

Video helps police identify

and arrest robbery suspect

Election time

Westland Youth Athletic Association is holding its annual general membership meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road, north of Ford Road.

The purpose of the meeting is to review the past year, plan for the future and elect the 2013 Board of Directors.

Started in 1958, WYAA offers baseball, softball, football, cheerleading, volleyball and basketball to children ages 5-17. For more information, call (734) 421-0640.

By Sue Mason **Observer Staff Writer**

A keen eye helped a Westland police detective arrest one of two individuals being sought in two armed robberies at a Westland convenience store earlier this month.

A 15-year-old Canton teen was arrested Nov. 21 after Westland Police Detective Mark Cholak spotted him walking along Hix Road south of Joy Road. Cholak, who had just gotten off work, recognized the teen as a suspect from surveillance photos of the Nov. 11 and 18 robberies at the 7-Eleven on North Wavne Road at Joy.

"It was dumb luck, I'd looked at those videos so many times,"

said Cholak, who with the help of on-duty officers arrested the teen. "I promised the store owner I'd have them locked up before Thanksgiving.'

The teen has been turned over to juvenile authorities and was transported to the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Center in Detroit. A hearing was held Nov. 23.

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

One difference between the

Please see ROBBERY, A2

Lunch with Santa

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

Festivities get under way noon. The cost will be \$4 for Wayne and Westland residents and \$5 for non-residents. Children 2 and under are free. Lunch will include pizza, salad and bread sticks. There also will be arts and crafts and face painting. That Personal Touch Photography will offer photo packages with Santa.



Delores Flowers of the Samuel B. Ware Community Center in Westland said she and Carol Sharp help each other

Drivers stuff buses for Westland Goodfellows

> By Sue Mason **Observer Staff Writer**

Three school buses will be waiting to be filled Saturday --- not with students, but toys, clothing and nonperishable food for the Wayne and Westland Goodfellows.

Employees of the district's transportation department are partnering with the Goodfellows and the Wayne-Westland Fire Department to hold their annual Stuff A Bus event in hopes of provide holiday cheer for needy families in Wayne and Westland.

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Tickets are limited to 215 people.

For more information, call (734) 728-2900 or go online to www. ci.wayne.mi.us.

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 the Thursday. Dec. 20, issue.

Letters should be emailed 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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Friends help put warmth in Warm Hearts

with their different activities.

By Sue Mason Observer Staff Writer

Santa has his workshop at the North Pole. Carol Sharp has hers in a vacant storefront in Westland. While Santa looks to make Christmas merry for children around the world, Sharp is interested in Detroit area children who would might otherwise miss out on the holiday if it weren't for the kindness of strangers. Sharp and her "elves" have been working since mid-October behind paper-covered windows, creating gift bags that will be given out at soup kitchens and shelters. They've been meeting in the storefront, donated by businessman Glenn Shaw Jr., assembling the packages that include story books, stuffed toys, tooth brushes, hats, gloves, scarves and school sup-

plies. Sharp estimates the work



Carol Sharp, founder of Warm Hearts, points out some of the items that will be put into the gift packs.

won't be done until sometime in December.

"This makes life fun, it really does," said Sharp, founder of the Westland-based Warm Hearts that has a goal of making the world a better place for the less fortunate: "What's better than seeing smiling children?"

Sharp describes her penchant to pair books with stuffed toys as a "disease." One gift bag contains a butterfly purse and a butterfly story book. Another has the Take a Mouse to the Movies book and a king-sized stuffed mouse.

Her cadre of friends also fill small cups with tooth brushes and paste, a small McDonald's Beanie Baby and crackers that will go to soup kitchens.

There's also plenty of socks, given to Sharp at her request at her 70th birthday party, and a box of baby hats from the "bingo ladies.'

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sharp's helpers include Linda Cielieska of Dearborn. She and her husband Bob started out making items for baby showers that Sharp holds for new and expectant moms.

Bob started doing baby hats and I did the booties," Cielieska said. "He still makes hats, he does two-three a night, and I do afghans."

Delores Flowers, director of the Samuel B. Ware Community Center at Christ Temple Apos-

Please see WARM HEARTS, A2

two full buses, and with the Goodfellows and fire department helping, we figure we'll do three this year," said Sherice Roark, Wayne-Westland's transportation director. "Times are hard, people need help."

-Transportation employees will have the 78-passenger school buses in the parking lot of the Kmart store at Wayne Road and Cherry Hill in Westland from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, to collect donations. People can drop off unwrapped new toys, new and gently used warmweather clothing like hats, gloves, clothes and boots, as well as nonperishable food.

This is the fourth year that district transportation employees have held Stuff a Bus. The first year they were able to fill one bus, and bumped it up to two the next year. According to Roark, the effort benefits the students who ride the buses.

Each bus has 26 seats, and Roark is confident that all 78 seats on the three buses will be filled - and with good reason. Her employees have already been collecting items.

"We have a lot of canned goods, coats, gloves and hats and school supplies and some cash donations," Roark said. "We're already doing pretty good."

> smason@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6751

Wayne Goodfellows look for crowd at 26th annual party

By Sue Mason

Observer Staff Writer

Shawn Bell admits that he would be "ecstatic" if more than 250 people show up Friday, Dec. 7, for the 26th annual Wayne Goodfellows party.

"That would not be a bad problem at all," said Bell, president of the Wayne Goodfellows. "We'll

do what we need to do to accommodate people.'

The fundraiser will be held 5:30-9:30 p.m. at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe, at Annapolis. Tickets are \$15 each and include two drink tickets, hearty appetizers and a ticket for the door prize. There also will be prizes, raffles and auctions throughout the evening.

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DJ Steve will be there for Swat Karaoke and juggling bartender Andy Bro will show off his mixology techniques.

The party is the Wayne Goodfellows' major fundraiser for their No Child Without a Christmas effort. The money will be used to buy gift cards for food and gift cards for parents to purchase items for their children.

Wayne families in need of assistance have until tomorrow. Nov. 30, to fill out an application and turn it in at the fire station on Wayne Road, south of Glenwood.

Last year, the Goodfellows helped more than 250 Wayne families and Bell expects that number to increase this year. As

Piease see PARTY, A2

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 29, 2012

LOCAL NEWS

online at hometownlife.com

Continued from page A1

"Every year the need

Different businesses

Business also have

helped with donations for the raffles and auc-

tions. Gift certificates, a fire pit, fishing poles,

items like a Dyson vac-

uum, sports memorabil-

among the prizes.

drills, tools and household

ia and digital cameras are

One or two "big" items

will be the prizes in a but-

ton raffle in which guests

buy numbered buttons at

\$5 each. The Goodfellows will be selling 250 but-

tons, and there's no limit on how many a person

"We usually try to get

something of good val-

ue for the button raffle,

it's kind of been very successful," Bell said, adding

that "we have some great,

businesses in town.'

available by calling

at (734) 722-1111.

Tickets for the par-

ty are \$15 each and are

Kathy at the fire station

"I'm looking forward

to this," Bell said. "It's

going to be a good par-

ty and bring the commu-

nity together for a good

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(313) 222-6751

can buy.

ters.

WARM **HEARTS** Continued from page A1

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A2

tolic Church in Westland, met Sharp at the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency which works with low-income families. Along with Annette Kutnich of Canton, they became known as the "Three Musketeers."

"We help each other, that's how we know each other," Flowers said.

"Carol told us what she wanted to do and asked others to join her," added Gloria Norman of Plymouth Township. "It started out with scarves and blankets for the homeless and grew from there. It just grew."

'We do this because we care and because of all the need in the community," added Kutnich. "I've had a good life. When you do, you give back."

Kutnich who is involved in Wayne Metro, calls her work with Sharp her "side job."

Barbara Cadaret of Dearborn says Sharp "is the instigator of everything I do." Cadaret, who works with the social worker at Christ King Church in Detroit, was the first to meet the Westland resident.

"Carol took me under her wing," she said.

Last year, Sharp and her friends assembled 2,400 bags to give away. Looking around the room, she suspects Warm Hearts will have even more to give away this year. She's grateful for the donations and the help of her friends, admitting that sometimes it can look overwhelming. But there's a bright side.

"When you surround yourself with giving people, it has a domino effect," Sharp said. That may be so, but

What Bar & ...



Linda Cielieska of Dearborn and Susan Parker of Westland sort through the items that will be included in the children's gift packs.

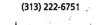


Gloria Norman of Plymouth Township is the only one left of the original group that started working with Carol Sharp.

Susan Parker thinks the volunteers need more than squash soup and snacks. "We don't get paid, I

want a raise," she said with a laugh.

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Annette Kutnick of Canton wraps the gift packets.



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LOCAL NEWS

Salvation Army expects more families to seek assistance

By Sue Mason Observer Staff Writer

Black Friday sales may have been good for retailers, with some stores opening Thanksgiving evening. But the switch from early morning openings wasn't so good for the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army's Red Kettles.

Even with bell ringers manning kettles at 5 a.m., the organization saw donations drop \$1,500 from what was collected Black Friday 2011.

"Some stores started opening at 8 p.m. on Thanksgiving. We made a decision not to go out until 5 a.m.," said Capt. Derek Rose, corps commander. "That was a big left hook we didn't see coming. We're actually going to have to adjust our schedule next year and consider starting at 2 a.m. or even midnight because the shoppers were not there at 5 a.m. like we've typically seen."

As of Tuesday, the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army had raised \$56,231 through its Red Kettle campaign, as well as \$3,400 in mail-in donations. The corps hopes to raise \$200,000, up from the \$185,000 raised in 2011.

Rose said the Wayne-Westland Corps expects to register between 500 and 600 families and help some 2,500 people this year. Currently, 223 families have registered for assistance. People can apply 8:30-11:30 a.m. or 12:30-3:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays through Wednesday, Dec. 5.

The number of people helped can fluctuate from year to year. Requests may be down for several years, but bounce back up, which was the case in 2011, when the organization helped 522 families for a total of 1,921 people with Christmas food and toys.

"We're looked on more as emergency assistance. We can't do the job the Goodfellows do," Rose said. "We give a food box and a toy for each child."

While people can make cash donations at the Red Kettles. or by mailing a donation to the Wayne-Westland Corps, they can also help by buying toys for children up to age 14. The Salvation Army has an Angel tree at Westland Shopping Center where people can take a tag and buy gifts for children. The Angel Tree is the "main funnel" of toys for the corps.

"The type of things we lack are for children ages 10-14," Rose said. "The older children tend to get forgotten at Christmas. People like to buy for the younger children, but for the older kids, they can be gift cards or cards for the movies or bowling, prepaid cell phones and mp3 players."

People can donate new toys at the community center between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. They can also sign up to sponsor Christmas for a family. Monetary donations can be sent to the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army Corps, 2300 S. Venoy, Westland, MI 48186.

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While donations are needed, the biggest need right now is volunteers to man the Red Kettles. People can sign up at ringbell.org for any number of hours. They can do it by themselves or with a group. People can also start their own online red kettle at www.onlineredkettle.org/waynewestland.

"We can't say enough about the Wayne-Westland community," Rose said. "Every year we put out our need and the every year we meet it. This is a community to cherish."

For more information, call the Wayne-Westland Corps at (734) 722-3660.

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751

Concert features Santa, Nutcracker performers

Santa will make an appearance at the Livonia Symphony Orchestra's concert at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, in Clarenceville High School's Louis Schmidt Auditorium.

Joining the symphony will be the Angie Hahn Academy of Dance doing excerpts of the *Nutcracker*. New this year is the addition of a young children's group singing to Santa, played by Michael Deller, retired director of the Livonia Public Library. The children are siblings of the dancers.

The symphony will also be joined by members of the Livonia Youth Symphony and the Livonia Civic Chorus for a variety of Christmas music. As an added bonus, pianist Sasha Burshtain has written and will perform his unique version of Hannukah.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. They are available at the Livonia Civic Center Library, Madonna University Student Life office and at the door. Group tickets of 10 or more are available by calling Ron Laing at (313) 538-2536.

Westland swears in three new police officers

The Westland Police Department has three new officers, following the swearing in of Joel Belanger, Jason Soulliere and Kevin Cullum Monday.

Belanger has worked for White Lake Police Department for the past three years. He received an associate's degree from Schoolcraft College and graduated from the Wayne County Regional Police Academy. He is married and has a two-year-old daughter.

Soulliere has worked in the private security field for the past two years. He received an associate's degree from Schoolcraft College and graduated from the Wayne County Regional Police Academy. He



Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik (left) and Mayor William Wild (right) welcome newly sworn-in police officers Joel Belanger, Jason Soulliere and Kevin Cullum.

is engaged to be married. Cullum has worked the past year with Melvindale Police Department. He received an associate's degree from Schoolcraft College and grad-

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uated from the Wayne County Regional Police Academy. He is married with a two-yearold daughter. He and his wife are expecting a second child. "The Westland Police

Department has a reputation as one of the finest departments in the State and these talented new officers will help carry on that tradition," said Mayor William Wild.





Hours: Monday, Tuesday,



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A4.(WGc) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police: Couple go on spending spree with stolen credit card

Westland Police are looking for a man and woman who used a stolen credit card to make more than \$4,000 in purchases at Target and Meijer stores in Westland on Nov. 24.

A Wayne resident had been shopping at the Meijer store at Warren Road and Newburgh at 6 p.m., but it wasn't until the next morning that she realized her wallet was missing from her purse.

The woman called her credit card company to cancel her VISA card and was told that it had been used on Nov. 24 to make two purchases of \$3,282 and \$800 at Target. There also was an



A security camera at Meijer photographed the male suspect wanted for using a stolen credit to make more than \$4,000 in purchase on Nov. 24.

attempt to make a \$1,121 purchase at Meijer a short time later. According to Westland

police, the purchases at Target were for sweaters, but a majority of the money was put on gift



The female suspect was wearing what police believe is a curly brown wig.

ey left on them which Target closed out, police said. No identification was requested for Target purchases at Target because the store doesn't want to bother the customers, police said.

The suspects also tried to purchase two iPads at Meijer, but the charge was declined.

The suspects are both black and have medium builds. The man is in his 30s and was wearing a black fur coat and black derby hat. The woman was in her late 40s-50s and was wearing a long curly wig, brown coat and brown hat with a wide brim.

People with information about the suspects can contact the Westland Police at (734) 722-9600.

Break-in spoils couple's arrival of new grandchild

Home invasion

A couple who live in the 30000 block of Sheridan said that after they spent most of the day Nov. 24 at the hospital to welcome a new grandchild, they returned home to find a break-in at their house.

The front door was open and lights were on all over the house.

There was search activity in their daughter's bedroom and her laptop computer was stolen. Some jewelry was also taken.

There was no forced entry but they observed that a window frame was slightly bent back.

Disorderly conduct

Garden City Police arrested a 23-year-old New Boston man for interfering with a police offi-

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

cer and disorderly conduct just after midnight Nov. 27.

A police officer noticed a man acting suspiciously when they were driving near Bar 153 on Ford. They saw him go between two parked cars and then end up in the 31000 block of Krauter.

The police officer observed the man urinating on a tree and called out to him. The man, who caught sight of the police officer, fled on foot. He fell into a wooden privacy fence, landed on the ground and then began kicking at the officer who said that the man appeared to have been trained in "mixed martial arts fighting."

Abbey Park

He finally calmed down after the officer got out his baton and swatted him in the right leg.

The suspect registered a .22 blood alcohol level which is more than twice the legal limit. He was transported to the police station and booked.

Break-in

Two people who live at a house in the 800 block of Deering said that someone broke into their home sometime between 7:30 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Nov. 26.

Although the doors were locked, they observed that a bedroom screen was on the ground. The screen displayed pry marks made from a screwdriver which the officer said in the report was similar to a tool used in an incident in the 28000 block of Florence. The police also found a yellow hair tie outside the Deering home which the two female occupants said didn't belong to them. The owner of the rental

cards. Two of the cards

Target stores. Two oth-

er cards still had mon-

were later used at other

home on Deering was notified of the incident. The thief stole some jewelry and ransacked two bedrooms.

Theft

A Farmington Hills woman who parked her 2012 Chrysler in the parking lot of 30925 Ford, discovered at noon Nov. 23 that someone broke her rear driver's side window and stole her stereo from the dashboard.

A flat head Craftsman screwdriver which didn't belong to the car owner was left inside of the vehicle.

Fraud

A woman who lives in

the 29000 block of Balmoral applied to be a bar manager after she answered an ad on Craig's list.

She heard back from the alleged bar owner who lives in Orlando, Fla., who sent her a check to deposit to be used to begin buying bar supplies. Chase Bank recognized the check as fraudulent Nov. 21 and put a freeze on her checking account before she could buy any bar supplies.

Theft

An employee at Video Stop, 30080 Ford, reported that a man about 5 foot, 8 inches tall stole 30 DVD covers about 5:30 p.m. Nov. 25. He replaced the cases and DVDs on another shelf. With the theft of the cov-

ers, the employee told police that the value of the DVDs decreased significantly.

Stolen car

A business owner at 27832 Ford reported that his BMW, which was parked in his parking lot between Nov. 12-13, was discovered stolen. He left the car in the lot because it had a flattened tire.

The police found no broken glass and could recover no evidence.

Expired license

The police arrested a 36year-old Westland man for driving with a suspended license on Merriman and Maplewood about 4:30 a.m. Nov. 27. They found that the man had an expired driver's license and could only produce immigration papers for identification.

By Sue Buck





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(WGc) A5

Man arrested after brandishing facsimile handgun

Fake gun

A Westland man was arrested for possession of a facsimile handgun Nov. 20 after a complaint at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army.

The man, 21, was spotted with what appeared to be a 45-caliber handgun in his waistband while at the feeding program at the Salvation Army on Venoy.

When police arrived, the man had already left. The man, who had been identified by name and was known to officers from prior contacts, was stopped nearby.

The man was carrying an Airsoft-style pellet gun which looked like the real thing.

Criminal Sexual Conduct

A Troy man is facing a charges of sexually molesting a Westland girl while visiting her home.

Derek Ricard Hartfield, 43, is charged with one count of seconddegree criminal sexual conduct and two charges of third-degree criminal sexual. A not guilty plea was entered for Hartfield, who is jailed in lieu of \$500,000 cash/ surety bond.

Scheduled for Wayne County Circuit Court arraignment this week, Hartfield is charged with fondling a 14-yearold girl. Police said that Hartfield was a family friend who was alone with the girl during the incidents which hap-

pened over the summer. • A Georgia man has been charged with sexually assaulting his cousin at her Westland home while visiting to attend a family funeral.

WESTLAND COP CALLS

Walter Lional Knight, 48, is facing four charges of third-degree criminal sexual conduct.

Police said that Knight was watching a movie with his cousin, 48, during the early hours of Nov. 10. The woman told police she was sexually assaulted by Knight and subsequently reported the attack.

Arrested the same day, Knight is also facing a charge of carrying a concealed handgun which is unrelated to the other charges. A not guilty plea was entered for Knight, who waived his preliminary examination in 18th District Court and was ordered bound over for trial in circuit court. Knight is jailed in lieu of bond.

Break-in

A stove, refrigerator and window air conditioner were reported stolen in a break-in of a home in the 28000 block of Van Born. The break-in occurred

between 8 p.m. Nov. 11 and 5 p.m. Nov. 12. It appeared that the suspect gained access through a window. Also taken were drills, miscellaneous tools and a radio.

Stolen tires

Four chrome rims and tires were stolen from a vehicle in the 35000 block of Castlewood. The owner told police she had her 2008 GMC Yukon in the parking lot at 8 p.m. Nov. 12. When she came out at 6:30 a.m., she found a passenger side window broken out and the tires gone. A key to the rims' safety locks was missing.

Attempted theft

A resident living in the 2300 block of Wilshire Parkway told police someone attempted to steal his 1999 Dodge pickup Nov. 12. The driver's door lock had been punched out and plastic from the steering column broken off. The ignition also had been damaged.

• A resident of an apartment at 36032 Hunter told police Nov. 26 that someone had broken the rear sliding window of his pickup truck in the overnight hours. The center column was damaged and the ignition was destroyed. There also was a small hole under the driver side door.

Stolen vehicle

A 2001 Chevrolet was reported stolen Nov. 13 from in front of the home in the 7000 block of Donna Nov. 13. The owner told police that he had parked the car at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 12 and discovered it missing at 7 a.m. All of the keys were accounted for and only he and his wife have access to the vehicle.

Stolen bike

Thieves cut a lock and stole a BMF bicycle from the backyard of a home on Alaska Court Nov. 14. The owner told police he had added a motor to the older model bike and had kept it under a tarp and locked to a clothesline pole and in the backyard.

Stolen purses

A Westland resident reported her purse, containing \$800 in cash, credit cards, driver's license and checkbook, was stolen from her shopping in the parking lot of Kroger, 7530 Middlebelt, Nov. 13.

The woman told police she was loading groceries in her vehicle and never saw who took the purse.

• A Chesterfield woman reported her purse stolen while shopping in Westland Shopping Center Nov. 16.

The woman told police she was in checkout at Charlotte Russo and had placed her purse on the counter. She turned to put her baby in her stroller and left the store without her purse. When she realized her mistake, she went back to get it. The clerk told she had never seen the purse.

• An Inkster woman told police that her purse was stolen while she was at the Golden Corral, 37101 Warren Road, Nov. 25. She said that the purse had been hanging on the back of a chair. It contained her driver's license, insurance and credit cards and two safe deposit keys from Chase and the State Bank of Fenton.

Vandalism

The rear windows of 2003 Mercury Mountaineer and a 1996 Ford Mustang were found shattered Nov. 25. The cars were parked in the driveway of a home in the 700 block of South Norma. A brick payer was found in the rear compartment of the Mountaineer.

• A car was reported sprayed with red paint while parked at 38287 Carolon Nov. 15. A neighbor who was walking her dog saw the damage and alerted the owner. He told police he had parked and locked it at 7 p.m. and there was no damage.

Stolen copper

Thieves stole the copper plumbing from the basements and one bathroom of a duplex in the 1900 block of Stieber Nov. 14. The owner told police he had come to check on the properties, which are for rent, and found the bedrooms broken out, apparently by a landscaping brick that was left in the rear bedroom of one of the units. Both front doors also were unlocked.

Larceny from a vehicle

A Westland woman told police she heard breaking glass Nov. 19 and when she looked out the window of her apartment at 31041 Warren Road, she saw two suspects inside her 2003 Dodge Durango.

Solice Database. She ran out and the two suspects, who were wearing black ski masks, ran from her vehicle to the back of a small black older vehicle and fled. She discovered they had got into her vehicle by breaking the rear passenger door vent. The steering column had minor damaged and a small black wallet was missing from the center console.

Christmas presents

were stolen from the car of a Dundee woman while it was parked in front of her sister's house in the 34000 block of Spring Valley Nov. 24. The culprits broke out the driver side rear window to get in to the vehicle.

Attempted break-in

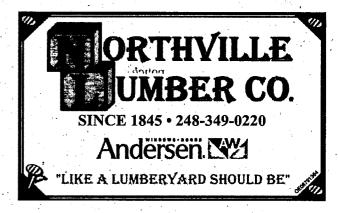
The lock cylinders had been removed from the doors in an attempt to gain access to the BP Gas Station at 1220 N. Wayne Road Nov. 25.

The manager told police that when he arrived for work he noticed the doors were unlocked. However, the building wasn't entered because the doors are chained together on the inside and employees leave from the rear of the business.

Stolen property

A riding fertilizer spreader/sprayer valued at \$6,500, was reported stolen Nov. 25 from the backyard of a home in the 1900 block of Christine.

The owner told police he has a lawn care company and had stored three fertilizer spread-. ers under a tarp in the backyard. Two walkbehind spreaders also were stolen from the bed of his truck.



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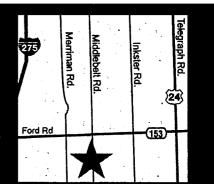
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SUE MASON, EDITOR smason@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6751 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Oakwood Annapolis's da Vinci used in single incision surgery

A surgical team at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne recently performed their first da Vinci Single-Site Cholecystectomy. The patient's gallbladder was removed through one tiny incision in the belly button, making the procedure virtually scarless

Dr. Edward Mavashev led the team through the procedure in which, using robotic assistance, the gallbladder was removed through a single one-inch incision.

"Neither robotic surgerv nor single-incision surgery is new, but combining the two to remove the gallbladder requires additional training and special equipment," Mavashev said. "To be one of the first hospitals to offer this technically advanced surgery demonstrates Oakwood's leadership in providing patients with the most up-to-date minimally invasive surgical options."

The da Vinci is a robotic surgical system widely used in complex minimally invasive surgery. The Food and Drug Administration cleared the specialized Single-Site instruments for use with the system in December 2011. Oakwood Annapolis started using a da Vinci Si - the newest version of the system — earlier this year. Mavashev

is one of a small group of surgeons in the country who has received training to perform the surgery. Dr. Mohamad Hakim and Dr. Mehran Mirkazemi are two other Oakwood-affiliated surgeons trained in the technique.

During the procedure, the surgeon sits at a console, viewing a 3D, high-definition image of the patient's anatomy. The surgeon uses controls below the viewer to move the instrument arms and camera. In real-time, the system translates the surgeon's hand, wrist and finger movements into more precise movements of the miniaturized instruments inside the patient.

Unlike traditional robotic surgeries requiring three to five small incisions, this new technology allows for a single incision in the belly button where instruments are placed and the diseased gallbladder is removed.

Potential benefits of Single-Site gallbladder surgery include virtually scarless results, minimal pain, low blood loss, fast recovery, a short hospital stay and high patient satisfaction. The surgery takes about one hour and patients can be discharged the same day

"Single-Site instruments used with the da Vinci platform are the next step in the evolution of surgical technologies," said Debbie Gendron, Robotic Coordinator at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital. "We are truly excited to be a leader today in the surgical treatment of tomorrow."

More than 1 million people in the U.S. have their gallbladder removed each year, including as many as 12,000 in metro Detroit. Most are performed with traditional laparoscopy using several incisions. Most people who require gallbladder removal are candidates for the robotic, single-incision surgery. According to the American College of Surgeons, surgery is the recommended treatment for gallbladder pain from gallstones and non-functioning gallbladders.

Oakwood Annapolis performed its first Da Vinci procedure in June 2012. Since then, Oakwood Annapolis surgeons have performed robot-assisted surgical gynecological, urological, thoracic, general, colo-rectal and ear, nose and throat procedures.

'We've really embraced the technology," said Gendron. "I think it's fantastic that a small community hospital can offer something like this. It's fabulous for Oakwood and the community we have the privilege to serve."



Former Miss Michigan and Westland resident Ashlee Baracy is once again helping to promote Westland's shopping and dining district during the holiday season.

Westland launches holiday **Shop and Dine campaign**

The holiday season is her and so is the fourth annual Shop and Dine Westland Holiday Campäign.

The six-week multifaceted marketing campaign started Sunday and promotes the fact that Westland truly has "Everything you Want. Everything you need" this holiday season.

Westland's shopping and dining district is anchored by Westland Shopping Center and is surrounded by more than 160 shops, restaurants and services making it Wayne County's premier shopping and dining destination.

"This is the fourth year of our Shop and Dine Westland Campaign,"

said Westland Mayor William Wild. "The campaign has been designed to attract visitors to the area from a 30 mile radius. So, when you visit the Shop and Dine District this season, tell them the city of Westland sent you."

TV commercials are airing on Comcast and WOW on popular channels, such as the Food Network, FS Detroit, HGTV and The Family Channel, just to name a few. If you are watching the Lions on Thanksgiving Day, you are sure to see a spot. The commercials encourage individuals to visit the city's shopping and dining district for all of their holiday needs. It also mentions the MJR Westland Grand

Digital Cinema located on Wayne Road.

Radio ads are airing on Detroit's number one news/talk radio 760 WJR and print ads will appear in prominent Wayne County news publications.

The city also has updated its online Shop and Dine Directory to include new businesses that have moved to the area over the past year. The directory can be found on the City's web site, www. cityofwestland.com/shopdine/.

New this year, shoppers will notice a sticker in the window of many of our Westland retailers showing that they support the "Shop Westland Campaign.

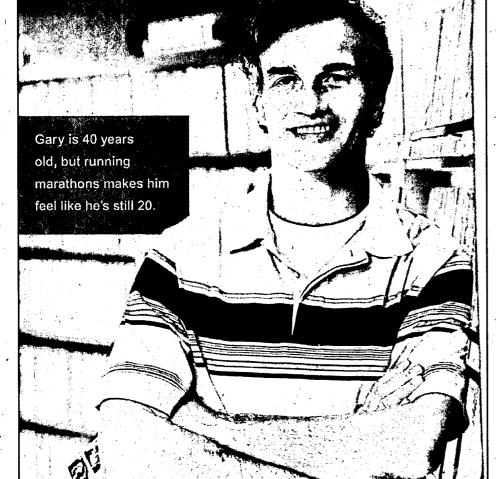
Paragon properties collecting for Gleaners

Paragon Properties is coordinating a food and fund donation drive for Gleaner's Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan at its 12 apartment communities, including two in Westland, as part of the organization's "Give a Hand for the Holidays" campaign. **Paragon Properties is** asking its residents and community neighbors to join the fight against hunger and participate in the "Give a Hand for the Holidays" collection effort by giving \$5 or five pounds of food. Gleaner's Community Food Bank is hoping to provide 600,000 meals for neighbors in need now through Dec. 31. Donation items are being accepted at the company's Leasing Offices/Clubhouses through Dec. 15. The property management company's Westland community

locations that are accepting donations are Woodland Villa at 7360 Drew Circle, #9, and Westwood Village located at 37830

are an important source of free food for the needy. Each dollar raised pro-' vides three meals due to Gleaner's close relationships with compa-

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Westwood Circle.

Requested canned and dry good foods include tuna fish, canned meat, beef stew, meat soups, canned spaghetti or pasta, dry or canned beans (kidney, pinto, green, yellow, refried or black beans), fruits, baby food or formula, Ensure or other nutritional supplement drinks, rice, noodles, macaroni, powdered milk, pancake or baking mixes, cereal/oatmeal (including single serving size), granola bars, peanut butter (in plastic jars), jelly (in plastic iars).

Personal care items, such as diapers, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo and disposable razors are also being collected.

nies in the food processing industry. To make a financial contribution and help give families in the community a happy and healthy holiday season, visit www.paragonapartments.com/events.

An increasing number of Michigan families are facing hunger as a result of job loss, foreclosure, or wage reduction. Over 700,000 people are missing meals each week, half of whom are children. Meals provided by "Give a Hand for the Holidays" will be distributed to hungry families through Gleaner's Community Food Bank's 600 partner agencies in five counties, including schools, shelters, food pantries, soup kitchens and church based programs.

Food and fund drives

Results: How you achieve them matters

By Clarity Patton Newhouse **Guest Columnist**

n today's do-more-withless economic climate, this morning's sunny note is a

er that

there's

more

to suc-

results.



Focus-**Clarity Patton** ing on Newhouse results is fantastic

for goal setting, progress measurement and countless important purposes. Yet we should also keep in mind that: It's not just what we do; it's how we do it.

Results achieved today can lay the foundation for even greater results in the future, if

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A SUNNY NOTE

we don't burn the bridges that got us this far. That's why "how the results were achieved" is often as important, or more important, than the results themselves.

When it comes to success, our greatest assets are not our skills, our degrees or our financial resources. Our greatest assets are the relationships we build with others. So no matter what we wish to accomplish, "how" we go about it -by building trust and strengthening collaboration - means more in the long term than "what" we achieve today.

Wishing you the best of success - and a sunny day!

Clarity

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P.S. "If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants.'

Isaac Newton

P.P.S. P.P.S. You can spread the sunshine by forwarding Sunny Notes to others. New readers can visit www.joinsunnynotes.com to add their email address to receive Sunny Notes.

Clarity Patton Newhouse

is president of Sunny Media Group Inc., located at 39209 Six Mile, Suite 165, Livonia. She writes "A Sunny Note" to brighten the day with encouraging insights for business and life. "A Sunny Note" also is published online at ASunnyNote.com for readers across America and beyond. To reach her call (734) 855-4728 or find her on Facebook at www. facebook.com/sunnynotes.

LOCAL NEWS

online at hometownlife.com

Don't wait to do year-end tax planning

By Rick Bloom Guest Columnist

seems like just yesterday I wrote a column saying do not wait to do

year-end planning. Well, another year is just around the corner and those who are going

Rick Bloom to do any year-end

planning, don't have any time to delay.

I recognize that many people are waiting to see how the fiscal cliff issues will be resolved. Unfortunately, if and when these issues are resolved, it will be too late to do anything

this year. Time is of the essence for any year-end planning — particularly tax planning

The general rules regarding year-end tax planning are to defer income and accelerate deductions. However, general rules no longer apply. In any type of planning, the key is not what's good for everyone, but rather, what is good for you.

The following are some general thoughts that will hopefully make you more efficient when it comes to your taxes.

The first issue regarding year-end tax planning is whether to convert existing IRA money into a Roth IRA. The test I recommend to determine whether converting makes sense is:

1) It will not throw you into a higher tax bracket.

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2) You have money to pay the tax liability without touching the money you are converting.

3) you can leave the money within the Roth IRA for at least five to seven years.

If you meet these criteria, Roth conversions make sense, no matter what happens with the fis-

sense if you are itemizing deductions. If you're taking the standard deduction this year, it would make sense to defer your deductions into next year where you may have the chance to itemize. If you are itemizing this year, then in many situations, accelerating deductions makes sense.

If you're a business

owner or someone who can control when income is recognized, the general advice is to defer income for as long as you can. That, however, may not be the right advice this year. No matter how Washington resolves fiscal cliff issues, any people will be paying higher taxes in 2013. The reason is because of Obama Care, where a variety of new taxes will come into place. Therefore, particularly if recognizing income this year will keep you in the same tax bracket, it may make sense to accelerate income into this year and avoiding higher taxes next year.

From an investment standpoint, some investors may also wish to accelerate income. Capital gains are currently taxed at a maximum 15

percent. Some investors may wish to sell certain investments just to recognize gains and pay taxes at the current rates. I don't know how the negotiations will go with the fiscal cliff, particularly with regards to taxes. However, one thing that I'm almost certain about is that taxes will not be lower next year. Therefore, for many people, recognizing some income this year may be a smart move.

Another dandelion Dec. 7 affects senior citizens. It is the deadline to make a decision regarding Medicare D Prescription Drug Plan. Unless a selection is made by Dec. 7 seniors will automatically be enrolled in their existing plan. For many people, the existing plan may work, however, in many situations that may not be the case.

If you are eligible for Medicare, do some research to make sure you're in the appropriate plan. A great place to go is the Medicare website at www.medicare.gov. The site offers a wealth of information. It is also important to remember that just because a plan is good for you doesn't necessarily mean it's good for your spouse. Each person needs to look at his/ her individual situation to determine which plan best suits your needs.

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

cal cliff. The idea of accelerating deductions into the current tax year only makes







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Money Matters



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Parade goers brave cold weather to welcome Santa to Garden City

Thousands of people braved freezing temperatures along Middlebelt and Ford Road Saturday as Garden City kicked off the holiday season with the 52nd Annual Downtown Garden City Santaland Parade.

The parade had more than 70 entries that included everything from Miss Michigan to Elvis. The parade's theme was a "Rock'n'Roll Christmas" and dozens of participants included the theme in their floats and entries, including rock bands, records and guitars.

Cub Scout Pack 792 won first place in the float competition with their float that include a jukebox and records. The Garden City Elementary PTA and 1 Touch finished second and third.

Members of the Great Lakes Garrison Star Wars character group were in the parade and collected toys for the Toys for Tots campaign from people along the parade route

The parade lasted more than an hour and ended at the Garden City Town Center were the Downtown Development Authority put on their Santaland postparade event that featured entertainment, hot chocolate and a chance for youngsters to visit with Santa and give him their Christmas wishes.

GCTV's telecast of the parade can be seen this weekend on GCTV - Comcast 12, WOW 18 and U-verse 99 - at 10 a.m. and 2, 7 and 11 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Nov. 30- Dec. 1. It also can be seen on YouTube. The You-Tube link and the live stream of the channel can be found at www. gardencitymi.org/ gctv.



The Whitney family of Garden City bundled up to watch the Downtown Garden City Santaland Parade.

PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN



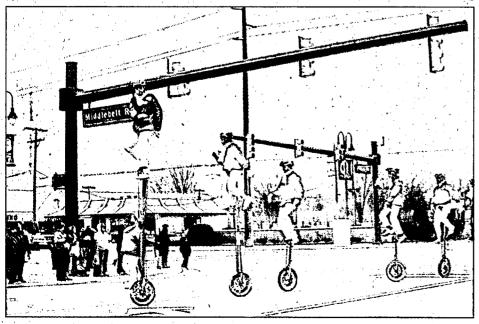
The Garden City High School Air Force JROTC were among those who marched in the 52nd annual parade.



The Gingerbread couple wave to the crowd as escort Cassidy Squires, Garden City High School junior, looks on.



Members of Bethel Community Church members navigate the giant centipede balloon, on of three in this year's Santaland Parade.



Redford Township Unicycle Club wave from on high at the people who attended the parade.

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Ellie and Kaden Kogelmann from Garden City are all smiles as they pose for a photo with Santa Claus.

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Seewald pleads guilty, Yowchuang no contest in McCotter petition fraud

By Ken Abramczyk Staff Writer

Two former congressional staff members entered pleas Tuesday to all but one of the criminal charges they faced in connection with former U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's petition scandal.

Don Yowchuang, 33, of Farmington Hills, who worked as deputy district director for the former congressman, pleaded no contest in Wayne County's 3rd Circuit Court before Judge Margie Braxton to 10 counts of forgery, a five-year felony, and six counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days 'in jail.

Paul Seewald, 47, of Livonia, who worked as district director for the former congressman, pleaded guilty before Braxton to nine counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

A sentencing hearing for Seewald and Yowchuang is scheduled for 9 a.m. Jan. 18 before Braxton.

The remaining charge of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner, a five-year felony, remains pending against both Yowchuang and Seewald. Braxton will hold a hearing Jan. 9 to consider a motion filed by the defendants to quash the charge. The attorney general's office has indicated it will oppose the motion in court.

No plea or sentencing



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agreement was offered, according to Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette. "As attorney general, I have a responsibility to enforce the law and ensure public integrity," Schuette said in a prepared statement. "After a thorough investigation, my office determined that criminal acts were committed, and the appropriate criminal charges were filed. We will continue to prosecute those involved with this disgraceful violation of the public trust."

On Aug, 9, Schuette announced the results of an investigation by the attorney general's Public Integrity Unit into the alleged fraud surrounding nominating petitions filed in May 2012 on behalf of McCotter. At that announcement, Schuette explained the former congressman was "asleep at the switch" and that four staff members faced criminal charges. Schuette alleged that members of McCotter's staff were involved in a deliberate fraud involving a pattern of copying and altering petitions in order to qualify the fiveterm congressman for the 2012 Michigan ballot. On Sept. 18, Lorianne

O'Brady, 52, of Livonia, who worked as a scheduler to the former congressman, pleaded no contest in Wayne County's 16th District Court

and an an and

before Judge Kathleen J. McCann to five counts of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail.

O'Brady was sentenced to 20 days in jail or 20 days in a work program. Following that sentence, she will serve 18 months probation, with the first 12 months as reporting probation. O'Brady was also ordered to pay \$2,625 in fines and court costs.

The fourth staffer, Mary Melissa Turnbull of Howell, faces one count of falsely signing a nominating petition as circulator and one count of conspiracy to commit a legal act in an illegal manner. She was bound over for trial Nov. 1 on both charges by Judge Dennis Drury of Troy's 52-4 District Court. Turnbull is next due in court Jan. 8 for a pre-trial hearing before Judge Leo Bowman.

McCotter was not charged, as there was no direct evidence of his involvement, according to Schuette.

Tim Dinan, Yowchuang's attorney, said his client "took responsibility for his actions and cooperated fully at all times with the attorney general's office."

"I was very surprised that he was not offered any plea bargain based on his cooperation with the investigation," Dinan said.

Dinan believed Schuette "played politics" and "had another agenda." When asked what that agenda was, Dinan said: "I don't know, but I've dealt with professionals over the years and when defendants cooperate, it engenders some sort of plea bargain because of the time and effort saved in the investigation."

Mark Mandell, Seewald's attorney, said Seewald signed what he believed was a petition with valid signatures, but acknowledged that Seewald was not the actual circulator, which Seewald took responsibility for.

"Absolutely no justice was served," Mandell said. "He's never even had a traffic ticket and dedicated his whole life to Livonia youth football and public service, yet the attorney general would not even offer a plea agreement for this not to be on Paul's record."

Mandell pointed out that drug offenders and domestic abusers who commit far worse crimes than misdemeanors are allowed to complete probation to clean their records, yet Seewald is not.

"The attorney general started this case off by characterizing the staff as the Keystone Kops, but the only Keystone Kops here was the investigation by the attorney general," Mandell said. "There are over 800 cutand-pasted, invalid signatures that have still not been accounted for as to who committed the act," he said of the signature fraud.

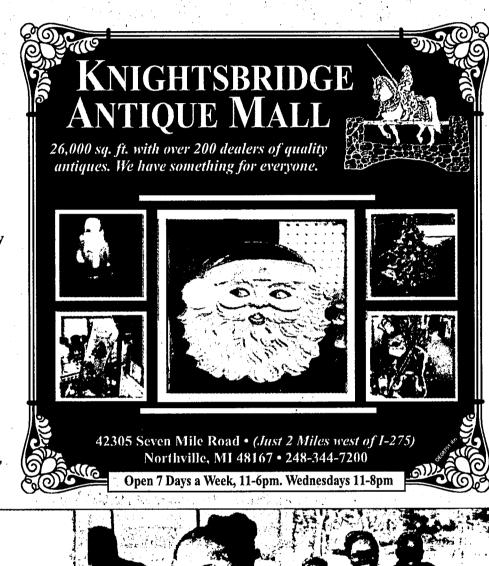
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Mandell said Seewald believed the signatures were valid, but did not collect them and only signed the petition.

"Paul knows he did something wrong," Mandell said, but added that no one in state history has ever been convicted of signing a signature petition knowing that they did not collect signatures as the circulator.

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LOCAL NEWS

Adult Book Club starting up at the Garden City Public Library

Have you wanted to join a book club, but haven't been able to find one that is just right? Barbra Reddy, a member of the Friends of the Garden City Public Library is organizing a new book club that will meet at the library every two months. The first book selected for discussion is, *Pope Joan* by Donna Woolfolk Cross.

Book Description: Brilliant and talented, young Joan rebels against medieval social strictures forbidding women to learn. When her brother is brutally killed during a Viking attack, Joan takes up his cloak — and his identity — and enters the monastery of Fulda. As Brother John Anglicus, Joan distinguishes herself as a great scholar and healer. Eventually, she is drawn to Rome, where she becomes enmeshed in a dangerous web of love, passion, and politics.

The first book club meeting will be held at the library on Thursday, Jan. 24 at 3 p.m. For anyone interested, you can stop by or call the library to register and a copy of the book will be reserved for you. (Space is limited to the first 12 people who sign up).

Upcoming Programs

In order to properly prepare for the programs, all programs listed below require registration. Call the library at (734) 793-1830 or stop by the Reference Desk to sign up.

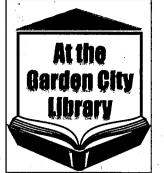
• Preschool Play Date: Lunch and Show at the Library, Thursday, Nov. 29, 11:30 a.m.

Join Ms. Stephanie for lunch and a show. This month we will be watching Mickey Mouse Clubhouse.

• Sanders Confectionery Talk, Thursday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m.

Come hear the interesting history of Sanders led by author Greg Tasker. It is sure to be a yummy hit with our library users! We will be serving Sanders' famous "bumpy" cake after the presentation. • Recycled Wreaths,





Monday, Dec. 3, 6 p.m. Join us as we use pool noodles and many other craft supplies to create a holiday wreath. This is a family friendly program but we do ask an adult to be present with our littlest users.

• Cookie Decorating and Exchange, Saturday, Dec. 15, 1 p.m.

You bring the cookies; the library will provide frostings, candies and sprinkles to decorate your holiday cookies this year. Bring a second type of cookies for the cookie exchange. We are asking that everyone bring a dozen or so cookies to decorate. This family friendly program will sure to delight the whole family.

• Get into the Holiday Spirit with a Holiday Concert, Tuesday, Dec. 18, 7 p.m.

Get in the holiday spirit by joining us for our first Holiday Concert being held at the Straight Farmhouse/Garden City Historical Museum. The Straight Farmhouse is located at 6221 Merriman.

The library is at 31735 Maplewood St. in Garden City. The best entrance to get into the library is off of Balmoral, one road south of Maplewood. Our hours are: Monday and Wednesday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; ' ' and Friday and Saturday

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can visit the library at www.garden-city.lib. mi.us.

Written by Lawrence Marble, Library Director

AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Visit with Santa

The Westland Historic Village Park will hold its annual Christmas Open -House and Visit with Santa 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, at the park at 857 N. Wayne Road, south of Marquette, Westland. There will be cookies and hot chocolate and a chance to whisper in Santa's ear at the Octagon House. Parents can bring their cameras to take photos.

For more information, call Jo Johnson at (734) 522-3918.

Legion invite

American Legion Livonia Post 32 has put out an invitation to "join us" at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, for the general monthlý meeting at the post 32 at 9318 Newburgh.

The December meeting includes a pot-luck social, provided by both the Legionnaires and the Auxiliary. It's also a great opportunity to sit in a meeting as a guest and check out the post. The meeting is about an hour long, and guests will have the opportunity to ask questions about membership eligibility

To join the Legion, men must be a veteran with honorable discharge or actively enlisted. To join the Women's Auxiliary, women must have a veteran family member - husband, grandfather, sibling. For more information,

call (734) 427-5630).

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.

Cookie Walk

The First United Methodist Church of Wayne will hold a cookie walk 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 8, at the church, 3 Town Square, across from the Wayne Office, in Wayne. Homemade holiday cookies and candies will be available. Cookies will be sold by contains, candies by the pound. For more information, call (734) 721-4801.

Taste Fest

The Westland Chamber of Commerce and Westland Rotary Club are joining forces to host the 2012 Holiday Taste Fest 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, a the Hellenic Cultural Center. There will be food from the area's finest restaurants and culinary artists along with an opportunity to bid on auction items ranging from fabulous baskets, trips and services to golf.

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

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

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

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LOCAL NEWS

(WGc) A11

'I would give my life'

Distraught driver begs forgiveness in double fatality

By Darrell Clem Observer Staff Writer

Fighting back tears, . Rufus Thomas Brandon II stood in court Monday, begged for forgiveness and said he wishes he could change places with two teenage girls who were killed in his car when he ignored a flashing red light while driving south on Canton Center at Michigan Avenue.

"In a heartbeat I would give my life to get these girls back," Brandon, 24, said, his head bowed at times as he faced 35th District Judge Ronald Lowe for a sentencing that brought heartwrenching statements from the families of the two Belleville teens, Danielle Beavers and Brooke Kennedy.

Lowe imposed a 120day jail term on Brandon, but allowed him to delay, serving his time until he finishes his semester finals at Eastern Michigan University. Lowe called it one of the most difficult decisions he has made in his 18 years as a judge.

"I believe there's a lot of pain that you feel," Lowe told Brandon. "I believe in some ways vou're a broken man." Brandon, who wasn't drinking or using drugs, was driving Beavers, 19, and Kennedy, 18, home shortly after 2 a.m. July 24 from the nearby Ruby Tuesday restaurant. where they all worked. Lowe called it "an intentional act" when Brandon ignored the flashing red light, resulting in his **Chevrolet Cavalier being** struck on the passenger



Rufus Thomas Brandon II hears his sentence of 120 days in jail with two years of probation. He is standing next to his defense attorney, Constance Ross.

side by a Monte Carlo driven east on Michigan Avenue by a 21-year-old Westland man.

Tragic mistake

Beavers's parents had sought leniency for Brandon, calling him a kind young man who made a tragic mistake that is haunting him. By contrast, Kennedy's family said even the harshest sentence Lowe could have imposed — one year in jail for a moving violation causing a death wasn't enough.

Brandon faced an emotional sentencing Monday after he pleaded no contest to the charge in October. Authorities have said Brandon slowed but never stopped before he entered the intersection. Lowe ordered Brandon to start serving his 120-day jail term before Christmas, after he finishes his finals Dec. 19. The judge also placed Brandon on probation for two years and accepted Brandon's offer to teach young people through his church and in schools the importance of obeying traffic rules.

Brandon also indicated he plans to start a campaign to warn others of what happened to him and his late friends. He said he hopes to make a documentary, start a website and continue writing songs in repentance for his actions.

"I am without a shadow of a doubt very sorry," Brandon said in court. "I didn't mean for any of



Theresa Beavers, mother of the late Danielle Beavers, appears with another daughter, Andrea Beavers, during the sentencing. The Beavers family did not want jail time for defendant Rufus Thomas Brandon II.

this to happen."

He said he has had difficulty sleeping and eating since Beavers and Kennedy died in his car. "It feels like my soul is

"It feels like my soul is being tortured every single day," he said, adding he has had suicidal thoughts that prompted his defense attorney, Constance Ross, to suggest he seek professional help.

Higher charges

Kennedy's family sought jail time and said they believe Brandon should have faced a higher charge from prosecutors.

"Personally I can't understand how this is not a felony," her father, Anthony Kennedy, told Lowe. "Everybody in my family is crushed by this."

Alyssa Kennedy, Brooke's younger sister, said she will never be the same after losing her older sister and best friend.



Amy Gabany, a cousin of Brooke Kennedy's mother Jeannette Kennedy, reads a letter from the mother in court. Brooke's father, Anthony Kennedy, stands next to her.

"All I have left of her are the memories," Alyssa said.

Kennedy's mother, Jeannette Kennedy, sat in the courtroom but has been so distraught she had her cousin, Amy Gabany, read a letter in court for her. Jeannette Kennedy sought the maximum one-year jail term, saying her late daughter "will be forever missed."

However, Theresa Beavers, Danielle's mother, called what happened "a terrible accident" and said the intersection is dangerous. She said she once missed the same flashing red light while her daughter was with her. She cried in court and said Danielle wouldn't want Brandon punished.

"She loved him. She loved all her friends," Theresa Beavers said, adding Brandon "has a good heart. He's a good boy. ... I don't want him to go to jail.

"It's not that I don't love my little girl," she said. "I love her very much."

Andrea Beavers, Dan-

ielle's 30-year-old sister, said Brandon often gave Danielle rides, was a good friend to her and came to her funeral.

"He cared very much for Dani and Brooke," Andrea Beavers said in court. Sending Brandon to jail, she said, "is not something Dani would have ever wanted."

Brandon is expected to start serving his 120-day jail term before Christmas for the deaths of two girls he said he loved "like sisters." He begged for forgiveness Monday and said, "I can't express how sorry I am."

> dclem@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2238





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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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.

GRIEF WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 2-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2 Location: Arbor Hospice 40500 Ann Arbor Road E., Suite 102, Plymouth Details: The holidays are an especially difficult time for someone who is grieving. This special workshop will give you helpful tips for coping with the upcoming holidays. Find comfort in sharing with others during this difficult time. This program will also offer a special art session, just for grieving children, which will run concurrently with the adult workshop.

Contact: For more information, or to register, call (734) 794-5552 or contact vcampbell@arborhospice. org

WCGH REUNION

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11 Location: Café Marquette in the William D. Ford

com, Dennis Abraham at (734) 721-2917 or e-mail fightingirish316@global. net or Pat Ibbotson at (734) 331-9291 or e-mail pibbotso@aol.com.

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12 Location: Corsi's Italian

Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, west of Inkster Road, Livonia

Details: Widowed Friends will gather for dinner, support and games at Corsi's in Livonia. Widowed of all ages are welcome to attend a social hour at 5 p.m. and an Italian dinner buffet served promptly at 6 p.m. Cost is \$15 and includes buffet, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay at the door (cash only) with the exact amount. Stay for cards games and conversation until 9:30 p.m. Reservations required by Dec. 5. Contact: RSVP to Cookie at (248) 357-2183. Time/Date: 5 p.m. Wednes-

day, Jan. 16 Location: G. Subu's, 20300 Farmington Road, south of

Eight Mile, Livonia.

Details: Widowed men and women are, invited to attend a social hour at 5 p.m. (cash bar) and a dinner buffet served promptly at 6 p.m. Cost is \$18 and includes meal, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay at the door (cash only) with the exact amount. Stay for cards, games and conversation until 9 p.m. Reservations required by Jan. 11.

Contact: RSVP to Carol (313) 562-3080.

BURROUGHS OLD TIM-ERS

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

Education

WILLOW CREEK Location: 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland

Details: Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool offers



In prayer

Members of area Catholic parishes, including St. Dunstan and St. Raphael in Garden City and Divine Child in Dearborn, recently gathered on the lawn of Garden City Hall to pray the rosary for America. People in all 50 states were asked to pray at noon Oct. 13, based on their time zone, in a public square to solve America's key problems.

Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2-5 years old at no cost to 🕔 most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available. Contact: (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Location: St. Mary Catholic School, 34516 Michigan Ave., Wayne

Details: St. Mary School is currently is currently registering students for the 2012-2013 school year. Openings are available in pre-K 3 and 4 and kindergarten-eighth-grade. St. Mary has been recognized as a School of Distinction. Contact: For more information, call the school office at (734) 721-1240.

Organizations

FRIENDS OF ELOISE

Time/date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the months of February, April, June, September and November Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marguette and Cherry Hill, Westland. Contact: Pat Ibbotson at (734) 331-9291 or by e-mail at pibbotso@aol.com or Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

WESTLAND ROTARY Time/Date: 12:15 p.m.

Location: Joy Manor,

Sec. Sec.

Thursdays

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, **Plymouth**

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way. **Contact:** Helen Streett at 74 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time. **CAREGIVERS** -

SPOUSES

Time/Date: 1 p.m. second Tuesday of the month Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for a spouse age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way. **Contact:** Helen Street

at 734 629-5004. Call to confirm time and date, if coming for the first time.

CAREGIVERS - WEST-LAND

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

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland Details: For residents of southern and western Wayne County who are caring for family members and/or friends age 60 and older, or who are over age 60 themselves. Offered by Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance. Funded by The Senior Alliance and United Way.

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

LIONS CLUB

Time/Date: 11:45 a.m. the second Monday of the month and at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month Location: Big Boy Restau-

rant at Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland. **Details:** The Westland

Lions Club holds lunch and dinner meetings on Mondays.

Contact: For more information, call Debbie Dayton at (734) 721-4216.

WRITING GROUP

Time/date: 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month

Location: Wavne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne

Details: The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story **Circle's National Network** is optional. Participation in the group is free. Contact: www.storycircle.

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



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.

a Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3year and 4-year programs. Contact: (734) 326-0078

ST. DAMIAN

Location: 29891 Joy, Westland

Details: St. Damian Catholic School offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8.

Contact: (734) 427-1680, www.stdamian.com.

YWCA PRESCHOOL

Details: The YWCA of Western Wayne County's

28999 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland **Details:** Community Service programs and planning. Catered lunch; visitors welcome. Check www.westlandrotary.com for more information about meetings, programs and events. Contact: Jeff at (734) 261-5010

FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Monday of the month

CITY OF GARDEN CITY WINTER TAX NOTICE

The 2012 winter taxes will be payable from December 1, 2012 through February 14, 2013 without penalty. Beginning February 15, 2013 thru February 28, 2013 a 3% penalty will be added to the unpaid taxes. Beginning March 1, 2013 all unpaid 2012 REAL property taxes must be paid to: Raymond J Wojtowicz, Wayne County Treasurer, The International Center Building, 400 Monroe, 5th floor, Detroit, Mi 48226 with an additional 4% administration fee plus 1% per month interest computed from March 1, 2013.

ALLYSON M BETTIS-Treasurer-City Clerk

Publish: November 29, 2011

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CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 26 11/19/12

Presiding: President Godbout

Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer, Reeves

249: Appr.: minutes of regular meeting held 11/5/12.

Appr. req. from Texas Roadhouse to set up trailer in their parking lot from 11/23 thru 12/28/12.

- Intro Bud. Amend. 2013-07 Library Fund; amt. \$1,375,000.

Intro Ord. 248-A-74, rezone CB-4 to CB-3, PID #003-03-0001-000, north side of Warren, eåst of Middlebelt.

Adopt Ord. 258 regarding non-residential fire inspections & certification of private fire inspections.

250: Appr. req. for closed study session immediately following meeting re. 2010-11 storm incident

251: Held public hearing on establishing a Commercial Redevelopment District.

252: Adopted prep. resolution to establish a Commercial Redevelopment District.

253: Appr. spec. land use for prop. mechanical amusement devices license, 34771 Ford Rd. 255: Appr. spec. land use for prop. Tim Horton's w/drive-thru, 38350 Ford Rd. 255: Appr. rev. site plan for prop. Tim Horton's w/drive-thru & ext. renovations, 38350 Ford

Rd. w/contingencies.

256: Appr. prop. land division, PID #033-11-006-000, 6830 Chirrewa. 257: Appr. checklist: \$ 541,922.21& Prepaid: \$865,713.56. Mtg. adj. at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout **Council President** Eileen DeHart City Clerk, CMC

Publish: November 29, 2012

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LOCALNEWS

The Mike: Ice rink offers plenty to do on ice

By LeAnne Rogers Observer Staff Writer

There isn't any hockey at the Joe on the schedule anytime soon but there are plenty of chances to get on the ice at the Mike.

That's Westland's Mike Modano Arena, namesake of the retired NHL great and Westland native.

"With the weather and it getting dark earlier, people are looking for inside stuff to do someplace safe and warm," said Brian Harnos, director of Westland's Municipal Services Bureau which operates the arena and the municipal golf course.

As families have more free time over the holidays, the Mike is offering some special programs along with open skating.

 Glow Skate is offered 8-9:20 p.m. every Friday. "We turn off the lights

and there are black lights," said Harnos. Skaters can get batterypowered items like twofoot-long glow swords, necklaces, sticks and bracelets during Glow Skate. On an average Friday, 50-70 skaters partic-

ipate. The cost is \$3 for youths, \$4 for adults and after five visits, the sixth skate is free.

 Skate with Santa at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8. In addition to taking the ice with Santa, there will also be a one-hour exhibition by members of the Westland Figure Skating Club.

"There is a \$10 charge for skaters who perform. We donate part of that to charity - for the last few years that has been the

Westland Goodfellows,' said Harnos. "The performance is fun for the skaters who have been working hard on their skating. It's not a competition."

 Open skating is offered 6-7 p.m. Mon-days, 1-2:20 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 1:30-3:20 p.m. Saturdays. The cost is \$3 for youths, \$4 for adults and the sixth visit is free.

For those wanting to learn to skate and play hockey, the Mike also offers learn to skate programs and Tim Bits instructional hockey run by the Westland Hockey Association.

"Saturday is my favorite day to work here, the kids run through the door and want to get their stuff on so they can get on the ice," said Harnos. "It's pretty cool."

Along with youth hockev teams, the arena is also home to adult hockey leagues with six teams each in over 18 and over 40 levels.

waiting for youngsters on the ice. That includes wifi and an upgraded concession stand.

"We have 10 times more products than in the past," said Harnos, adding that the menu includes hot dogs and pretzels but also healthier items like protein bars, muffins and on the weekends, fresh fruit.

For more information about programs at Mike Modano Arena, call (734) 729-4560.

Social Security office changes hours

using the Social Securiry Hill, east of Middlebelt, Inkster, will need to adjust their schedules. As of Nov. 19, the office is closing to the public a half hour early. It's new hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. And beginning Wednesday, Jan. 2, the office will close to the public at noon every Wednesday.

Employees will continue to work their regular hours. The shorter public window will allow them to complete face-to-face interviews and process claims work without incurring the cost of overtime. According to Social

Security officials, the significantly reduced funding provided by Congress under the continuing resolution for the first six months of the fiscal year makes it impossible for the agency to provide the overtime needed to handle service to the public as it has done in the past.

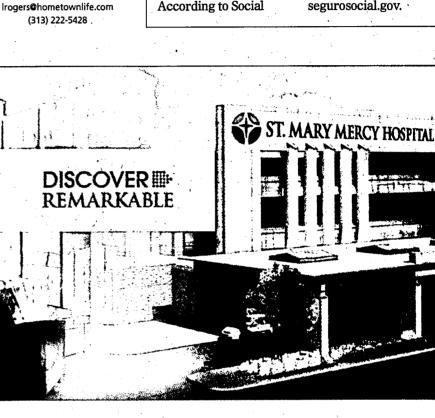
(WGc) A13

Most Social Security services do not require a visit to a local office. Many services are available at www.socialsecurity.gov or by calling (800) 772-1213. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can call the TTY number, (800) 325-0778. Many of the online services also are available in Spanish at www. segurosocial.gov.

The arena is also working to make it a nicer experience for parents

Residents used to ty office at 28657 Cher-

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 29, 2012





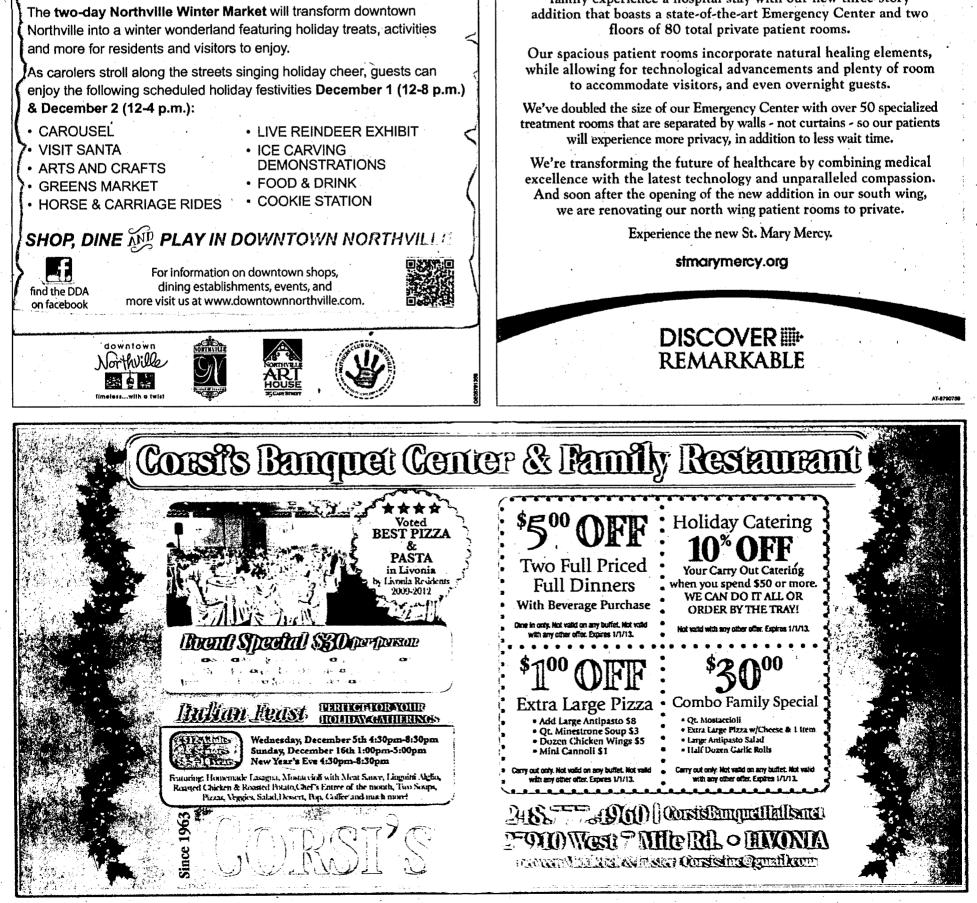
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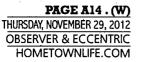
At St. Mary Mercy Livonia, we're re-inventing the way you and your family experience a hospital stay with our new three-story



The holidays are a wonderful time of year! Join us December 1 & 2 for the Northville Winter Market.

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OPINION

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS

Good decision Fire merger is win-win for Wayne, Westland

In his special message on public safety, Gov. Rick Snyder spoke of intergovernmental agreements to overcome fiscal "challenges through collaborative, comprehensive and long-term approaches." Little did Wayne and Westland residents know that their respective fire departments would become the poster children for what the governor was pro-. posing.

The two councils' approval of a letter of agreement between the cities and their two firefighters unions earlier this month clears the way for receipt of a \$791,787 state grant to offset the costs of implementation and the consolida-tion of equipment, facilities and staff and personnel training, and the merging of information technology in the creation of the Wayne-Westland Fire Department.

While some may grumble that merging services is the beginning of a takeover by one or the other community, the fire merger truly is a win-win for the two cities. They will save \$320,000 annually while putting more firefighters - 21 - on duty each day.

The effort has not gone unnoticed. The cities won praise from Lt. Gov. Brian Calley who said the merger "represents a new way forward for local governments to reduce costs through consolidation while continuing to meet their critical public safety duties.'

Wayne and Westland have been connected for many years, mainly through the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. Residents should not feel any loss of identity with this merger or that of the parks and recreation depart-ments. They should focus on the positives these collaborations bring to their lives and to their respective communities.

Cities are facing the same painful decision that automakers faced four years ago. They can no longer afford to do business as usual. They need to face their economic issues and address nem in a clear and concise manner. These mergers do that and as a result, Wayne and Westland are looking at a more solid financial future.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you plan to spend more this year on holiday gifts than last year?

We asked this question at Westland Shopping Center in Westland.



"Yes, I'm going to spend all of my husband's money. He's the perfect father, the perfect husband and the perfect grandfather."

> **Brenda Tank** Westland



"Not really. I'll probably have the same budget as last year.""

Limber Manzanero Inkster



"I'm making less, but I'm going to spend more. That's what I'm planning to do."

> Jeff Huffman Redford



"Oh, no. I have a brand new baby. I'm definitely not spending as much as last year."

Jessica Tank Westland

LETTERS A

Pay attention

. Gov. Snyder is proposing a major shift in public education. His idea, presented by the wellfunded Oxford Foundation, is to remove all borders between school districts. This would allow per-pupil funding to follow the student to district(s) of their choosing. In addition, this new shift also makes room for a statewide and state managed school district run by the new EAA (Education Achievement Authority).

There are serious flaws to the current proposals that make for poor policy for all Michigan students. First, last year Lansing passed a series of reforms to address charter schools, cyber schools and teacher evaluations. None of these changes have been given even one year to see if the polices produce better results. The same can be said for the EAA, the newly created state

run school system that is managing 16 Detroit schools with a combination of "for" profit and nonprofit companies. The EAA has been operational for only three months, with no data to support its efficacy, not even first semester report cards. Why is the governor pushing through more legislation that is unproven, relying on the potential for success instead of proof of real success?

Second, the new shift in legislation disregards local funding, local school board authority and even usurps the state superintendent's authority. In an almost socialized government maneuver, it turns over the control of underperforming schools and unused property from any district to the governor and opens the door to profitseeking corporations to manage at their discretion.

Yet another flaw should be especially concerning for those who

choose to pay more in property taxes to live in an area with higher achieving schools. Under this new legislation, you no longer need to live in Birmingham, Troy, etc., to attend their schools. Your tax dollars will not change. What will is your control over how your education tax dollars are spent.

This legislation is deliberately moving swiftly through the current lame-duck session of the Legislature, but there are many more questions than answers to Gov. Snyder's education reform plan. With diluted school aid to all districts, what will happen to the students left behind? WIII there be transparency in results and accounting? What criteria will be used to choose "for" profit management companies?

We all need to pay attention and ask questions.

Cris Braun Birmingham

Help the Garden City Goodfellows by giving

The Garden City Goodfellows are gearing up to make sure there is no child without a Christmas, and they rely on the generosity of the community to make that happen.

Last week, volunteers were at Kroger and Kmart and street corners in the city continuing the decades old tradition of selling Goodfellows newspapers. The sale, along with a mail campaign, and other donations helps the Goodfellows in their efforts.

Right now, Century 21 Castelli is sponsoring its annual toy drive to support the Garden City Goodfellows. The Realty is collecting new, unwrapped toys until Dec. 22 at its office at 1812 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road.

If you're out shopping, take a moment and pick up a few items to put in their toy box. It doesn't need to an expensive toy, nor does it need to be a big toy. Just something that will bring the smile to a child on Christmas Day.

And when you're considering your end-of-the-year charitable donations for income tax purpose's, remember the Goodfellows. One hundred percent of the donations they receive benefit Garden City residents. Make your checks payable to the Garden City Goodfellows and mail them to: Garden City Goodfellows, P.O. Box 2407, Garden City, MI 48136. Let's all do our share to help make the

holiday brighter for the less fortunate.



Sue Mason Community Editor Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor

Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

USS Detroit is important to a city and a nation

By Sen. Carl Levin , Guest Columnist

n early November, I traveled to Marinette, Wis., just across the state line from Michigan's Upper Peninsula, to attend a ceremony that marked a very big day for me, for my wife, Barba-



GUEST COLUMN

ra, for Michigan and for the country: the ceremonial "laying of the keel" of the new USS Detroit. The ceremony is a revered naval tradition, marking the official beginning of the construction

of a new ship. It was an honor to attend for many reasons, beginning with the fact that Barbara will serve as this ship's sponsor. Under Navy tradition, a sponsor is considered a permanent member of a ship's crew and expected to advocate for the well-being of both ship and crew. Barbara will be a tremendous sponsor for the USS Detroit and a great supporter of her crew.

It's also deeply significant to me that this ship will carry the name of Detroit. Barb and I have lived in Detroit all our lives. When Detroit hurts, so do we, and when it celebrates, it brings us great joy. Detroit is a proud, hard-working, tough, determined, resilient city, one that refuses to surrender, one unwilling to accept defeat. That's a pretty good role model for a combat vessel.

It's also meaningful that this ship will be the product of work-

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ers from two great states. While the USS Detroit will be built in Wisconsin, just across the Menominee River from our state, hundreds of Michigan workers at the Marinette Marine shipyard will help carry on Michigan's great legacy as an arsenal of democracy, a legacy earned during World War II.

This will be the sixth USS Detroit in the history of our Navy. Ships bearing that name have protected America and its interests in the waters off Brazil and off the coasts of China and Korea; shot down enemy planes attacking Pearl Harbor and witnessed the Japanese surrender in Tokyo Bay; and served in the Persian Gulf. All of us who call Detroit home are proud that once again, a USS Detroit will join her sister ships in flying America's flag on the oceans of the world.

As important as these personal connections are to me, far more important is the significance of this new ship for our nation and for the Navy's ability to defend us as we move through a turbulent era.

As chairman of the Armed Services Committee, I spend much of my time thinking about the national security challenges we face today, the myriad of threats and, especially in the current fiscal environment, the limited resources we have to meet them.

As global commerce grows, as more and more nations join the world marketplace, and as terrorists, criminals and rogue nations seek to create chaos and crisis, global security will increasingly depend on what happens in the world's littoral zones - the meeting place of land and ocean that surrounds the continents. Our military planners see conflict in coastal zones as a contingency for which we must prepare, especially in light of the increasing importance of Asia to global commerce and to U.S. national securitv.

Potential adversaries know that too. They also know that they can exploit the importance, and the vulnerability, of these important geopolitical intersections by trying to turn them into chokepoints where they can disrupt the flow of goods and people.

A crucial part of our answer to those challenges is a new class of ships, called Littoral Combat Ships, including the new USS Detroit. These ships are the flexible, adaptable multi-taskers of the seas. Whether the mission is combatting pirates, clearing mines, supporting troops on land, or bringing aid at times of natural disaster, they can be quickly reconfigured to the task. And thanks to the innovative acquisition strategy recommended by the Navy and approved by the Congress late last year, Ameri-' ca's taxpayers will get more of these ships, in less time, and for less money.

So the USS Detroit will carry a great deal across the world's oceans: The labor of workers from two great states. The spirit of a great city. A great nation's beacon of liberty. May she serve long and well, and may her crews always come home to the embrace of a grateful nation.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan.

(WGc) A15

Nazi boxcar will be used to teach horrors of Holocaust



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Henrietta Weisberg and Rachael Schwartz at the dedication of a new wing of the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills.

By Joanne Maliszewski Observer Staff Writer

The morning after Henrietta and Rachel's family had their first Passover seder in the Warsaw Ghetto, Nazi soldiers came, gathered hundreds of Jews and put them into a railroad boxcar headed for the concentration camps.

It took the sisters and their family: Sara, mother; Israel, father; and two brothers, Reuben and Herschel, one week to reach Majdanek, an extermination camp near Lublin, Poland.

When the train finally reached its destination, Nazi soldiers made their selections. The men and women were separated. They never again saw their father or brothers. Their mother was pulled out of the group of women. Rachel and Henrietta last saw her waiting in a grassy area. "Little did we know that she would be put in the gas chamber," Rachel Schwartz said. "Never did we think we would never see her again."

Gallery dedication

The sisters, Rachel Schwartz and Henrietta Weisberg, told their story at the Nov. 20 dedication of The Henrietta and Alvin Weisberg Gallery at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills.

The newly constructed addition to the center houses an authentic World War II Nazi boxcar, the type used to transport the sisters and their family to the concentration and extermination camps in 1943-45

"This exhibit brings back many painful memories," Schwartz said, choking back tears as she spoke of her family and the Nazi persecution and murder of Jews and others in Europe.

The boxcar is set against a brick backdrop resembling the Hannoverscher Bahnoff (Hanover Railroad Station), complete with cobblestone floor, reminiscent of the Warsaw Ghetto.

The Hanover station was a major Nazi deportation center for Jews and gypsies, both considered enemies of Adolf Hitler's Third Reich.

The boxcar is of a size that could hold 40 soldiers or eight war horses, said Stephen Goldman, center executive director. Boxcars of this type were retired in the 1970s without much thought about the role they played in the Third Reich's Final Solution. "The



Bruce Schwartz , son of Rachael, examines the infamous boxcar which once carried his people to their death during the second world war.

precious cargo carried and forgotten are now remembered," Goldman added.

Sacred task

Alvin and Henrietta Weisberg of Bloomfield Hills were contacted when Goldman learned of the boxcar's availability. "They found it, called and said, 'We need help," Henrietta Weisberg said, as the dedication began. "It was our pleasure to do this."

Alvin and Henrietta donated the funds to build the gallery addition and to bring the boxcar from Germany to Farmington Hills. When the addition neared completion, the heavy boxcar was lifted by a crane and positioned in the gallery. The new gallery was completed within 90 days by Neumann Architects.

"We have the sacred task of teaching thousands the lessons of the Holocaust," said Laurie Weisberg, Alvin and Henrietta's daughter-in-law who serves as a docent at the center. "Most docent-led groups, such as school kids, without exception are fascinated by this important artifact."

Laurie Weisberg spoke of her in-laws, their generosity to the center and how the exhibit sets the journey for visitors as they learn about "the unimaginable fear and cruelty of the Holocaust."

Three journeys

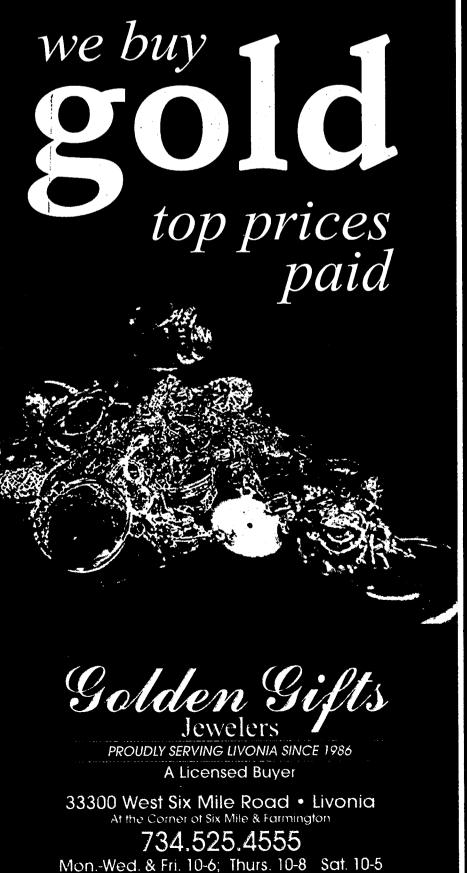
After sisters Rachel and Henrietta lost their family at the Majdanek extermination camp, they were later transported in a box car again to another camp where they were assigned to work in a munitions factory.

Though hard labor, Rachel said, the assignment saved their lives because they were given more food and water than had they been sent to another camp. Yet while there, the sisters witnessed the deaths of 25 other prisoners. In the summer of 1944 as Russian soldiers drew closer, the sisters boarded another box car for their third trip. This time, they were sent to Buchenwald. But again the Russians were drawing near, and camp leaders forced the sisters and other prisoners on a "terrible march" for three. weeks without food.

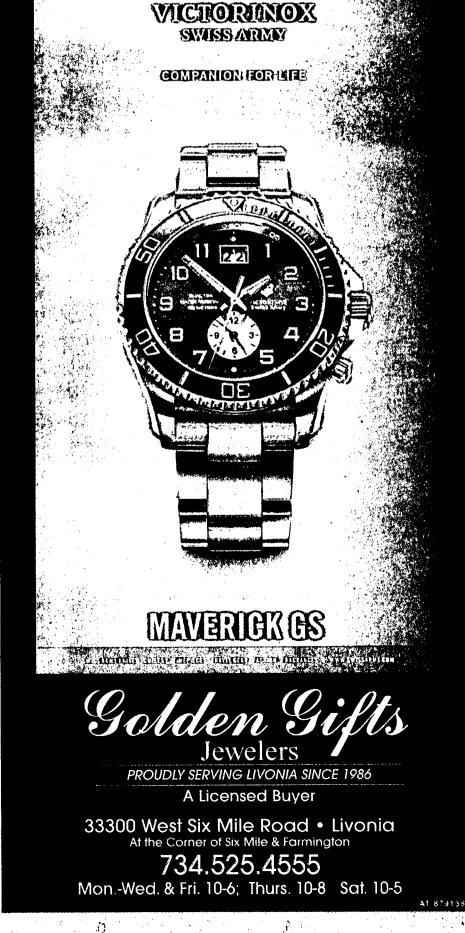
One morning as they slept near the Elba River, Rachel said, they could again hear Russian voices. The soldiers at last arrived and freed them. "They were very good to us."

As the sisters received standing ovations, Henrietta told guests that she can't believe that 70 years have passed. Though she said she prefers to look at my future, not my past," Henrietta added: "I can honestly say I believe in miracles. I can't imagine how Rachel and I survived the horrors known as the Holocaust." Bradley Schlafer, the Weisbergs' grandson, assured his family he would continue to tell the stories of the Holocaust. "I will be my grandmother's voice."

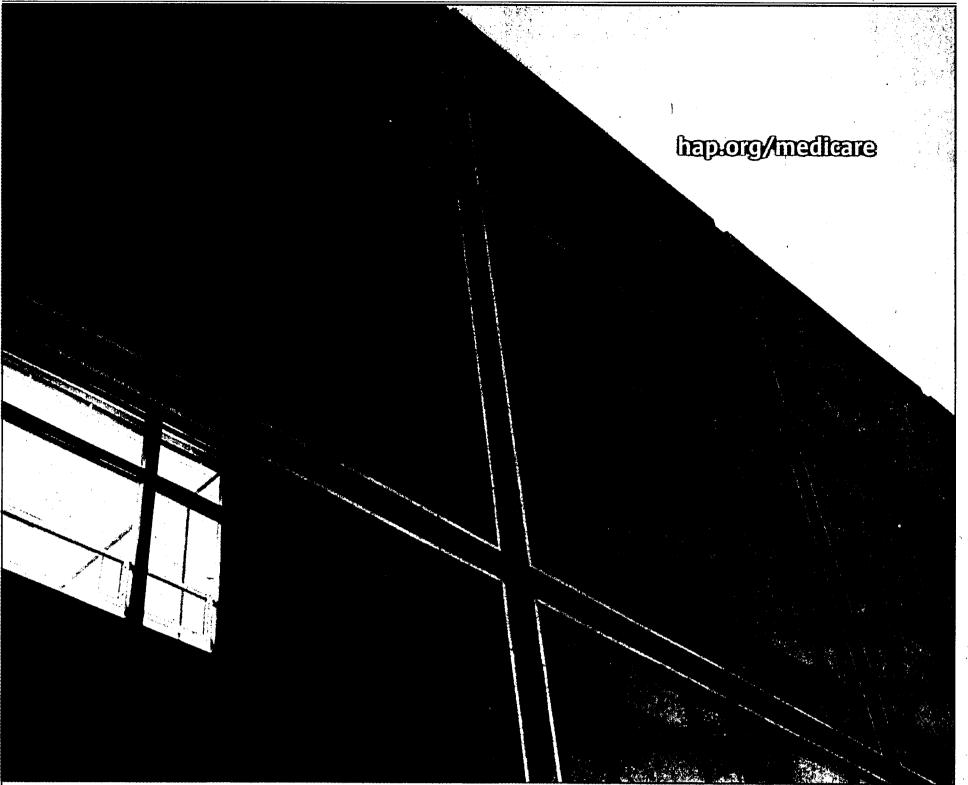
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<u>?</u>.



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Our phones will be open Seven days a week, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday, December 7, 8:00 a.m. to midnight

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INSIDE: ENTERTAINMENT, B6 • FOOD, B8 • CLASSIFIED, B10-11

SPORTS

BRAD EMONS, EDITOR bemons@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6851

MU spikers crash in opener

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

The Madonna University women's volleyball team already finds itself behind the eight-ball after dropping its first match Tuesday in the NAIA National Championships in Sioux City, Iowa.

Kristin Pressley racked up a match-high 18 kills and 31 digs to lead 10thranked Oklahoma Baptist to a 25-23, 25-18, 22-25, 26-24 Pool C victo-



of Pool C. The Lady Bison, now 33-4 overall,

also got 50 assist-to-kills and 14 digs from setter Sabra Clark, while Patrica Moura and Tarah Derden contributed 11 and 10 kills, respectively.

Oklahoma Baptist, which beat MU in five sets Aug. 31 in Daytona Beach, Fla., also got 24 digs from Gabby Samuels, while Kaitlyn Lucy and Carey Strong chipped in with 19 and 15, respectively.

"We just did not come out ready to play in my opinion," said MU junior setter Evia Prieditis, who finished with 46 assists and 21 digs. "We thought we were ready to play. Earlier in the season when we played them we knew what we did wrong and tried to fix it today, but we just didn't come

out with enough effort and enthusiasm.

"We were screwing up in all areas of the game, but after we were making the mistakes, we were hanging on to it and mentally we just weren't there today."

Madonna, which had its six-match winning streak snapped, falls to 34-8 overall.

The Crusaders got a team-high 16 kills from junior middle hitter Emilie Freeman (Lutheran High Westland), while

Samantha Geile and Taylor Dziewit added 13 and nine, respectively.

Stacey Catalano fin-ished with a team-best 23 digs, while Geile and Ashley Hulbert added 20 and 18, respectively, in the 1 hour and 45 minute match.

"The last time we played them we did a really good job of beating their middles so we knew that Nastija (Baranovska) and I had

Please see SPIKERS, B3

White grabs 7 passes, TD Louisiana Tech

senior wide receiver Myles White (Livonia Stevenson) recorded a seven catches for a team-best 126 yards and one touchdown in a season-ending 52-43 loss Saturday night at San Jose State.

The 6-foot-1, 185pound White, a transfer from Northwest Mississippi Community College and Michigan State, has played in all 12 games for the 9-3 Bulldogs with a total of 56 catches for 718 yards (12.8 average) and six TDs.

Area grapplers making weight Glenn, Franklin formidable

Mann

SECTION B. (WL)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2012

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

Time to check your high school wrestling calendar. That's right, the 2012-13 season starts next week and some of the key tournament dates include the Wayne County Championship (Dec. 15 at Westland John Glenn); the 22nd annual Observerland Invitational (Jan. 26 at Livonia Churchill); team districts (Feb. 7); individual districts (Feb. 9); state team finals (Feb. 22-23); and state individual finals (Feb. 28-March 1-2).

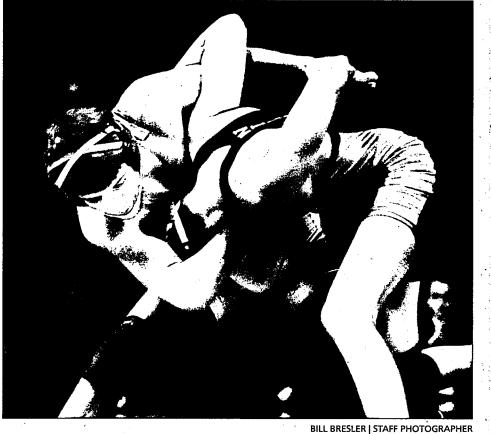
The best bets in the area to make noise are last year's Observerland cochampions John Glenn and Livonia Franklin.

Glenn, under 13th-year coach Bill Polk, returns two state placers in senior Kyle Gillies (fifth), who moves up to 112 pounds from 103 and junior Travis Mann (fourth), who stavs at 152

Martinez

seniors in the lineup this season so anything less then another trip to Battle Creek (state finals) would be an underachievement for this team," Polk said. "With that said, we will have several strong teams standing in our path that want the same thing as we do, so it will be a battle as always.'

That battle comes from Franklin, which returns three state qualifiers including senior Danny Martinez (59-4), who moves up to 125 and 130 after placing fifth at 112; junior Jordan Atienza (53-7), who goes from 140 to 152 and 160; and senior Allen Steele (49-11), who goes from 160 to 171 and



Glenn's Kyle Gillies, who finished fifth in the Division 1 state finals at 103 pounds while posting a 49-7 record, returns at 112 for his senior year.

made a name for themselves yet," Franklin 13th-year coach Dave Chiola said. "This would be a good opportunity to do so. We have three very good pieces - we just have to build a competitive team around them."

Wayne Memorial, which finished 14-2 in duals and

state runner-up Dimitrus Renfroe, but returns senior Allen Parker (37-14), a state qualifier at 140 along with 171-pound senior Sam Ekanem.

"It'll be tough to match last year's level of success, but my wrestlers have found new motivation after seeing the success of Dimitrus Renfroe," Wayne eighth-year coach Steve Vasiloff said. "Watching a teammate

wrestle in the state finals and then continue their career at a university like Michigan State has helped them understand what this sport can do for you." Churchill, meanwhile, should be much improved, led by senior

heavyweight Manny Haddad, a state qualifier who

Pratt propels MU to victory

Senior guard Heather Pratt scored a gamehigh 19 points and . senior center Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) posted a double-double as the Madonna University women's basketball team earned a 66-58 non-conference win Saturday night over host Rochester College in a game played at Rochester High.

Pratt also had seven rebounds and four assists, while McGrath scored 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds. The Crusaders, who

improved to 3-2 overall, also got 12 points from sophomore guard **Rachel Melcher with 10** coming from the foul line.

The game was tied at 49-all with 6:53 left before Melcher hit a pair of free throws to propel MU to a 17-7 run to end the game. Sam Tomaschko léd Rochester (4-5) with 13 points, while Meagan Heiden added 12 points and a team-best eight rebounds off of the MU made 21-of-42

Gillies went 49-7 a year ago, while Mann finished 43-7

"We have plenty of

189 "We have some kids that

have been on the team for a while, but have not

shared the KLAA South Division title with Franklin and Glenn, lost its top performer in 215-pound

finished 26-16 a year ago. Haddad is ranked No.

Please see WRESTLING, B3

Garden City's box-and-one

stops Zebras

By Brad Emons

Observer Staff Writer

Garden City missed layups and

foul shots, but the Cougars found one common denominator that

worked nearly to perfection in

The Cougars' defense held

Wayne's top scorer Ashley Bland

"They came out and you could

tell they were pretty amped up the first half," Tyree said, "but we missed a lot of free throws,

but started to settle down. The

defense - Julene Pummill, Min-

ta Whitaker, and down the stretch

Deija Collier, really did a nice job

Bland). She had 19 against us last

season. Someone told me she had

The host Cougars missed their

first eight free throws of the first

And it didn't hurt that Bland,

a junior guard who averaged 16

to the bench early with quick

points per game last season, went

"I think Garden City's box-and-

one was pretty effective," Wayne

said. "Ashley got a little overzeal-

first-year coach Joyce Massey

quarter, but still led 11-7

two tonight, so they did a great

job."

three fouls.

containing number 24 (Ashley

GIRLS

HOOPS

girls basketball victory.

to a mere two points

as Michele Tyree, a

longtime assistant

under Barry Patter-

son, notched her first

victory as head coach.

Tuesday's 49-24 season-opening

shots from the floor (50 percent), including 8of-19 from three-point range

Rochester was only 21-of-58 from the field (36.2 percent), including 9-of-30 from beyond the arc.

MSU harriers 16th at NCAA

On Nov. 17, The Michigan State University women's cross country team placed 16th with 422 points at the NCAA Women's Cross Country Championships held at Tom Sawyer Park in Louisville, Ky. Big Ten champion Sara Kroll, a junior from Livonia Churchill, was the Spartans' top finisher overall in 53rd with a 6,000-meter time of 20 minutes, 24.2 seconds.

"It's a little bittersweet today," Kroll said after the race. 'My first 4,000 were really strong. I don't know what happened, because mentally I was ready for this race. I just didn't have my legs under me and I didn't feel very strong. I lost a lot of people.

"Unfortunately, I'm not going to be an All-American today. But I still have one more season, so I'm really looking forward to improving next year."

Redshirt senior Rachel McFarlane, also from Churchill, was MSU's fourth runner in 131st with a time of 21:00.2. She was a secondteam All-Big Ten selection after finishing 14th.

Patriot missiles

Devers' 26 sparks 60-18 rout of RU

By Ed Wright Observer Staff Writer

The Livonia Franklin and Redford Union girls basketball teams both launched 27 shots during the first half of Tuesday night's season-opening game in the Patriots' gym.

But that's where the similarities ended between the two nonconference foes.

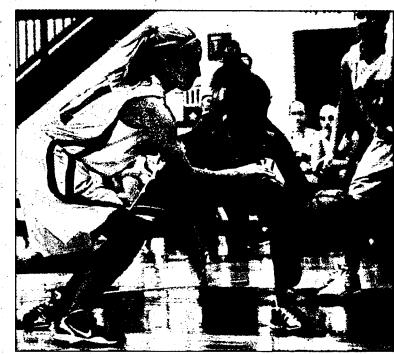
Sparked by a swarming zone defense and a 26-point explosion from senior guard Katelynn Devers, Franklin rolled to a 60-18 triumph.

A good chunk of the second half was played with a running clock due to the Michigan High School Athletic Association's 35point mercy rule.

A good portion of the first half was played with the Patriots running down the court on a barely-contested fast break the end product of scrappy, tenacious defense.

"It was just a straight zone, but the girls played it well," Franklin coach Jim Milican said. "We've been working a lot on recognizing passes and reacting to what the other team is doing. The girls knew where the ball was at all times tonight.

"Offensively, we've been working on three or four set plays. When we ran the plays tonight, we got a lot of good looks. I like the way the girls



ED WRIGHT

Livonia Franklin's Natalie Modes knocks the ball away from Redford Union's Rebecca Spencer during Tuesday night's season-opening game.

executed, both offensively and defensively."

The Panthers trailed 43-8 at the break after connecting on just three of their 27 first-half attempts. The Patriots, on the other hand, drained 19 shots.

"We obviously have a lot of work ahead of us," first-year RU coach Diane Ziroll said. "We need to do a better job of getting back on defense. We didn't transition well on offense or defense tonight.

"We got a lot of shots off, but we need to more shots off closer to the basket. We weren't getting it inside."

An and-one three-point play by Devers 95 seconds in gave

the hosts a quick 5-0 lead. After the Panthers answered on their next possession with a Candice Brennan jumper, it appeared as if a competitive game was about to unfold.

Franklin doused that notion by squeezing off a 25-2 spurt over the next 10 minutes to put ` the hammer down on their first win of the campaign.

"One thing I didn't see a lot of which was really good - was turnovers," Milican said. "We had a few early, but once we settled down, we took care of the ball."

The same couldn't be said for

Please see PATRIOTS, B3

Please see HOOPS, B3

MU men's cagers succumb to EMU

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

B2

(WL)

An underdog Madonna University men's basketball team stepped up in class Saturday night to face NCAA Division I foe Eastern Michigan University at the Convocation Center.

The Crusaders hung close before a half before the Eagles gained control to post a 75-57 win.

The loss drops MU to 5-2 overall, while EMU improves to 5-1. Forwards Daylen Har-

rison and Glenn Bryant scored 17 and 16 points, respectively, for the Eagles, while 7-foot center Da'Shonte Riley, a transfer from Syracuse, added 13 rebounds and five blocks.

Freshman guard Ray Lee came off the bench to add 14 points.

"Da'Shonte kind of locked up the middle and we did a good job of going wide on their shooters and we rebounded the ball well," EMU coach Rob Murphy said of his team's second-half surge. "Ray Lee did a great job coming in the first half and getting us going offensively. We needed a punch there.

"But I give them (Madonna) a lot of credit. They play tough defense, they hit some shots and they made us play, and we did. We needed this test."

The Crusaders got off to a great start and built their largest lead, 19-8, with 12:23 left in the first half on a layup by Donald Owens.

But EMU charged back to take a 33-30 halftime advantage thanks to eight points off the bench by Lee.

"He (Lee) really changed the game, especially with (Bobby) Naubert getting two fouls and we left him in the game some the second half," MU coach Noel Emenhiser said. "He (Lee) was able to get some penetration and create for a few others, and that definitely hurt us. His offense in the first half definitely changed the game."

The Eagles asserted themselves to start the second half going on a 20-5 run during the first 9:45 to take a 53-35 advantage as the Crusaders made just 1-of-6 from threepoint range and connected on only two field goals.

"We did a better job of locating those guys in the second half, actually late in the first half and into the second half," Murphy said. "(Travis) Schuba is the best shooter we've faced all season and could be one of the best we will face all season. We knew going in they averaged 90-plus points. We widened our guys four and five out in the second half and made it tough."

Schuba's back-to-back three-point baskets helped stopped the bleeding momentarily to cut the deficit to 53-41 and Owens followed with shot on an up-and-under move to cut it to 10 with 8:54 remaining, but MU would get no closer.

Naubert, who came in averaging 18 points per game, was held to six points, but junior pointguard did dish out six assists.

Schuba, averaging 22.5, ended up with a gamehigh 23, but shot only 7-of-24 from the floor including 7-of-22 from three-point range.

"Schuba is a great player and so is their point guard (Naubert)," Murphy said. "He (Naubert) doesn't get a lot of credit, but his penetration allows the zone or man to break down, and he gives a lot of open shots." Junior forward Fred Williams added 13 points with 11 coming in the first half.

"They (EMU) did a good job making adjustments to stop our penetration," Emenhiser said. "In the first half they were playing the 1-2-2 (zone defense) a little bit, which let Bob get a head of steam in a few instances and opened a few things up. They backed up and that kept Bob from getting in the paint. "And that really

changed the game. We got a few good looks, but not many. I thought they really made good adjustments and we didn't counter those adjustments very well as a coaching staff."

> bemons@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6851

THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS BASKETBALL Thursday, Nov. 29 Frankel at HVL, 6 p.m. Inter-City at C'ville, 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30 Franklin at Garden City, 7 p.m. Edsel Ford at Stevenson, 7 p.m. Wayne at Belleville, 7 p.m. Powers at Ladywood, 7 p.m. Dewers at Ladywood, 7 p.m. Powers at Lady at Kensington Valley I.H., 4 p.m. Ladywood vs. A.A. Pioneer at Arctic Pond, 8 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE.HOOPS Friday, Nov. 30 (Muskegon CC Classic) S'craft vs. Muskegon, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 Madonna at Concordia, 3 p.m. (Muskegon CC Classic) S'craft vs. Lansing, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Friday, Nov. 30 (Muskegon CC Classic) S'craft vs. Cincy State, 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 Madonna at Concordia, 1 p.m. (Muskegon CC Classic) S'craft vs. Muskegon, 5 p.m.



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Effective by December 31, 2012, the following channels will launch on the SDV system: BBC World News Channel 146 BBC World News HD Channel 339 As of November 2, 2012, the following channels launched on the SDV system: bell Sport Sports Pass Channel 578

beiN Sport Sports Pass Channel 5/8 beiN Sport HD Sports Pass Channel 678

These services will not be available on unidirectional retail devices as of the date(s) noted above. If you want to subscribe to these services, you will need a digital set-top box or tuning adaptor from Bright House Networks. Customers may continue to use their unidirectional retail device and CableCARD to receive video programming other than the programming delivered on the SDV system. Customers who also utilize a digital set-top box or tuning adaptor will be able to receive video programming delivered on the SDV system. Customers will be notified in advance of any other programming changes.

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LOCAL SPORTS

PREP WRESTLING CAPSULE OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL Head coach: Marty Altou-

nian, 15th year. League affiliation: KLAA

Kensington Conference (South Division). Last year's dual match

record: 10-17. Notable losses to gradua-

tion: None. Leading returnees: Manny

Haddad, Sr., 285 (first-team All-Area, state

qualifier, 25-16); Josh Perez,

Jr., 125 (third-

Jon Locklear,

Sr., 135 (third-

team All-Area);



team All-Area); Ben Leck, Sr.,

Haddad 145; Justin, Baker, Jr., 152; Jake Bercieca, Soph., 215; Jake Hale, Sr., 135; Matt Siemasz, Sr., 160; Nathan Dietrich, Soph. 171; Jake Humphrey, Sr., 130. Promising newcomers: Zach Leck, Fr., 135.

Assistant coach Mike Gaffke's 2012-13 outlook: "We're going to be a lot deeper than last year, which will help out quite a bit. The guys coming back are a year older a year more experienced. Manny (Haddad) is the only returning state qualifier. He's ranked top five (in the state) right now. He's put on quite a bit of size and strength. He should do pretty well this year. I think both (Jon) Locklear and (Josh) Perez have the potential to go. We've got a lot of guys who have been here for four years, and who knows, come the end of the year? (Ben) Leck, (Jake) Hale and some of those other guys could make that turn, too."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN Head coach: Dave Chiola, 13th year.

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division)

Last year's dual match record:

Titles won last year: Wayne County, Observerland (cochamps), South Division (co champs); Division 1 district. Notable losses to graduation: Gabe Martinez (firstteam All-Area; third, 119, Division 1); Omar Haymour (first-team All-Area); Ryan Derry (second-team All-Area; state qualifier); Avery Opperman (third-team All-Area); Matt Horne.

Leading returnees: Dan Martinez, Sr., 125-130 (first-team All-Area, 59-4, fifth, 112, Division 1; 59-4); Jordan Atienza, Jr., 152-160 (second-team All-Area; state quali-fier); Nick Frazier, Jr., 152-160 (second-team All-Area); Allen Steele, Sr., 171-189 (secondteam All-Area; state qualifier); Jack Newa, Sr., 103; Nick Rob-ertson, Soph., 112-119; Tyler Solnikowski, Sr., 145.

Promising newcomers: To be determined.

Chiola's 2012-13 outlook: 'This could be a rough year. Our numbers are decent, but we are very top-heavy. We have a lot of kids in the upper weights, but we are going to have a hard time filling in the middle and light weights with any experienced kids. Some

All-Area, sixth, 215, Division 1); Joe Scott, Samer Shebak, Corey Davis

Leading returnees: Kody Roy, Sr. co-captain, 145 (second-team All-Area; 44 wins); Jake Kelley, Sr. co-captain, 171 189; Devantae Austin, Soph., 112; Connor Vaughan, Soph., 145; Brad Scott, Soph., 171. Promising newcomers: Zac

Saleh, Soph., 285. Vaughan's 2012-13 out-look: "We look to improve upon our 10-10 season last year. Our captains worked very hard during the offseason and gained valuable experience wrestling in tournaments. Our numbers are good, but the kids are young and inexperi-enced. The 2012-2013 season will be a great year of learning in the strong KLAA." WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

Head coach: Bill Polk, 13th

year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division).

Last year's dual match record: 23-6.

Titles won last year: Division 1 district, Observerland

(co-champs) and Salem Christmas Invitational. Notable losses to graduation:

Jesse O'Neal Gillies (first-team All-Area); Danny Croft (firstteam Ali-Area); Anthony Long, Sr., 152 (first-team All-Area; eighth, 152, Division 1). Leading returnees: Kyle Gillies, Sr., 112 (first-team All-Area; fifth, 103, Division

1; 49-7); Travis Mann, Sr., 152 (first-team All-Area; fourth, 152, Division 1; 43-7); Quinn Dupraw, Sr., 125 (second-team All-area); Jordan Brandon, Sr., 215 (second-team All-Area); Dylan Morantes, Sr., 285 (sec-ond-team All-Area). Promising newcomers: To

be determined. Polk's 2012-13 outlook:

'This season I would like to see a level of consistency with ours guys from beginning to end. We hope to shuffle several wrestlers in and out of the lineup this season. While doing that, we hope to maintain a strong team with whomever we send out on any given day. We have a great freshman class that will be ready to make a mark at the JV level this year and replace the graduating seniors by next season

WAYNE MEMORIAL Head coach: Steve Vasiloff, eighth year.

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division)

Last year's dual match record: 14-2. Titles won last year: South

Division co-champs; Garden City Christmas and Lincoln Park Invitational champions. Notable losses to gradu-ation: Dimitrus Renfroe (first-team Ali-Area, 215, Division 1 state runner-up); Devin Korzetki (third-team All-Area); Micheil Hood, Tristan Jarosiewicz, Devon Adams,

piece of a division title since 1996. We had some wrestlers get involved with freestyle and Greco over the summer with Sam Ekanem gualifying for Team Michigan and wrestling in Oklahoma City and Fargo (N.D.). We need some wrestlers to step up and fill the spots of last years seniors, but we are confident and look forward to seeing if we can exceed the high level of success we achieved last season."

Head coach: Joe Schmidt, fourth year. League affiliation:

Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

Last year's dual match record: 18-4

Titles won last year: Division 4 district.

Notable losses to graduation: Matt Sankey, Philip Welte, Stewart Tarp. Leading returnees: Zachary Francis, Jr., 125 (first-team All-Area, 44-4; state qualifier); Caleb Richter, Soph., 135 (third-



Sr., 160 (third-



team All-Area); Conner Even, Soph., 130-135; Jacob Bavol, Soph., 135-140; Jacob Richter, Sr., 145; Kole Niemi, Jr., 140;

Adam Seta, Sr., 140; Newman Harper, Jr., 152; Jonah Lambart, Jr., 152; Cullen McNamara, Sr., 189; Alex Reardon, Sr., 215; Thomas Krueger, Soph., 215. **Promising newcomers:** Troy Gotchev, Jr., 140; Doug Laviolette, Soph., 103-12; Manny Rankine, Fr., 103; Ethan Becker, Fr., 112; Garrett Harper, Fr., 125; Andy Cross, Fr., 140; Wes Warren, Fr., 145; Robert Marshall, Fr., 171; Nic Garber, Soph., 160; Mitch Klein, Fr.,

Schmidt's 2012-13 outlook: "The leadership on this team is the best I have seen in all my years at Lutheran Westland as the upperclassmen lead by example and their enthusiasm and love for the sport has already caught on with the youngsters. The work ethic is also very strong, which makes my job a lot easier we will also be able to cover the 14 weight classes without any bumping around of the lineup. This might be the nicest group of kids I've ever been around. We don't have one bad seed in the group, which makes coaching them even more fun. I'm looking forward to when we start competing I think it's going to be a really fun year." LIVONIA

CLARENCEVILLE

Head coach: Nick Elam, first

League affiliation: Independent

Last year's dual match record: 12-7. Notable losses to gradua-

tion: Denzale Leonard, Alan Zhen

Leading returnees: Aaron Bibik, Sr., 160; Mike Weiss, Jr., 130; Joey Walker, Jr., 135-140; Dominick Slagle, Soph., 145; Devin Howell, Sr., 152; Shane Martin, Sr., 135; Cameron Fyffe, Soph., 140; Justin Carl, Sr.,

HVL rolls in opener; Jays rally past C'ville

Three players scored in double figures Tuesday night as Westland Huron Valley Lutheran rolled to a 60-22 girls basketball triumph at Warren Macomb Christian.

The Hawks, who jumped out to a 19-3 first quarter lead, were led by sophomore Julie St. John's 15 points and 10 rebounds. Senior Megan Prieskorn

added 10 points and seven rebounds, while junior Sarah Setian had 10 points and three steals as HVL

GIRLS HOOPS

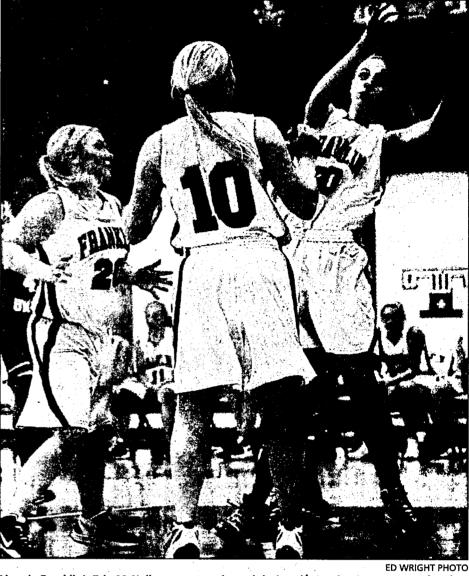
outscored the Crusaders 41-19 over the final three quarters.

"We saw some good things tonight on offense with a well balanced scoring attack," HVL coach Kris Ruth said. "We got some good looks at the basket in our offensive set. Our defense was sloppy at times and that has to improve."

Freshman Shania Raw-

ls scored a game-high 19 points for the Crusaders. SOUTHFIELD 42, CLAR-**ENCEVILLE 38:** Junior center Ayanna Buckley's 22 points and 12 rebounds were not enough Tuesday as Livonia Clarenceville fell at home to the Blue Jays in the season opener.

Senior Ashley Murphy also grabbed a game-high 18 rebounds and senior Jodi Ankiel chipped in with seven points for the Trojans, who were outscored 21-9 in the decisive fourth quarter. Chelsea Brown and Tailar White tallied 12 and eight points, respectively, for Southfield.



Livonia Franklin's Erin McNally secures a rebound during the Patriots' 60-18 rout of Redford Union Tuesday night.

PATRIOTS

Continued from page B1

the Panthers, who committed 27 miscues - 20

Milican formed a potent back-court duo with a reader ley Henderson, Cash # Devers as she registered, mere Jones, Brennan and eight points in her season debut. Rebecca Giacobbi added five for the Patriots, who were coming off

four points each — Ash-Renee' Reed.

Led by junior post player Jamaya Dixon (five 👘 rebounds), the Panthers

of the kids that are getting into the starting lineup for the first time are going to have to step up. This could be the best freshman class we've had in a decade, so if we can piece it together this year, we should be O.K. I definitely think we will get better every week and that's all we can really ask." LIVONIA STEVENSON

Head coach: Dan Vaughan, ninth year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (Central Division). Last year's dual match record: 10-10. Notable losses to gradua-

WRESTLING

tion: Jake Range (first-team

Continued from page B1

5 among the 285-pound class

"We had some guys go away to camp for a month and do a lot of offseason wrestling, so I think that will make the difference in them turning the corner and getting to the next level," Churchill assistant coach Mike Gaffke said. "We should have quite a better year than last year."

Livonia Stevenson lost state placer Jake Range, who took sixth in Division 1, to graduation, but returns senior co-captain Kody Roy, who notched 44 wins a year ago. Roy is joined by senior returnee Jake Kelley (171-189), a co-captain.

Sharif Hegazi, Nick Wagnitz, Kyle Szalai.

Leading returnees: Allen Parker, Sr., 140 (third-team All-Area; state qualifier); Sam Ekanem, Sr., 171 (third-team All-Area); Lucas Hofbauer, Sr., 189; Tim Way, Jr., 119; Tyler Mulligan, Jr., 112; Mike Nicholson, Sr., 130; Tyler Casteels, Sr., 215; Colin Mullins, Sr., 189; Aaron Mauldin, Jr., 285. Promising newcomers: Jack DeJack, Fr., 103.

Vasiloff's 2012-13 outlook: "We are looking at another strong team this year, and we will be loaded with juniors and seniors. We had a great season last year, winning our first

"Our captains worked very hard during the offseason and gained valuable experience wrestling in tournaments," Stevenson ninth-year coach Dan Vaughan said.

Lutheran Westland hopes to make waves in Division 4 with the return of two outstanding state qualifiers in junior Zachary Francis, who returns at 125 after going 44-4, and sophomore Caleb Richter, who finished 28-19 at 125, but now moves up to 135.

"For the first time in the four years as head coach I won't have to use the word 'young' to describe the squad as most of the starters will be juniors and seniors," Luther-an Westland fourth-year coach Joe Schmidt said. "And by mid-January we should only have only one freshman in the starting

Promising newcomers: Elijah Bean, Soph., 189; Jeshua Nimmo, Fr., 135; Bryce Cozart,

Fr., 135 Elam's 2012-13 outlook: "I'm extremely excited for the upcoming season. We are returning all but two wrestlers to this year's team. The middle weights is where we are stacked and we have a lot of young talent behind the seniors. My toughest problem this year as the coach is going to be getting everyone mat time. We have a great turnout this year - 30 kids - and 16 are within four weight classes."

14."

The area's new kid on the coaching block is Livonia Clarenceville's Nick Elam, who takes over for Aaron Davis after being an assistant for the Trojans the past six season.

Regional qualifiers Aaron Bibik (160) and Mike Weiss (130), both seniors, along with junior Joey Walker (135-140), give Clarenceville reason for optimism.

"The middle weights are stacked, and we have a lot of young talent behind the seniors," Elam said. "My toughest problem this vear as the coach is going to be getting everyone mat time."

See capsule outlook of area teams.

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of which came in the first 16 minutes.

Devers led the Patriots with seven steals. Senior guard Caitlin

HOOPS

Continued from page B1

ous to say the least. I think she picked up a foul in the first 20 seconds of the game."

Garden City, despite going 10-of-30 from the floor and 1-of-12 from the foul stripe during the first 16 minutes, increased its lead to 22-10 at halftime.

"Definitely there's room for improvement," Tyree said. "I think a lot of the layups and a lot of the free throws were when we were just pushing things too hard. You could tell that their shots were a little off, so hopefully as we settle in, we'll start to hit a little bit more. Lots of practices on free throws and layups."

The Cougars put it away with a 15-3 run in the third quarter as sophomore guard Hannah Vera-Burgos and senior forward Cassea Bear each scored four points.

Vera-Burgos led a balanced GC scoring attack with 10 points, while Bear and Collier contributa 1-20 season.

RU, which sank just 8-of-42 shots from the floor, was led by a quartet of players who scored

ed eight apiece. Sophomore guard Abby Joseph chipped in with seven. "We want to up-tempo the ball," said Tyree, whose

team was 22-of-69 from the floor (31.8 percent). "We're pretty small, so we want to push the ball and tire people out. Our goal is to be in shape and push the ball."

Wayne shot only 15.3 percent from the floor (8of-52) and committed 24 turnovers.

Bailey Hart and Honia Williams led the Zebras with nine and eight points, respectively.

Meanwhile, Bland went 0-9 from the floor and was limited to two free throws.

"I know most teams will try and implement a box-and-one, especially after this game with Ashley being face-guarded," Massey said. "We had gone over that, but now that it's happened, I'm pretty sure in practice they'll do a little more instinctively on how to neutralize the boxand-one.

"She is the leader on the team and that's something I'm going to have to reiterate to her that she's the head of the team whether

held their own on the glass, grabbing 20 boards.

> ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 578-2767

she likes it or not. Because if they cut off the head, the body comes after.' Bland admitted she showed signs of frustration.

'We could have done better," the second-team All-Observer guard said. "I was trying not to show it, but ... I see it now. I've got to work on it right now. We need to set more screens and I can read the defense better."

Wayne travels Friday to Belleville with Massey searching for her first win, while Garden City hosts Livonia Franklin.

"What I learned from that game and what we will implement from this moment forth is transition defense." said Massey, a former John Glenn assistant. "We've worked on it, but now it needs to be to emphasized. Also, getting players to understand adjustments. There were a few things that I yelled from the sidelines that I know they heard, but for some reason it didn't translate over."

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SPIKERS

Continued from page B1

to step up," the 6-foot-3 Freeman said. "It was working today for us. "But we were all off at some point today. At points, our passing was off, our hitting, our setting were all off at times. I think we just weren't clicking today.' In the first set, MU and Oklahoma Baptist were tied 23-all, but Geile had a serving error and Dziewit followed with an attack error as the Lady Bison grabbed a 1-0 lead. In the fourth set, MU

rallied from a 17-10 deficit to tie the match at 20-all on a kill by Barnanovska.

It was 24-all before Derden came up with a kill and Clark followed with the game-winning block to give the Ladv Bison the win.

MU needs a victory Wednesday over

No. 3 Columbia College (Mo.), 38-1 overall, to have any hopes of staying alive in Pool C and advancing to Friday's elimination round. (MU plays its final pool play match Thursday against unranked Caroll College of Montana (25-9 overall).

"We have to complete-

ly turn our game around in all aspects, on both sides of the ball," Prieditis said. "We need to lead the game and not let them take control of the game."

Freeman, who hit at a .375 clip (16-for-32 with four errors), also realizes it's do-or-die for the Crusaders.

"We have to be on top of our game," said the Livonia native. "We have to hit, pass, everything. We need to block better because they have some huge players. We really just have to step our game up."

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Ferris signee

(WL)

B4

Two-time first-team All-Observer catcher Casey Bias (middle), a senior at Livonia Churchill High School, recently signed an NCAA Division II letter-of-intent to play softball at Ferris State University. Bias, flanked by Churchill head coach Steve Gentilia (left) and assistant coach Kevin McHugh (right), hit .403 last season with eight homers, 34 RBI ' and 34 runs scored, while throwing out six-of-eight base stealers.

Cranbrook icers blank Spartans

There was a silver lining for coach David Mitchell even after his Livonia Stevenson boys hockey team suffered it first loss of the season, 7-0 to host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook in the finals of the Cranes' Thanksgiving tournament.

"It was a good learning experience for our young team," said Mitchell, whose Spartans slipped to 4-1 overall. "We had some injuries and some guys out, but give Cranbrook all the credit in the world. They played fast and moved the puck and took advantage of our mistakes. We will learn from this and be better. I'm sure of that."

Connor Humitz made 42 saves in goal for the Spartans, many of which were point-blank Cranbrook chances.

"He played very well," said Mitchell, whose team was outshot 49-17.

And so did the Cranes' Alex Alger, who tallied four goals on the afternoon while brother Austin added a goal and two assists.

Kevin Shand and Michael Romund also added goals for Cranbrook, now 4-0 overall.

Vellucci mum after Whaler loss

By Tim Smith Observer Staff Writer

The way the Plymouth Whalers imploded during the final 26 minutes of their game against Kingston on the night after Thanksgiving must have made their head coach sick to his stomach.

In fact, Mike Vellucci handed off the postgame interview duties to assistant coach Don Elland following a disappointing 7-6 loss to the Frontenacs before 3,161 at Compuware Arena — an Ontario Hockey League game in which the Whalers blew a 5-2 lead.

Despite the loss, Plymouth (12-8-3-1) remains in first place in the OHL West Division with 28 points. Second-place Sarnia also lost Friday. Kingston improved to 13-10-0-0, good for third in the East Division.

"It certainly wasn't the same group effort we got against Windsor," said Elland, referring to a 3-0 win over Windsor two nights earlier. "Tonight, it seemed like maybe they " thought with Saturday and Sunday off they were already on break.

"But it was a group effort. The forwards, 'D' who scored a hat trick ripped the shot high into the Kingston cage.

Let Alex do it

Aleardi was sensational over the first half of the wide-open contest, tallying either a goal or assist on the first five Plymouth goals.

With 52 seconds to play in the first, Aleardi set up center Michael Whaley for the go-ahead marker. Cody Payne drew the second assist.

Kingston regained the lead at 3-2 when Darcy Greenaway (three goals, one assist) tipped a shot by Ryan Hayes past Mahalak with 16:20 to play in the second period.

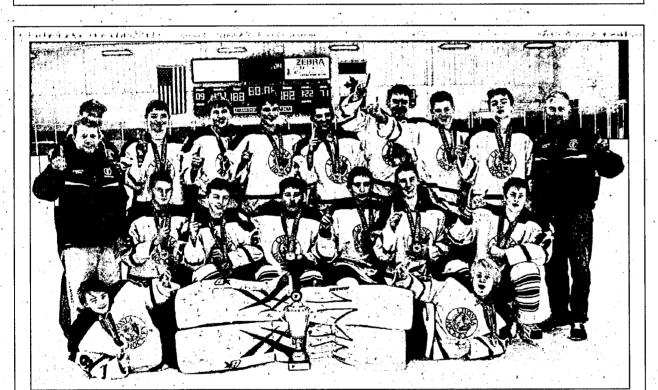
Less than three minutes later, Aleardi struck for the first of two goals he would score in a span of 3:18. Almost as if he had the puck on a string, he deked a defenseman near the right hash mark and fired the puck into the twine.

Aleardi's second goal and 12th of the season was due to being in the right place at the right time. He stuffed the puck in at the left post after collecting the carom of a wide shot by defenseman Simon Karlsson (two



Icettes take 1st

On Nov. 18, the Livonia Icettes, coached by Emily Alderman and Karne Pantaleo, captured first place in the Beginner 2 Division at the Kalamazoo Kick Off synchronized skating competition. Team members include (top row, from left): Kylie Callison, Coral Miller-Sanchez, Jenny Engler, Kacey Bernhard, Emily Welch; (bottom row, from left) Keira Callison, Katie Engler, Morgan Dodds, Zoe Nabozny and Michelle Matejka. The Icettes, based out of Livonia's Edgar Arena, are also scheduled for upcoming competitions in Ann Arbor, Oxford, Ohio and Livonia (March 16 at Edgar).



Motown Cup champs

The Livonia Midget A Travel team captured the Motown Cup tournament with a 3-2 victory Sunday over the Whitby (Ontario) Wildcats at Farmington Hills Ice Arena. The Knights, coached by Ken Hunt, also posted wins over Oakbridge (Ontario), Howell JV Green and the Michigan Jaguars, along with a tie against the Wildcats to advance to the title game. Members of the team include: Cullen Barber, Alex DeFlorio, Bobby Diegel, Jeff Flannigan, Vince Glenn, Jay Hague, Luke Justice, Max McCrory, Robert Schneider, Drake Shepard, Nick Smith, Christopher Tripi, Michael Warner, Alec Wells and Alex Williams. Assistant coaches included Craig Justice, Bob Warner and Don Barber.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

TVO volleyball

The Triple-Threat Volleyball Organization junior program for girls ages 7-10 begins Wednesday, Dec. 5 at Riley Upper Elementary School, located on Five Mile between Middlebelt and Merriman roads.

Team practices will be from 6-7 p.m. Wednesdays at Riley.

For more information, call club director Gary Smart at (734) 432-5959; or e-mail tvovolleyball@ sbcglobal.net. You can also visit www.tvovolleyball.com.

Running seminar

The Running Institute, led by former University of Michigan track and cross country coach Ron

Warhurst, along with ex-Olympian Tim Broe, will hold a free one-hour running injury prevention seminar from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29 at the Northville Running Fit store, located off Haggerty and Six Mile roads.

The seminar will features former pro runners, running injury experts, doctors and physical therapists.

For more information, visit www.runningfit.com.

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 through March 28, at the Franklin High School wrestling room. All coaches and volunteers will be under direct supervision of the Franklin coaching staff.

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

For more information, call Dave Chiola at (248) 752-2340; or e-mail 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. Satur-

days, 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.

Winter baseball

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

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

For more information, visit www.MadonnaCrusaders.com. goaltending, we didn't get any of it tonight."

Élland stuck to that critical assessment when reminded the Whalers held a 53-34 edge in shots on goal, peppering Kingston netminder Colin Furlong with 22 of those shots in the second period.

"We scored six goals but we gave up a lot of good chances to them," Elland said. "And that's not a team you should be giving up that many chances to."

No excuse

Plymouth played without two key players, forward Stefan Noesen (high ankle sprain) and defenseman and captain Colin MacDonald (concussion). The Whalers then lost defenseman Austin Levi (Farmington Hills) to an injury early in the game. However, Elland wasn't about to use injuries as an excuse.

"We all have to bounce back," he said. "Matty (Mahalak) wasn't great, but it wasn't just Matty. It was a group effort."

Two third-period goals by Kingston (by Henri Ikonen and Billy Jenkins) completed the Frontenacs' comeback and chased Plymouth starting goalie Mahalak (32 shots, 25 saves) in the process. Finishing the game was Alex Nedeljkovic, who stopped both shots he saw.

Perhaps foretelling the way the game would unfold was a goal scored by Kingston's Cody Alcock just 32 seconds after the opening faceoff.

The Whalers rebounded with 16:21 left in the period when forward and Farmington Hills product Alex Aleardi threaded a pass from the left half-wall to linemate Matt Mistele at the bottom of the right circle. Mistele — assists).

With 6:46 left in the period, the Whalers made it a 5-2 advantage and looked primed for a blowout as Mistele buried Aleardi's centering pass.

Downhill from there

That's when things started turning sour.

"When we were up 5-2, that's when it started," Elland said. "We took a bad penalty behind their net (by Danny Vanderwiel at 13:39) and gave up a power play goal. Then we gave up a goal in the last minute of the period. Good teams don't do that."

Scoring both Kingston goals was Greenaway, who now has 14 markers for the season.

The first goal was a shot between the circles; it was a 5-4 Plymouth lead at 18:59 when Greenaway converted a centering feed from Sam Povorozniouk (two assists).

Kingston evened the contest at 5-5 just 1:40 into the third. A routine wrist shot by Jenkins changed direction after hitting the stick of a Plymouth player and got past Mahalak.

Compuware fans had the chance to cheer again when Mistele scored his third goal (and 10th of the year) with 12:06 left, putting the Whalers back in front 6-5.

A bad-angle shot by Ikonen tied the game at 6-6 with 9:21 remaining and Jenkins (two goals) put the Frontenacs ahead with 6:06 left.

A turnover at the Kingston blueline launched Povorozniouk and Jenkins on a 2-on-1 rush. Jenkins successfully finished the play with his low shot beating Mahalak.

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online at hometownlife.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

December

ADVENT SERVICES Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, 12,

and 19 Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: The meditation them is the beginnings of the Gospel of St. Matthew, St. Luke and Revelation

Contact: (734) 968-3523

ADVENT SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5, 12 and 19 Location: Prince of Peace

Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market in Farmington Hills **Details:** A pre-service

meal will be served at 6 p.m.

Contact: (248) 553-3380 **BELL CONCERT**

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

Location: St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: Classical Bells performs, with The Boychoir of Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door

Contact: www.seatyourself.biz/stmatthewslivonia; (734) 422-6038

CHRISTMAS PRO-GRAM

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14 and 10:45 a.m.Sunday, Dec. 16 Location: First Baptist Church of Canton, 44500 Cherry Hill Road, Canton Details: "One Quiet Night" is a dramatic musical, written by Tony Wood and Heidi Petak and arranged and orchestrated by Richard Kingsmore. It's directed by Ron Newsome.

Admission is free Contact: (734) 981-6460

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton a state to secolo state

Details: Free clothing and shoes to those in need Contact: (734) 404-2480 or (734) 927-6686

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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.detroitlutheransingers.com

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8 Location: Birmingham Uni-

tarian 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.detroitlutheransingers.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.

COOKIE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-noon or until cookies are sold out, Saturday, Dec. 8 Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, Gutherie Social Hall, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia Details: Cookies will be sold for \$7 per dozen of "choose your own" cookies or \$11 (2 for \$20) for prepackaged 2-dozen boxes

CONTACT: (734) 422-0149

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 Luther-

an 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

GRIEF WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Dec. 14 and 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Dec. 15

Location: Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth.

Details: "Grieving with Great Hope" workshop. Speakers will include the Rev. John Riccardo, as well as John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization. Registration forms are online at www. goodmourningministry. net or call OLGC Contact: (734) 453-0326; olgcparish.net

GUEST SPEAKER

Time/Date: Optional breakfast starts at 9 a.m., speaker program is at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 9

book author George Vutetakis will talk about new food trends at the Sunday Morning Breakfast Series sponsored by the Brotherhood of Temple Beth El. Vutetakis is the former



Details: Chef and cook-

Age 77, November 24, 2012. Wife of Neil and the late Ralph. Mother of Sandi (Kevin) Eisbrenner, Karen (Greg) Westfall, Doug Bailey, Mike (Lisa) Bailey, Jerry (Anna) Bailey, Mark Fawcett, and Paul (the late Char-lene) Griffin. Grandmother of 14. Great-grandmother of 4. Sister of Elsie Lee. Sister-in-law of Gertrude Wynsberge and Rita Wynsberge. Visitation Thursday 2-8pm. Funeral Service Friday 11:30am at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 N. Inkster Rd., Garden City (be-tween Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill). Memorials suggested to the

Michigan Humane Society. santeiufuneralhome.com

VELLER (SUND), KATHLEEN

Age 89, of Toledo, Ohio, long time resident of Beverly Hills, Michigan, and recently of Rogers, Minnesota was welcomed into heaven on November 8, 2012 by those who passed before her including her parents Edna (Suhrbier) and Edwin Sund. A compassionate caregiver, both personally and professionally, she retired from Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak after a long career as a Registered Nurse and Clinical Nursing Coordinator. Her Nursing career began in Toledo, Ohio when she graduated from Flower Hospital Nursing School. She later received her B.S. in Nursing from Oakland University and her M.S. in Counseling from Mercy College. She was an active and faithful member of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Birmingham, MI where she acted as a Ste-phens Minister and served in the church library. Her varied inter-ests included Bible Study, read-ing, travel, plants, and birds. She was a loving wife to Robert Veller, mother to Patricia Olive (John) of Brooklyn Center, MN, Donald of Greenville, SC, and James (Shari) of Cheboygan, MI and sister to Eugene Sund of

owner and executive chef of Inn Season in Royal Oak and current head of development for Garden Fresh Gourmet. He also will provide samples of the salsa, chips and other products made by Garden Fresh

Gourmet. The program is open to the public and is free. Breakfast charge is \$3; charge for bagels and coffee is \$2. Contact: (248) 851-1100, ext. 3149



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

WASHBURN, PAULETTE D.

Age 62, November 25, 2012. Beloved wife of Louis. Loving mother of Michele (Leo) Hoover, step-mother of Julie (Todd) Randolph and Jodi (Ed) Sturgeon. Dearest daughter of Leona and the late Russell Boyle. Dear sister of Michael (Renee), Wayne (Helen), Patricia (Rick), Claudia (Stan) and Lana. Visitation Thursday 2-8pm at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City where funeral services will be held on Friday at 10:00 am. In-terment at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Please sign the online guestbook at: rggrharris.com



FRANCES A. 83, of Farmington Hills, retired Madison School District Educator, died November 26, 2012. Surviving are her nieces & neph-ews, Marianne Yochimovitz, Leonette Yochimovitz, Micki Czerniak, Matthew (Diane) Czerniak, Matthew (Diane) Czerniak, Keith Krupsky, Robert (Terry) Lynch, Dennis (Karen) ynch, Terence Lynch and Mary Margaret Lynch; numerous great nieces and nephews, and her beloved pet, Penny. Sadly, Frances was preceded in death by her niece, Susanne Krupsky, and her sisters, Mary Yochimovitz, Ste-Czerniak and Bernice Funeral Mass Friday, phanie _ynch. 10:00 AM (in state 9:30 AM) at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 23615 Power Rd., Farmington. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Visitation Thursday, 1-5 PM and 6-8 PM, with a 7 PM Rosary, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farm-ington (248-474-5200). Memo-rial contributions may be directed to Michigan Humane Society, michiganhumane.org, or St. An-thony's Guild, 144 W. 32nd St., New York, NY, 10001-3202.

heeney-sundquist.com



BOUCHIE

Daughter of Oscar and Marie Gisner. Born on July 6, 1937 and passed away on August 10, 2012 in her home on Pine Island Cove, St. James City, Florida. Leaving behind her son, Russell, and two grandsons, two sisters. There will be a memorial on December 2012 at Calvery Baptist Church in Plymouth, Michigan. This will be at 2:30 for more in-formation call 734-674-8666, her sister Alice.

Let others know...

When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"... a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Eccentric HOMETOWN

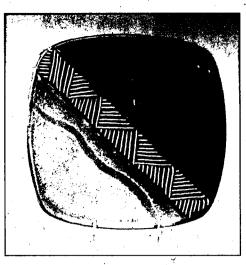


regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247 or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

B6.(*) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWNLIFE.COM ENTERTAINMENT

Ceramic artists sell thousands of items at annual Potters Market

All fired up



A ceramic dish by potter Carol Fitzpatrick of Farmington Hills. She'll show and sell her works at the upcoming 37th annual Potters Market.

By Sharon Dargay O&E Staff Writer

Oakland Community College ceramics student, Carol Fitzpatrick, works, thinks and dreams clay.

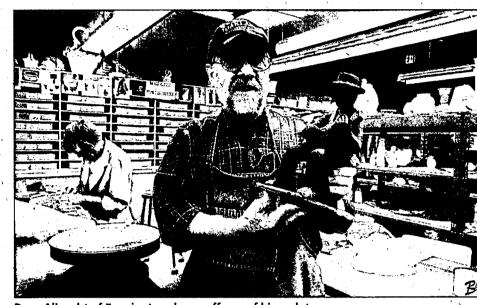
"I come in four days a week, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.," she said, preparing a handmade bisque bowl for color earlier this week. "That's 28 hours worth of clay."

On days when she attends glaze formulation class, the 55-year-old Farmington Hills woman packs lunch and dinner and settles in for a long stretch at her work bench in the college's ceramics technology lab in Royal Oak.

And after she shuts her tool kit, carefully wraps up her fragile art pieces and goes home, there's still plenty of time at night to dream up new projects.

"I was thinking the other day at 2:30 in the morning, I could make a Christmas ornament and put a glaze on it. Let me show it to you," she said, eager to show off a blue-green test strip. "Now, when you look at it in the light, you can see a rainbow. Could you imagine a spherical ornament with this glaze on it?

"I have so many ideas in my head. It's crazy. I pull things out of magazines. I take pictures. I collect all these ideas. It's so much



Dave Albrecht of Farmington shows off one of his sculptures.

fun. I thought I might work a little more at home when I'm not in class and make a list of five things that are new and try to bring them to life."

Fitzpatrick, who has taken classes at the college part time for 13 years, will introduce a few new pieces along with her popular bread and dipping oil plates at the 37th annual Potters Market this weekend. She's one of 138 potters --- including approximately 60 OCC students - who will sell their work at the three-day show in Madison Heights. Visitors to the free exhibit and sale will see handmade decorative ceramics, including sculpture; functional pottery such as bowls, plates, mugs; tiles; jewelry and ornaments. The artists serve refreshments, work the check-out area, and restock shelves during the show.

Experiencing a show

For the buyer, the "advantage of this sale is that we constantly restock," said Alan Paulson, show organizer and head of the ceramics department at OCC Royal Oak. For students, it offers an opportunity to experience a show.

• For most of its 37 years the sale was a college-sponsored event. Last year, it was separated from the school and became an organization, run by the artists. "My goal, when we were

separating this from the school was to maintain an opportunity for people who are learning the art of ceramics to have the experience of showing their work and learning to apply for a show," said Paulson, a Livonia native who lives in Detroit.

The application process is offered first to students and then opened to professional potters. Paulson said approximately 250 students are enrolled in OCC's ceramics classes. "The work has to be of a

quality nature and hopefully they'll have more than four or five pieces for the show. And even if they don't sell, they are part of a great group experience," he said. Sometimes a show can be a double-edged sword. You don't want to focus on making things for the sake of money. Hopefully they are enjoying making the work. That should be number one. The students who come here, they take their first ceramics class and they get hooked. There is something magical about it. "But it's not something you can learn within one or two semesters. To reallv explore and get your own signature work does take time."



SHARON DARGAY

Carol Fitzpatrick of Farmington Hills coats the bottom of a bowl with a wax substance that resists glaze.

37TH ANNUAL POTTERS MARKET

When: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2

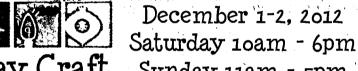
Where: United Food and Cl, 876 Horace Brown Drive, one block south of 13 Mile between John R and 1-75, Madison Heights

Details: The pottery sale features 138 potters offering nearly 40,000 pieces of pottery ranging from pots, vases, platters, tiles and mugs to bird baths, jewelry, ceramic framed mirrors, sculpture, lamps, tile-topped tables and just about every product possible in clay. Prices range from \$5-\$400. Artists include approximately 60 students from Oakland Community College, as well as professionals

Local artists: Jack Adelman of Farmington Hills, Robert Crisp of Farmington, Carol Fitzpatrick of Farmington Hills, Dave Albrecht of Farmington, Julie Gaynett of Farmington Hills, Betty Kowalczyk of Farmington Hills, Gaylin Bates of Farmington Hills, Donna Williams of Plymouth, and Kathy Sandberg of Plymouth Admission: Free, but no strollers are allowed Contact: (248) 554-5570 or visit www.thepottersmarket.com

vears and will have approximately 100 items for sale this weekend. He is known for large pagoda pieces that can be used as lawn sculpture. He'll also have bowls and dancerelated sculptures and tiles for sale. "One hundred isn't much compared to seasoned production potters," he noted. "Many people here are production potters and they love making a lot of stuff that they can make many of the same pieces of. I'm not equipped to do that. It's not my thing. I get distracted by new ideas pretty easily. He has created handbuilt and wheel thrown items, but increasingly is working on sculpture. Fitzpatrick will package about 50 of her dipping plates with spices, tying everything together with raffia.

"It looks like a complete gift. So I do really well with those," she said. The plates sold out by the second day of the sale last year. Her newest items - trays sporting the impression of a sunflower that grew in her yard - reflect her interest in nature and recall her career in the floral industry. Fitzpatrick, married and the mother of three children, owned and operated a flower shop for 34 years at Grand River Ave. and Haggerty. She sold it last March and retired from the business, but continues to let nature inspire her work. When I came into the studio in September it was so thrilling to come here and see all these nice peo ple again," she said. "I didn't have to get up and go to work. I could come here and play."





Sunday 11am - 5pm Admission - *5 per car

SUBURBAN COLLECTION SHOWPLACE Novi, MI

The Holiday Craft Extravaganza promises to be a shopping treasure trove of one-of-a-kind gifts, fine jewelry, gourmet treats, holiday decor and more. It takes place at the Suburban Collection Showplace December 1-2, 2012.

With tons of crafters and vendors under one roof, the Holiday Craft Extravaganza will bring a unique and festive shopping experience to the Metro Detroit area.

to how Craft Extravaganza.com

Pagodas, dance sculpture

Dave Albrecht, 70, of Farmington has put in 11 years at OCC. He was an art major during the 1960s at Ohio State University, but took a 35-year hiatus to work in pharmaceutical sales. He has shown at the

He has shown at the Potters Market for eight



ENTERTAINMENT

GET OUT

Arts Crafts

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Family Sundays: 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling, performanc-, es; free with admission

Exhibits: Picasso & Matisse exhibits all of the museum's drawings and prints by the two artists, through Jan. 6, 2013; Faberge: The Rise and Fall, The Collection of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, through Jan. 21, 2013; Hidden Treasures: An Experiment, through March 3, 2013 Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

LIBERTY STREET BREWING CO.

Time/Date: Art on display through November Location: 149 W. Liberty, in Old Village, Plymouth; in the upper hall gallery

Details: Mariuca Rofick shows her black and white photography in an exhibit called METROPOLIS. Rofick is an exhibiting member of Hatch, the Hamtramck artists collective, and her work has been shown at such galleries as the Carr Center, Lawrence Street Gallery and the Scarab Club

Contact: (734) 207-9600

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Small Works," an all-media juried art exhibit, and "Celebrate!," a Northville Camera Club exhibit are featured. Northville Art House's Holiday Gift Shop also underway

Contact: (248) 344-0497

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: Through Nov. 29; gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public performances Location: In Gallery@VT in the theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: The works of Alvey Jones, painter, printmaker, and book artist are on display

Coming up: The artworks of jazz singer Kathy Kosins will be on display, Dec. 1-31 Contact: (734) 394-5300

Film

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 7-8 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9 Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Pitch Perfect," \$3

Holiday Classics: "It's a Wonderful Life," 7 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 29-30 and Dec. 1-2; 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1; and 4:15 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2 Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Nov. 30 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 1 Location: 17350 Lahser, Detroit Details: "A Christmas Story," \$4. Santa will be on hand Nov. 30-Dec. 1 for photos

Contact: (313) 537-2560; www.redfordtheatre.com

Music

BECKRIDGE CHORALE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11 Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, Jone 495 (1960) 201 001 1911 (1912) (1917) Details: 40th annual holiday concert. Tickets are \$16,

Contact: www.beckridgechorale.org or call (888) 459-4887

CHERRY HILL SINGERS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 14 Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry



Holiday favorite

The Michigan Philharmonic and the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company present Tchaikovsky's ballet, "The Nutcracker," 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, in the auditorium at Salem High School, located in the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, Joy at N. Canton Center Road, Canton. The performance features guest stars, Cory Goei and Nicky Coehlo of the James Sewell Ballet Company. Advance tickets are \$23 for adults and \$16 for children. They cost \$25 and \$18 the day of the performances. Tickets for the Sugar Plum Parade, which enables children to go on stage and meet the performers, are \$3. For tickets and information call (734) 451-2112, visit online at www. michiganphil.org or http://www.metroshoresballet.org/PCBC/PCOrder.html.



Chef Jay invites you to



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Check out these local businesses offering great values and ready to serve you... **ENJOY!**



Hill Road, Canton

Details: Holiday concert with a basket gift auction held at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12

Contact: www.beckridgechorale.org

FARMINGTON COMMUNITY CHORUS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 14-15 Location: Mercy High School, located on 11 Mile, east of Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Details: The Chorus sings holiday favorites. Tickets are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door

Contact: www.farmingtonchorus.com

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

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

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

Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans

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

LIVONIA CIVIC CHORUS

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16

Location: Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: "Sparkle...Twinkle...Joy!" is the group's winter concert. Tickets in advance are \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors and students. Tickets at the door are \$15 for adults and \$13 for students and seniors

Contact: (734) 542-9071

LIVONIA SYMPHONY

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1

Location: Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia

Details: "Holiday Happenings" 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

Contact: www.livoniasymphony.org

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Time/Date: Noon, Wednesday, Dec. 5

Location: VisTaTech Center on campus, located on Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia.

Details: Motor City Brass Quintet performs. Donations at the door will help fund student scholarships

Contact: (734) 462-4403

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

·Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Mike Mangione and the Union with Olivia Millerschin, Dec. 1; Empty Chair Night, Christmas Holiday Show to benefit Trinity House, Dec. 2. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted Contact: (734) 464-6302

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Don't be left behind...Call 734-582-8363 today to learn more about advertising in OUT ON THE TOWN!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2012 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

B8 . (*)

FOOD

SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-8883 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Yummy recipes

Angela Hospice publishes first cookbook

By Sharon Dargay **O&E Staff Writer**

Mike Cuba had all the necessary ingredients to produce a cookbook.

He knows his way around the kitchen. He has a knack for organizing and writing and he volunteers with others who are passionate about their cooking.

When he suggested that Angela Hospice create and sell its own cookbook, Syndie Best, volunteer services manager, was more than happy to give him the green light — and a box full of recipes.

We had kicked around this idea a few years ago and it was one of those things that a few staff members said we should do," Best said. "It got tabled for a number of years. When Mike came on as a volunteer ... he talked about different recipes and suggested it." Best and other staff members didn't have time to create a cookbook, but Cuba did. She handed over the box of recipes that staff members and volunteers had contributed over the years and watched him take on the challenge.

"Two hundred fifty recipes later and three rewrites ... it took a year," said Cuba, of Livonia. "It was interesting seeing the kinds of recipes we had.'

Cuba and his wife, Jane, are retired teachers who volunteer for Angela Hospice. She is a home visitor and he cooks for events, helps with clerical tasks and pitches in where needed.

They and several friends will bake cook-arts to a 1 tablespoon olive oit ies from the new book, Where the Butter Flies!. during the Livonia Christmas Walk Saturday, Dec. 1. As visitors

From the new book:

Sausage Shrimp Creole Jumbalaya

From Mike Cuba

Serves 6-8 All amounts are estimates and subject to ingredient avail-

ability. Feel free to invent! ½ pound each three different types of precooked sausage, sliced

½ pound chicken breast, cut into 1-inch cubes

1 tablespoon olive oil

4-6 medium onions, coarsely chopped

- 1/4 cup wine
- 1 each red, orange, yellow and green bell peppers, cleaned and cut into 1-inch pieces

1 pound button mushrooms, cut up (sliced or chunk, your choice) 2 big portobello mushrooms, cut into 1/2-inch pieces (they end up chewy, so keep them small)

- 1 big can peeled Italian tomatoes in tomato sauce
- 1 little can tomato paste
- 1 pound raw shrimp, peeled and deveined

Heat the oil in a large skillet or pan, brown the sausage and chicken. Remove from the oil and set aside. Add the onions to the skillet and sauté. If onions start to look dry, add the wine and cover the pan. You want the onions translucent. Add the peppers and portobellos and the Italian tomatoes. Break up the tomatoes with a spatula. Cook covered 5-10 minutes. Add the button mushrooms, tomato paste and the meat. Cook covered 5-10 minutes more. Add the shrimp and cook until the shrimp turn pink, about 2 minutes. Serve over brown rice. If you want a little more kick to this, add a couple of poblano peppers and/or a couple of habaneros. Watch out! Their kick is not instantaneous, but it lingers.

Lady Jacoba Cookies

From Barb Brown and Sister Mary Giovanni

X cup of butter 2 cups all-purpose flour 1 cup sugar 1/2 teaspoon baking soda

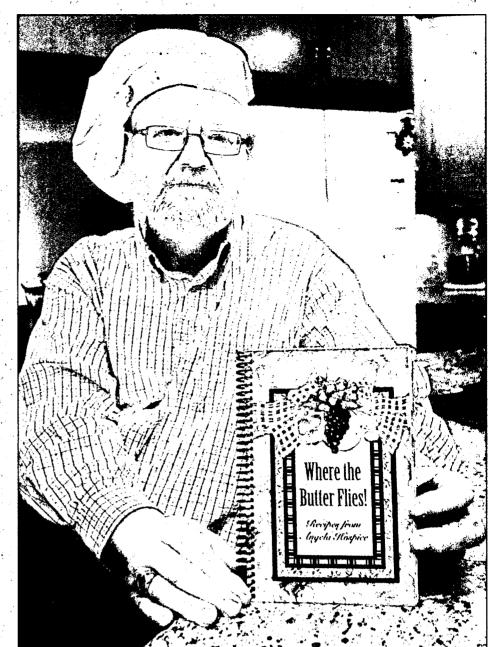
- 1 egg
- 1 cup ground almonds

1½ teaspoons vanilla Cream together the butter and sugar. Add the vanilla, egg and beat. Sift together the flour and baking soda and add to the butter mixture. Shape the dough into several oblong rolls about 2 inches wide. Roll in the ground almonds and wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate at least 2 hours. Unwrap and slice quite thin. Bake at 350 degrees for about 15 minutes.

Bourbon Pecan Pork Roast

From Barb Iovan Serves 4

2 pounds rolled pork loin roast Salt and pepper ½ cup (or more) pecan pieces ½ cup bourbon (airplane-size bottle) 3 tablespoons brown sugar



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Mike Cuba shows the Angela Hospice cookbook. He and his wife, Jane, and their friends will bake cookies from the book Saturday, Dec. 1, during the Livonia Christmas Walk.

Lentils and Rice Casserole

From Syndie Best

- 1 cup dried lentils
- 1 teaspoor margarine 🔒
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup green pepper, chopped

- 1 can (14 ounces) chopped tomatoes (do not drain!)
- 1/2 teaspoon ground red pepper 2 cups cooked brown rice

11/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese Salt and pepper to taste

Cook the lentils according to the package directions. Melt the margarine in a large skillet over a medium heat. Add the onion, green pepper and garlic, stir often and cook until tender. Stir in the lentils, tomatoes, paprika, salt and pepper. Cover, reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Spray a 2-quart baking dish with cooking spray. Place the rice in the bottom and top with the lentil mixture. Bake for 25 minutes. Add the cheese to cover the top and bake 5-10 minThursday for patients and their families. Jane (Cuba) makes shortbread for the high tea and that recipe is in the book,"

Fundraiser

Proceeds from the sale of the cookbook will benefit such programs as bereavement services which are available to the all in the community prenatal hospice and counseling.

It's available from Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia; www.AskForAngela. com. Buy a ticket to the Livonia Christmas Walk and get a chance to see five decorated houses, in addition to tasting a cookie from the book - at Livonia's libraries, Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, or at the Quaker House in Greenmead, located at Eight Mile and Newburgh. Tickets are \$9 before Dec. 1 and \$10 on Dec. 1. "We're really excited about the book. One of our volunteers came up with the title," said Best, noting that the butterfly is part of Angela Hospice's logo. "It's professionally done. The cover is plastic and it lays flat. It has all those pluses for cooking."

walk through the couple's kitchen, they'll get a chance to taste a cookie. Copies of the cookbook will be available for purchase. The cost is \$10. The couple will serve such goodies as "Lady Jacoba," a sugar cookie with a rind of crushed almond, peanut butter cookies, Czechoslovakian cookies and a ginger snap

"I took the recipe from the Grandma's Molasses jar and altered it," Cuba said, describing the ginger cookie.

They'll serve coffee and

Heat oven to 325 degrees. Heal oil in a large frying pan over medium high heat and brown pork on all sides. Put meat on rack in roasting pan and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Roast 30 minutes. Meanwhile, add pecans to oil in frying pan, cook over medium heat 1 minute and remove pecans from pan. Combine the bourbon, sugar and ¼ teaspoon salt. Add to the frying pan and boil until the sugar dissolves and bourbon reduces slightly - 1-2 minutes. After meat has cooked 30 minutes begin basting with the bourbon sauce. Cook until a meat thermometer stuck in the center reaches 160 degrees, about 30 more minutes. Five minutes before meat is done, sprinkle with pecans.

the cookie recipes will be on view. "Everything we'll be

baking is from the book." Cuba said.

More than recipes

Where the Butter Flies! includes helpful kitchen hints, measurement sub-

utes or until the cheese is melted.

stitutes, calorie counts, napkin-folding diagrams, advice for buying and cooking fruits and vegetables, and a guide to 0.05 herbs and spices. All of the recipes are from volunteers or staff members. Cuba submitted eight, including the recipe for a favorite bread.

"For the holidays I cook a bohemian egg bread called Hoska," he said. "It's a sweet egg bread from my grandmother's bohemian ancestry."

The book also includes favorite recipes from Angela Hospice pot lucks and summer barbecues.

"We have a volunteer known as The Pie Lady. She's been baking for 15 years (for Hospice)," Best said. The Pie Lady, also known as Alberta Karll, bakes for the Angela Hospice's Care Center every Tuesday. "She started with apple pies. Her recipe is in the book.

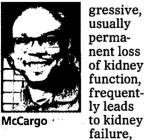
'We do a high tea every

Chef offers meal tips for dialysis patients

Chef Aaron McCargo, Jr., star of Food Network's Big Daddy's House television show, will visit with patients Friday-Saturday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1 at Detroit-area **Fresenius Medical Care** clinics where he will help dialysis patients and their families learn how to create kidneyfriendly meals.

He'll also give a live cooking demonstration at the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan's Kidney Ball fundraising event on Dec. 1

More than 940,000 Michigan residents have chronic kidney disease, according to the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan. African-Americans are among those most at risk, because of their high rates of diabetes and high blood pressure, which are the two leading causes of chronic kidney disease. This pro-



which can only be treated with dialysis or a kidney transplant. Michigan has one of the highest rates of kidney failure in the entire country with close to 14,000 patients on dialysis.

Maintaining a healthy diet can be a matter of life and death for individuals on dialysis. To stay healthy, dialysis patients must control their levels of potassium, phosphorus, salt and saturated fats by limiting their intake of certain foods.

"We're pleased to bring Chef McCargo to Detroit to share his healthy cuisine tips with the area's

dialysis community," stated Steve Chowen, regional vice president, Fresenius Medical Care. "His unique recipes for adding bold flavors and variety to meals help dialysis patients learn how to get more enjoyment from eating, while still complying with their renal diets."

The free events are open to the general public. Meet McCargo:

• 2-4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, at Fresenius Medical Care Garden City, 27201 W. Warren Street in Dearborn Heights

• 6–8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 30 at Fresenius Medical Care St. Clair Shores, 26210 Harper Ave. #200 in St. Clair Shores

• Noon to 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1 at Fresenius Medical Care University, 18430 Livernois, in downtown Detroit

Each clinic will give away the Fill Your Plate cookbook with dialysisfriendly recipes for all attendees.

Also on Saturday, Dec. 1, McCargo will present a live cooking demonstration for attendees of the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan's Kidney Ball at the MGM Grand Detroit, 1777 Third Street, Detroit. He will demonstrate how to prepare appetizing dishes that are tasty, affordable and dialysis-friendly. One of the appetizers at the event will be prepared by McCargo, and a dietitian from Fresenius Medical Care North America⁽FMCNA) will be available to answer questions. To purchase tickets for the Kidney Ball, visit www.nkfm.org or call (734) 222-9800.

View McCargo's renal diet recipes and his online cooking demonstration at www.ultra-. care-dialysis.com.

When the big game rolls around, you want to make sure you have everything ready to go so you can focus on the action. Prepping in advance for watch parties means you don't have to worry about lastminute details. And while standard watch party fare may be enticing, game day snacking guilt can set in once the day is over. Avoid snacking guilt by serving up flavorful, better-for-you dishes that will still please the party palates of your fellow fans.

Mediterranean Nachos

Makes: 4 servings Time: 25 minutes

at the sec

4 cups pita chips 2 tablespoons Sabra Roasted Garlic Hummus 2 tablespoons Sabra Roasted Red

Game-worth party fare

Pepper Hummus

Mediterranean Nachos

8 to 10 grape tomatoes, cut in half lengthwise

1/4 cup chopped zucchini, cut into 1/4-inch chunks

2 tablespoons chopped Greek olives 2 tablespoons chopped pepperoncini 11/2 cups shredded mozzarella Preheat oven to 375°F. Place pita chips in a 9to 10-inch skillet or other oven-proof pan or baking dish. Top with small spoonfuls of hummus.

Sprinkle tomatoes, zucchini, olive and pep-' peroncini over the chips. Top with shredded mozzarella.

Bake 15 to 20 minutes, or until cheese has melted and edges are beginning to brown. Serve warm.

REAL ESTATE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2012 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

JULIE BROWN, EDITOR JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM (313) 222-6755 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Laurel Park Place Office Center garners kudos, among other pros, properties

The Building Owners and Managers Association of Metro Detroit (BOMA) held its annual awards program, The Outstanding Building of the Year (TOBY) and Leadership Awards Presentation on Nov. 9 at the MotorCity Casino Sound Board, Detroit.

B9.(*)

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The program honors outstanding leaders and commercial properties in the local commercial real estate industry. The TOBY Awards, now in its 28th year, is the most prestigious and comprehensive program of its kind in the commercial real estate industry, recognizing excellence in office building ownership and management.

William M. Wylonis, president of BOMA of Metro Detroit, addressed the large gathering and paid tribute to BOMA's outstanding members, "This afternoon we recognize and celebrate our collective and individual efforts ... our people, our innovations and development in our industry."

With a sold-out crowd of nearly 300 people in attendance, Kevin Livingston of Hines was named Property Manager of the Year; Laura Marble, FMA of General Services Administration, Facility Manager of the Year; Plumbing Professors, Service

These are the area residential

dresses, and sales prices.

41520 Alleghany St 47011 Bartlett Dr

45471 Brunswick Dr

2386 Cleveland Way

50509 Coolidge St

CANTON .

real estate closings recorded the

week of Aug. 20-24, 2012, at the

Wayne County Register of Deeds

office. Listed below are cities, ad-

with the experience states and

\$120,000

\$236,000

\$210,000

\$212,000

\$236,000

Provider of the Year; and Kristin Falconer of Signal Restoration Services, Supplier Member of the Year; Cindy Wiegand of KIRCO, Emerging Leader; Linda Emert-Grimm of Dietz Property Group and David Glaser of Stone **Restoration Services**, **Outstanding Service** Awards; The Plumbing Professors, Service Provider of the Year; Kristin Falconer of Signal Restoration Services, Supplier Member of the Year; and Daniel Fitzgerald received the President's Award. Detroit properties GM Renaissance Cen-

ter, One Detroit Center, and the United States

tion Services Region 7, Detroit District Office; Southfield property One Northwestern Plaza; and Laurel Park Place Office Center in Livonia all took first place in their respective square footage categories as Building of the Year. The Coleman A. Young Municipal Center in Detroit was first in the Government Building class, 50 West Big Beaver in Bloomfield Hills took the top award in the Medical Office category, and the Bingham Center in Southfield was recognized in the Suburban Office Park Low-Rise grouping.

Citizenship & Immigra-

Local TOBY winners advance to regional competition and then move on to international competition at the **BOMA** International North American Real Estate Congress and the **Every Building Show** in San Diego, Čalif., in June 2013. For additional information on the 2012-13 TOBY and Leadership Awards, visit www.bomadet.org. Founded in 1908,

Laurel Park Place Office Center in Livonia took first place in its square footage categories as Building of the Year.

BOMA of Metro Detroit is a professional, nonprofit trade association whose nearly 400 members either own or manage commercial real estate, or provide goods and services to the industry. BOMA Michigan members represent organizations managing more than 250 million square feet of office and industrial space, with employees and tenants totaling more than 1.25 million people in Michigan. Michigan members' annual expenditures contribute \$3.2 billion to the state's economy.

BOMA of Metro Detroit provides commercial real estate professionals the opportunity to work together for professional growth, advocacy rights, corporate profit, and the benefit of the nine Southeastern Michigan communities it serves.

\$48,000

\$145,000 \$330,000

\$28,000

\$31,000

\$26,000

\$48,000

\$30,000

\$50,000

\$24,000 \$84,000

\$37,000

\$74,000

\$25,000



By Robert Meisner Guest Columnist

O: I am a member of our homeowner association and I am worried about one vocal and. sometimes, violent resident who attends the meetings. Should they have security at the meeting? I have asked the board for it.

A: I am deluged with emails from fellow community association



practitioners who can recount numerous stories where violent behavior has been perpetrated

at meetings

of the

Robert Meisner

association and/or on directors. One story I have heard was about the treasurer of his condominium association being at a meeting where one of the owners in a community called the board president "as queer as a three dollar bill," whereupon chairs were thrown at various individuals sending the rest of the board members under the table. The individuals involved were all over the age of 70, so age has no bearing upon judgment or conduct. To say the least, where there is any potential threat, adequate security should be provided if for no other reason than to enhance the participation by the members of the association.

Q: Has the Michigan legislature enacted a statute that prohibits nonrecourse mortgages and deficiency judgments? A: No. However, the Michigan legislature did enact the Nonrecourse Mortgage Loan Act, 2012 PA 67, MCL 445.1591 et seq., which retroactively prohibits a postclosing covenant in a nonrecourse

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

GARDEN CITY 33722 Alta St \$75,000 \$79,000 31739 Cambridge St / \$60,000 \$58,000 31714 Cherry Hill Rd 28657 Donnelly St 512 E Rose Ave \$73,000 30148 John Hauk St \$60,000 32108 Kathryn St \$25,000 28655 Maplewood St 31758 Maplewood St \$30,000 \$62,000 32714 Rosslyn Ave \$77,000 29896 Windsor St \$78,000 LIVONIA 30138 Acacia St \$153,000 \$156,000 18950 Bainbridge Ave .

18435 Mayfield St 31518 Merriwood Parl 30536 Munger Dr 37600 N Laurel Park Dr 16558 Nola Ct 38681 Northfield Ave 30164 Oakview St 15710 Oporto St 19387 Rensellor St 31719 Summers St 33845 Trillium Ct \$161,000 18055 University Park Dr \$83,000 32901 W Chicago St 30510 Wentworth St 31041 Westfield St

\$260,000 Dr \$86,000 \$350.000 \$162,000 \$145,000 \$123,000 \$171,000 \$65,000 \$59,000 \$118,000 \$128,000 \$134,000 \$106,000 \$123,000

\$137,000 \$266,000

\$278,000

\$134,000

\$185,000

\$110,000

\$140,000

\$310,000

\$300,000

\$470,000

\$150,000

\$185,000

\$230,000

\$346,000

\$460,000

\$339,000 \$92,000

\$190,000

515,000

\$164,000

\$375,000

\$275,000

\$345,000 \$110,000

\$470,000

\$342,000

\$72,000

\$95,000

1199 S Sheldon Rd 14596 Shadywood Dr 46045 Wesboro Dr REDFORD 12816 Centralia 13557 Centralia 18243 Dalby 25002 Donald 19715 Gavlord 26629 Glendale 19963 Indian 17187 Macarthur 12128 Nathaline 12770 Nathaline 19812 Negaunee

	44447887442664544444444444444444444444444444444	065 Cornerstone Dr12 Country Club Ln188 Forest Bridge Dr1627 Glade Rd5945 Graystone Ln514 Green Meadow Ln560 Holly Dr585 Kingsbridge Rd583 Mistwood Ct205 N Ridge Rd205 N Ridge Rd3402 N Umberland Cir56 N Willard Rd7286 Northgåte Dr3467 Proctor Rd842 River Meadow Cir5598 S Stonewood Rd5622 S Stonewood Rd5622 S Stonewood Rd4099 Southampton Dr1430 Stafford Ct7867 Stratford Dr611 Thistle Ct5231 Thornhill Rd	\$3,000 160,000 150,000 138,000 4402,000 4480,000 150,000 150,000 136,000 210,000 190,000 172,000 172,000 145,000 130,000 131,000 130,000 185,000 303,000 435,000	23341 Barkley St 9920 Bassett St 36004 Bobrich St 36004 Bobrich St 32018 Bretton St 18807 Comstock St 14916 Country Club Dr 9017 Danzig St 15906 Deering St 14166 Denne St 14277 Denne St 15406 Doris St 9362 Eastwind Dr 29620 Edward Pl 28428 Elmira St 30106 Fairfax St 32643 Five Mile Rd 18623 Floral St 31632 Gable St 35034 Grove Dr 33735 Grove St 29948 Hathaway St 35101 Hathaway St 37107 Kingsburn Dr 38995 Lyndon St 32971 Martin St 15495 Mayfield St	\$118,000 \$132,000 \$180,000 \$192,000 \$192,000 \$192,000 \$192,000 \$142,000 \$215,000 \$215,000 \$142,000 \$142,000 \$147,000 \$133,000 \$133,000 \$130,000 \$130,000 \$135,000 \$78,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$135,000 \$140,000 \$150,00	9608 Westmore St 9825 Westmore St 17715 Woodside St NORTHVILLE 16955 Abby Cir 44973 Broadmoor Cir S 39812 Glenview Ct 18970 Heather Ridge Dr 16409 Horseshoe Dr 16029 Jupiter Hills Dr 19521 Northridge Dr 42178 Waterfall Rd PLYMOUTH 1450 Ann Arbor Rd W 597 Ann St 13583 Burning Tree Ln 540 Byron St 49539 Cooke Ave 50045 E Fellows Creek C 13821 Fawn Woods Ct 9299 Hackberry Ave 40664 Newport Dr 9112 Oakcliffe Dr 11424 Parkview Dr 12300 Pinecrest Dr 49916 Pointe Xing 48095 Powell Rd	\$440,000 \$512,000 \$53,000 \$275,000 \$125,000 \$125,000 \$388,000 \$230,000 \$330,000	20048 Negaunee 9976 Norborne 17272 Olympia 26375 Ross Dr 26451 Ross Dr 9622 Seminole 13998 Seminole 26219 Student 17201 Sumner 26345 W Seven Mile Rd 14117 Winston WESTLAND 7526 Bison St 30730 Burlington St 35874 Canyon Dr 30625 Cooley Blvd 36650 Fairchild St 35097 Florence St 7485 Harrison St 32547 Judy Dr 38605 Northampton St 29025 Richard St 29025 Richard St 38376 Saint Joe Dr 33850 Tawas Trl 39242 Worchester St 39275 Worchester St	\$48,000 \$90,000 \$59,000 \$57,000 \$103,000 \$90,000 \$45,000 \$29,000 \$73,000	
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HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

\$40,000

\$306,000

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

F

BEVERLY HILLS	
15859 Buckingham Ave	\$165.000
18115 Kinross Ave	\$238,000
16981 Kirkshire Ave	\$232,000
20375 Lincoln Hills Ct	\$400,000
BINGHAM FARMS	•
32750 Bingham Ln	\$550,000
32135 Bingham Rd	\$750,000
BIRMINGHĂM	
585 Chester St	\$549,000
2587 Dorchester Rd	\$199,000
387 George St	\$260,000
959 Gordon Ln	\$425,000
562 Linden Rd	\$1,621,000
 570 S Glenhurst Dr 2698 Yorkshire Rd 	\$550,000 \$142,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	J142,000
3834 Quarton Rd	\$215,000
1227 Manorwood Cir	\$160,000
920 S Reading Rd	\$209,000
1052 Stratford Ln	\$155,000
3655 York Ct	\$398,000
JUJJ TOIK CL	\$350,000

4024 Hidden Woods Dr \$368,000 183 Hupp Cross Rd \$605,000 6148 Lantern Ln \$400,000 \$322.000 745 Parkman Dr 1596 Sandringham Way \$523,000 7370 Sandy Creek Ln \$460,000 333 Westbourne Ct \$279,000 659 Wilshire Dr \$243,000 292 Yarmouth Rd \$700,000 COMMERCE TOWNSHIP 9454 Boncrest St \$90,000 2276 Brigantine \$210,000 9679 Cooley Lake Rd \$214,000 557 E Grand Traverse St \$151,000 \$307,000 5260 Lancaster Ln 2528 Trillium Hills Dr \$250,000 FARMINGTON 35624 Briar Ridge Ln \$168,000 \$164,000 \$110,000 24186 Elizabeth Ct 33863 Glenview Dr 21009 Robinwood St \$145,000 FARMINGTON HILLS 32331 Baintree Rd \$210,000 \$370,000 \$135,000 27051 Hampstead Blvd 32370 Hearthstone Rd 28948 Herndonwood Dr \$190,000 33143 Hopecrest Ct \$172,000 31490 Hunters Circle Dr \$133,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

1927 E Spinningwheel Ln \$172,000

376 Concord Pl # 4

3689 Darcy Dr

24240 Locust St 29140 Millbrook Rd 30747 Mystic Dr 30255 N Meadowridge 32519 Nestlewood St 29436 Regents Pointe 36922 Ridgedale Ct 21580 River Ridge Ct 28294 Secluded Ln 21714 Sheffield Dr 37481 Turnberry Ct 30174 W 11 Mile Rd 32475 W 11 Mile Rd LATHRUP VILLAGE 28245 Goldengate Dr E . \$114,000 18190 Meadowood Ave \$103,000 MILFORD 345 Dorchester Way 1998 Harley Dr 1293 Huntcliff Ct 1030 Old Milford Farms 1159 Pleasure St 1569 S Creek Dr 559 Valley Dr 325 W Washington St NOVI 43475 Bennington Dr 25516 Birchwoods Dr 41845 Borchart Dr 45631 Bristol Cir 31119 Centennial Dr 21285 Chase Dr 24000 Devonshire Dr

\$155,000 \$50,000 44494 Gwinnett Loop 25364 Sutton Ct 40793 Village Wood Rd \$310,000 45340 W 10 Mile Rd 156,000 24311 Weathervane Ct \$157,000 28206 Wolcott Dr \$89,000 SOUTH LYON 24567 Brompton Way \$40,000 \$40,000 58664 Carriage Ln 25725 Coach Ln 51848 Copperwood Dr S \$40,000 \$352,000 26280 Daria Cir E \$285,000 \$270,000 21010 Greenbriar Ln 718 Hidden Creek Dr \$240,000 54370 Villagewood Dr SOUTHFIELD \$322,000 \$105,000 27616 Aberdeen St 28054 Aberdeen St \$52,000 15945 Addison St \$98,000 25004 Chambley Dr # 8b \$20,000 28091 Everett St \$16,000 22760 N Bellwood Dr \$141,000 25200 Pierce St \$95,000 19781 Silver Spring St \$60,000 30031 Sparkleberry Dr WHITE LAKE \$254,000 10014 Burgess Ct \$116,000 8901 El Dorado Dr \$230,000 8234 Elizabeth Lake Rd \$96,000 8930 Sussex St 1396 Waverly Dr \$153,000 \$105,000

loan from being used as a carve-out or basis for a deficiency judgment against a borrower or guarantor. The Act does not apply to loans that are initially classified as recourse loans, and the Act specifically states that it does not prohibit fully recourse loans.

Q: What is a deficiency judgment in a mortgage, and does my mortgage company have the ability to pursue one?

A: When a borrower cannot repay their mortgage and the lender pursues foreclosure, the lender may or may not be able to sue the borrower to collect the shortfall commonly known as a deficiency. In Michigan, the key is whether or not the note, not the mortgage, is classified as a recourse or nonrecourse loan. If the note is classified as a recourse loan, the lender can pursue a deficiency judgment on the covenants contained in the note. Generally speaking, conventional residential notes do have recourse provisions. However, in order for you to determine if you may be subject to a deficiency judgment, you may need to contact a real estate attorney to review your specific situation.

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 bmeisner@meisner-law. com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

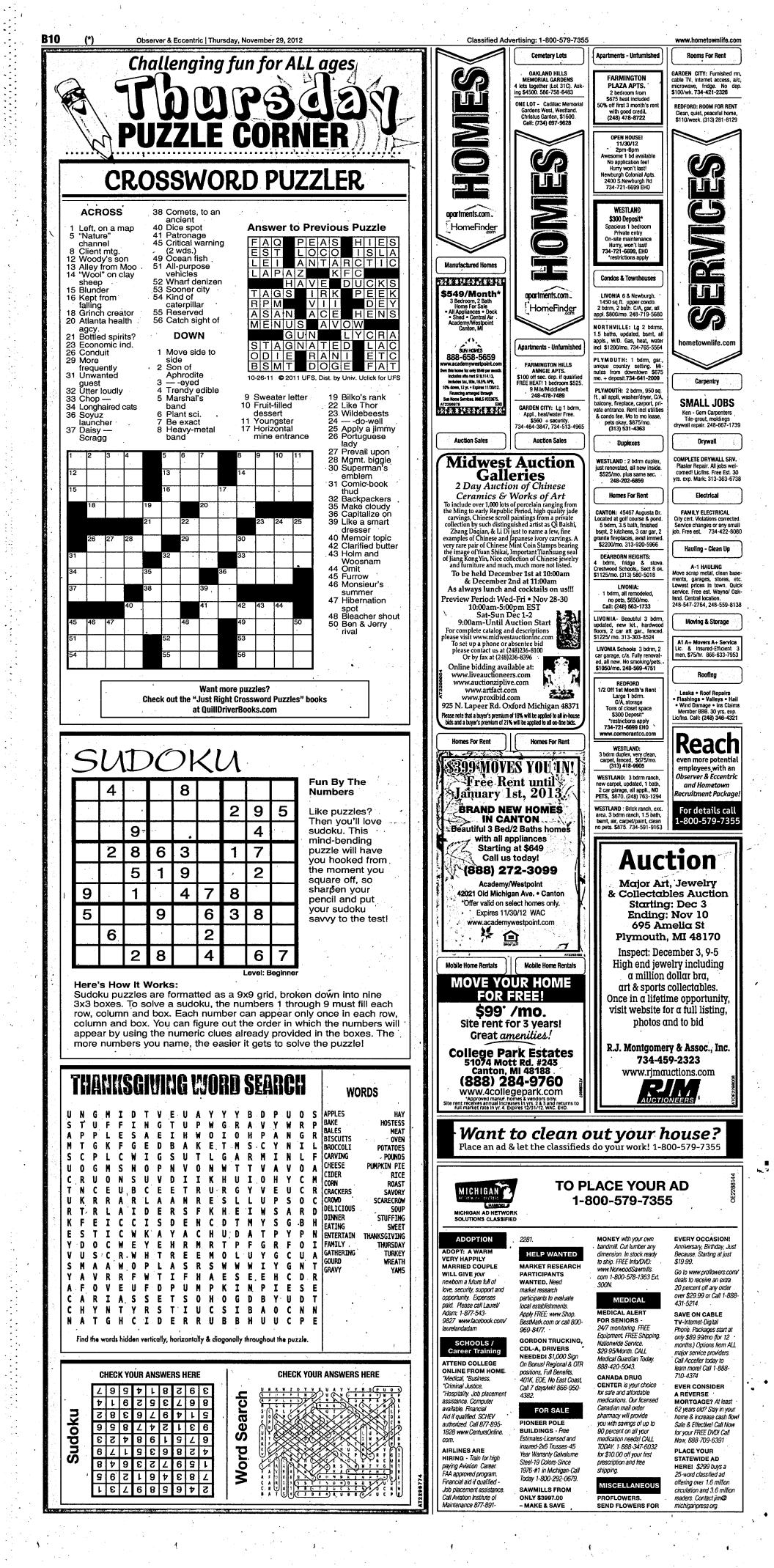
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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

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, reiawaynecounty.org., The party will feature dinner and hors d'oeuvres.





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Volt, eAssist, All-Electrics Will Be GM Strategy Now



General Motors is saying "uncle" in a key area of vehicle electrification: conventional hybrids. At the same time, the automaker indicated that it'll redouble efforts to stake out a brand-defining posi-

By Dale Buss

tion on one end of the electrified-vehicle spectrum, in highly electrified so-called "plug-in" hybrids like Chevrolet Volt and in all-electric vehicles.

The move essentially is surrendering the conventional-hybrid field to Toyota, which created and is dominating that segment with the Prius sub-brand. Interestingly, GM's move — ceding what once was a prime battlefield in green cars, where it invested heavily — comes at the same time that its cross-town rival, Ford, has just introduced an entirely new hybridonly brand, C-Max, to battle Prius in the U.S. market.



An all-electric version of the 2013 Chevrolet Spark is being introduced this month at the Los Angeles Auto Show.

Mary Barra, GM's product chief, told reporters today that the company has narrowed its future development plans to emphasize plug-ins like Volt, and EVs such as the all-electric version of the new Chevrolet Spark that GM will unveil at the Los Angeles Auto Show this month. Both kinds of cars are propelled only by batteries, while conventional hybrids rely on a combination of an electric motor and a gasoline engine.

"We need to make educated bets on which technologies hold the most potential for creating values for our customers and our company," Barra stated, echoing remarks she recently made to Autoline.

A few months ago, GM confirmed that it was shutting down its previous plans for future versions of a type of conventionalhybrid powertrain that has been offered in its pickup trucks and SUVs. But GM also has been introducing some new so-called "mild" hybrids that only lightly assist the gasoline engine under its eAssist subbrand, including versions of the Buick Regal and Chevrolet Malibu; it will continue to invest in eAssist, Barra indicated.

Barra conceded that the conventionalhybrid technology occupying the middle ground between plug-ins and EVs on one end, and mild hybrids on the other, remained "important, of course," the magazine said. But she emphasized that "plug-in technology will play an increasingly important role over the years to come."

In other words, GM is doubling down on its trailblazing investment in Volt and the extended-range technology that supports it, as well as all-electric vehicles. Though Volt has been selling at the rate of only a couple thousand units a month, two years after its launch and in the midst of a doubling of gasoline prices, GM executives are confident that the car and its underlying technology will gradually catch on.

Toyota made a similarly large but oppo-

site bet recently, putting more resources behind Prius and saying that it will deemphasize EVs. Toyota faced a hiccup today with Prius because about 670,000 Prius hybrids were included in the company's second significant recall in a few weeks, of 2.77 million vehicles worldwide



The 2013 Buick Regal with eAssist remains a key part of GM's new electrification strategy.

to fix a possible water-pump problem and steering defect.

Meanwhile, only Ford still seems to be trying to do it all on the electrification spectrum.

Sorting out the winners and losers in this battle will be, well, electrifying.



GM will continue to ride the Chevrolet Volt as an important innovation.

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