours to ensure the needs of our community are met by our public schools. We salute the public servants of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools whose dedication and civic responsibility make local control of public schools in our community possible. We applaud them for their vision and voice to prepare today's students to be tomorrow's leaders.

The Wayne-Westland Board of Education meet once a month at 7 p.m. Mondays at the school board offices at 36745 Marquette, Westland. It's next meeting will be Monday, Feb. 13. Why not plan to be there and show the board members you care about the education of all students in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools?

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you plan to purchase or lease a new car this year?

We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



"Definitely not. I'm in school and I don't want to do that right now."

Roderick Williams
Westland



"Yes, in June, when my lease is up, as far as I know."

Sue Williams
Romulus



"Yes, I have plans to, but I'm not going say it'll happen."

Greg Midaugh
Westland



"No, I have two cars that are 2009s. I don't need new ones right now."

Esther Bowers
Westland

LETTERS

County's soap opera

Is anybody surprised to find out that four county commissioners have taken money from Bob Ficano's

"POLITICAL action committee." This is Wayne County politics at its best, and we've watched this soap opera for 30 years or more.

They used to say at the beginning of *Dragnet* "The names have been changed to protect the innocent." In Wayne County, the names have changed, but they're still guilty.

Skip Wehrle
Garden City

Thanks for help

Thanks to the generous efforts of Detroit-area residents, thousands of hurting children worldwide will have the opportunity to experience the joy of Christmas. Residents joined Operation Christmas Child, the world's largest Christmas project of its kind, to pack 30,190 shoe boxes with toys, school

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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

supplies and necessity items. These gift-filled shoe boxes are making their way — or have already made their way — into the hands of needy children in 100 receiving countries.

On behalf of our community,

I would like to thank the volunteers at local collection sites and everyone who packed an Operation Christmas Child shoe box gift. For many of the children receiving these boxes, the simple shoe box will be the first gift they have ever received.

Although the Detroit-area dropoff locations are closed until November 2012, gifts are received throughout the year at Samaritan's Purse, 801 Bamboo Road, Boone, NC 28607. If you would like to get involved year-round in helping children in need through Operation Christmas Child, go online to www.samaritanspurse.org/occ or call (937) 374-0761.

Thanks again to everyone who participated in this project. A simple gift, packed with love, can communicate hope and transform the lives of children worldwide!

Bonnie Freeman
Great Lakes regional director

GUEST COLUMN

Michigan Health Care Exchange: What kind do we want?

By David Wamsley
Guest Columnist

The Michigan Health Exchange is a very important issue and will affect everyone in the state for the next few generations.

In 2014, individuals and small businesses with up to 100 employees will be able to benefit from purchasing health insurance through the exchanges, and in 2017, large employers and public employees will be eligible to join. Families with income up to about \$88,000 will be able to receive cash assistance on the exchanges. Many companies will be dumping their employees onto the exchanges.



David Wamsley

The cost of health insurance has gone up close to 300 percent in the last 10 years or so. This isn't because we are 300 percent sicker, that is statistically impossible. This is because we have almost ZERO power to control costs. The correct exchange design would help businesses and individuals control costs and would give us the power to negotiate cheaper rates as a large group.

The MIHealth marketplace Act, SB 693, not only does none of this, but is explicitly forbidden to negotiate lower rates for members in the bill. Add to this that the bill gives control of the exchange and more than \$50 million of taxpayer money to start a private company. The Michigan House health policy committee was right to slow the process down so we can make a wise choice.

SB 693 is a "Pig in a Poke!" This means we would be buying a pig in a bag without looking in

the bag. No one knows the alternatives. Senate Bill 693 would institutionalize the ability of the insurance industry to continue charging us as individuals.

The type of design choices include:

1. A "Clearinghouse" model. This is the type in SB 693. With this type, all insurance companies are listed with prices for their plans. Individuals and businesses would still be buying health plans separately and individually, Status Quo. The Clearinghouse model would be nothing more than an insurance company listing agency and is the type insurance companies would design, yielding very little in savings to businesses and people. This design would be more beneficial for insurance companies.

2. An "Active Purchaser" model. This type could select a group of high performing health insurers (spending most of the money taken in on medical services for members), combine businesses and individuals into one very large group and negotiate very low rates from the insurance companies. This design would be more beneficial for the businesses and people in Michigan.

The choice would seem to be quite easy, whether you are a business owner or an individual. The other design choice is the structure:

1. Operated by state as part of an existing state agency that's owned and operated by the people of Michigan and is transparent. Oversight is not a problem. People of Michigan control it; the director and employees' loyalty and duty is to citizens of Michigan, and there is a reasonable pay scale for management and employees under the civil service commission.

2. Quasi-governmental: an

independent public agency that is an Independent, self-funded public agency, owned and operated by the people of the state of Michigan. Oversight is not a problem. It's transparent, and the people of Michigan control it. The director and employees' loyalty and duty to the people of Michigan, and there is a reasonable pay scale for management and employees under the civil service commission.

3. Non-profit: a private company — this is the structure in SB 693. It's a private company that's not transparent, directly controlled by CEO and Board. Oversight is difficult. There's excessive CEO compensation and executive pay. The director and employees' loyalty and duty are to the company, not to the citizens of Michigan. More than \$50 million of taxpayer money is invested to start private company that may work in its own best interest. It also is a private company that would have the ability to tax health plans (fees on policies) for citizens and businesses in Michigan.

It would seem that SB 693 — a clearinghouse non-profit (private company owned) exchange, paid for by us, would not be the wisest of choices. This is the kind of exchange that an insurance company would design and would benefit them.

The obvious choice to benefit the businesses and people of our state is the Active Purchaser-Quasi-Governmental or State Run Exchange.

Remember, we are the ultimate stakeholders, we are paying for it.

David Wamsley has been a health-care advocate for many years and is on the AFL-CIO Jobs with Justice and Moses Michigan health care committees. He lives in Garden City.

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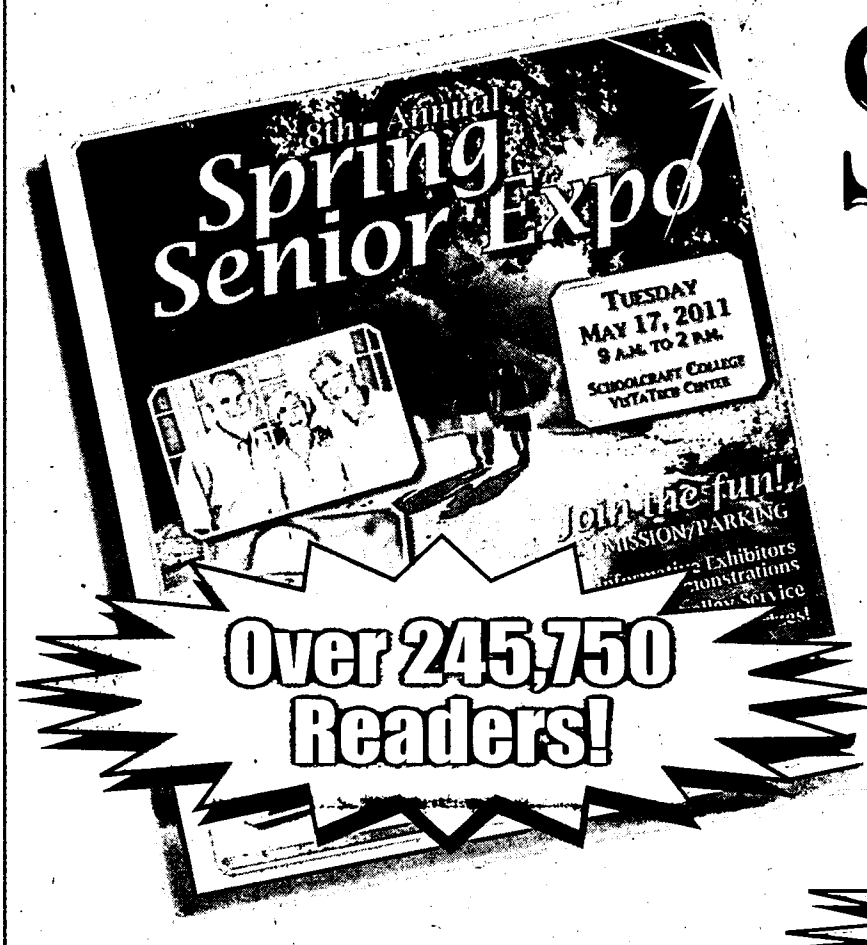
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Grapplers eye 21st Observerland

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

There was little suspense during last year's 20th annual Observerland Invitational Wrestling Tournament after Novi-Detroit Catholic Central walked away with the title for the third straight year by scoring a record 336.5 points.

And apparently the nine-time champion Shamrocks, ranked No. 1 in Division 1 and 10th nationally, have bigger fish to fry this weekend as they'll be sending their 'A' or Blue varsity

team to Lakeland, Ohio, for a four-team super dual tournament to face host St. Edwards, ranked No. 2 nationally, along with Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary and St. Johns, ranked No. 1 in Division 2.

The 21st Observerland features 16 area teams and starts with first-round action beginning at 9 a.m. this Saturday at Livonia Churchill.

Although CC will still be dangerous, this year's tourney should feature a more balanced field for the team crown.

Among the teams vying to unseat CC are last

year's runner-up Farmington, third-place finisher Belleville, North Farmington, Farmington Harrison, Plymouth, Salem, Garden City, Redford Union, Lutheran High Westland, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Northville, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson and the host Chargers.

"I would think (Westland) John Glenn would be the favorite," said Franklin coach Dave Chiola, whose formidable squad is returning to Observerland after a one-

Please see **TOURNEY, B3**

MAT EXTRAVAGANZA

What: 21st annual Observerland Wrestling Tournament.

When: Saturday, Jan. 28 (first-round matches start at 9 a.m.; finals at approximately 5 p.m.)

Where: Livonia Churchill H.S., 8900 Newburgh Road (between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail).

Admission (all day): \$5 (youth and family discounts available).

Participating schools: Livonia Churchill, Franklin, Stevenson, Farmington, Farmington Har-

rison, North Farmington, Garden City, Redford Union, Plymouth, Salem, Lutheran High Westland, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Belleville, Northville, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central. **Past champions:** Catholic Central (1993, '96, '99, 2000, '02, '03, '09, '10, '11); Franklin (2005, '06, '07); Stevenson (1994, '95, '97); Canton (2001, '08); Churchill and John Glenn (2004); Salem (1998), Farmington (1992).

C'ville coach steps down

Livonia Clarenceville athletic director Kevin Murphy announced last week the resignation of varsity girls basketball coach Katrina Vanover.

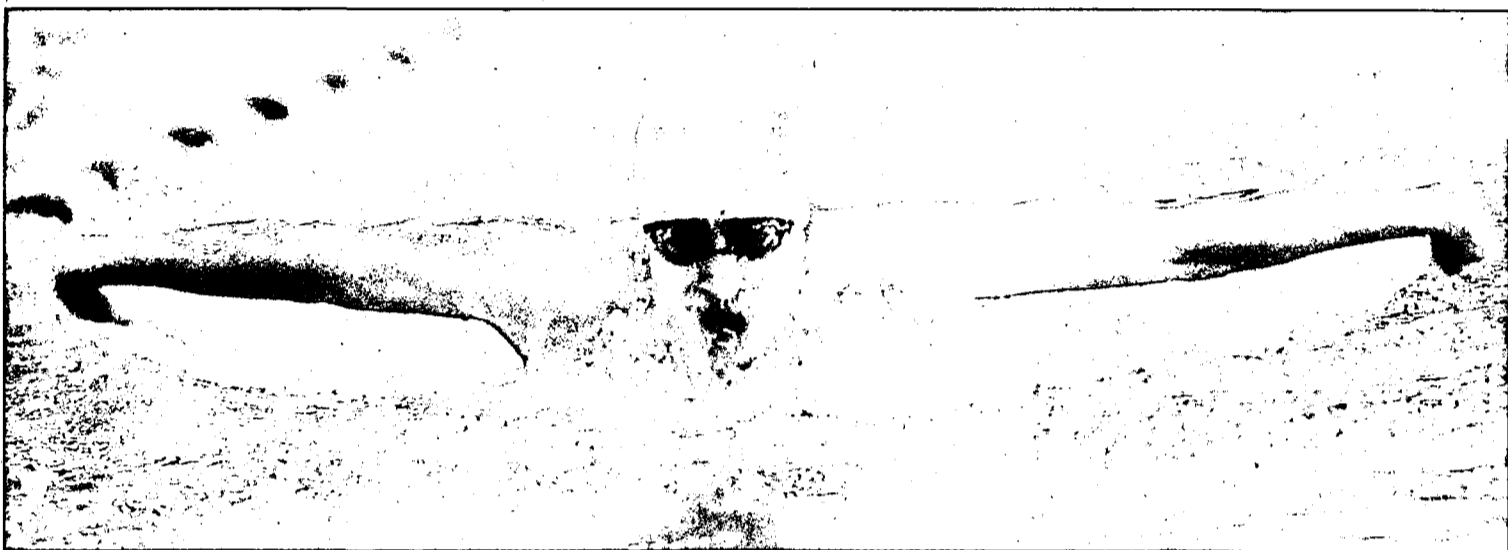
Murphy said former girls varsity coach Brady Gustafson has been hired to replace Vanover, who went 8-15 in her inaugural season (2010-11) and was 1-9 this year.

"She had a job change in the offseason and the time commitment for her job was having a conflict with the time that was needed to coach at the varsity level," Murphy said. "We thank Katrina for her time for the last year-and-a-half and wish her luck in the future."

Gustafson is also the school's varsity boys and girls track and field coach.

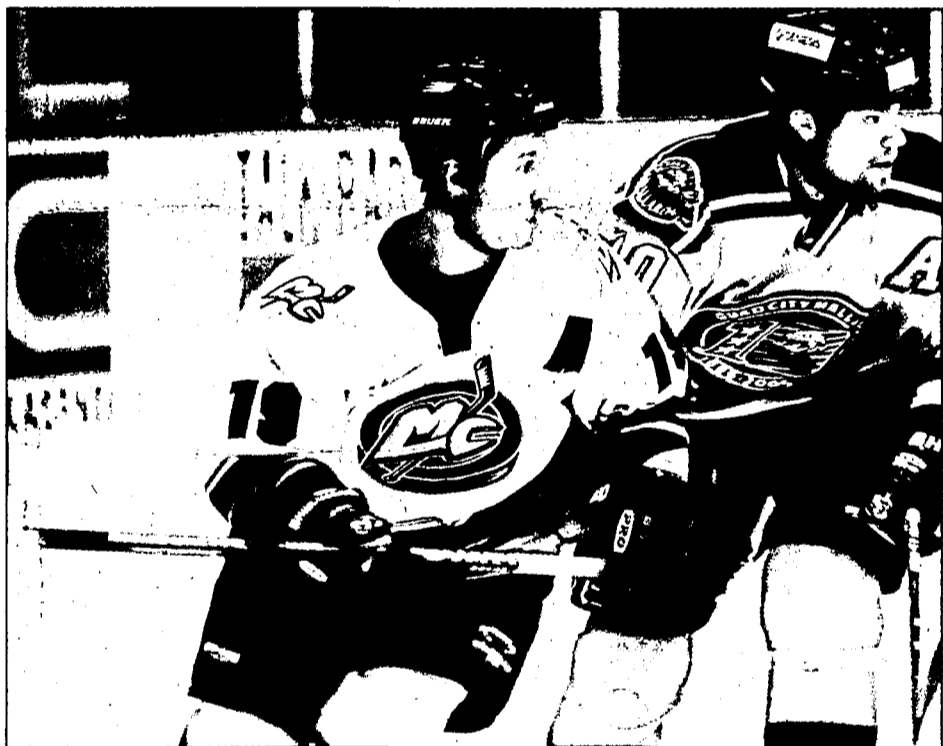
"Luckily Brady works in the building and I was able to walk down the hallway Wednesday morning (Jan. 18) and ask him if he would step in and finish the season," Murphy said. "Without hesitation, he agreed to finish the year for the sake of the girls, and we agreed we would talk about next year at the end of the season."

Motoring to victory



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia Stevenson's John Ferrara spreads his wings in the 100-yard butterfly during Tuesday's dual meet against rival Livonia Churchill. Ferrara took first in 59.15 as the Spartans captured all 12 events in a 150-35 dual meet triumph over the Chargers. See complete results on page B2.



DAVID BIRDSONG

Garden City's Joe Burton is pictured during a 2004-05 game with the Motor City Mechanics of the United Hockey League.

Burton accolade icing on the cake

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Known for his deft scoring touch, Joe Burton's long and distinguished career in the Central Hockey League is now safely secured.

The Garden City native, assistant manager the past six years at Westland's Modano Arena, was enshrined recently in the CHL's inaugural Hall of Fame class during All-Star weekend in Phoenix, Ariz.

"Obviously, it's a great honor to be inducted into the Hall of Fame, but it was never what I

was striving to do," Burton said. "I just wanted to keep playing. It was kind of hard when I went back because I hadn't been around it in a long time. I saw a couple of the coaches, guys I played against. You just get that feeling you want to go out and play again when I was down there."

Burton spent 11 seasons in the CHL (1992-2003), all with the Oklahoma City Blazers. He is the league's all-time leading scorer with 985 points and 565 goals.

He was an All-Star six

Please see **BURTON, B3**

Pereira lifts Blazer icers

Livonia Ladywood moved closer to the 500 mark with a pair of Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League victories over the weekend at Plymouth's Arctic Edge as Hannah Pereira scored a total of eight goals.

On Saturday, the Blazers improved to 7-8 overall and 7-8 in the league with a 9-1 triumph over Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day as Pereira scored four goals to raise her season total to 20.

The Blazers, who outshot Country Day 34-12, also got goals from Brittany Galvin, Erin Cronyn, Rana Freij, Katie Folk and Virginia Matherly.

Galvin also added two assists, while Jackie Kristofik, Lane Kollpacke, Rachel Fradette and Freij had one each.

Kelsey Thomas scored for the Yellowjackets in the third period to spoil Ladywood goaltender Sarah Koch's shutout bid.

Dana Mosa-Basha Cox came up with 23 saves for Country Day.

On Friday, Pereira scored four times in a 5-1 triumph over Northville (5-8, 4-7).

Freij added the other goal, while Erin Doyle, Matherly, Fradette, Folk, Freij and Galvin also drew assists.

Koch stopped 17-of-18 Northville shots with Chloe Page's first-period goal the only one getting through.

Kroll wins indoor mile

Michigan State University sophomore redshirt Sara Kroll (Livonia Churchill) captured the indoor mile run in 4:46.17, the fifth fastest recorded in the Big Ten this season, at the Notre Dame Invitational.

Kroll was a member of MSU's 2011 Big Ten Championship women's cross country team.

Pats rule Franklin Invitational

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It's was a good week, and then some, for the Livonia Franklin wrestling team.

On the heels of last Wednesday's KLAAs South Division dual match victories over Westland John Glenn and Canton, the Patriots returned to the mats Saturday to edge Northville for the Franklin Invitational title, 266-254.

Rounding out the top 10 were Allen Park (160), Dearborn Heights Crestwood (156), Gibraltar Carlson (154.5), Lutheran High Westland (153.5), Garden City (149.5), Livonia Clarenceville (149), Redford Union (116) and Inkster (64).

"Beating John Glenn and Canton this week was huge," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "This is the fourth year in a row we had them on the same night, but the first year we beat them both. We have some holes in our lineup, but someone always steps up.



KIRT AMOS | PHOTO

Franklin's 119-pounder Gabe Martinez (top) was the Lower Weights MVP at the Franklin Invitational after defeating Crestwood's Ali Ayache in the finals, 3-2.

"I thought we wrestled pretty well overall. I knew that it was one of the easier tournaments we would have this year, but there are still always some good matches."

Franklin boasted a total of five individual winners led by upper weights MVP Allen Steele, who

pulled off an 8-7 upset over Northville's Trevor Maresh, ranked No. 4 by MichiganGrappler.com, at 171 pounds.

Meanwhile, Gabe Martinez (119) was named the lower weights MVP, while his brother Dan Martinez (112) joined Jordan Atienza (140) and Omar Hay-

mour (285) as other individual champions for the Patriots.

"Gabe, Danny and Jordan just keep rolling along — business as usual," Chiola said. "All three are 35-1. I'm excited to see how they perform as we get into the tougher part of the schedule and

the postseason.

"Allen had a great finals match against an undefeated kid from Northville — very exciting. Omar is very tough to beat at heavyweight. I like the progress we're making."

The Patriots also got runner-up finishes from Jack Newa (103) and Nick Frazier (152).

"Jack Newa is much better this year," Chiola said. "Nick Frazier came to us from Howell and he has been improving every week. And Matt Horne (sixth at 215) had 13 career wins on JV coming into this year, and now he has 18 on varsity."

"Overall we are progressing where I want to be. We have some freshmen that I'm excited about. Also, the next two weekends will tell us a lot. I'm hoping we stay healthy and have a good performance at Observerland and KLAAs."

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Terranella sparks Warriors' win

Amanda Terranella loomed large Tuesday night, leading Lutheran High Westland to a 50-32 Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division girls basketball win over visiting Sterling Heights Parkway Christian.

The 6-foot-1 senior center hit 11-of-14 shots from the floor en route to a game-high 23 points. She also grabbed 10 rebounds as the Warriors improved to 8-4 overall and 5-2 in the MIAC Red.

GIRLS HOOPS

Aldreanna Fikes snared a team-high 13 rebounds and added seven points as Lutheran Westland cruised to victory after leading 26-11 at halftime.

"It was a good win," said Lutheran Westland coach Sandi Wade, who also got six points from Shannon Abbott. "We were able to execute well on offense. I'm a little disappointed in our free throw percentage (2-of-10). It is some-

thing we need to fix if we want to compete Friday against (Ann Arbor) Greenhills, who beat us earlier in the year."

Hannah Durham paced Parkway (8-5, 5-4) with 15 points.

GREENHILLS 47, HVL 41: Freshman forward Madison Dest's game-high 21 went in vain Tuesday as host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (1-7, 1-6) fell to Ann Arbor Greenhills (8-3, 6-1) in a MIAC Red Division matchup. The Hawks, who also got seven points from sophomore Dayna Schroeder, trailed 22-15 at halftime and 40-28 after three quarters.

"We played two bad quarters tonight," HVL coach Kris Ruth said. "We can't get on our heels in the first and third quarters, turned the ball over and let them have some easy baskets."

Marissa Thompson and Jackie Oestrich scored 18 and 12 points, respectively, for the Gryphons.

"We were able to get Oestrich in foul trouble early, which allowed us to pressure the ball more," Ruth said. "Our press really helped us out tonight at times. We still need to get more consistency in our offense."

CHURCHILL 61, RU 18: It was no contest Tuesday as Livonia Churchill (4-8) rolled to a non-conference win at

Redford Union (1-9).

Michelle Azar led the victorious Chargers with 16 points, while Erin Menard and Cecilie Hansen added 14 and 11, respectively.

RU, which trailed 21-4 after one quarter and 39-6 at halftime, got five points from Ashley Sandelin.

The Panthers were 8-of-15 from the foul line, while Churchill was 8-of-12.

HARPER WOODS 72, CLARENCEVILLE 49: Sophomore center Ayanna Buckley scored 20 points Tuesday, but it wasn't enough as host Livonia Clarenceville (1-10) fell to the Pioneers (9-4).

Ashley Murphy added 13 points before fouling out, while Mikala Kieling added

eight for the Trojans, who trailed by only one at intermission, 32-31.

Clarenceville held Central Michigan signee Jewel Cotton, a 6-foot-4 senior, to six points, but was outscored 19-4 in the fourth quarter. Leante Larkins led Harper Woods with 16 points, while Micah Miner and Ayanna Bradford added 14 and 11, respectively.

The Pioneers made only 8-of-24 free throws, while Clarenceville was 5-of-10.

"We changed everything over," said interim Clarenceville coach Brady Gustafson. "They pressed us the whole game and we hung in there until the fourth quarter."

BOYS SWIM RESULTS



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill's Kenny Denstaedt glides through a fifth-place finish in 500-yard freestyle event during Tuesday's dual meet at rival Stevenson.

DUAL MATCH RESULTS
LIVONIA STEVENSON 150
LIVONIA CHURCHILL 135
Jan. 24 at Stevenson

200-yard medley relay:
 1. Stevenson (Eric Ferrara, Matt DellaMora, John Ferrara, Grant McNamara), 1:54.84; 2. Stevenson (Sean Reppenhagen, Tommy O'Donohue, David Ptashnik, Mike O'Donohue), 1:58.62; 3. Churchill (Bradley Johns, Jason Hodges, Jackson Norwood, Daniel Saltzman), 2:02.3.

200 freestyle: 1. Jake McNamara (LS), 1:55.57; 2. Brandon Bielicki (LS), 1:57.11; 3. Bradley

Bielicki (LS), 1:59.92.

200 individual medley: 1. Jacob Goedcke (LS), 2:18.57; 2. Michael Chen (LS), 2:24.54; 3. Bryan Frederick (LS), 2:31.75.

50 freestyle: 1. Parker Belmore (LS), 24.33; 2. Derek Atzinger (LC), 26.09; 3. T. O'Donohue (LS), 26.44.

1-meter diving: 1. Eric Rathgeber (LS), 159.23 points; 2. Jesse Damesworth (LS), 158.85; 3. Brian Atiyeh (LS), 145.80.

100 butterfly: 1. J. Ferrara (LS), 59.15; 2. Brandon Bielicki (LS), 1:01.43; 3. Frederick (LS), 1:09.34.

100 freestyle: 1. Brandon Shatter (LS), 54.59; 2. G. McNamara (LS), 54.91; 3. Matt LaPorte (LS), 57.22.

500 freestyle: 1. Belmore (LS), 5:14.77; 2. Ptashnik (LS), 5:25.74; 3. Alex Lee (LS), 5:27.84.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Shatter, Zack McCarter, Chen, Brandon Bielicki), 1:41.2; 2. Stevenson (Reppenhagen, T. O'Donohue, G. McNamara, J. McNamara), 1:41.48; 3. Churchill (Atzinger, Michael Sessamen, Kenny Denstaedt, Franklin Qiu), 1:46.37.

100 backstroke: 1. Goedcke

(LS), 1:00.27; 2. Bradley Bielicki (LS), 1:02.12; 3. Johns (LC), 1:03.88.

100 breaststroke: 1. Jacob Colleran (LS), 1:10.68; 2. DelaMora (LS), 1:13.22; 3. M. O'Donohue (LS), 1:14.62.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Brandon Bielicki, J. McNamara, Belmore, J. Ferrara), 2:32.28; 2. Stevenson (LaPorte, E. Ferrara, Lee, Ptashnik), 3:55.5; 3. Churchill (Qiu, Atzinger, Johns, Denstaedt), 3:55.5.

Dual match records: Stevenson, 4-1 overall; Churchill, 2-5 overall.

2nd-half surge lifts Chargers

A big second half carried Livonia Churchill to a 52-44 non-conference boys basketball victory Tuesday over visiting Redford Union.

Junior Robert Foster led the victorious Chargers, who rallied from a 14-point third-quarter deficit, with 16 points and six rebounds.

Colton Robison, Chad Evans and Jaylin Freeman each added nine points for Churchill, which improved to 4-6 overall.

RU led 21-16 at halftime before being outscored 14-11 in the third period - thanks to a 13-0 Churchill run - and 22-12 in the final quarter.

The Panthers (3-8) got a game-high 22 points from Javonte Davis, while Tre

BOYS HOOPS

Goynes added 14.

Churchill made only 8-of-18 free throws on the night, but got 3-of-4 during the final two minutes from Duane Scott to seal the victory.

RU went 8-of-12 from the free throw line.

LUTH. WESTLAND 72, MACOMB CHRISTIAN 22: Four players scored in double figures Tuesday as host Lutheran High Westland (6-4, 5-2) rolled to a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division win over Warren Macomb Christian (0-9, 0-7).

The Warriors led 17-7 after one quarter and 38-12 at halftime before going on a 22-8 third-period run.

A.J. Seltz paced the winners with 13 points, while Matt Sylvester and Jake Fairbairn added 12 apiece. Nick Andrzejewski chipped in with 10.

Romero Hardy led the Crusaders with 14 points.

Lutheran Westland made 8-of-10 free throws, while Macomb Christian hit 10-of-15.

GREENHILLS 81, HVL 24: Andrew Khour's 24 points led Ann Arbor Greenhills (5-5, 4-3) to a MIAC Red Division triumph Tuesday at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (2-7, 1-5).

Andrew Gitlin and Reed Wilborn each added 10 points for the Gryphons, who led 57-16 at halftime while shooting 65 percent from the floor, including 9-of-21 from three-point range.

"We didn't want to play defense," HVL coach Jim Ott said. "We came out lazy and they came out unbelieveable. They ended up shooting 60 percent for the game."

HARPER WOODS 55, CLARENCEVILLE 29: On Tuesday, Tyrone Watts scored 21 points to lead the host Pioneers (4-8) to a non-conference victory over Livonia Clarenceville (3-9).

"They're tall, they have three players over 6-4," Clarenceville coach Justin Johnson said of his opponent. "They're better

than their record."

Senior Damien Quarles scored a team-high 10 points for the Trojans, who couldn't overcome a 36-11 halftime deficit.

"We took really bad shots," Johnson said. "They either altered or blocked shots."

NOVI 45, STEVENSON 38: On Friday, the host Wildcats (3-6, 3-2) led from start to finish in beating KLA Central Division foe Livonia Stevenson (6-3, 3-2).

Junior Josh Campbell paced the Spartans with 14 points, while Nelson Cagle countered with 12 for Novi.

Stevenson lost leading scorer Jonathan Campbell to an ankle sprain during the first 45 seconds of the game and the senior point-guard did not return.

"We got in a rut offensively and weren't able to find our rhythm," said Stevenson coach Brandon Sinawi, whose team made only 8-of-16 foul shots. "Defensively we're fine. We just need others to step up at times. We had a hard time making plays."

Lady Ocelots gain OT win over Macomb

The race for first place in the MCCA's Eastern Conference tightened considerably Saturday afternoon as the visiting Schoolcraft College women's basketball team knocked off first-place Macomb Community College, 60-55, in overtime.

The Lady Ocelots rallied from a 41-33 deficit with 10:34 left in the game to improve to 14-4 overall and 5-2 in the conference.

Macomb's Domonique Mahone scored on layup with 40 seconds remaining to give the Monarchs

COLLEGE HOOPS

a 52-50 lead. But a steal and layup by Schoolcraft's Domonique Jones tied the game at 52-all with 15 seconds to play and forced OT.

Schoolcraft then scored the first five points of the extra session to lead 57-52 with 3:00 remaining before Macomb closed to within 57-55 with 1:05 left.

But Diamond Tolliver nailed 3-of-4 free throws down the stretch to seal the victory.

Shanequa Braggs led Schoolcraft with 13

points, while Ashley Beemon and Amber Sammons chipped in with 11 and 10, respectively.

Mahone had 14 points and 14 rebounds for the Monarchs, who slipped to 10-7 overall and 6-1 in the conference.

Precious Allen contributed 10 points, while Brianna Woycehoski grabbed 12 boards.

Schoolcraft won despite shooting only 31.9 percent from the floor (22-of-69) and being out-rebounded (54-36).

INDIANA TECH 79, MACOMB 58: Simone Russell's

game-high 25 points carried Indiana Tech (11-11, 3-7) to a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory Saturday over visiting Madonna University (7-12, 4-6) at the Schaefer Center in Fort Wayne.

MU couldn't recover from a 42-28 deficit.

Ulyssia Richmond added 18 points, while Brittnay Jones contributed 13 points and 14 rebounds for the victorious Warriors.

Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) and Michelle Lindsey each tallied 14 points for the Crusaders, who shot only 21-of-54 from the floor (38.9 percent) and committed 19 turnovers.

Becca Wojcinski came off the bench to add 10 points and eight rebounds for MU.

Madonna men's cagers surprise

Travis Schuba's shot hit nothing but twine Saturday as the sophomore guard made 6-of-10 three-pointers on his way to a game-high 22 points as host Madonna University knocked off 15th-ranked Indiana Tech for the second time this season, 73-65.

The Crusaders, who improved to 12-10 overall and 6-4 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, shot 51 percent from the floor (25-of-49) and 78.9 percent from the foul stripe.

Eoghann Stephens added 17 points, while point-guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) chipped in with 11 points and 10 assists.

Indiana Tech (15-5, 5-5) got 15 points from Jeff Hoskins.

Jordan Hickman added 14, while Brice Miles contributed 10.

Tech, which trailed 36-31

at halftime, also got game-high 10 rebounds from Rodney Bartholomew.

MACOMB CC 82, SCHOOLCRAFT 80: In an MCCA Eastern Conference game Saturday, host Macomb Community College (13-5, 4-3) rallied from a 19-point second-half deficit to stun Schoolcraft College (11-7, 3-4).

Patrick Ferrell's rebound tip-in with only five seconds remaining proved to be the game-winner.

Ferrell finished with a team-high 18 points and four blocks. Ashton Curd added 17 points.

Schoolcraft led 40-33 at halftime and 74-55 with 10 minutes to go before Macomb stormed back to tie the game at 78-all with 1:43 left.

Karl Moore and LenDerrick Witcher each tallied 21 points for the Ocelots, who made only 13-of-24 free throws.

Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial) added 11 points, 13 rebounds and four assists.

Point-guard Mohamed Elhaj finished with six assists and four steals, while Reshard Anders had eight points and seven rebounds.

Moore also grabbed 10 rebounds in the loss.

THE WEEK AHEAD

- BOYS BASKETBALL**
Thursday, Jan. 26
 HVL at Washtenaw, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 27**
 G'hills at Luth. W'sld, 5:30 p.m.
 Churchill at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
 Wayne at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Canton, 7 p.m.
 S. Lyon at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 C'ville at Ferndale Univ., 7 p.m.
 HVL at Macomb, 7:30 p.m.
- GIRLS BASKETBALL**
Friday, Jan. 27
 Plymouth at Churchill, 7 p.m.
 Franklin at Wayne, 7 p.m.
 Canton at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
 Stevenson at S. Lyon, 7 p.m.
 Greenhills at Luth. W'sld, 7 p.m.
 Ferndale Univ. at C'ville, 7 p.m.
 Ladywood at Regina, 7:30 p.m.
- MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**
Saturday, Jan. 28
 MU at UM-Dearborn, 3 p.m.
 Mott at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**
Saturday, Jan. 28
 UM-Dearborn at MU, 1 p.m.
 Mott at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.
- PREP HOCKEY**
Friday, Jan. 27
 Churchill vs. South Lyon at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 28**
 Churchill vs. Davison at Lapeer Arena, 2 p.m.
- Stevenson vs. Novi Det. CC at Edgar Arena, 7 p.m.
- Ladywood vs. Cranbrook at Arctic Pond, 7:30 p.m.
- PREP WRESTLING**
Saturday, Jan. 28
 Annapolis Tourney, 9 a.m.
 Observerland Invitational at Churchill H.S., 9 a.m.
- BOYS SWIMMING**
Thursday, Jan. 26
 Churchill at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
 Glenn at Canton, 6:30 p.m.
 Plymouth at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
 Stevenson at Novi, 6:30 p.m.
- GIRLS GYMNASTICS**
Thursday, Jan. 26
 Livonia Blue vs. Groves at Churchill H.S., 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 28**
 Troy Athens Inv., 10:30 a.m.
- PREP BOWLING**
Saturday, Jan. 20
 Tri-County Tournament at Five Star Lanes, noon.
- GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER**
Saturday, Jan. 28
 Northville Tournament, 1 p.m.
 Berkley Bear Inv., 1:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 29**
 Catholic League Finals at Ladywood, 1 p.m.

Goals plentiful for Churchill

The state-ranked Livonia Churchill boys hockey team got offensive production from a multitude of players during two-game sweep in last weekend's East West Showdown held at East Kentwood.

On Saturday, the Chargers improved to 11-2 overall with a 10-4 victory over the host Falcons as Jake Otto led the way with three goals and one assist.

Mike Gambino also chipped in with a pair of goals, while Devin Smythe, Jim Lelekatch, Kevin Louwers, Charlie Yost and Nick Proben collected added one.

Smythe also chipped in with two assists, while Lelekatch added one as Churchill outshot East Kentwood, 47-22.

Brad Burmeister made 37 saves for East Kentwood (7-7), while Alex Estes had 18 stops for the Chargers.

On Friday, Churchill got two goals and two assists from Ben Proben in an 8-1 victory over Grandville (1-12).

The Chargers outshot the Bulldogs, 57-19, as 15 different players regis-

tered at least one point.

Smythe added two goals, while Otto had a goal and assist.

Other Churchill goal scorers included Nick McGee, Tommy Carey and Lelekatch.

Chris Adams was in goal for the Chargers, while Sean Schmeiser made 49 saves for Grandville.

"All in all, a pretty good weekend," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "We were able to play many guys and had contributions from many different players. Special teams were outstanding - three power play and three short handed goals in two games."

W.L. CENTRAL 5, FRANKLIN 1: Jarrett Lazare tallied a goal and two assists Saturday to lead host Walled Lake Central (7-8) past Livonia Franklin (2-12-1) in a KLA cross-over at Lakeland Ice Arena.

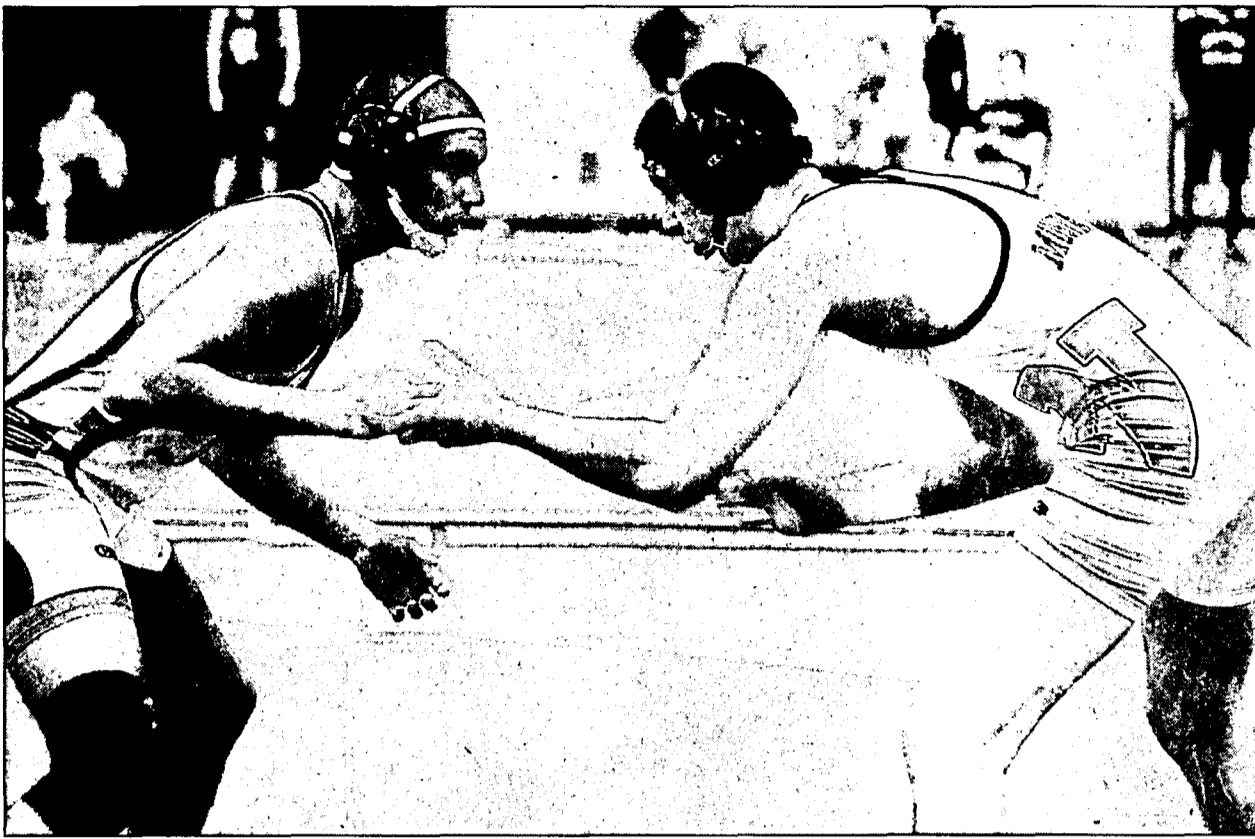
Central led 2-0 after two periods and put it away with three third-period goals.

Other goal scorers for the Vikings included Justin Krus, Connor Jefferies, Matt Rostek and Riley Dunning.

Franklin's Tyler Satkowiak scored in the third period off assists from Tyler Hewitt and C.J. Cromie.

Franklin goaltender Matt Monendo made 24 saves.

PREP WRESTLING RESULTS



KIRT AMOS | PHOTO

Franklin's Allen Steele (left) was the Upper Weights MVP of the Franklin Invitational after defeating state-ranked Trevor Maresh (right) of Northville in the 171-pound finals, 8-7.

FRANKLIN INVITATIONAL WRESTLING RESULTS
Jan. 22 at Livonia Franklin
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Franklin, 266 points; 2. Northville, 254; 3. Allen Park, 160; 4. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 156; 5. Gibraltar Carlson, 154.5; 6. Lutheran High Westland, 153.5; 7. Garden City, 149.5; 8. Livonia Clarenceville, 149; 9. Redford Union, 116; 10. Inkster, 64.
FINAL INDIVIDUAL RESULTS
103 pounds: Jake Polenciewicz (AP) pinned Jack Nawa (LF), 0:14; **3rd place:** Kevin Charara (N) decisioned Jon Segasser (GC), 6-0; **5th:** Travis Derossett (Carlson) dec. Billy Gibson (Carlson), 8-6; **7th:** Alan Zhen (Cville) p. Andrew Tuomi (LW), 0:45.
112: Danny Martinez (LF) won by major dec. over Mike Farkas (AP), 11-3; **3rd:** Tristan Styles (RU) p. Colin Smith (LF), 4:26; **5th:** Nick Robertson (LF) dec. Jake Kamm (N), 13-12; **7th:** Brandon Collins (GC) p. Nic Wisner (LW), 1:57.

119: Gabe Martinez (LF) dec. Ali Ayache (DHC), 3-2; **3rd:** Britton Borlace (GC) p. Ijji Raza (N), 1:45; **5th:** Jacob Baval (LW) won by void over Spencer Compo (N); **7th:** Ian Bunker (Cville) p. Mugsy Ross (LF), 1:47.
125: Zach Francis (LW) won by major dec. over Jason Lerner (N), 13-2; **3rd:** Joey Walker (Cville) dec. Rob Doane (GC), 6-4; **5th:** Ken Steele (LF) p. David Knox (RU), 0:52; **7th:** Johnny Carbonara (AP) p. Justin Slowik (DHC), 0:58.
130: Sean Wagner (N) won by major dec. over Mikey Weiss (Cville), 18-7; **3rd:** Brian Spehar (GC) dec. Anthony Berrelez (LF), 8-7; **5th:** Austin Steele (LF) p. Deon Santiago (Cville), 3:37; **7th:** Cameron Fyffe (Cville) won by major dec. over Conner Even (LW), 12-2.
135: Travis Compo (N) p. Bobby Webb (AP), 3:59; **3rd:** Adeb Alcodray (DHC) p. Denzale Leonard (Cville), 4:51; **5th:** Stewart Tarp (LW) p. Ricky Spicer (RU), 2:21;

7th: Forrest Jason (Cville) dec. Nakia Price (Ink.), 14-12.
140: Jordan Atienza (LF) p. Domanick Slagle (Cville), 1:28; **3rd:** Jared Haggan (DHC) p. Dominick Adams (RU), 4:34; **5th:** Jack Sherman (N) dec. Phil Kamm (N), 8-5; **7th:** Matt Dewitt (LW) won by default over Colt Desmit (GC).
145: Tony Dunlap (AP) p. Max Mudar (N), 5:29; **3rd:** Jacob Richter (LW) dec. Devin Howell (Cville), 6-3; **5th:** Patton Fickett (GC) dec. Ahmed Elsayed (DHC), 4-2; **7th:** Spenzen Spehar (GC) p. Adam Chervavage (RU), 2:10.
152: Jake Sanders (AP) p. Nick Frazier (LF), 4:38; **3rd:** Jake Midloski (Carlson) dec. Aaron Bibik (Cville), 7-5; **5th:** Jayson Walton (RU) dec. Alex Coe (N), 10-8; **7th:** Jonah Lambert (LW) p. Mattias Hoffman (Cville), 0:39.
160: Zack Kephart (Carlson) dec. Robbie Brown (AP), 6-5; **3rd:** Matt Wisniewski (GC) dec. Nick Mencotti (N), 8-2; **5th:** Matt Sankey (LW) won by default over

Mike Gradinscak (RU); **7th:** Martin Kemp (LW) p. Mike Gorman (LF), 4:29.
171: Allen Steele (LF) dec. Trevor Maresh (N), 8-7; **3rd:** Paul Sawicki (Carlson) dec. Matthew Johnson (Ink.), 7-1; **5th:** David Borthwick (N) p. Henry Swann (GC), 2:05; **7th:** John Lippert (N) p. Chris Edwards (Cville), 2:05.
189: Ro Mourad (DHC) dec. Joseph Chatman (Ink.), 2-1; **3rd:** Carl Keeney (RU) dec. Devan Gardner (RU), 5-1; **5th:** Sam Bilot (Carlson) dec. Matt Horne (LF), 3-1; **7th:** Alex Reardon (LW) won by default over Chuck Castillo.
215: Youseff El-Sayed (DHC) p. Adam Druz (GC), 3:00; **3rd:** Andy Boyd (N) p. Cullen McNamara (LW), 0:36; **5th:** Ryan Simmons (LF) p. Clinton Clark (Ink.), 1:48; **7th:** double void.
285 (round robin): 1. Omar Haymour (LF), 4-0; 2. (tie) Nick Carlson (Carlson) and Jerold Brown (RU), 3-1 each; 4. Devin Blastic (RU), 1-3; 5. Rodney Ferrer (Cville), 0-4.

Arnold's 300 lifts runner-up Zebras

Elliot Arnold's perfect game highlighted Wayne Memorial's runner-up finish in the seventh annual Wayne County Varsity Bowling Tournament held Saturday at Cherry Hill Lanes in Dearborn Heights.

Arnold, a senior, was the boys individual winner with a 748 series on games of 300, 277 and 171.

Taylor Kennedy defeated the Zebras for the team title, 211-175 and 224-171, after Wayne knocked off rival Westland John Glenn in a semifinal matchup, 229-203, 180-202 and 206-200.

The top eight teams in the 19-school field advanced to the elimination round.

The format was similar to the MHSAA Finals featuring three match games and a best two-of-three Baker set (of alternating shots).

Plymouth was seeded first going in followed by John Glenn, Wayne, Canton, Kennedy, Salem, Belleville and Romulus.

On the girls side, Flat Rock defeated Kennedy for the team title, 193-188, 182-213 and 245-160.

Kennedy's Samantha Cwik was the individual winner with a 643 series including a high game of 226.

Both John Glenn (fourth seed) and Livonia Ladywood (eighth seed) reached the elimination round.

C'ville boys 5th

Livonia Clarenceville boys made a strong showing in last weekend's Oakland County Championship with a fifth-place finish at Thunderbird Lanes in Troy.

The Trojans qualified 11th and beat the sixth seed before losing to eventual champion Waterford Mott in the quarterfinals.

Mike Uren earned two medals with a pair of 10th-place finishes including a 254 game and a 659 series.

Kyle Kissandi added a 620 series for Clarenceville.

PREP BOWLING RESULTS

7th annual WAYNE COUNTY BOWLING INVITATIONAL
Jan. 19 at Super Bowl BOYS RESULTS
Championship final: Taylor Kennedy defeated Wayne Memorial, 211-175, 224-171.
Semifinals: Kennedy def. Plymouth, 244-203, 197-184; Wayne def. Westland John Glenn, 229-203, 180-202, 206-200.
Quarterfinals: Kennedy def. Canton, 190-179, 145-191, 221-218; Wayne def. Salem, 202-181, 207-213, 246-204; Plymouth def. Romulus, 197-195, 200-194; John Glenn def. Belleville, 199-183, 196-162.
Team qualifying scores: 1. Plymouth, 4,069 (3 match games; 2 Baker games); 2. John Glenn, 3,978; 3. Wayne, 3,934; 4. Canton, 3,876; 5. Kennedy, 3,854; 6. Salem, 3,848; 7. Belleville, 3,762; 8. Romulus, 3,671.
Individual winner: Elliot Arnold (Wayne), 300-277-171-748.
AREA TEAM SCORING
Wayne: 1. Elliot Arnold, 300-277-171-748; 2. Kody Wojewski, 179-204-235-618; 23. Shane Rumbaldo, 266-185-160-611; 34. Zack Huffman, 169-225-196-590; 36. Mike Mikulec, 171-197-212-580.
John Glenn: 4. Jordan Hornes, 248-216-238-702; 18. Tommy Ruark, 216-204-212-632; 60. Thomas Brusseau, 207-257-464; 62. Mitch Dean, 247-213-460; 65. Daniel Ammons, 194-237-431; 99. Steve White, 181.

189-171-190-550; 20. Caitly Lenard, 191-178-160-529; 60. Yvette Ayers, 158-215-373; 67. Olivia Cabildo, 169-139-308; 88. Bre Riblett, 209; 96. Sara Auldige, 135.
Ladywood: 22. Veronica Estigoy, 160-193-171-524; 23. Sabine Hutter, 182-138-200-520; 24. Amy Lewandowski, 206-142-167-515; 85. Sarah Knapp, 129-102-231; 95. Victoria Aina, 142; 105. Sarah Czarnowski, 116; 114. Kailyn Delonis, 95.
190: 19. Lorissa Willet, 160-190-181-531; 31. Tiffany Markham, 118-179-205-502; 41. Kira Leach, 154-153-144-451; 63. Tiffany Ozog, 144-90-133-351; 86. Alyssa Roberts, 119-98-217.
BOYS DUAL RESULTS
WESTLAND GLENN 28.5 PLYMOUTH 1.5
Jan. 23 at Town 'N Country
John Glenn scorers: Jordan Hornes, 265-204-469; Steven White, 218-247-465; Thomas Brusseau, 225-226-451; Mitch Dean, 233; Mark Kassab, 218; Tommy Ruark, 214; Daniel Ammons, 207. **Team totals:** 1,140-1,119-2,257 (14.5 points); **Baker games:** 236-265-501.
Plymouth scorers: Rob Korstjen, 205-236-441; Evan Grimm, 199-234-433; Eric Thompson, 213-192-405; Ryan Riva, 233; Brandon Congdon, 153; split score, 209-181-190. **Team totals:** 979-1,076-2,055 (1.5 points); **Baker games:** 153-202-355 (0 points).
Dual match records: John Glenn, 11-0 overall, 8-0 KLA Central Division; Plymouth, 4-6 overall, 2-6 KLA Central.
GIRLS DUAL RESULTS
PLYMOUTH 16 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 15
Jan. 23 at Town 'N Country
Plymouth scorers: Caitlyn Webb, 256-216-462; Emily Fraser, 202-172-374; Serena Oliver, 156; Tiffany Patterson, 146; Lauryn Vincent, 122; Megan Brewer, 110; split scores, 114-120-234. **Team totals:** 874-746-1,604 (9 points) **Baker games:** 138-242-380 (6 points).
John Glenn scorers: Olivia Cabildo, 212-179-391; Yvette Ayers, 207-140-247; Bre Riblett, 171-137-308; Caitly Lenard, 138; Sara Auldige, 134; split score, 134. **Team totals:** 878-724-1,602 (11 points); **Baker games:** 167-187-354 (4 points).
Dual match records: Plymouth, 4-6 overall, 2-5 KLA Central Division; John Glenn, 7-4 overall, 6-2 KLA Central.

GIRLS RESULTS
Championship final: Flat Rock def. Taylor Kennedy, 193-188, 182-213, 245-160.
Semifinals: Kennedy def. Plymouth, 185-161, 183-193, 200-147; Flat Rock def. Southgate Anderson, 177-172, 215-153.
Quarterfinals: Flat Rock def. Salem, 175-161, 185-138; Kennedy def. Livonia Ladywood, 200-1378, 203-144; Plymouth def. Westland John Glenn, 141-217, 202-167, 160-149; Southgate def. Northville, 147-170, 235-143, 172-172 (104-97 tiebreaker).
Team qualifying scores: 1. Kennedy, 3,548 (3 match games; 2 Baker games); 2. Flat Rock, 3,407; 3. Southgate, 3,215; 4. John Glenn, 3,070; 5. Plymouth, 3,062; 6. Northville, 3,056; 7. Salem, 2,971; 8. Ladywood, 2,826.
Individual winner: Samantha Cwik (Kennedy), 212-226-205-643.
AREA TEAM SCORING
John Glenn: 15. Jessica Pate,

and a pee wee, so I kind of rotate and coach every other year one of them." Burton didn't plan on a long pro career. It just happened.
 "When I was in Oklahoma City, I told her (Julie) I was going to play two more years in the minors, then ended up playing 12 or 13," Burton said. "She's still pretty much at the rink now every night between two kids."
 During the CHL's All-Star weekend, Burton was asked to drop the ceremonial puck and was an honorary coach.
 The entire experience humbled him.
 "When I heard about this honor, I was honestly speechless," Burton said. "As a youngster, I only dreamed about becoming a hockey player. And then as a teenager, you hope that you get the opportunity to keep playing at a higher level."
 "But as a person with the chance to play professional hockey, the last thing on your 'to-do' list is to make a hall of fame. The CHL and Oklahoma City became my second family, and I am truly grateful to be honored in this way."

GIRLS DUAL RESULTS
CANTON 137.275 LIVONIA RED 127.40
Jan. 24 at Canton
INDIVIDUAL RESULTS
Vault: 1. Erica Lucas (C), 9.625; 2. Pia Simon (C), 8.75; 3. Malory Dorton (Red), 8.5; 4. Sydney Grenier (Red), 8.3; 5. Marina Milad (Red), 8.25.
Uneven bars: 1. Shannon Diaz (Red), 8.5; 2. Nicole Lasecki (C), 8.325; 3. Lucas (C), 7.65; 4. Simon (C), 7.625; 5. (tie) Milad (C) and Melissa Green (C), 7.6 each.
Balance beam: 1. Green (C), 9.5; 2. Diaz (Red), 8.925; 3. Marina Milad (C), 8.9; 4. Lucas (C), 8.625; 5. Lasecki (C), 8.3.

Red gymnasts 11th

The Livonia Red girls gymnastics team placed 11th with a score of 132.45 points in Saturday's Farmington/Huron Valley Bounce Invitational.

Top individual Division 2 finishers for Livonia Red included Rose Prebala, fourth, balance beam (9.2) and ninth on floor exercise (9.0); and Shannon Diaz, fifth, uneven parallel bars (8.75).

Floor exercise: 1. (tie) Lasecki (C) and Green (C), 9.2 each; 3. Lucas (C), 9.0; 4. Milad (C), 8.6; 5. Shannon Kozlowski (C), 8.55.
All-around: 1. Erin Lucas (C), 34.9; 2. Lasecki (C), 34.05; 3. Milad (C), 33.35; 4. Simon (C), 30.225; 5. Prebala (Red), 29.925.
Livonia Red's dual meet record: 3-5 overall.
HURON VALLEY 141.250 LIVONIA BLUE 136.025
Jan. 23 at Churchill H.S.
INDIVIDUAL RESULTS
Vault: 1. Catrina Malysz (HV), 9.55; 2. Chloe Presley (HV), 9.15; 3. Alex Kitz (Blue), 9.00; 4. Haley Olson (Blue), 8.7; 5. Andrea Irvine (Blue), 8.55.
Uneven bars: 1. (tie) Kitz (Blue) and Malysz (HV), 9.1 each; 3. Presley (HV), 8.6; 4. Amber Talaski (HV), 8.5; 5. Jillian Zafaran (Blue), 8.25.
Balance beam: 1. Malysz (HV), 9.55; 2. Talaski (HV), 9.25; 3. Presley (HV), 9.0; 4. Elaine Kozma (HV), 8.65; 5. Sarah Hogan (Blue), 8.6.
Floor exercise: 1. Presley (HV), 9.65; 2. Kitz (Blue), 9.45; 3. Talaski (HV), 9.4; 4. Malysz (HV), 8.8; 5. Irvine (Blue), 8.6.
All-around: 1. Malysz (HV), 37.00; 2. Presley (HV), 36.40; 3. Kitz (Blue), 35.75; 4. Talaski (HV), 35.3; 5. Zafaran (Blue), 32.90.
Livonia Blue's dual meet record: 5-1 overall.

TOURNEY

Continued from page B1

year hiatus along with Glenn. "CC is bringing their 'B' team, but I think they will still have enough talent to be considered one of the teams to beat.
 "I'm sorry Canton won't be there because they have some great individuals. I would think Wayne and Northville will be in the mix also. I have not seen or heard anything from the Farmington schools, but I know they always have some good kids."
 Last year CC placed 11 of 14 in the finals and came away with nine individual champions.
 The 2011-12 Shamrocks, coming off an upset 27-24 dual loss to Lowell on Saturday at Holt, will still bring a talented squad

led by T.J. Hagan (125 pounds) and Mike Babicz (145 or 152). Both ranked among the top 10 in their respective weight classes in Division 1 by MichiganGrappler.com.
 Despite the absence of a majority of CC's top-flight wrestlers, Observerland will be filled with a slew of outstanding individuals.
 "Observerland has an outstanding tradition of great wrestling over the years," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "I'm glad we are back after a year leave. Although CC has been separate from the pack in recent years, usually the title goes to the team that is the healthiest at this point of the season."
 "It's a great showcase of the area wrestlers to show they are ready for The Palace (of Auburn Hills). Usually the wrestlers that step up and

make the finals are state qualifiers of ever state placers at some point. I'm looking forward to a great weekend."
 Among those ranked in the top 10 in Division 1 by MichiganGrappler.com and expected to compete at Observerland include: brothers Dan (119) and Gabe Martinez (125), along with Jordan Atienza (140), all from Franklin; Kyle Gillies (103) and Travis Mann (152), John Glenn; Sultan Hubbard (171), Harrison; Trevor Maresh (171), Northville; Kevin Miller (189), North Farmington; Mannie Govantes (130), Farmington; Dimitrus Renfroe (215), Wayne; and Jacob Range (215), Stevenson.
 "We are very excited to be coming back to Observerland," Chio-la said. "Ever since a few of us coaches put this together back in the '90s,

it's been one of my favorite tournaments. I have a lot of kids that have watched the finals highlighted when they were in elementary school, and are excited that they may get a chance to wrestle in them. The competition is always very solid."
 All-day admission is \$5. Family and youth discounts are available. The finals are scheduled to start around 5:30 p.m.
 "I told my JV (team) that when they are done to come by and watch the finals — because in years past it has been some of the most exciting wrestling I have seen," Chio-la said. "I think part of it is because the coaches and kids know each other so well, that it gives them bragging rights. It will definitely be a fun day."

benoms@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6851

BURTON

Continued from page B1

straight seasons (1998-2003) and the league's annual scoring championship trophy bears his name with the Joe Burton Award.
 In 2001, Burton helped guide the Blazers to the 2001 Ray Miron Cup with 110 points (51 goals and 59 assists) during the regular season. He scored 11 more points during 13 postseason games.
 Burton was also twice recognized as the CHL's Most Valuable Player (1998 and 2001).
 "Coming out of college, I just wanted to basically keep playing hockey," said Burton, a 1985 Garden City High grad who is now 44. "I guess over the years the stats just kind of add up. You don't really think about it and I guess when I was done, it turned out I had a pretty good career."
 He played junior hockey locally for the Redford Royals and went on to play collegiately at the University of Michigan-Dearborn for coach Tom Anastos, the former CCHA commissioner who recently became the head coach at Michigan State.
 Burton played one sea-

son overseas in Denmark, but quickly became a fixture in Oklahoma City after getting an opportunity with the Blazers.
 "It was neat playing in Denmark," he said. "It was a different culture, but I liked it better over here. Over there it was more of a finesse game, but things over here happen a lot quicker."
 During his stint with the Blazers, which also included three professional roller hockey seasons with the Oklahoma City Coyotes, Burton was undersized at 5-foot-9, 170 pounds.
 But he always loomed large on the scoresheet.
 "I played 11 years in the same organization," Burton said. "I just miss the competitiveness and playing. I loved to play and compete. I was a goal scorer, so that was my job. I enjoyed scoring goals. We always had good teams."
 "It just turned out that I played in Oklahoma City where we averaging 10,000 fans most of my career ... it was just great place to play."
 At age 37, Burton came back home and played his final pro season (2004-05) during the NHL lock-out with the Motor City Mechanics of the United

Hockey League.
 Burton played alongside NHL players Chris Chelios, Derian Hatcher, Bryan Smolinski and Sean Avery. One of his rivals in the CHL, former Detroit Red Wing Gary Unger, became his coach with the Mechanics.
 And in 76 games, Burton displayed his scoring prowess once again with 36 goals and 28 assists.
 That was as close as Burton would come to the NHL.
 "For me, I got one week of training camp in the NHL with the (Phoenix) Coyotes," Burton said. "So that was kind of where I was going to be my entire career, at that level."
 Burton remains rooted in the game, while still lacing up his skates from time to time.
 "I play in the over-18 league at Modano Arena," Burton said. "And now I'm playing in front of 10 people instead of 10,000. It's a big difference."
 Burton and his wife of 17 years, Julie — whom he met at UM-Dearborn when she was a student and basketball player — have two young sons, Luke and Joey.
 "I coach the pee wee team in Westland," Burton said. "My kids are both playing. I got a squirt

and a pee wee, so I kind of rotate and coach every other year one of them." Burton didn't plan on a long pro career. It just happened.
 "When I was in Oklahoma City, I told her (Julie) I was going to play two more years in the minors, then ended up playing 12 or 13," Burton said. "She's still pretty much at the rink now every night between two kids."
 During the CHL's All-Star weekend, Burton was asked to drop the ceremonial puck and was an honorary coach.
 The entire experience humbled him.
 "When I heard about this honor, I was honestly speechless," Burton said. "As a youngster, I only dreamed about becoming a hockey player. And then as a teenager, you hope that you get the opportunity to keep playing at a higher level."
 "But as a person with the chance to play professional hockey, the last thing on your 'to-do' list is to make a hall of fame. The CHL and Oklahoma City became my second family, and I am truly grateful to be honored in this way."

benoms@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6851

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.

Jan. 26-31

FINANCIAL RECOVERY

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Jan. 31
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, near 12 Mile and Farmington Road, in Farmington Hills
Details: Dave Ramsey's "The Great Recovery" is a 13-week, bible-based program that teaches you to eliminate debt and leave a lasting legacy.
Contact: Register at www.daveramsey.com or call (248) 553-3380

MEMORY CHALLENGES

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28
Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21100 Southfield Road, just north of Eight Mile, in Southfield
Details: Dr. Annette Carron, from Palliative Care in Farmington Hills, will speak about memory loss, dementia, signs of Alzheimer's, and methods to delay memory loss. This is a free program open to the public and light refreshments will be served
Contact: (248) 569-2972 or firstbaptist@fbc-detroit.org
OPEN HOUSE
Time/Date: 9:30-1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29
Location: St. Edith Catholic School, 15089 Newburgh at Five Mile, Livonia
Details: K-8th grade enroll-

ment available
Contact: (734) 464-1250 or visit www.stedithschool.org
OPEN HOUSE
Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29
Location: St. Michael the Archangel School, 11311 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Student-led tours, meet the staff, share refreshments and conversation with other parents and students. St. Michael's offers half or full-day kindergarten, latchkey programming, and an extended curriculum that includes computer science, art, music, and Spanish
Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 226; www.livoniastmichael.org
PRAYER OPEN HOUSE
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Friday,

Jan. 27
Location: Harvest Bible Church, 6420 N. Newburgh, Westland
Details: Anyone who needs prayer may stop by to pray individually or with a volunteer prayer partner
Contact: (734) 895-3280

February

BETHANY
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11
Location: Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, Livonia
Detail: Stilettoes Dance, "Detroit Still Doo Wops," with music from 8 p.m.-midnight. Cost is \$20 and includes beer and pop
Contact: Chooch at (734) 697-7270

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
Time/Date: Dinner, 6 p.m. Feb. 18; Eucharist, 10 a.m. Feb. 19
Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: The dinner, held at the Summit in Canton, will include a video presentation, music, gift drawings, and a ticket for a chance to win a centennial quilt and more. The ticket costs \$40 per person. Bishop Wendell Gibbs will attend the worship service on Feb. 19. The service will include special music and banners created by members of the parish. A celebration reception will follow the service
Contact: (734) 453-0190

DEBT FREE

Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, beginning Feb. 1
Location: Farmington Hills Church of God, 25717 Power, Farmington Hills
Details: Financial Peace University—Imagine Yourself Debt Free, is a 13-week, video-based study featuring Dave Ramsey, that teaches how to build wealth, get out of debt and gain financial freedom. You may attend the first class for free. Childcare is available
Contact: (248) 477-9144 or visit www.FHChurchofGod.org or www.DaveRamsey.com

GLAZER INSTITUTE LECTURES

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Feb. 10
Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills
Details: Rabbi Daniel B. Syme will talk about "Combating Bullying, Cruelty, De-



Heather Irish, founder of The MINDS Program, a non-profit organization that educates teenagers about mental illnesses and suicide prevention, will talk about bullying and depression Feb. 10 at Temple Beth El.

pression and Suicide Among Youth People - A Religious Imperative." Heather Irish, founder and director of The MINDS Program, a non-profit organization that educates teenagers about mental illnesses and suicide prevention, will continue the discussion at 10:45 a.m. after a brief intermission. Admission is free
Contact: (248) 851-1100, ext. 3149

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7-8:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7
Location: Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: "From Grief to New Hope," presented by Cathy Clough, director of New Hope Center for Grief Support, runs eight weeks. Each session will begin with a talk, followed by small group participation led by trained facilitators. Each person will be placed in a group with others who have had similar losses
Contact: (248) 661-9191; www.4fcc.org

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Feb. 29 and March 7, 14 and 21
Location: St. Michael's Catholic Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: Grieving with Great Hope, a four-week grief

support series will offer a prayerful and practical approach for individuals who are mourning the loss of a loved one. Presenters will include The Rev. Bill Tindall as well John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry. Register by calling the church of visiting Good Mourning Ministry's Web site.
Contact: (734) 261-1455; www.goodmourningministry.net

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM

Time/Date: 6:30-7:45 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 8
Location: South Redford Christian Church, 26505 W. Chicago Road, Redford
Details: The church's weekly children's program will present a Valentine's Day party. Children ages 3 years-5th grade may attend. The children will play games, worship, eat a sweet snack, and learn about God's love.
Contact: (313) 937-2050

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m. Feb. 10
Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City
Details: Includes silent auction. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children, 4-11, and free for children 3 and under. Tickets available at door.
Contact: (734) 427-3660

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com
 Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday

BURMAN, JOSEPH R.

January 22, 2012, age 80. Served with the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. Beloved husband of Jeanette. Dear father of Lynn Dowell and Joseph D. Burman. Grandfather of Joseph C. (Melana) Burman, Madeline Burman and David M. Burman. Brother of Shirley Burman, Loretta Allen, Nancy McGue and David Burman. Services were held Wednesday. Contributions suggested to St. John's Musical Ministry, The Michigan Humane Society or charity of your choice.



STOUGH, CHERIE ANN

of Arizona, formerly Harrison Twp., Jan. 4, 2012; age 29. SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com

ZAHARA, IRENE

Age 90, passed peacefully on Monday, January 23, 2012 at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia, Michigan. Irene was born in Detroit, MI in 1922, lifelong resident of Livonia since 1951. She retired from the City of Livonia Clerk's office in 1989. She is preceded in death by her beloved husband, the late Michael T. Zahara. Survived by her children Sharon Zahara-Flack, Michael Zahara (Denise Missale), Robert Zahara, Loreen Zahara. Grandchildren Ryan Flack (Jennifer Ambruster), Michael Zahara, Steven Zahara, and Alexann Zahara. Great-granddaughter Madysen Flack. Visitation Thursday 2-9 p.m. Rosary at 7 p.m. at Harry J Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Visitation Friday 10:15 a.m. at St. Genevieve Catholic Church, 29015 Jamison, Livonia, until Mass at 11 a.m. Tribute donations can be made to the St. Jude Children's research Hospital: www.stjude.org/tributes

HALE, AGNES 'BABE'

Age 88, January 22, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Donald. Dear mother of Barbara (Craig) Duncan, Sandy (the late Mike) Ellinger and the late Thomas (Sharon). Grandmother of two. Great-grandmother of two. Memorial visitation Friday, January 27th, 2pm-4pm at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd., Garden City (between Ford Road and Cherry Hill). Family suggests memorials to American Heart Association or the charity of your choice. www.santeiufuneralhome.com

MARICH, EVA MARIE

of Westland, Jan. 11, 2012; age 87. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248) 227-1954.

DOYLE, DIANE MARIE

Age 60, November 4, 1951-January 22, 2012. Online condolences: obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

DZIESZKOWSKI, CYNTHIA ANN

of Wixom, Jan. 11, 2012; age 58. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248) 227-1954.

KIOUSIS, ATHINOULA

of Ecorse, Jan. 13, 2012; age 93. Arrangements by Simple Funerals (248) 227-1954.

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Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200 Mass Schedule: First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m. Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>UNITED METHODIST</p> <p>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills www.orchardumc.org 248-626-3620 Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p> <p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p> <p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 www.christsaviors.org Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413 Staffed Nursery Available Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden 734-522-6830</p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 46801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road In Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD CHURCH 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48188 www.wardchurch.org Traditional Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m. The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p> <p>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org</p>
<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</p> <p>OPEN ARMS CHURCH Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Children's Programs Available Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248.474.0001 Meet our New Pastor Grady Jensen & Assoc. Pastor Abe Fazzini 33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Merriman Across from Joe's Produce 248.471.5282</p>	<p>For Information regarding this Directory, please call Karen Marzolf at 313-222-2214 or e-mail: kmarzolf@hometownlife.com</p>		<p>CONGREGATIONAL</p> <p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom - Fellowship Rev. Mary E. Biedron Senior Minister</p>

Dance fundraiser mixes Irish show with Italian dinner

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

Ten students from the O'Hare School of Irish Dancing in Plymouth earned high marks as they kicked, stepped and jumped their way through regional and national dance competitions last year. Each earned the right to compete as a soloist in the World Irish Dancing Championship, set for April in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

The group is gearing up for the trip, but needs help with funding.

"As far as the cost of the competition, I would estimate that the cost is about \$1,500 per dancer, plus the cost of their parent's ticket," said Tina Doyle, whose daughter, Eileen, is among the 10 world hopefuls.

"We (the Doyles) just bought tickets and fortunately they were under 900 each, plus there's the hotel cost, which we haven't booked yet. That's expensive because it's in downtown Belfast. You've got to take the bus from Dublin to Belfast. That's not a huge expense, but it's \$50 to \$100.

"With all the travel, you can't just go the day before the competition and dance the next day. You're there for a few days."

She and other parents hope an upcoming fundraiser — the Rhythm of Belfast — will raise enough money to help each dancer defray trip expenses by at least \$500. The event, a combina-



Dancers from the O'Hare School of Irish Dance in Plymouth seem to levitate during rehearsal.

tion dance show and dinner, starts at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3 at Genitti's Hole-in-the-wall in Northville. Tickets are \$40 per person, available by sending a check to Jenny Newell at 830 Claremont, Dearborn, MI 48124. Include address and phone number for delivery. For more information, call Maureen Oatman at (248) 214-8647 or e-mail her at mcoatman@earthlink.net or call Jenny Newell at (313) 268-1121 or e-mail her at snwell1@sbcglobal.net.

A dance show by the Ireland-bound students and others from O'Hare School

of Irish Dance, will follow the family-style Italian dinner.

"Irish dancing with Italian dinner — it sounds like a good time," Doyle said. The event will include a cash bar and raffles.

Students will demonstrate some of the dances they'll perform in Northern Ireland. Another group will show Ceili dancing, which is similar to American square dancing. Dolowy family members from Plymouth will perform Irish music.

"We're trying to give a taste of all facets of Irish dance," Doyle said.



Ireland-bound dancers from Tim O'Hare Irish School of Dance in Plymouth rehearse together. They'll compete in the World Irish Dancing Championships in April.



These dancers from the O'Hare School of Irish Dance in Plymouth have qualified to compete in the World Irish Dancing Championships in Belfast, Northern Ireland. They are Elizabeth Muise, (back row, left), Alena Woelcke, Breandan Oatman, Ashling Magolan, and Tara Kristock. Therese Muise (left), Hannah Newell and Eileen Doyle are in the middle row and in front are Margaret Muise (left) and Alicia Wang.

Tim O'Hare, who founded the Plymouth school in 1979, won the junior world title in 1976 and the senior men's world championship in 1977. He also owns Irish dance schools in Chicago, Ill., and Akron, Ohio. Two students from Akron and one from Chicago also qualified for the world championship. Ages range

from 11-21 among qualifying students at the three locations.

O'Hare said students that qualify for world competition are serious about their dance and often take several classes a week, as well as private instruction.

"They are the kids that really want it. They're the

ones dancing at the grocery store...their feet are going under the dinner table," he said.

"They'll face tough competition overseas.

"Irish dancing is becoming popular worldwide, but still, the strongest dancers are from Ireland."

Irish dancing demands good posture, a sense of rhythm, balance and technical ability.

"Irish dancing is a great family activity," O'Hare said. "A lot of moms do it for exercise and there are parents I taught (as children) that now have their own kids."

O'Hare's 10 world championship qualifiers from the Plymouth school are Alicia Wang, Northville; Margaret Muise, Superior Township; Hannah Newell, Dearborn; Ashling Magolan, Brighton; Therese Muise, Superior Township; Breandan Oatman, West Bloomfield; Eileen Doyle, Sharon Township; Elizabeth Muise, Superior Township; Alena Woelcke, Northville; and Tara Kristock, Novi.

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Local theater troupe teaches writing workshop

Aspiring playwrights can learn how to turn ideas into a finished script at a workshop taught by TLC Productions, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 13, at the Cherry Hill Schoolhouse, 50440 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.

"Goal #1 is to provide a place for training/exposure to playwriting and to foster a community of local playwrights," said Christopher Tremblay, a TLC Productions member and workshop instructor. "Goal #2 is to inspire local authors to submit their works to festivals, primarily our 2013 One Acts Festival, which is planned for January 2013."

Tremblay, Linda Pohl and Tim Chanko, all TLC members, are experienced playwrights who organize the biennial festival. Tremblay started writing murder mystery scripts with a friend in 1996 and penned eight of them by 2001. Pohl came up with an original idea for a one-act play and showed the script with Chanko. He wrote songs for the piece and Tremblay read the script while it was still in development. The trio formed TLC Productions and Pohl's script became *Behind the Curtain*, a one-act musical the group produced in 2007.

They also wrote and produced a one-act musical called *FONTS! A Type of Musical*. Their play, *In the Dark* took an honorable mention at the Fenton One Acts Festival in June 2011. Three other plays they've penned are *Priced to Sell*, *Playing Games* and *The Flight to Liberty*.

"We have ideas for about five other scripts we could be working on now — as time allows," Tremblay said.

He, Pohl and Chanko will teach workshop attendees how to develop ideas into a detailed plot, fine-tune a script and what to expect when submitting a play for production and festival consideration. Participants also learn about other theatrical resources.

Tremblay said the workshop is suited for age 15 and up.

Participants must pre-register by Jan. 31 by e-mailing to tlcproductions@wowway.com. The workshop fee is \$25 per person. It's due in cash or check at the workshop.

For more information about TLC Productions' Playwriting Workshop, visit <http://tlcprod.wordpress.com>.

— Sharon Dargay

Art

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit
Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission
Exhibits: Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus exhibit runs through Feb. 12 and includes 64 works. Tickets are \$16 for adults; \$8 for youth, 6-17. Other exhibits include Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010, an exhibit of 50 photos through April 8; Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection of drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs through March 18

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

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Feb. 24
Location: Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: The work of Patrice Erickson, all original oils, is on exhibit. Erickson is inspired by nature and strives for landscapes that are rich in color

Contact: (248) 473-1856

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, through Feb. 18, with an artist reception, 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3
Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: "6th Annual Member Exhibition," includes work by more than 70 artists; free admission

Contact: (248) 344-0497

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25-May 20
Location: University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State, Ann Arbor
Details: "Fluxus and the Essential Questions of Life," includes more than 100 works by major artists, such as Yoko Ono, Nam June Paik and George Maciunas; admission is free

Contact: (734) 764-0395

VILLAGE THEATER

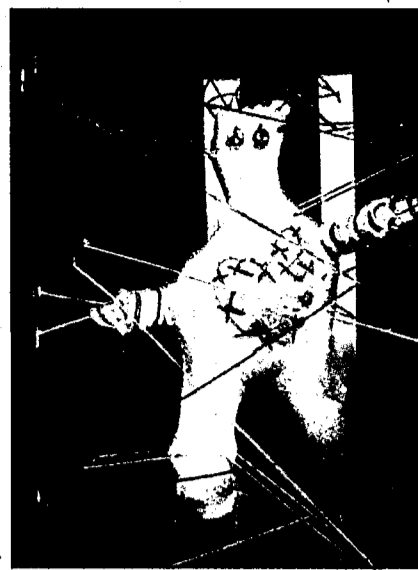
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday through Feb. 24
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: "Lest We Forget: Legends of Detroit Gospel," celebrates the history of Gospel music in Detroit

Contact: (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillageattheater.org.

Comedy

GO COMEDY!

GET OUT!



"Monster," by Leann Meixner, and art by other members of Northville Art House, are on display through Feb. 18.

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

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

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

JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

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

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

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

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

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

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Paul Hooper, through Jan. 28; Andy Hendrickson, Feb. 1-4; Basile, Feb. 8-11; Mikey Mason, Feb. 15-16; Rich Guzzi, Feb. 17-19; Coco, Feb. 22-25; Glen Wool, Feb. 29-March 3

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kicker-scomple.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Frances Dilorinzo, Jan. 26-28, Keith Alberstadt, Feb. 2-4; Tim Nutt, Feb. 9-11; Rocky Laporte, Feb. 16-18; Ted Alexandro, Feb. 23-25

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedy-castle.com

Dance

DANCE MONTH

Time/Date: Jan. 26-Feb. 18

Location: Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Dorfman Legacy Project, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 26 and 10 a.m., Friday, Jan. 27; Dorfman Repertory program, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28; "Michigan Five: University Showcase," 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 4; Allure Dance Company, dance for children, 3-12, 1-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5; Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11; Ballet Folklorico de Antioquia, 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 18. Ticket prices are \$15 for Jewish Community Center (JCC) members and \$20 for non-members for the Michigan Five showcase; \$20 for JCC members and \$25 for non-members for the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble; and \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members for all other programs. Call the box office for student and workshop prices
Contact: (248) 661-1900; www.theberman.org

MOON DUSTERS

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

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

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

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

Film

MARQUIS THEATRE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4

Location: 135 E. Main, Northville

Details: "Goldfinger," tickets \$3
 Coming up: "Anatomy of a Murder," Feb. 11; "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad World," Feb. 18; "Bye, Bye, Birdie," Feb. 25
Contact: (248) 349-8110

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27 and Thursday, Feb. 2, and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 28-29

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "The Muppets," \$3
Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

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GET OUT

Continued from page B6

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Feb. 3 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 4

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

Details: "Charade," tickets \$4

Coming up: "The Apartment," 8 p.m. Feb. 17 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Feb. 18; "Gone With The Wind" 8 p.m. March 2-3 and 2 p.m. March 4, includes an appearance by "the Gone With The Wind answer lady," Kathleen Marcaccio

Contact: (313) 537-2560

Museums

CHARLES H. WRIGHT

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

Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

Details: Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free. "Moving to His Own Beat" celebrates the life and music of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, who fused traditional African highlife music with classical jazz and funk, a unique sound he called "Afrobeat" The exhibit runs through April 1

Contact: (313) 494-5800



Moving to His Own Beat, an exhibit at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History celebrates the life of Fela Anikulapo-Kuti.

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday; current exhibit runs through June 17

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: "Ration Stamps & Bombers, WWII at Home" is the current exhibit. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17

Contact: (734) 455-8940

U-M KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Time/Date: The museum is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

Location: 434 S. State, Ann Arbor

Details: Part II of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology's special exhibition - "Karanis Revealed: Discovering the Past and Present of a Michigan Excavation in Egypt" - will run Friday, Jan. 27-Sunday, May 6. This special exhibition explores the story of the site's excavation, which was initiated by the University of Michigan in the 1920s and 1930s. Part II follows the changes that took place in Karanis with the beginning of the Roman occupation of Egypt and then later with the advent of Christianity. The displays - all but a few will be new - include collections

of Roman glass, tax rolls on papyrus, and the leather breastplate of a Roman soldier. Admission is free, but donations are accepted.

Contact: www.lsa.umich.edu/kelsey; (734) 764-9304

Music

THE ARK

Time/Date: The 35th Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival, Jan. 27-28; Take a Chance Tuesday with Peyton Tochterman, Jan. 31; Open Stage, Feb. 1; Frontier Ruckus, Feb. 2; Cheryl Wheeler, Feb. 3; Yiddish Cup, Feb. 4; The Global Jazz Project, Feb. 7; Girlyman & Edie Carey, Feb. 8; William Fitzsimmons & Denison Wither, Feb. 9; Newfound Road, Feb. 10; Mustard's Retreat, Feb. 11; My Folky Valentine, Feb. 12; Miss Tess and the Bon Ton Parade, Feb. 13; So-las, Feb. 14; JT Nero & Allison Russell, Feb. 15; Jill Sobule, Feb. 16; The RFD Boys, Feb. 17; Kate Clinton, Feb. 19

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

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

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m. the third Saturday of the month

Location: JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: The show includes open mic performances and a featured performer Admis-



Cast members rehearse a dance for "Grease." Forever After Productions will stage the show Jan. 27-Feb. 5 in Canton.

sion is \$5. Annual memberships are \$25 for individuals and \$50 for families. Members may attend monthly concerts free of charge.

Contact: Mike Mullen at (248) 719-3464 or e-mail to mjmmullen@yahoo.com

CD RELEASE CONCERT

Time/Date: 1:30 P.M. Sunday, Jan. 29

Location: Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Motor City Troubadours release "Rustbelt Rhapsodies," adult admission is \$5; free for children 12 and under

Contact: info@motorcitytroubadours.com or visit motorcitytroubadours.com

MICHIGAN

PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 2 p.m. Feb. 12; pre-concert talk at 1:15 p.m.

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

Details: "Sunday with Schubert" featuring Michigan Phil principal clarinetist Lisa Raschiatoro performing the Copland Clarinet Concerto. Other works include Schubert Symphony No. 5 and Amalia Concerto for 12. Tickets are \$22 general, \$18 senior and \$10, student

Contact: (734) 451-2112; www.michiganphil.org

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Terry Lower Quartet with Terry on keyboard, Ray Tini on bass, Jim Ryan on drums and Edge Evans-Hyde on vocals will perform Jan. 31

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com



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Global trend: Create innovative food, spice combinations

When it comes to food, people around the world are more alike than different, according to a report released by McCormick & Company, Inc. The McCormick "Flavor Forecast 2012" pinpoints common trends and flavors driving culinary innovation around the world.

A team of McCormick chefs, sensory scientists, trend trackers, marketing experts and food technologists in Asia, Australia, Europe, Africa, Latin America and North America created this first global version of Flavor Forecast, which McCormick has released annually since 2000.

"While developing the Flavor forecast 2012, our global team was excited to find so many similarities in the trends inspiring diverse cultures to cook, eat and innovate," state Chef Kevan Vetter for McCormick United States.

The report highlights six culinary trends brought to life through 12 regional flavor combinations and taste experiences:

- **Honoring roots** — Give traditional ingredients and techniques a fresh perspective with such flavor combinations as Korean pepper paste, sesame, Asian pear and garlic; and cumin with sofrito.
- **Quest for the ultimate** — Pair lemon thyme, limoncello, lemon peel and Meyer lemon for the ultimate lemon flavor and bring dill with mint, melon and cucumber together for the ultimate refresher.
- **Veggies in vogue** — Honey and harissa combine to let eggplant shine with sweet heat; pair red curry and pancetta with squash for a hint of Thai.
- **Simplicity shines** — Cooks are highlighting quality ingredients with unpretentious preparations. Try combining ginger with coconut or vanilla with butter and let a simple dish shine.
- **Flavorful swaps** — Balancing an appetite for bold flavor with a hunger for good health is key to achieving wellness goals. Pair a better-for-you beverage, such as red tea, with cinnamon and plum or grapefruit and red pepper.
- **No boundaries** — Culinary trailblazers cook outside the lines by discovering, reinventing and even playing with food. Combining blueberry with cardamom and corn masa takes dishes from everyday to extraordinary. Sweet soy with tamarind and black pepper gives food an Asian flair.

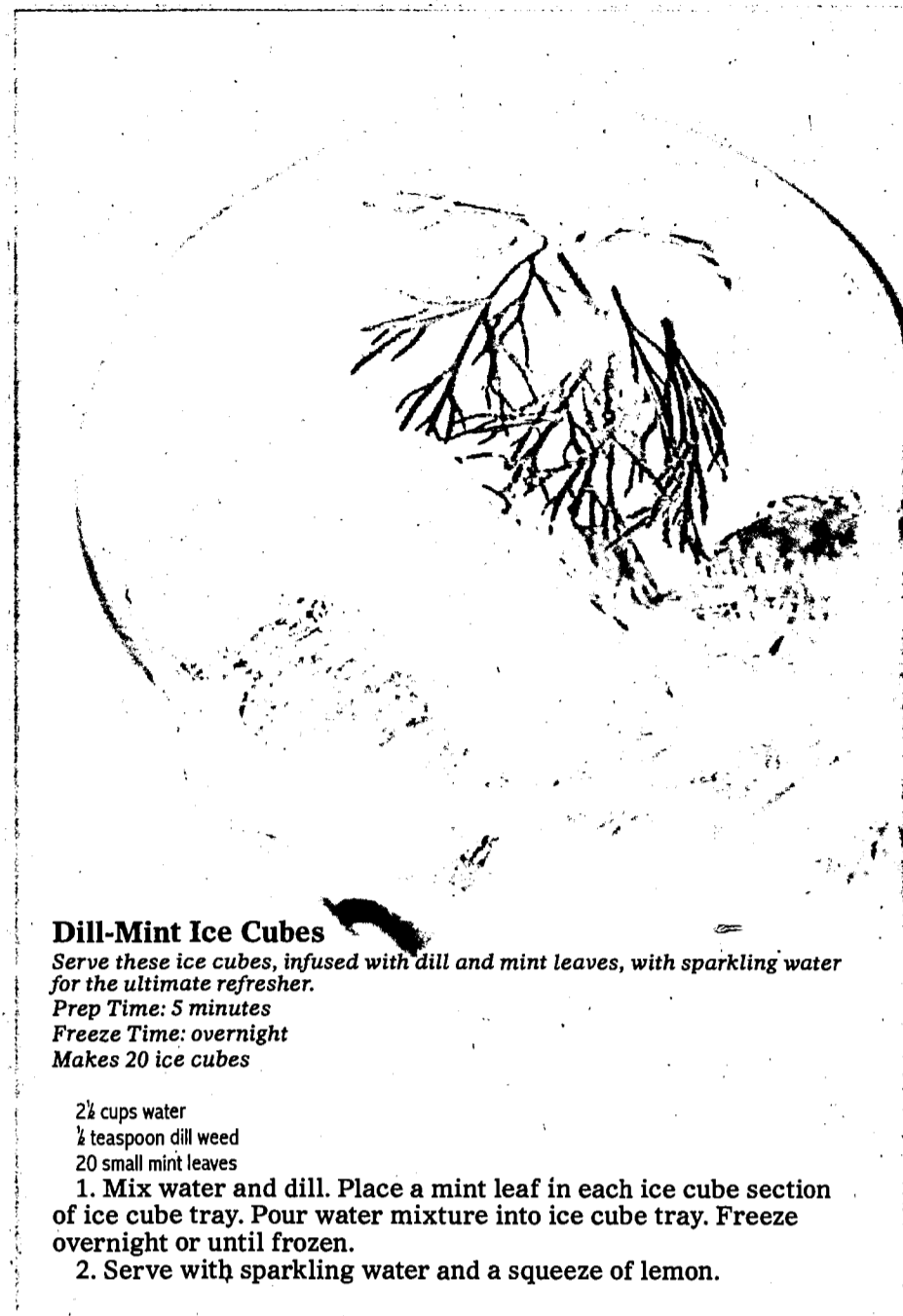
Here's a selection of recipes that use some of the 12 regional flavor combinations. For more recipes, visit www.FlavorForecast.com

Vanilla-Butter Shrimp Rolls

Prep Time: 15 minutes
Cook Time: 10 minutes
Makes 8 servings

- 8 New England-style hot dog rolls (top split) or regular hot dog rolls, split
- 3 tablespoons butter, softened, divided
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped shallots
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped garlic
- 1 pound large shrimp, peeled, deveined and cut in half
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon paprika
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons dry sherry or white wine
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup mayonnaise
- 1 to 2 cups small salad greens, such as mache, baby spinach or baby arugula

1. Lightly brush rolls with 2 tablespoons of the butter. Heat large skillet on medium heat. Place rolls, buttered-side down, in skillet. Toast 2 to 3 minutes per side or until golden brown. Remove from skillet. Set aside.
2. Heat oil and remaining 1 tablespoon butter in same skillet on medium heat. Add shallots and garlic; cook and stir 1 minute or until fragrant. Add shrimp, paprika, salt and pepper; cook and stir 3 to 4 minutes or just until shrimp turn pink. Stir in sherry and vanilla; cook until heated through.
3. Spread mayonnaise on each roll. Place baby greens in rolls. Spoon shrimp mixture into each roll. Drizzle shrimp with remaining sauce. Serve immediately.



Dill-Mint Ice Cubes

Serve these ice cubes, infused with dill and mint leaves, with sparkling water for the ultimate refresher.

Prep Time: 5 minutes
Freeze Time: overnight
Makes 20 ice cubes

- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups water
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon dill weed
- 20 small mint leaves

1. Mix water and dill. Place a mint leaf in each ice cube section of ice cube tray. Pour water mixture into ice cube tray. Freeze overnight or until frozen.
2. Serve with sparkling water and a squeeze of lemon.

Eggplant & Goat Cheese Torte with Honey-Harissa Sauce

Prep Time: 45 minutes
Cook Time: 20 minutes
Refrigerate Time: 1 hour
Makes 4 servings

- 1 large eggplant, sliced lengthwise into 12 to 16 slices
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 small red bell pepper, roasted, peeled and quartered
- 2 ounces goat cheese (chèvre)
- 1 small yellow bell pepper, roasted, peeled and quartered
- 2 tablespoons honey
- Honey-Harissa Sauce:
 - 1 large red bell pepper, roasted, peeled and seeded
 - 3 tablespoons olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon honey
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon caraway seed, ground
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground coriander seed
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon minced garlic
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon crushed red pepper

1. For the Honey-Harissa Sauce, place all ingredients in blender or food processor; cover. Blend or process on high speed until almost smooth. Set aside.

2. Brush eggplant slices with oil. Season lightly with salt and pepper. Place eggplant slices in single layer on baking pan. Roast in preheated 350°F oven 15 to 20 minutes or until just tender.

3. Line four (6 ounce) ramekins with plastic wrap. Place 1 slice of eggplant lengthwise along bottom of each ramekin. Line the sides of the ramekin with slices of eggplant, draping 1 inch of each end of the eggplant slice over top of ramekin. Place red bell pepper slices on top of eggplant in bottom of ramekin. Top with a thin layer of goat cheese. Repeat with a layer of eggplant, placing slices crosswise to first layer of eggplant, yellow bell pepper slices and goat cheese. Fold excess eggplant over to enclose the torte. Cover ramekins in plastic wrap.

4. Refrigerate 1 hour or overnight. Invert each ramekin onto serving plate and carefully remove ramekin. Brush tortes with honey. Serve with Honey-Harissa Sauce.



Almond & Date Bulgur Salad with Sofrito

Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cook Time: 20 minutes
Makes 4 servings

- 1 cup bulgur (cracked wheat)
- 1 teaspoon grated orange peel
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup orange juice
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground cumin or roasted ground cumin
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Sicilian Sea Salt
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped plum tomatoes
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped green bell pepper
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped red bell pepper
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped onion
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup pitted dates, quartered, divided
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sliced almonds, toasted, divided
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro, divided

1. Bring 6 cups water to boil in medium saucepan. Meanwhile, heat large skillet on medium heat. Add dry bulgur; cook and stir 2 to 3 minutes or until fragrant. Add toasted bulgur to boiling water. Cook on medium heat 10-12 minutes or until tender. Drain and rinse under cold water. Place bulgur in large bowl. Mix orange peel, juice, cumin and sea salt in small bowl. Pour over bulgur; toss to coat well. Set aside.

2. Heat oil in large skillet on medium-high heat. Add tomatoes, bell peppers, onion and garlic; cook and stir 2-3 minutes or until tender-crisp. Add vegetables, and $\frac{1}{2}$ each of the dates, almonds and cilantro to the bulgur mixture; toss to coat well.

3. Serve warm or refrigerate until ready to serve. Garnish with remaining dates, almonds and cilantro.



Local Realtors optimistic for 2012

By Julie Brown
 O&E Staff Writer

Realtor Bob Bake's been in the business for 45 years, so he has a good sense of how things are going.

Bake, with Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel of Plymouth, agreed the market's looking up.

"Very definitely, we are," he said, adding he speaks for Northville, Plymouth and Canton. "There's a significant uptick in activity, especially for homes that are in move-in conditions in appealing areas."

Fixer-upper homes are less appealing, Bake said, but the supply of homes is more limited.

"There's a definite scarcity factor," he said. "We're very, very busy."

Bake agreed buying a home remains a good investment despite market upheaval of recent years. "In my judgment it is (a good investment), especially if you're going to be living in your home five years or more. It's a great time to buy."

Interest rates for mortgages are low, he added.

Realtor Bart Patterson, a 15-year industry veteran, also sees signs for optimism.

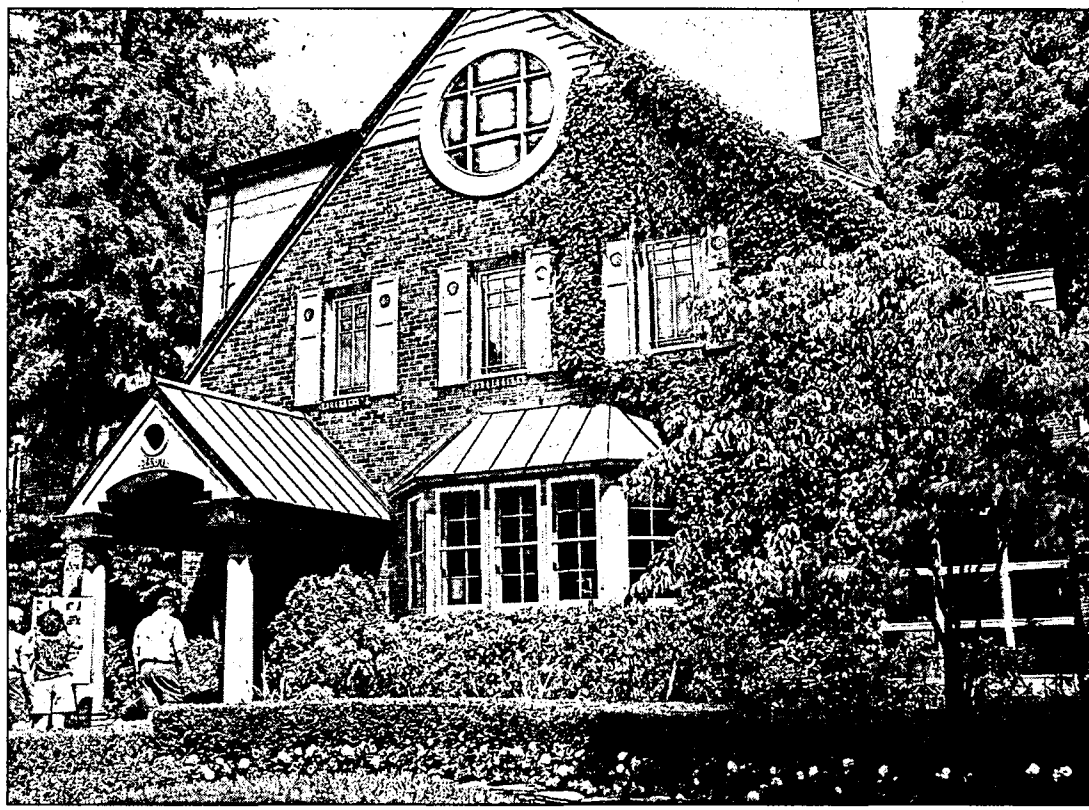
"Always. There's plenty of buyers out there," said Patterson, vice president and general manager for RE/MAX Classic, with offices in Canton, Farmington Hills corporate headquarters, Novi and Milford. "It's a pretty competitive market still. If it's a nice house and is priced competitively, it's selling pretty well. Buyers are doing well."

"Mortgage rates are historic lows. You can't beat that," Patterson added.

Patterson acknowledged the housing market has struggled in recent years.

"It has been struggle." Some buyers were forced to sell for financial reasons.

Others can move because of



Local Realtors are pleased to see an uptick in business in early 2012.

their circumstances, Patterson said.

"We saw a little bit of an increase in the (average) sale price last year." If that continues, "that would be good for the economy. We've got to get to that leveling out place."

Patterson agreed the jobs element is a key piece, and that some renters could buy for the first time.

"Everybody stayed focused," he said of those in his field, adding some homes are still being sold as short sales.

Existing-home sales rose again in November and remain above a year ago, according to the National Association of Realtors. Also released recently were periodic benchmark revisions with downward adjustments to sales and inventory data since 2007, led by a decline in for-sale-by-owners.

Although rebenchmarking resulted in lower adjustments

to several years of home sales data, the month-to-month characterization of market conditions did not change. There are no changes to home prices or month's supply.

The latest monthly data shows total existing-home sales, which are completed transactions that include single-family, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops, increased 4.0 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.42 million in November from 4.25 million in October, and are 12.2 percent above the 3.94 million-unit pace in November 2010.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said more people are taking advantage of the buyer's market. "Sales reached the highest mark in 10 months and are 34 percent above the cyclical low point in mid-2010 — a genuine sustained sales recovery appears to be developing," he said. "We've seen healthy gains in

contract activity, so it looks like more people are realizing the great opportunity that exists in today's market for buyers with long-term plans."

According to Freddie Mac, the national average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage fell to a record low 3.99 percent in November from 4.07 percent in October; the rate was 4.30 percent in November 2010; records date back to 1971.

NAR President Moe Veissi, broker-owner of Veissi & Associates Inc., in Miami, said housing affordability conditions have set a new record high. "With record low mortgage interest rates and bargain home prices, NAR's housing affordability index shows that a median-income family can easily afford a median-priced home," he said.

The NAR website contributed to this report.

Weigh animal issue with care

Q: We have a community that is trapping cats and turning them over to the Humane Society which is putting them up for adoption or euthanizing them. We now have an animal rights activist owner who has gotten every single animal rights group and a local paper involved with this issue and is trying to get the board to change their position on this issue. It is the animal rights position that you need to trap the cats, neuter them and then release them since this will prevent reproduction and will allegedly lead to the extinction of that colony of cats within the association. What do we do?

A: I know of one association that was actually sued by an animal rights activist to



Robert Meisner

prevent it from capturing the feral cats and turning them over to the shelter where they were either adopted or euthanized. The plaintiff in that case sought a

permanent injunction requiring what was referred to as TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release). There are, however, organizations that will either neuter the cats or keep them or put them up for adoption and the TNR advocates are familiar with these organizations. In that particular matter the case was settled by the Association agreeing not to trap the cats for 30 days to allow the Plaintiff to arrange to trap them and then ship them off to a facility for TNR and housing, and then to resume trapping placement in the shelter after 30 days. Obviously, you can offer to have the cats turned over to the various animal rights groups that are complaining so long as they do not end up back at the Association. This is a delicate legal question and/or political issue that requires much consideration by the board and counsel.

Q: I am a board member, and am concerned about the fact that our collection lawyer for our condominium seems to have every collection account on a computer with access to the management company and, perhaps, others. Isn't that an invasion of privacy?

A: It is hard to determine exactly what type of system your collection attorney has established, but the attorney/client privilege could be waived or otherwise jeopardized if proprietary information in the hands of the attorney is disclosed to third parties who are not protected by the attorney client privilege, namely are not the client or authorized representatives of the client to receive this information within the protections of the attorney/privilege. The technological age may prove to some to be beneficial in terms of record keeping and the like but it also opens up additional pitfalls to the long established legal principals embodied in the attorney/client privilege which could well undermine the association's operations, and impede, indeed, the collection process. You are best advised to have a second opinion provided to you concerning the propriety of the computer access information procedures that you have outlined.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 11-14, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

44575 Savery Dr	\$46,000
41850 Woodbridge Dr	\$137,000
GARDEN CITY	
32248 Florence St	\$36,000
31927 Hennepin St	\$52,000
32751 Maplewood St	\$55,000
32219 Rosslyn Ave	\$80,000
30036 Rush St	\$77,000
LIVONIA	
36262 Barkley St	\$150,000
9586 Deering St	\$92,000
11840 Farmington Rd	\$78,000
38517 Mason St	\$130,000
9970 Oporto St	\$95,000
30064 Richland St	\$75,000

14599 Ronnie Ln	\$123,000
29056 Roycroft St	\$61,000
14139 Susanna St	\$129,000
NORTHVILLE	
20268 Longwood Ct	\$110,000
16001 Morningside	\$117,000
46423 Pinehurst Cir	\$640,000
725 Randolph St	\$58,000
317 Yerkes St	\$170,000
PLYMOUTH	
39519 Birchwood Dr	\$159,000
262 N Holbrook St	\$119,000
624 S Harvey St	\$110,000
REDFORD	
19653 Brady	\$54,000

18679 Delaware Ave	\$32,000
9159 Dixie	\$50,000
18690 Gaylord	\$39,000
9655 Hemingway	\$35,000
24904 N Sylbert Dr	\$69,000
WESTLAND	
33731 Blackfoot St	\$49,000
31628 Conway Dr	\$85,000
38592 Florence St	\$55,000
7780 Louise Ct	\$38,000
36449 Newberry Estates Dr	\$172,000
36515 Newberry Estates Dr	
	\$160,000
35588 Pheasant Ln	\$75,000
39227 Randolph Ct	\$85,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 3-7, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
617 Wilshire Dr	\$195,000
4725 Dover Rd	\$268,000
718 E Long Lake Rd	\$260,000
1377 Pembroke Dr	\$900,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
3425 Berkshire Dr	\$396,000
1054 Clear Point Ct	\$290,000
6522 Donegan Ct	\$250,000
5373 Echo Rd	\$235,000
474 Fox Hills Dr N	\$25,000
1180 Hill Line Trl	\$420,000
6465 Maple Hills Dr	\$135,000
945 Satterlee Rd	\$460,000
3647 Shallow Brook Dr	\$235,000
4147 Stoneleigh Rd	\$420,000
1101 Timberlake Dr	\$530,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
1760 Birchton St	\$45,000
4735 White Tail Ct	\$179,000

FARMINGTON HILLS	
22743 Clear Lake Dr	\$175,000
31711 Dohany Dr	\$100,000
35575 Forestville St	\$180,000
29261 Glen Oaks Blvd E	\$89,000
36650 Howard Rd	\$170,000
29508 Juneau Ln	\$115,000
29308 Regents Pointe	\$132,000
28895 Rockledge Dr	\$190,000
FRANKLIN	
26651 Captains Ln	\$678,000
25075 Franklin Park Dr	\$367,000
MILFORD	
3045 Hillside Dr	\$151,000
983 Manderly Dr	\$217,000
852 Manor Dr	\$68,000
NOVI	
22120 Berkshire St	\$420,000
47334 Butler Ln	\$242,000
28314 Carlton Way Dr	\$132,000

39510 Country Ln	\$89,000
40698 Lenox Park Dr	\$235,000
24777 Reeds Pointe Dr	\$400,000
41451 Reindeer Dr	\$230,000
SOUTH LYON	
124 Brookwood Ct	\$92,000
25607 Buckingham Ct	\$230,000
698 Center Rdg	\$119,000
57538 Hidden Timbers Dr	\$245,000
1053 Saddle Dr	\$223,000
SOUTHFIELD	
19481 Cherry Hill St	\$124,000
23408 Grayson Dr	\$30,000
20200 Lacrosse Ave	\$95,000
25131 Ridge Cliff Dr	\$143,000
30230 Woodgate Dr	\$135,000
WHITE LAKE	
8520 Jamestown Dr	\$25,000
979 Round Lake Rd	\$85,000
8990 Twin Lakes Dr	\$190,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Contest finalist

Jewish Family Service's Project Build! program, based in West Bloomfield has been selected as a finalist for Aprons in Action, The Home Depot Foundation's Facebook voting program, and now has the opportunity to win a \$25,000 gift card from The Home Depot. Voting began Jan. 2 and runs through Jan. 31 at www.facebook.com/homedepotfoundation. The organization with the most votes will win the \$25,000 prize, and be in the running for the grand prize of \$250,000 at the end of the yearlong program. The runner-up organizations from each month will receive \$5,000 in The Home Depot gift cards.

During the Aprons in Action Contest, which began in April 2011, 11 monthly winners will be selected. In March 2012, Facebook fans will have the chance to help one of those 11 winners win the \$250,000 grand prize. The organization that receives the second and third most votes will receive \$150,000 and \$100,000 from The Home Depot, respectively. In the January round of the competi-

tion, Jewish Family Service is competing against three other nonprofit organizations from across the country including Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America, Pilot Club of Denham Springs, and VFW Post 4127.

"Being selected for the Aprons in Action Program is an honor, and we are so thankful for the recognition," said Perry Ohren, CEO of Jewish Family Service. "If we win the \$25,000 Home Depot gift card, we will be able to provide home repairs and modifications for many low-income and physically challenged individuals in our community over the next year."

Working together, Jewish Family Service's Project Build!, The Home Depot Foundation and the local The Home Depot Commerce Township store recently teamed up to complete an extensive home repair. It took seven days over a period of three weeks to replace rotted flooring, paint all of the walls, replace the lighting and oven, and repair the gutters outside. In the end, JFS's Project Build! and The Home Depot turned the client's house into a home.

Aprons in Action is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/homedepot or www.facebook.com/homedepotfoundation.

The final percentages of votes for each nonprofit will be posted on The Home Depot and The Home Depot Foundation's Facebook pages on Feb. 1 at 9 a.m. ET. For more information and to view the program rules, visit The Home Depot on Facebook or go to www.homedepotfoundation.org.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation.

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvalue-realty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday

PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Cost
- 4 Perimeter
- 8 "Wool" on clay sheep
- 12 Mantra chants
- 13 Amount carried
- 14 Budget item
- 15 Small shelters (2 wds.)
- 17 Othello's betrayer
- 18 Blame
- 19 Rocky Mountain tree
- 20 Out of debt
- 23 Frazier foe
- 24 Plant anchor
- 25 Emulate The Rock or Hulk Hogan
- 29 Starfish part
- 30 Spelunkers' finds
- 32 Kennel sound
- 33 Curious maiden
- 35 Drury Lane

DOWN

- 1 Popinjay
- 2 Low-fat meat
- 3 Clairvoyance
- 4 Helen, in Spanish
- 5 Cruller cousin
- 6 Hoods' weapons

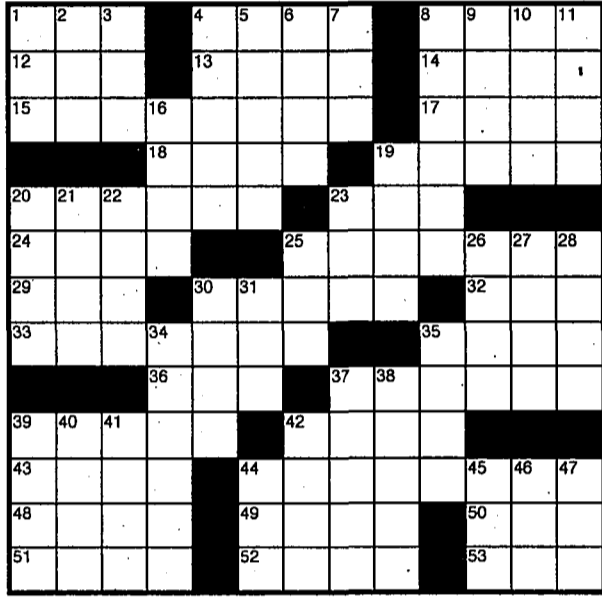
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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DOFF RUBS NET
OBIE ERIC CAR
GENE EASYCARE
EYEBALL THANK
LBS PHI
EMCEE SCENERY
UMA OAT SOU
RIBBING CRACK
USO LEE
OVALS BEECHES
POLLUTED EIRE
RIP ERAT DELE
YDIS SUMO EDEN
    
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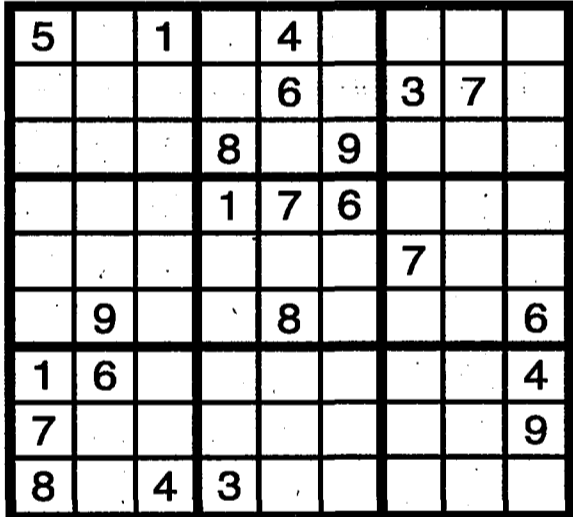
7-15 © 2011, Dist. by Univ. Uclick for UFS

- 7 Bradley and McBain
- 8 Turning point
- 9 Mound
- 10 He wrote "Picnic"
- 11 Egyptian sun god
- 16 Shovel or rake
- 19 Tavern brews
- 20 On the double
- 21 — song (cheaply)
- 22 Sketch
- 23 Is, for them
- 25 Harpers Ferry st.
- 26 Greenhorn
- 27 Clump of fluff
- 28 Pentathlon event
- 30 Manage okay
- 31 Rocket trajectory
- 34 "Crocodile —"
- 35 Tsp. and oz.
- 37 Sari sporters
- 38 Basso Simon
- 39 Mongol ruler
- 40 Wolf, to Pedro
- 41 Troubles
- 42 Slowly vanish
- 44 Soggy
- 45 — out (withdraw)
- 46 40-cup brewer
- 47 New Year in Hanoi



Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

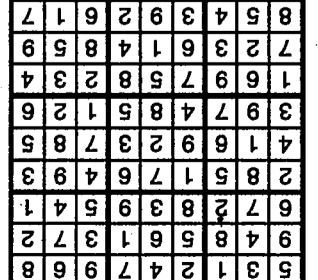
Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Word Search — Winter Day

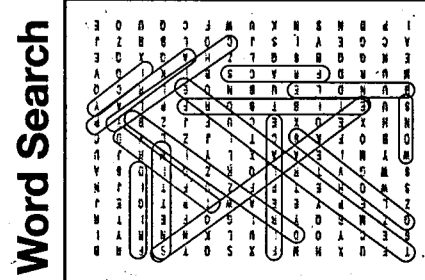
T F U X H M F X S Q T S F R B
 S E C Y O D I U L K N N R Y I
 G Z M S Q Y R I G O F E I T R
 Z L E P Y E E A W T P T G E J
 S W O H E T P F Z U F T I J N
 S W G V T R L Q R Z Q I D S A
 W Y M I E A A X L Y I M R J U
 O B O F K S C T I J Z L Y D C
 N H X E O X E C U F J Z B Y P
 S U E T I B T S O R F P L A Y
 B U N D L E U B N O E L R C Q
 M U R D F R A C S B I K I G V
 E N G G B S G L Z H A Q X Q E
 A C G E V I S J C O L S R Z J
 I P D N S N K U W F C Q U O E

Blizzard Drift Frostbite Mittens Snow
 Bundle Fireplace Gloves Parka Snowflake
 Chilly Frigid Icy Scarf Temperature

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Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.375	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.125	0	3.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4	0	3.375	0	J/A/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.25	0	3.625	0	J/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	3.75	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	4.25	0	3.5	0	J/A/V/F
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Talmer Bank & Trust	(800) 462-2766	4	0	3.25	0	J/A/V/F

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Lost - Pets

LDST DOG - "HECTOR": 1/14/12, Schnauzer, salt & pepper, 8 yrs old, no collar, skittish. Lost near Cherry Hill blwn Ford/Hix. Please call Theria, toward or take to MI Humane Society in Westland. 734-729-7582

LOST: 2 dogs, Dolly, Mailpoop & Jet, black Yorkie mix. Reward offered. 734-721-0145

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Part-Time Primary Caregiver Position in the Kindergarten room of our Children's Center. This position is open until filled; applications will be reviewed on an on-going basis so APPLY NOW!

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Help Wanted-Office Clerical

LEGAL SECRETARY - Exp'd. Westland law firm. Email resume: divorcattorney1@gmail.com

Receptionist Part-Time Insurance Agency in Farmington. Experience in Outlook, Excel & Word a must. Insurance experience a plus. Approx. 20 hours, Monday, flexible days and hours. Email resume: cbraley@ralderdennis.com

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