

HOLIDAY EVENTS ROUNDUP
ENTERTAINMENT, B6

Happy Thanksgiving



HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

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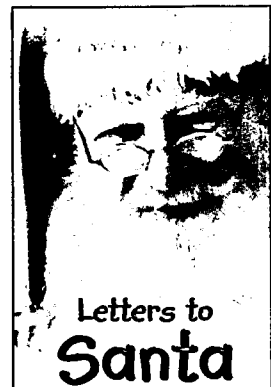
Holiday greetings

The Westland Jaycees will be conducting their annual Holiday Cards for Our Troops 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. tomorrow (Nov. 23) at Westland Shopping Center at Warren and Wayne roads. Shoppers can stop by their table to sign cards that will be sent to military personnel or drop off signed cards that are unsealed — a requirement for all of the armed service branches.

The Jaycees also will be collecting items to send with a care package. Items on the list include phone cards, Visa and MasterCard gift cards, Wet Wipes, lip balm, floss, toothbrushes and disposable razors for men and women, breath mints, candy and gum.

Cards and personal care good items also can be dropped off at Men on the Move, 39101 Webb Drive, Westland.

For more information about Holiday Cards for Our Troops, call (734) 626-0067.



Letters to Santa
Dear Santa

Youngsters can be sure Santa knows what they want by writing a letter to Santa and sending it to the *Observer* which will print them in our Thursday, Dec. 20, issue.

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.

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'Devil in details' of Snyder's draft of major K-12 changes

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Gov. Rick Snyder has made it clear he believes the state needs to restructure the way it pays for and oversees public education.

The draft of his new act to govern the financing of education would allow K-12 students to choose school districts, expand use of online learning and hand out monetary incentives of \$2,500 per semester for finishing high school early.

If and when it makes its way through the legislative process, the proposed Michigan Public Educa-

tion Finance Act would replace the School Aid Act of 1979.

And, while the governor believes the steps are necessary to create "career-ready citizens," local educators and some legislators have their doubts.

"This is the most drastic reform ever seen in American education," said Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy. "In large part, it is the restructuring of education in Michigan."

Lots of change

The draft bill was released Monday on the Oxford Foundation's website at oxfordfoundation-

mi.com. It was drafted by Lansing attorney Richard McLellan and is designed to allow students to learn "any time, any place, any way."

It would, among other things:

- Allow students to move to any district in the state willing to accept them. Districts would still have the ability to decide whether to participate in open enrollment.

- Give students access to online learning from across the state, with the cost paid by the state. Districts providing online courses would get public funding based on performance.

- Provide for per-pupil funding to follow students to whichever districts they use to learn. The funding would not follow them to private schools.

- Base funding on performance, once assessment and testing procedures are established.

Wayne-Westland school officials are still trying to decipher the draft bill means which Baracy said will determine what public education will look like in the future. The devil is in the details of the proposal.

"This goes way beyond reworking Proposal A," he said. "Some of the pieces of the report need to

be added, but other parts go way too far. This is a far stretch from what we would like to see."

State Rep. Kurt Heise, whose 20th District includes the City of Wayne, pointed out the draft bill is just that — a draft. It is, he said, "more of a 'white paper' right now" that obviously still has to go through the legislative process.

Some concerns

That said, Heise said there are things in the draft that concern him.

"The one thing I'm concerned about is the idea

Please see **SCHOOLS, A2**

Santa comes to town



Conner Klade of Canton gets a chance for a photo with Santa at a stop during the Wayne's annual Holiday Parade Saturday.

Holiday Parade kicks off Christmas season in Wayne

For more about Wayne's annual Holiday Parade, see Page A6.

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Gayle Rediske has a message for Wayne residents: Stock up on holiday lights when they go on sale after Christmas.

The reason? Beginning next year, the Wayne Rotary Club's annual Holiday Parade will go from daylight to darkness and become a lighted parade.

"I hope it will be big," said Rediske, who organizes the annual event. "We won't know what to expect, but we want to get the community excited about it now. The more lights we have, the prettier it will look at night."

The Rotary Club has been staging the Holiday Parade for 37 years, attracting hundreds of

families to the downtown to welcome Santa Claus to town. Estimates are that this year's parade was the biggest in many years.

Grand marshals Bridget Kelly and Donna McEachern lead the parade that include some 46 groups and had more than 600 participants, ranging from elected officials, Scout troops, and *Biggest Loser* contestant Buddy Shuh to the Wayne Memorial High School Marching and Santa Claus who rode in on an ATV.

The State Wayne Theater served as the ending point of the parade where Mayor Al Haidous welcomed Santa Claus to town and awards given out to the best groups. Winning trophies were St. Mary Outreach Center for best float, Taft-Galloway Brownie Troop 7536 for best theme, the

St. Mary's Scout troop which was Santa's favorite, Phoenix Theaters for most creative, and Clowns Around Redford for Christmas spirit. The Floyd Moskall family received a special recognition for their float. That family has been a part of the parade for several years.

"What a beautiful day in the City of Wayne," said Haidous in presenting Santa Claus with a key to the city and the hearts of every child and adults. "I hope you will respond to every child's request. It's not necessary to get them everything."

Haidous also joined members of the Wayne City Council and representatives of the Phoenix Theaters in cutting a film strip to mark the grand opening of the renovated movie house. Residents were

invited inside to see the improvements, meet Santa and watch *Wreck It Ralph*.

"I want to thank all those who helped change 500 burned-out bulbs in the marquee," said Cory Jackson, president of Phoenix Theaters. "I think you're going to like it."

The State Wayne also has a Christmas treat planned for movie goers. The first week of December it will be showing *Polar Express* with tickets priced at \$1.

"I have a special place in my heart for Wayne, it is the best city in the country and it shows," said Haidous. "I want to wish everyone a happy holiday and hope for a big turn around next year that creates jobs in Wayne."

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Police seek info on store holdups

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A Westland convenience store was robbed at gunpoint twice in the seven days.

"We are investigating whether it was potentially the same two people (in each incident)," said Westland police Lt. Michael Harhold. "There are similar patterns."

In both instances, two individuals wearing masks entered the 7-Eleven on North Wayne Road at Joy and demanded money.

The first robbery was reported at 5:46 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 11. The second robbery was reported at 4 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 18 — exactly a week later. The suspects received \$54 in cash during the first robbery and \$111 in the second.

One difference between the two robberies is that in the Nov. 11 incident, the clerk reported one suspect was armed with a handgun. During the Nov. 18 incident, both suspects were described as armed with handguns.

In addition, during the second robbery, the clerk told police one of the suspects pointed the gun at him. The suspects, described only as young, likely 18-22 years old, and African American, fled on foot.

The store franchisee, who didn't want her name used, said she is worried that the suspects will return to the store and possibly be more violent.

"I wanted to get the word out about this, we have not had a problem like this before," she said.

On Nov. 18, the store owner said the clerk was outside getting some air about 2 a.m.

Please see **HOLDUPS, A2**

HOLDUPS

Continued from page A1

when he heard whispering. Suspicious, she said he went back inside the store, locking the door before calling police.

Officers checked the area but found no one. About an hour later, two armed subjects wearing masks robbed the store, she said.

The clerk was in the middle of the stocking store shelves, the store owner said, when the suspects arrived and marched him to the cash register at gunpoint.

"This time both of them had guns. They took a six-pack of beer and started taking some candy. They were about to leave and came back to ask for cigarettes," she said.

The store owner said she is getting permission from the 7-Eleven corporate level to offer a reward for information leading to the arrest/conviction of those who robbed the store.

Anyone with information about the robbery should call Westland police at (734) 722-9600.

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Gas station to add Tim Hortons coffee shop

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A Tim Hortons coffee shop including a drive-through window will soon be added to a Westland gas station, approved with some concerns by Westland City Council members.

The project calls for a 750-foot addition to the gas station on the northeast corner of Ford and Hix.

The gas pumps are along Ford south of the building and the addition, including the drive-through window, would be on the north side of the building.

Council President James Godbout was concerned about potential traffic problems at the existing exit to Hix from the gas station, located directly across from the driveway from the McDonald's restaurant on the northwest corner of the intersection.

"In the morning and at noon you have cars backed up on southbound Hix blocking the McDonald's driveway," Godbout said. "You have cars pulling into the left turn lane way before they are supposed to. A left turn from Tim Hortons (onto Hix) will cause traffic problems."

Left turns onto Ford from the gas station are prohibited already. That means people wanting to go east on Ford will exit to Hix to make their left turn onto Ford, Godbout said.

"I'm not opposed to Tim Hortons, they are great corporate citizens," said Godbout, who suggested that at a minimum there should be no left turn from the gas station onto Hix. That suggestion didn't go over well with Michael Beydoun, representing property owner Sabah Mahmoud.

"That is an existing driveway for the gas sta-

tion like McDonald's. Why can't we use ours freely like McDonald's?" Beydoun said.

Mahmoud, who also owns the gas station on the southeast corner of the intersection, acquired the second gas station in January after it was foreclosed and shuttered, Beydoun said.

With the low profit margin on gasoline, Beydoun said other attractions, such as a Tim Hortons, are needed to attract customers. He argued that the drive-through would actually slow the traffic exiting the business onto Hix.

The site plan calls for one-way traffic on the west side building from Hix. The lane for the drive-through would be on the east side of the building, then wrapping around the north side and then west to the Hix exit.

As a compromise, council approved the site plan and special land use contingent on a traffic study by administration. If needed, left turns could be prohibited onto Hix or other adjustments could be made to traffic flow.

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SCHOOLS

Continued from page A1

of open borders, where you potentially mandate school districts would have to accept students if spots were available," said Heise, a current member of the House Education Committee. "That's something I've resisted in the past and fought against. If necessary, I will fight it again."

Like fellow state Rep. Richard LeBlanc, Heise is also concerned about

the online learning aspect of the draft. He pointed out the state recently approved an expansion of cyber schools in Michigan, but "with a lot of quality controls and restrictions."

"This sounds like we might be going back to wide-open online learning," Heise said. "We want to have better oversight and accountability and a true determination of what the costs are."

While the governor says the report isn't about private schools, LeBlanc said just the opposite is true when it comes to e-learning and virtual schools.

"We have school districts that are entirely virtual, there are no buildings, no physical interaction with the students. They're not an extension of an existing school district," he said. "I don't want to be a roadblock, but I hope there are metrics, criteria and analysis done before we move in that direction."

"If this is going to be another thing that affects traditional school districts in a negative way, you'll find me question it and opposing it," he added. State Sen. Glenn Ander-



Heise



LeBlanc



Anderson

son, D-Westland, said the bills appear to be "another attempt to continue to pull money away from traditional public schools."

"I think it (online education) just provides an opportunity for some folks to make a lot of money and not produce any results for our children," he said, adding that while some districts are having a hard time, "some of these steps are going to impact those doing an excellent job."

Anderson said he expects the proposed Michigan Public Education Finance Act will have several amendments before it is voted on.

"I think there will be a lot of discussion in committee," he said. He expects some "logic" will be added to it.

But in its current form, he's opposed to the proposed rewrite of the School Aid Act of 1979. "Throwing the baby out with the bath water seems to be what they're doing," he said.

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"Throwing the baby out with the bath water seems to be what they're doing," he said.

More legislation

Heise said the governor would likely include more details in his State of the State address in January, and the House and Senate would obviously have to get involved in turning it into legislation.

He also said people should start "getting themselves informed" now in order to be prepared for the discussion that will come when bills eventually hit the ground, likely not until February or March.

"There is a difference between what the governor is proposing and what might be in a bill," Heise said. "How much of that is a 'wish list' and how much is really going to be put in any bill? We all have reason to be concerned about what is in this white paper. But it's a long time through the education process."

"It's way too soon to say the whole thing is flawed or the whole thing will be

wonderful," he added. "I doubt either one will be true."

LeBlanc's hope is that lawmakers will take their time with the proposal. Term-limited, he is leaving the legislature at the end of the year to become a Wayne County commissioner.

"If this is really, really that important, we shouldn't rush it through," he said. "This is of interest to people in the state, some say it's necessary. I just hope they don't rush it through."

Baracy has spent considerable time in Lansing, advocating for equality of funding for students in the state. In the last few years, Wayne-Westland has been the hardest hit district the state in terms of loss of per pupil aid.

"We advocate for equality of school funding across Michigan, we're looking for changes that serve all students," he said. "We're not there yet."

Staff Writers Brad Kadrich and Karen Smith contributed to this story.

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| Fountain Park Apartments | 37410 Fountain Park Circle, Westland |
| Family Video | 146 S. Venoy, Westland |
| Gentle Dental Family Dentistry | 35270 Nankin Blvd., Ste 502, Westland |
| Hampton Court Apartments | 5800 N. Christine, Westland |
| Harlow Tire & Racing | 1845 N. Wayne Rd., Westland |
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| Our Savior's Manor | 29495 Annapolis, Westland |
| Parkside Credit Union | 1747 S. Newburgh, Westland |
| Red Holman Buick-GMC | 35300 Ford Rd., Westland |
| Speedy Auto Repair | 1803 N. Wayne Rd., Westland |
| Tanabed Island | 35041 Cherry Hill, Westland |
| Taylor Towers | 36500 Marquette, Westland |
| Tooling & Equipment International | 12550 Tech Center Dr., Livonia |
| Venoy Pine Apartments | 7127 E. Bonnie Dr. Westland |
| Victory Honda | 315 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth |
| Wayne Ford Civic League | 1661 N. Wayne Rd., Westland |
| Wayne-Westland Fed. Credit Union | 500 S. Wayne Rd., Westland |
| Westland Car Care | 7666 N. Wayne Rd., Westland |
| Westland Chamber of Commerce | 36900 Ford Rd., Westland |
| Westland City Hall | 36601 Ford Rd., Westland |
| Westland Fire Station-Main | Ford Rd at Central City Pkwy, Westland |
| Westland Library | 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland |
| Westland Nursing & Rehab Centre | 36137 W. Warren Rd., Westland |
| Westland Police Dept.-Lobby | 36701 Ford Rd., Westland |
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PUBLIC SAFETY

Crossbow, arrows stolen from GC garage

Drug possession

A 25-year-old Livonia woman received citations for possession of drug paraphernalia and driving with a suspended license following a traffic stop at Merriman and Warren Road Nov. 19. Police made the stop after a check showed the driver of the car as having a current license suspension.

During the stop, officers noticed a strong odor of burnt marijuana coming from the vehicle. When questioned about items to remove during an inventory search of the car, the woman told police there was a marijuana pipe and marijuana in the vehicle.

Officers located the pipe on the floor of the passenger side of the front seat. The marijuana was found in an overhead compartment in the front seat. Two Florida men who were in the car told police they were unaware of anything illegal being in the car. They were released.

Break-in

A resident in the 29000 block of Winter Drive told police Nov. 18 that his crossbow and 12 broad head arrows were taken from his garage sometime between 10 a.m. Nov. 14 and 10:30 p.m. Nov. 18.

The man said he had noticed the side door to the garage was open and when he checked he discovered the bow and arrows were missing. The bow and arrows had been inside a case on the garage floor as of 10 a.m. Nov. 14. Nothing else was found missing.

According to police, the door appeared to have been pried open

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

with minimal damage to the door frame.

Vandalism

A resident in the 32000 block of Alvin told police that he was awakened at 1:30 a.m. Nov. 18 by a loud noise. He didn't know what the source was until he went outside later and found the top of a small tree near his back fence had been cut down. It had broken a slate in his wooden privacy fence as well as the top trellis of the fence which was snapped off.

He told police that he could not find the top of the tree. He suspects that his neighbors behind him may be responsible. The neighbor had asked him to cut down the tree. When he refused, the neighbor cut off limbs hanging in his yard.

Suspended license

A 57-year-old Wayne woman was arrested by a Garden City police officer Nov. 16 for driving with a suspended license.

Officers were responding to a report of a hit-and-run accident at 27520 Cherry Hill. A witness told police that at about 12:10 p.m. he saw a red pickup truck turning from Arcola onto Cherry Hill. He said the driver appeared to lose control and drove onto the lawn at 27520 Cherry Hill, striking and knocking over a speed limit sign.

The woman drove off and parked the truck on Arcola, a block south of Cherry Hill and go into an apartment. When questioned by police, the

woman said the power steering had gone out on the vehicle and that she didn't know why she had left the scene of the accident.

The woman could not provide proof of insurance for the truck. Noticing that she seemed unsteady and smelled of alcohol, police asked if she had been drinking. The woman told them that she had a shot of alcohol while at the Arcola address.

She was arrested and taken to the police station where she complained of diabetes-related issues. After being checked by the Garden City firefighters, she was given a portable Breathyzer test. The woman registered a .21, more than double the legal limit in Michigan.

She was ticketed for driving with a suspended license, leaving the scene of a property damage accident, driving without due care and no proof of insurance.

Break-in

A variety of power tools were reported stolen from a garage in the 29200 John Hauk sometime between Nov. 13 and Nov. 16.

The resident told police that someone had gained entry into the garage through a metal side entry door which had a padlock at the top. They culprit apparently used some type of tool to open the bottom half of the door enough to get inside.

Among items reported taken were a miter saw with built-in table, circular saw, electric drill, electric grinder, router, jig saw, backpack blower and generator, valued at more than \$3,000.

Let's stay safe this Thanksgiving holiday

By Catherine Harman
Guest Columnist

It's Thanksgiving and many families and businesses will be preparing meals for family friends and neighbors. As a public service the Garden City Fire Department would like to pass on a few fire safety tips and reminders in order to keep us all safe and healthy.



Catherine Harman

There are a variety of ways in which to prepare our turkeys. We'll start with tips that apply to any way a turkey is prepared;

- If you have a fire contact 911. If the fire is extinguished before the fire department arrives, we will still come by to check, make a report and assist with any smoke removal.

- Make sure the appliance (ovens, fryers, roasters) you are using is clean and fully operational.

- Make sure smoke detectors are operational. If it goes off during cooking, make sure there is no fire. Please don't remove the battery. You may consider moving the smoke detector, but keep it operational. Due to the layouts of our older homes, the recommended placements for smoke detectors may cause activations not due to fires. Steam is a common cause.

- Have fire extinguishers and covers for pots close by should they be needed.

- Always use good oven mitts to move hot pans

and lift lids. Avoid using dirty or moist towels or mitts. The heat from the hot pan can pass easily to your hands, if mitts are soiled or moist, and a burn could result.

Ovens

Please use a strong heavy duty pan for roasting in the oven. If you use a disposable aluminum pan (avoid if possible) always put it on a sturdy, flat, oven-rated cookie sheet in the oven. A disposable aluminum roaster can collapse. This could cause a fire and/or severe injury.

Use caution when baking. Over spray or spilling may cause a flame. If you have a flash of flames, close the oven door immediately and keep it closed. In most cases, the flames should self-extinguish.

If you see flames outside of the oven (up through vents or the back), get out and call 911.

If you have visible smoke and no fire, you may want to clear it by cracking open a window and using fans.

Be mindful of where your face is when opening the oven door. A blast of heat or steam can cause burns.

If you or a family member is on home oxygen, stay clear of the stove or oven. The fire department has responded to calls where someone on home oxygen suffered flash burns to their face when wearing oxygen and bending close to open flames to check the meal.

Do not store items on top of the stove. A warm stove top can catch items stored or sitting on it on fire. Accidental ignition

of the burners is another potential hazard depending on the type of stove.

Turkey Fryers

Turkey fryers make some delicious turkeys, but they can be very dangerous, if not operated properly. The fire department has responded to several calls turkey fryer fires since they've become popular.

- Do not operate on a wooden deck.

- Do not operate near a structure, car or in an enclosed space like a garage.

- Make sure the fryer has been properly maintained.

- Have a properly rated fire extinguisher present. You don't want to use water on a grease fire. It will cause an explosion. A cover for the fryer to smother flames should be close by.

- Be mindful of the weather. Precipitation will react with grease.

General Safety

Supervise children who may be assisting in the kitchen. Never allow them to perform tasks that are not age appropriate. This goes for the outside turkey fryer as well.

If you are using a portable electrical device for heating, cooking or warming use, caution. Trip hazards, burns or fires are potential risks.

Make sure all appliances are off when no longer in use.

Holiday candles are a beautiful accent, but should never be left unattended.

Catherine Harman is chief of the Garden City Fire Department.

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Rotary helps Nicaragua's 'Children of the Dump'

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

For years, Raymond Trudeau has helped the "Children of the Dump," poverty-stricken Nicaraguan children so named because they form their existence from items, especially food, that they pick from the city dump.

Trudeau, a member of the Dearborn Rotary Club, will again go to Nicaragua Wednesday, Nov. 28. He has traveled to Nicaragua since 2004. Trudeau spoke to members of the Garden City Rotary Club recently to raise money for a bead project.

He brought bracelets created by the little children of Nicaragua to the meeting.

"These beads are made from (recycled) wallpaper by the children of Nicaragua," said Trudeau said, adding that the beads are used in bracelets, necklaces and rosaries.

Through the efforts of Rotary International, there are 1,700 children in school who formerly hung out at the city dump.



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Raymond Trudeau's table is filled with bracelets made by Nicaraguan children using beads made from recycled wallpaper. The Dearborn Rotary member wants the Garden City Rotary to contribute to the fundraising effort.

"Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the Western hemisphere, barely above Haiti," Trudeau said.

A teacher paid by the government of Nicaragua gets \$100 a month. Through the efforts of Rotary International, which helps to build schools, its teachers are paid \$200 a month.

"We expect more from them (the students)," he said, pointing out that the Nicaraguan government isn't bothered by the additional pay increase for

teachers. A daily free hot lunch is used as a "bribe" to get the kids to come to school.

The Rotary provides a special box to children who have never had a Christmas gift. The box contains hygiene products, underwear and a gift for each student. In order to get that gift, they must attend school for at least 70 percent of the school days and get or maintain at least a C average.

"It's tough love," Trudeau said. "We want



Rotary International, with the help of its members, is helping impoverished children in Nicaragua who hang out at the dumps to find what they need to live.

them to learn and break that chain of poverty that they are stuck with."

The program arose through Hope and Relief International which is a group of Rotarians from the United States and Canada. Children as young as age 11 make the wallpaper beads as well as students in the trade schools. Each necklace which Trudeau brought to the Garden City Rotary Club meeting had a card signed by the child who made it.

The beads are wrapped

around a thin rod, which isn't an easy task.

"I've done this and it is not easy," Trudeau said.

The goal is to make the program self-sufficient through a "fundraiser in a box," which contains 100 bracelets offered for sale. The Nicaraguan children have a chance to make \$200 a month by making the beads after school and on the weekends, he said.

The Rotary has also helped to provide funding for 600 homes in Nicaragua. It costs \$2,500 to build a home in

Nicaragua.

"They have to provide all the labor," Trudeau said. "We had people there teaching them the skills to do that."

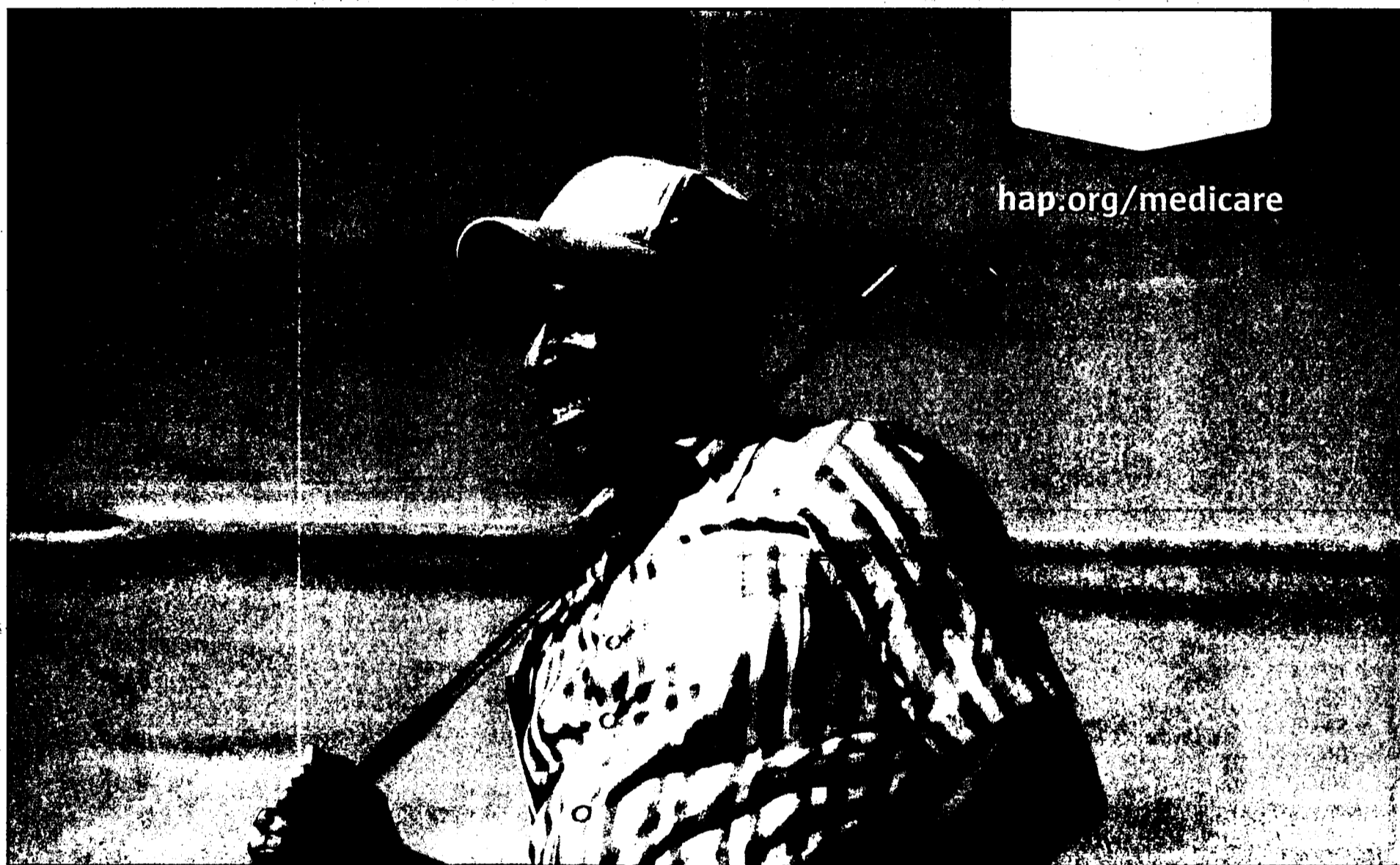
Among his many efforts on behalf of Rotary, Trudeau recently received the Rotarian of the Year award from the Dearborn Rotary.

He has participated in numerous Rotary district conferences, organized the collection of phone calling cards for soldiers program and spearheaded The Children of the Dump "Beads for Hope" Project that supports the Rotary Village in Nicaragua.

Trudeau travels to Nicaragua up to four times a year on behalf of Rotary International projects.

Trudeau is a past president of the Dearborn Rotary Club and actively recruits new members. He also supports many club projects, including "Santa Snaps," a major fundraising event during the annual Wayne County Lightfest.

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PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne Memorial High School Marching Band blasts out some great holiday tunes for the parade as they led Santa Claus down Wayne Road.

Parade watchers come ready to share wishes with Santa

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Mother Nature delivered a picture perfect day for Santa Claus who made his grand appearance in Wayne during the Wayne Rotary's annual Holiday Parade.

Families lined Wayne Road and along Michigan Avenue to watch floats, marching units and bands escort the Jolly Old Elf to the State Wayne Theater where he received a key to the city.

"I've probably been coming for 15 years, I came when was in grade school," said Katelyn Ewing of Westland. "I was little then and now I'm bringing my kids."

Waiting with her for the parade to come down Michigan Avenue were her husband, Chris, and children Caleb, 6, Chloe, 4, and Christian, 5 months — "It's his first parade." — and her mother, Margaret Lasley, also of Westland.

Signs along Wayne Road alerted Ewing to Saturday's parade and she made sure she had her family there for it. Her children were excited about the prospect of seeing Santa Claus and whispering in his ear.

"I want a Furby and a DS with a Mario game," Caleb said.

His sister, however, was still uncertain, according to her mother.

Theresa Shackleford was curbside with daughter Sophie, 7, to watch a cousin a member of the Wayne Memorial High School JROTC and one in the marching band go by.

"And Sophie's old dance teacher is in it, too," said Shackleford, who staked out her spot in front of the Village Bar, which she owns.

"I wanted to do this to kick off the holidays," she added.

A second-grader, Sophie had her list and was checking it twice for Santa Claus.

"I want a trampoline, a tablet and Barbie dolls," she said. "I think I'll also want to ask Santa how the reindeer are. I worry that they might get sick."

Shannon Kelly also was waiting for the Wayne High band. Her daughter was marching with it.



Members of the Wayne Rotary Club escort their float down Wayne Road.



The Clowns Around Redford danced their way to the parade trophy for Christmas spirit.

"It's our second year coming," she said. "I'm not bah-humbugging about Christmas."

Her son Connor, 5, has had his Christmas list for almost two months. At the top is Skylanders, a toy with super powers that comes to life when placed on a portal for Wii.

Youngsters came pre-

pared to gather candy thrown to them by marchers and wave to costumed characters like Batman and Spiderman as well as Star Wars storm troopers. But the biggest and best guest was Santa Claus who left his sleigh and reindeer at the North Pole so he could ride into town on

an ATV.

Wayne Mayor Al Haidous told Santa and the gathering that the holiday is about "love, children, goodness and giving."

"Let the season begin," he said.

Holiday festivities will continue in Wayne on Tuesday, Dec. 4, with the traditional lighting of the



April Wolters of Livonia brought her children, Chase and Megan, to Wayne's Holiday Parade.



Wayne Memorial High School band was joined by the Franklin Middle School band in escorting Santa into town.

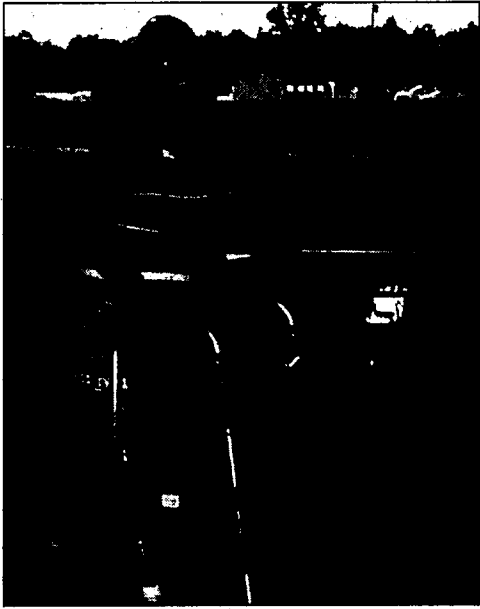


Members of Girl Scout Troop 20921 came dressed as presents for the Holiday Parade.

city's Christmas tree and caroling. The ceremony will be at 7 p.m. in front of the Wayne

Historical Museum.

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The fundraiser will help Livonia resident Marji Harkema, who lost both legs in a car accident, pay for medical expenses not covered by insurance.

Fundraiser benefits woman who lost legs in accident

A fundraiser is being held next week to benefit a Livonia woman who lost both legs in a car accident in January.

Marji Harkema is making remarkable strides in her recovery, said Laura DeChane, who's helping to organize the Ladies of Harley (LOH) Vendor Show from 7-10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy Road, Westland.

She is healing from a traumatic brain injury, learning how to walk all over again with prosthetic legs and learning how to drive again with hand controls.

"Marji is a remarkable person with a positive attitude and is an inspiration to all who know her," DeChane said. Harkema is a member of the Ladies of Harley.

Funds raised will help her with expenses that

insurance does not cover, DeChane said. Admission is \$1 per person.

The vendor show will feature holiday gifts without the holiday hassle, food, cash bar, bake sale, 50/50, raffles, a bottle drive and more. Bring bottles to the fundraiser or e-mail Wendy Smith at wendy.haworth@gmail.com to arrange for a pick up or drop off.

If you have items that you would like to make for the bake sale, contact DeChane at LOH@motorcityhog.com

Checks may be made payable to The Marji Harkema Fundraiser and mailed to c/o Laura DeChane, 30048 Five Mile, Livonia, MI 48154.

For more information, contact Laura DeChane dechane05@twm.rr.com or Debra Wright debrat-hunderroads@yahoo.com.

Christmas Celebration

Tickets are on sale now through Dec. 3 for the Christmas Celebration that will be held at the Westland Friendship Center noon-3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7.

Tickets are \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. The menu consists of ham, roast beef, whipped sweet potatoes, peas, au gratin potatoes, cranberry relish, tossed salad/dressing, rolls and butter and dessert.

The Friendship Center is at 1119 Newburgh Road, south of Ford. For more information, call (734) 722-7628.

Stuff a Bus

Join the Wayne-Westland Community School District Transportation Department, the Wayne-Westland Fire Department and the Westland K-Mart to help those in the community who are in need.

Stop by the K-Mart parking lot at Cherry Hill and Wayne Road 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, with a new toy, new or gently used clothes, personal items, school supplies and anything else to "Stuff the Bus" to assist the Wayne and Westland Goodfellows to provide a happy holiday season to those in need.

WYAA signups

Westland Youth Athletic Association basketball registration also will

starting 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).

Lunch with Santa Youngsters can spend some quality time with the big guy at Lunch with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne.

Festivities get underway noon. The cost will be \$4 for Wayne and Westland residents and \$5 for non-residents. Children 2 and under are free. The cost includes pizza, salad, bread sticks, arts and crafts, and face painting. Photo packages with Santa will be available. Tickets are limited.

For more information, call (734) 728-2900.

Kids Night Out

Do some last minute shopping and drop the kids off at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne, 6-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15.

Have your kids bring a bathing suit, towel and lots of energy. Activities include swimming, arts and crafts, games, pizza and pop. Resident cost is \$13, non-resident is \$16. For more information, call (734) 728-2900.

Christmas Party

Tickets are on sale for the Wayne Golden Hour Christmas Party Gold-

en Hour Christmas Party which will start at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne.

There will be a punch reception, followed by lunch at noon.

Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at the Wayne Community Center. For more information, call (734) 728-2900.

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 containers, 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.

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 Lud-die at (734) 414-0034 or Curt at (734) 525-8445 or go online to westland-easytalkers.toastmasters-clubs.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.

Amateur radio club holds technical class

The Garden City Amateur Radio Club is holding a technician class for those interested in learning more about the Ham Radio hobby.

The class is a first level program that will introduce participants to the world of amateur radio. The eight-week class will meet 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, Nov. 29 through Jan. 17, in the lower level of Location will be at the Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road, Garden City.

This class will consist of a six-week study of technician pool questions, a review of all material and a testing session. A \$10 cost includes class instruction, weekly hand-out material as well as a current practice testing CD created by GCARC instructors to prepare participants for the technician level exam.

For more information, contact Fred Comps (K8KUZ) at (734) 261-6441 or go online to www.k8kuz@aol.com.

In addition, a testing session, sponsored by the club's Volunteer Examiner (VE) Team, will also be held 7-9 p.m. Jan. 17, for any amateur radio oper-

ators interested in taking the technician, general or extra class level licensing exam at the same location. For more information about amateur radio, "the original wireless technology," go to www.gcarc.net, as well as www.ar1.org.

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'Awesome' — skateboarders get their new pad

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

There's a good reason why Richie Karfonta likes the new Garden City skate plaza, which opened to the public last week.

"Awesome," he said. "It's two blocks away from me."

Friday was Karfonta's first time at the new skate plaza. He was among 50 skateboarders who showed up Friday afternoon for the ribbon-cutting at Garden City Park, located on Cherry Hill, east of Merriman.

"This is your skate plaza," said Dan Plamondon, Garden City recreation supervisor/rink manager.

Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb, D-9th District, who strongly promoted the idea of a skate park in Garden City, enthusiastically greeted the skateboarders. She was responsible for getting the parks millage money and bringing it to Garden City.

"You are here in full force," Webb said. "You are here and loving it. We need to have families coming to Garden City. We have to have something for you to do. This is for you."

Webb wanted Garden City kids to have a free source of entertainment.

"I'm going to come by and check on it," said Webb, who was redistricted and won't represent Garden City after Jan. 1. "I hope you all enjoy it."

Cory Kramer, 19, a Garden City resident who is sponsored by Detroit City Skateboards, is considered a so-called local expert in the field.

"I grew up a couple blocks away," Kramer said. "I think that it is really awesome that now we have a place where we can skate. A lot of the



Nick Balogh gives his sign of approval for the skate plaza, built with Wayne County Parks millage money.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Cory Kramer, Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb and State Rep. Richard LeBlanc cut the ceremonial ribbon Friday, Nov. 16, at the new Garden City Skate Plaza located in Garden City Park.



Cory Hagelstein demonstrates some moves at the new skate plaza in Garden City Park.



Scott Meyer jumps and flips his skateboard on one of the new skate plaza's elements.

skaters around here really like it. I love it."

He said that the plaza isn't really "finished."

"If we fund raise, we

can add on to it," he said.

"Let's cut this ribbon."

Kramer attended meetings to give input.

According to reports,

the skateboarders were on the concrete as soon as it was safely set. The plaza opened to the public Tuesday, Nov. 13. The official ribbon-cutting was held Friday, Nov. 16.

Theresa Strehl, Garden City Parks and Recreation chairwoman, said that there were tireless planning meetings with Plamondon and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

"We would appreciate that the users of the plaza take pride in ownership and aid with the maintenance," Strehl said. "It is open from dawn to dusk. It is highly recommended that you use safety gear, which I don't see any out here today."

She hopes that the influx of users will bring new business to Garden City stores and restaurants.

Strehl provided a side note.

"In the event that you would need it, Garden City Hospital isn't too far away," she said. "They do a great job with repairing any broken bones."

Mayor Randy Walker thanked Webb for spearheading the project.

"Garden City, in my 50 years, has always been big on sports," he said.

Please see PLAZA, A9



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Bikers can use the new Garden City Skate Plaza as Travis Daniels demonstrates.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Cavanaugh demonstrates his skill at the new Garden City skate plaza as other skateboarders watch and wait their turns.

PLAZA

Continued from page A8

"Now we have a safe place for you guys to enhance your skills. Use it safely. Wear the safety equipment."

Walker urged the skateboarders to now use this

facility and not to skateboard in the streets or at the Henry Ruff Building. Plamondon was thrilled. "This is something you asked for," he told the skaters. "It's for all ages and all skill levels. Take care of it and maintain it as if it was your own."

Raymond Parker, lead architect from Hennessey

Engineers, was also there. The engineering firm donated its engineering services for the project free of charge.

The city broke ground at Garden City Park in September. The park is located in front of the old pool parking lot.

Hays Hitzing, director of skate park devel-

opment for Spohn Ranch Skateparks of Industry, Calif., and Parker helped to direct the project, made possible with \$110,000 in Wayne County Parks millage money. The plaza is geared toward beginning and intermediate street skaters. It fea-

tures include stairs with a rail, a slight elevation change, a Pier 7 block and a curved ledge with hubbas. A curved-in sushi pad is another feature. Hitzing believes this design will serve more people with less intersecting traffic patterns.

Jacob Sparks, a Garden City resident, called the skate plaza "pretty cool," as he waited in line to use it Friday. "Everyone here usually gets along," he said.

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'Friends' host annual candlelight vigil

Candles will glow around the world Sunday, Dec. 9, when tens of thousands of bereaved parents, siblings, grandparents, relatives and friends will join together to light remembrance candles to honor the memories of children who have died, but will never be forgotten.

Held annually the second Sunday in December, this will be the 16th Worldwide Candle Lighting sponsored by The Compassionate Friends, the nation's largest self-help bereavement organization for families that have suffered the tragic loss of a child. TCF has more than 650 chapters in the United States, with sister organizations in at least 30 countries around the globe.

The local ceremony, sponsored by the TCF Western Wayne County (Livonia) chapter, takes place in Plymouth's Kellogg Park beginning at 7 p.m. The remembrance will include a candlelight vigil, reading of the children's names, poetry and songs. Families will gather near memory trees specially decorated with the names of children who have died too soon.

The Worldwide Candle Lighting is a way of uniting together to remember all children around the world who have died too soon and to try to bring light out of darkness during this difficult time of the year. Like a ring, this circle of light surrounding the globe represents that there is no



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gail Lafferty of Livonia reads the names of children lost to their families during The Compassionate Friends candlelight vigil in Plymouth's Kellogg Park. This year's vigil is set for Sunday, Dec. 9.

beginning and no end for the love we carry for our children. Friends and family are invit-

ed to the remembrance and candles will be provided. Parents do not have to attend to

register their child. For more information or to register a child, call (734) 778-

0800 or email either Gail Lafferty or Brenda Hernandez at tcfcandlelight@yahoo.com

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Make it easy for loved ones to find important papers

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

I read about a woman who had passed away a few years ago and her loved ones were still searching for assets (life insurance policies and bank accounts) that they thought she had, but they could not locate. The woman had moved a few times near the end of her life.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

The story is a little more complex than that, however, the bottom line is how frustrated the family was when trying to locate her assets.

What struck me while reading the article was how common a problem this is, particularly in today's world, where people relocate many times during their lifetime. The problem of having loved ones and beneficiaries unable to locate assets upon death is easily solvable.

When people do estate planning, they generally focus on wills, trusts and other types of legal documents. These documents are important and everyone needs to make

sure that they have some sort of written estate plan so that their final wishes can be followed. That being said, I also think it's important that every adult, no matter how many assets they have, also has a document locator.

A document locator is typically not something that an attorney draws up for you, nor is it a document that you have to have signed and witnessed. Rather, it is a road map for your loved ones to follow. It is a listing of assets and where they are located.

In other words, if you have a Fidelity brokerage account, it's important to list it on the document locator. You don't necessarily have to list every investment within that account. It is sufficient that you include the account on your list. I also recommend listing the account number and, in many situations, it makes sense to include your password on that account.

On your document locator list all accounts, whether it is a brokerage account, bank account or any type of investment account. Every account should be listed along with its account number. In addition, list any liabilities you owe, such as a mortgage or any charge

card accounts.

During our lifetimes, we deal with a variety of professionals that assist us when it comes to our personal financial affairs. Whether it is a lawyer, financial adviser or an insurance agent, it's also a good idea to list these professionals on your document locator. Potentially, these individuals can provide a wealth of information to your loved ones that can assist them in handling your affairs.

I believe you should also list where your personal papers are located. For example, if you have a trust, you should state in the document locator where it is located. This also applies to things such as insurance policies and any other types of legal documents that you may have.

It's not sufficient to prepare a document locator and then forget about it. There are two additional steps needed to make sure the document stays relevant. The first is to occasionally update it. In other words, if you've decided to change your attorney, it's important to update your document locator.

In addition, if you open a new brokerage account, the document locator needs to be updated. Just like it's important to occasionally review your

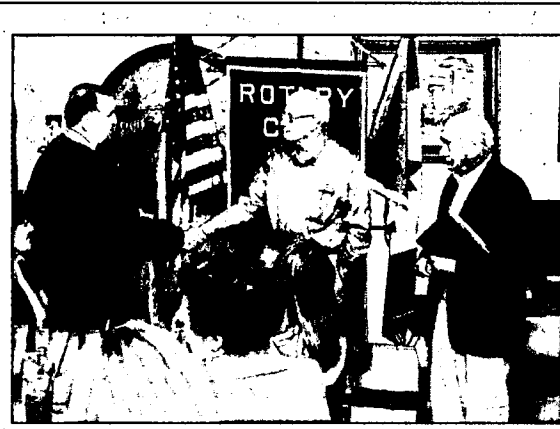
wills, trusts and beneficiary designations, the same thing applies to your document locator.

It is also important that you let someone know where you keep your document locator. After all, if your loved ones can't locate it, it's really not worth anything. My recommendation is that the person that you trust the most, the one that you've named in your power of attorney or to be the trustee of your trust, should know where this document is located.

Making a document locator is relatively simple and easy. You can either do it on the computer or you can do it the old-fashioned way by taking pencil to paper.

The bottom line is that it is important for everyone to make sure they have a listing of assets, legal documents and professional advisers so that when something happens, life can be as easy as possible on your loved ones. After all, isn't that the real reason why we do any estate planning? 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.



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Newest member

Former Garden City Rotary Club president Jack Pelon (left) congratulates Dave Henry, owner of Town & Country Hardware, on his induction into the Rotary on Nov. 15. Henry, whose store has been in Garden City for 58 years, was sponsored by member Jim North (right), who has been a Rotary Club member for 51 years.

AROUND WESTLAND

Higher Rock Cafe 722-3660.

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army hosts Higher Rock Cafe, an evening of Christian music, fellowship, games and concessions at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Friday of the month at the corps, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer. There's no cover charge. For more information visit Higher Rock Cafe on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WayneWestlandHRC or call (734)

American Legion

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

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Justin Murray's battle with epilepsy led his family to start the Turkey Trot. Behind Justin are mom Terri Murray, sister Claire, brother Quinn and dad Michael Murray.

A family's fight: Annual trot helps battle epilepsy

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Justin Murray was only 4 years old when his epileptic seizures started. His tongue would go numb. He couldn't talk.

His left hand felt as though it was being poked with pins and needles.

The seizures happened at home, at school, during soccer practice. Yet they usually lasted no more than a minute, and he

never lost consciousness.

Doctors initially feared the Canton boy had a brain tumor, but Justin, now 15, hasn't had seizures or taken medication since 2007, when experts at Cleveland Clinic removed a lesion from his brain. He had a malformation of blood vessels that had formed a clump and hardened on his right frontal lobe.

"I don't have to worry about having the seizures anymore," Justin said.

Justin, siblings Claire, 13, and Quinn, 11, and their parents, Michael and Terri Murray, are thankful for their family this Thanksgiving Day.

"We're so lucky and blessed," Terri said, sitting with her family in their Canton home.

grader in Novi, plays soccer and lacrosse at school, and he may run the race along with his siblings, who attend All Saints Catholic School in Canton. Justin also plans to earn Christian service hours for school by helping to set up the Turkey Trot track.

Growing effort

The Murrays started the Turkey Trot with help from another of Michael's first cousins, Dennis Murray, head cross country coach at Ladywood High School in Livonia. Canton Township, specifically Leisures Services, joined the effort years ago.

Michael is proud that a growing number of supporters take time for charity before their Thanksgiving dinner.

"It makes us feel very good that we've got this kind of support," he said. "It's humbling."

Runners place computer sensor chips on their shoes to chart their Turkey Trot time. Michael said winners will be announced in seven age-based categories each for male and female participants. There will be prizes awarded and gifts raffled to raise money.

Monday evening, just three days before the Turkey Trot, the Murray family talked of the difficult, painful years they spent before Justin was diagnosed and made better. They are proof epilepsies can strike anyone. Michael and Terri are attorneys, though they're not currently practicing. Michael, a U.S. Marine reservist who spent a year in Iraq, works as executive director of career services for Hillsdale College.

Justin still can't engage in some activities. Doctors recommend that he not play football. Yet, seizure-free since 2007, he is glad he and his family can help others with Turkey Trot for Epilepsy.

"It makes me feel special that I had a role in starting this," he said. "It feels good giving back to the people who helped me."

Trot support

Others, such as Michael's first cousin, Bridget, in her 40s, continue to live with epilepsy. That's why the Murray family and their supporters this Thanksgiving are marking the 10th annual Turkey Trot for Epilepsy, a 5K run/walk that starts at Summit on the Park and winds through Heritage Park and the Pheasant Run golf course.

The Murrays wanted to help fight epilepsy after their son's diagnosis. The event raised \$65,000 in its first nine years for the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan. It started with 75 participants and is expected this year to draw over 1,000 runners and walkers from Canton, Plymouth, neighboring communities and out-of-state residents visiting family.

This year's Turkey Trot is certain to add a substantial amount to the \$65,000. Registration, led by Terri and her helpers, starts at 8 a.m. at the Summit banquet room, followed by a children's race at 9 a.m. and the 5K run/walk at 9:30 a.m.

Participants still may join the effort. Registration costs \$25 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under.

Justin, a Detroit Catholic Central High ninth-



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

Upcoming Events

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

Location: Café Marquette in the William D. Ford



Wish You Were Here

Carol and Mike Garrett of Garden City took a recent trip to Tennessee to visit their daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Gabe Kleinert of Smyrna, Tenn. While there, they took some time to do a little sightseeing and went to The Hermitage, President Andrew Jackson's home, near Nashville, where they posed for a Wish You Were Here snapshot. "We had a great trip and wanted to share our photo with you and your readers," they wrote. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason as a jpg at smason@hometownlife.com or by mail to her attention at 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

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.netor 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.

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

For Your Health

W-W NAMI

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

Location: St. Johns Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: The Wayne-Westland affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) provides support and information for individuals and families dealing with mental illness.

SAFE PLACE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursdays

Location: Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.

Details: A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for

Christ program. **Contact:** Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995

ADULT DAY SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays.

Location: 570 S. Main St., Plymouth MI

Detail: A structured week-day alternative for adults in need of supervision. Program provides activities and discussions to meet social, recreational and personal needs unique to dependent individuals

Contact: Laurie Krause at laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com and (734) 956-2600

METRO FIBROMYALGIA

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Second and fourth Thursday of each month

Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, just west of Ford in Garden City

Details: The first meeting has a speaker, the second meeting is open to discuss living with our fibromyalgia.

Contact: Lucy at (734) 462-1768, www.MetroFibroGroup.com

MENOPAUSE & MORE

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month

Location: Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: A support group for women, no registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge.

Contact: (734) 655-1100

COUNTERPOINT

Details: Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families.

Contact: (734) 563-5005

TOUGH LOVE

Time/Date: 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays

Location: Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington, Livonia.

Details: Support group, newcomers welcome.

Contact: (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748



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Best tablets, laptops, eReaders, convertibles

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

Unless you are an avid online gamer or a professional videographer, you're probably not in the market for a desktop computer. If you or someone on your holiday gift list, however, is searching for a laptop, netbook or tablet, here are some suggestions on what to buy:



Tech Savvy
Jon Gunnells

• **iPad** — One of the most expensive tablet options is expensive for good reason. Apple products have long been easy to use, durable and generally worry-free.

The iPad comes in a variety of models and storage sizes. The most expensive are the 2012 models that feature retina display. A 64GB model with WiFi connectivity costs \$699 and the same model with WiFi plus cellular connectivity (through a provider like Verizon) costs \$829. The 2012 iPad with retina display and the iPad 2 (from 2011) are available in white and black 16GB, 32GB and 64GB versions.

If you are suffering sticker shock already, consider the a 16GB iPad 2 with WiFi connectivity is \$399, or the all-new iPad mini.

• **iPad Mini** — The product-naming specialists at Apple got very cre-

ative with this one. The iPad Mini is smaller in stature, but not in storage. A 16GB version is \$329 with WiFi connectivity and \$459 if you want to surf the web courtesy of a data plan through Verizon, AT&T or Sprint. The iPad Mini takes about two weeks to ship directly from Apple.

• **Microsoft Surface** — Microsoft's answer to the iPad line is finally available and quite impressive. Running the new Windows 8 operating system, this bright tablet is fast and powerful. A 32GB model costs \$499, or you can pay \$599 and get the same model with a cover and a keyboard. A 64GB model with cover and keyboard is \$699. The cover and keyboards are cool as well, coming in cyan, red or magenta.

The Microsoft Surface is perfect for someone who is a PC or Android user, because the devices are compatible and on the same operating system. The new tablet is also more cost-effective for the features and storage options.

• **Dell XPS 12 Laptop Convertible** — Wondering what kind of laptop is more than \$1,000 these days? Take this laptop-tablet hybrid, for example, which offers a rotating-touch screen built within a traditional laptop. Dell and other laptop manufacturers offer a variety of convertible units, although I don't know that you can't get the same productivity out of a Surface Tablet or iPad with a nice keyboard. The tablets,

of course, are less costly, too.

• **Kindle Fire** — For users who are more interested in reading than gaming and apps, the Kindle Fire is a can't-miss at \$149. It has built-in WiFi connectivity and allows you access to unlimited cloud storage with Amazon.

• **Nook** — For \$99 (and maybe even less on Black Friday) you can purchase a simple eReader such as the Barnes and Noble Nook Simple Touch.

• **Other laptops** — With many manufacturers and models, it is hard to distinguish the best laptops this holiday season. However, if you are buying a laptop, here is what to look for.

Make sure the unit has at least 2GB to 3GB of memory so the device can run programs adequately. Anything less will slow you down for computing. Beyond that, the rest of the choices are up to you. Laptops will be selling for a couple of thousand dollars for top models down to less than \$200 for more basic models.

Walmart is rumored to be selling a solid Compaq Presario laptop for \$179 on Black Friday. That's a good price if you are looking for a machine that can help you surf the web and partake in basic computing. Probably not worth lining up outside for, though.

Jon Gunnells is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnSh0w.



Jeanne Rash, director of Quality and Systems Improvement American Heart Association, Midwest Affiliate (from left) presents the Get With The Guidelines® Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award to Dr. Anne Pawlak, Neurology, Dr. Tressa Gardener, Emergency Department Medical, and Garden City Hospital President Gary Ley.

Garden City Hospital wins awards for stroke treatment, new website

Garden City Hospital has received the Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association.

The award recognizes Garden City Hospital's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of care by ensuring that stroke patients receive treatment according to nationally accepted guidelines.

Get With The Guidelines-Stroke helps GCH's staff develop and implement acute and secondary prevention guideline processes to improve patient care and outcomes. The program provides hospitals with a web-based patient management tool, best practice discharge protocols and standing orders, along with a robust registry and real-time benchmarking capabilities to track performance.

The quick and efficient use of guideline procedures can improve the quality of care for stroke patients and may reduce disability and save lives.

"Recent studies show that patients treated in hospitals participating in the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines-Stroke program receive a higher quality of care and may experience better outcomes," said Dr. Lee H. Schwamm, chair of the Get With The Guidelines National Steering Committee and director of the TeleStroke and Acute Stroke Services at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Mass.

"Garden City Hospital's team is to be commended for their commitment to improving the care of their patients."

Following Get With The Guidelines-Stroke treatment guidelines, patients are started on aggressive risk-reduction therapies, including the use of medications such as anti-thrombotics and anticoagulation therapy, along with cholesterol reducing drugs and smoking cessation counseling. They are all aimed at reducing death and disability and improving the lives of stroke patients. Hospitals must adhere to these measures at a set level for a designated period of time to be eligible for the achievement awards.

"Garden City Hospital is dedicated to making our care for stroke patients among the best in the country. The American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines-Stroke program helps us to accomplish this goal," said Barb Coldren, GCH Emergency Department director. "This recognition demonstrates that we are on the right track and we're very proud of our team."

According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, stroke is one of the leading causes of death and serious, long-term disability in the United States. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 40 seconds; someone dies of a stroke every four minutes; and 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.

Garden City Hospital also won a Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals Gold Award for Outstanding Medical Website in the 2012 international awards competition. The competition recognizes high standards in fields of marketing, com-

munications and interactive media.

Garden City Hospital's website, www.gch.org, was produced by Biznet Internet Solutions in Wixom, utilizing the Kentico CMS platform. The site's simple, bold design reflects the hospital's brand while providing improved access to interactive features that health care consumers want today.

New features of the website included a custom physician search with fields, such as gender, languages spoken and office location. Users can request appointments online as well as pre-register for tests and procedures. Other features include an ER wait time live feed, video library, custom health information interface, and an events calendar.

Honorees in the 2012 MarCom Awards range from individual communicators to media conglomerates and Fortune 500 companies. This year, more than 6,000 entries were submitted. MarCom Awards is administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals. Judges are industry professionals who look for companies and individuals whose talent exceeds a high standard of excellence and whose work serves as a benchmark for the industry.

Garden City Hospital is osteopathic teaching hospital, providing care to the community in more than 48 medical specialties with related services, including emergency, surgery, orthopedics, oncology, neurology and cardiac care. For more information, visit www.gch.org or call (877) 717-WELL.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Avenue's big bash

Avenue Downtown Wayne is inviting partygoers to come out for its Thanksgiving Eve bash this evening (Wednesday, Nov. 21).

There will be a 3,000 square foot heated tent, multiple bars, beer stations, four DJs and a very big production planned with state of the art sound/lighting for this event. This indoor/outdoor event will once again be hosted by Mike Londeau from Embarco.

VIP party packages available but are limited. Contact Moe Jaafar at

(313) 492-9817 for details.

Avenue Downtown Wayne is at 3632 Elizabeth, south of eastbound Michigan Avenue, west of Wayne Road, in Wayne. For more information, call (734) 895-7300.

New tenant

Brixmor Property Group has announced that Bargain Club has opened at West Ridge Shopping Center at 35655 Warren Road, Westland.

Bargain Club is Michigan's newest retailer of closeouts, excess inventory, and liquidation merchandise. The first of several Bargain Clubs that Chaker Aoun and Nasser Beydoun plan to open, the store is the newest addition to Westland's downtown redevelopment and revitalization. The new store has created more than 20 new local jobs.

Bargain Club is open to the public and no membership is required. Bargain Club carries, men's,

women's and children clothing and accessories, housewares, footwear, make-up, small appliances, electronics, hardware, groceries and beverages.

Bargain Club carries brand names direct from the manufacturers. It buys closeouts, discontinued or overstock items and passes the savings on to its customers. Merchandise bought at Bargain Club is covered by the store's 14-day "No Questions Asked" Guarantee. If for any reason a shopper isn't completely satisfied with their purchase, they can return it with the sales receipt within 14 days for a full refund. It's returned after the 14 days, the Bargain Club will offer a store credit.

The store is open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call (734) 729-1777.

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Church partners with GCH to get people healthy

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

Pastor Pam Beedle-Gee is on a mission.

She wants to reach out to those in the community who need free medical care and has enlisted the help of Garden City Hospital.

The hospital through its Garden City Mobile Medical unit, a health coach of sorts, is making monthly visits to the parking lot of Garden City First United Methodist Church at the corner of Merriman and Maplewood.

The visits began at the site two months ago.

The nurses do blood pressure checks and blood tests for cholesterol and diabetes. They also check the body mass index, BMI.

"They will do continued counseling for diabetics on eating and lifestyle changes," Beedle-Gee said.

The mobile unit will be at the church 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month. The next free session is Wednesday, Nov. 21. GCH podiatrists volunteering their time, on a rotating basis. Dr. Stephen Watson will be there on Nov. 21.

"People who have problems with their feet can come in and they will look at their feet," Beedle-Gee said.

The podiatrist sees patients inside the church building. Furniture in the Sunday School room is pushed out of the way so the podiatrist can work.

"We are seeing low-income people who have been caught by the economy crunch more than the elderly," Beedle-Gee said. "The program is still in its maiden voyage."

Other services

The medical program is

timed to coincide with the distribution of food commodities by Wayne County at Maplewood Center which is just west of the church down the street on Maplewood.

It was important to Beedle-Gee to open up the program to people who are homeless, low income and don't have health insurance. Garden City is a town where it is not uncommon for four generations to live under the same roof for economic reasons, she pointed out.

Beedle-Gee hopes that the hospital can eventually add a nurse practitioner.

Other health referrals are available.

"I don't want people to leave here without being restored to wholeness," Beedle-Gee said. "They need hope and light at the end of the tunnel that somebody does care. We're trying to be that place."

Nurse Catherine Chamberlain is devoted to her time on the Health Coach which began several months ago at the Salvation Army in Dearborn Heights and at Focus:HOPE in Inkster.

The Inkster location is thriving. A lack of response at the Salvation Army moved the medical unit to the First United Methodist Church in Garden City.

"We want to establish a continuum of care," said Chamberlain.

She wants people to have regular appointments at the unit to track their progress.

"We try to do a care plan," Chamberlain said.

Food pantry

In addition to the health mobile, the church, has an active food pantry, which is open from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Catherine Chamberlain, Community Health Services coordinator at Garden City Hospital, and pastor Pam Beedle-Gee of Garden City's First United Methodist Church are working together to provide a free continuum of care to the community.



Patient Sherry Patton talks with dietitian Amanda Kischuk during a recent Garden City Hospital Health Coach visit at Focus:HOPE in Inkster. The coach is now making visits to First United Methodist Church in Garden City.

and Wednesdays. It's not uncommon, she said, for recipients themselves to donate food they can't use that they received from other pantries or clothes that no longer fit them.

"Most people are very grateful," Beedle-Gee said. "We know everybody who comes in here by their first names and we know about their families. We know a bit about their situation in life."

Recently, several people in the church con-

gregation helped in a search to get a woman, a senior citizen, an extra wide pair of shoes that were an unusual size. The church members found the shoes, in the right size, which delighted and moved the woman.

"She needed a pair of shoes desperately," Beedle-Gee said. "We kept looking. They were a pair of spongy clogs. She was crying and dancing in the hallway."

Beedle-Gee said special favors were accom-

GCH coach part of county's 'Health on Wheels'

Garden City Hospital has joined with Wayne County, the City of Detroit and several other Detroit area health organizations in launching a new, collaborative "Health on Wheels" effort to bring free dental and health screenings and services to residents throughout the county's 43 communities.

The plan's rollout was announced at a kickoff event, held in conjunction with the Unify Detroit Coalition health fair Friday. Mobile health vehicles made their inaugural "Health on Wheels" site visit, providing essential health screenings, services and education to attendees.

"This effort is geared to improving the overall health of Wayne County residents, and making the county a healthier place," said Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

"We're pleased that dental and health providers, along with community and faith-based organizations, have come together to deliver potentially life-saving services to underinsured and uninsured residents."

The initiative will

feature mobile health units from Wayne County, the City of Detroit, the Institute for Population Health, Garden City Hospital and other local health providers. Partnering dental organizations include the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry and Golden Dental.

The "Health on Wheels" convoy will travel "cross county" twice monthly to deliver free dental and health screenings, services and referral, beginning in December and throughout 2013.

Screenings will be for residents of all ages, and include testing for diabetes, blood pressure, body mass index and chronic diseases, among others. Some immunizations will also be offered. Referrals will be provided to individuals in need of follow-up services and testing.

The 2012-13 schedule of "Health on Wheels" dates and locations will be announced soon.

For more information, call the Wayne County Department of Health and Human Services at (313) 224-0810, or visit www.waynecounty.com.

plished for other people, too.

"We consider them a part of our family," Beedle-Gee said. "They are part of the family of God."

People come in and worship at the open sanc-

tuary and talk to the church secretary.

"It is very organic here," Beedle-Gee said. "It's us living out our faith."

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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.

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 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.

Fitness challenge aims to bring holiday cheer to homeless families

CoreFit Fitness owner and personal trainer Rod Dowdell (Trainer Rod) is going to attempt a staggering endurance-fundraising Extreme Train-A-Thon Fitness Challenge at his studio in Novi to benefit homeless families at the Wayne County Family Center.

Beginning at 6 a.m. Dec. 9, Trainer Rod will endure the seven days of training, with the last 48 hours to be continuous without rest, training between 90-100 clients nonstop. All proceeds from the sessions will go directly towards buying gifts and fulfilling the wish list for homeless children at the Wayne County Family Center, and Trainer Rod plans to hand deliv-



Trainer Rod

er gifts to as many children as he can on Christmas day.

The Wayne County Family Center program matches needy families with "services, providing transitional shelter for homeless families." They welcome two-parent families, single

JOIN IN

You can participate in Trainer Rod's Extreme Train-A-Thon Fitness Challenge to benefit Wayne County Family Center by signing up for an hour-long training session between Dec. 9-16 for \$60. All proceeds will go towards buying

holiday gifts for the kids at the center. Call Trainer Rod today at (248) 943-7179, or email him at trainerrod@corefitness.com to reserve your spot or a spot for someone else. Visit corefitness.com for more information.

mothers or fathers with children and pregnant women. They also offer assistance with services to help people after they leave the shelter.

Trainer Rod grew up in an environment where there were no positive associations with this time of the year and he did not receive anything for the holidays.

"This personal pain and disconnection with the holidays is something that I do not want any child to have to experience," he said. "So I'm on a mission to change the lives of as many children and families as I can with the talents and skills I have developed as a personal trainer."

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OUR VIEWS

Saying thanks not for just one day

Continue to express your gratitude

When the first day of school rolled around in September, did you let out a sigh and say, "thank heavens they're back in school?"

How many times has someone turned to you — and how many times have you turned to someone else — in the last two weeks to say, "thank goodness the election is over?"

How long will you bite your tongue, after a Thanksgiving dinner guest tries to compliment you by saying that the mashed potatoes had fewer lumps than the gravy this year, before you say, "gee, thanks?"

And when you stumble into a coffee shop before dawn on Black Friday for some liquid gold before a shopping foray, what do you say as you finger the change the barista hands you? It may be almost subconscious, but like as not, you'll mumble a "thanks."

We say it all the time, not just on Thanksgiving. Whether it's because we got a knock on the head from our parents if we didn't say it as youngsters, or because we bought into the "please and thank you" lessons of Sesame Street and Capt. Kangaroo, saying thanks or thank you is arguably one of the most used phrases in the English language.

Maybe we use it too much. It is something to think about this Thanksgiving.

Consider that, when our children return to school in the fall, our thanks is better directed to their teachers than spoken as our sense of relief.

Likewise, win or lose, we are all glad that campaign ads have stopped running on TV. But if we thank anyone, it should be the writers of the Constitution who provided for democratic elections.

And face it, there is no way you mean anything close to thanks when you get a back-handed compliment on your Thanksgiving dinner cooking skills, nor is there really any meaning in that exchange at the coffee shop.

This holiday is a clue as to what the problem is: For 364 days a year, we say thank you. On only one day each year, the fourth Thursday in November, we give thanks. Talk, it seems, really is cheap. But it doesn't cost any more to put a little thought — and a little meaning — behind a pleasant exchange.

There is plenty to be thankful for, whether we recall our good fortune in a litany at the dinner table, or we keep tabs in a periodic inventory of our lives. More of us are working, though still less than the national average; home foreclosure rates have slowed. And didn't the Tigers give us a thrill this year, at least for awhile?

We all have to make our own lists of what to be thankful for, but giving thanks means more than lip service. It means pausing to look straight in someone's eye and smile, letting that person know you value them and the service they have performed. Isn't that what we do on Thanksgiving, by pausing to gather with family, letting them know we count them among our blessings?

But there are still many in our community who may not have the good fortune to share in our lengthy lists. For them, we should give more than a kind word or two. Instead, share a meal or maybe a special treat they may be unable to afford. Make an early gift of baby formula topped with a pair of mittens, or a gas card slipped inside a pair of gloves for an oldster.

There are as many ways to give thanks as there are reasons to do so, and they don't have to stop when the table is cleared after dinner and dessert.

So, when the relatives finally decide to leave on Thanksgiving, it's not a matter of what will you say to them, but how.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving Day?

We asked this question at Westland Shopping Center in Westland.



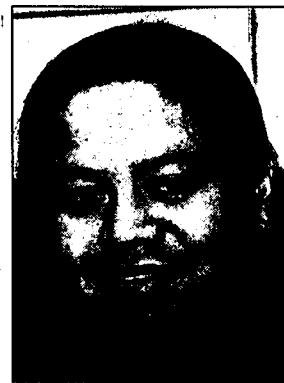
"For my family - my husband, 2-year-old daughter and newborn - and my extended family. I'm so thankful they're close by."

Jaime Palmby
Ypsilanti



"I'm thankful for my family and our house."

Courtney Rose
Westland



"I'm thankful for everything - my family here and my family back home in the Philippines."

Joseph Buison
Westland



"I'm thankful for my daughter and my son - the kids."

Matthew Williams
Westland

LETTERS

Red Kettle campaign

This year, the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army is working to raise \$200,000 in those red kettles that you see in front of local stores. Last year we were able to raise \$185,000 in donations thanks to the generosity of the Wayne and Westland communities.

Please continue to support the effort as we make our way to \$200,000. We are ringing at local Westland, Wayne and Romulus locations.

Last year we assisted 522 families, or a total of 1,921 people, with Christmas food and toys. This year we look to register more than 600 families for assistance. We ask that you please continue to pray for the families during their time of need. Currently, we have registered 81 families. We are continuing to take applications 9-11 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays until Dec. 5.

Looking for ways to help? You can donate a new toy, sponsor a family their Christmas, send a cash or check donation to 2300 S. Venoy, Westland, MI 48186 or you can volunteer. Our opportunities can be found on www.ringbell.org or bit.ly/wwsavolunteers. Or you can join or start your own online red kettle at www.onlineredkettle.org/waynewestlandsa. Please call our office for any questions or information as to how to get involved at (734) 722-3660.

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.

Derek Rose
captain, corps officer/pastor
Wayne/Westland

Good memories

Just a few words to commend the *Observer* and Staff Writer Joanne Maliszewski for the outstanding article on the life and passing of Sonny Eliot.

The article brought back my memories of Sonny. We were both members of the old Detroit Press Club at 516 Howard St. in Detroit. I remember how excited club members were when he came in for some camaraderie.

I remember when, as editor of the *Metropolitan Detroit Building Journal*, I covered the demolition of the first building to make way for the Renaissance Center's construction. Of course, Sonny was at the controls of the wrecking ball!

And finally, and best of all to Livonians, I remember when he said during one of his weathercasts that his old crony, noted journalist and columnist Jack Lessenberry, "could trace his family's history back to an old stump in Livonia."

This coming spring, I plan on dedicating a stump in my yard to the memory of Sonny Eliot and to Jack Lessenberry and his "roots" in our fair community.

Joe Neussendorfer
Livonia

GUEST COLUMN

Connecting with aging parents during the holidays

By Kathleen Kueppers
Guest Columnist

The holidays, for many of us, are a chance to spend time, with family members who we don't see as often as we would like.

Visits with aging parents can provide the ideal opportunity for us to observe how they are doing and have a conversation with them about their well-being. Are they safe living independently or do they need additional support to do so?

If you live a long distance away, or don't see your parents regularly, you may be surprised by changes you notice in their physical appearance or mental condition. Be sure to take the time to talk with them and ask questions if you are concerned. Here are some tips to consider.

Look for warning signs in their physical appearance.

Weight loss may be a sign of illness or malnourishment. Are they stable on their feet? Is there a change in their speech or ambulation? Are they able to take care of their activities of daily living, such as cook, dress, bathe, and clean their home? If any warning signs are evident, help schedule a visit with their physician and plan to go with them.

Look for changes in their mood or mental alertness.

Forgetfulness and confusion are not a normal part of aging. If your parents are repeating themselves frequently or appear more confused, look for other signs that may indicate they are in need of additional help.

Are their bills being paid?
Are they entering contests?
Are there checks in their checkbook to people you are not familiar with?

Are their prescriptions current?
Is there nutritious food in the cupboard?

How is their mood?
Do they engage in conversation?
Do they laugh at funny stories?
Do they cry often?
Are they drinking more alcohol?
Are they irritable or get angry quickly?

Do they appear clean and dress like they always did?
Are they refusing to go with friends on outings, or to their church or synagogue?

Changes in their mood or mental alertness may be signs of depression, dementia or a declining health condition. Again, schedule an appointment with a physician and plan to go with them.

Be honest.
If you are concerned about a parent's well-being, don't be afraid to tell them. Express how you are feeling using "I." For example, "I am concerned about your diet, you've lost weight." Or "I noticed Dad's clothes are not clean today. Are you having trouble doing the laundry? What can I do to help?" Or "I noticed you call me often and forget that we talked. Are you concerned about your

memory? I am."

Listen carefully and tell your parent/s that you respect their independence. When older adults complain about vague symptoms sometimes they are telling you that they are scared or lonely. Listen carefully. Reassure them that you respect their privacy but that you may need to know important information in order to help them if there is an emergency.

Where to turn for more resources and information.

The Area Agency on Aging 1-B (AAA 1-B) is a nonprofit organization that specializes in providing information, resources, and services to older adults, persons with disabilities, and their family caregivers, who live in Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair and Washtenaw counties. For information about respite relief services, housing, in-home services, home delivered meals, care management, legal assistance, counseling, transportation, Medicare, Medicaid and more, call the AAA 1-B Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 800-852-7795, or visit www.aa1b.com.

Kathleen Kueppers is Director of Community Support Services for the Area Agency on Aging 1-B, a nonprofit organization that serves seniors, persons with disabilities and family caregivers in a six-county region in southeast Michigan. For more information, contact her at (248) 262-9225, or by e-mail at kkueppers@aa1b.com.

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From a House to Home

ADVERTISING FEATURE

When Elaine Cash decided it was time to move to a senior community, she found what she was looking for in her own backyard at Abbey Park at Mill River. Born and raised on a farm just three miles away, Elaine watched the construction of Abbey Park and carefully considered the advantages offered by the community.

As the final stages of building were completed "It got me thinking," she said. "I decided, on my own, this was the answer."

Elaine knew it was time for a change; the family home that she and her husband, Jim, built in 1950 was no longer practical. The Cash Family has lived in

Lyon Township, a picturesque rural setting noted for the warmth of loving neighbors, for six generations. Moving into Abbey Park keeps Elaine close to friends and family and provides security, support and reassurance to loved ones concerned about her living alone.

While Elaine made the move to satisfy the concerns of her family, she is quick to acknowledge that she is very happy in her new home. "I am blessed to have made a best friend here," Elaine said. "I never thought I would spend my later years in such a lovely home as Abbey Park. I feel like the luckiest person living here."

MY VERY PLEASANT SURPRISE

Just minutes from Ann Arbor, Novi and Brighton, Abbey Park's convenient location - on Milford Road across from Coyote Golf Club and just minutes from I-96 - enjoys a beautiful countryside setting, with state of the art amenities in addition to quick access to three major hospitals.

Within just a few days of Abbey Park's opening in January 2009, Elaine and her three children enjoyed a lunch and tour of the facility. She was surprised and "very impressed," with her initial visit. Elaine appreciated the beautiful landscaping of the grounds and courtyards, an elegant lobby featuring fountains, fireplaces, and a grand piano along with the welcoming

smiles of a few old friends and some new neighbors.

With any move there are decisions to be made, and so after offering the family home to her granddaughter, Elaine's first step was to find the perfect apartment in her new community. With nine floor plans ranging from one bedroom/one bath to two bedrooms with two full baths and two walk-in closets, all apartment options at Abbey Park include

a balcony or patio. Monthly rental fees include heat, water, electricity in addition to 24-hour staffing, medical monitoring, daily housekeeping, weekly laundry service, delicious meals served in the beautiful Grand Dining Room, continental breakfast and over 45 activities - including two happy hour events and live entertainment - to enjoy each week.

There were additional surprises, too: the community was luxurious and elegant but also very affordable. The meals served in the elegant dining room by attentive staff and prepared on site, were delicious. "The food is like a nice restaurant," Elaine said, and said that the employees and residents are, "Like another large family." There's a calendar full of weekly shopping trips, monthly casino excursions, Bingo, ice cream socials and destination outings, such as trips

"I never thought I would spend my later years in such a lovely home as Abbey Park. I feel like the luckiest person living here."

Elaine Cash, Abbey Park resident



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Abbey Park at Mill River resident Elaine Cash enjoying the beautiful grounds of Abbey Park at their annual car show.

to Frankenmuth and holiday shopping trips. Within the community, there is a theater, library, computer center, fitness center, hair salon and physical therapists on site. Medicare-certified optional personal care services are also available.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE MY NEW HOME

Elaine was quick to credit the leadership of the staff with the spirit of community and a calendar full of celebrations. "To me, [Administrator] Tamra Ward and [Hospitality Director] Charles Duty are 'Abbey Park,' plus of course, their wonderful, friendly, caring staff." Elaine's social calendar is full of parties and events. There's a champagne brunch

Left: Abbey Park at Mill River resident Elaine Cash is surrounded by family at last year's Christmas party.

every Sunday, birthday parties, Grandkids Halloween Carnival, Grandparent's Day Luau, Oktoberfest and Abbey Park's Festival of Trees. There's a delicious menu for each holiday and celebration dinners are open to family and friends. Abbey Park at Mill River offers a Facebook page that is updated after each event for the enjoyment of the residents and their loved ones.

Soon after her move to Abbey Park at Mill River, Elaine met owners Dr. Benjamin Stein, Joe Norber and Edward Rosenbaum during one of their weekly site visits. "I told them how much I loved it here," Elaine said "I am a walking commercial for Abbey Park."

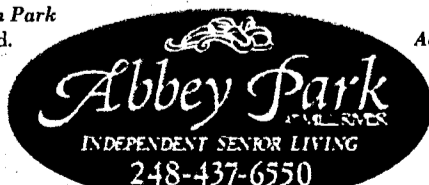
Elaine celebrated her third anniversary as a resident at Abbey Park in September and enjoys being part of the Abbey Park family. "I have loved every single day here," she said.



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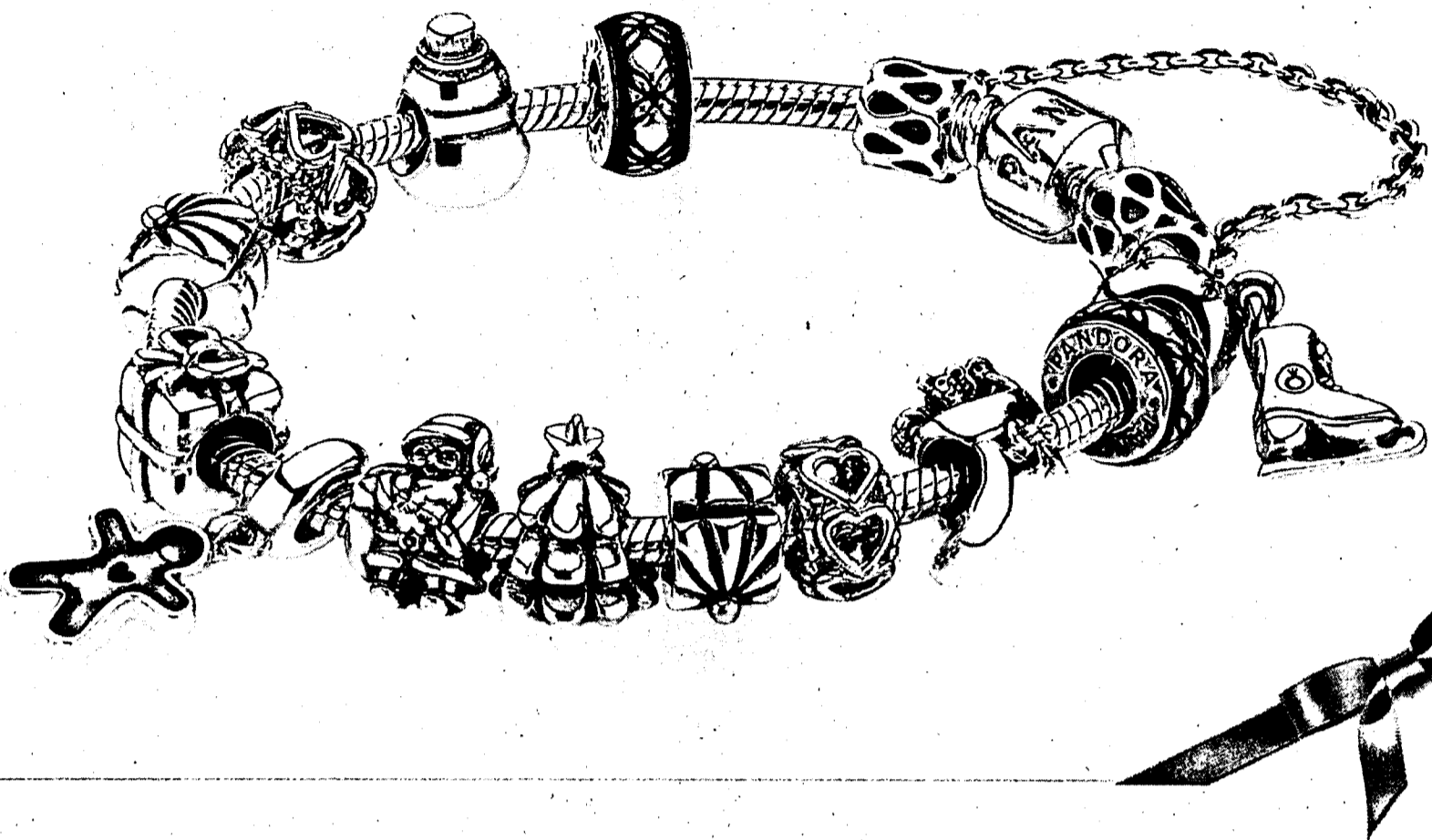
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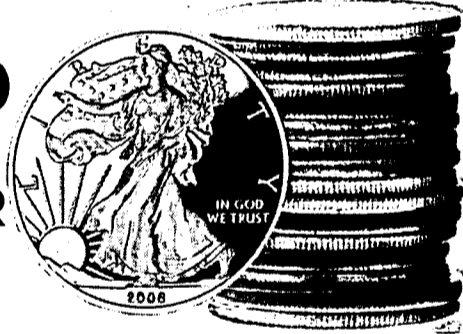
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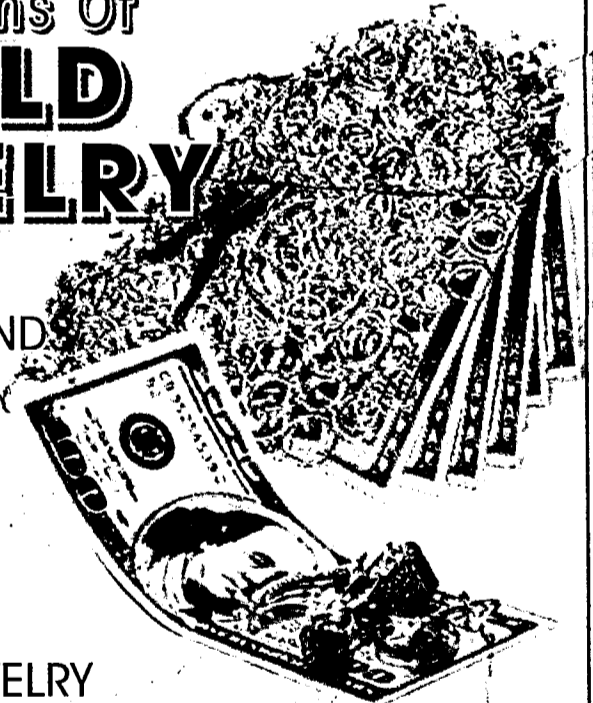
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BOYS HOCKEY

Dearborn/GC debut a winner

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

The Crestwood/Garden City unified boys hockey team opened its inaugural season in rousing fashion Saturday night by posting a 7-1 triumph over host Lutheran North.

The squad consists of student-athletes from Dearborn Heights Crestwood, Dearborn Heights Annapolis and Garden City high schools.

"For our first regular-season game, it certainly was an impressive win," said Chargers head coach Steve Popp. "We had relentless pressure offensively and never really let down."

"It seems like everybody from the two schools is getting along really well. They were having a good time on the way back."

STEVE POPP
Chargers head coach

A reduction in one key statistic played a role in his team's robust offensive production, Popp said.

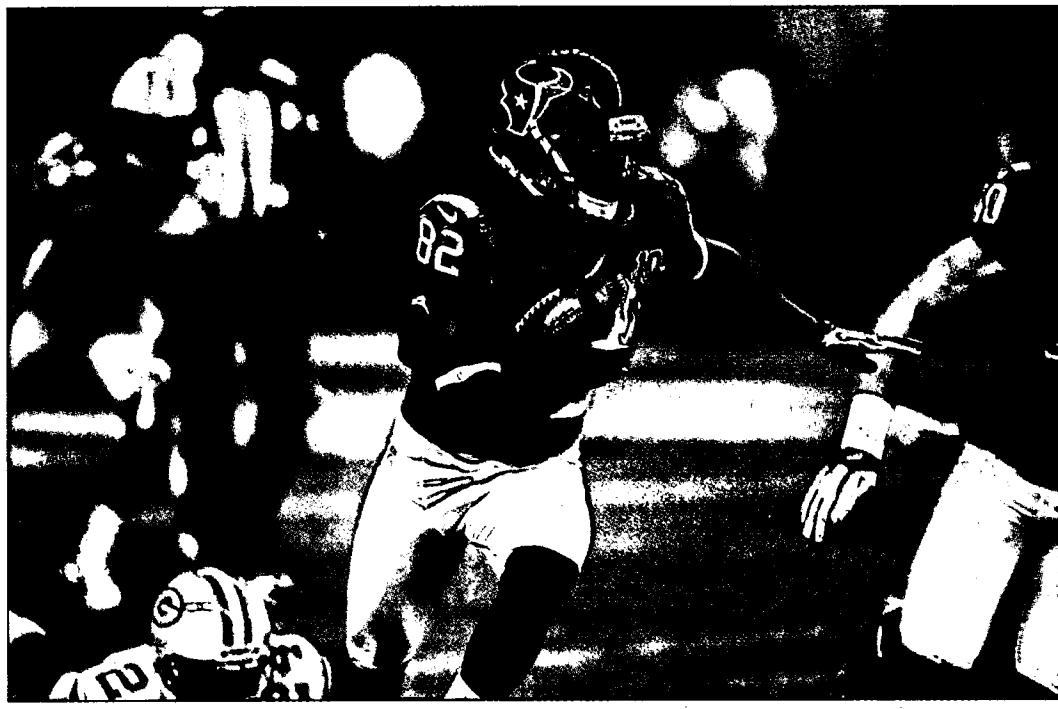
"We only had two penalties, which is something we've been stressing," Popp said. "Too many penalties gave us trouble last year. We were too undisciplined at times. We're emphasizing to the guys that if they play disciplined hockey, they'll stay in the games."

Popp thinks Saturday's extended trip to Macomb Township helped forge the team's chemistry.

"Having a long road trip — it was probably close to an hour ride one-way — was good for us, especially early in the season like this," he said. "It seems like everybody from the two schools is getting along really well. They were having a good time on the way back."

The Chargers bolted to a 2-0 lead after one period before North answered with a goal early in the second stanza. However,

Please see ICERS, B4



Westland John Glenn grad Keshawn Martin (82), now a rookie wide receiver with the Houston Texans, looks for daylight in a game against Green Bay.

Many happy returns

Glenn grad Martin, a Texan, faces Lions

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Five years ago, Keshawn Martin was a high school senior in the midst of pre-season basketball practice at Westland John Glenn High.

Fast forward to 2012 and Thanksgiving week as the wide receiver and kick returner for the 9-1 Houston Texans, owners of the best record in the NFL's AFC, plays Thursday at Detroit's Ford Field where he'll face the 4-6 Lions.

For the 5-foot-11, 190-pound Martin, it's been a whirlwind since he committed — almost to the day — in November of 2007 as an unheralded recruit for Michigan State.



Martin

"It just feels like time flew by so fast," said Martin, who caught his first NFL touchdown in last Sunday's 43-37 overtime win over Jacksonville. "Five years ago I was in high school playing basketball and now I'm in the NFL basically living on my own, paying my own bills and stuff."

"Time definitely flew by, but that's how it is. You go to different stages in life and I'm blessed enough to be in the NFL."

The speedy and elusive Martin has proven to be a blessing as the Texans' fourth-round pick (121st

overall) from last year's NFL Draft.

The 22-year-old from Inkster, a former high school quarterback, has seven receptions for 72 yards and three carries for 36 yards as a lot receiver in Houston's high-powered offense.

But he's taken on an added role after the Texans, struggling on special teams, decided to cut kick and punt returner Trindon Holliday on Oct 10.

Since assuming the role, Martin has given the Texans a boost with 10 kickoff returns for 194 yards (19.4 average), while averaging 15.3 yards per punt return.

On Sunday, Martin proved

Please see MARTIN, B2

Whalers in town

Don't worry, hockey fans mourning the loss of the NHL. The Ontario Hockey League's Plymouth Whalers have just what you need.

Compuware Arena (Beck Road south of Five Mile) hosts two Whalers games sandwiched around Thanksgiving. At 7 p.m. Wednesday, Plymouth squares off against Windsor. Two nights later (also at 7 p.m.) the Whalers welcome Kingston.

For ticket information, go to www.plymouthwhalers.com or call the box office at (734) 453-8400. Individual game tickets are \$12 and \$16.

Alumni swim meet at FHS

The first Farmington-Harrison Phoenix alumni swim meet will take place 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, in the Farmington High School pool.

Twenty former swimmers are expected to compete against the current girls and boys teams. A monetary donation to the team would be appreciated in place of a set admission price.

GLIAC hoops lauds Taylor

Grand Valley State University senior forward Briana Taylor (Livonia Franklin) was named Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference North Division women's basketball Player of the Week (ending Nov. 19).

The 5-foot-9 Taylor is averaging 19.5 points per game for the 3-0 Lakers.

She was named Firebird Classic MVP after recording double-doubles in both including 16 points and 10 rebounds against host school District of Columbia along with 23 points and 11 rebounds against Bowie State (Md.).

Taylor now owns 11 double-doubles in her career.

Touchdowns by ex-Hawks

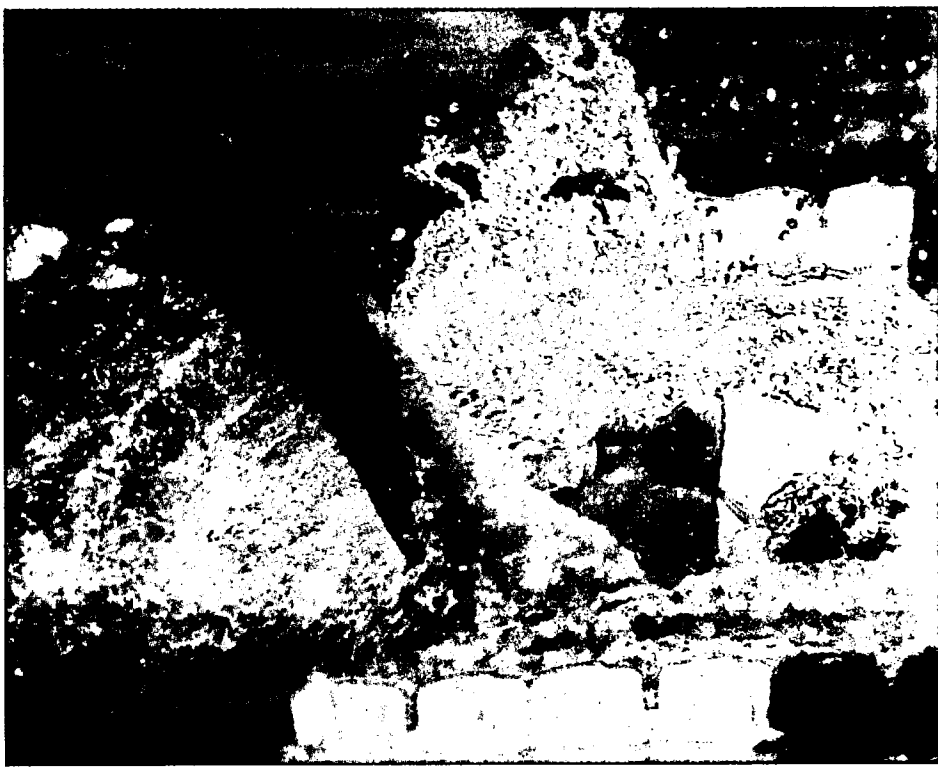
For the first time this season, former Farmington Harrison teammates and true freshmen Devin Funchess and Aaron Burbridge caught touchdown passes on the same day for their respective Big Ten teams Saturday.

Devin Gardner passed 29 yards to Funchess in Michigan's 42-17 rout of Iowa, and Burbridge caught a 15-yarder from Andrew Maxwell in Michigan State's 23-20 loss to Northwestern.

It was the first collegiate TD catch by Burbridge, who had four receptions for 47 yards in the game. The TD grab was the lone catch of the day for Funchess.

For the season, Burbridge has 26 catches for 342 yards; Funchess has 14 for 230 yards and five touchdowns.

DIVISION 1 GIRLS SWIM FINALS



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mercy junior Elliott Schinella is the state champion in the 100-yard backstroke.

Marlins finish second at Division 1 finals

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer

Here's a perspective on just how successful the Farmington Hills Mercy swimming and diving program has been in recent years — and continues to be!

The Marlins have done so well that being the second-best team in Division 1 might leave the impression they didn't meet expectations.

Mercy was the defending state champion and had sought to win a sixth straight title Saturday at Holland Aquatics Center. The first four were won in Division 2.

The Marlins were the runners-up this year and had their victory streak

broken by Holland West Ottawa in a close meet, 293.5-272. Saline, the 2010 state champion and 2011 runner-up, was a close third with 266.

"Expectations, outside of the swim team, are sometimes higher than within the group itself," Mercy coach Shannon Dunworth said. "Certainly, we've been fortunate to have a lot of good swimmers come through Mercy, and they achieved quite a bit."

"We didn't win the championship this year, but it does not diminish my satisfaction with the team; that's for sure."

He added the Marlins lost to the Panthers while making a great effort, and he can accept that as

opposed to losing with a poor effort.

"In swimming, you get to be measured whether those efforts are great or poor," he said. "Without a doubt, we lost in a great effort, and that's very fulfilling for me."

The scoring tally was close throughout the finals Saturday, but West Ottawa's performance in the prelims Friday set the stage for it to finish well, according to Dunworth.

"After the first day, the battle really was for second place," he said. "(The Panthers) were nervous; they had to follow suit and do what they did."

"For us and Saline, it was more a matter of

Please see FINALS, B3

Wildcats junior best in 500 free

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Sarah Dombkowski and the rest of Plymouth High School's contingent did itself proud at Holland Aquatic Center.

Dombkowski dominated the 500-yard freestyle race Saturday in the championship round of the Division 1 girls swimming and diving state finals.

The junior — an elite club swimmer in her first season with the Wildcats — became the school's first state champion in girls swimming with her time of 4:55.82.

"For the most part," recalled Plymouth head coach Doug Schade, "after about 300 yards

she was swimming one way and everybody else was swimming the other way. She got that far ahead."

Dombkowski distanced herself from Holland West Ottawa's Elizabeth Fris (second, 5:01.93) and Farmington Hills Mercy's Kathleen McGee (third, 5:03.4).

Schade added that Dombkowski's performance also shattered the HAC record, previously held by a Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association swimmer.

"She broke the Holland Aquatic Center record there, which was pretty significant considering they hosted the

Please see SWIM, B3



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth's Sarah Dombkowski is a Division 1 state champion in the 500 freestyle.

MARTIN

Continued from page B1

his worth with a 71-yard punt return and added a kickoff return for 54 more.

Those numbers are of no surprise for those who followed Martin in the collegiate ranks.

In 48 games, the four-year letter winner finished his career ranked second in Michigan State history in punt return yards (659), fourth in punt returns (65), eighth in kick return yards (1,100) and kick returns (47), 10th in all-purpose yards (4,013), 11th in receptions (127), 16th in receiving yards (1,714)

and tied for 17th in touchdown receptions (10).

"It's a little bit more on my plate, but I can handle it," Martin said of his new duties as a return man. "I just try to make plays out there. I go out there every week, try to get better and make plays."

"It's a little different, but as far as catching the ball and reading the blocks, I felt like you should always been able to do that. The guys close down on you faster. People are faster, so you've really got to be on it."

As a rookie, Martin's transition to the NFL remains work in progress.

"I definitely felt like I learned something every

week," Martin said. "Every week I'm just getting more comfortable just playing out there, making plays. Most of all, just having fun out there."

Martin specifically can't recall any specific Thanksgiving moment, but he was generally in front of the TV set.

"I used to watch the Lions on Thanksgiving, that's basically the only memory I have," Martin said. "I was a Lions fan. That's the home team, so you've got to have a little love for the home team. I watched the Lions growing up."

Martin is looking forward to Thanksgiving gathering. The majority will be Lions' fans, but he'll have his minority of supporters in the stands at Ford Field.

"Just going back home, just being back in Michigan and being in an envi-



HOUSTON TEXANS
Westland John Glenn grad Keshawn Martin (82), now a rookie wide receiver and kick returner for the Houston Texans, looks for running room in a game against Green Bay.

ronment, the opportunity to go out there and get another win, it definitely should be a good time," Martin said. "You've got a lot of family coming to the game and a lot of friends who want to come to the game, so I'll just do my best trying to get people to game. It should be a good environment, a good atmosphere. It should be exciting."

Martin hauled in a 9-yard first-quarter pass last Sunday from quarterback Matt Schaub in the OT win over Jacksonville for his first NFL touchdown.

And the Texans' rookie admitted he didn't quite know how to celebrate. It remains a blur.

"I didn't know what to do, so I think I just spiked it," Martin said.

Another touchdown, along with a win this Thursday over the Lions would certainly be a Thanksgiving to remember for the Glenn grad - a feast with all the stuffings and a piece of pumpkin pie for dessert.

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ANDY RUBENSTEIN

Super Steelers

The Plymouth-Canton Steelers varsity football team completed a 10-0 season on Sunday, Nov. 11, when it upended the Dearborn Heights Redskins, 22-6, at Saline High School. Isaac Emminger, Victor Reese and Dylan Stackhouse scored touchdowns for the Steelers.

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Madonna slams way into NAIA round of 24

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

Propelled by a "secret weapon", an impeccable setter and a balanced attack that was terminating points from every angle imaginable, the Madonna University women's volleyball team advanced to the NAIA Volleyball Championship's round of 24 on Saturday for the first time since 2008 by dispatching visiting St. Xavier (Ill.) University, 25-18, 25-15, 23-25, 25-16.

With Saturday's opening-round tournament triumph, the Crusaders earned a trip to Sioux City, Iowa, where they will compete for a national championship with 23 other qualifiers from Nov. 27 through Dec. 1.

When asked to name his team's MVP following Saturday's match, Madonna coach Jerry Abraham deferred — and for good reason. Three Crusaders — Samantha Geile, Taylor Dziejewit and Emilie Freeman (Lutheran Westland) — registered double-digit kills thanks to the pin-point setting of Evia Prieditis.

"I thought it was a

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

great team effort today," Abraham said. "Once we established the middle attack, it opened up our outsides, and we have some really good outside hitters. I'm not sure if (St. Xavier) knew where we'd be coming from at any time.

"We've been playing really fast lately and connecting on all cylinders — attacking the ball from antenna to antenna. That was a very good team over there — they were 18-1 in their league — so we didn't want to let them get back into it."

Strong up front

Freeman (11 kills and five block assists) was a force in the middle, while Geile (16 kills) and Dziejewit (13 kills) did their work on the court's fringes.

"We call Taylor our 'secret weapon,'" Abraham said of the left-handed swinging Dziejewit. "She's not real big (5-foot-9), but she has a nice jump."

The trek to Iowa will be a first for every member

of this year's contingent. "This feels amazing," said Freeman. "We're all really excited. We knew we had to come out and do exactly what we've been doing throughout the season. We knew we had to put the ball down hard because they have a very scrappy team."

Madonna set the tone early in the first two sets when it jumped out to 7-3 and 7-2 leads, respectively, and never fell behind.

"Getting out to the early leads was huge for us," Freeman said. "We were pumped right from the start. We were communicating well and screaming after every point. We knew if we didn't come out with a lot of energy, they would take advantage."

After trailing for most of the third set, the Crusaders surged ahead late, 22-20, following a Geile kill and Stacey Catalano's ace. However, the Cougars proved resilient when they outpointed their hosts 5-1 down the stretch — with the final point coming on an emphatic throw-down by Kayla Mullaney — to force a fourth stanza.

The final set was close

for a while — MU led just 10-9 a little less than midway through — but a four-point run that was triggered by two kills and a block from Nastija Baranovska seemed to take the air out of the Cougars' comeback plans.

"Volleyball is a crazy game — it's a game of momentum and runs," Abraham said. "We told the kids before the game started that we were going to be up sometimes, we were going to be down sometimes, we were going to grab some leads and we were going to blow some leads. We've played a lot of tough four-game matches this season."

MU's defense was tight across the board as five players registered at least nine digs. Prieditis led the way with 12, one more than Amanda Obrycki.

"We've tried to stress to the girls that this is what they've worked so hard for all season; it's something they're never going to forget," Abraham said of the pending trip to Iowa.

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MU men's cagers trip Indiana Tech

COLLEGE HOOPS

Bobby Naubert did yeoman's work Saturday logging 39 minutes and scoring a game-high 27 points as Madonna University men's basketball team beat visiting Indiana Tech, 75-61, in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference opener for both teams.

Naubert, a 5-foot-10 junior point-guard from Livonia Stevenson, made 10-of-16 shots from the floor and made 6-of-7 free throws while dishing out five assists and grabbing a team-high eight rebounds as the Crusaders improved to 4-1 overall and 1-0 in the WHAC.

Junior guard Travis Schuba and junior forward Fred Williams chipped in with 13 and 12 points, respectively, as MU pulled away late in the second half after leading 38-35 at intermission.

MU shot 27-of-53 from floor (50.9 percent) and hit 14-of-17 free throws (82.4 percent).

Indiana Tech (5-2, 0-1), ranked No. 25 in the latest NAIA Division II poll, got 11 points apiece from Jordan Hickman and Antonio Cannon.

INDIANA TECH 82, MU (WOMEN) 79: Senior guard Shantelle Herring poured in a game-high 29 points, but it wasn't enough as Madonna University (1-2, 0-1) fell Saturday to visiting Indiana Tech (1-4, 0-1) in the WHAC women's opener. Herring made 10-of-17 shots from the floor, including 5-of-8 from three-point range.

Senior center Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) added 18 points and 13 rebounds, while Michelle Lindsey and Rachel Melcher chipped in with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

The Crusaders, who trailed 33-27 at halftime, trailed by as many as nine and never got closer than three the rest of the way.

MU shot 40.6 percent from the floor (26-of-64) and only 18-of-32 from the foul line (56.3 percent).

Ulyssia Richmond and Rachael Kruse paced the Warriors with 27 and 21 points, respectively. Kaneisha Bass added 10.

FINALS

Continued from page B1

them making mistakes, which they didn't. It's not like (the point difference) was insurmountable. Nonetheless, they put themselves in a better position than we did after Friday."

Dunworth, who is always focused on individual improvement and preparing for the next competition, isn't going to lament or reflect on the end of Mercy's championship run.

"When you don't keep track of streaks, you don't care when they come to an end," he said. "My only concern is what's in front of me, and it's that simple."

"The only one that matters is the one you just



Loniewski Schinella

lost or won. I'm just not into that other stuff."

Mercy's great effort produced a pair of state champions Saturday. Sophomore Maddy Loniewski won the 200-yard individual medley, and junior Elliott Schinella is the best in the 100 backstroke.

"It was very special for Maddy," Dunworth said. "Her older sister (Mara) was a state champion, and now she's in that category, too."

"Swimming has come really natural to her for a long time. But she found challenges she has not

found before, and she handled them amazingly well.

"Elly's (victory) is special just because she's a very coachable girl and is extremely competitive. I've watched her mature emotionally and athletically every year, so it's a lot of fun to see her growing dedication really pay off."

Many contributed

Ten of the 13 girls the Marlins sent to the meet scored, the others being Annie Valentine, Kathleen McGee, Jordan Ewald, Roxanne Griffore, Erica Allor, Ellyse Conn, Emma Michalzuk and Michaela Bargardi.

"In the past, we've taken a lot of kids who were happy to be there," Dunworth said. "Every kid we took I thought had a legitimate shot at scoring and, even if they did fall short,

they didn't fall very far short."

Valentine is the only senior in the group that went to state, and she's just one of four on the entire Mercy team. Thus, the Marlins will most likely have an impact on the 2013 meet, too.

"We look good sitting here in November, but a lot can change between now and next season," Dunworth said. "All that really matters is the next nine months."

"We always have a core group of kids willing to sacrifice and pay the price. That core is going to have to get bigger. It's not big enough right now."

"Those kids you want to win with are the kids who want the challenge, the kids who take the sport seriously. I'm sure we'll have a few more join the ranks."

GIRLS STATE MEET RESULTS

MHSAA GIRLS SWIM DIVISION 1 SWIM FINALS Nov. 16-17 at Holland TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Holland West Ottawa, 293.5 points; 2. Farmington Hills Mercy, 272; 3. Saline, 266; 4. Zeeland, 150; 5. South Lyon Unified, 142; 6. Rockford, 139; 7. Hudsonville, 125; 8. Novi, 101; 9. Clarkston, 89; 10. Salem, 81; 13. Plymouth, 63; 25. Livonia Stevenson, 15; 28. Canton, 8; 34. Livonia Churchill, 3 (34 schools).

FINAL RESULTS
200-yard medley relay: 1. West Ottawa, 1:45.14; 4. Mercy (Elliott Schinella, Maddy Loniewski, Ellyse Conn, Roxanne Griffore), 1:45.75; 8. Salem (Abby Aumiller, Linda Zhang, Lisa Zhang, Julia Suriano), 1:49.08; 12. Stevenson (Brenna Gabrielson, Julia Hurlay, Sara Stemen, Brenna Erickson), 1:51.55; 13. Canton (Emily Meier, Hannah Jenkins, Delaney Adams, Destinee Barmore-Hicks), 1:51.84.

200 freestyle: 1. Maddie Wright (Waterford Kettering), 1:48.01; 2. Sarah Dombkowski (Ply.), 1:52.02; 3. Kathleen McGee (Mercy), 1:52.34; **prelims:** 24. Madeline Madison (Canton), 1:58.33; 25. Sarah Cauzillo (Stevenson), 1:59.05; 26. Aumiller (Salem), 1:59.68.

200 individual medley: 1. Loniewski (Mercy), 2:05.09; 3. Linda Zhang (Salem), 2:06.0; 4. Lisa Zhang (Salem), 2:06.72; 6. Emily Toro (Ply.), 2:07.94; 11. Jordan Ewald (Mercy), 2:10.08; 12. Annie Valentine (Mercy), 2:10.63; 14. Alexa Earls (Ply.), 2:11.04; **prelims:** 20. Michaela Bargardi (Mercy), 2:12.62; 21. Hannah Jenkins (Canton), 2:12.65; 23. Delaney Adams (Canton), 2:12.67; 24. Rachel Arceri (Stevenson), 2:12.92; 29. Caitlin Orr (Canton), 2:14.51; 39. Claire Green (Canton), 2:17.4.

50 freestyle: 1. Danielle Freeman (Hudsonville), 22.96; 5. Schinella (Mercy), 24.04; 8. Griffore (Mercy), 24.28; **prelims:** 22. Barmore-Hicks (Canton), 24.84.

1-meter diving: 1. Dani VanderZwaag (West Ottawa), 425.45 points; 12. Erica Allor (Mercy), 359.00.
100 butterfly: 1. Wright (Kettering), 54.13; 8. Valentine (Mercy), 57.66; 10. Conn (Mercy), 57.16; 13. Toro (Ply.), 58.3; **prelims:** 18. Hannah Schmidt (Mercy), 59.71; 19. Hannah Knoop (Mercy), 59.77; 23. Stemen (Stevenson), 1:00.02; 26. Adams (Canton), 1:00.42; 28. Linda Erickson (Ply.), 1:00.67.

100 freestyle: 1. Freeman (Hudsonville), 50.76; 4. Griffore (Mercy), 52.41; 14. Amanda Washko (Churchill), 53.43; **prelims:** 17. Christine Edwards (Mercy), 54.2; 28. Barmore-Hicks (Canton), 55.35.
500 freestyle: 1. Dombkowski (Ply.), 4:55.82; 3. McGee (Mercy), 5:03.4; 15. Emma Michalzuk (Mercy), 5:13.35; **prelims:** 17. Suriano (Salem), 5:15.37; 18. Green (Canton), 5:15.41; 23. Earls (Ply.), 5:17.04; 27. Merrill Frone (Stevenson), 5:20.67.
200 freestyle relay: 1. West Ottawa, 1:35.58; 5. Mercy (Griffore, McGee, Valentine, Edwards), 1:37.83; 16. Plymouth (Toro, Linda Erickson, Earls, Dombkowski), 1:41.15; **prelims:** 21. Stevenson (Cauzillo, Arceri, Andrea D'Amour, Brenna Erickson), 1:42.25; 24. Canton (Meier, Abby Madison, M. Madison, Barmore-Hicks), 1:42.98.
100 backstroke: 1. Schinella (Mercy), 54.91; 6. Conn (Mercy), 57.51; 10. Ewald (Mercy), 57.95; 12. Gabrielson (Stevenson), 59.14; 14. Michaela Bargardi (Mercy), 59.64; 16. Aumiller (Salem), 1:00.18; **prelims:** 17.

Edwards (Mercy), 59.66; 22. Washko (Churchill), 1:00.39; 23. Orr (Canton), 1:00.42; 30. Stephanie Solterman (Salem), 1:01.42; 31. Suriano (Salem), 1:01.59; 32. Meier (Canton), 1:02.59.

100 breaststroke: 1. Catherine Cui (Northville), 1:03.71; 6. Loniewski (Mercy), 1:05.34; 7. Linda Zhang (Salem), 1:05.39; **prelims:** 19. Knoop (Mercy), 1:08.19; 21. Jenkins (Canton), 1:08.61.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Saline, 3:29.13; 4. Mercy (McGee, Conn, Valentine, Loniewski), 3:30.9; 15. Plymouth (Toro, Erickson, Earls, Dombkowski), 3:39.59; **prelims:** 17. Stevenson (Cauzillo, Gabrielson, Stemen, Arceri), 3:39.21; 18. Salem (Lisa Zhang, Suriano, Linda Zhang, Aumiller), 3:39.08; 22. Canton (Adams, Orr, M. Madison, Jenkins), 3:43.85.

MHSAA GIRLS SWIM DIVISION 2 SWIM FINALS Nov. 16-17 at Oakland U. TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Holland, 311; 2. Ann Arbor Skyline, 255.5; 3. Grosse Pointe South, 190; 4. Portage Central, 154; 5. Birmingham Groves, 152; 6. Rochester Adams, 142.5; 7. Bloomfield Hills Marian, 142; 8. Birmingham Seaholm, 140; 9. East Grand Rapids, 124; 10. Midland Dow, 89; 17. Farmington-Harrison, 40; 27. Farmington, 10 (32 schools).

FINAL RESULTS
200-yard medley relay: 1. Holland, 1:44.20; 15. Harrison (Paige Kondek, Mikayla Doepper, Miranda Shelly, Katie Romero), 1:53.25; **prelims:** 24. North Farmington (Emma Bradley, Emma Gell, Anika Gidley, Lindsay McDonald), 1:56.06.

200 freestyle: 1. Mollie Pulte (Marian), 1:50.27; 14. Lauren Folkert (Farmington), 1:56.46; 15. Emily Brunett (Harrison), 1:58.03.
200 IM: 1. Ashleigh Shanley (Skyline), 2:03.84; 16. Shelly (Harrison), 2:15.19; **prelims:** 33. Doepper (Farmington), 2:18.02; 34. Yurika Ueda (Farmington), 2:18.54.

50 freestyle: 1. Katie DeLoof (GP South), 23.66; **prelims:** 25. Romero (Harrison), 25.33; 30. Ellen Leever (Harrison), 25.64.
Diving: 1. Allie Murphy (Walled Lake Western), 442.80 points; **prelims:** 20. Molly Miller (Harrison), 229.30.

100 butterfly: 1. Taylor Garcia (Holland), 54.72; 4. Shelly (Harrison), 58.12; 12. Brunett (Harrison), 59.13; **prelims:** 27. Emma Sutherland (Harrison), 1:02.04; 28. Gidley (North Farmington), 1:02.11; 31. Ueda (Farmington), 1:02.62.

100 freestyle: 1. Holly Morren (Holland), 50.74.
500 freestyle: 1. Cassie Misiewicz (Holland), 4:59.45; **prelims:** Sutherland (Harrison), 5:26.32.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Holland, 1:35.89; 11. Harrison (Brunett, Leever, Doepper, Kondek), 1:40.64; **prelims:** 21. Farmington (Kate Capozzoli, Kayla Hamilton, Ueda, Folkert), 1:43.59; 25. North Farmington (Gidley, McDonald, Nicole Tini, Gell), 1:45.60.

100 backstroke: 1. Garcia (Holland), 53.81; 10. Folkert (Farmington), 59.51; **prelims:** 27. Kondek (Harrison), 1:02.02.

100 breaststroke: 1. Shanley (Skyline), 1:03.22; **prelims:** 28. Doepper (Harrison), 1:10.63; 34. Gell (North Farmington), 1:11.27.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Holland, 3:28.64; 16. Harrison (Brunett, Leever, Sutherland, Shelly), 3:45.50; **prelims:** 22. Farmington (Folkert, Hamilton, Capozzoli, Ueda), 3:47.81; 29. North Farmington (Gidley, McDonald, Bradley, Gell), 3:52.98.

SWIM

Continued from page B1

MIAA meet for a good 10 years," he said.

Dombkowski also was an all-stater in the 200 free (second, 1:52.02) to help the Wildcats tally 63 points for 13th place overall.

Also an all-stater for the 'Cats was senior Emily Toro, capping an outstanding prep career. She finished sixth in the 200 IM with a mark of 2:07.94.

"Emily Toro had a great weekend," Schade said. "She ended up being all-state in the IM which is just incredible."

"She set five school records the first day (Friday's preliminaries), so that was a great day for her."

Zhangs pace Rocks

Salem's total of 81 points earned the Rocks 10th place out of 34 teams — the second-best standing among Observerland squads (behind runner-up Mercy).

"We were hoping to be in the top-10," Salem head coach Chuck Olson said. "So that was pretty good."

The Rocks did boast several all-state entries, led by freshman twins Linda and Lisa Zhang.

Both were on the 200-yard medley relay team that finished eighth with a time of 1:49.08.

Joining them on the relay were Abby Aumill-



Plymouth junior Sarah Dombkowski stands on the top step of the podium after winning the 500 freestyle at the D1 finals. She is flanked by runner-up Elizabeth Fris of Holland West Ottawa and Farmington Hills Mercy's Kathleen McGee (third place).



er and Julia Suriano.

Linda Zhang finished third in the 200 individual medley (2:06.0) and seventh in the 100 breast-

stroke (1:05.39).
Schade noted that Plymouth sophomore Alexa Earls advanced from the preliminaries

to Saturday's main event in the 200 IM. She wound up in 14th with a time of 2:11.04.

Also, Toro, Linda Erickson, Earls and Dombkowski "made it back" from Friday to Saturday in the 200-free relay and finished 16th (1:41.15).

Meanwhile, other Observerland schools had disappointing showings.

Livonia Stevenson placed 25th with 15 points, followed by Canton (28th, eight points) and Livonia Churchill (34th, three points).

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The first-place dodgeball team consisted of (from left) JC Cummings, Steven Gazley, Tyler Ouellette, Jaylin Smith, Wade Natho, Courtney Gagnon and Jim Cooke.

RU dodgeball tourney raises fun and funds

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

What did Redford Union's wildly successful 2nd Annual Dodgeball Tournament do for an encore Friday night in the school's gymnasium? It raised approximately \$600 for the Blue & Gold Club — and provided an entertaining night of ducking, dodging and gym ball-launching for 170 paying spectators. The money raised will be deposited into the booster club's general fund, which helps pay for scholarships and other worthwhile school-related endeavors.

"We had 14 teams this year, which was two more than last year," said Blue & Gold Club president Frann Gustafson. "It's something the kids really look forward to now. Teachers and alumni also participate." Ninety-three participants registered for this year's tournament. The players were separated into six- or seven-player teams. "We tried to divide the teams up evenly based on the year in school the players were in," she said. "It was a great night and everyone enjoyed the event." The winning team's

roster consisted of JC Cummings, Steven Gazley, Tyler Ouellette, Jaylin Smith, Wade Natho, Courtney Gagnon and Jim Cooke. "One of the nice things about this event is that our only cost is the T-shirts we purchase for each of the players," Gustafson said. "Our attendance was down a little bit compared to last year because it was the opening of deer-hunting season, so we're going to try and move it up a week next year."

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Salem euchre tourney

Salem Wrestling Boosters are holding the annual Fall Euchre Tournament, slated for Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road. Doors open at 6 p.m. with games starting at 7 p.m. The cost is \$25 per player and participants must be at least 21 years old. Awards will be given to the top three players with the highest scores. There also will be raffles and prizes. Complimentary food and a cash bar also will be available. Walk-ins are welcome, but seating is limited. For more information, call (734) 981-7913 or (313) 706-3282 or send an e-mail to rkddox@aol.com.

2013 season. The coach should specialize in sprints and relays. Gerlach can be reached at (734) 416-7774 or via e-mail at Rockcoachxc@wowway.com.

Plymouth girls lax meeting

For anyone interested in playing Plymouth girls lacrosse in the spring, there will be a mandatory parent and player meeting 7 p.m. Nov. 28. It will take place at Salem High School in the Salem Presentation Room (No. 2112). Parents are asked to park near the main Salem entrance off of Joy Road near the flagpole.

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 MyWay). For more information, call Dave Chiola at (248) 752-2340; or e-mail chiola44@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.Madonna Crusaders.com.

Hockey teams fill the net with good deeds

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

High school hockey is in full gear and so are efforts by teams to help those who might need some holiday cheer. All three boys teams based out of Plymouth-Canton Educational Park have plenty of good deeds on the docket.

It all starts with Wednesday's "Toys for Tots" game (6:30 p.m. at Arctic Edge Arena on Michigan Avenue near Belleville/Canton Center Road) between the Canton Chiefs and Plymouth Wildcats.

Fans are invited to bring a new toy to the game and will receive a \$10 discount off an oil change at Dick Scott Dodge in Plymouth. (The lone caveat is that stuffed animals will not be accepted.)

"What a great experience for these kids to help out those less fortunate at this time of year," said Chiefs' head coach Jeremy Majszak, adding this is the second year the team is collecting for Toys for Tots.

Other highlights of the evening will include a raffle (with proceeds benefiting PCEP hockey programs) and Dick

'The teams have become more involved in the community and that's important. We have three teams and together we can really make an impact.'

RYAN OSSENMACHER
salem hockey coach

Scott-hosted "Score-0!" between periods.

With the latter, participants will be trying to score from center ice and win a 2013 Dodge Dart from Dick Scott in the process.

Holiday food drive

Salem's charitable efforts begin with Saturday's annual endeavor to collect food for Canton's Open Door Ministry.

The Rocks host Canton at 8:30 p.m. at Plymouth Cultural Center. Spectators are asked to bring at least one non-perishable food item to the rink. Those items will be donated to Open Door Ministry.

In return fans will receive a ticket for a special drawing. "This is something

that's evolved the last few years," Salem head coach Ryan Ossennmacher said. "The teams have become more involved in the community and that's important."

"We have three teams and together we can really make an impact."

Salem players will also volunteer their time distributing food to those in need during December or January.

Black vs. Blue

And so will Plymouth's icers, embarking on a Gleaners Food Bank Drive with the goal to collect more than 1,000 cans by Dec. 21.

Then, on Friday, Dec. 21, fans attending on "Black vs. Blue Night" at Plymouth Cultural Center can bring more canned goods for Gleaners.

The event is a triple-header between Plymouth (black) and Salem (blue) with a JV game at 5:30 p.m. followed by varsity alumni at 7 p.m. and the current varsity squads at 8:30 p.m.

"You're here to represent your team, your community, all those things," Ossennmacher stressed.

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ICERS

Continued from page B1

the visitors took charge from there, posting five unanswered lamp-lighters — three in the second period and two in the second — to coast home with the win. GC's Johnny Segasser

popped home a pair of goals. Matt Sandberg, Scott Bleim, Joey Testane, Justin Sims and Corey Hahn added one goal a piece.

Matt Kirunchyk was the winners' top player-maker as he netted four assists. Steve Bennett, Bleim, Segasser, Sims and Will Teodorescu chipped in with one helper each.

"Our hard wok in practice all week paid off in the win," Popp said. "I am looking forward to (Wednesday's) match-up against Allen Park Cabrini."

The Chargers split with Lutheran North last season.

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Irvine hat trick lifts Spartans to 8-0 win

Tyler Irvine's natural hat trick propelled Livonia Stevenson to a convincing 8-0 boys hockey victory Saturday over Farmington in the Metro Invitational at Novi Ice Arena.

The Spartans outshot the Falcons 37-14 and ended the game with 4:35 left in the third period on Devin Kelly's second goal of the afternoon from Dominic Lutz and Irvine.

"It was a good win for us," said Stevenson coach David Mitchell, whose team improved to 2-0 overall. "We played hard and shared the puck, which was nice to see. But we need to get right back at it as we have some big games coming up ... we're focused on taking them one at a time and getting better every time out."

The Spartans led 2-0 after one period as Irvine,

a junior, opened the scoring 54 seconds into the game off assists from Lutz and Devin Kelly.

Irvine then converted a penalty shot with 6:58 left after being hauled down on a breakaway.

Irvine added his third of the afternoon and fourth of the season with 8:11 to go in the second period from Devin Kelly and Lutz followed by Dante Seychel's first of the year coming off a nice feed from Ben Kowalske off two-on-one break. Mick Sinclair also drew an assist with 2:28 to go.

Jake Kierdorf then scored 32 seconds later from Stephen Olschanski and Alex Hunt as the Spartans increased their lead to 5-0 after two periods.

In the final period, Tim Kelly tallied a power play

goal from Ryan Frazer and Kierdorf with 10:47 remaining followed by Devin Kelly's first goal of two goals from Lutz and Chris Catalano just 22 seconds later.

Connor Humitz when all but 10 minutes in goal to combine on the shutout with Andrew Rozenbaum. John Lethemon had 29 saves for the Falcons (0-2).

NORTH-HARRISON 2, SOUTH LYON 1: North Farmington-Harrison (1-1) erased a 1-0 deficit after two periods Saturday in the Metro Invitational at Novi Ice Arena with third-period goals by Matt Goldin and Austin Bottrell to beat the Lions (0-3). Sean Devlin and TJ Zak assisted on the first goal, and Bottrell scored the game-winner with 4:30 remaining with an assist from Reece Burnett. South Lyon scored in the second period on a penalty shot by Cory Haas. Goalie Hunter Myers made 25 saves for the Flyers.

'Cats win twice at Novi invite

The Plymouth varsity hockey team improved to 3-0 on the new season after winning a pair of games last weekend in the Metro High School Invitational, an early season showcase at the Novi Ice Arena featuring 10 teams.

"It was a nice way to start the season," said Plymouth head coach Gerry Vento. "The key now is to make sure we build upon this, opposed to hang our hats on it."

Despite having four players out of the lineup with injuries, the Wildcats topped Lake Orion on Saturday, 6-2, led by a hat trick from junior center Michael Schultz. Junior winger Zack

Tavienne added a pair of goals.

The Wildcats scored three unanswered goals in the second period to build a 4-1 lead on a power-play tally by Tavienne, and even-strength goals by Schultz and junior defenseman Kyle Bauer.

A power-play goal by Lake Orion's Drew Casey halfway through the third period briefly narrowed the gap, but Schultz answered with a score less than two minutes later. He scored his third goal of the game with 3:28 remaining.

Sophomore goalie Eric VandenBosch made 24 saves for his second win of the season. Plymouth outshot the Dragons 34-

26, and killed off six of seven Lake Orion power play chances.

"Because of injuries, a lot of players were thrown into the fire and they responded," Vento said.

PLYMOUTH 4, FARMINGTON 3: On Friday, sophomore winger Josh Smith scored twice and added an assist, while Schultz added a goal and two assists.

The Wildcats held a 3-2 lead in the third period when Tavienne added an insurance goal with 8:02 left in the game. Plymouth would need that goal as the Falcons narrowed the gap with a goal by Drake Cole with 2:27 left.

Sophomore netminder Jared Maddock, in his high school debut, made 25 saves to earn the victory. The Falcons outshot the Wildcats 28-19. Plymouth converted on two of five power play chances.



YMCA Lightning win division

The Livonia YMCA Lightning, an under-12 select soccer team, recently captured first place in their division with a 6-0-2 record. Team members include (back to front): Miranda McIntosh, Emily Halkey, Rachel Glovatsky, Addison Mussen, Alex Thomas, Abby Daoust, Caroline Bimberg, Theresia Sommers, Sydney Boyce, Sydney Millis, Nikki Berridge, Lauren Wilson, Rachael Morgan. The coaching staff includes Dana Millis and Sarah Daoust, Gene Boyce and Mike Daoust.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

November

BOOK SIGNING

Time/Date: Noon-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24
Location: A. Mateja Church Supply, 30762 Ford Road, Garden City

Details: Pro-life activist Monica Migliorino Miller will sign her book, "Abandoned." The book is a first-hand account of the pro-life movement and includes stories of victory and defeat in sidewalk counseling, a look at the inner-workings of abortion facilities, and more. The book will be available for \$22, a discounted price

Contact: (734) 513-2950

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24
Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton

Details: Free clothing and shoes to anyone in need

Contact: (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480

CONCERT:

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25
Location: Zion Lutheran Church, located at Woodward Ave., and Albany, south of Nine Mile, in Ferndale

Details: Twelfth Night Singers, an a cappella choral group, will present its Christmas concert. The singers, under the direction of Mimi Gass, will perform secular and sacred works, including several celebrating the joy and cheer of the Christmas season. A free-will offering will be taken. The group, now numbering 39 voices, was founded in 1980. Members perform in Renaissance costume at churches, for service agencies and institutions

Contact: (248) 544-4631

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 21

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, located at 12 Mile and Farmington Road in Farmington Hills

Details: The church invites the community to attend this Thanksgiving Day eve service

Contact: (248) 553-3380

THANKSGIVING SER-



HOLLY CONROY

Sue Mance, (right) Twelfth Night Singers' alto and costume maker, checks costumes of the group's three new members, from left, Allen Hyland of Berkley, and Tom Lapadat and Brent Walker, both of Windsor, Ontario. The group, which also includes Judy and David Caddy of South Lyon and James Roach of Novi, will sing Sunday, Nov. 25, in Ferndale.

VICE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 21
Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: The Rev. Gregory Gibbons will preach on the theme "Pray, Praise and Give Thanks"

Contact: (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Nov. 21
Location: St. David's Episcopal Church, 16200 12 Mile, Southfield

Details: Anyone interested in joining the mass choir that will sing during this interfaith service, should arrive no later than 6 p.m. Food and financial offerings will be collected for Forgotten Harvest

Contact: (248) 557-5430; www.liftpsouthfield.org

December

CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Dec. 9
Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia

Details: 31st annual concert featuring the St. Aidan Adult and Children's Choirs, and the St. Aidan Contemporary Ensemble. Minimum donation is \$5, along with two non-perishable food items. All proceeds will go toward food baskets for the needy

Contact: (734) 425-5950

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon, Canton

Details: Detroit Lutheran Singers perform. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 for seniors and students, 12 and over, free for children under 12

Contact: www.detroitluthersingers.com

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8

Location: Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., Birmingham

Details: Bernard Woma Ensemble performs on African percussion instruments, bridging Western orchestral music with the rhythms of African dance. Admission is a suggested donation of \$20 and will include the concert, followed by desserts, wine and conversation with the performers

Contact: (248) 647-2380

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8

Location: Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Detroit Lutheran Singers perform. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 for seniors and students, 12 and over, free for children under 12

Contact: www.detroitluthersingers.com

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9

Location: Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Jan Krist will

perform. The church is partnering with the Detroit Area Diaper Bank for the performance and is encouraging guests to bring infant or adult diapers to the concert for donation to the Bank. Admission is a suggested \$10 donation at the door.

Contact: (734) 425-2800; www.trinitychurchoflivonia.org

COOKIE WALK

Time/Date: Doors open at 10 a.m. with an early bird

sale starting at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 15

Location: Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Details: 6th annual cookie walk will offer cookies at \$7.50 per pound, along with other baked goods. Early bird admission is \$2

Contact: (734) 427-2290

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3

Location: Room C-319 of

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, just west of Haggerty, in Northville; park in the "C" parking lot

Details: "Hope for the Holidays" seminar is for adults who are grieving and for those who would like to help them. The seminar will include a "Time of Remembrance" candle lighting ceremony

Contact: New Hope Center for Grief Support at (248) 348-0115

Passages

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DOMINICK, JOSEPHINE

Age 88, November 18, 2012. Beloved mother of Patricia (Bill) Jordan, Marlene (Bob) Smith, Sandy (Dave) Woodruff, Kathy (Steve) Kent, and Cheryl Roberts. Loving Grandmother of 10 and great grandmother of 11. She was deeply loved and will be dearly missed. Visitation Friday 2-8 pm with a 7pm Rosary. Funeral services Saturday 10 am at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 N. Inkster Rd., Garden City (Between Ford Rd. & Cherry Hill). Family suggests memorials to Angela Hospice. www.santeiufuneralhome.com

McKEEHAN, LOWELL G.

Age 84, of Livonia, passed away November 19th, 2012. Born Feb. 13th, 1928, in Rockholds, Whitley County, KY. Husband of Mary M. McKeegan, beloved father of Brenda (Harold) Todd, Donald McKeegan, Dennis (Donna) McKeegan, and was predeceased by youngest son Raymond "Ray" McKeegan in 2004. Survived by sisters Azalene (Elmer - dec.) Teague of Chattanooga, TN, Wilma (Harold) Faulkner of Williamsburg, KY, and Joy (James - dec.) McCormick of Hendersonville, TN. Predeceased by brother William "Bill" McKeegan (Freddie Mae - dec.) of Detroit, in 2008. Also survived by 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Mr. McKeegan proudly served his country in the Korean War, and received the Purple Heart military award for injuries sustained. He was a lifelong member of the Disabled American Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Masons. His very active D.A.V. affiliation included serving as the Michigan State Commander for the term 1992-1993, National Executive Committeeman for the 10th District (Michigan) 1994-1996, and as a National Service Officer. Mr. McKeegan also served as a Board Member on the Michigan Veteran's Trust Fund for several years, was commissioned an honorary Kentucky Colonel by the Governor and Secretary of State of Kentucky, and also enjoyed membership with the Kentuckians of Michigan social organization. for many, many years. Memorial service to be held Sunday, 11-25-2012, at 1:00 P.M., at the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 114 Hall, 30905 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI, 48150. Interment to be private for family members, at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, MI at a later date. Family requests all donations please be made to: D.A.V. Chapter 114, 30905 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150.



WILKIE, DAVID SEATTER

Age 66, November 18, 2012. Beloved husband of Linda. Loving father of David (Amy Jo) and Michael (Julie). Dear grandfather of Jacob, Nicholas, Jessica, Wyatt and future granddaughter Libby Lou. Dear brother of Leonard (Maureen) and Irene (Donald) McDougall. David was a U.S. Navy Vietnam Veteran and 30 year veteran of the Livonia Police Department. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Tuesday from 1 p.m. until Funeral Service at 7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to DAV. Please share a memory of David at: www.rgrharris.com.

KIELING, PATRICIA

A long-time resident of Livonia died on November 15, 2012 at the age of 46. Patti is the loving wife of Max and the beloved mother of Melani Elizabeth, Mikala Elayne and Madilynn Emma. She is also survived by her parents Donald and Emma, brother Donald Jr., sister Cassandra and many aunts, uncles and cousins. Friends may visit Patti's family during a visitation in her honor on Friday November 23, 2012 at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile in Livonia, Michigan 48152. Visitation will be from 1 pm until 4 pm in the afternoon, then 5 pm until 8 pm that same evening. Her funeral ceremony will be on Saturday November 24, 2012 at 11 am at the funeral home with visitation starting at 10 am. Harry J. Will is located on the north side of W. Six Mile Road, east of I-275 and Newburgh Road. Patti's family asks that attendees of her visitation and funeral service wear something with pink on it. Her family kindly suggests that memorials be made in her honor to the Michigan Cancer Research Fund. For more information, or to share a memory with Patti's family, please visit: www.harrywillfuneralhome.com

Let others know...

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 (734) 422-0494
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 www.wardchurch.org
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 Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.
 The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM AT 62788020

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, Just north of I-96
 www.christsaviorsavior.org
 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
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 Early Childhood Center
 Phone 734-513-8413
 Staffed Nursery Available
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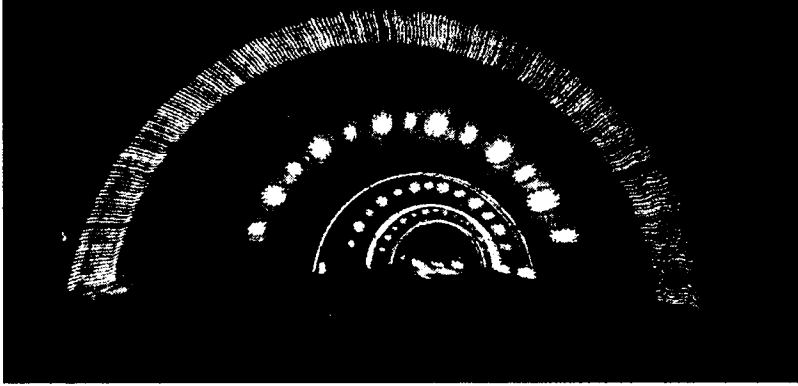
St. Paul's Ev. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD
 LIVONIA (734)281-1300
 WORSHIP SERVICES
 Sunday: 8:30 A.M. & 11 A.M.
 Thursday: 8:30 P.M.
 website: www.stpaulslivonia.org AT 62788020

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
 Adult Sunday: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
 Services held at **Saint Andrews Episcopal Church**
 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road
 Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org AT 62788020

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247 or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS



Wayne County Lightfest features a drive-through light show in Westland.

Mark your calendar for these holiday activities

It's time to get into the holiday spirit. Here's a sampling of local displays and shows:

Community

- See more than 70 Christmas trees through Jan. 2, 2013 at the Walk of Trees in Kellogg Park, in downtown Plymouth. Gingerbread houses will be on display at local businesses from Nov. 23-Dec. 23. Vote for your favorite house and be entered into a drawing for gift certificates. www.plymouthmich.org.
- Northville's Winter Market will run noon-8 p.m. Dec. 1 and noon-4 p.m. Dec. 2, in downtown Northville. The event will feature a carousel, ice carvings, greens market, fine art and craft booths, visits with Santa, and more. For more information visit www.downtownnorthville.com.



Jim Moll (left) and Keith Firtenburg, both of Farmington Hills, rehearse "1940's Radio Hour" at the Farmington Players Barn.

- Holly Days runs 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 in downtown Farmington. A greens and gifts market will be held at the Sundquist Pavilion. See free movies at the Civic Theater and watch a tree lighting at the Warner Mansion. See Santa, ice carving, make holiday crafts and more. www.downtownfarmington.org.

Historical

- Holiday Nights at Greenfield Village in Dearborn runs 6:30-10 p.m. Dec. 1, 7-8, 14-16, 18-23 and 26-27, at the Village, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. Historical buildings and houses will be decorated for the holidays. The event also features ice skating, carousel rides, live entertainment, horse-drawn carriages and Model T cars, along with Santa and his reindeer. Tickets are \$17 for adult members and \$12.75 for youth members; \$20 for non-member adults and \$15 for non-member youth. Get tickets by calling (313) 982-6001 or visit www.thehenryford.org.
- Plymouth Historical Museum is all decked out for a "A Dickens of a Christmas," 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday, through Dec. 22, at the Museum, 155 S. Main,

Plymouth. The exhibit celebrates the life of Charles Dickens. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children, 6-17. An open house, with craft and bake sales, runs 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 with free admission. Call (734) 455-8940 for more information.

Lights

- Wayne County Lightfest runs 7-10 p.m. everyday (except Dec. 25) through Dec. 31. See holiday light displays along Hines Drive in Westland. Cost is \$5 per vehicle. Enter Lightfest at 7651 Merriman, in Westland. (734) 261-1990

Music

- The Livonia Symphony presents "Holiday Happenings" 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, at Clarenceville High School, located on Middlebelt, between Seven Mile and Eight Mile in Livonia. The show will feature dancers from Angie Hahn's Academy of Dance, the Livonia Civic Chorus and members of the Livonia Youth Symphony. Tickets are \$20 and \$10 for students. www.livoniasymphony.org.

- The Madrigal Chorale (formerly the Madrigal Chorale of Southfield) will present its holiday concert at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1 at Old St. Mary's Church, 646 Monroe, at St. Antoine in Greektown, Detroit. Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door and \$25 for reserved seating. Tickets are \$10 for student groups of 10 or more. For tickets, call (248) 804-1377; e-mail to yourmcs@yahoo.com; visit mscnotes.org.

- The Fort Street Chorale will perform Handel's *Messiah*, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, in historic Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort, at Third, in downtown Detroit. Tickets are \$20 for general admission. Group rates and patron seating also are available. Free, secure parking. Call (313) 961-4533 or go to www.fortstreet.org.

- Canton Concert Band's annual Christmas show will be 7 p.m. Dec. 9, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton. Tickets are \$10. Buy online at www.canton-mi.org/village-theater.

- Farmington Community Band performs its holiday concert, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at Harrison High School, 29995 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. Admission is free. Visit www.fcbmusic.org.

- BeckRidge Chorale will present its 40th annual holiday concert, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton. Tickets are \$16. For tickets visit www.beckridgechorale.org or call (888) 459-4887.

Accessible opera

New theater company stages holiday show

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Noelle Jacquez wants to make opera accessible and appealing to all ages. "I'd say if you've gone to opera before and didn't have the best experience, try again. Hopefully you'll find you do like it."

The Plymouth woman says opera can seem "magical" with just the right mix of costume, set, song and story — and she knows just where to find it.

A little more than six months after founding the Main Street Opera Theatre, Jacquez and her cast and crew will stage their first opera, Gian Carlo Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors* for one day, Saturday, Nov. 24, on the Village Theater stage in Canton.

Jacquez will sing the part of Amahl's mother. Francisco Fiori of Ann Arbor, a member of the Ann Arbor Boy Choir, will play Amahl. Other performers include professional singers, university students and graduates, a teacher, choir members and a few high school students. Jacquez' father, Albert Jacquez of Plymouth, a former member of the 1960s-era rock band, Savage Grace, takes on the role of the Page.

Jacquez began auditioning singers for her new theater in September, after securing the Village Theater at Cherry Hill for the upcoming show.

"Jennifer Tobin (Canton arts coordinator) was so helpful and excited about an opera company in our area. Our mission was different than any other company she had worked with."

Jacquez said *Amahl and the Night Visitors* is an "excellent choice" for the theater's debut because it's a one-act opera sung in English. It's also just 50 minutes long.

"Adults definitely will enjoy this show. Seniors also," she said. "All of our children's shows will be in English. I don't think we'd ever do a show that is not accessible to the entire family. That's our goal, it's accessible to everyone."

Opera student

Jacquez began singing opera while in high school at Interlochen. She initially planned to study musical theater, but the program was filled. She switched to the opera program, received a scholarship and "from that point on it was opera."

She earned a bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. and took graduate classes in voice performance from Indiana University. She returned to Michigan in 2007, completed graduate degree requirements in foreign language — French, German and Italian — and attained her master's degree in voice performance last year from Indiana U.

She teaches private voice and piano lessons and performs at the Eagle Tavern during Greenfield Village's annual Holiday Nights program. She sang last year



Francisco Fiori, (foreground), a singer with the Ann Arbor Boy Choir, plays Amahl and John Paul Boudreaux is his understudy, in the Main Street Opera Theatre production of "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Boudreaux also sings with the Old St. Patrick's Boy Choir.



The cast of the opera, "Amahl and the Night Visitors," rehearses for two performances, Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

with the Michigan Opera Theatre and has worked backstage at the Arbor Opera Theatre. She also sings in the choir and participates in shows at Northridge Church in Plymouth.

Community connection

"It's been a long time coming, thinking about it and wondering what path to take to be a singer," she said, describing her journey from student to opera theater founder. "I still have a strong community connection. As an opera singer you travel a lot. It's hard to have a family and a connection to the community."

Her path became clear after an airplane crash in 2006 killed several music students she knew while at Indiana University. The tragedy showed how "short and unexpected life can be."

"That's when I moved home and decided how to incorporate opera into my life. It was clear to me I wanted to have a family and be more connected to family. I had always thought about having my own company to do shows that I feel passionate about, and to work with kids...having them experience how fun opera can be."

She hopes to stage another opera in the summer and

MAIN STREET OPERA THEATRE

What: A new opera company in Plymouth will present "Amahl and the Night Visitors" for one day only

When: 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24

Where: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton

Details: The one-act opera tells the story of Amahl, a poor, handicapped boy, who lives with his mother in a village on the road to Bethlehem. When the three kings following the star in the East seek shelter for the night, the lives of Amahl and his mother are changed forever. The show is 50 minutes and is aimed at all ages

Tickets: \$12 for youth, \$17 for seniors and \$20 for adults. They're available at (734) 394-5300, ext. 3 and at <http://www.canton-mi.org/village-theater/performance-glance.aspx>

involve high school students as interns in the program.

"One of our big goals is to get young people involved in all aspects."

For more information about Main Street Opera Theatre, visit www.mainstreetoperatheatre.org



Two Muses Theatre presents "Greetings!" Nov. 23-Dec. 16 at the Barnes & Noble theater space in West Bloomfield. The cast includes Angela Kay Miller, (left, top row) and Stephen Blackwell; Jan Cartwright, (left, middle row) and Henry Nelson and Richard Payton, (front row).

Will he win?

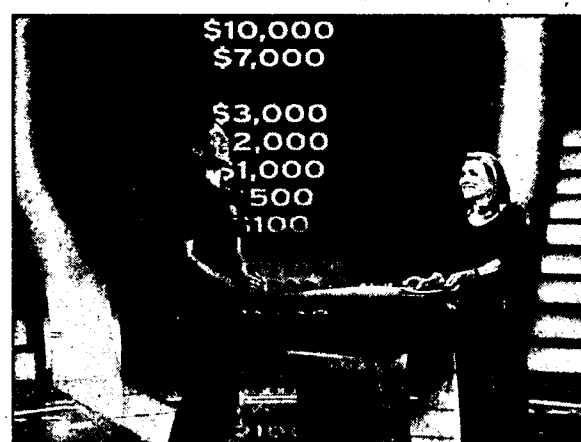


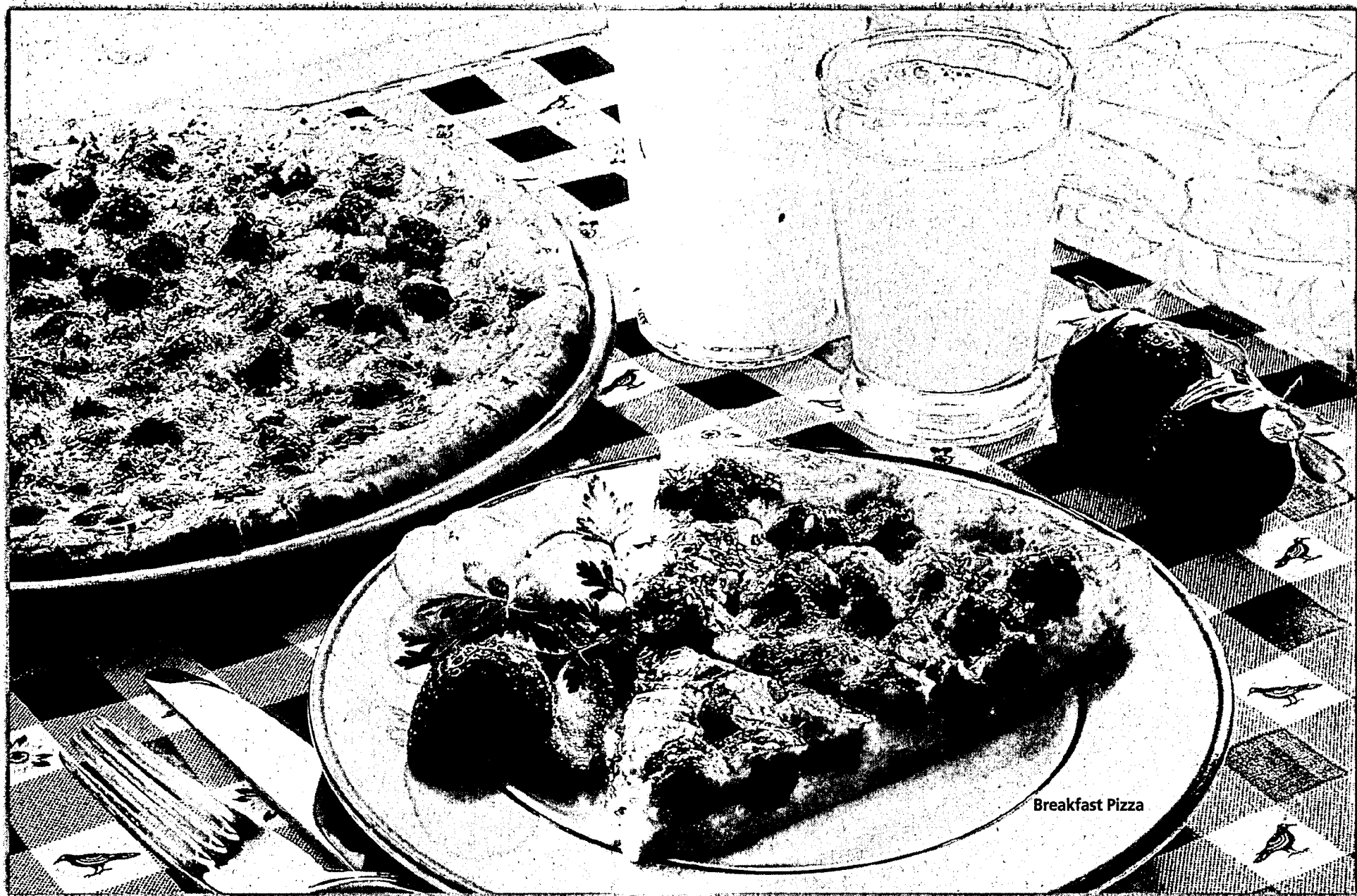
PHOTO COURTESY OF DISNEY-ABC

Steve Carpenter, a 2004 Livonia Stevenson High School graduate, appears with Meredith Vieira in an episode of the game show, "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire." The show will be broadcast locally at noon, Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22, on WWJ (CBS). Carpenter, the son of David and Linda Carpenter of Livonia, is a 2007 Michigan State University graduate who teaches Spanish at Simeon Career Academy in Chicago, Ill. He also volunteered for two years in the Peace Corps in Nicaragua. If he wins big on the show, he plans to get contact lenses, visit the dentist, travel to Spanish-speaking countries and buy his parents a motor home. For more about the show, visit www.millionairetv.com

Wake up to holiday flavor



Sweet and Savory Bruschetta



Breakfast Pizza

Don't save all the great food for one holiday meal — make holiday mornings special with some simple, hearty and flavorful breakfast recipes the whole family will want to wake up to.

— Make Overnight Breakfast Casserole the night before, then just heat it up in the morning.

— Set out some Amazing Breakfast Muffin Cups — they're perfect for people who like to graze throughout the morning.

— Breakfast Pizzas with sausage are quick, fun and delicious — and loved by everyone, from the picky kids, to the uncle who's never satisfied.

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Get more satisfying ways to wake up your holiday breakfasts at www.johnsonville.com.

Overnight Breakfast Casserole

Serves: 12

2 packages (12 ounces each) Johnsonville Original Breakfast Sausage Links
6 English muffins, cut into 1-inch cubes
¼ cup butter, melted
1 cup (4 ounces) cheddar cheese, shredded
1 cup (4 ounces) mozzarella cheese, shredded
½ cup onion, chopped
½ cup red pepper, chopped
12 large eggs
2 cups milk
¼ teaspoon salt
Pepper to taste
¼ cup bacon bits

Cook sausage according to package directions. Cool slightly; cut into ¼-inch pieces. In greased 13-inch by 9-inch baking dish, layer half the English muffin cubes and half the cooked sausage. Repeat layers. Drizzle with butter and top with cheese, onion and red pepper.

In large bowl, combine eggs, milk, salt and pepper. Pour over casserole. Sprinkle with bacon. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Remove from refrigerator 30 minutes before baking. Uncover and bake at 350°F for 45 to 50 minutes, or until knife inserted into center comes out clean.

Let stand 5 minutes.

Sweet & Savory Bruschetta

Makes: 16 pieces
Serves: 6 to 8

2 ripe tomatoes, diced
½ cup diced sweet pineapple
4 ripe strawberries, stemmed and diced
¼ cup julienned fresh basil leaves, (about 4 large leaves)
¼ cup julienned fresh mint leaves, (or ½ teaspoon dried)
3 tablespoons pure maple syrup
1 12-ounce package Johnsonville Original Breakfast Sausage Patties



Amazing Breakfast Muffin Cups



Overnight Breakfast Casserole

1 thin baguette, sliced
¼ cup olive oil
8 slices fresh mozzarella, cut in half
Make bruschetta topping: In bowl, mix together tomatoes, pineapple, strawberries, basil, mint and maple syrup. Stir to combine. Cover and set aside.

Divide each of the 8 sausage patties in two and pinch edges to shape into smaller patties. Cook according to package directions, set aside. Cover to keep warm.

Place oven rack in top-third section of oven and set oven to broil. Slice baguette into 16 slices (about ½-inch

thick) and brush one side with olive oil. Place baguette slices, oiled side down, on a cookie sheet and broil for 1 to 2 minutes, or until golden. Watch carefully — they can go from not-quite-golden, to burned, in 15 seconds. Using tongs, flip slices over so oiled sides are up. Add 1 slice of mozzarella to each slice; broil 1 minute longer until cheese is melted and edges of baguette slices are beginning to look toasted.

Transfer to a serving platter or individual plates. Top each with 1 small sausage patty. Spoon bruschetta topping over each, allowing some to spill over. Serve immediately.

Breakfast Pizza

Makes: 12 to 16 pieces
Serves: 6 to 8

1 package (12 ounces) Johnsonville Maple Syrup Breakfast Sausage Links
1 tube (8 ounces) refrigerated crescent rolls
1 cup refrigerated or frozen hash brown potatoes, thawed
1 cup (4 ounces) cheddar cheese, shredded
4 large eggs
¼ cup milk
¼ teaspoon dried basil
1 dash cayenne pepper
½ cup Parmesan cheese, grated

Place sausage on a 15 by 10-by-1-inch baking pan. Bake at 375°F for 15 to 20 minutes or until sausage is no longer pink, turning once; drain and slice into ½-inch coins.

Unroll crescent roll dough; separate into eight triangles. Arrange on an ungreased 12-inch pizza pan, placing points to the center. Press seams together and press over the bottom and up the sides of pan to form a crust.

Top with hash browns, sausage and cheddar cheese.

Combine eggs, milk and spices; pour over cheese. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.

Bake at 375°F for 20 to 25 minutes, or until a knife inserted near center comes out clean.

Amazing Breakfast Muffin Cups

Makes: 12 muffin cups
Serves: 12

3 cups hash browns, thawed
3 tablespoons melted butter
¼ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
12 links Johnsonville Original breakfast sausage
6 eggs
2 cups (8 ounces) shredded 4-cheese Mexican blend cheese
¼ cup chopped red bell pepper
Fresh chives or green onions, chopped

In bowl, combine hash browns, butter, salt and pepper. Press mixture onto bottom and up sides of 12 greased muffin cups. Bake at 400°F for 12 minutes or until lightly browned.

Meanwhile, cook sausage according to package directions; cut into ½-inch pieces. Divide sausage among muffin cups. Combine eggs, cheese and bell pepper. Spoon over sausage. Sprinkle with chives. Bake for 13 to 15 minutes or until set.

Option: This recipe can be doubled to make Jumbo Breakfast Muffin Cups. Press hash brown mixture into 12 greased jumbo muffin cups. Bake crust for 12 minutes. Fill cups and bake 22 to 24 minutes or until set.

Courtesy of Family Features

Realtor of the Year 'flattered, humbled' by industry honor

By Julie Brown
O&E Staff Writer

Sara Lipnitz of SKBK Sotheby's International Realty, Birmingham, has been named Realtor of the Year by the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors. She joined SKBK in early 2002.

"It wasn't even on my radar. It wasn't even something that was in my conscience," she said of the Realtor of the Year kudos.

She described herself as having respect for others who get awards in the field. Like many, she became active in the field alongside others.

"And then somehow along the journey you have this huge shift in your job," Lipnitz said. "It just becomes who you've become, and it's an interesting transformation."

She's honored to be tapped.

"It's lovely. I'm flattered, I was humbled."

She's been in the real estate field since part-time work in high school and at Michigan State University. "I have been involved in the industry since the early '90s. People. I like people," she said of her interest in real estate.

She does residential sales and rentals for Oakland County, especially the Birmingham-Bloomfield Woodward corridor area.

She's been married 11 years to Doug and the couple has son who's 3. They live in Birmingham.

"I think it's an exceptional community. There's an old-time sensibility of neighborhood," she said. "It offers the best of both worlds." She likes the nightlife and the arts/cultural attractions.

"There are lots of things to get involved in."

Lipnitz is active in her profession, including: 2012-13 president of Birmingham-Bloomfield Women's Council of Realtors; Michigan Association of Realtors vice chair for RPAC (Political Action Committee) Trustees; on the MAR Public Policy Committee; and on the GMAR Professional Standards Committee, as well as the Diversity Committee.

Next year, she has plans for additional involvement. She's a founder of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Realtors Network, and also does charitable work.

"I try to do some of that very quietly."

Lipnitz agrees with others in her profession that the housing market is showing encouraging signs.

"I think that inventory is low, which means prices are coming



Sara Lipnitz of Birmingham is this year's Realtor of the Year for the Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors.

to rise. Supply and demand," she said.

Lipnitz was praised for her dedication and professionalism by colleague Gary Reggish, broker/owner of Remerica United Realty of Novi.

"It's a big honor to win Realtor of the Year," Livonia resident Reggish said. "She always finds ways to carve out time for the Realtor cause and the Realtor initiative."

jbrown@hometownlife.com

Law may provide some relief

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: My contract required the seller to build a three-family dwelling on my parcel and I was to obtain a mortgage commitment within 60 days of the signing of the contract. Either party could terminate the contract on the failure to obtain financing. Unfortunately, although the closing was set for four months hence, nothing was done for more than three years, that is, my dwelling was not built and the mortgage commitment was not obtained. The builder conveyed the property to an affiliated corporation and later notified me that the contract was terminated and returned the down payment. I want to sue for damages, claiming anticipatory repudiation by the seller based upon what my lawyer said. Do you think my lawyer is correct?



Robert Meisner

A: Although that is a tough factual issue, in a similar case out of New York, the court ruled that

while a nonrepudiating party need not actually tender performance, he must be ready, willing and able to perform. The court believed that such a rule made common sense and that damages are not recoverable when they are not actually caused by either party's breach. That is, when the transaction would have failed and the damage would have been suffered, even if no breach had occurred. Of course, each case has to be decided on its facts and the particular case law in that particular state.

Q: Our board is considering implementing an "In-Unit Service Program" where unit owners can use association staff and materials for unit maintenance, repairs and services; there is a one-time fee to join. Do you think that this is a good idea?

A: In checking with other attorneys around the country, it is my view that several have indicated that this may well be a good idea, although, there are issues, of course. For example, if your association prices it to at least recover costs, it is potentially a great convenience and service to the owners. However, you should establish parameters in a board resolution, address liability issues and limit the services to the competencies of the staff. Also, depending upon your community, the people who do in-unit service should be separate from regular staff, so that the program does not interfere with the staff's regular duties. Moreover, in the end, it may be worth the effort and encourages preventative maintenance in areas such as HVAC units, hot water heaters, washing machine hoses and other high risk items. Also, it is a good idea to get a legal opinion from counsel because of the particular circumstances in your particular project which may vary from others.

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.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 13-17, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON
4144 Berkeley Ave \$75,000
6676 Brookshire Dr \$155,000
45153 Fair Oaks Dr \$157,000
2009 Liberty St N \$307,000
2134 Preserve Cir W \$162,000

327 Robert Ct \$238,000
49600 Shenandoah Cir \$310,000
7284 Wadebridge Dr \$314,000
GARDEN CITY
28458 Bock St \$33,000
31994 Cambridge St \$64,000
28025 Warren Rd \$48,000
LIVONIA
14013 Blackburn St \$175,000
19014 Flamingo Blvd \$100,000
18997 Gary Ln \$300,000
14120 Golfview St \$95,000
14070 Katie Ln \$210,000
39214 Lapham Dr \$125,000
18425 Melvin St \$155,000
19758 Norwich Rd \$245,000

39355 Richland St \$80,000
30764 Westfield St \$143,000
NORTHVILLE
16287 Brookwood Ct \$225,000
16447 Horseshoe Dr \$454,000
17871 Maple Hill Dr \$263,000
49133 Parkshore Ct \$880,000
46639 Pinehurst Cir \$690,000
47216 Red Oak Dr \$490,000
18080 Ridgeview Dr \$565,000
48899 Running Trout Ln \$433,000
44420 White Pine Cir W \$580,000
PLYMOUTH
550 Byron St \$161,000
1658 Cassidy Place Dr \$168,000
1694 Cassidy Place Dr \$160,000

1367 Elm St \$370,000
950 Hartsough Ct \$175,000
9118 Marc Trl \$160,000
REDFORD
17220 Ryland \$30,000
19354 Seminole \$10,000
WESTLAND
8702 August Ave \$67,000
30350 Avon Pl \$100,000
32825 Merritt Dr \$66,000
30833 Middlebury St \$32,000
140 N Bryar St \$23,000
1026 S Dowling St \$103,000
38313 S Rickham Ct \$61,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 30 to Aug. 3, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS
16155 Beverly Rd \$207,000
21637 Riverview Dr \$210,000
BIRMINGHAM
1573 Ashford Ln \$500,000
1696 Hazel St \$147,000
1748 Hazel St \$205,000
411 S Old Woodward Ave Unit \$299,000
897 Westchester Way \$650,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
2635 Rambling Way \$176,000
2033 Eagle Pointe \$157,000
4033 Fox Lake Dr \$410,000
1877 Hickory Bark Ln \$215,000
2401 Hickory Glen Dr \$355,000
3011 Middlebury Ln \$455,000
1162 Peveril Rd \$147,000
1747 Saint Johns Ct \$138,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
2566 Bloomfield Crossing \$445,000
2887 Chestnut Run Dr \$745,000
4041 Cranbrook Ct \$410,000
4945 Dryden Ln \$700,000
3750 Lakecrest Dr \$910,000

5532 Lane Lake Rd \$675,000
1843 Long Pointe Dr \$453,000
2901 Masefield Dr \$360,000
4867 Old Post Ct \$539,000
2625 Pendleton Dr \$165,000
1650 Trailwood Path \$93,000
2048 W Maple Rd \$525,000
645 Wilshire Dr \$203,000
5159 Woodlands Ln \$296,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP
8298 Cascade St \$190,000
4251 Charms Ct \$175,000
4630 Cooley Lake Rd \$157,000
5451 Huron Hills Dr \$330,000
4458 Ravinewood Dr \$210,000
8309 Tamarron Dr \$245,000
1945 Tiley Cir \$127,000
5056 Wavewood Dr \$399,000
4755 White Tail Ct \$210,000
FARMINGTON
34201 Conroy Ct \$160,000
32040 Grand River Ave Unit 4 \$35,000
33740 Oakland St \$340,000
22735 Power Rd \$133,000
FARMINGTON HILLS
28888 Appleblossom Ln \$281,000
28801 Bella Vista Dr \$90,000
30312 Essex Dr \$180,000
38249 French Pond \$270,000
21846 Gill Rd \$75,000
22772 Glenmoor Hts \$77,000
32194 Hull Ave \$30,000
38680 Lancaster Dr \$176,000

21610 River Ridge Ct \$180,000
21535 Riverwalk Ct \$258,000
32953 Thorndyke Ct \$245,000
29850 W 12 Mile Rd # 509 \$28,000
28418 W Eight Mile Rd \$13,000
FRANKLIN
25080 Franklin Park Dr \$350,000
32696 Ravine Dr \$268,000
MILFORD
720 E Liberty St \$83,000
2772 Katie Ln \$214,000
708 Manor Dr \$68,000
1605 Rowe Rd \$173,000
NOVI
51171 Brompton \$229,000
23025 Brookforest \$140,000
50693 Chesapeake Dr \$668,000
23005 Ennishore \$202,000
44472 Gwinnett Loop \$149,000
44476 Gwinnett Loop \$156,000
28077 Hewes Ln \$153,000
28101 Hewes Ln \$155,000
27106 Ladbroke St \$230,000
40592 Lenox Park Dr \$236,000
26223 Mandalay Cir \$215,000
51230 Mayfair Ter \$216,000
21881 Meridian Ln \$229,000
44471 Midway Dr \$290,000
1740 Paramount St \$119,000
25530 Portico Ln \$115,000
24278 Saybrook Ct \$528,000
27308 Sloan St \$234,000
23525 Stonehenge Blvd \$65,000
24727 Upland HI \$200,000

28276 Wolcott Dr \$84,000
SOUTH LYON
22318 Brookfield Dr \$169,000
1374 Chaise Ct \$320,000
23830 Copperwood Dr W \$50,000
53711 Edgewood Dr \$25,000
53746 Edgewood Dr \$25,000
61134 Greenwood Dr \$24,000
57598 Hidden Timbers Dr \$304,000
57797 International Dr \$330,000
61131 Ladbroke Dr \$280,000
61141 Ladbroke Dr \$277,000
61160 Ladbroke Dr \$325,000
61181 Ladbroke Dr \$267,000
61191 Ladbroke Dr \$308,000
61191 Ladbroke Dr \$267,000
24837 Purlin Ct \$87,000
61120 Saddlecreek Dr \$299,000
52744 Trailwood Dr \$2,000
SOUTHFIELD
27530 Abington St \$133,000
28259 Evergreen Rd \$29,000
27283 Lexington Pkwy \$68,000
19201 Magnolia Pkwy \$31,000
21034 Mahon Dr \$35,000
27375 Red Leaf Ln \$45,000
22511 S Bellwood Dr \$105,000
25640 Southwood Dr \$142,000
WHITE LAKE
9377 Gale Rd \$65,000
8973 Lakeview Dr \$20,000
9145 Mandon Rd \$35,000
164 Wildrose Dr \$280,000
8215 Wildwood Ln \$260,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Yule party

The Re.E.I.A. (Real Estate Investors Association) third annual Christmas party will be 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, at Crystal Gardens, 16703 Fort St., Southgate. Tickets are \$35 a person and checks should be mailed to c/o R.E.I.A., 2962 Fort St., Lincoln Park, MI 48146. Elections will also be held. For more, see the website, reia.waynecounty.org. The party will feature dinner and hors d'oeuvres.

Free foreclosure tours

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

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures and what it takes to get started. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved. Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate is the presenter. It will

be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at (248) 782-7130 or e-mail june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

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

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Participants will discuss what they have learned. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update.

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. each first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Christmas party will replace the regular December meeting.

Any questions or concerns, call Wayde Koehler at (313) 277-4168.

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RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Homes For Rent

Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Tangle
- Big horn
- Dainty swallows
- "Shogun" apparel
- Fossey's friends
- Pointed arch
- Strings players
- Kinks' tune of 1970
- Amazing bargain
- More gung ho
- Bird of yore
- Kippur
- Trade barrier
- Sharp corner
- Greek P
- Previously
- Second
- Sunday in May honoree
- Drivers' needs
- Llama cousins
- Vocalist — Sumac

DOWN

- Soft shoes
- Help with a heist
- Mah-jongg place
- Custom-make
- Raises a bet
- noire
- Mineral analysis
- Long-faced

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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SUDOKU

5	2	7			8		1	4
	8			4		5		
	3	6		5		7		
9				6	7		5	3
	1		9		5			6
	7		8					
			6	1	3		7	
2							3	6
			5	8		1		

Level: Beginner

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GAMES & PUZZLE WORD SEARCH

WORDS

ACROSS: CHALLENGE, CHECKERS, CHESS, CLUE, CONTAIN, COUNTING, CROSSWORD, CRYPTOGRAM, DICE, DIGITAL, DOWN, ENJOYMENT, GAMES, GRAPHICS, IMAGINATION, LABRYNTH, LAUGHTER, LOSER

MAZE, MOVES, NUMBERS, PIECES, PLAY, POWER, PRETEND, PUZZLE, RECREATION, SCORE, SCRAMBLE, SEARCH, SOLUTION, SPORTS, STRATEGY, SUDOKU, VIDEO, WINNER, WORDS

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

6	1	4	2	8	5	3	7	9
9	8	3	6	7	4	1	2	5
7	5	2	7	3	1	9	4	6
2	1	4	9	6	3	8	5	7
7	9	8	2	6	5	1	3	4
3	9	8	7	6	1	2	5	4
8	6	7	5	1	2	9	3	6
3	2	1	4	5	6	7	8	9
5	2	7	3	6	9	8	1	4

Word Search

ACROSS: CHALLENGE, CHECKERS, CHESS, CLUE, CONTAIN, COUNTING, CROSSWORD, CRYPTOGRAM, DICE, DIGITAL, DOWN, ENJOYMENT, GAMES, GRAPHICS, IMAGINATION, LABRYNTH, LAUGHTER, LOSER

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Ameriplus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2323	3.25	0	2.625	0	J/A
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Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 466-6113	3.875	0.25	3.125	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank (313) 565-3100	3.75	0	3.25	0	A
Fifth Third Bank (800) 792-8830	3.5	0	2.875	0	J/A/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage (888) 293-3477	3.125	0.125	2.5	0.125	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage (248) 282-1602	3.5	0	2.875	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Gold Star (888) 293-3477	3	0.875	2.375	0.875	J/A/V/F

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<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT For large townhouse community in Northville. 2 yrs. prior admin experience needed, preferably in the multi-family industry. Proficiency in MS Office, Internet apps. and communication skills a must. Fax resume & wage requirements: (248) 349-0394</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>AUTO SERVICE ADVISOR Mercedes Benz of Novi has an excellent opportunity waiting for you. Must have dealership experience and Reynolds a plus. Individual must have good people skills. Fax resume to Tony Stipcak (248) 426-8686 or email: tony@novibenz.com</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>DRIVER/DELIVERY Valley City Linen 13165 Cloverdale St. Oak Park Needs route rep to service existing accounts Mon-Fri. throughout the greater Detroit area. Applicant should have a good driving record, customer service and or sales experience and the ability to perform repetitive heavy lifting. Chauffeurs license required. Good pay with full benefits. Please fax: 616-459-3689 or email resume: rickheid@comcast.net PDF format preferred. Interviews soon, don't delay.</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>DRIVERS - SEMI-TRUCK Needed daily, local job. Great pay. Call Willes Enterprises: 734-572-8600</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>MATERIAL PLANNER/SCHEDULING Neapco Drivelines, LLC Van Buren Twp., MI. Bachelor's Degree required. Supply Chain, Finance, or Bus Admin. Min 2 yrs exp in material control, scheduling, inventory, and capacity planning. Email resume: pcaylor@neapco.com</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Medical</p> <p>LASER HAIR REMOVAL TECHNICIAN Exp'd. with Lumenis LightSheer Diode Pay commensurate with experience. Resume: a2derm@aol.com or fax (734) 996-8767</p>	<p>Absolutely Free</p> <p>PLAY STRUCTURE/SWING SET Wooden. 248-887-2910</p>	<p>Christmas Trees</p> <p>WALDOCK TREE FARM We Grow: Caanan, Concolor, Corkbark, Fraser, Korean Fir, Black Hills, Blue and Norway. All trees sheken, wrapped & drilled for free! Large trees up to 16'. Weaths, Homemade Donuts, Coffee, Tea, Hot Cocoa, Oider and a Gift Shop in our warm barn. Open Fri. Sat. & Sun. 9am til Dark. 3090 Dutcher Rd. Howell. Take D-19 (at I-96, exit 137) S. to Coon Lake Rd. W. to Dutcher Rd. Follow the signs. For more info & a map. (517) 546-3890 Waldocktreefarm.com</p>	<p>Found - Pets</p> <p>FOUND CAT: Black & White, flea collar, near Palmer & Venoy. Call: 734-397-8187</p> <p>FOUND KITTY: Black/orange, female, near Palmer & Venoy. Call: 734-397-8187</p>
<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>AUTO PORTER Gordon Chevrolet Used Car Dept. Full-time, benefits. Come in to fill out application at: 31850 Ford Rd. Garden City.</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>Cut-N-Care is looking for snow removal workers this season • CDL Drivers • Loader Operators • Plow Truck Drivers Call 248-668-0070</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>ELECTRICIAN LICENSED JOURNEYMAN Motivated with good organizational skills. Capable of working independently or supervising several employees. Commercial & some industrial experience a must. Benefits & 401K match. Farmington Hills. Call: 248-625-4448 Fax resume: 248-625-4453 Email: amicallet@ecklerelectric.com</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>Medical Coordinator For DD residents Available for on call 24/7. Responsible for all medical appts. and medications. Exp. required. MOCR Training. Fax resume to: 248-478-8620 or email: ccarney@cichomes.org</p>	<p>Help Wanted - Medical</p> <p>FOOD - BEVERAGE • COOKS With Pizza Exp. • Wait Staff / Bartender Apply in person: Starting Gate, 135 N. Center St., Northville.</p>	<p>Garage/Moving Sales</p> <p>BED FRAME: Head/footboard & side rails - Pottery Barn Kid's twin, white wicker, like new, \$200/best. 248-756-6248</p>	<p>Musical Instruments</p> <p>COMPLETE PEARL DRUM SET. LIKE NEW. WHITE. \$1,500.00 MUST SELL. (248)349-0206</p>	<p>Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspapers 1-800-579-7355 www.hometownlife.com</p>
<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>WAREHOUSE Part-Time Entry level stock work. Flexible daytime hours. Will train. Novi Ray Electric. Call: 586-943-2313</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>SENIOR ENGINE ASSEMBLER Plymouth Location High performance engine manufacturer has an opening for a senior engine assembler, assembling engines where the chosen candidate will ultimately lead a 3 person team. This is a hands on job. Duties include preparation of engine components and assembly of same to complete engine builds. Must be fully conversant with current engine assembly and measurement practices, have leadership qualities with excellent attention to detail along with PC skills for data entry. This is a fulltime competitive hourly paid position with good benefits in a great work environment. Uniforms and all tools provided. Send resume to hr@ilmor.com</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>ATTORNEY & LEGAL COUNSEL DIVORCE \$75.00 www.CSRdisability.com CSR 734-425-1074</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>PHYSICIAN'S GROUP SEEKING PROOFREADER for medical/legal orthopedic reports. Background in worker's compensation or no-fault auto claims administration beneficial. Respond to: Physician's Group, PO Box 911 Novi, MI 48376-0917</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>ATTORNEY & LEGAL COUNSEL DIVORCE \$75.00 www.CSRdisability.com CSR 734-425-1074</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>WAREHOUSE Part-Time Entry level stock work. Flexible daytime hours. Will train. Novi Ray Electric. Call: 586-943-2313</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>PHYSICIAN'S GROUP SEEKING PROOFREADER for medical/legal orthopedic reports. Background in worker's compensation or no-fault auto claims administration beneficial. Respond to: Physician's Group, PO Box 911 Novi, MI 48376-0917</p>	<p>Help Wanted - General</p> <p>ATTORNEY & LEGAL COUNSEL DIVORCE \$75.00 www.CSRdisability.com CSR 734-425-1074</p>

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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hometownlife.com

Absolutely Free

CERAMIST RETIRING
Equip. must go. Hundreds of molds & misc. supplies. \$500 for the lot. 517-294-2808

Household Goods

36" RCA High Definition TV w/built-in DVD player, ProForm Treadmill, Microwave, \$150/best for all 3. 313-330-5482

CHINA CABINET
Wood with glass doors on top half, 54 in. wide, \$200. Call: (734) 455-9227

Appliances

FRIDGE - STAINLESS GE
side by side, stainless electric range - Maytag; Samsung lg mico, all beautiful cond, \$800 for set. Sharon: 249-941-0228

Exercise Fitness Equip

SCHWINN AIRDYNE BIKE:
Reading stand, padded gel seat, wind screen, pulse meter, \$245. Call: 248-685-1601

Christmas Trees

MUTCH'S HIDDEN PINES LLC
303 W. Newark Rd., Lapeer (1/2 mile east of M-24)
Featuring: Fraser, Canaan, and Blue Spruce
• Cut your own & pre-cut
• Visit our 150 year old barn for gifts, wreaths, hot chocolate & more!
• Wagon Rides
• Visit with Santa from 10am-4pm Sat. & Sun. only
Free Shaking, Bailing and Drilling.
Business Hours:
Friday, November 23, 9:00am-5:00pm.
Friday's, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21, 12:00pm-5:00pm.
Saturday's & Sunday's, Nov. 24-Dec. 23, 9:00am-5:00pm.
Visa & MC accepted. (810) 667-2711
www.mutchshiddenpines.com

Cats

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
Must stay together or long hair black female cat. All fixed.
248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

Dogs

CHOCOLATE LAB:
Male, 3.5 yrs. old, looking for loving home, great with children, must have fenced in yard. 248-535-5571

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Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspapers
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CONTACT US AT:
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www.hometownlife.com
oeads@hometownlife.com

DEADLINES:
Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday
Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

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All advertising published in this Newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. Copies are available from the advertising department: Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Weekly Newspapers, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170, 866-887-2737. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper & any publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears & reporting any errors immediately. The newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after the FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first insertion will be credited. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc, 724983 3-31-72). Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage & support an affirmative advertising & marketing program in which there are no barriers.

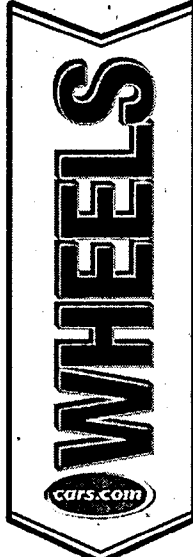
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Trucks for Sale

FORD F150 2003
Black, 4x4, 88k, \$12,995.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

FORD F-150 2010
13T5049A- Ford Certified,
4x4, super crew, 4WD,
navigation, moon,
leather. Only 3,000 miles,
not a misprint! Rates as low as
1.9%. \$39,888
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

FORD F-150 2011 XLT
12T6166A- Ford Certified,
4x4, super crew, 4WD, auto
a/c, full pwr, chrome pkg,
10,000 1 owner miles, rates as
low as 1.9%. \$29,888
North Brothers Ford
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

4 Wheel Drive

HUMMER H3 2009
White, Roof, 4x4, \$22,500.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Sports Utility

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 CXL 2009
Silver, Loaded, 42K, \$27,755.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

BUICK ENCLAVE CXL 2009
Silver, Loaded, 42K, \$27,755.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CHEVROLET
TRAILBLAZER 2009
Almond, LT, and certified!
Blowout price \$12,992!
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 EQUINOX 2010
Mocha Brown, leather, and re-
moto start! Impress the neigh-
borhood! Only \$19,999!
888-372-9836
Lou LaRiche

CHEVY CALIBER 2011
White, 37K, \$13,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Sports Utility

GMC ENVY 2003
4x4, Blue, FWD, White,
Only \$12,500
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC ENVY 2007
Denali, Black, 83k, clean.
Only \$15,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

GMC ENVY DENALI 2007
Black, Sharp, Only \$14,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

LINCOLN NAVIGATOR 2003:
1 owner, low mileage - 53,000
miles, good cond., \$9,900.
Call: (734) 422-6938

Sports & Imported

BMW X5 2007
Galaxy Gray, 3.0si, leather,
AWD, chrome! Luxury meets
durability! Reduced to \$25,492!
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Lou LaRiche

CHEVY CORVETTE 2000
Ocean Sand, 6 spd, Convertible
and Leather! With Horsepower
to Spare! Reduced to \$16,931!
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Lou LaRiche

MINI COOPER 2008
Blazin' Blue, Sunroof, 6-spd,
and racing stripes! Make your
move! Reduced to \$16,922!
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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
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LACROSSE CXL 2011
27K, Silver, loaded, \$29,995!
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

LACROSSE CXL 2011
27K, White, loaded, \$22,995!
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
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LACROSSE CXL 2011
29K, Silver, Only \$22,795!
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
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Buick

LACROSSE CXS 2011
27K, Silver, loaded, \$29,995
RARE!
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
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LUCERNE 2009 CXL
Special Silver, 35K,
Only \$18,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

REGAL 2011
Gold, 23K, Only \$20,995!
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

REGAL 2011
T/B, Silver, 26K, Only \$20,749!
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Cadillac

CADILLAC CTS 2005
3T1086A- Leather, moon roof,
full power, only 70,000 careful
owner miles! \$11,988
North Bros. Value Lot
800-586-7931

SRX 2007
Silver, 72K, AWD, Now \$15,995
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BUICK, GMC
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Chevrolet

CAMARO 2010
Cyber Gray, SS, 6-spd, and
leather! Real Chevy Muscle!
Reduced to \$26,923!
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Lou LaRiche

CHEVY TRAVERSE 2010
AWD, 32K, \$23,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CRUZE LT 2012
13T9069A - RS pkg, auto, full
power, alloys, 11,000 1 owner
miles! \$19,988
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

EQUINOX 2005 LT AWD
21356- 6 cyl., leather, full
power, fully inspected &
warranty. \$9988
North Bros. Value Lot
800-586-7931

HHR 2008
Harvest Orange, remote start, &
power options! Happy Cruise!
Only \$10,494!
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IMPALA 2007
Pacific Blue, 23K, LT,
Just your style!
Reduced to \$11,999!
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Chevrolet

MALIBU 2012
Summit White, LS, 4K, and
OnStar! Multi-award Winner!
Only \$17,523!
888-372-9836
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MALIBU LT 2009
Black, roof, like new, \$13,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Chrysler-Plymouth

300 C 2010
13C9029A- Hemi, moon,
chromes, navigation, only
26,000 careful owner miles,
flawless! \$24,988
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

PT CRUISER 2001
Red, great shape, touring.
Only \$4,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

SEBRING CONVERTIBLE
TOURING 2010
17,000 miles, champagne with
black cloth interior, \$15,900.
Call: 248-931-7744

Dodge

CHALLENGER 2009
Blue Sreak, Hemi, and R/T! Get
in, hold on! Reduced to \$22,866!
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Ford

EDGE 2008 LIMITED
13T1128A- Ford Certified,
Leather, chromes, heated
seats, 36,000 miles, rates as
low as 1.9%. \$21,988
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

FIESTA 2011
12C8667B, Ford Certified,
5 Spd, A/C, Only 27K miles,
Rates as low as 1.9%
\$12,988
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

FOCUS 2009 SE
13C9067A, auto, a/c full pwr.,
alloys, super clean, priced to
sell! \$9,988
North Brothers Value Lot
800-586-7931

FOCUS 2010
White Crest, leather, and heated
seats! Great on gas!
Reduced to \$13,923!
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FORD EDGE 2010
Gray Horizon, limited, and Sync!
Sure to Impress! Reduced to
\$21,960!
888-372-9836
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Auto Misc.

Ford

FORD FLEX SEL 2009
FWD, Ice Blue, Very Nice,
\$17,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

FUSION 2010 SE
12C9481A, 4 cyl, full pwr.,
fully inspected 5 warranty,
\$12,988
North Brothers 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
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GMC

TERRAIN 2011 - SLT1
Silver, FWD, 22K, \$25,995.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Honda

CIVIC EX 2002
13C1047B - 4 cyl, auto, a/c,
full pwr, super clean, priced to
move. \$5,988
North Bros. Value Lot
800-586-7931

CIVIC EX 2008
Silver, 32K, very nice \$16,995.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Honda CR-V 2009
Autumn Red, 27K, EX-L, and
loaded! Grip the road with confi-
dence! Reduced to \$19,926!
888-372-9836
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Jeep

CHEROKEE 2006
Sport- 8, 37K, Red,
One of a kind! \$27,995.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

COMMANDER 2008
Sandstone, AWD, Sport & Al-
loys! All Around Fun! Reduced
to \$14,477!
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Lincoln

SOLARA 2007
Pearl White, SLE, leather, sun-
roof! Ready to impress! Re-
duced to \$9,999!
888-372-9836
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Mazda

MIATA MX-5 2010
13T9074B- 6 spd., leather, re-
tractable hard top convertible.
6000 1 owner miles, show-
room new! \$20,988
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

Nissan

MORANO 2003
AWD, SE, loaded, 48K \$13,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

Pontiac

Grand Prix 1997- auto-matic
starter, 44,000 miles, good
cond, needs battery & muffler.
Make offer. 248-647-6659

Saturn

OUTLOOK 2007
XE, AWD, \$12,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

OUTLOOK 2008
Red, \$17,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

OUTLOOK 2009
AWD, Brown, Very Clean, 55K,
\$17,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

OUTLOOK 2009
Pacific Blue, XE, and certified!
Dependability meets durability!
Only \$18,980
888-372-9836
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VUE 2008
AWD, Only \$11,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

VUE 2009 XE
P21534 - leather, moon, 22K
1 owner miles., \$16,988
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

Toyota

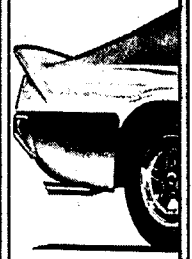
PRUIS 2009
13C7019A- Auto, A/C, Full
pwr, only 34K 1 owner miles,
Priced to Sell., \$17,488
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

Auto Misc.

Autos Under \$2000

Oldsmobile Intrigue 1999
V6, black, fair cond.,
52,500 miles, \$1600/best.
Call: (941) 445-1421

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CHEVY SILVERADO 2006
Cardinal Red, 16K, LT, and crew
cab! This is your truck!
Reduced to \$19,975!
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 1995 RANGER
SPLASH, yellow, 4L,
4WD, auto, loaded, cargo
cover, tan interior, 57,000 ml.
\$5000. 734-261-1324

FORD F-150 2003
13T1120A, S/Crew, Lariat,
4x4, off rd. pkg., cap, fully
inspected, \$13,988
North Brothers Value Lot
800-586-7931

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AVIS/FORD

(248) 355-7500

Mini-Vans

CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY 2012
P21512- Stow & Go, full
power, alloys, fully inspected &
warrantied. \$17,988
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

Vans

BUICK TERRAZA 2005
Red, loaded, 87K, Only \$8,995.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CALIBER 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
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Mazda MPV LX 2006: 83000
miles, 7 passenger, 3.0L V6,
Trailer low pkg & hitch, AM-
FM/CD/Cassette, power sliding
doors, clean CARFAX. Well
maintained, spotless, \$7950.
(734) 765-9123

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Mini-Vans

CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY 2012
P21512- Stow & Go, full
power, alloys, fully inspected &
warrantied. \$17,988
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

Vans

BUICK TERRAZA 2005
Red, loaded, 87K, Only \$8,995.
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
(734) 453-2500

CALIBER 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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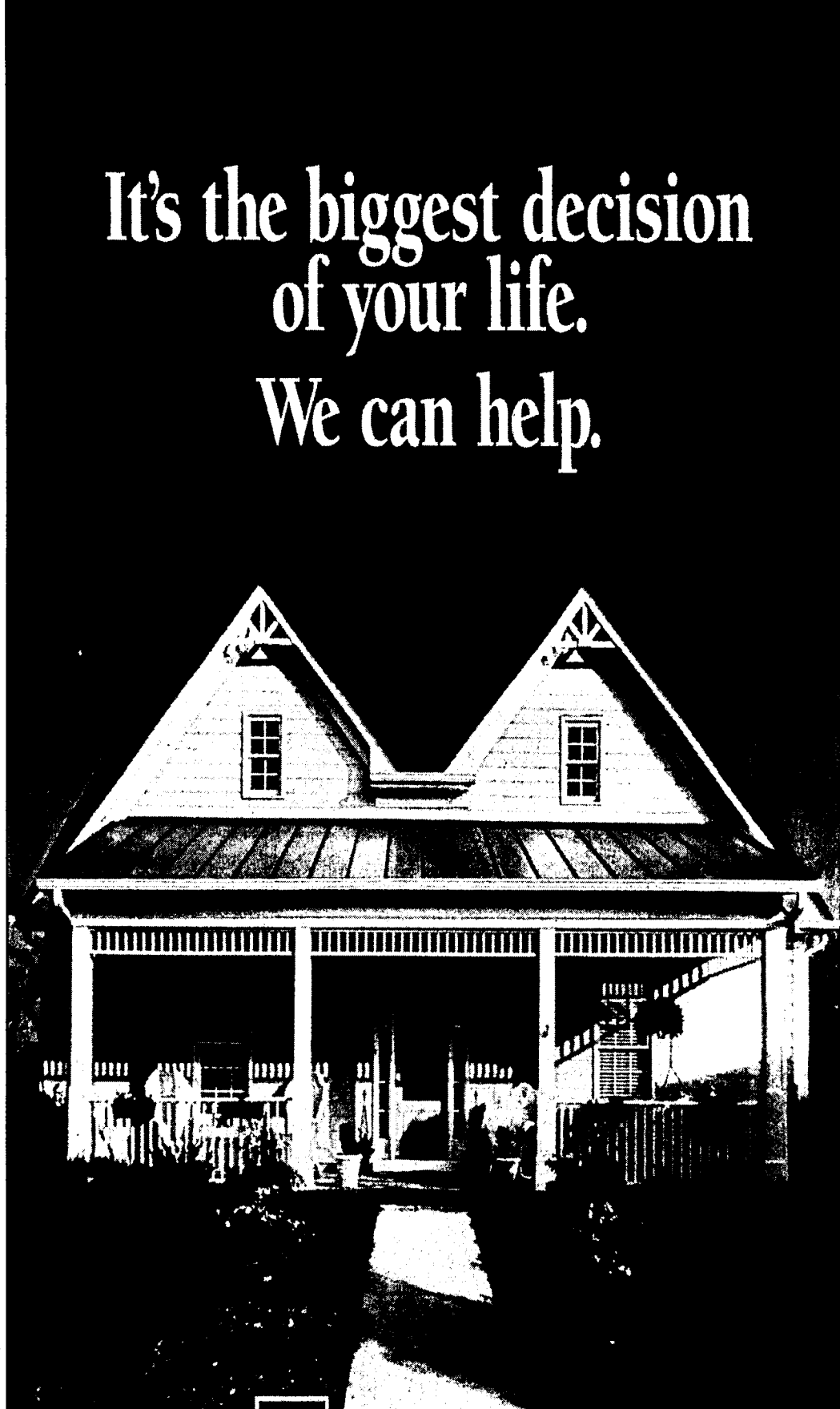
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