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Grant received

The Westland Police Department has received new camera equipment thanks to a \$1,000 grant from Target.

The grant paid for a new digital camera and related equipment, including lenses, carrying case and memory cards for use by the department's evidence technicians.

The department doesn't have an evidence technician position — patrol officers are trained for that work.

The funding was provided through the Target Public Safety Grant Program.

Council holds hearing on commercial rehab district

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

The Wayne Road portion of Westland's Downtown Development Authority could get some extra redevelopment incentive under a possible commercial rehabilitation district.

A public hearing on the proposal has been scheduled 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19, at the next council meeting.

Under state law, the com-

mercial rehabilitation district is aimed at encouraging the replacement, restoration and new construction of commercial property by abating the property taxes generated by the new investment for up to 12 years.

"The state law has been around for awhile, we haven't used it," said City Attorney James Fausone.

As proposed, the commercial rehabilitation district would run along Wayne Road from Ford to

Glenwood. As required by state law, the 125 parcels in that area have been zoned commercially since prior to 1975.

Along with the existing businesses, there are also 30 vacant parcels in the proposed district, said Assessor Jennifer Hadyniak of Wayne County Appraisals.

"This geared to develop vacant property or improve blighted properties. It will help the tax base in the future," Hadyniak said.

A request for a commercial rehabilitation district came from Arif Motorwala, who owns a 9,000-square foot office building at 2066 Wayne Road. The property was undergoing renovations when it was damaged by fire earlier this year.

"I had the option of leaving it or making a \$250,000 investment," said Motorwala. "I want to make it a thriving office com-

Please see DISTRICT, A2

Dear Santa

While Christmas is a very busy time of year for Santa Claus, he always makes time to read letters from children.

Youngsters can be sure Santa knows what they want by writing a letter to Santa. Santa Claus has given the *Observer* permission to print some of those letters in our Thursday, Dec. 20, issue. But to do that, we need

letters. So youngsters, get out some paper and a pen or pencil or a computer and start writing.

Letters should be e-mailed to smason@hometownlife.com. Parents, be sure to include a photo of your child in a jpg format, with their name, age, address and phone number. Only your child's name and age will be published.

Letters can also be mailed to Letters to Santa, c/o Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

The deadline for all Santa letters is Monday, Dec. 10.

'... thank you from the bottom of our hearts'



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dave Stratman of Westland American Legion Post 32 leads the ritual team in performing the 21-gun salute during Westland's Veterans Day ceremony Sunday.

Westland thanks vets, breaks ground for memorial garden

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

It wasn't quite what the Westland Veterans Association had hoped for. Instead of dedicating their new Veterans Memorial Garden of Westland on Veterans Day, they conducted a ceremonial groundbreaking.

"We're incredibly excited about this," said Kenneth Mehl, WVA president. "We had hoped to have it ready this year, but the site that was picked at Central City Park was problematic. But at the end of the day, we will have something incredibly nice here."

The groundbreaking came at the end of a Veterans Day ceremony held at the pavilion behind the William D. Ford Public Library on Central City Parkway north of Ford Road. The memorial will be built near the pavilion.

A small crowd of city officials and veterans gathered for the Veterans Day ceremony that included a 21-gun salute by the ritual team from American Legion Post 32 and the playing of *Taps* by bugler Frank Wilson. Members of American Legion Post 346 from Farmington Hills served as the color guard.

Please see MEMORIAL, A2



Garden City resident Brian Luther, commander of Bova VFW Post 9885, said it was a "high honor" for the Westland post to host a luncheon after the ceremony. Retired from the Air Force after 21 years of service, he saw action in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Trial delayed for parents accused of killing infant

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A trial for a couple charged with abusing and killing their infant son has been pushed back to Jan. 30.

The trial of Antonio Brandon, who turns 23 later this month, and Nicole Roberts, 19, had been scheduled to start Monday in Wayne County Circuit Court.

An Inkster resident, Brandon and Roberts, who was living in Westland, have been jailed in lieu of bond since being arrested shortly after the death of Kayden Brandon, 2 1/2 months old, early on Dec. 5, 2011.

Brandon is charged with first-degree murder and child abuse. Roberts is charged with involuntary manslaughter and child abuse — that she was aware of the abuse and allowed it to continue.

The death of Kayden, who weighed 10 pounds, was ruled a homicide with asphyxiation and blunt force trauma as the causes. Testimony from the Wayne County Medical Examiner found the infant had a range of fresh and healing injuries, including

Please see TRIAL, A2



Roberts



Brandon

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Library Teen Board collects items for Goodfellows

Through the month of November, the William P. Faust Library's Teen Advisory Board is partnering with the Westland Goodfellows for a toy and food collection drive.

Donated items will be given to Westland families who applied for Christmas assistance this year through the Westland Goodfellows. Donations are sought of new

toys, games, hats, gloves and scarves as well as nonperishable food items, such as canned goods, pastas and rice, cereal and peanut butter.

Residents can bring donated items to the library and place them in the donation boxes located in the library lobby outside the meeting rooms.

The deadline to apply for Good-

fellows assistance is Nov. 28. Applications can be downloaded from the library website at www.westland.lib.mi.us/.

Donations of new toys, school supplies, new or gently used clothing, toiletries and other items will be accepted 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, at Stuff the School Bus.

The Westland and Wayne

Goodfellows are joining forces with the Wayne-Westland Schools Transportation Department and the Wayne-Westland Fire Department for the collection drive. The bus will be located in the Kmart parking lot, Wayne Road at Cherry Hill.

For more information and assistance applications, visit www.westlandgoodfellows.org.

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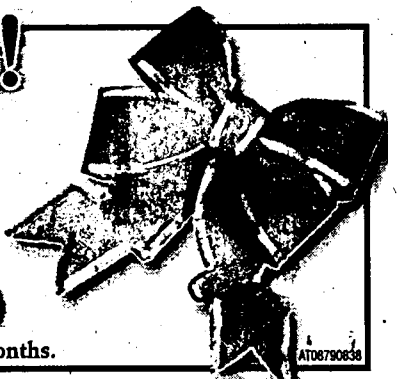
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Marquette House gets smoke detectors for deaf

A Westland senior citizen got assistance from Wayne-Westland firefighters who responded an emergency medical call at

her apartment recently. The assistance to the Marquette House resident didn't end there, however. While on the EMS run,

firefighters noticed resident Pat Scott's apartment didn't have audio-visually enhanced smoke detectors to serve the deaf.

"I got a memo about it - I like the way he is thinking," said Assistant Fire Chief John Adams. "We presented the main-

tenance staff with two smoke detectors for the deaf to be hard-wired into her apartment." The new smoke detec-

tors utilize a high lumen light plus a high pitched siren to alert Scott, who suffers from hearing loss. *By LeAnne Rogers*

MEMORIAL

Continued from page A1

Retired Brigadier Gen. Carol Fausone was the guest speaker who told the crowd that the solemn Veterans Day observance came one day after the U.S. Marine Corps celebrated its 237th birthday.

"From Bunker Hill to Baghdad, we are the beneficiary of their efforts," she said. "A veteran is an ordinary person who experienced a significant event in their life that made them write a blank check payable up to giving their life for their country. The sacrifices they have made allow us to flourish today."

"All we have to do is say thank you to pay service to our veterans. We thank you for your faithfulness, we thank you for your service. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts," she added. "Every day should be Veterans Day."

Westland Mayor William Wild told the audience that all veterans "deserve our praise and thanks for standing strong."

"We recognize, honor and applaud your bravery. You stand watch so we can sleep at night," he said.

Veterans Day was originally Armistice Day which recognized the end of World War II. The



Bugler Frank Wilson of American Legion Post 32 plays Taps as part of Westland's Veterans Day ceremony.

peace treaty was signed at 11 a.m. Nov. 11, 1918. Mehl told the crowd that this year's observance marks the first time that it is being celebrated without a living World War I veteran.

A member of the Westland Veterans Association, Marine Corps veteran Dwayne Walker had hoped the memorial would have been dedicated on Sunday.

"A lot of work has been put into this," he said. "We wanted to make as visible as possible, but I think wherever we build it, they'll come."

Westland City Council President James Godbout who helped turnover the ceremonial shovelful of dirt told the crowd "that



Joe Tebor, District 4 commander, Department of Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars 2009-2010, talks about the Veterans Memorial Garden of Westland. Behind him is an artist's rendering of the memorial and several of the granite pavers that will be used for the walkway.

this area will work best" for the memorial.

"When you see the design, when you see the size and the scope, you'll have a better understanding of what it looks like and why we picked this as the best location," he said.

The memorial gardens will be built in a figure 8 style with 12 panels and 12 coves. There also will be a special cove to remember prisoners of war and those missing in action which visitors will not be able to enter "out of respect for those soldiers."

"They will be able to see inside," said Mehl.

Mehl said the ceremony was held to let residents know "that this is going to happen."

"We've gotten some calls questioned whether it's going to happen and today shows that it will,"

he said. "We want people to trust us, this is going to happen."

Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment, the city's engineering firm, came up with the new design for the memorial, which "is a good design, but is much more expensive," Mehl said. The veterans group has been fund raising through such things as the sale of CDs, mugs hats and shirts and an ongoing dine to donate at Buffalo Wild Wings. Residents also can purchase granite memorial pavers or benches at the center of the memorial and at the coves.

"It's going to take a lot of money, but this is a one of a kind," he added. "This is going to be incredible."

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TRIAL

Continued from page A1

deep tissue bleeding in his arms and neck muscles, broken ribs and bleeding in his chest cavity.

The autopsy found Kayden had bruises and fingernail abrasions on his face that would be consistent with an adult hand being placed over his mouth and nose, suffocating him.

Brandon and Roberts told police that they would place a hand over the face of Kayden, as well as his twin Cameron,

on, when the baby cried. Once the baby crying stopped, the couple told police Brandon would bite the baby to startle it into breathing again.

Other injuries, including internal injuries and broken ribs, were consistent with a police statement indicating Brandon would squeeze the crying baby to his chest to quiet him.

The pair also are charged with abusing Cameron, who suffered a broken femur. He was placed with family members after his brother's death.

rogers@hometownlife.com (313) 222-5428

DISTRICT

Continued from page A1

plex. It will be a very nice development in this corridor and in the area."

Using Motorwala's property as an example for an abatement under the commercial rehabilitation district, Hadyniak said the fire damage will have reduced his property value by some percentage.

If Motorwala applies for an abatement, whatever the value of the property is on Dec. 31 would be frozen and property tax increases due to improvements of the property would be abated going forward for up to 12 years — council members would establish the length of the abatement.

New development, rather than rehabilitation, falls under a different provision and could receive a 50 percent tax reduction for up to 12 years, Hadyniak said.

There has been some development along Wayne Road, such as the new Country Kitchen restaurant which is awaiting a liquor license, said Economic Development

Director Lori Fodale. But the long-closed Leright restaurant was purchased but the new owner hasn't had the money to go forward with redevelopment, she said.

"There is opportunity for redevelopment in this district," Fodale said. "This would give me the ability to go and talk to the property owners about putting together a project for a tax abatement."

The council would need to set a policy regarding abatements, said Fausone.

"If there is a request, the city has to decide how far to go stacking incentives," he said. "I assume it would be tie-barred on the assessed value and the project."

For example, if a project was only investing 10-20 percent improvement of the property it might only warrant a one- or two-year abatement, Fausone said.

The council is expected to consider establishing a commercial rehabilitation district at the council meeting following the Nov. 19 public hearing.

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IN BRIEF

Underwood ticket contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two tickets to see Carrie Underwood in concert at the Palace Nov. 25. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five

chances to win, if they also enter the contest.

To enter, go to our web site, Hometownlife.com and look on the right-hand side for a picture of Carrie Underwood in the Don't Miss module. Fill out a short form and you are entered for a chance to win.

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GC thespians bring holiday classic to life on stage

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Tough economic times have people's spirits down. The lack of jobs and financial distress led Denise Shimskey to pick a play that reminds people of the most important aspects of Christmas, Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

The drama teacher at Garden City High School, Shimskey and her students are rehearsing the Romulus Linney adaptation of the classic in which the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future rekindle the spirit in Ebenezer Scrooge.

"Health, family, friends and giving, they're all the most important aspects of life," said Shimskey. "We can lose them because we get bogged down by negative circumstances."

The play will be presented at 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 6-8, and at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 8-9. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased through the online



Andrew Barikmo (from left), Michael Brown and Olivia Ruonavaara-Ingram rehearse a scene from "A Christmas Carol."

box office at www.gardencityschools.com. Follow the link to *A Christmas Carol*. They also can be purchased at the O'Leary Auditorium box office 2:30-4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26, Thursday, No. 29, and Monday, Dec. 3 and 5. The box office also will

be open one hour before show time.

The play is being presented later than normal because of the Christmas theme.

"We didn't want to do it before Thanksgiving, we wanted to do it during the season," said Shims-

key. "We want families to come and kick off their holiday season with the show."

In addition to the high school students, the cast includes 12 adult staffers who are carolers and five students from Farmington and Douglas Element-



Also appearing in the production are Bailey Merritt, Selena Muscat, Zachary Zimmerman and Chelsea Coatsworth.

tary Schools.

The stage set also will be "amazing," according to Shimskey who is renting as professional snow machine so that it is snowing on stage for the production. The stage will be transformed into an old-fashioned village. Retired teacher Cathie Sallack is making costumes for the production.

"She gets her friends together to work on them, she's been making costumes for me for years,"

said Shimskey who is stressing the play is for the whole family, pointing out that its run time is just 90 minutes long.

"It moves really fast," she said. My goal is to lift the community's spirit — the school community as well as the city — because things are bah-humbug right now. I want people to come and rekindle their spirits."

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Annual parades welcome Santa Claus to town

Santa is coming to town! The Jolly Old Elf will be making his grand entry into the City of Wayne as the guest of honor for Holiday Parade which kicks off at 10 a.m.

The parade will travel west on Glenwood to Wayne Road and then south on Wayne Road to Michigan Avenue before heading to the State Wayne Theater where children will have a

chance to talk with Santa in the theater lobby. Popcorn and drinks will be provided.

The family friendly parade is sponsored by the Wayne Rotary Club. For more information, call (734) 502-3202.

Santa also will be welcomed to Garden City during the Downtown Garden City Santaland Parade on Saturday, Nov. 24.

Now in its 52nd year, this Garden City classic steps off at 10 a.m. at Garden City High School on Middlebelt and heads to Ford Road before going east to the Town Center Plaza. This year's theme is "Rock and Roll Christmas," and the parade will include bands, inflatables, floats and marching units.

Kids also can meet Santa afterwards at Santaland, hosted by the Gar-

den City Downtown Development Authority.

For more information, call (734) 793-1882.

And the holiday season will arrive at historic Nankin Mills on Ann Arbor Trail at Hines Drive in Westland on Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Family Holiday Fest and Tree Lighting from 4 to 6 p.m.

The Friends of Nankin Mills and Wayne County Parks are inviting the

community to join them for an old-fashioned celebration. The first portion of the program features seasonal crafts to make and take home and unique seasonal games, such as fruitcake bowling, pin the nose on Rudolph and reindeer antler wreath toss. There is a \$4 per participant for crafts and games.

The second part of the program is free, and includes a short out-

door ceremony with the mill lighting and sing-along and an indoor visit from St. Nick, sponsored by the Friends of Nankin Mills. Refreshments will be provided. This is the 24th year the Friends have held the event. The crafts and games will be 4-5:15 p.m., Santa's visit and tree lighting will be 5:15-6 p.m. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

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Vandals target windows of vehicles on Gladys

Larceny from a vehicle

On Nov. 6, a resident in the 1200 block of Alvin told police that about 3:30 a.m. he noticed the dome light was on in his 2012 Chevrolet Colorado pickup truck.

Checking the vehicle, he said numerous hand tools, air tools and voltage meters, along with GPS unit, were missing. The stolen items were valued at \$1,500. There was no sign of forced entry although the owner told police he thought the vehicle had been left locked.

Vandalism

A Westland woman told police she parked outside Cooper School, 28550 Ann Arbor Trail, Nov. 6 and returned nearly 90 minutes later to find someone had shot the vehicle a BB/pellet gun. The 2000 Honda Accord had a pellet hole in the windshield and driver's door.

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 1800 block of Globe told police Nov. 6 that someone had entered his vehicle taking a GPS unit and a Maglite flashlight valued at \$200.

Vandalism

Residents on Gladys reported vandalism of vehicles.

• On Nov. 7, a resident in the 31000 block of Gladys told police

WESTLAND COP CALLS

that someone had broken the front passenger window on his work vehicle, a 2008 Ford Fusion, while it was parked in his driveway.

• Also on Nov. 7, a second resident in the 31000 block of Gladys reported that someone had broken the driver's door window and broken off the mirror on a 1990 Chevy Silverado pickup truck.

• The driver's side window was reported smashed on a 1995 Oldsmobile Cutlass Ciera parked in the 31000 block of Gladys Nov. 7.

Stolen vehicles

On Nov. 11, a resident in the 29000 block of Gladys told police that someone had stolen her 1999 Honda Civic from in front of her home. She said she had all the keys to the vehicle.

• A 2001 Dodge Intrepid was reported stolen from a home in the 7900 block of Gary. The owner, a Livonia man, told police he had the keys and locked the vehicle although officers found no broken glass in the driveway.

• Two residents of Holliday Park Cooperative in the 33000 block of Spring Valley Drive told police Nov. 12 they were watching a neighbor's unit and van while they were in Florida.

On Nov. 12, the pair told police they noticed the 2003 Chrysler Town

and Country had been stolen. They said they had the keys.

• On Nov. 12, a resident at Warris Farms Apartments, 37135 McKinney, reported a 2004 Dodge Stratus stolen. The owner said she had the keys to the vehicle and it was paid off.

Vandalism

A resident of an apartment at 265 S. Hubbard told police Nov. 7 that someone had damaged both front door locks and the steering column of his 1998 Chevrolet Cavalier.

• The steering column and ignition were reported damaged along with two windows being broken in an apparent attempt to steal a 2007 Jeep Liberty parked at the Venoy Pines Apartments, 7051 E. Bonnie Dr. The resident told police the vehicle belongs to his grandmother but he drives it regularly with her permission.

Larceny

A resident of the Landings Apartments, 6793 Lakeview, told police Nov. 11 that he left his bicycle outside the front door for a few minutes and returned to find that someone had stolen it. The bicycle was described as an old style black Schwinn with white trim, white wall tires and a luggage rack on the back. The bicycle was valued at \$160.

By LeAnne Rogers

Man finds someone using his info to fill tax returns

Break-in

Residents who share a home in the 6500 Block of Inkster Road reported that someone broke into their home sometime between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Nov. 6.

The police believe that the suspects entered through an unlocked back window. They forced open two bedroom doors which the residents typically keep locked, knocking them off their hinges and damaging both.

Most of the items stolen were taken from two bedrooms upstairs and a bedroom downstairs. The items included several TVs, a pair of Air Jordan shoes, a woman's watch, a diamond ring, a laptop computer and money.

Fraud

A man who lives in the 5000 block of Harrison and who admitted to police that he hasn't filed his own personal income taxes for about 10 years, said that he recently learned that someone has fraudulently been filing income tax returns by using his personal information.

The fraudulent returns were filed from 2004-2009 by someone in Florida.

The Garden City man told the police Nov. 6 that he knows that he owes the IRS money but he has just been lazy.

Stolen car

A Garden City Hospital employee discovered about 4 p.m. Nov. 8 that somebody stole her 2001 Dodge Intrepid from the employee parking lot at 6245 Inkster Road in Garden City.

She said that the car has been paid off for many years and she has the only set of keys. The employee described the

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

car as being in good condition with no damage.

Property damage

An Inkster woman reported at 7 p.m. Nov. 10 that her Plymouth minivan parked two spaces away from the emergency room entrance door at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, was damaged while she was in the hospital for just a short period of time.

The police reported that all of the tinted glass outside of the sliding door was laying on the ground when they arrived.

A hospital video didn't pick up the image of the vehicle which was parked at that location.

Property damage

A driver who just entered his Chrysler Town & Country station wagon about 6:31 p.m. Nov. 10 heard a loud noise in the 6200 block of Central.

He noticed that his windshield had a spiderwebbed crack caused by an unknown projectile.

Retail fraud

A man with many tattoos and who wore a hoodie distracted a CVS employee about 3:30 a.m. Nov. 7 and didn't pay for some items at the CVS store, 27435 Ford.

He started stacking items on the counter but told the clerk that he wasn't finished shopping yet.

The employee continued doing inventory and when he returned to the counter the man was gone as well as the unpaid merchandise.

The store video showed that the man stole plastic plates and bowls, toilet paper, a crock pot and a space heater.

Theft

A resident in the 300 block of Hubbard reported Nov. 7 that somebody stole the license plate from his vehicle.

Suspended license

When the police stopped a Westland man for driving with an improper plate, about 5:30 p.m. Nov. 7, the officer learned that the driver's license was suspended and he was arrested.

The driver said that he found an old license plate at his home and put it on the car.

• When the police pulled over a driver speeding in the Inkster Road and Florence area, the officer found that the driver had a suspended license.

Upon further investigation, the officer learned that the driver had outstanding warrants out of Kent County, Grand Rapids and Detroit.

• The police stopped a man on Merriman near Block who disregarded a red light at 10 a.m. Nov. 12. When checking his driving record, they learned that his license was revoked and denied indefinitely.

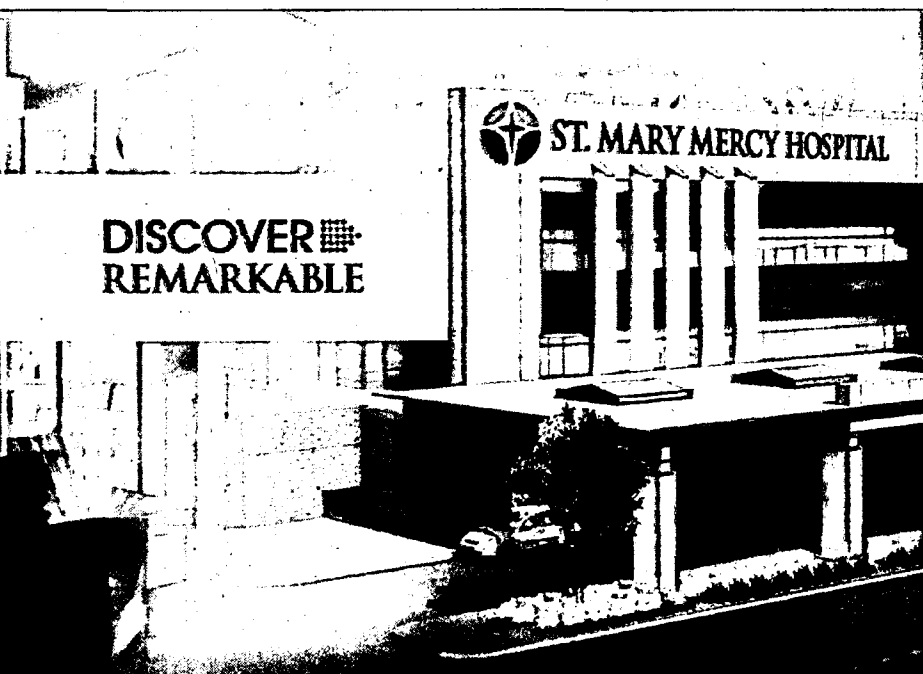
No license

The police responded to northbound Middlebelt and Ford at 4 a.m. Nov. 11 when a driver impeded traffic at the intersection.

The driver stopped his 2000 Ford Taurus beyond the stop line on the road and ended up caught in traffic with other drivers having to drive around his car.

The 19-year old driver was arrested because he never acquired a license. He also was ticketed for impeding traffic and for not wearing a seat belt.

By Sue Buck



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smmarymercy.org

DISCOVER
REMARKABLE

Trial set for man caught stealing parts from dead teen's car

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

One of two men charged with stealing parts from a car used by two Westland teens found fatally shot in Detroit has been scheduled for a Feb. 4 jury trial.

Along with larceny from a vehicle, Larry Videz Anderson, 41, is also charged with obstructing justice. The latter charge stems from allegations that the vehicle was cleaned with bleach after being stripped.

No one has been

charged in the murders of Jacob Kudla, 18, and Jourdan Bobbish, 17, who were found fatally shot July 27 on Detroit's east side several days after they were reported missing by their parents. The teens were last seen visiting a family member's home in Detroit.

Before the teens were located, police discovered Kudla's 2001 Chevrolet Cavalier parked behind an apartment building in the 8500 block of Beechwood in Detroit.

Anderson and Casey Jason Green, 39, were arrested inside the apart-

ment building. Green entered a guilty plea to the charges in September and is currently serving one year in the Wayne County Jail, to be followed by three years probation.

Anderson is free on \$15,000 cash/surety bond and required to wear a tether.

The pair were charged the day after Kudla and Bobbish were found dead. The car's stereo system had been removed and stolen.

lrogers@hometownlife.com
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AT-8780058

Time is flying, but you can still get a fresh turkey

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

If Thanksgiving crept up on you this year, there's no need to get in a flutter.

Local farms are still taking orders for fresh turkeys.

Customers can walk in and purchase oven-ready birds as late as Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving, as long as there are some left.

Fresh turkeys save time because they bake faster and don't take days to defrost.

Christine Roperti, owner of Roperti's Turkey Farm in Livonia, and Tom Toth, manager of Huron Turkey Farm in Romulus, said some customers were caught off-guard this year by how fast Thanksgiving came.

Thanksgiving is the earliest it can possibly be this year.

Officially designated as the fourth Thursday of November since 1941, the national holiday can vary from Nov. 22 to Nov. 29.

"I think a lot of people don't realize it's already here," Toth said. "We're just getting over Halloween."

And the election.

Roperti said personal orders were down 14 percent and business orders were down 28 percent before rebounding after the election.

Roperti said they joked at her farm that the toms were the blues and the hens were the reds because of the colors of their heads.

"They're for America," she said. "Ben Franklin wanted them to be the national bird."

Franklin argued that the turkey, although "vain and silly," was a better choice than the bald eagle, which he thought cowardly, according to the reference site info-please.org.

Turkeys aren't specified as being on the menu that first Thanksgiving in 1621. Pilgrim Edward Winslow's writings note "fowl."

Yet today, more than 45 million turkeys are cooked and eaten in the United States at Thanksgiving — that's one-sixth of all turkeys sold in the U.S. each year, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Roperti's sells about 4,000 turkeys each year, and Huron Turkey Farm sells about 2,200.

Both have been in business for decades, Roperti's since 1948 and Huron

FRESH TURKEY FARMS

Roperti's Turkey Farm
34700 Five Mile, Livonia
(734) 464-6546
Huron Turkey Farm
18910 Merriman, Romulus
(734) 753-9187

Turkey since 1963.

Fresh turkeys cost more than frozen — Roperti's charges \$3.39 a pound, Huron Turkey, \$3.18 a pound.

"People don't mind spending that money once a year," Toth said, when they can taste a difference.

Roperti said people want a moist and tasty turkey. She feeds her birds a mix of corn, oats and wheat, which gives them their flavor. "I'm a small farmer," she said. "I can afford to feed them the very best. I don't raise hundreds of thousands of turkeys."

The turkeys are free-range, roaming the five-acre farm on Five Mile.

Toth feeds his birds corn and water. "There's no preservatives, no chemicals, no medications. They're the cleanest purest organic turkeys money can buy," he said.

Turkeys at Roperti's and Huron Turkey Farm are processed the day before they're picked up.

People think they're getting a fresh turkey when they buy Amish birds, Toth said, but they're trucked in from Indiana. "Before you get the bird in the oven, it's been on ice 10 days," Toth said. "I think the Amish (turkey) is nothing to brag about."

Nancy Provan of Grosse Ile brags about Huron Turkey Farm and the turkeys she has been buying there for 40 years. "They're just delicious," she said, adding the breast meat is moist, never dry, and the birds cook faster being fresh.

She said the customer service she gets at Huron Turkey Farm is great and "everything about the place is immaculate."

"I wouldn't think of going to a store," she said.

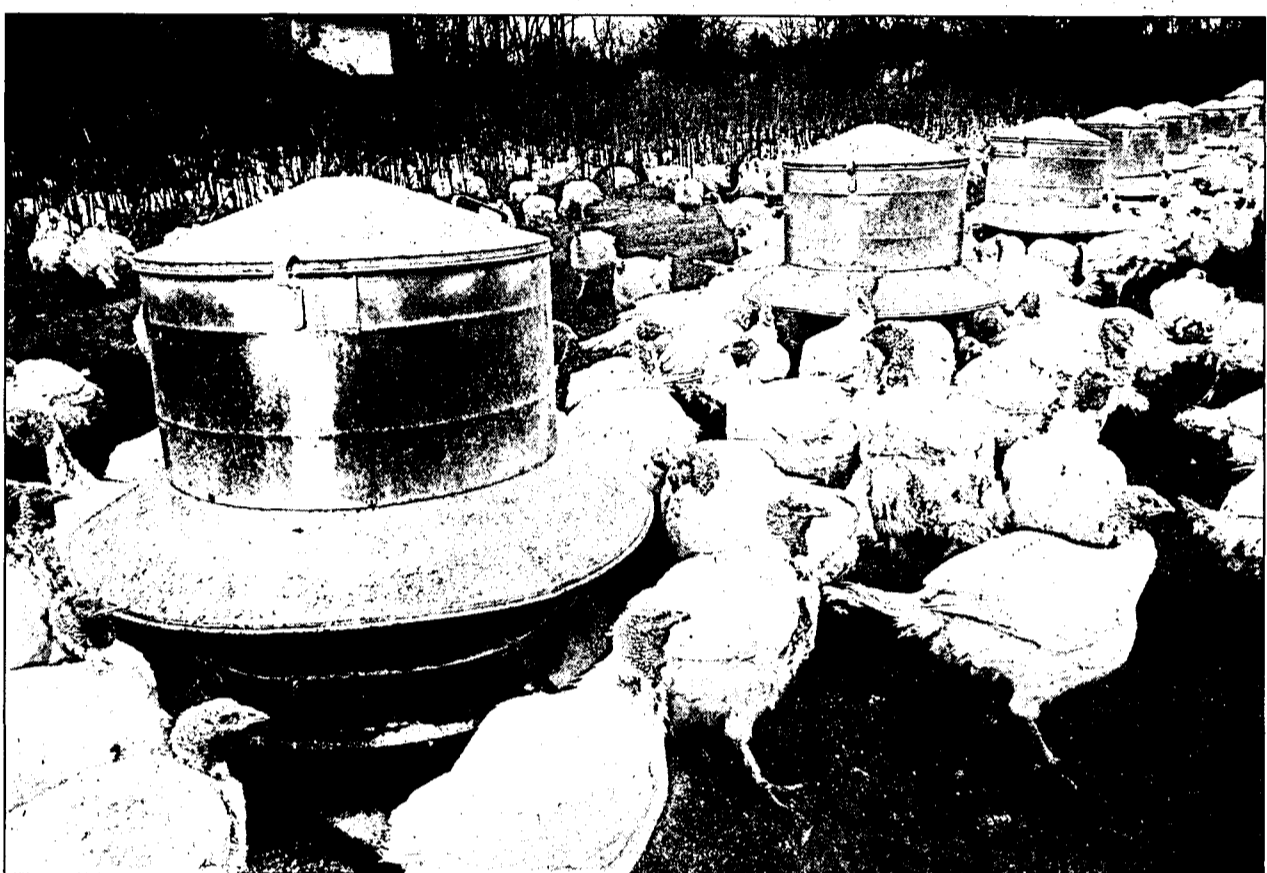
Neither would Rosemary Richmond of Dearborn, whose family has been buying turkeys at Roperti's for as long as she can remember.

"My mother told me years ago, there's nothing like a fresh turkey. She was raised on a farm." Richmond said her



Christine Roperti looks over her flock of gobblers.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Turkeys gather around the corn feeders. In spring, corn is planted in the turkey lot.

mother used to get her turkeys from Roperti's and now she does.

"I think that they are absolutely awesome," she said, adding fresh birds are juicier and more tender. "I take people there who used to get frozen; they can't believe the difference."

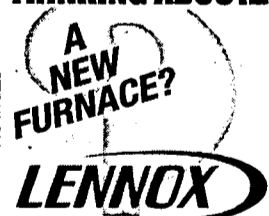
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St. Mary's hosts anniversary concert

St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne continues its year-long celebration of the 150th anniversary with a concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18.

The concert will feature the Novi Concert Band and be held at the church at 34530 Michigan Ave. It continues a year-long celebration of the church's founding in 1862.

The band will perform a selection of great American music. The St. Mary Adult Choir, under the direction of Dr. Richard Schneider, will accompany the band in singing the inspirational and patriotic song, *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*, composed in 1862, the year that St. Mary became an official parish of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

The Novi Concert Band, under the direction of Mr. Scott Cramer, John Glenn High School

instrumental music director, is a symphonic, wind ensemble comprised of an all-volunteer group of instrumental musicians from the southeast Oakland County and western Wayne County area. The city of Novi Parks and Recreation Department formed the band in 1982 to provide adults having a musical background with the opportunity to participate in musical performances throughout the southeastern Michigan area.

The concert is free and open to all parishioners, guests and friends of the parish. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. A free-will offering will be taken at the event, and light refreshments will follow the performance.

To learn more about St. Mary Parish go online to www.stmarywayne.org.

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For the location nearest you, call 1-888-889-EYES

Iconic State-Wayne Theater gets a digital upgrade

Built in 1946 – and after serving millions of movie-goers in Wayne County with an old-fashioned charm – the State Wayne movie theatre has undergone a 21st century face-lift.

A grand re-opening and film-cutting ceremony at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, will officially reveal the new State Wayne Digital Theatre at the conclusion of the annual Wayne Holiday Parade on Michigan Avenue.

The public is invited to come inside and tour the newly renovated theatre and get a behind the scenes look at the latest in digital projection technology.

The open house will include a chance for children to personally meet with Santa Claus and get their wish lists in early, and see "Puff" the infamous State-Wayne Dragon.

The open house also includes a tour of the film projection rooms. Regular movie schedules will commence at about noon.

"I have a great love for the classic movie theatres across America and the State-Wayne is one of the finest in Michigan, a real gem right here in our own backyard," said Cory Jacobson, owner of Michigan-based Phoenix Theatres and a life-long movie theatre operator. "Our work here maintains the iconic environment movie-goers have enjoyed at State Wayne since the



More than 530 lights and the electronics have been restored on the State Wayne Theater's wrap-around marquee. In all, there are 1,152 lamps, 550 which stay lit and 602 on a "chaser" to light up the downtown streetscape.

1940s, and we have completely upgraded all of projection systems to provide the highest quality digital movie presentation available."

State Wayne Phoenix Theatres marches into its seventh decade of operation with new Christie Digital Projectors and Dolby's latest 7.1 Digital sound systems, new QSC speakers and amplification – all run from GDC computer servers. New, larger screens have been installed and for the very first time RealD XL 3-D will be presented. Gone are the days of splicing together miles of 35mm

film and the concern of scratches effecting a quality presentation for viewers.

"This is a huge win for movie goers in the Wayne community," said Jacobson. "While many of us grew up on the original 35mm film versions of movies at State Wayne and other movie houses, in my three decades of theater management, I can honestly say today's new digital presentation cannot be beat. It is so superior in sound clarity and detailed visual precision that I wouldn't want to see a movie any other way. The sound is crisp

and the picture is superb. Whether it is the 1st-performance or 10,000th showing, it is simply a perfect presentation every time."

Phoenix Theatres has also updated the lobby with better lighting, an updated menu of concession stand food and beverages, including its innovative self-serve theater drink station, and Phoenix's creation of buying movie tickets in the same line as concessions. Additionally, the classic, hand-painted murals on the lobby walls and theatre hallways have been touched up; new carpet has been

installed and fresh paint colors have been added throughout the theatre. On-Line movies tickets are now available for the first time at www.MovieTickets.com and www.PhoenixMovies.net.

Like many of the theatre counterparts of its day in the '40s, the State Wayne created a wrap-around marquee. The sign gives the theatre its personality with exactly 1,152 lamps – 550 which stay lit and 602 on a "chaser" to light up the downtown streetscape. Phoenix restored the sign to its former glory with 536 lamps replaced

and the electronics fully restored.

"Marquees, such as this classic, have gone dark over time, due to theatre closings, the widening of streets, and the like," Jacobson said. "The State Wayne is one of the few such surviving marquees in Michigan, and the wrap-around configuration across the front and side of the theatre is pretty unique anywhere in the country."

"This was a project I wanted to take on from the minute I saw that colossal marquee. It just feels right to help preserve this historic theatre and to keep making movie-going memories in the community for customers of all ages for years to come."

The City of Wayne retains ownership but has signed Phoenix Theatres to manage on a long-term contract. Phoenix Theatres helped forge a relationship between the City and the film studios for the latter to reimburse a large portion of the digital cinema experience.

The grand reopening also coincides with the Hollywood release of *Twilight: Breaking Dawn 2*. Following a Phoenix Theatre tradition, a *Twilight* movie marathon will begin at 7:45 p.m. on Nov. 15. State Wayne Phoenix Theatres will show *Breaking Dawn Part 1*, followed by the *Breaking Dawn 2* premier at 10 p.m.

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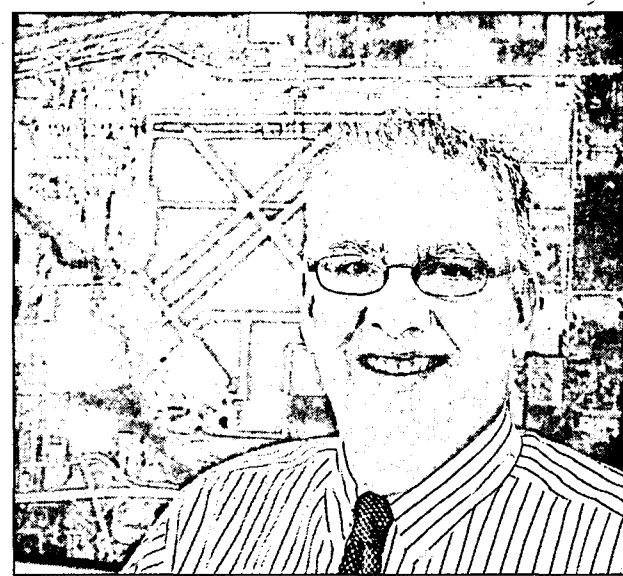


Willow Run Airport head earns AAAE distinction

The director of Willow Run Airport for the Wayne County Airport Authority has been honored American Association of Airport Executives.

Sean P. Brosnan has been awarded the distinction of Accredited Airport Executive by the AAAE. To qualify for his distinction, Brosnan had to successfully complete three phases of the accreditation process: pass a 180-item multiple-choice examination, fulfill a writing requirement and demonstrate, in the final interview by a panel of the AAAE, his knowledge of airport management, business administration and general transportation economics.

Brosnan's achievement attests to his ability to meet these stringent requirements and his experience in managing a public airport. By fulfilling all the requirements, he joins a select group of individuals who have earned the designation



Sean P. Brosnan is the director of Willow Run Airport for the Wayne County Airport Authority.

in the nearly six decades of the accreditation program's existence. At present, fewer than 10 percent of AAAE's members throughout the country have earned the distinction.

Founded in 1928, AAAE is the world's largest professional organization representing the men and women who

work at public-use commercial and general aviation airports. AAAE's 5,000-plus members represent some 850 airports and hundreds of companies and organizations that support the airport industry.

For more information about the AAAE, visit its website at www.aaae.org.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

National certification

Sharon's Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc., a business specializing in residential and commercial heating and cooling, received national certification as a Women's Business Enterprise by the Women's Business Enterprise Council – Great Lakes, a regional certifying partner of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council.

WBENC's national standard of certification is a meticulous process including an in-depth review of the business and site inspection. The certification process is designed to confirm the business is at least 51 percent owned, operated and controlled by a woman or women.

The Women's Business Enterprise National Council is the nation's largest third party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women in the United States. WBENC is a resource for the more than 700 U.S. companies and government agencies that rely on WBENC's certification as an integral part of their supplier diversity programs.

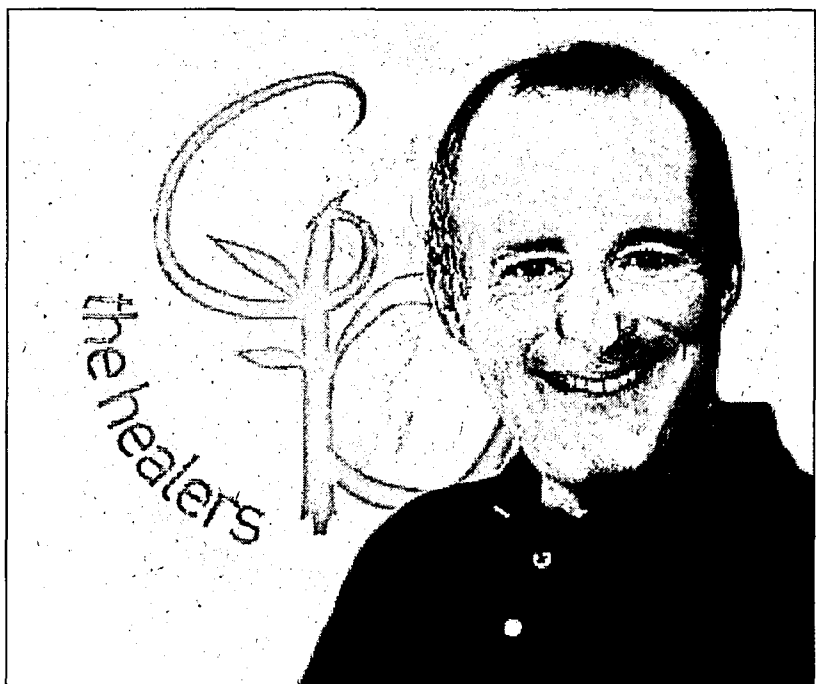
By including women-owned businesses among their vendors, corporations, and government agencies demonstrate their commitment to fostering diversity and the continued development of their supplier/vendor diversity programs.

The company's growth in Michigan's struggling economy is a testament to its versatility and diversity in the indus-

try. The company has made great strides since the early days of fabricating duct work in Sharon's garage to the present-day plasma metal-cutting equipment in a 10,000 square-foot building.

The industry has seen fundamental changes with regard to technology, safety issues, energy conservation, and indoor air quality, all of which the company has embraced. From project management to quality installation, Sharon's works hard to understand the needs of each contractor and customer to ensure that they receive the full benefit of their expertise.

To learn more about Sharon's Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc., go to www.sharonsheatingandairconditioning.com.



A benefit concert is being held in Westland for former Plymouth resident Dr. Craig Oster, an 18-year survivor of ALS.

Benefit concert to help 18-year ALS survivor

Friends and supporters of Dr. Craig Oster are putting out the call for people to attend a benefit concert being held this weekend in Westland.

The sixth annual benefit concert for Dr. Craig will be held 4-9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, at Bumpers Bar and Grill, 8631 Newburgh, just south of Joy Road. The event will help raise money to cover health expenses related to caregiving for Oster, a former Plymouth resident, who has Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, better known as "Lou Gehrig's disease."

The benefit will feature music by the Flying Crowbars with special guests Paul Wiley and Joe LaBeau, food, auction and raffles and a preview of Oster's video, "The Healers." Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Advanced tickets are available online at healingwithdracraig.com/donate/.

"The four-hour celebration party ought to be a fantastic time with first rate Detroit musicians performing," said Oster. "I am prayerful that the event will raise enough money for my special needs trust to meet my basic needs for a good number of months."

Oster is an 18-year survivor of ALS. He was diagnosed with the disease in 1994 at the age of

30. ALS is a degenerative neuromuscular disease in which the body slowly loses all muscle function until the person afflicted becomes completely muscularly paralyzed, yet is still able to see and hear. Failure of the respiratory muscles is usually the cause of death.

Most people affected with ALS die within three-five years after receiving the diagnosis. Not so with Oster who works out in a rehab gym three times weekly, is organizing a national holistic health campaign, working with Hollywood producers to develop a holistic healing television series, inspiring people daily on YouTube, Facebook and Twitter and preparing to conduct scientific research with ALS patients.

He entered hospice in late 2008, after he had lost over 45 pounds of muscle and was requiring breathing machines to make it through the night. When the hospice physician encouraged him to try morphine to lessen the sensation of suffocation, Oster told the physician that he had the vision of improving, being discharged from hospice, and becoming their living legend. He did and was "kicked out" of hospice on May 30, 2009.

The benefit will help pay for the 24/7 caregiving he requires as

well as health expenses which are not covered by insurance. Every year he needs to raise about \$1,500 for every month to remain out of a Medicaid nursing home.

"My goal is to use my life as an 18-year ALS survivor to inspire great numbers of people, advance ALS holistic scientific research, and to earn enough money to support myself with all of my 24/7 caregiving and other health expenses," said Oster. "I am prayerful that the event will raise enough money for my special needs trust to meet my basic needs for a good number of months."

Oster describes himself as a metaphorical turtle. He types on an online virtual keyboard with one finger. Sometimes, the pace is maddeningly and frustratingly slow, he said, adding that "my spirit felt more at home in the body of a marathon-running body builder."

"I feel that I must give everything I can to serve humanity, and, for the time being, to live my life as a single-legged turtle," he said.

People unable to attend the event can make a donation online at www.healingwithdracraig.com, or mail them to The Craig Oster Trust, P.O. Box 1259, Grand Rapids, MI, 49501-1259.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Cookie Walk

The First United Methodist Church will hold a Cookies Walk and Crafts 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 8, at the church, 6443 Merriman Road, Garden City.

A variety of homemade cookies, candies and breads will be for sale along with homemade crafts. The event is sponsored by the women of the church.

For more information, call (734) 421-8628.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Will you be alone on Thanksgiving Day? If so, join others for dinner at St. Mel's Church, 7506 Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights. There is no charge, but reservations are required due to limited seating. Doors open at noon, and dinner is served at 1 p.m. For reservations, call the parish office at (313) 274-0684, Ext. 26.

Financial aid

Parents and students who are thinking about college or are in the process of applying for college can get help at a College Financial Aid Night being held at Garden City High School Tuesday, Nov. 13.

The program will start at 6:30 p.m. and provide information on such things as the elements of financial aid, free application for federal student aid (FAFSA), including how to receive personal assistance when completing the application, recommended financial aid resources and the next

steps in securing financial assistance.

Garden City High School is at 6500 Middlebelt, north of Ford Road. For more information, call the high school at (734) 762-8350.

Healing Hearts

Do you have a loved one in prison?

Know that you are not alone. Confidential support group meetings are held at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland, 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The meetings are free.

For more information contact Bonnie at Hope 4 Healing Hearts at (734) 646-2237.

Tutoring

Members of the Key Club are once again offering tutoring 3:30-4:40 p.m. Wednesdays.

Any middle school and elementary students can get some much-needed help with their studies at tutoring, offered 3:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday in Room 118 at Garden City High School, 6500 Middlebelt.

For more information, contact Myrna Hathaway at the high school at (734) 762-8350 or at hathawm@gardencityschools.com.

Cougars Cafe

The Garden City Public Schools holds its monthly the Cougars Care Cafe on Saturdays at Henry Ruff School. Upcoming cafe dates are Nov. 17, Dec. 15, Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, April 20 and May 18.

The free hot lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1

p.m. in the gymnasium of the school, located at 30300 Maplewood at Henry Ruff. The goal is to serve to serve a hot lunch once a month throughout the 2012-13 school year.

For more information or to donate, call Dorothy Wood at (734) 762-6311.

District hours

Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb, D-District 9, has announced her office hours beginning this September in the communities of Garden City, Dearborn Heights and Redford Township.

Webb's office hours during this period will be as follows:

- The second Monday of each month in Garden City at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, at 10 a.m.

- The third Monday of each month in Dearborn Heights at the Berwyn Senior Center, 26155 Richardson Road, at 10 a.m. Office hours at the Eton Center, 4900 Pardee, are by appointment only. Call to schedule a meeting.

- The fourth Monday of each month in Redford Township at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, at 10 a.m.

The hours are scheduled to provide constituents the opportunity to discuss important issues and express concerns in a comfortable setting with Webb.

For residents who are unable to attend daytime office hours, Webb will host evening hours by appointment only. Call (313) 224-0930 to reserve an evening hour meeting.

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 24 11/5/12

Presiding: President Godbout
 Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer, Reeves
 236: Appr.: minutes of regular meeting held 10/15/12.
 - Req. from Westland Fest. Cmte. to hold summer fest. on City Hall grounds & surrounding area from 7/2/13 thru 7-7-12 w/ fireworks 7-7-13.
 - Car Cruise on 7/13.
 - SA "Ring the Bell" on 12/8, 12/15, 11/24 & 12/22 at various intersections.
 - Placement of board-up fees on 2012 winter tax bills.
 - Bid for PD roof repairs to Schena Roofing, amt \$37,745.00.
 - Bid for PD body armor to CMP Distributors, amt. \$27,549.48.
 - Intro Ord. 258 regarding non-residential fire inspections & certification of private fire inspections.
 - Adopted Veteran's Memorial Garden Resolution.
 - Adopted Prep Res. for NSP acquisition-32245-47 Hillsdale.
 - Adopted Prep Res. for NSP acquisition-29074 Brody.
 - Proclaimed 11/11/12-11/17/12 as "Elevator/Escalator Safety Awareness Week".
 239: Approved LOA btwn. Westland & Wayne Firefighters w/amendments.
 240: Appr. closed study session immediately after meeting re. litigation matters.
 241: Appr. closed study session immediately following meeting re. purchase or lease of real property.
 242: Sets 11/19/12 as public hearing date for creating a commercial redevelopment district.
 243: Conf. re-appt. of S. Traver to DDA for 4 yr. term to exp. 11/15/16.
 244: Conf. re-appt. of M. Diehl to EDC/TIFA for 4 yr. term to exp. 11/15/16.
 245: Conf. re-appt. of W. Ziemba to EDC/TIFA for 4 yr. term to exp. 11/15/16.
 246: Conf. re-appt. of S. Catalla to EDC/TIFA to fill unexp. term to exp. 1/22/14.
 247: Appr. checklist: \$1,131,249.04 & Prepaid: \$1,623,662.98.
 Mtg. adj. at 8:19 p.m.
 Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
 Council President

Eileen DeHart
 City Clerk, CMC

Publish: November 15, 2012

AT8790841 3x6

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On November 20, 2012, the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1995	FORD	ESCORT	GREEN	1FASP11J9SW154763
2001	LINCOLN	TOWN CAR	WHITE	1LNHM81W61Y629351
1999	FORD	ESCORT	GREEN	1FAFP13P7XW168266
2001	MERCURY	SABLE	SILVER	1MEFM53U61G648119
2004	CHEVROLET	BLAZER	GOLD	1GNNDT13X14K146531
2010	CHRYSLER	SEBRING	SILVER	1C3CC4FB9AN214109
1999	MERCURY	COUGAR	BLACK	1ZWFT61L3X5672895
1994	CHEVROLET	CORVETTE	BLUE	1G1YY22P2R5119226
1996	CHRYSLER	CIRRUS	WHITE	1C3EJ56X9TN254659
1990	CHEVROLET	LUMINA	SILVER	1GNCU06D5LT119961
1996	GEO	PRIZM	TAN	1Y1SK5262Z060536
1997	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	RED	1G2WJ52K8VF254893
1997	MERCURY	SABLE	TAN	1MELM50U5VA649357
1994	LINCOLN	TOWN CAR	GREEN	1LNLM81W9Y781128
1999	FORD	WINDSTAR	BURG	2FMZA524XXBB21981
2000	JEEP	CHEROKEE	SILVER	1J4FF48SXYL209868

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after December 20, 2012 unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time.

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1984	PONTIAC	FIREBIRD	RED	1G2AS8718EL233114
2004	DODGE	RAM	BURGUNDY	1D7HA18N54J131808
1997	FORD	RANGER	RED	1FTCR10A6VTA30708
1989	CHEVROLET	BERETTA	BLACK	1G1LW14W0KE229244
1997	BUICK	LESABRE	TAN	1G4HP52K2VH447749

Publish: November 15, 2012

AT8790781 3x6.6

ORDINANCE NO. 251-A-1

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 54, ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 54-83, 54-84, AND 54-86(b) OF THE WESTLAND CITY CODE TO AMEND THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED TO THE DISABILITY CONCERNS COMMITTEE.

Section 1. That Chapter 54, Article IV, Section 54-83 of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to provide as follows:

"Sec. 54-83. - Creation and membership.

There is created in the office of the mayor a committee on disability concerns. It shall consist of a maximum of seven members and a minimum of three members, who shall serve without compensation, be appointed by the mayor in accordance with Chapter V, Section 2 of the City Charter, and shall serve at his or her pleasure. At least two of the members shall be persons with disabilities covered by the Americans With Disabilities Act."

Section 2. That Chapter 54, Article IV, Section 54-84 of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to provide as follows:

"Sec. 54-84. - Term of Office.

Existing members shall continue for the remainder of their current term. Additional members may be appointed for a term of three years. Thereafter, each appointment to the committee shall be for a term of three years. In the event of a vacancy on the committee, a successor may be appointed to fill the vacancy in accordance with the Westland City Charter."

Section 3. That Chapter 54, Article IV, Section 54-86(b) of the Westland City Code is hereby amended to provide as follows:

"Sec. 54-86. - Meetings.

(b) Special meetings shall be called by the chair, or in his or her absence by the vice-chair, or upon the written request of a majority of the committee members. All such requests shall state the purpose or purposes for which such special meeting is to be called, and shall be filed with the secretary at least 24 hours before the time of the special meeting is called and authorized. Such request and call for a special meeting shall be read at the meeting and entered in the minutes, and no business shall be transacted except that state in the request for such special meeting."

Section 4. That all other provisions of Chapter 54, Article IV of the Westland City Code, including, without limitation, Sections 54-86(a), (c), and (d), shall remain in full force and effect.

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

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

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

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

Adopted: November 5, 2012
 Effective: November 15, 2012
 Publish: November 15, 2012

AT8790774 3x6

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

COOKIE WALKS

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 8

Location: First United Methodist Church of Wayne, 3 Town Square, across from the Wayne Office, Wayne

Details: Holiday cookies and candies, all home made. Cookies will be sold by the container, candies will be sold by the pound.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 721-4801.

Time/Date: a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 8

Location: First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman Road, Garden City

Details: The Cookies Walk and Crafts will feature a variety of homemade cookies, candies and breads along with homemade crafts. The event is sponsored by the women of the church.

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

CARDS FOR TROOPS

Time/Date: 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 23

Location: Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road, Westland

Details: The Westland Jaycees will be at Westland Mall, collecting Christmas cards for our troops. This is an annual project for the chapter which has been able to send about four care packages the past few years. Stop by their table and sign a card for the troops.

WCGH REUNION

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11



Scholarship competition

The Distinguished Young Women of Wayne Westland Scholarship Program will hold its annual competition at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, in the auditorium of John Glenn High School in Westland. This year 11 young women are competing in the program which has a theme of "Dancing in the Streets." Lauren Perry, the 2005 program winner, will serve as the host. "We have a great group of girls this year, and I'm very excited for the program," said Chidinma Ogbuaku, the program director. "The girls have worked hard since September and they have some really great talents to perform. It's going to be a great night." Tickets are \$10 and are available at the door. All proceeds go back into the program. For more information about the Distinguished Young Woman scholarship program, visit www.distinguishedydw.org.

Location: Café Marquette in the William D. Ford Technical Center, 36455 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Wayne County General Hospital employees will gather for their 28th annual holiday reunion. A luncheon buffet will be served starting at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$16 and includes beverage, dessert and tip. You can pay at the door.

Contact: For more information contact Kay Shafi at (734) 427-3437, or e-mail chknlit@wideopenwest.com, Dennis Abraham at (734) 721-2917 or e-mail fightingirish316@global.net or Pat Ibbotson at (734) 331-9291 or e-mail pibbotso@aol.com.

RAILROADIANA

Time/Date: noon-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25

Location: Ss. Simon and Jude Church Hall, 32500 Palmer, west of Merriman, Westland

Details: Ss. Simon and Jude Usher's Club will sponsor a Toys and Train Show in the church hall. Admission is \$2 per person, or \$4 per family. Food and beverages are available and parking is free. There will be approximately 130 dealer tables available at \$10 each. Dealer setup is at 9 a.m. on the day of the show.

Contact: To reserve a dealer table, call Norm at (734) 595-8327.

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18

Location: St. Kenneth Church, 14951 N. Haggerty Road in Plymouth

Details: Widowed men and women are invited to celebrate Mass followed by fellowship and refreshments. Join us in a safe and friendly setting at.

Contact: For more information, call Pat at (734) 895-6246.

HOLIDAY DINNER

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25

Location: Compari's, 350 S. Main St. in Plymouth

Details: Join Widowed Friends for a holiday celebration. Order from the menu, separate checks. A 20 percent gratuity will be included in the bill. Talk with Micki to reserve a spot, no answering machine reservations will be accepted. All calls will be returned. No walk-ins or late reservations. Afterwards the group will do "The Walk of the Trees" through Kellogg Park which is across from the restaurant.

Contact: Call Micki by Nov. 21 at (734) 455-0094

BURROUGHS OLD TIMERS

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. on the last Friday of the month.

Location: Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Rd.,

Plymouth

Details: Any former employees of Burroughs/Unisys are welcome to join us to socialize or renew acquaintances. There is no cost to join or to attend. A cash bar and a fish buffet is available but not mandatory.

Contact: John Kusch 734-751-9765 or kuschjt@yahoo.com

Volunteers

FIRST STEP

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

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

VNA HOSPICE

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

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

SEASONS HOSPICE

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

Contact: (800) 370-8592

LITERACY COUNCIL

Details: The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve

their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area.

Contact: (734) 416-4906

HEARTLAND HOSPICE

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

Contact: (888) 973-1145

SUPPORT GROUP

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

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland
Details: Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance is sponsoring a support group that provides support and guidance for families caring for an older person.

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

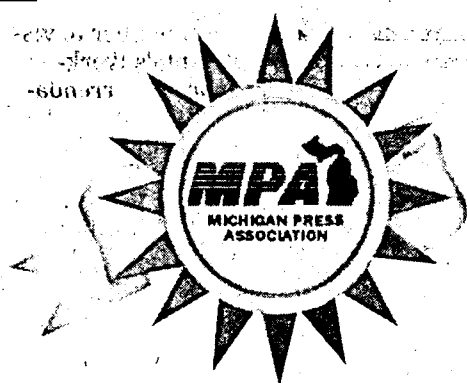
CAREGIVER SUPPORT

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

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland

Details: A support & education group for family caregivers is available for residents of southern and western Wayne County. The group, for people who are caring for family members 60 and older, or who are 60 years and older themselves, is offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance and funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

Contact: Call Helen Streett at (734) 629-5004 to confirm time and date, if attending for the first time.



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Best Ad Idea:

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3rd Place Livonia Observer

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1st Place South Oakland Eccentric
2nd Place Farmington Observer

News Enterprise Reporting

2nd Place Farmington Observer

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3rd Place Westland Observer

Feature Story

1st Place South Oakland Eccentric
2nd Place Garden City Observer
3rd Place Birmingham Eccentric

Editorial Writing

1st Place Plymouth Observer
2nd Place Birmingham Eccentric

Editorial Pages

2nd Place Livonia Observer
3rd Place Birmingham Eccentric
Honorable Mention Milford Times

Local Columnist

2nd Place Birmingham Eccentric
3rd Place Plymouth Observer

Feature Picture

1st Place Milford Times

Sports Picture

1st Place Milford Times
3rd Place Milford Times

Sports Feature

1st Place Canton Observer
3rd Place Canton Observer

Sports Coverage

1st Place Canton Observer
3rd Place South Oakland Eccentric

Special Section

2nd Place Livonia Observer "Livonia Spree"

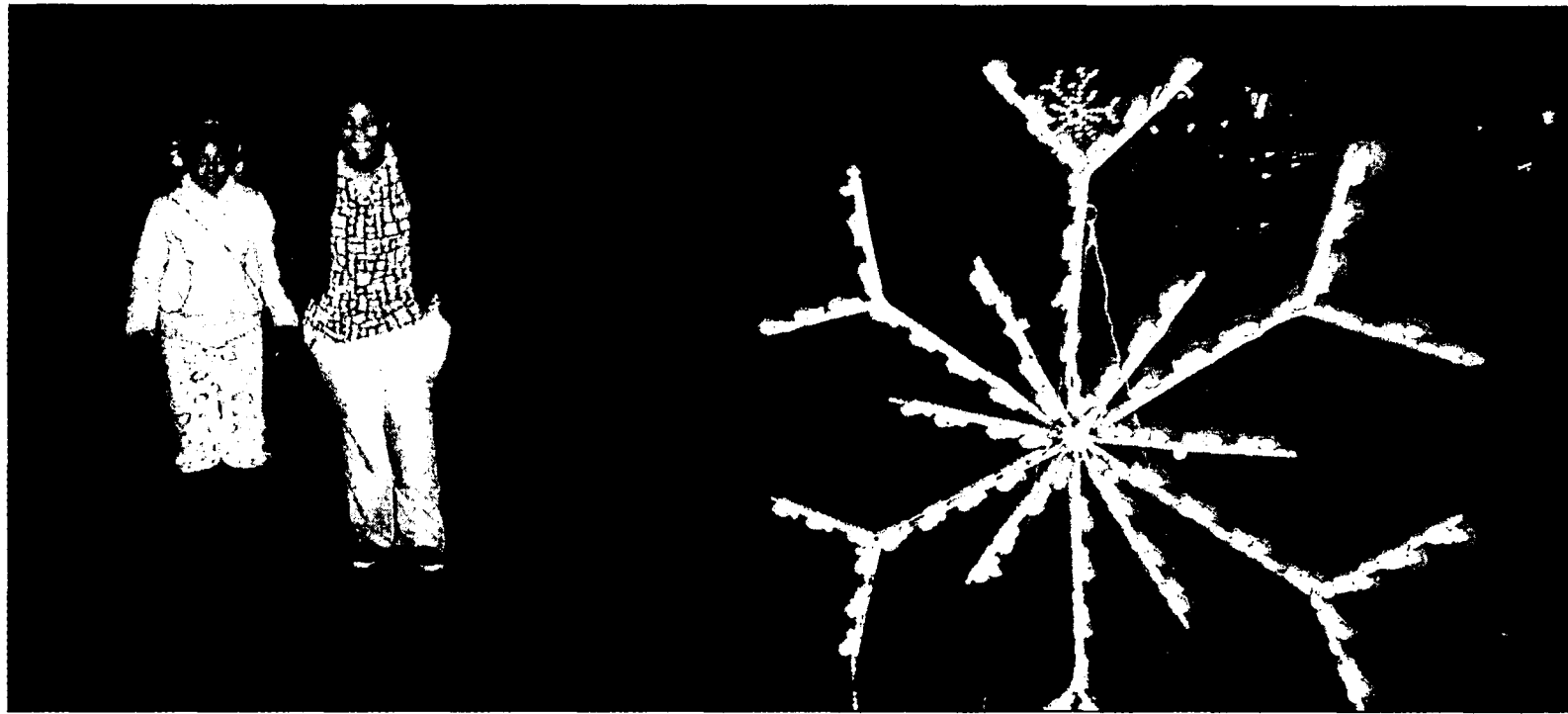
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Foot power: 1,200 take a run, walk through Lightfest



Westland residents Tanasia Scott and her mother Anille walk past one of many snowflakes that line the Lightfest route.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Light show opens with music and fireworks

The Wayne County Parks annual Lightfest kicks off with a bang this evening.

Opening ceremonies will be held at 6 p.m. on Hines Drive at Merriman Hollow Area in Westland. The traditional throwing of the switch to light up the display includes music, entertainment, light refreshments and fireworks.

The Midwest's largest and longest drive-through light show, Lightfest features more than 45 giant animated holiday-themed displays and more than one million lights. The display is open 7-10 p.m. now through Dec. 31. It's closed on Christmas Day. There is a \$5 fee per vehicle.

Tuesday, Dec. 4, 11 and 18, will be Toy Nights. Wayne County is committed to collecting and providing toys for children who are less fortunate. On these three nights, the community is invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the \$5 vehicle fee.

Remember to visit Santa's Workshop at Warrendale Park at the end of the Lightfest drive. Santa will be there starting Thanksgiving Day until Dec. 23. And don't forget to bring your letters to Santa.

Outside of Santa's workshop there is a giant mailbox where kids of all ages can drop off their letters to Santa. Although Lightfest begins at 7 p.m., Hines Drive will be closed to traffic beginning at 5:45 p.m. nightly. Visitors enter Wayne County Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman Road in Westland.

For more information on Wayne County Lightfest, call (734) 261-1990 or go online to www.waynecounty.com.



Southfield residents Angie Cavazos and husband Chris brought their dog Champagne.



Katelin Majeski of Plymouth, Samantha Bucher of Livonia, Tiffanie Barackman of Plymouth and daughter Carlee dressed festive for the pre-Lightfest event.

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

The runners and walkers were long gone when Tom Smith pulled up a chair beside the bonfire. The Westland resident had driven by and saw the pile of wood at Merriman Hollow in Hines Park and knew how it would be used.

"I'm here for the fire," said Smith. "I saw it and knew they were going to have a fire. They lit it up at 4 p.m. The fire is the best thing."

The fire pit was more than 6 feet across and provided warmth to some 1,200 runners and walkers who turned out for the annual 8K Fun Run/Walk, one of two pre-opening events for the 2012 Wayne County Lightfest.

Participants wearing glow-in-the-dark necklaces, twinkling lights and even jingle bells walked or ran or did anything in between through the 4 1/2-mile light show that stretches along Hines Drive from Merriman Road in Westland to Warrendale in Dearborn Heights.

It was Brenda Phare's second time doing the run. The Westland resident was in the park with her friends, Janá Seals of Dearborn Heights and Tiffany Gluski of Novi, who, she said, got her into it two years ago.

"It was the first time I'd ran a race, now I'm running a marathon,"

Phare said. "This is like the beginning of the season for us," said Gluski. "It puts us in the holiday spirit."

The trio estimates it takes them 40-50 minutes to complete the route. At Warrendale, participants board buses that brought them back to Merriman Hollow.

Some participants brought their children, pushing them in strollers, pulling them in wagons or carrying them in baby carriers like Laura Cain who had 3-month-old Nora in a carrier under her jacket and son Dylan, 3 1/2, and Ada, 2, in a stroller being pushed by her mother Debby Rabe of Gibraltar.

"It's my first time. I brought the kids because I thought they would like it," she said. "This is my third walk, and I did one ride," said Rabe. "I loved riding through the lights, but it's double because you have to go there and back."

The two women were joined by Michele Katz of Brighton, who was doing her second walk, and Jennine Kendzie of Livonia.

Kendzie pointed to



Bob Leathley and wife Carolyn of Livonia enjoy the bonfire in Hines Park's Merriman Hollow.

Rabe for the reason she was walking through the lights, adding that "I'm also just trying to be healthy."

Friends of Britta-

ny Howe of Commerce teased her about her delicate condition. Nine months pregnant and 13 days away from her due date — not that she's counting — she was heading out with Joni Rousseau of White Lake, Katie Hill of Commerce and Kelly and Steve Lauderdale of Northville.

"We come to see the lights," said Steve Lauderdale. "We've done it for five years. It's like a family tradition."

Mother Nature served up a cold, but dry evening for the event, something the group appreciated.

"This is nice this year, we've had some cruddy weather in the past," said Rousseau.

"And one year the bus didn't pick us up," added Hill.

Westland Civitan members Pat Quinn and

Marie Johnson were on hand to help register people and give out T-shirts. An estimated 400 participants registered at the race. Another 800 had preregistered.

"We've done this since 2003, and last year we even walked in it," said Quinn. "We've always done the run. It's fun and you get to see a lot of people."

"The bonfire is the best thing," added Johnson.

The second pre-opening event was a bike ride through the lights on Wednesday evening. Organizers expected 300-400 riders to participate.

For more information on Wayne County Lightfest, call (734) 261-1990 or go online to www.waynecounty.com.



Participants in the Wayne County Lightfest's annual 8K Fun Run/Walk stop at the start of the 4 1/2-mile light show to take a picture.



Livonia resident Amy Durand came dressed as Santa.

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751

OUR VIEWS

Goodfellows, Salvation Army need your help

For many people, being merry this season may mean a hot meal at the local soup kitchen or a warm place to sleep on a cold winter's night. For many, it's a fine line that separates them from being a have and a have not. They are struggling to make ends meet.

A protracted economic downturn, massive loss of jobs and a slow recovery has increased the number of families living in poverty. For these some families the happiness of Christmas is provided through the generosity of strangers. They are the people who buy Goodfellows newspapers, drop money into Salvation Army Red Kettles or unwrapped toys in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves Toys for Tot boxes.

For decades these nonprofits have been helping those in need. They rely on our support both financially and in donations of food, clothing and toys to help the less fortunate. And now is the time for us to open our hearts and our wallets to help them help the needy.

The Westland Goodfellows are soliciting donations from residents and businesses instead of the traditional newspaper sales. Another mainstay of fund-raising is an annual bowling event held by Westland Councilman Bill Johnson and his co-workers at UAW Local 900. The bowling event will be held Saturday, Dec. 8, at Wayne Bowl, 36900 Michigan Avenue, Wayne.

And in Wayne, residents can get in the holiday spirit and help needy families at the 26th annual Goodfellows Party Friday, Dec. 7, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis. Proceeds will benefit the Wayne Goodfellows' "No Child Without a Christmas Program."

If there's no room under the Christmas tree for that present, think about giving it to the Goodfellows or the Salvation Army. Instead of dropping \$10-\$20 on a quick dinner out, drop it in a Red Kettle or send it to the Goodfellows. Use a good deal on food at the grocery store to buy a few extra cans and donate them.

And consider volunteering — and while at it, have children do their part. Let them drop money in the Red Kettle. Let them select toys to drop in the Toys for Tot boxes and help pack boxes for delivery by the Goodfellows. It's an important lesson that they will keep for life. The gift is the generosity, a life skill that needs to be learned as a child. It is taught through example and experience.

With the need for assistance remaining high, we need to take that extra step and help. So be sure to make an extra purchase for those less fortunate. It isn't shiny and bright, but that generosity is a gift that's well worth giving.

Deer hunting opener tradition like no other

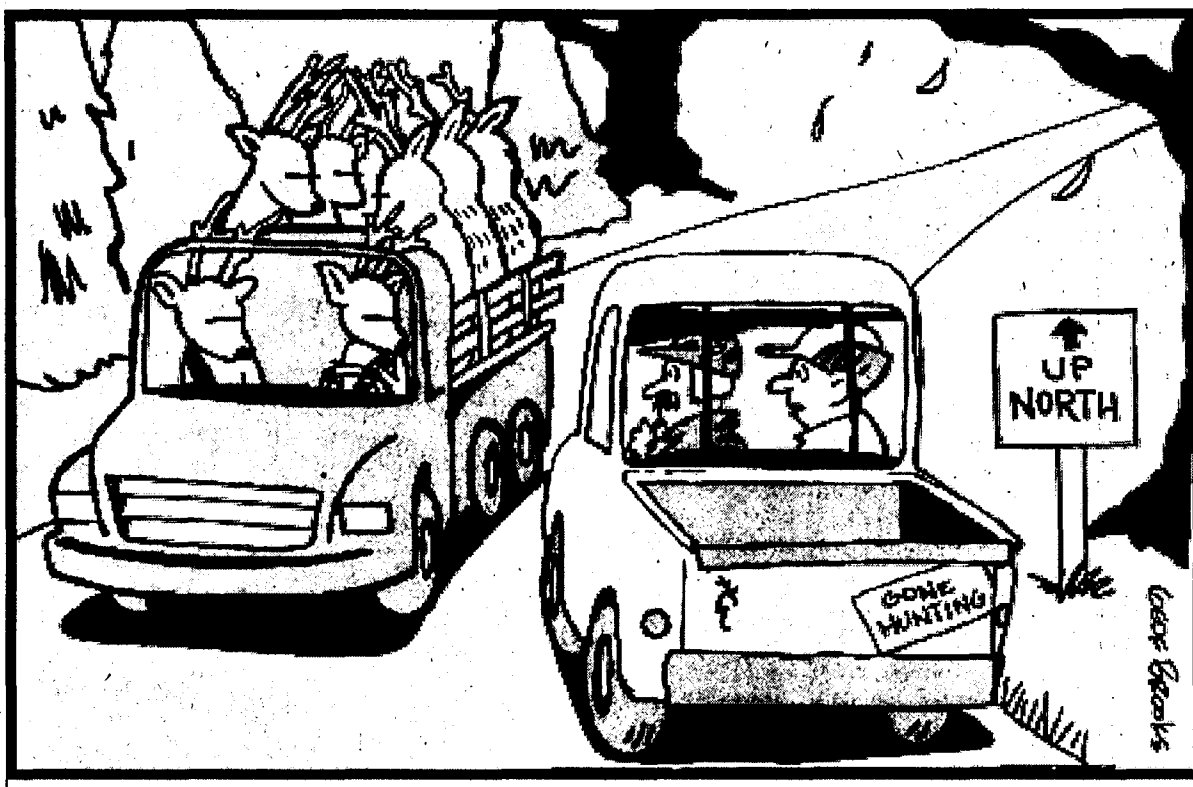
For many people in Michigan, today is an annual holiday like no other. It's not an official holiday, of course, but don't tell that to the people across the state who look just as much forward to the Nov. 15 traditional opener for firearms deer hunting season as children do to Christmas morning.

Beginning this morning at the crack of dawn, and over the course of the next couple weeks, more than a half million hunters will be hunkered down in the forests, swamps and farmlands across the state, with dreams of bagging a big buck. But that is not the only reason hunters from all walks of life look forward to deer hunting. Survey after survey have shown that hunters enjoy spending time with friends and family during their hunting trips, not to mention just getting outdoors and enjoying the state's natural beauty.

Deer hunting is particularly important to the rural areas of the state. In fact in many communities, schools are closed down for the day, and many businesses display "gone hunting" signs on their front doors as the proprietors have headed to "camp." It is also big business. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources estimates the more than 750,000 licensed hunters (including all hunters) ranks third in the nation. And they have a tremendous impact, adding \$1.3 billion annually to the state's economy. Of course hunters purchase hunting gear, but they also stay in motels, shop at stores and eat at restaurants while on their hunting trips.

Because of the mild winters we have experienced in recent years, wildlife biologists say deer numbers are up around the state.

We wish you all good luck, and hope you remember safety is the first priority out in the field. Happy hunting.



LETTERS

Thanks for support

Friends and supporters,
Most of you are already aware that I was not elected to keep my position on the Schoolcraft Board of Trustees in last Tuesday's historic election. I may have lost the election but because of your support I feel like I have emerged as a winner. You were involved in my campaign in so many ways and I will sincerely be forever thankful.

As I went about the tasks of putting up campaign signs or talking to voters or planning a mailing or any number of other things that candidates do, those tasks didn't seem so difficult or mundane for two very good reasons. First, I knew I had your support and that made all the difference in the world. And secondly, as a trustee I had the opportunity to ensure the highest quality educational experience for thousands of students at an affordable cost.

Schoolcraft is truly a gem in our community, doing amazing things in preparing students for meaningful, productive lives. Your support may have only been a few words of encouragement but that was important to me and I am sincerely grateful.

Now, let's briefly look at where we go from here. This set back is temporary and it certainly isn't the termination of anything. With your continued support, we will live to fight another day. I will continue to serve on the board through the end of the year. Then I will attend all future board meetings as "spectator," preparing for our next campaign encounter in the not too distant future. I will keep you abreast of the interesting things that occur, so stay tuned.

And once again my sincere thanks for your continued support.

John Elkins
Schoolcraft trustee

Help us give hope

As you are aware, the holiday season is upon us. This is a time of reflection for many of us to be grateful for what we have in our lives. From our homes, jobs or food on our tables; the very basic of necessities are things that many us take for granted.

There is no greater time when this disparity is marked than during the holiday season. For families that struggled to survive the year meeting their basic of needs, the holidays bring more stress because of what the season brings with it that some families cannot provide: tidings of comfort and joy.

Last year, Volunteers of America - Michigan was able to bring those tidings of comfort and joy to 22,000 metropolitan Detroit families. We were able to make the holiday season a bit brighter by providing food, clothing and

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

Web: www.hometownlife.com
Mail: Letters to the Editor, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: (313) 223-3318
E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com

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

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

all the trimmings that make everyone young and old, feel special and remembered.

We are reaching out again to help make this a holiday to remember for families who are still struggling to get on their feet. We are asking if you could kindly donate your time or services to bring extra value to this event and assist in touching even more lives in our community.

Our goal this year is to raise \$100,000. Our 20th Annual Adopting Families Holidays of Hope Event will be held in the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham on Friday, Dec. 7. Whether you wish to sponsor a table, buy tickets for the event, make a donation or provide an item or service for auction, we welcome you to help us meet that goal.

From our happy home to theirs, wishing you a blessed holiday season.

Justin Cessante
Volunteers of America
- Michigan
Host Committee Member

Award for what

Ford Wayne Plant is having a difficulty with dealing with physical pollution at the plant. As for Automation - part of the process that was not spoken about in the "award" is that after cars have been made ready for transport, they are driven along public highways and streets at high speeds - at which point heavy duty plastic bags coated with an unknown adhesive peel off and fly into the roadway. They have accumulated on the roads and woods and river in great numbers - tens of thousands at least.

After the cars are delivered in these careening caravans (sometimes made up of 20 or 30 vehicles) the "drivers" are picked up by a van hardly adequate to accommodate all of them, and driven back to the starting point to do it all over again.

The general manager of the Ford Wayne Plant reportedly pays a contractor specifically to pick up the bags. The excuse for the horrendous

accumulation of these chemical soaked bags is that the contractor has not been doing a very good job. The local municipality does not have the manpower to keep up with this stream of unnecessary waste.

The award to this plant from Automation Magazine, should not, I believe go to the Ford Wayne Plant. The general manager should immediately return the award and let it go to some company and persons more deserving and more forthright about the actual process that they are competing with.

If you want to see the this merely come to the plant area itself and wait. I am not sure that the person(s) responsible for giving out this award from Automation Magazine actually performed a very thorough review of the actual process that results in these automobiles. That would be unfair to the other participants, if that were the case.

It would be funny if it did not involve a manufacturing process intended to be operated for profit that at some point depends on human intervention in the form of an outside contractor to come along and pick up the waste left by the trail of the product over public roadways.

This may seem comical or nonsensical or it may be obvious to you, as professionals already, but if this ridiculous reaction is the preferred response to an easily solved manufacturing and automation problem, what other problems and difficulties are being masked at this or other facilities that this management has involvement in?

Alfred Brock
Wayne

Remember your vote

To all of those who voted for President Obama, I want you to remember this moment.

Someday when you are old and can't get the medical care you need, can't find a doctor who will take Medicare patients, or don't have the money to pay out-of-pocket, resist your natural instinct to blame someone else.

Instead, go look in the mirror and remember what you did to yourself, for this is what you voted for.

Rachel Davis
Northville

Such a deal

Karl Rove spent more than \$300 million of other people's money with no return on their investment, and a whole lot of explaining to do. It cost his donors about \$1.5 million for each of Romney's 206 electoral votes, or less than \$1 million for each of President Barack Obama's 332 electoral votes.

Anyway you figure, Obama was a much better deal.

Joe Hargrove
Commerce Township

WESTLAND
OBSERVER
A GANNETT COMPANY

Sue Mason,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor

Grace Perry,
Director of
Advertising

Holiday shopping is feeding frenzy

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Read that Walmart announced it is starting holiday sales — not on Black Friday as has become the tradition, but on Thanksgiving night. I have no doubt that other retailers will attempt to one-up Walmart and by the time you read this column, retailers will have already started their holiday sales.

This time of year has become a feeding frenzy as retailers fight for our holiday shopping dollars. Generally, I like when businesses fighting for business because it generally means the consumer will get better deals. However, the reality is that all too often the results of this feeding frenzy are that people overspend.

During these trying economic times, it is more important than ever that you have a game plan for holiday spending. If you don't have a strategy, I'm afraid you'll be like many Americans who overspend during the holiday season and find that it takes the next year to pay off the purchases. The result is the holidays become a period of anxiety. Even though retailers will encourage you to buy, buy and buy some more, you have to be smarter than that.

The first thing to do is set a budget for total holiday purchases. Everyone's going to have different amounts of what they can or cannot afford to spend for the holidays. One way to tell if you're overspending is if you charge your purchases and cannot afford to pay the balance in full when the bill arrives.

Charge cards should not be a means of financing a purchase. They should be used as a matter of convenience and to take advantage of some of the perks.

After all, the deals don't look so good if you add 20 percent to the purchase price. Twenty percent is about the average interest you'll pay when you carry a balance on your charge card.

Part of establishing a budget is itemizing how many gifts you're going to buy. After all, if you have to buy 20 gifts you don't want your budget running out after you've only purchased half.

The holidays should not be a time of increased pressure and anxiety. Unfortunately, because of the pressures to buy gifts, it has turned out to be just that. I recommend that family and friends agree that gift giving be limited to children. It would help reduce the pressure. However, if you can't reduce the number of gifts, then agree to limit the amount you spend on individual gifts. Remember, people should look forward to the holidays so that they can spend time with their loved ones, not dread them because of the pressure it causes. These are difficult economic times and it doesn't appear that they're going to improve anytime soon. It can't be business as usual. We all have to make changes. Most people dread change, however, sometimes change is good. Just imagine if when the holidays roll around you didn't have any economic pressure, you didn't have to worry about being shown up because someone bought a nicer gift than you. Wouldn't that be nice? Wouldn't it be nice if you actually looked forward to spending time with family and friends without any undercurrent?

There's nothing to say that you can't take the first step now to reach the goal of being able to enjoy the holidays as they were intended. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email him at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

AROUND WESTLAND

Used book sale

The Friends of the William P. Faust Library of Westland will hold a used book sale Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 15-17, at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway north of Ford Road.

The hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

There will be a special sale with \$1 hardcover fiction — buy one, get one free. Other prices are \$2 for coffee table books (makes a great Christmas gift), \$1 hardcover non-fiction books, DVDs, CDs, 50 cents large paperbacks, 25 cents small paperbacks, videos, cassettes, records and auto books on cassette — the whole book for 25 cents — 10 cents small paperbacks — romance — and magazines. Saturday will be a \$4 Big Bag Sale. Bring your own bag.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Will you be alone on Thanksgiving Day? If so, join others for dinner at St. Mel's Church, 7506 Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights. There is no charge, but reservations are required due to limited seating. Doors open at noon, and dinner is served at 1 p.m. For reservations, call the parish office at (313) 274-0684, Ext. 26.

WYAA signups

Westland Youth Athletic Association basketball registration also will start soon for ages 7-8, 9-10, 11-12 13-14 and 15-16. Register online at wyaa.org. For more information, call Keith Demolay at (734) 722-1251 (leave a message).

Stuff a Bus

Join the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Transportation Department, Wayne-Westland Fire Department and Westland K-Mart on Saturday, Dec. 1, to help Stuff a School Bus or two to help those in need in the two communities.

The distinctive yellow school bus will be in the Kmart parking lot at Cherry Hill and Wayne Road in West-

land 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Stop by and help us stuff the bus with new toys, new or gently used clothes, personal items, school supplies, anything to assist the Westland and Wayne Goodfellows to provide a happy holiday season for those in need.

All donations will be appreciated.

Cookie Walk

The First United Methodist Church of Wayne will hold a cookie walk 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 8, at the church, 3 Town Square, across from the Wayne Office, in Wayne.

Homemade holiday cookies and candies will be available. Cookies will be sold by contains, candies by the pound. For more information, call (734) 721-4801.

Goodfellows Party

Wayne city employees and friends are being invited to the 26th annual Goodfellows Party slated for 5:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis.

Tickets are \$15 each and include two drink tickets, appetizers and door prize. There also will be prizes, raffles and auctions throughout the evening, DJ Steve with Swat Karaoke and juggling bartender Andy Bro.

Proceeds will benefit the Wayne Goodfellows' "No Child Without a Christmas Program." For tickets or to donate, call (734) 722-1111.

Taxing time

The Westland Friendship Center at 1119 Newburgh Road is now taking appointments for 2012 income tax preparation for center members only. Appointments will be taken through Friday, Dec. 14. Times will be available for non-members after the first of the year.

For more information or to make an appointment, call (734) 722-7628.

Taste Fest

The Westland Chamber of Commerce and Westland

Rotary Club are joining forces to host the 2012 Holiday Taste Fest 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Hellenic Cultural Center.

There will be food from the area's finest restaurants and culinary artists along with an opportunity to bid on auction items ranging from fabulous baskets, trips and services to golf.

New this year will be live musical entertainment by Westland's own Elvis impersonator Fred Wolfe.

Ticket are \$25 per person with a cash bar. Sponsorships are available. Partial proceeds from the event will benefit Westland Rotary Charities, the Joseph Benyo Scholarship and the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

For tickets or information, call the chamber at (734) 326-7222 or visit westlandchamber.com or westlandrotary.com.

Toastmasters

The Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club is now meeting at the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, south of Ford Road, Westland.

Toastmasters is a world leader dedicated to helping people develop their public speaking and leadership skills, in a mutually helpful and friendly atmosphere.

Westland Easytalkers meets 7-8:30 p.m. every Thursday. For information please call Luddie at (734) 414-0034 or Curt at (734) 525-8445 or go online to westlandeasytalkers.toastmastersclubs.org/.

Healing Hearts

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, a grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to the prison system provides a safe environment allowing members to share in a non-judgmental atmosphere.

Meetings are 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of every month at the Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Donations only.

For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237.

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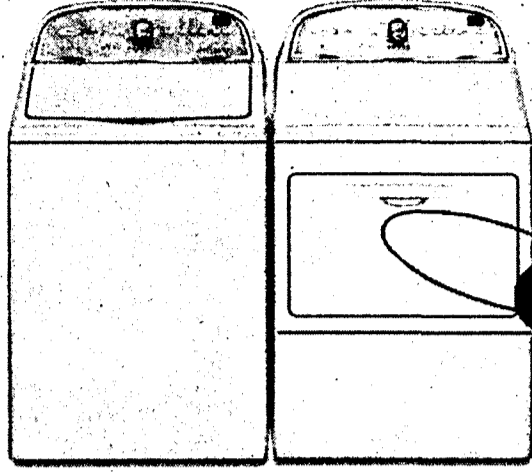
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PRE

BLACK FRIDAY

Nov. 16 & 17

BARGAINS

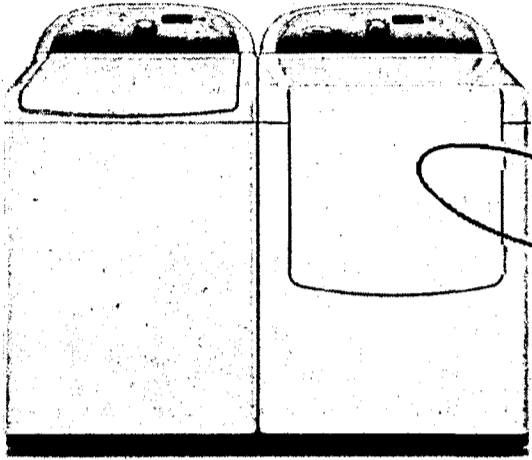
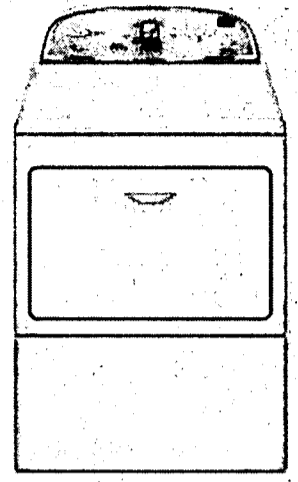


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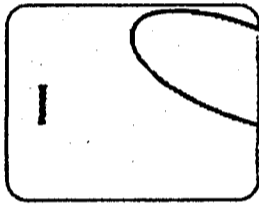
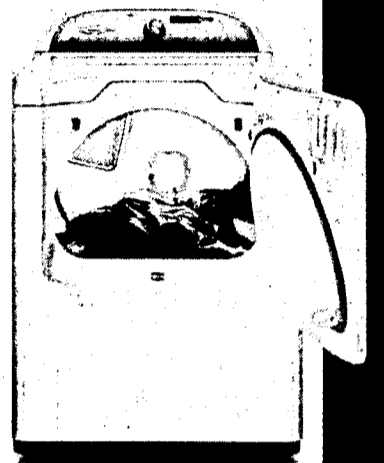


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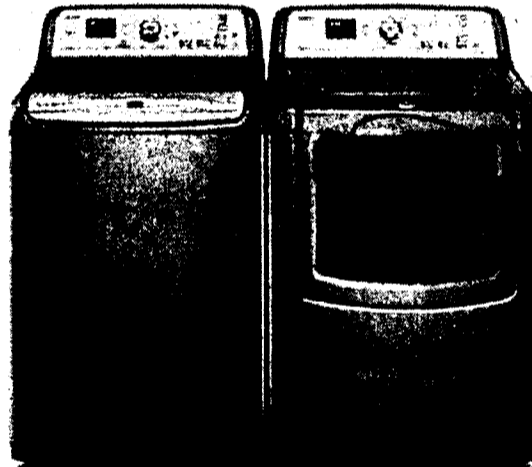
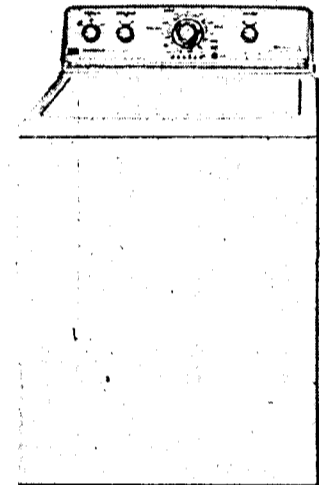
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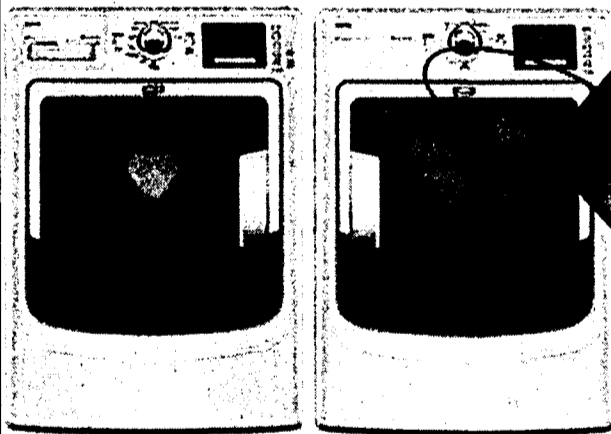
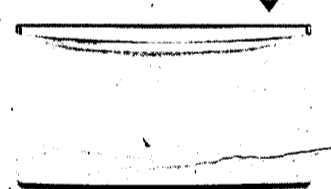
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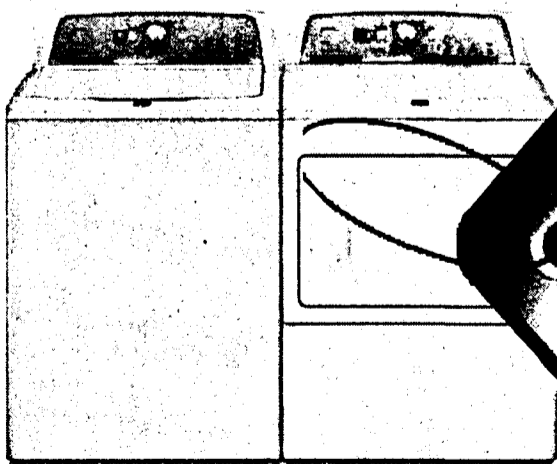
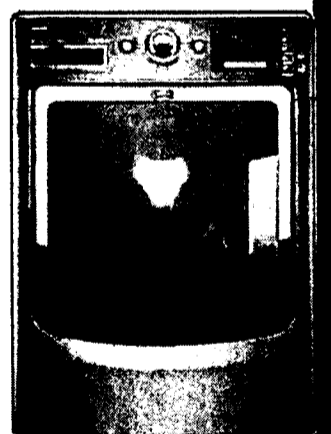
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Crusaders turn attention to nationals



PATRICK MOORE | MADONNA ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Madonna University women's volleyball team celebrates after winning the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference tournament title with a 3-0 victory Saturday over Davenport.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

After sweeping through the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference play-offs over the weekend, the Madonna University women's volleyball team is back on familiar turf.

The 15th-ranked Crusaders, 33-7 overall, will be making its first appearance in the NAIA Championships since 2008 when they take on St. Xavier University (Ill.), the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference runner-up, beginning at noon Saturday at the MU Activities Center.

The volleyball match will be followed by a women's and men's WHAC basketball double-header between the host Crusaders and Indiana Tech at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m., respectively.

Madonna and St. Xavier met earlier this season on Aug. 25 at the U-M-Dearborn Early Bird Challenge and the Crusaders came away with a 25-17, 25-11, 25-20 victory.

MU holds an 8-0 mark against the Cougars in the previous meetings between the two sides. This season marks MU's 12th appearance in 26 years under coach Jerry Abraham in the national tournament.

St. Xavier, which is making its second NAIA appearance in the last three seasons, comes into Saturday's match with a 31-12 mark and went 18-1 in the CCAC.

The Cougars were a perfect 12-0 at home while posting a 9-4 mark in true road matches. Head coach Bob Heerse-

Please see SPIKERS, B4

Ocelot men's cagers falter

Tyler Bell's 14 points and nine rebounds paced a balanced attack as Glen Oaks Community College rolled to an 84-63 men's basketball victory Saturday over host Schoolcraft College.

The Vikings, who improved to 2-0 overall, jumped out to a 41-23 halftime lead and led by as many as 25 points during the second half to coast in for the non-conference victory.

Also scoring in double figures for Glen Oaks were William Powell (12), Lee Gardner III (12) and James Sanders (10).

Schoolcraft (2-2) got a game-high 20 points off the bench from Damon Graham, who made 12-of-16 free throws.

Richmond Jackson added 17, but was only 7-of-17 from the foul line.

Terrance Coles and Jonathan Campbell (Livonia Stevenson) chipped in with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Schoolcraft shot only 19-of-55 from the field (19-of-55) and was an abysmal 28-of-50 from the foul stripe (56 percent).

The Ocelots also lost the turnover battle, 24-12.

Flight to Phoenix?

Conner put on hold

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Chris Conner has had more than a few cups of coffee in the NHL.

But with nothing brewing yet on the protracted lockout situation between the league's owners and players haggle over revenue sharing, the 28-year-old Livonian bides his time in the American Hockey League.



Conner

The 5-foot-8, 180-pound right winger was signed as a free agent over the summer by the NHL's Phoenix Coyotes. His two-way contract allows him to play for the American Hockey League's Portland (Maine) Pirates where he is tied for the team lead in points (13) with five goals and eight assists after 10 games.

So what is percolating

in Conner's mind these days?

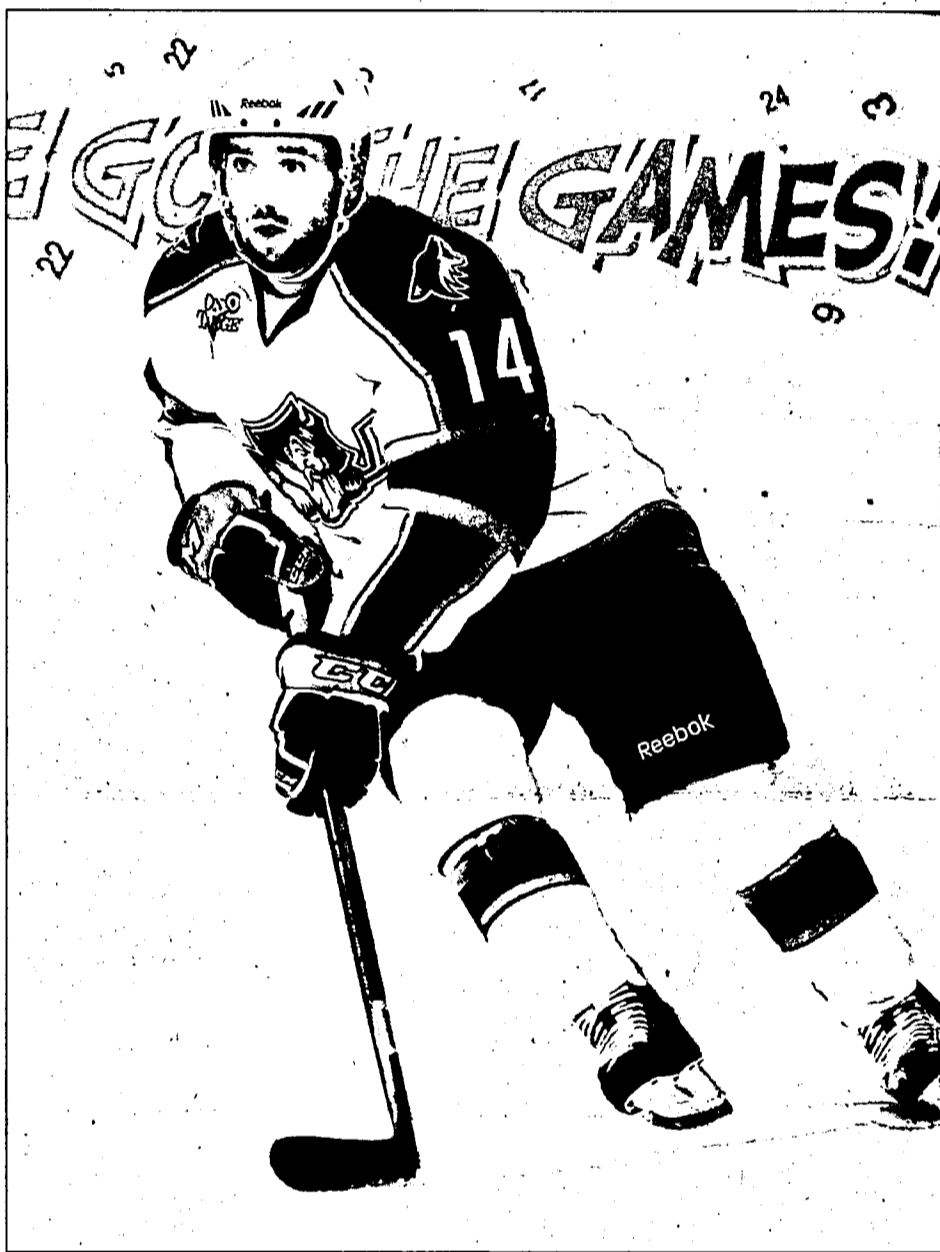
"It was kind of a crazy situation and I'm really fortunate to be playing and keep getting a paycheck," said Conner, a former Michigan Tech standout who has played for Dallas and Pittsburgh. "And at the same time, if anything comes up here, the guys that are playing now are kind of a couple of steps ahead of the guys that are locked out. I feel real fortunate to be in this situation.

"You definitely got to pay the bills, so ..."

Conner has logged a total of 147 games during his NHL career, including eight last season with his hometown Red Wings. His other 57 games were spent with the AHL's Grand Rapids Griffins where he recorded 16 goals and 37 assists.

During his eight-

Please see CONNER, B4



RON MORIN | PHOTO

Livonia's Chris Conner has enjoyed NHL stints with Dallas, Pittsburgh and Detroit. The Portland Pirates' right winger is now property of the Phoenix Coyotes.

CCHA lauds Barber again

For the second time in four weeks, Miami University freshman forward Riley Barber (Livonia) has earned Central Collegiate Hockey Association Gongshow Rookie of the Week honors.

The Washington Capitals draft choice continued his stellar play with a goal and three assists as the No. 4-ranked Red Hawks earned a 5-2 win Friday (while earning first star honors) followed by 2-2 tie and shootout victory Saturday, both against Northern Michigan.

Barber now leads all freshmen in the NCAA with 14 points.

23-year-old gets Spartan softball post

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Lauren Delapaz is no stranger to area softball circles.

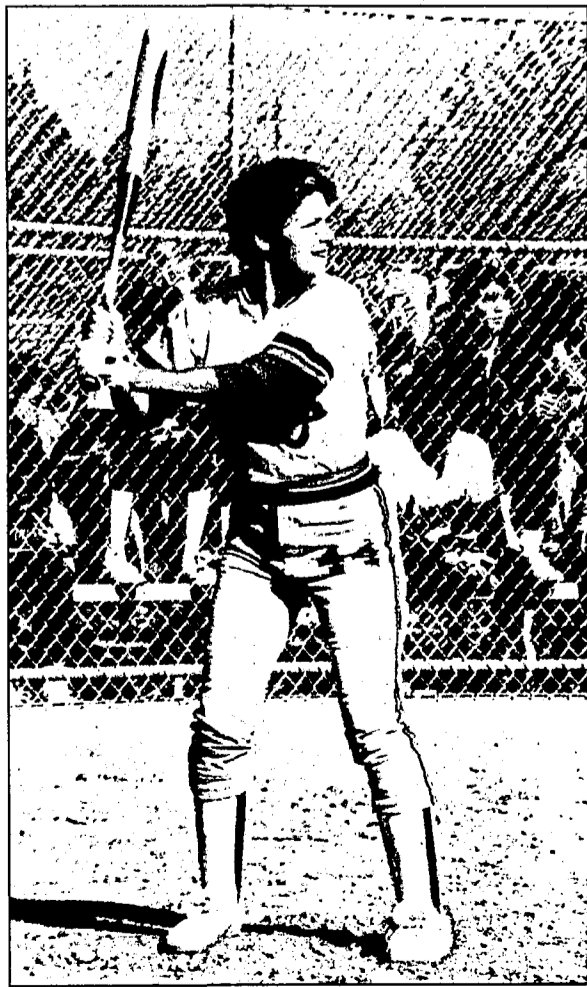
The former All-State and All-Observer shortstop from Canton High and utility player at Eastern Michigan University became the youngest varsity softball coach in the area when she was hired recently at Livonia Stevenson.

Delapaz, 23, replaces Rob Witherspoon, who stepped down after taking an assistant principal position earlier this fall at Johnson Upper Elementary in Livonia.

In his 10 seasons as Stevenson varsity coach, Witherspoon finished with an overall record of 181-137, including a 17-17 mark last year.

Please see DELAPAZ, B3

Softball heaven



Westland native Mary Crechiolo-Papiersky, a 1979 John Glenn High grad, was inducted Friday into the U.S.S.S.A. National Hall of Fame in Temecula, Calif.

Hall of Fame calls Westland's Crechiolo

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Mary Crechiolo-Papiersky may be gone from the slow-pitch softball diamonds, but she won't be forgotten.

The Westland native, who hung up her spikes three years ago, will be among the 2012 class of six inductees into the U.S. Specialty Sports Association Hall of Fame Friday night at the Pechanga Resort and Casino in Temecula, Calif.

"It's something I always hoped for, but as the years passed I didn't think it was going to happen," Papiersky said. "When I got the call last November, I couldn't believe it. As they say, 'a dream come true.' It's something I always wanted and I'm very happy to receive it. I'm kind of nervous going out there to speak, but I'm going

to go out and have a good time."

Papiersky was a three-sport athlete in softball, volleyball and basketball at Westland John Glenn.

The 1979 grad went on to play softball (as a shortstop) and volleyball at Eastern Michigan University.

But during the summers is where the second baseman made her name playing on three USSA Class A championship teams including the 1980 Stingers and twice with the 1983 and 1984 Little Caesars squads.

"The first one we won in 1980 with the Stingers ... that just unbelievable," Papiersky said. "Winning one was an accomplishment, but winning three ... it took a lot of hard work and dedication. Softball always has been a passion and I just love the sport."

Please see INDUCTEE, B4

MU baseball ranked 24th

On Tuesday, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) announced the 2013 Baseball Preseason Coaches' Poll today with the Madonna University baseball team picked 24th in a vote of a panel of head coaches representing each of the conference, independents and unaffiliated groups.

The Crusaders were the lone Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference team in the top 25, while Indiana Tech and Davenport were among those receiving votes. MU finished 35-21 last season, including an 18-10 record in the WHAC.

The Crusaders return over 80 percent of their innings pitched from 2012 and have a roster that features 14 seniors including All-WHAC selections Matthew Cook, Jeremy Gooding (Livonia/Dearborn Divine Child) and Steve Pelletier (Farmington, Harrison).

Madonna opens the 2013 season in February.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP HOCKEY
Friday, Nov. 16
 Franklin vs. W.L. Western at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m. (Metro Inv. at Novi Arena)
 Steve. vs. NF-Harrison, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 17
 Ladywood vs. G.P. North at S.C. Shores Arena, 4 p.m. (Metro Inv. at Novi Arena)
 Steve. vs. Farmington, 4 p.m.
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL (NAIA Nationals)
Saturday, Nov. 17
 St. Xavier at MU, noon.
MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS
Saturday, Nov. 17
 Indiana Tech at MU, 5 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS
Saturday, Nov. 17
 Indiana Tech at MU, 3 p.m.

The Madonna University women's basketball team proved to be no pushover Saturday for NCAA Division I foe Bowling Green State University at the Stroh Center in the season opener for both teams.

Redshirt sophomore guard Rachel Melcher, who missed all of last season with a knee injury, led the visiting Crusaders with 17 points off the bench, going 7-for-13 from the floor and 2-of-4 from beyond the arc in the 68-57 defeat.

Senior forward Kaylee

COLLEGE HOOPS

McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) chipped in with 16 points and eight rebounds, while senior guard Shantelle Herring rounded out the MU trio in double figures with 12 points to go along with four steals.

The Crusaders trailed 15-5 at the outset, but thanks to an 18-4 run cut the deficit to 31-29 at intermission.

MU took the lead to open the second half on a 3-pointer from senior guard Kristie Porada to go

on top 32-31, but the Falcons then went on a 20-5 run over the next six minutes to pull in front, 51-37.

The Crusaders were able to get within six, 57-51, with 6:30 to go after triples from McGrath and Herring, but could not get any closer.

Allison Papenfuss led four BG players in double figures with 13 points, while Bailey Carinduff added 12. Chrissy Steffen and Danielle Havel contributed 11 each.

Havel also grabbed a game-high 12 rebounds, as the Crusaders were

outrebounded 41-27.

MU returns to action 5 p.m. Tuesday at Spring Arbor.

MU 66, SPRING ARBOR 48: Senior guard Heather Pratt knocked down six 3-pointers on her way to a game-high 20 points as Madonna University (1-1) rolled to a non-conference win Tuesday night over host Spring Arbor (2-2).

Redshirt sophomore guard Rachel Melcher came off the bench to score 13, while Shantelle Herring added 10 points and four steals.

Audra Norris led Spring Arbor with 10 points off the bench.

GLEN OAKS 43, S'CRAFT 42: In a low-scoring affair Saturday, visiting Glen Oaks Community College (3-1) got

22 points and 10 rebounds from center Tiffany Zito to beat host Schoolcraft College (2-2).

No other Viking player scored more than four points, while Aliana Schwarz chipped in with nine rebounds.

Courtney Dyer and Ajai Meeks tallied 15 and 13 points for the 12th-ranked Lady Ocelots, who shot only 30.2 percent from the floor (16-of-53) and committed 21 turnovers.

Brianna Berberet added eight rebounds for the Lady Ocelots, who trailed by only one, 43-42, after E'Aijsha Guster (Westland John Glenn) split a pair of free throws with 16 seconds left, but couldn't get the ball back despite Glen Oaks missing the front end of a pair of one-and-ones.

Crusader women battle in BG loss

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 Nov. 2-3 at South Lyon East

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. South Lyon Unified, 764 points; 2. Northville, 756; 3. Novi, 651; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 564.5; 5. Canton, 548; 6. Salem, 506; 7. Plymouth, 464; 8. Livonia Churchill, 233.5; 9. Wayne Memorial, 108; 10. Westland John Glenn, 102; 11. Livonia Franklin, 88.

FINAL EVENT RESULTS
200-yard medley relay: 1. South Lyon (Diedre Gerke, Kallie Kruger, Chanel Bonin, Stormy Malarik), 1:48.27; 2. Salem, 1:48.88; 3. Novi, 1:49.31; 4. Northville, 1:50.44; 5. Stevenson, 1:50.75; 6. Canton, 1:52.88; 7. Plymouth, 1:59.42; 8. Churchill, 1:59.49.

200 freestyle: 1. Sarah Dombkowski (Ply.), 1:54.01; 2. Rachel Green (SLU), 1:55.45; 3. Alissa Moore (N'ville), 1:57.92; 4. Sarah Cauzillo (LS), 1:58.24; 5. Madeline Madison (Canton), 1:59.05; 6. Grace LaFreniere (N'ville), 2:00.02; 7. Abby Aumiller, 2:00.26; 8. Julia Suriano (Salem), 2:00.58; 9. Evelyn Stein (LS), 2:01.2; 12.

GIRLS SWIM RESULTS

Merrill Fronney (LS), 2:01.79; 13. Aiden O'Dowd (LS), 2:03.92.

200 individual medley: 1. Linda Zhang (Salem), 2:07.62; 2. Mallory Buha (Novi), 2:07.65; 3. Catherine Cui (N'ville), 2:09.3; 4. Emily Toro (Ply.), 2:09.9; 5. Alexa Earls (Ply.), 2:14.4; 6. Rachel Arceri (LS), 2:14.95; 8. Linda Erickson (Ply.), 2:16.91; 12. Shaelyn Dolinski (LS), 2:18.45.

50 freestyle: 1. Maranda Buha (Novi), 24.23; 2. Kara Berg (Novi), 24.42; 3. Lisa Zhang (Salem), 24.53; 4. Destinee Hicks-Barmore (Canton), 24.71; 6. Malarik (SLU), 24.77; 6. Briana Schoenek (N'ville), 25.23; 7. Janice Burnett (Novi), 25.43; 8. Emily Meier (Canton), 26.19; 11. Brenna Gabrielson (LS), 25.58; 12. Molly Jarvis (LC), 25.75.

1-meter diving: 1. Andrea Meister (N'ville), 401.75 points; 2. Rachel Aepelbacher (Novi), 393.45; 3. Autumn Smith (SLU), 370.35; 4. Kayla Marquardt (SLU), 369.90; 5. Madison Canadi (SLU), 356.85; 6. Heidi Surdyk (SLU), 345.35; 7. Emma Bauer (SLU), 325.75; 8. Lauren Harrington (Novi), 319.10; 15. Sydney Grenier (LC), 254.20.

100 butterfly: 1. Bonin (SLU), 56.09; 2. Lisa Zhang (Salem), 58.05; 3. Toro (Ply.), 58.85; 4. Sara Stemen (LS), 59.03; 5. Lia Nagata (N'ville), 59.45; 6. Delaney Adams (Canton), 59.6; 7. Kelsey Shurmur (Novi), 1:01.7; 8. Erickson (Ply.), 1:02.15; 10. Brittany Gates (LC), 1:02.08;

100 freestyle: 1. Green (SLU), 52.27; 2. Maranda Buha (Novi), 53.24; 3. Gerke (SLU), 53.65; 4. Malarik (SLU), 53.77; 5. Amanda Washko (LC), 53.86; 6. Barmore-Hicks (Canton), 54.02; 7. Gabrielson (LS), 55.15; 8. Kara Berg (Novi), 55.3; 11. Cauzillo (LS), 55.75.

500 freestyle: 1. Dombkowski (Ply.), 4:58.35; 2. LaFreniere (N'ville), 5:16.94; 3. Earls (Ply.), 5:14.0; 4. Moore (N'ville), 5:16.01; 5. Suriano (Salem), 5:19.21; 6. Claire Green (Canton), 5:20.02; 7. Fronney (LS), 5:20.65; 8. Stein (LS), 5:28.28; 9. O'Dowd (LS), 5:23.81; 10. Dolinski (LS), 5:23.99; 16. Kelly LaPorte (LS), 5:33.38.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Toro, Erickson, Earls, Dombkowski), 1:39.66; 2. Northville, 1:40.51; 3. South Lyon, 1:41.55; 4. Novi, 1:42.60; 5. Canton, 1:42.61; 6. Stevenson, 1:43.49; 7. Salem, 1:45.95; 8. Franklin, 1:52.83.

100 backstroke: 1. Andra VanderMay (Novi), 56.61; 2. Mallory Buha (Novi), 56.99; 3. Bonin (SLU), 57.86; 4. Aumiller (Salem), 59.5; 5. Gerke (SLU), 59.86; 6. Washko (LC), 1:00.31; 7. Dana Morgan (Novi), 1:01.7; 8. Meier (Canton), 1:03.73; 11. Stemen (LS), 1:02.59; 14. Emily Roque (LS), 1:03.92.

100 breaststroke: 1. Cui (N'ville), 1:04.72; 2. Linda Zhang (Salem), 1:05.28; 3. Sarah Lohman (N'ville), 1:08.63; 4. Krueger (SLU), 1:09.75; 5. Lauren Kim (Novi), 1:10.62; 6. Adams (Canton), 1:10.83; 7. Lauren Jarzembowski (N'ville), 1:11.45; 8. Meg Darrow (SLU), 1:11.84; 9. Arceri (LS), 1:12.0; 10. Julia Hurley (LS), 1:12.37; 16. Erickson (LS), 1:16.91.

400 freestyle relay: 1. South Lyon (Gerke, Malarik, Bonin, Green), 3:32.42; 2. Salem, 3:37.06; 3. Northville, 3:38.69; 4. Novi, 3:39.57; 5. Stevenson, 3:40.34; 6. Plymouth, 3:40.41; 7. Canton, 3:43.73; 8. Churchill, 3:56.69.

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Girls harriers prove Rock-solid

FIRST-TEAM

Kayla Kavulich, Jr., Salem: The accolades and accomplishments keep piling up for the Salem junior, who made a remarkable return after missing her sophomore year due to knee surgery.

Kavulich set a Salem school record for 5,000 meters with a time of 18:15.6 and received selection to the all-KLAA, all-county and all-region first teams.

She was individual medalist at the Haslett, Linden and Holly invitational, earned the individual championship at the Division 1 regional at Willow Metropark and qualified for the state finals for a second time as an individual.

At Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Kavulich came in 11th and was named to the D1 all-state team while also helping the Rocks finish eighth overall in the team standings.

"Kayla is an all-around athlete who is competitive, determined and passionate about distance running," coach Dave Gerlach said. "She has again established herself an elite athlete who strives to be the best she can every competition."

"Kayla has very high goals and expectations for herself and works hard to achieve them every day."

Kerigan Riley, Sr., Liv. Churchill: The senior, making her fourth straight appearance on the first-team, was the area's second-best placer in the Division 1 state finals (38th overall) with a personal best time of 18:39.1.

Riley also took seconds in the regional (18:53.22) and Public Schools of Livonia Invitational; fourth at Monroe Jefferson (19:37.48) and was eighth in the Kensington Conference (19:12.1).

"Kerigan had an outstanding cross country career at Churchill," coach Sue Tatro said of the third-year MVP and two-year captain. "She peaked at the right time this season and ran her best races at the regional and state meets. She is a very talented, hard-working and determined young lady who loves to race."

Riley also carries a 3.8 grade-point average.

Marina DeBiasi, Jr., Plymouth: The junior is moving up the career charts at Plymouth, setting a new school record with her personal best of 18:49.5 at the D1 state finals — which earned 48th overall.

The previous week, DeBiasi finished third at the D1 regional at Willow Metropark with a time of 18:59.55.

Other big performances included sixth place at the Kensington Conference meet (19:03.7), fourth at the Gabriel Richard Invitational (18:58.51) and Autumn Classic (20:07) and 13th at the Wayne County meet (19:13.3).

"Marina is very humble and a pleasure to coach," coach Dale Maskill said. "Although she has worked hard to make herself a great runner, she has always been a team first runner. The entire Plymouth cross country family is proud of her achievements this season."

This year marked DeBiasi's second straight appearance at the Division 1 cross country finals.

Sydney Anderson, Sr., Liv. Churchill: The senior wound up 100th in the state finals with a clocking of 19:17.4 after taking seventh in the Willow Metropark regional (19:09.34).

Anderson's best showing came in the Kensington Conference meet where she placed fifth overall (18:57.0). She was also Public Schools of Livonia Invitational champion and added a second at the Jefferson invitational (19:16.6).

"Sydney steadily improved throughout her four years and continuously ran with a lot of confidence and poise," Tatro said of the team captain and co-MVP. "Anderson, a three-sport athlete, also earned academic all-state honors with a 4.2 GPA."

"She is a true leader who motivates her teammates by her outstanding example," Tatro said. "It was fun watching her take her running to a new level this season. Not only is she one of the most coachable runners I have had the pleasure of coaching, but she is one of the most dependable and hard-working athletes as well."

Lauren Arquette, Soph., Salem: In just her second season, Arquette made great strides as an individual runner and helped spark Salem's outstanding team success in the process.

Her personal best of 19-minutes flat gave Salem's "most valuable sophomore" the third-fastest time in school history for 5,000 meters and the second-fastest posted by a



Kayla Kavulich Salem



Kerigan Riley Churchill



Marina DeBiasi Plymouth



Sydney Anderson Churchill



Lauren Arquette Salem



Anya Cho Salem



Allysen Eads Mercy



Lindsey Gallagher Stevenson



Natasha Stevenson Salem



Mary Galm Canton



Alejandra Beltran Salem



Dave Gerlach Salem coach

sophomore. Arquette's fifth-place showing at the D1 regionals earned her a spot at the state finals as an individual qualifier. For her efforts, she was named to the all-KLAA first team and all-county second team.

2012 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY FIRST-TEAM

Kayla Kavulich, Jr., Salem
Kerigan Riley, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Marina DeBiasi, Jr., Plymouth
Sydney Anderson, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Lauren Arquette, Soph., Salem
Anya Cho, Soph., Salem
Allysen Eads, Soph., Farm. Hills Mercy
Lindsey Gallagher, Soph., Liv. Stevenson
Natasha Stevenson, Jr., Salem
Mary Galm, Fr., Canton
Alejandra Beltran, Sr., Salem

SECOND-TEAM

Alexis Foley, Sr., Salem
Natalie Douglas, Fr., Liv. Franklin
Michelle Azar, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Jenna Wisner, Fr., Luth. Westland
Emily Bizon, Sr., Salem
Megan McFarlane, Jr., Liv. Churchill
Karlise Gallagher, Sr., Liv. Stevenson
Celeste White, Sr., Farm. Hills Mercy
Vivien Okechukwu, Sr., Liv. Churchill
Sophia Farquhar, Jr., N. Farmington
Shelby Abbott, Soph., N. Farmington

COACH OF YEAR

Dave Gerlach, Salem

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Jenna Hickson, Alexis Lombardo, Elyssa Hofmann, Lauren Bernhardt; **Franklin:** Natalie Martinez, Anna Snider, Katelyn Kovach; **Stevenson:** Barb Moore, Emily Chapski, Emily Kwasnik; **Livonia Ladywood:** Kit Taylor, Sarah Wilson; **Westland John Glenn:** Shekinah Johnson, Barb Messics, Caroline Mahalak; **Lutheran Westland:** Michelle Greening, Jessica Drife; **Canton:** Jessica Siegler, Olivia McIntee, Samantha McGrath, Laura Murphy, Keara Sullivan; **Plymouth:** Alexa Chicon, Charlotte Clark, Shannon Shaver, Brianna Lax, Renae DeBrito; **Salem:** Katey Robeson, Shannon Flynn, Kayla Hughes, Rebecca Lopez, Emily Marcero; **Plymouth Christian:** Terra Crown, Rachel Smith; **Farmington:** Jennifer Rogers; **Harrison:** Catherine Barkach, Victoria Blaga; **Mercy:** Katelyn Toloff, Nicole DiPonio; **North Farmington:** Maria Vicini, Christie Goodwin, Tori Irwin; **Garden City:** Mariah Carver; **Breanna Grant; Redford Union:** Erin Miley.

"Lauren had a breakout year this season to provide Salem with a solid second runner," Gerlach said. "She was one of the most consistent athletes who knew when to step up. Lauren was a complete runner with her combination of intelligence, foot speed, endurance and determination."

Anya Cho, Soph., Salem: Another 10th grader making a huge impact for Salem was Cho, an individual state qualifier with her 13th-place showing at the D1 regionals. Cho's personal best of 19:05.3 was the third-fastest in Salem history by a sophomore and the fifth fastest overall. She also was named to the all-KLAA second team.

"We knew Anya had a ton of potential last season, but an injury sidelined her for the majority of the year," Gerlach said. "This season Anya worked incredibly hard and her potential became reality."

"Anya's persistence and determination to overcome obstacles are attributes that made her a top-notch runner this season."

Allysen Eads, Soph., Farm. Hills Mercy: Eads became the No. 1 runner for the Marlins as the season progressed, helping them finish third in the Catholic League and seventh in the Division 1 regional at Waterford.

Eads was the runner-up in the league meet at Kensington Metropark with a time 20:24. She qualified for state with a 15th-place finish (19:36) at the regional, and she was 124th in the Division 1 race at the state meet (19:37).

After finishing sixth in the first league jamboree at Metro Beach, Eads won the next two at Huron Meadows and Gilbert Willis with times of 19:16 and 19:32, respectively. She also placed fourth at the Shamrock Invite (19:59), 10th at the Holly Invite (20:37) and third at the River Rat Open (19:23). Eads, who was named the Mercy team's MVR, was 24th in the Oakland County meet at Kensington.

"Allysen steadily improved throughout the year and set her 2012 PR at (Catholic League) jamboree No. 2 with a time of 19:16," coach Gary Serevas said. "She improved on an outstanding freshman year with her second straight varsity letter performance."

"We're looking for bigger and better things from her next year now that she has been to the state finals in cross country and track."

Lindsey Gallagher, Soph., Liv. Stevenson: The 10th-grader qualified for the Division 1 state finals with a ninth-place finish at the regional (19:31.79).

Gallagher took 132nd in Division 1 (19:40.8). She also posted a season-best 19:19.4 en route to a ninth-place finish in the Kensington Conference and was the Public Schools of Livonia Invitational runner-up.

"After missing 'states' by one place her freshman year, Lindsey made sure she wasn't on the outside looking-in this year," Stevenson coach Chris Inch said. "Gaining state meet experience as a sophomore is an important step in her development. Lindsey has a lot more in the tank. Next year I expect she'll be that much tougher in the big meets."

Natasha Stevenson, Jr. Salem: Selected Salem's junior of the year, Stevenson posted a personal best of 19:24.5 and qualified for the D1 state finals by placing 14th at the regionals.

Other accomplishments for the third-year varsity runner included being named to the all-KLAA second team.

"Natasha has shown unlimited potential as a distance runner and has already experienced much success," Gerlach said. "She put it all together this season and was a valuable number four runner for us."

"This team is looking forward to her continued success and what else she can accomplish next season."

Mary Galm, Fr., Canton: The future is bright for the Chiefs, particularly thanks to the emergence of Galm.

The freshman probably would have qualified for the D1 state finals if not for late-season injuries. But she enjoyed a personal best 18:48.7 to finish fourth at the Kensington Conference meet.

That was good for second on Canton's all-time record board.

Other highlights included finishing 14th at the Wayne County meet, earning second team all-county honors with a time of 19:19.08. She also placed 23rd at the Coaching Legends Invite, finishing in 19:04.1.

"I think Mary is just starting to scratch the surface of what she is able to accomplish," coach Eric Pahl said. "If Mary can stay healthy for an entire season, I am (excited) to see the results."

Alejandra Beltran, Sr., Salem: The fourth-year senior had her best season, with a personal record of 19:25.4 good for the seventh-fastest time in Salem history (5,000 meters).

Also named the team's most valuable senior, Beltran tallied the 12th most career varsity points ever amassed by a Salem runner.

"Alejandra is a fun-loving athlete who provided Salem with a solid fifth runner this season," Gerlach said. "Alejandra was very raw when she started, but finished her career by making the most of her opportunities."

"The attributes of her foot speed and ability to meet her goals made Alejandra a terrific piece of the successful varsity unit."

COACH OF YEAR
Dave Gerlach, Salem: Success continues to follow Gerlach, a former state qualifier for Lutheran Westland who ran cross country and track at Eastern Michigan University.

This year's Observer Coach of the Year Award is the second for Gerlach (he also won in 2009) — who continues to guide Salem teams by instilling values such as work ethic, determination and desire to be the best.

Salem qualified for the Division 1 state finals for the seventh time in his 18-year career there, and the Rocks finished eighth overall. The Rocks also were Plymouth-Canton Educational Park cross country champions for the ninth time during Gerlach's tenure.

"I have been truly blessed during my 18 years of coaching at Salem with some terrific, hard-working young ladies that have made my job extremely rewarding," Gerlach said. "We have tried to instill a tradition and quality program for these young ladies with experiences, friendships and memories that last a lifetime."

Gerlach said the 2012 Rocks were special because they "wanted to be good and had high goals. They were very passionate and worked very hard to achieve their individual and team goals."

According to Gerlach, a physical education teacher at PCEP and Canton resident with wife Kimberly, daughter Emilee and step-daughter Adriane, it was "a great pleasure to be a part of this season's team success. But these young ladies deserve all the credit."

DELAPAZ

Continued from page B1

Witherspoon guided the Spartans to four Public Schools of Livonia Invitational titles, along with one WLA Lakes Division (2007) title and one MHSAA Division 1 district (2006) crown.

Following her career at EMU where she played both infield and outfield, Delapaz spent two seasons as an assistant at Plymouth High.

She also coached in three different summer girls softball programs and has worked camps and clinics at EMU.

"I student-taught at a building where he (Witherspoon) was teaching and he helped me with just coaching questions that I've had because I've coached travel ball for the last five years now," Delapaz said. "When he found out that he got the (Johnson) job that he did, he kind of told me that Stevenson was looking for a coach. And I took it upon myself to apply for the position knowing I had a lot of experience coaching summer ball and from coaching as an assistant at Plymouth High School."

Despite her youth, Stevenson athletic director



RON MORIN | PHOTO

Livonia native Chris Conner (14), who has five goals and eight assists in 11 games, is the elder statesman at age 28 for the AHL's Portland (Maine) Pirates.

Lori Hyman gave Delapaz a ringing endorsement.

"Lauren is a great addition to the Stevenson coaching staff and I feel that our softball program is in good hands under her direction," the Stevenson A.D. said. "Lauren is experienced both as a coach and a player. She is very excited about coaching at Stevenson, and under her leadership, our program will continue to move forward in a positive direction."

Delapaz said she scheduled her first meeting with the returning players and newcomers on Wednesday.

"I just want an aggressive team that's going to play hard every game," she said. "I'm just looking to see what the team has to offer and add what I have to make it a more aggressive team that is ready to play."

Delapaz is already planning pre-season conditioning and off-season workouts. She will also lean

on a number of sources to help mold her pitching staff.

"I've developed a lot of knowledge about pitching from working with Greg Brierley, who does the pitching for Concordia University," she said. "And I'll work with some of the pitchers that I played with at Eastern, try getting them involved and getting them to a couple of practices."

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

WYAA volleyball

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association volleyball is underway and will last through mid-November for the following age groups: 9-10 (freshman), 11-13 (JV) and 14-17 (varsity).

Cost is \$130 (includes volleyball jersey with neon colors, shorts and knee pads).

Practices begin in mid-November and matches start in early December.

You can register online at wyaa.org. For more information, call Keith Demolay at (734) 722-1251 (leave a message).

Livonia wrestling

The Livonia Wrestling Club, a unified wrestling club serving Livonia and surrounding communities for grades K-8, will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Nov. 27 through March 28, at the Franklin High School wrestling room.

All coaches and volunteers will be under direct supervision of the Franklin coaching staff.

Registration can be done at the first practice or throughout the season. The cost is \$100 (includes T-shirt and registration into My-Way).

For more information, call Dave Chiola at (248) 752-2340; or e-mail chiolad44@yahoo.com.

MU softball camp

Madonna University will hold a series of winter softball camps (ages 7-18) including:

Hitting - 9-11:30 a.m. (Session I) and noon to 2:30 p.m. (Session II), both on Saturday, Dec. 22 at the MU Activities Center. (The cost is \$30.)

Fundamentals (Camp I) - 8:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26; Fundamentals (Camp II) - noon-2:30 p.m., Sundays, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24. (Cost for each is \$125 by Dec. 1; or \$150.)

For more information, visit www.MadonnaCrusaders.com.

Winter baseball

Madonna University will stage a winter baseball camp (ages 7-16) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, Dec. 26-28, at Total Sports in Wixom.

Campers will work with college coaches and players. The cost is \$160 per camper (half off for siblings).

For more information, visit www.MadonnaCrusaders.com.



Mary Crechiolo-Papiersky (bottom row, middle) played on three U.S. Slow-pitch Softball Association World Championship teams including two with Little Caesars (1983 and 1984).

INDUCTEE

Continued from page B1

In addition to playing for three world championship teams, Papiersky was selected All-World six times and was named to the USSSA 1980s Team of the Decade.

"When I went into the Michigan USSSA (Hall of Fame in 1991), that was great," Papiersky said. "I couldn't have asked for a whole lot more, but I when I got the call last November, it was just unbelievable."

Papiersky played 13 summers of Class A softball (1976-89) including stints with the Swing'in A's, Big Bill's Sports, Steele's Sporting Goods, the Stingers and Little Caesars.

Her local coaches included Al Campbell of Plymouth and Bill

"I couldn't have asked for a whole lot more, but I when I got the call last November, it was just unbelievable."

MARY CRECHIOLO-PAPIERSKY

Schwartz of Wayne. Longtime teammate and friend Kim Schwartz-Alexander will speak at Papiersky's induction ceremony.

Papiersky continued to play slow-pitch for local teams such as Gino's, Rose City Motors and Cooperstown Softball in the Jackson area where she and her family, including two daughters, reside.

Papiersky stays involved with softball where she's coached the past 10 years at Jackson Lumen Christi H.S. She is a P.E., health and computer teacher at East Jackson High School (she also coaches volleyball).

Papiersky, who had a career batting average of .500, says there will be no comeback attempt on the diamond.

"I retired a couple of years ago," she said. "I was playing Class B and C when I quit playing competitive. My knees have told me that's enough. Do I want to play? Yeah. My heart wants to play, but my body says no."

Crechiolo-Papiersky's playing days may be long gone, but induction into the USSSA Hall of Fame will help her relive the moments.

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CONNER

Continued from page B1

game stint last winter in Detroit, Conner posted a goal and two assists and appeared to be on the verge of finishing out the season with the Wings, only to suffer a broken hand in a game against one of his former NHL teams (Pittsburgh).

It was back to Grand Rapids for the rest of the season following the injury.

"In my mind, everything happens for a reason whether you'll figure it out or not," Conner said. "It was a bad break for me at a time where I definitely could have made an impact, but at the same time I was able to sign with Phoenix, a team that had a coach (Dave Tippett, who was with Dallas, too) that was familiar with me. I think I have a pretty good opportunity here as well if things kind of move in the right direction."

His Detroit stint was abbreviated, to say the least.

"It was a matter of being wanted," said Conner, who played in 60 games for the Penguins in 2010-11. "I thought Phoenix would be a good opportunity for me, and to try and pursue playing in the NHL full-time."

"I got to the point where I've been kind of jumping around and trying to find my spot."

That place is Portland where Conner, wife Lindsay, and two small children, Caden, 3, and Brynlee, 1, hang their hats.

"Things are going good," Conner said. "We have pretty young team. I'm the oldest guy on the team, which I'm not really used to being 28. It's a great city. The organization seems really first-class and they treat their players really well. Guys are great, too, so I'm really looking forward to it."

Meanwhile, NHL players with Livonia ties such

as Ryan Kesler (Vancouver), a childhood friend of Conner's who grew up just 10 houses away, along with potential future Coyote teammate David Moss and Erik Condra (Ottawa), continue to play the waiting game.

"I have some buddies that are locked out," Conner said. "They're getting to the point where they're getting really bored and don't know to do. Motivation to keep working out and staying in shape, and get ready, becomes harder and harder the longer it goes on."

So is anything percolating soon as the two sides continue to talk?

Conner says he can offer no inside information.

"I really haven't kept up on it," he said. "All I know is what I read on websites, like any other person reads. There's not much you can do about it."

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SPIKERS

Continued from page B1

ma is in his 26th season at the helm of the Cougars.

On Saturday night, 6-foot junior outside hitter Stacey Catalano third straight double-double with 15 kills and 11 digs to lead host MU to a 25-17, 25-20, 25-21 victory over Davenport for the WHAC Tournament title.

Madonna was the top seed coming into the WHAC playoffs after winning the regular season crown with a 10-1 record (which also guaranteed a spot in the NAIA Nationals).

"The biggest difference was that tonight we didn't get negative after we lost a point," Catalano said. "Our biggest problem in the past was going on huge downfall runs that would excite the other team and we would get down on ourselves, but we did really well to not do that tonight."

Senior outside hitter Taylor Dziejewit and soph-

omore outside hitter Samantha Geile each added 10 kills in the victory, while junior Evia Prieditis, the WHAC Player and Setter of the Year, had 43 assist-to-kills and 12 digs.

"This is the icing on the cake," Prieditis said. "This is everything we've been waiting for. We worked the entire season to get this far and we had to play every single game to accomplish it and we did."

"It means the world to me. I've been working for it since I've been here. I'm so happy and honored to be with these girls and have this opportunity."

Marcey DeHaan paced Davenport (32-6) with 10 kills, while Kelse Moon had 14 digs for the Panthers, who also earned a spot in the NAIA Championship opening round.

Earlier in the day, MU swept Cornerstone in the WHAC semifinals, 25-15, 27-25, 25-23, as Catalano and Samantha Geile led the way with 13 and 10 kills, respectively, while Dziejewit added nine.

Prieditis finished with

37 assists and a team-best 15 digs, while Amanda Obrycki and Catalano contributed 12 and 11 digs, respectively.

Callie Johnson recorded 14 kills, while Kim Weaver dished out 33 assists for Cornerstone (25-10). Abby Mieema also added 19 digs.

The winners of the 12 opening-round matches, along with the top 11 seeds and host Morning-side (Iowa) will advance to the Tyson Events Center/Gateway Arena, Nov. 27 through Dec. 1, in Sioux City, Iowa, for the NAIA Championships.

"We need to continue to focus on what we can achieve and not what we have achieved to this point," said Catalano, a transfer from Grand Valley State via Utica Eisenhower High School. "If we're lazy in practice that won't get us anywhere, so we need to focus on working as a team and doing what we do to be successful."

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Going Wildcat

MU softball coach signs Plymouth duo

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Madonna University's Al White is a tireless women's softball coach who pounds the pavement looking for recruits all over Observerland.

Yes, there is a sparkling new softball complex for future Crusaders to enjoy, but one could certainly understand if White might just want to park it at The Park.

That's because Plymouth High School seniors Brianna Giordano and Kayla Rebain recently signed letters of intent to play softball at Madonna, beginning in 2014.

"This is fantastic," White said. "I've watched them the last three years maybe. I watched at least seven or eight games last year."

White always liked the potential he saw in Giordano, a first-team All-KLAA selection in 2012 with a .398 average along with strong defense at second base.

But the frequent trips to Plymouth enabled him repeat opportunities to get a read on Rebain, originally catcher for the Wildcats who now is a fleet, defensive fixture in center field.

"I started watching Kayla," said White, about Rebain, another all-conference performer. "The more I watched her, the more I liked. That's just a blessing. She's got great hands, soft hands."

Get ready

White emphasized that both players will face strong competition for playing time once they do join the Crusaders.

"They both have to work hard," he noted. "We're bringing in eight to 10 girls in again next year."

According to Plymouth head coach Val Canfield, the Madonna coaching staff won't have any regrets about bringing Giordano and Rebain into the fold. Both are high-level performers with strong work ethics and versatility.

"The quality of the players is their strength and confidence," Canfield said. "That's something any coach wants in their program."

That they will be playing nearby is another win-win.

"What makes this nice is these are local girls," White noted. "Their parents can come out and watch them play."

Canfield added that she was excited that the players decided on Madonna "because it's right next door and it's



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Madonna University women's softball coach Al White welcomes Kayla Rebain (left) and Brianna Giordano to the fold after they recently signed national letters of intent.

going to be accessible for us to go watch them."

Proximity to home certainly was a plus factor for both Giordano and Rebain, too.

"I didn't want a huge school, I just wanted something close to home," Giordano said. "So I could stay home with my family, that's a big thing for me."

And Giordano has been by the brand new softball diamond at Madonna and "It's so nice, I love it."

Easy choice

For Rebain, the lure of continuing the family's Madonna connection proved too strong to ignore.

"It's great, my mom went to Madonna, my brother (Garrett) played baseball for Madonna," Rebain said. "I've been wanting to go to Madonna my whole life."

Rebain said that she did consider going to Aquinas College (less than three hours from PCEP), but knew Madonna made more sense both from a softball and academic standpoint.

"I knew they were a great school academically and I knew they were great at softball, too," she added. "Right when I knew he (White) wanted me I was very interested and I knew I wanted to come here."

One reason Madonna has such a winning softball program is willingness of athletic director Bryan Rizzo to give the green light on scholarships.

"Our athletic director has gotten us some great increases in our scholarships," White emphasized. "And our program has built itself. We're turning away girls now."

Giordano and Rebain will receive scholarships including athletic and academic components.

Another standout from the KLAA who is headed to Madonna is Livonia

Churchill shortstop Nikki Salloum.

Paying their dues

Both Giordano and Rebain said sustained excellence with the Wildcats bodes well for a successful transition to the college game.

"I think it (success at Plymouth) definitely made a big difference why Madonna wanted me," Giordano said. "Coach Canfield taught me a lot, she influenced me a lot on wanting to go forward in college ball."

Rebain said her five-year career with Finesse (a fast-pitch travel team based in Michigan) is another plus.

"It gives you more experience and you get to face tougher teams," she continued. "So it really helps you."

All of those factors point to big futures in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, but it doesn't hurt to know White is squarely in their corner.

"It (playing in college) is something I've been pushing for for about 10 years," Giordano said. "And to finally know it's paid off is really exciting."

"Coach Al has been wonderful, too. He's like a grandfather, everybody says that about him. I'm looking forward to playing for him."

Of course, Canfield has dibs on them with one more high school season yet to come.

Plus, she stressed that the career paths being taken by Giordano and Rebain should resonate with younger teammates.

"We have a lot of different players who are energetic and just real coachable and we can take them to the next level," Canfield said. "We're proving that can happen."

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Tigers runner-up

The 14-and-under Livonia Tigers placed second place at the Total Sports Halloween Bash Tournament, Oct. 27-28, at Founder's Sports Park in Farmington Hills. Team members included (front row, from left): Trey Gorman, Gabby Bryant, Michael Ohtake, Christopher Ohtake; (second row, from left) J'Wonn Patterson, Nick Hoyer, Zach Gustitus, Alton Loftis, Tim Ohtake, Alec Gorman; (third row, from left) head coach Chester Godley, assistant coaches Tad Ohtake, Will Bryant and Kevin Karsnick, along with team member James Rintala.



Dion Burke, (left) Chuck Woolley and Mike Fillion get ready to carve at last year's Thanksgiving Day dinner at Newburg United Methodist Church.

Thanksgiving Day: Dine out or cater the turkey dinner

If you don't want to cook on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 22, but still want to feast, here's a sampling of establishments that will serve carry-out fare or will be open for business that day:

• **Morels**, 32729 Northwestern Highway, in Farmington Hills, will serve a take-out only Thanksgiving Day dinner, with pickup scheduled from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. The minimum order is for six and cost is \$25 per person. The menu will include Organic Spinach Harvest Salad, which includes dried cranberries, roasted pear and red onion, pinenuts, blue cheese and Maple-Mustard dressing; Artisan Cranberry-Walnut Bread and Michigan Inspired Scones; Roasted Michigan-Raised Turkey; Apple & Cherry Savory Dressing; whipped potatoes; pan gravy; Michigan spaghetti squash; Braised Red Cabbage; and Jayme's Pumpkin Cheesecake. Customers can add on Jumbo Shrimp Cocktail with Atomic Cocktail Sauce for \$3.50 each and Morel Mushroom Bisque for \$8 per person. To order, call (248) 254-3840.

• **Ginopolis Bar-B-Q Smokehouse**, 27815 Middlebelt Road, Farmington Hills will serve its annual Thanksgiving Day dinner, both carry out and in house dining. In house dining will run from noon to 8 p.m. Carry-out orders can be called in any day or evening and picked up starting at noon Thanksgiving Day. There is no order deadline. In addition to the restaurant's regular menu, the special holiday fare includes an oven-roasted turkey dinner with all the trimmings for \$18.99 for adults and \$7.99 per child. Other entrees: St. Louis Smoked Ribs, Honey Glaze Pork Tenderloin, New York Steak, Baked Ham, "Greentown Style" Marinated Lamb Chops, Baked Walnut-Encrusted Chicken, Herb Gulf Shrimp Pasta, Stuffed Norwegian Salmon Florentine, and World Famous Montgomery Inn Ribs. Call (248) 851-8222 for carry-out or reservations.

• **Claddagh Irish Pub**, 17800 Haggerty, Livonia will serve a buffet 11 a.m.-7 p.m. The buffet closes one hour after the last seating. The menu will include baked breads and rolls, assorted fruit, carved turkey with trimmings, pan gravy and cranberry sauce, Irish bacon with honey, cherry and pineapple glaze, green bean casserole, candied yams, cranberry and apple stuffing, fresh seasonal vegetables, mashed potatoes, salad bar, balsamic-marinated chicken breast, pasta, an Irish specialty dish, soup and an assortment of desserts. Cost is \$22.95 for adults, \$9.95 for kids ages 5-10, and free for kids, 4 and under. Make reservations at (734) 542-8141.

• **Sweet Lorraine's**, 1700 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia, will feature a buffet from 1-6 p.m. Cost is \$34.95 for adults and \$11.95 for children 12-5. The menu will include an apple cider station, soup, carving station with roast turkey and prime rib, an omelet station, a pasta station, salads and sides, smoked salmon platter, shrimp cocktail, tropical fruit, green bean casserole, butter-nut squash-stuffed pasta, mashed potatoes, herb-bed bread potatoes, asparagus and main courses such as Baked Chick-

en Piccata, Late Harvest Oven-Baked Salmon, Williamsburg Ribs in a Sweet Molasses-BBQ Sauce, and light and dark turkey meat with gravy. A children's mini buffet also will include cocktail franks in puff pastry, pepperoni and cheese pizza stixs, chicken fingers, mac & cheese, pretzels and Teddy Grahams. The dessert table will include cake, trifle, torte, a chocolate fountain and more. Make reservations by calling (734) 953-7480.

• **Sive**, at The Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth, will serve a special four-course Thanksgiving Day meal from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Cost is \$49 for adults and \$19 per child. Entree choices include herb-crusted petite filet mignon, chanterelle-dusted sea scallops, braised short ribs, roasted turkey breast, wild boar chop, butter-poached sable, and a surf 'n' turf plated of herb-crusted petite filet mignon, lobster tail and crab. Make reservations online at Sive@st.johnsgc.com or by calling (734) 357-5700.

• **Golden Fox and Fox Classic restaurants** at Fox Hills, 8768 N. Territorial, Plymouth will both offer buffets from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Golden Fox's buffet will include a breakfast station with such items as Pumpkin Cranberry French Toast and Fluffy Scrambled Eggs; a seafood station; soup station with Pumpkin Bisque; salad station; omelet station; carving station; "Old-Fashioned Thanksgiving" station, with turkey pot pie, oven-roasted turkey, beef brisket, tilapia, chicken cutlets and more; and a dessert station. Cost is \$34.95 for adults and \$12.95 for children, 3-12. Children under 3 eat for free.

The Fox Classic will serve cocktail shrimp, Butternut Squash Soup, salads, cranberry sauce, rolls and cornbread, mashed potatoes with gravy, green bean casserole, honey-glazed carrots, mac n' cheese, Beef Sheppard's Pie, cornbread stuffing, roasted turkey, ham, and desserts. Cost is \$24.95 for adults and \$10.95 for children, 3-12. Children under 3 eat for free. Call (734) 453-7272 for reservations.

• **Courthouse Grille**, 41661 Plymouth Road, Plymouth will include a roasted turkey dinner on the menu with other items. The turkey dinner costs \$17.99 and the stuffed turkey breast dinner costs \$18.99. Both come with cranberry sauce, gravy, a choice of mashed or sweet potatoes and a choice of green beans almandine or honey-roasted root vegetables. The turkey dinner also includes dried fruit and apple stuffing and the turkey breast comes with a rice and escarole stuffing. Other entrees include honey-roasted ham, scallops, risotto, walleye, prime rib and more. All entrees, include the turkey dinners, are served with rolls, and soup or garden salad. Make reservations by calling (734) 453-2002.

• **Epoch Catering** in Novi offers a Thanksgiving Dinner that serves 10-12 and includes turkey, potatoes, cornbread stuffing, orange-cranberry relish, green beans and rolls for \$159. Desserts are available at an additional price. Order deadline is Friday, Nov. 16. Pick-up times will be assigned, between 8 a.m.-11 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Call (248) 735-7222.

Friendly feasts

Local churches welcome guests for Thanksgiving dinner

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Nancy Boyd will set the table for Thanksgiving dinner on Tuesday night.

She'll prep some vegetables, decorate and maybe take a few photos.

Then, on the big day, she'll greet more than 200 guests and wash dishes after they dine on turkey, all the trimmings, side dishes and pie.

"I love doing this. It makes your heart feel good, especially for those people who don't have family or who have small families," said Boyd, 78. "It's a wonderful mission our church is doing."

The Canton woman is part of a volunteer crew that will make sure Newburg United Methodist Church's second annual community Thanksgiving Day dinner comes off without a hitch on Nov. 22. The free dinner, with seatings at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m., will be held at the church, located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, in Livonia.

Sarah Nadeau Alexander, youth and young adult ministry coordinator, said Newburg's first holiday dinner last year drew more than 220 individuals and volunteers from as far away as Flint.

"This dinner is free to all and open to anyone who would like to attend, whether families cannot afford the huge dinner setting, or a few people do not want to go through the hassle of putting on a large dinner only for a few to eat," Alexander said, in an e-mail to the *Observer*.

She said the church this year is asking for monetary donations and for volunteers to help before or during Thanksgiving Day. Boyd recalls at least 15 volunteers who were not Newburg members pitched in last year.

"We had a fellow just come in from Afghanistan. He was home on leave and wanted to do something. What a delightful young man he was," Boyd said. "So many people just dropped in to help. It was wonderful."

"I'm thrilled by the whole idea of having a community family dinner for free. I don't have any family here and many times I've gone to friends' homes for Thanksgiving. I'm having two of my friends come to the 4 p.m. seating. And a neighbor is coming. I'll be a greeter at the first seating and I'll eat with them at the second."

"Newburg is my family here and it's a wonderful family."

Boyd said the church plans to place a television screen — tuned to football — in the dining room, along with puzzles, coloring books and other activities for children.

Anyone interested in attending the free meal must RSVP by calling the church office at (734) 422-0149.

A handful of other area churches also plan dinners on Thanksgiving Day.

Our Lady of Loretto, 17116 Olympia, Redford will serve a Thanksgiving Day meal from 2-5 p.m. at its family center. The gathering is open to all, but designed for those who don't



Ragen Chick (left) watches as Michelle Hartmann prepares a salad at the community Thanksgiving Dinner last year at Newburg United Methodist Church, in Livonia.



Ray Odum and the Rev. Marsha Wooley get a close-up look at pies made by members of Newburg United Methodist Church last year at its first annual community Thanksgiving Dinner.



Andrew Perez and Jill Perez stock the pie table.

want to eat alone. A love offering will be accepted. Call the church to RSVP at (313) 534-9000.

St. Mel's, 7506 Inkster Road, in Dearborn, also will serve dinner at 1 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

The focus is on individuals or couples without family or friends in the area, those that might otherwise eat alone on the holiday. RSVP to the church at (734) 422-0149.

Tasty tradition

Vegetarian event offers healthful cooking ideas for the holidays

It started as a way to share healthy holiday vegetarian recipes. Twenty-five years later, more than 650 guests sampled some 50 vegetarian and vegan offerings ranging from appetizers and main dishes to salads and desserts on Sunday, Nov. 11 at the Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza sponsored by Better Living Seminars and Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Guests from throughout western Wayne County and west Oakland County sampled home-cooked recipes prepared by volunteer chefs. Smiles, nods and lots of "this taste's great" were heard throughout the gymnasium, which was transformed into a holiday dining room at Metropolitan Adventist Church on Haggerty Road in Northville Township.

Chefs included Jeanie Weaver (event organizer), Ema Roma, Julie Verhelle, Marcia More, Lori Peach, Simone Cross, Rula Karapatsakis, Lucia Modiga, Margi Toppenberg, Heather Arvidson, Maria Matthew, Joy Hyde, Vera Bakewell, Kathy Dukaric, Shirley Brezzell, Stephanie Howard, Connie Vail and Pat Calisti.

Additional chefs were Dolly Diamond, Amber Bayer, Kelli Marquette, Chad and Melissa Higgins, Ellen Higgins, Anna Box, Janet Costew, Sue Parce, Rina Parce, Jonathan Janevski, Yusuke and Mika Kuramochi, Fumio Narita, Yuzuru Ito, Ayumi Uchino, Cheryl Gilbert, Jennifer Barkholz and Julie Chole. Also contributing food was Charley's Deli Grille and the Great Harvest Bread Co.

"The event started



Enjoying this year's Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza are Plymouth Township residents and family members (from left) Katharine Rzepecki, Patty Rzepecki, Tom Rzepecki, Terry Rzepecki and Dick Rzepecki. Tom, Patty and Katharine marked their 10th year attending the event while Dick and Terry have attended the last three years.



Natalie Weaver has been a volunteer chef at the event since the taste fest began 25 years ago. Her helper is Ethan Karapatsakis of Canton Township.



Jeanie Weaver (standing) heads the Vegetarian Holiday Tasting Extravaganza. Also pictured are her father, Dr. Arthur Weaver, of Northville and president of Better Living Seminars, along with taste fest guests Clay and Ejjnifer Raybourn of South Lyon.



Leigh Diamond of Livonia dishes up samples of Uncle Dave's Biscuits and Gravy, a main dish prepared with soy products.



Hannah Arvidson of South Lyon prepares food in sampling cups for taste fest guests.

because we had a desire to share recipes of good healthy food with friends from the community," said Dr. Arthur Weaver, M.D., and president of Better Living Seminars, a nonprofit organization dedicated to teaching the importance of healthy living.

"New nutritional research is being published regularly showing the advantages of a balanced vegetarian diet. Scientists are discovering new photochemicals and antioxidants in fruits, grains, vegetables, and

nuts that were previously thought nonexistent. These natural compounds have been shown to be anti-carcinogenic, to lower cholesterol, and to significantly reduce many

chronic disease processes such as diabetes, arthritis, and macular degeneration. Every available evidence now indicates that a well-balanced, total vegetarian diet is the

best food plan one can choose," wrote Weaver on the group's website.

The event is a family-affair for Weaver. His wife, Natalie, has prepared food for the taste fest since the event started. His daughter, Jeanie Weaver, coordinates the event and also prepared at least four selections at this year's Tasting Extravaganza.

Upcoming events include an International Thanksgiving Vegetarian Potluck on Saturday, Nov. 17 in Metropolitan Adventist Church, and A Christmas Potluck on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 15585 Haggerty Road, Northville Township. For information, call (734) 420-3131 or (734) 420-4044.

Make Thanksgiving Day fare vegan-friendly

Got a vegetarian or vegan sharing your Thanksgiving Day dinner?

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) offers these tips to create a feast that will appeal to meat-eaters, vegetarians and vegans:

- Use vegetable broth in the stuffing.

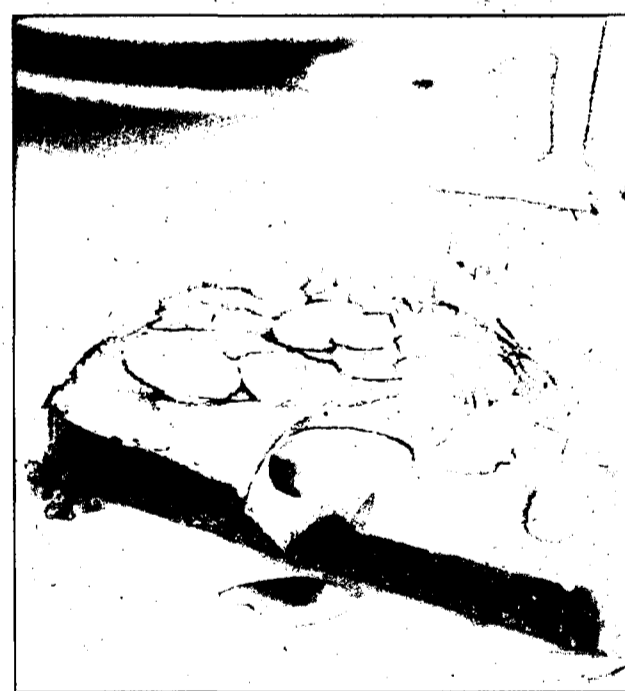
- Vegans — who eat no dairy foods and no animal products — will thank you for substituting soy milk and margarine for milk and butter in mashed potatoes.

- If you're baking holiday bread, substitute egg replacer and soy milk for eggs and milk. Commercial egg replacers, such as Ener-G Egg Replacer, are available in health food stores and many grocery stores. Or try substituting one banana or 1/4 cup applesauce for each egg called for in a recipe for sweet, baked desserts. Make sure bananas or apples are compatible with the other flavors in the dessert. Fruit purées tend to make the final product denser than the original recipe. For a light texture, add an additional 1/2 teaspoon of baking powder.

- Tofu is the perfect egg substitute for quiches, scrambles and custards. Replace one egg with 1/4 cup of tofu purée.

- Save time in the kitchen by asking guests to bring a vegan dish to share.

- Be sure to keep vegan salad dressing on hand. Annie's, Girard's, Brianna's, Newman's, Kraft, and Whole Foods are among the brands that offer some vegan products. The dressing also can be as simple as oil



Apple Bavarian Torte

and vinegar.

- Try a vegan turkey alternative. Tofurky Roast, Celebration Roast and Gardein Holiday Roast are three options available from health food markets and some grocery stores. All contain wheat gluten, however, making them inappropriate for those on gluten-free diets.

Here are a few dessert recipes from PETA to top off your vegan- and vegetarian-friendly holiday meal:

Apple Bavarian Torte

Makes 6-8 servings

- 1/2 cup plus 1 tablespoon vegan margarine, chilled
- 3 apples, peeled, cored, cut in half, and thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

- 1/2 cup plus 1/4 cup white sugar, chilled
- 1/2 teaspoon plus 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup flour, chilled
- 1 8-ounce package nondairy cream cheese (try Tofutti or Galaxy brand)
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds

Preheat the oven to 400°F. Oil a 9-inch springform pan. In a skillet over medium heat, melt 1 tablespoon margarine. Toss the apples with the brown sugar and cinnamon and sauté for 2-3 minutes. Drain off and reserve the liquid. Cream together 1/2 cup margarine, 1/2 cup white sugar, 1/2 cup vanilla, and the flour. Press the crust mixture into the bottom of the springform pan.

Set aside. In a food processor, blend together the nondairy cream cheese, lemon juice, 1/2 teaspoon vanilla, cornstarch, and remaining 1/4 cup sugar. Pour this mixture over the crust and spread the apples on top. Bake for 10 minutes. Drizzle with a couple of spoonfuls of the reserved apple liquid, avoiding the edges of the pan, and continue baking for 25 minutes. Sprinkle almonds over the top of the torte. Continue baking until lightly browned. Cool before removing from the pan.

Pumpkin Patch "Cheesecake"

Makes 8 servings

- 12 ounces firm silken tofu, puréed
- 8 ounces nondairy cream cheese (try Tofutti brand at Tofutti.com)
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 prepared graham cracker crust

Preheat the oven to 350°F.

Purée all the ingredients except the pie crust in a food processor and pour into the graham cracker crust. Bake at 350°F for 50 minutes.

Allow to cool for 30 minutes, cover with plastic wrap or the top of the pie container, and refrigerate for 6 hours or overnight before serving.

Chocolate Bread Pudding With Rum Sauce

Serves 6

- For the Pudding:
- 5 tablespoons cocoa
 - 1 tablespoon hot water
 - 2 cups soy milk
 - Egg Replacer equivalent of 2 eggs

- 1/2 cup sugar
- Dash salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 to 3 cups stale bread, torn into small pieces

- For the Rum Sauce:
- 1 cup vegan margarine, softened (try Earth Balance brand)
 - 1 cup confectioner's sugar
 - 1/2 cup dark rum
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla
 - 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Combine the cocoa with the hot water until smooth. Add more water as needed.

In a large bowl, combine the cocoa mixture, soy milk, egg replacer, sugar, salt, and vanilla. Mix in the stale bread. Pour into a prepared loaf pan. Bake at 350°F for 1 hour.

Beat the margarine until light and fluffy. Sift the confectioner's sugar into the margarine. Add the rum, vanilla, and nutmeg. Beat on high speed for 5 minutes. Pour over the pudding. Serve warm.

Orange-Cranberry Upside-Down Cake

Makes 6-8 servings

- 6 tablespoons vegan margarine, plus more for greasing the pan (try Earth Balance brand)
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon allspice
- 1 tablespoon grated orange zest
- 1 1/2 cups fresh cranberries
- Egg replacer equivalent to 1 egg

- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Juice of 1 orange
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup soy milk

Preheat the oven to 350°F, making sure that a rack is in the center. Generously grease an 8-inch round cake pan with margarine and set aside. Whisk together 1/2 cup of the sugar with the cinnamon, allspice, and orange zest. Sprinkle evenly over the bottom of the pan. Arrange the cranberries in a single layer on top and set aside.

In a large bowl, cream the 6 tablespoons of margarine and the remaining 1/2 cup of sugar for several minutes with an electric mixer until well blended. Add the egg replacer, vanilla, and orange juice. Beat again.

In a separate bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder, and salt. With the mixer on low speed, add the flour mixture to the margarine mixture in three batches, alternating with the soy milk and blending well after each addition.

Pour over the cranberries and smooth the top. Place on a baking sheet on a rack in the center of the oven and bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, approximately 30 to 35 minutes. Remove from the oven and let cool on a wire rack for 30 minutes. Run a knife around the edge of the cake and invert onto a

Builders, remodelers see cause for 'cautious optimism'

A statewide survey of homebuilders and remodelers showed significant improvement in the building industry's outlook as the Michigan Housing Index (MHI) reached its highest level in the 2 and a half year history of the index. The MHI, covering the third quarter of 2012, showed a sharp increase from the second quarter index, and was significantly higher than the same period one year ago. The latest Michigan Housing Index covers the time period of July through September 2012.

"The trend lines have been positive, so it is encouraging to see that the outlook for building continues to improve," said Robert Filka, CEO of the Home Builders Association of Michigan (HBAM), which conducts the monthly survey. "We've got a long way to go before we see anything near normal historical production, but things are definitely headed in the right direction."

The Michigan Housing Index (MHI) is a quarterly summary of building and remodeling

DETAILS

Following is a year-to-year comparison of the MHI Index:

	Sept. 2012	June 2012	September 2011
Builders Index	52	38	31
Remodelers Index	50	40	45

activity compiled by HBAM. The survey asks builders about the number of homes currently under construction and in the planning stages. Builders are also asked to evaluate their prospects for future customers. Totals are calculated in an index that is reported quarterly to provide a tracking mechanism for the industry's process. The survey breaks down builder/remodeler sentiment into three categories:

- Less than 45 (pessimistic)
- 45-55 (cautious optimism)
- Above 55 (optimism)

"While it is good to note that Michigan homebuilders and remodelers are cautiously optimistic about the next few months, our overall economy must see more rapid and sustained growth for a complete

recovery of our housing industry," said Filka.

Filka also noted there remains much concern within the homebuilding industry over the possibility that Congress and the president could begin overhauling the federal tax code in 2013, which could threaten some of the most important tools that encourage home ownership, including the ability for consumers to deduct mortgage interest.

"We must protect the mortgage interest deduction," said Filka. "We shouldn't change the rules on the one tax break that has been most important in creating a stable middle class in America. A strong housing market is not only important to help more Michigan citizens realize the dream of homeowner-

ship, but is essential to revitalizing Michigan's economy. When builders are constructing homes that means jobs and investment, which provide a better quality of life and support for Michigan schools and municipalities."

The Michigan Housing Index combines results of a monthly survey of Michigan builders and remodelers along with a series of economic statistics including single family home permits, crude oil prices, automobile production and unemployment. The HBAM Michigan Housing Index is intended to provide an accurate projection of the future direction of the building and remodeling housing market in Michigan.

The Home Builders Association of Michigan is a professional trade association comprised of 27 local homebuilder associations around the state and their builder, subcontractor and supplier members. HBAM works to positively promote the building industry and impact legislative, regulatory and legal issues affecting housing affordability.

Politics can surface on boards

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: I am a member of a board of a condominium where the majority is operating under their selfish best interests. As part of that, they hired a new attorney, instead of our old attorney who had represented the association in many areas including an



Robert Meisner

issue against the now-treasurer of our association. Now the new attorney is bad mouthing the old attorney and the board doesn't seem

to care. What can I do?

A: Apparently, the new attorney, whether he or she has justification or not, should not be unnecessarily impugning the old attorney, and is probably doing so to gain the favor of the majority of the board who, from what you have said, had an ax to grind against the old attorney for their own self-serving purposes. Unfortunately, there are some associations who have directors whose ego and/or lack of knowledge supersede their best judgment and operate in their own selfish best interests. Get the co-owners to get a petition to remove these directors, pointing out that they are not operating in the best interests of the association, and are breaching their fiduciary duty, which includes hiring an attorney who lacks the demeanor of what is expected of a reputable attorney.

Q: I know this is somewhat of a complex question, but I am a designer of a biomass heating system and was hired by a contractor to install a boiler as part of a system of a high school. I wasn't paid and the contractor filed a Mechanic's Lien against the school. He claimed that his right to file a Mechanic's Lien turned on whether his materials and labor were intended to become a permanent part of the real estate. Although the boiler was physically annexed to the building and specifically adapted to the needs of the school, my agreement with the school provided that the system remained the property of mine and would be removed on termination of the agreement. Does the contractor have a right to claim a Mechanic's Lien?

A: Based upon a case on similar facts out of Maine, the court held that because neither the designer nor the school intended that the system would become a permanent part of the realty, the contractor had no right to file a Mechanic's Lien. You should check with your own state to determine what the results would be.

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

Businessman in '40 Under 40' class

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) announced that Ben Templeton of Templeton Building Co. in Birmingham has been named to *Professional Remodeler* magazine's 40 Under 40 Class of 2012. Templeton serves on BIA's Board of Directors and on the association's NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council where he will be chairman in 2013.

Templeton, 31, is vice president of his home building and remodeling company. He earned a bachelor of science degree in technical communication from Lawrence Technological University before beginning his career. A firm believer in the benefits of education, he not only holds a Residential Builders License from the state of Michigan, but has enhanced his business acumen by earning industry-specific designations from the National Association of Home Builders including Certified Graduate Builder (CGB), Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR) and Certi-

fied Green Professional (CGP). Classes for these designations are offered locally at BIA offices.

"Ben is not only an up and coming professional in the eyes of *Professional Remodeler* magazine," said Michael Stoskopf, CEO of BIA, "he is one of the bright stars in our membership. Ben is always ready to contribute new ideas to the association and the remodelers council and to volunteer the time and energy it takes to implement these ideas. We are lucky to have him in our ranks."

Templeton feels that one of his most significant achievements to date is implementing a successful marketing program for his company that includes a mix of traditional strategies along with social media outreach. Additionally, he has opened Templeton Commercial Division to expand the company beyond its already wide scope that includes residential remodeling, new home construction, service and a

custom cabinetry and furniture division.

While these significant accomplishments continue to positively impact the success of Templeton Building, Templeton knows that another important tool to help his business grow is ongoing and impactful networking. "Staying in touch with other business people in the area, learning what they do and sharing what I do is one of the best ways I know of to keep my business on a growth path," he said. "To make this happen in the area where I live and work, I launched the Business Professionals of Birmingham Bloomfield Hills. It continues to be one of the most valuable ways I gain new business."

Ben is married to Kate Sielski Templeton. In February of this year they became proud parents to their first child, Zachary Benjamin Templeton.

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, Building Industry Association of SE Michigan (BIA) and Apartment Association of Michigan (AAM) are



Ben Templeton

trade associations representing nearly 500 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multi-family residential construction industry. BIA is affiliated with the Michigan Association of Home Builders in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 6-10, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
42715 Addison Ave	\$168,000
7609 Admiralty Dr	\$242,000
3506 Empire State Dr	\$235,000
7881 Hamlet Ct	\$220,000
46849 Larchmont Dr	\$238,000
42475 Lilley Pointe Dr	\$55,000
45478 Muirfield Dr	\$313,000
3378 Niagara Ave	\$224,000
8440 Orhan St	\$114,000
2399 Premier Ln	\$77,000
3271 Riverside Ct	\$150,000

47660 Royal Pointe Dr	\$195,000
1579 Rustic Ridge Rd	\$106,000
1993 Stonebridge Way	\$350,000
1721 Trinity Rd	\$395,000
GARDEN CITY	
29701 Brandt Ct	\$34,000
7024 Cardwell St	\$63,000
6270 Henry Ruff Rd	\$59,000
6064 Lathers St	\$38,000
31782 Leona St	\$52,000
30640 Rosslyn Ave	\$68,000
LIVONIA	
33727 Angeline Ave	\$215,000
14221 Arcola St	\$80,000
14998 Arden St	\$95,000
14918 Brookfield St	\$170,000
32052 Cambridge St	\$225,000
36250 Club Dr	\$285,000
18262 Deering St	\$69,000
17475 Doris St	\$150,000
9941 E Clements Cir	\$95,000
30123 Fairfax St	\$65,000

31034 Fargo St	\$165,000
8929 Floral St	\$25,000
36095 Hees St	\$120,000
16053 Houghton Dr	\$232,000
10790 Laurel St	\$80,000
14096 Mayfield St	\$170,000
35611 Minton St	\$140,000
18451 Pershing St	\$60,000
14562 Ronnie Ln	\$124,000
31617 Saint Martins St	\$107,000
16912 Surrey St	\$162,000
NORTHVILLE	
18078 Blue Heron Dr W	\$362,000
16041 Brook Trout Ln	\$152,000
44231 Cypress Point Dr	\$50,000
42280 Old Bedford Rd	\$250,000
39472 Springwater Dr	\$117,000
42654 Waterford Rd	\$320,000
PLYMOUTH	
49792 Cooke Ave	\$375,000
40417 Pinetree Dr	\$175,000
49463 Pointe Xing	\$176,000

13390 Wendover Dr	\$224,000
REDFORD	
18728 Centralia	\$19,000
9183 Dixie	\$26,000
9984 Farley	\$61,000
15571 Kinloch	\$35,000
15893 Lenore	\$45,000
25421 Pembroke Ave	\$55,000
25510 Schoolcraft	\$72,000
15881 Winston	\$30,000
WESTLAND	
32561 Benson Dr	\$105,000
7650 Cherrywood Dr	\$185,000
8251 Creekside Dr	\$203,000
6411 Deerhurst Dr	\$55,000
310 Fischer Dr	\$160,000
33546 Hively St	\$35,000
30365 Marshall Ct	\$75,000
1703 N Crown St	\$95,000
1577 Shoemaker Dr	\$31,000
2210 W Miller Cir	\$103,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 23-27, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
19400 Beverly Rd	\$350,000
31119 Old Stage Rd	\$350,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
24078 Bingham Pointe Dr	\$280,000
BIRMINGHAM	
1838 Birmingham Blvd	\$268,000
1019 Chesterfield Ave	\$850,000
810 Chestnut St	\$278,000
1173 Davis Ave	\$414,000
2421 Dorchester Rd	\$190,000
473 E Southlawn Blvd	\$285,000
1061 Forest Ave	\$345,000
1901 Graefield Rd	\$80,000
542 Graten St	\$261,000
939 Larchlea Dr	\$270,000
1992 Northlawn Blvd	\$395,000
1972 Pembroke Rd	\$595,000
1270 Piercer St	\$291,000
1492 Ruffin Ave	\$421,000
1735 Shipman Blvd	\$327,000
471 Smith Ave	\$224,000
1347 Stanley Blvd	\$355,000
1678 Yosemite Blvd	\$321,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
1635 Franklin Hills Dr	\$328,000
2793 Brady Ln	\$205,000
6946 Cathedral Dr	\$330,000
1 The Oaks	\$251,000
6155 Thurber Rd	\$195,000
100 W Hickory Grove Rd # F2	\$43,000
2091 W Valley Rd	\$1,875,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
1370 Bramblebush Run	\$157,000
706 E Fox Hills Dr	\$52,000
1231 Fox Chase Rd	\$300,000
5340 Kellen Ln	\$455,000
4579 Kiftsgate Bnd	\$518,000
457 N Cranbrook Rd	\$727,000
5225 Provincial Dr	\$265,000
2235 Quanton Rd	\$550,000
125 S Cranbrook Cross Rd	\$252,000
459 S Cranbrook Cross Rd	\$195,000
6349 Thorncrest Dr	\$287,000
3873 Top View Ct	\$250,000
2905 W Hickory Grove Rd	\$216,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
2253 Brigantine	\$40,000
9171 Chaumont Dr	\$91,000
1893 Cheshire Ln	\$60,000
3754 Hearsthstone Dr	\$237,000
2242 Palmetto	\$195,000
1083 Penarth St	\$115,000
2484 Solace Dr	\$50,000
FARMINGTON	
23191 Farmington Rd	\$77,000

36624 Lansbury Ln	\$142,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
31700 Belmont St	\$120,000
37046 Birwood Ct	\$306,000
37547 Burton	\$215,000
30712 Charleston Ct	\$178,000
29739 Eldred St	\$39,000
30175 Fox Club Dr	\$372,000
30111 Kimberly Ct	\$235,000
26065 La Muera St	\$138,000
24422 Ridgeview Dr	\$245,000
23840 Scott Dr	\$160,000
35887 Springvale St	\$181,000
31200 Sturbridge St	\$230,000
29525 Sugar Spring Rd	\$156,000
37800 Wendy Lee St	\$75,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE	
18174 San Rosa Blvd	\$91,000
MILFORD	
1561 Murray Ct	\$315,000
1142 Riverside St	\$300,000
NOVI	
41886 Aspen Dr	\$96,000
27459 Belgrave Pl	\$215,000
30981 Centennial Pl	\$128,000
22187 Chase Dr	\$440,000
41816 Chattman St	\$250,000
50637 Chesapeake Dr	\$685,000
50721 Chesapeake Dr	\$765,000
29344 Douglas Dr	\$180,000
26304 Fieldstone Dr	\$288,000
23700 Harvest Dr	\$185,000
28078 Hewes Ln	\$148,000

23546 Hickory Grove Ln	\$190,000
42154 Loganberry Rdg N	\$171,000
24502 Nottingham Dr	\$280,000
24761 Picara Dr	\$293,000
24516 Simmons Dr	\$195,000
44861 Stockton Dr	\$84,000
44867 Stockton Dr	\$84,000
30980 Tanglewood Dr	\$150,000
24939 White Plains Dr	\$323,000
28237 Wolcott Dr	\$84,000
SOUTH LYON	
24624 Brompton Way	\$310,000
24707 Brompton Way	\$324,000
59332 Carriage Ln	\$295,000
23605 Country Club Dr	\$135,000
556 Covington St	\$105,000
57679 Deere Ct	\$337,000
127 Easton Dr	\$245,000
53741 Elmwood Dr	\$25,000
52744 Trailwood Dr	\$105,000
838 Wood Run	\$235,000
Southfield	
21180 Independence Dr	\$112,000
24299 Lathrup Blvd	\$59,000
15801 Providence Dr # 10b	\$80,000
16412 Stratford Dr	\$45,000
20177 Willowick Dr	\$143,000
White Lake	
4642 Coastal Pkwy	\$38,000
8950 Huron Bluffs Dr	\$300,000
9122 Sandy Ridge Dr	\$235,000
8010 Springdale Dr	\$155,000

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday

PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

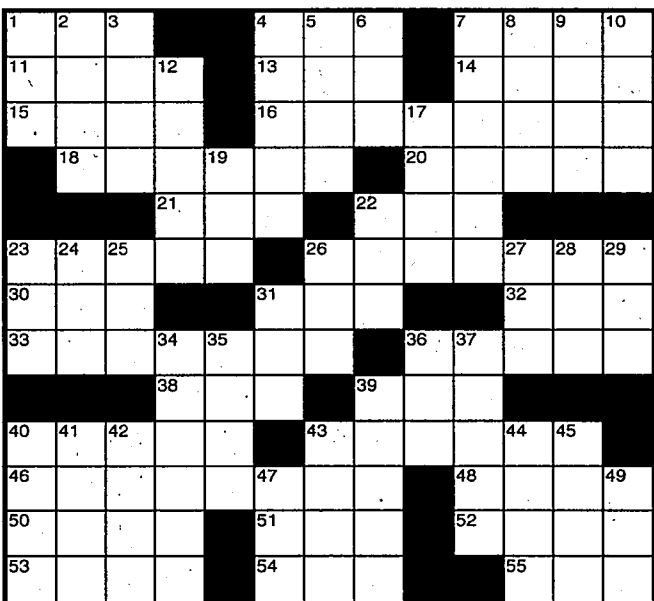
- ACROSS**
- 1 Game piece
 - 4 Short-legged, thick-set horse
 - 7 Recipe meas.
 - 11 Wood choppers
 - 13 Psyche component
 - 14 "La Traviata" highlight
 - 15 Advisable
 - 16 Tough
 - 18 Even-tempered
 - 20 Meat-locker units
 - 21 London lav
 - 22 Come to the plate
 - 23 "Blondie" pooch
 - 26 Daytime dramas
 - 30 Checkout ID
 - 31 Launching platform
 - 32 Hamlet's oath
 - 33 Minded
 - 36 First name in cosmetics
- DOWN**
- 1 Gullet
 - 2 Poles' connector
 - 3 Cozy dwelling
 - 4 Quartet member
 - 5 Ess molding
 - 6 Tropical snake
 - 7 Gauguin's island

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	P	I	E	O	S	F	I	L	M	
L	L	U	S	R	A	A	R	C	H	
O	P	E	R	A	T	E	D	O	D	
B	E	A	T	S	L	A	D	E	N	
O	R	D	P	A	S	T	A	I	D	
E	O	C	E	N	E	A	M	I	G	O
P	R	O	P	S	L	I	P			
A	G	E	A	L	O	F	T	U	G	H
R	O	G	E	R	Z	O	R	R	O	
R	A	C	K	A	B	R	I	D	G	E
I	T	E	R	N	E	O	D	E	E	S
M	E	S	A	S	T	E	S	S	I	N

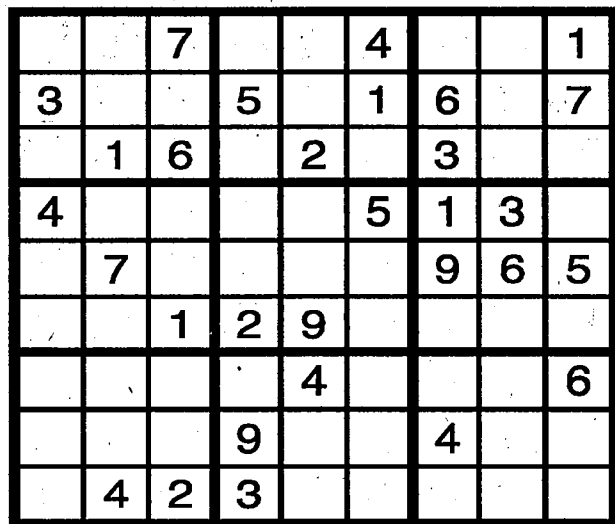
10-21-11 © 2011 UFS, Dist. by Univ. Uclick for UFS

- 8 Raised, as rabbits
- 9 Your Majesty
- 10 Hands over a check
- 12 Ice floe dwellers
- 17 Movie mogul
- 19 Tarzan's kid
- 22 Double or twin
- 23 Add to a soundtrack
- 24 It has long arms
- 25 I, to Wolfgang
- 26 Thoroughly blue
- 27 At the stern
- 28 Embroider, maybe
- 29 Take a gander at
- 31 Part of mpg
- 34 Most capable
- 35 Far-flung
- 36 Job-ad letters
- 37 Period of time
- 39 Mindless followers
- 40 Hiss
- 41 River to the Seine
- 42 Laptop operating system
- 43 Corp. biggies
- 44 Hang-glide
- 45 Southwest Arizona town
- 47 Country addr.
- 49 Bad hair —



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

SUDOKU



Level: Beginner

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!

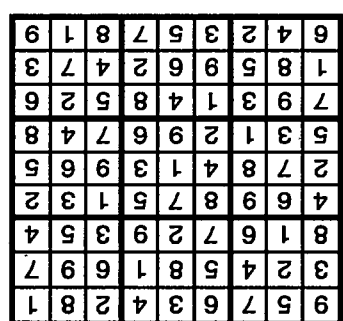
Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear 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 — Holiday Shopping

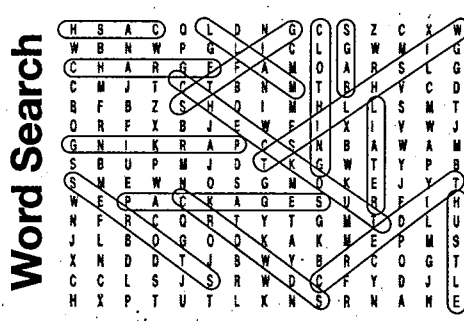
H	S	A	C	Q	L	D	N	G	C	S	Z	C	X	W
W	B	N	W	P	G	L	I	C	L	G	W	M	I	G
C	H	A	R	G	E	F	A	M	O	A	R	S	L	G
C	M	J	T	C	T	B	N	M	T	B	H	V	C	D
B	F	B	Z	S	H	Q	I	M	H	L	L	S	M	T
O	R	F	X	B	J	E	W	F	I	X	I	V	W	J
G	N	I	K	R	A	P	C	S	N	B	A	W	A	M
S	B	U	P	M	J	D	T	K	G	W	T	Y	P	B
S	M	E	W	N	O	S	G	M	O	K	E	J	Y	T
W	E	P	A	C	K	A	G	E	S	U	R	F	I	H
N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

- Bags
- Cash
- Charge
- Checkouts
- Clothing
- Credit
- Crowds
- Gifts
- Hustle
- Mall
- Packages
- Parking
- Retail
- Stores
- Wishlist

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



HOMES

apartments.com HomeFinder.com

Commercial - Retail For Sale

CANTON: Busy Michigan Ave. corridor. New 5100 SF building, completely occupied. 4.5 acre site has room for another 15,000 SF building. \$1,400,000. #2615853
Bela Sipos
734-669-5813, 734-669-4100
Reinhart Commercial.

Cemetery Lots

MT. Hope Memorial Garden Cemetery - Livonia. 2 plots in Garden of Valor. \$9000 value, asking \$4500. 586-465-1745

OAKLAND HILLS. 2 prime lots. Pelams Gardens Sect. B. Ea. lot value \$2295 plus \$95 transfer fee. 734-981-6568

OAKLAND HILLS MEMORIAL GARDENS 4 lots together (Lot 31C). Asking \$4500. 586-758-6483

HOMES

apartments.com HomeFinder.com

Condos & Townhouses

LIVONIA: 2 bdrm. Great location. Like New condo. Bad credit may be okay. Call Nick: 248-224-6696

LIVONIA: 2 bdrm. Great location. Like New condo. Bad credit may be okay. Call Nick: 248-224-6696

TAYLOR: 2 bedroom. Available NOW. Like new. Bad credit may be okay. (248) 224-6696

Duplexes

WESTLAND: 2 bdrm duplex, just renovated, all new inside. \$525/mo. plus same sec. 248-202-6859

Flats

WAYNE: Upper Flat, 1 bdrm, heat & water incl. \$470/mo. PLUS sec. (239) 223-2797

Homes For Rent

CANTON: 45467 Augusta Dr. Located at golf course and pond. 4 possibly 5 bdrm, 3.5 bath, finished bsmt, 2 kitchen, 3 car garage, 2 granite fireplaces, \$2200/mo. 313-920-5966

LIVONIA: 1 bdrm, all remodeled, no pets, \$650/mo. Call: (248) 856-1733

LIVONIA Schools 3 bdrm, 2 car garage, c/a. Fully renovated, all new. No smoking/pets. \$1100/mo. 248-569-4751

HOMES

apartments.com HomeFinder.com

Manufactured Homes

Belleville PARK ESTATES
Beautiful area. We will move your newer model homes into our community. Call for details.
734-481-3321

Belleville HANDYMAN SPECIALS
we make the outside look great, you do the inside!
PARK ESTATES
734-481-3321

Belleville PARK ESTATES
Beautifully completely Remodeled
2 bdrm 2 bath
3 bdrm 2 bath
doublewides/singlwides
Extra savings for cash buyers or ask about our lease-option program
734-481-3321

GARDEN CITY: Lg 1 bdrm, Appl., heat/water Free. \$560 + security. 734-513-4965, 734-464-3847

WAYNE AREA - FURNISHED! Best Quality - Must See! All Utilities, Satellite, Various Sizes. (734) 728-0739

WESTLAND \$300 Deposit* Spacious 1 bedroom Private entry On-site maintenance Hurry, won't last! 734-721-6699, EHO *restrictions apply

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MOVE YOUR HOME FOR FREE!

\$99*/mo.
Site rent for 3 years!
Great amenities!

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Canton, MI 48188
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www.4collegepark.com

*Approved manuf. homes & vendors only. Site rent receives annual increases in yrs. 2 & 3 and returns to full market rate in yr. 4. Expires 12/31/12. WAC, EHO.

\$399 MOVES YOU IN!

Free Rent until January 1st, 2013!

BRAND NEW HOMES IN CANTON
Beautiful 3 Bed/2 Baths homes with all appliances Starting at \$649 Call us today!
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THANKSGIVING EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA NEWSPAPERS:

Make sure you don't miss out placing your advertising in our "well-read" Thanksgiving Issues of the Observer & Eccentric Media Newspapers.

Below are the deadlines:
For the issue of Thursday, November 22,
DEADLINE: Monday, November 19th at 4pm

Sunday, November 25th Issue deadlines will be the same as usual!
Thank you and we hope you and your family and friends enjoy your Thanksgiving!

TO PLACE YOUR AD PLEASE CALL:
1-800-579-7355 & CHOOSE "CLASSIFIED"

Observer & Eccentric MEDIA
A GANNETT COMPANY

Observer & Eccentric Media Newspapers

1-800-579-7355
www.hometownlife.com

SERVICES

hometownlife.com

Drywall

COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
Plaster Repair. All jobs welcomed! Lic/Ins. Free Est. 30 yrs. exp. Mark: 313-363-6738

Electrical

FAMILY ELECTRICAL
City cert. Violations corrected. Service changes or any small job. Free est. 734-422-8080

Gutters

GOT GUTTER CLUTTER?
Get rid of it! Senior Discounts Colonial 570, Ranch \$60, Ins. Call Tim @ 734-464-0772

Hauling - Clean Up

A-1 HAULING
Move scrap metal, clean basements, garages, stores, etc. lowest prices in town. Quick service. Free est. Wayne/ Oakland, Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

Housecleaning

QUALITY CLEANING SVC.
20 yrs. exp. insured. Commercial & Residential. Call Peggy: 734-751-2330

Moving & Storage

A1 Movers A-Service
Lic. & Insured-Efficient 3 men, \$75/hr. 866-633-7953

Roofing

Leaks • Roof Repairs • Flashings • Valleys • Hail • Wind Damage • Ins Claims
Member BBB. 30 yrs. exp. Lic/Ins. Call: (248) 546-4321

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

CONTACT US AT:
800-579-7355
www.hometownlife.com
oeads@hometownlife.com

DEADLINES:
Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday
Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

Need to rent that house or apartment?

Place an ad with the Observer & Eccentric Hometown Weeklies and have it rented in no time.

800-579-7355

Help Wanted - General

Administrative/Medical Staff Assistant
A small independent surgical/rehab hospital is seeking a candidate with excellent communication skills, has experience transcribing meeting minutes, maintaining credential files (CPCS/CPMSM), has good organization and computer skills and is a team player. Part-time position (4 days per week).
Email resume at: hmac@strath.org
Or fax to Quality Coordinator at 248-357-0915

AUTO PORTER
Gordon Chevrolet
Used Car Dept.
Full-time, benefits.
Come in to fill out application at:
31850 Ford Rd.
Garden City.

CAR WASH HELP
FT in Plymouth. Must be mechanically inclined.
Apply in person
15065 N. Sheldon Rd, Plymouth

CHEF/COOK
Hilliers
Full-time for an energetic chef who is hardworking, prompt, understands food-related priorities, a team player, and is able to follow recipes providing quality products for our Prepared Foods Case. Other duties include: Inventories and Ordering. Salary commensurate with experience Associates, Bachelors, Certificate
Please apply online at www.hilliers.com

Chimney Sweeps & Masons
\$1000+ / week.
Call: 248-285-9938

CPA
Farmington Hills CPA firm is looking for a CPA with Audit or Tax experience. Growth opportunity available. Send resume: Amanda LeChevalier Porvin, Burnstein & Garelk, P.L.L.C. alechevalier@pbpcpa.com
Fax: (248) 306-5211

ENGINE ASSEMBLY POSITION
High Performance Marine Engine Manufacturer in Plymouth, MI is seeking qualified candidates for Engine Assembly. Duties include preparation, measurement, documentation of all engine components, & final assembly.
Minimum 3+ years of experience with assembly of internal combustion engines and parts, have full knowledge of measuring critical features, be computer literate and a good team player.
Competitive salary, excellent benefit package (including uniforms and all tools provided) along with a great work environment.
Send resume to hr@ilmor.com
Fax 734-456-3699

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Help Wanted - General

CPAs
Our downtown Detroit CPA firm is expanding and seeking highly motivated, hard-working CPAs to join our team. If you are considering a job change and want an opportunity to be a leader in a CPA practice, we are looking for you. We need a few good candidates at the senior and manager level. Qualified applicants must have recent CPA experience, enjoy working in a fast-paced environment, be a self-starter and possess technical as well as people skills.

An advance degree in accounting, along with knowledge in planning engagements, developing a working relationship with clients and demonstrating leadership and communication skills (oral and written) are required for each position.

AUDIT MANAGER
The manager must have at least three to five years of experience and will be responsible for managing accounting and auditing engagements as well as related projects. The audit manager will also participate in the planning process for engagements; coordinate activities with clients, supervise the performance of field work, review work papers and financial statements and present results to client management.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT
The senior accountant must have at least three years of experience and will be responsible for planning engagements, reviewing and analyzing client internal controls and preparing audit programs; identifying and resolving audit issues and developing a working relationship with clients. This person will serve as a mentor to other staff accountants.

Applicants should have prior experience in audits of employee benefit plans, governmental units, and not-for-profit organizations. In addition, experience in preparing and reviewing Form 990 and Form 5500 is a plus, but not a requirement.

George Johnson and Company offers exceptional professional advancement opportunities and benefits. This excellent opportunity includes a highly professional working environment, a competitive salary based on experience, a performance bonus, as well as, a 401(k) employer match.

Please send or e-mail resumes to:
George Johnson & Company
Attn: HR Director
1200 South Building
535 Griswold Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226
cmarshall@gjco.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkinfo@aol.com

DIRECT CARE WORKER
PT positions avail. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Starting \$7.61/hr. (734) 394-5620

SALES
Full or Part-Time for lighting showroom. Must have sales exp. We will teach. Exc. benefits & pay.
APPLY IN PERSON:
Bross Electrical
37400 W 7 Mile Livonia.
(734) 464-2211

Help Wanted - General

Early Education Positions
Preschool in Farmington Hills, MI is seeking a lead teacher, assistant teacher & lunch coordinator.
Lead Teacher
Must hold pre-primary cert. from an accredited prog. & have 3 yrs exp working in a Montessori classroom.
Assistant Teacher
Must have 2 yrs exp working in a Montessori classroom.
Lunch Coordinator
Should have some knowledge of preparing lunches or be willing to train.
Please send letter of intent and email to: chmsfh@gmail.com

SNOW REMOVAL SUB-CONTRACTORS
Must have own truck and plow.
Please call: (734) 716-9778

Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

Engineer: Johnson Controls, Inc. is seeking professionals to fill Product Design Engineer positions in Plymouth, MI to design and develop seat and seating system components, coordinate design and provide support during design reviews with Manuf, Purchasing, and Quality divisions; oversee integration of design development including all support groups; conduct DFMEA, identify deficiencies and incorporate corrective actions; and track cost of the design. Utilize exp. w/ Catia V5 3D; KT, FTA and 8D; & GD&T language. Req.'s BS or equiv. & 5 yrs. exp & up to 20% travel w/in North America. Send resume to Elizabeth Barz, JCI, 5757 N. Green Bay Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53209. Must reference job code PDE-PMI when applying EEO

Help Wanted - General

1-800-579-SELL
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Help Wanted - General

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Help Wanted - General

Your Search Ends Here!

No matter what you're looking for, a new home, a new job, a new car, or maybe a contractor to work on that new home...your search ends here in your Classifieds!

800-579-SELL (7355)



Help Wanted - General

Help Wanted - General

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE



We're looking for customer-centric, energetic, aggressive account executives. If you are someone who can follow a solutions-based strategy of sales with clients, have a proven ability to close sales, and can think big, we would like you to take your place as part of our Advertising team with Observer & Eccentric Media.

We have an opening for a qualified candidate in our Birmingham territory.

- College degree or equivalent work experience in field sales.
- Proven sales track record.
- Have impeccable communication skills.
- Outstanding computer skills.

We offer base + commission and benefits in a work environment that is stimulating and fast-paced along with opportunities for career growth with Gannett Co. Inc.

Email resumes to: gperry@hometownlife.com
Attn: Sales EEOC

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Help Wanted - General

ENGINEERS MAC VALVES, INC. is a worldwide manufacturer of pneumatic solenoid control valves. We are a people oriented technology based company. We operate our company in a group system environment, where people are given responsibility and opportunity to learn and advance. We are looking to hire people who would like to work in such an environment and grow with us.

ASSEMBLY PROCESS ENGINEER - WIXOM, MI Candidates should have at least a 2 year degree in manufacturing/mechanical technology or equivalent experience. This is a hands on floor support position where the engineer will be required to solve problems, implement improvements, design fixtures, and train our work force. Applicants must have 3D CAD Skills.

MANUFACTURING PROCESS ENGINEER - DUNDUE, MI For our machine design group, candidate should have a mechanical Engineering degree, technical degree, or equivalent experience in precision machine design, including tooling, fixture, and jig design/trouble shooting and also machine system purchases from concept through production, CNC programming a plus.

MAC VALVES, INC. offers competitive compensation and great benefits including profit sharing. If you have an interest in this position, send your resume with salary requirements to: MAC VALVE, INC. P.O. Box 111 Wixom, MI 48393 ATTN: DAVE WORTMANN dave.wortmann@macvalves.com

Heavy Truck Mechanic FT, week days with health benefits, paid vacation & incentive bonuses. Candidates must be proficient in drivetrain work. 734-423-3140

JEWELRY SALES Full + Part-time + Seasonal Start up to \$13 Exp up to \$20 Benefits - Bonus - No Nights! 734-525-3200 Fax 525-1443 jobs@jewelryexchange.com

MANUFACTURING ASSOCIATES Day Shift

AW Transmission Engineering (AWTEC), located in Plymouth, is an award-winning industry leader in remanufacturing of automotive transmissions, with a commitment to quality and equipment standards that is unsurpassed in the automotive industry. Due to increased sales & an expansion of the business, AWTEC seeks team-oriented, dependable individuals who would like to enjoy: \$10.50/hr; Raise after 90 days; 100% company paid health/dental/vision; Vacation/holiday/sick pay; Tuition reimbursement; 401k with co. match; AWTEC-HR 14920 Keel St. Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: 734-454-1091 hrresumes@awtec.com EOE

OFFICE ASSISTANT Office experience or former bank exp a plus. Manufactured housing community. Mail resume to: P.O. Box 85530 Westland, MI 48185

Product Engineering Manager for Farmington Hills, MI to manage design & development of OEM vehicle systems & parts utilizing Toyota product development systems & standards; interface between engineering, manufacturing, quality, purchasing & sales regarding design development; interface with Japanese parent to determine product design & performance requirements; lead VAVE & SE activities with suppliers; interface with customers & sales to understand design priorities; support localization of parts produced in Japan; develop & manage program schedules. Requires Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering, 5 yrs. progressive post-Bachelor's experience in engineering management role(s) at OEM or Tier 1 Auto Supplier managing design & development of new technology & products; interacting with manufacturing plant; performing design review using Catia V5 and DRIEM and leading VAVE, Kaizen and benchmarking activities. State experience must include utilizing Toyota product development systems and standards (TIS, SQAM), 25% travel in U.S. & Canada req'd. Send resume to Cindy Lavinari, Hino Motors Manufacturing (U.S.A.), Inc., 37777 Interchange Dr., Farmington Hills, MI 48335. No phone calls.

Production SERTA MATTRESS Multiple Openings Available Due to facility expansion and increased business, we have numerous DAY & NIGHT positions in Assembly, Production & Sewing Depts. All hands on manual production position heavy lifting. Very fast paced environment in order to keep up with production quote. MUST have manufacturing experience 8.50ph on days & \$9.00ph on nights and eligible for piece work pay (on qualified). Long hours (8-10 per day). MUST BE ABLE TO WORK IN A FAST PACE ATMOSPHERE. (ackers need not apply) Applications btwn 10:00am- 3:00pm M-F 38025 JayJay Dr, Romulus Off Cogswell btwn VanBom No Phone Calls Please

PROPERTY MANAGER For small mgmt co. Exp. in condo/homeowner assoc. mgmt. Part-time, some evenings. Resume to: P.O. Box 2376, Garden City, 48136

RR-MDS Coordinator 55 bed, Faith based, Not-for-Profit SNF. MUST be experienced, motivated & caring. Flexible hours avail. More than Competitive benefits tool. Send Resume & Apply: Marycrest Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation 15475 Middlebelt Road, Livonia, MI 48154 Attention: D.O.N. Email: janebo@marycrestmanor.org

Salvage/Scrap Dismantler & Torch Operator FT, weekdays, benefits. (734) 423-3140

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Help Wanted - General

SEASONAL TAX HELP Accountant experienced in general ledger review. January through April 15th, flexible hrs. Email: info@imrps.com Fax: 734-266-8129

SNOWPLOW DRIVER Westland co, min 3 yrs. exp. clean driving record, chauffeur's license. Also need SNOW SHOVEL LABELED 734-891-8994

Vehicle Coster/ Title Clerk Lg. WesternWayne County domestic dealer is seeking an Experienced Vehicle Coster/ Title Clerk.

If you do not have Costing/ Title Clerk experience, PLEASE do not apply.

Duties would include but not limited to: •Calculate gross profit on all sold new and used vehicle deals. •Calculate sales commissions on all deals. •Apply for all factory incentives. •Reconcile all incentive schedules. Cross train and assist with other positions within the office.

Requirements: •Automotive costing experience is required. Please do not apply if you do not have dealership costing experience. •Experience with Excel spreadsheets •Dealertrack / Arkona DMS experience a plus.

Email resume: oerumse@hometownlife.com

Help Wanted - Office Clerical

LEGAL SECRETARY Part-time. Need immediately for general practice. Legal exp. preferred, Novi area. Fax resume: (248) 344-1130

Help Wanted - Dental

Dental Technician Experience preferred. Will train if necessary. Full-Time Farmington Hills (248)626-3144

Help Wanted - Medical

CNA & Exp'd Caregivers All shifts available immediately. 2 years exp., car, w/insurance and good attitude req. Flex hrs. Call Senior Helpers 248-865-1000 Or email: SEMichigan@seniorhelpers.com

DENTAL OFFICE FRONT DESK Outstanding Opportunity to join a progressive Nov dental office. We are looking for a personable, enthusiastic, hardworking individual to become a member of our top-notch team. We are a cosmetic & restorative dental practice that is growing and needs a vibrant personality to join us. Must be open to travel for continuing education seminars. We offer medical, dental, holidays & vacations. Hrs. Mon. & Thurs. 8-6pm. Tues. & Wed. 8-7pm. Top salary paid for personality & experience. If interested please fax resume: 248-427-9007

LASER HAIR REMOVAL TECHNICIAN Exp'd with Lumenis LightSheer Diode. Pay commensurate with experience. Resume: a2denn@aol.com or fax (734) 996-8787

MEDICAL ASSISTANT For Internal Medicine practice in W Bloomfield. Must be very professional, personable, dependable, excellent computer skills. Prior Medical Practice exp is must. Email Resumes to: aji@qinai.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT Full-Time in Troy. 3+ yrs experience in vital signs, EKG, injections, and PFT. Must have excellent computer skills. Call: 248-649-8060 Fax: 248-649-8062

Medical Receptionist Full-Time. Send resume to: 43422 West Oaks Drive, PMB #167, Novi, MI 48377-3300

OPHTHALMIC ASSISTANTS/ TECHNICIANS We love our patients and our patients love us. State of the art ophthalmology practice with multiple locations is looking for highly motivated ophthalmic assistants/ technicians to join our growing team. Certification is not required, but is definitely a plus. Coburn-Kleinfield offers competitive wages, benefits and a practice bonus program. Please submit your resume with your salary history to: Robert Dienethal Coburn-Kleinfield Eye Clinic 33400 W. Six Mile Road Livonia, MI 48152 Or email: rkdienethal@yahoo.com

Westland Nursing & Rehabilitation Centre has openings for: WOUND CARE NURSE Full time, days. Flexible schedule with every other weekend included. ktolber@olympiagroup.com

PT, PTA, SLP, OTR, COTA Full time, part time, or PRN staff. dbellovary@olympiagroup.com

FOOD - Beverage COOK For assisted living facility. Apply in person: 8121 Linley, Canton, MI (Down Joy & Warren)

COOKS With Pizza Exp. Wait Staff / Bartender Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville.

CLASSIFIEDS WORK! 1-800-579-7355 WWW.HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Help Wanted - Sales

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE We're looking for customer-centric, energetic, aggressive account executives.

If you are someone who can follow a solutions-based strategy of sales with clients, have a proven ability to close sales, and can think big, we would like you to take your place as part of our Advertising Team with Observer & Eccentric Media.

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We offer base + commission and benefits in a work environment that is stimulating and fast-paced along with opportunities for career growth with Gannett Co. Inc.

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CERAMIST RETIRING Equip. must go. Hundreds of tools & misc. supplies. \$500 for the lot. 517-294-2808

ENTERTAINMENT UNIT Oak. Doors, drawers, shelves. Nice shape, very heavy. 734-266-8256

JACUZZI ECHO SPA HOT TUB Needs work. Free, as is. You haul away. 734-416-8155

Antiques & Collectibles

OAK FIREPLACE MANTLE: Dated 1894, \$499. School desk, chair attached. \$15. Call: 248-889-4887

Arts & Crafts

NORTHVILLE: Country Place Condos, off 8 Mile and Meadowbrook. Sat. Nov. 17, 1-4p. Holiday gift sales! Avon, Tupperware, crafts & more!

Garage/Moving Sales

BED FRAME: Head/footboard & side rails - Pottery Barn Kid's twin, white wicker, like new, \$200/best. 248-756-6248

Mini-Vans

CHEVY VENTURE 2003 128641A - auto, ac, only 66K, \$6,999. North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

Vans

BUICK TERRAZA 2005 Red, loaded, 87K, Only \$8,995. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CALLIBER 2011 White, 37K \$13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVROLET EXPRESS 2012 Blizzard White, cargo, and ABS! Hard working truck! Reduced to \$18,999! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

FORD ECONOLINE 2011 P21467 - E-250, Comm'l, only 8k on odometer, priced to sell \$18,988 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

4 Wheel Drive HUMMER H3 2009 White, Roof, 4x4, \$22,500. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

PETS hometownlife.com

Cats

Adorable Adult Cat for Adoption to Loving Home Spayed, Front Declawed, Shots up to Date, Serious Inquiries only! Email for picture: adoptakitty07@gmail.com (248)225-2555

BEST KITTENS EVER 8 wks old. Ready to give you lots of love! \$20 and you get a bag of Kitten Chow too! (313) 537-4670

KITTENS - TWO: 8 weeks, must stay together, fixed. Male tabby, 1.5 yrs. 248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

Lost - Pets

LOST DOG - Rot mix (black & tan), long tail, 6 month old, female. Last seen 11/5 at Haggerty & Ecorse area. \$500 Reward. 734-612-1032

WHEELS CARS.COM

Trucks for Sale

CHEVY SILVERADO 2008 Cardinal Red, 16K, LT, and crew cab! This is your truck! Reduced to \$20,887! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

DODGE RAM 1500 2004 Hemi, ext cab, black. Must see! Only \$11,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

FORD F150 2003 Black, 4x4, 88K, \$12,995. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

FORD F-150 2004 P21511A - F4, super crew, 4WD, auto a/c, full pwr, priced to sell \$19,998 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

FORD F-350 2004 12T1121A - Crew cab, Lariat, leather, diesel, \$13,488 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

GMC SIERRA 2002 4x4, runs and looks great. Burgundy, \$11,900 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC SIERRA SLT CREW CAB 2010 4x4, 51K, \$28,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC YUKON XL 2008 Gray, 85K, 4x4, only \$24,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Mini-Vans

CHEVY VENTURE 2003 128641A - auto, ac, only 66K, \$6,999. North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

BUICK TERRAZA 2005 Red, loaded, 87K, Only \$8,995. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CALLIBER 2011 White, 37K \$13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVROLET EXPRESS 2012 Blizzard White, cargo, and ABS! Hard working truck! Reduced to \$18,999! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

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4 Wheel Drive HUMMER H3 2009 White, Roof, 4x4, \$22,500. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

BUICK ENCLAVE 2010 AWD, loaded, White, Must See! \$28,900 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

BUICK ENCLAVE 2010 Silver CXL, 40K, \$28,549. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

BUICK ENCLAVE 2010 Silver CXL, 40K, \$28,549. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LINCOLN NAVIGATOR 2003: 1 owner, low mileage - 53,000 miles, good cond., \$9,900. Call: (734) 422-6936

Sports Utility

BUICK ENCLAVE CXL 2009 Silver, Loaded, 42K, \$27,755. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER 2006 Almond, LT, and certified! Blowout price \$13,923! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

CHEVY AVALANCHE 2004 2-71 4x4, 1 owner, dk green with black leather, 127K easy miles. Asking \$10,500/best offer. Call Emily 248-478-0808

CHEVY CALIBER 2011 White, 37K \$13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY EQUINOX 2010 Mocha Brown, leather, and remote start! Impress the neighborhood! Only \$19,999! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

CHEVY T-BLAZER 2005 Gray, 4x4, Only \$12,595. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CHEVY TRAVERSE LT 2010 Lt. Gray, 37K, \$22,400. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

FORD ESCAPE 2009 13T5054A - auto, full pwr, certified pre-owned, \$15,988. North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

FORD EXPLORER 2010 13T9034A - XLT, 3rd row, moon, 4WD, certified pre-owned \$22,988 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

FORD SPORT TRAC 2007 Sand Stone, XLT, and 4WD! Very versatile! Reduced to \$17,990! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

GMC ENVOY 2003 4x4, Blue, FWD, White, Only \$12,500 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC ENVOY 2007 Denali, Black, 83K, clean. Only \$15,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

GMC ENVOY DENALI 2007 Black, Sharp, Only \$14,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

HUMMER H3 2007 13T1066A-4WD, 119, moon, alloys, super clean, \$19,988 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

LEXUS 2002 RX300 - 3.0L, 6 cyl, AWD, 5 door, Electric Tracation Control. Green w/beige leather. 101,000 miles. Exc. cond. Loaded. \$10,000. 248-626-3005

Sports & Imported

BMW X5 2007 Galaxy Gray, 5.0L, leather, AWD, chromel Luxury meets durability! Reduced to \$25,892! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

CHEVY CORVETTE 2000 Ocean Sand, 6 spd, Convertible and Leather! With Horsepower to Spare! Reduced to \$16,931! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

MINI COOPER 2008 Blazin' Blue, Sunroof, 6-sp, and racing stripes! Make your move! Reduced to \$16,922! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

BUICK LACROSSE 2010 CXL, White, \$23,495 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CX 2011 23K, Blue, Only \$20,495! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2011 27K, Silver, loaded, \$29,995! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2011 29K, Silver, Only \$22,995! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2011 27K, White, loaded, \$22,995! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2011 29K, Silver, Only \$22,995! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2011 27K, Silver, loaded, \$29,995! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2011 29K, Silver, Only \$22,995! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

REGAL 2011 Gold, 23K, Only \$20,995! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

REGAL 2011 7/8, Silver, 26K, Only \$20,749! BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Auto Misc.

WE PAY TOP DOLLAR For Clean USED CARS AVIS/FORD (248) 355-7500

Cadillac

CADILLAC CTS 2008 12C8582A - moon, leather, flawless, \$24,998 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

SRX 2007 Silver, 72K, AWD, Now \$15,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

AVEO 2008 12C8463B - Auto, AC, Price to Move. \$5,998. North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

CAMARO 2010 Cyber Gray, SS, 6-sp, and leather! Real Chevy Muscle! Reduced to \$26,999! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

CHEVY TRAVERSE 2010 AWD, 32K, \$23,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

CRUZE LTZ 2012 13T1070B - 1hr, moon, 10K on odometer, \$20,988 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

HHR 2008 Harvest Orange, remote start, & power options! Happy Cruise! Only \$10,494! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

IMPALA 2006 Saddle Brown, remote start, and On Star! Drive the legend! Reduced to \$9,999! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

MALIBU 2012 Summit White, LS, 4K, and OnStar! Multi-award Winner! Only \$17,523! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

MALIBU LT 2006 Black, roof, like new. \$13,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Chrysler-Plymouth

300 TOURING 2009 13T1068A - 1hr, moon, nav, 30K, \$16,988 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

PT CRUISER 2001 Red, great shape, touring. Only \$4,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

Auto Misc.

Chrysler-Plymouth

SEBRING CONVERTIBLE TOURING 2010 17,000 miles, champagne with black cloth interior, \$15,900. Call: 248-931-7744

CHALLENGER 2008 Blue Streak, Hemi, and R/T! Get in, hold on! Reduced to \$29,934! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

FOCUS 2010 White Crest, leather, and heated seats! Great on gas! Reduced to \$13,923! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

FORD EDGE 2010 Gray Horizon, limited, and Sync! Sure to impress! Reduced to \$21,960! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

FORD FLEX SEL 2009 FWD, Ice Blue, Very Nice, \$17,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

MUSTANG 2010 P21527-V6, Coupe, 0.9% Apr., full pwr, alloys, 24K, spotless, \$17,988 North Bros. Value Lot 800-586-7931

TAURUS 2008 Black-Blue, 63K, \$15,995 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500

TAURUS 2010 Sterling Silver, SEL, and leather! Lots of room! Reduced to \$17,432! 888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche

TERRAIN 2011 - SLT1 Silver, FWD, 22K, Only \$25,995. BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC (734) 453-2500