TIME TO SMAKE YOUR JOB-SEPACH BLUES

CLASS FIED, SECTION C



IN CHECK **USA WEEKEND**



The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Wayne Masonic Temple Association, a Michigan non-profit corporation, will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday,

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2012 • hometownlife.com PRICE: \$1

Property

Traditions

the meeting.

Dec. 11, at the corpo-

rate office at 37137 Palmer, Westland. On the agenda will be the election of officers and other business that may come up at

Annual meeting

Got a favorite Christmas tradition? Maybe it's an annual caroling party or ethnic-inspired Christmas Eve supper, ornament-making with the kids or a cookie exchange with the neighbors. Perhaps you assist at a soup kitchen on Christmas day or volunteer at an animal shelter, head north to hit the slopes or south to bask in the sun. Whatever your holiday tradition is, we'd love to find out more.

Send us a few paragraphs about your Christmas tradition - include a photo if you'd like — and tell us why it's a mainstay in vour holiday celebrating. We'll share it with readers in an upcoming Observer edition.

Include your name, phone number, e-mail, and city of residence. E-mailed photos should be jpg attachments. Email to Sharon Dargay by Friday, Dec. 14, at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Or mail them to her at 615 W. Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226.

Dear Santa

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

Letters should be 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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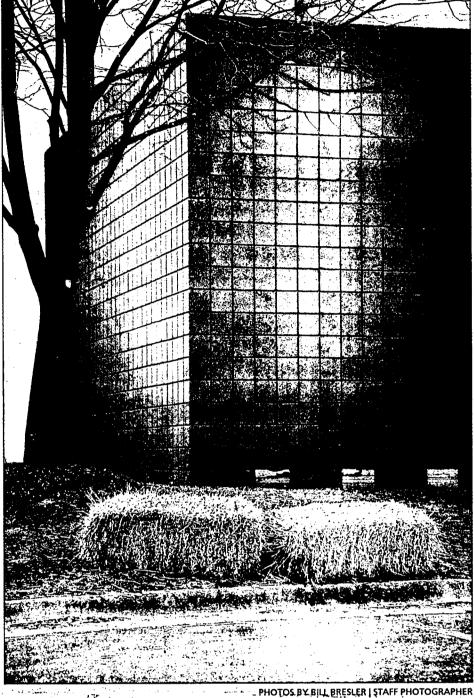
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New paint and cleaning up the landscaping are the most visible signs of new life at the

ynamic Diagnostics fills vacant box store

By LeAnne Rogers Observer Staff Writer

former Sam's Club.

Anyone passing by the old Sam's Club north of Westland Shopping Center has likely noticed the building is looking spruced up.

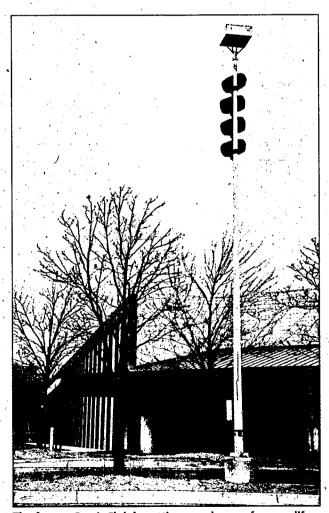
It's the most visible of the work going on at the building which will soon be the new home of Dynamic Diagnostics, Inc., which sells products to medical facilities.

"We have several lines of medical products and looking to expand into more," said company president Corey Brimhall. "We will have warehousing and distribution with the ability to sell retail. We sell to doctors offices, nursing facilities and they will pick up products."

A Pace warehouse store before it was Sam's Club, the building on Central City Parkway has been vacant for more than eight years.

"Getting this building full is one of the things

Please see BUILDING, A2



The former Sam's Club is getting a makeover for new life as the home of Dynamic Diagnostics.

tax plan could cost Westland

By LeAnne Rogers Observer Staff Writer

If the phased-in plan for cutting personal property taxes goes forward, Westland's loss could be about \$400,000. The city annually col-

"This

wouldn't

mean a

general

fund."

necessarily

hit for the

WILLIAM WILD,

Westland mayor

lects about \$2 million in personal property taxes, Westland Mayor William Wild said, much of that in the Downtown Development Authority and Tax Increment

Financing dis-

tricts. "This wouldn't necessarily mean a hit for the general fund," Wild said. "They have two more weeks to beat this up, but at the end of the day, it looks like they will go with Lt. Gov. (Brian)

Calley's plan." The current proposal: • Beginning in 2014, all of a taxpayer's industrial and commercial property within a local tax collecting unit will be exempt, as long as

the combined taxable value of such property within the unit is less than \$40,000.

"That means pizza places, gas stations, etc. We have a lot of them," Wild said. "We don't have the industrial base

of a city like Livonia. Those folks will be hit most." Beginning

in 2016, new eligible manufacturing personal property and eligible manufacturing personal property that was new in 2012-15 would be fully

exempt.

• Beginning in 2016, eligible manufacturing personal property that was new in 2005 or earlier will be fully exempt. In each subsequent year, one additional year is added to the exemption until all existing eligible manufacturing personal property is exempt in 2022.

"They are kind of Please see TAX PLAN, A2

Last chance for compost collection

By LeAnne Rogers Observer Staff Writer

Westland residents have time to finish any fall yard cleanup still left undone and get the compost collected.

"The last compost collection for the season is the first week of December. That means Friday (Dec. 7)," said Westland Public Services Director Kevin Buford.

After that, there will be no compost collection, except for Christmas trees following the holiday, until April 1. Uncollected compost can't be left at the curb.

"We normally do a sweep after composting ends to make sure nothing is left at the curb," said Buford.

Under Michigan law,

compostable materials - grass clippings, leaves and branches - can't be commingled with household trash. There has been a proposed change in that law to allow yard waste and trash to be sent to the same landfill, but it hasn't been enacted at this point, Buford said.

Compost collection rules are:

 Compost is grass clippings, leaves, yard and garden waste (excluding pumpkins) pruning debris and brush.

• Contents may be left in the form of five garbage cans or 10 compost bags. The total contents cannot exceed 60 pounds.

•Tree removal is not

Please see COMPOST, A2



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Continued from page A1

phasing it in. A year ago, they talked about just eliminating it," Wild said. "It's not ideal, but I think it's manageable. They are creating an authority to send back revenue (to theWiting projected general furtiloss of 1.5 percent; Wild said Westland wouldn't qualify for reimbursement for the lost revenue, which has to be a minimum 2.5 percent of the general fund revenues.

In the current economic climate, Wild said cutting the personal property taxes will probably be a bigger deal for businesses than it would have been in the past.

"Wearing a business owner hat, the personal property tax doesn't make sense," Wild said. "With my mayor hat on, it was a way to fund municipalities. It makes it tough to fund us."

lrogers@hometownlife.com (313) 222-5428

BUILDING

local government).'

Continued from page A1

we have worked hardest on," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "With MJR Theater last year and this year Dynamic Diagnostics, both are nice projects for our core retail district.'

The characteristics of the building that made it hard to market - the 111,000 square-foot size, high ceilings and seven truck wells - made it a good fit for Dynamic Diagnostics.

"The majority of the space is warehouse and shipping and receiving." said Brimhall. "That's very good for us and we got a very competitive price. The ceiling height is what we need. We'll be there for along time."

Display Advertising.....

The goal is to have a certificate of occupancy by March 1 and the business open by end of March. The building is being painted and the landscaping is being cleaned up as Brimhall gets the building in

order. "The walls and structure are poured concrete. The floor is in fantastic shape," said Brimhall. "The roof is a disaster - . I'm spending a lot of money on the roof."

Dynamic Diagnostics is relocating from Livonia, where the business has been operating for 20 years. It was housed in rented space for the past

10 years. "With the low property values, we were able to get into this retail area," said Brimhall, who took over a small side business from his father 21

GOODAR

The Westland Goodfellows is holding a toy and food drive. Donations of toys, hats & gloves, and non-perishable food items can be dropped off at any of the following locations All donated items will be distributed to Westland families this Christmas. Donation boxes available November 1 to December 7th, 2012 Participating Goodfellows' Partners

years ago and made it his career.

Initially, Brimhall said he had been reluctant to look at the former Sam's Club due to it being located in such a retail district.

"My wife grew up at Holliday Park (Cooperative) and remembers walking to the mall," said Brimhall, who had been looking for locations in other areas, including Romulus.

Dynamic Diagnostics currently has 15 employees but Brimhall said he would like to add 10-15 more employees over the next year.

"Long-term I would like to take that number to 60-70 workers. The sky's the limit," he said. "I plan to use the building for the next 20 years. I'm a good neighbor. I want a handsome building and keep things up, plant flowers."

Wild expects Dynamic Diagnostics will be a good fit in their new home.

"This shows you have to be more creative to redevelop these old box stores." Wild said. "Medical-related businesses are very stable. This will bring jobs and add jobs."

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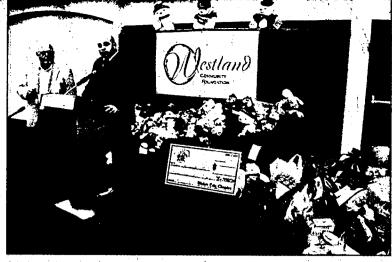
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Glenn Shaw Jr. (right) listens to Capt. Derek Rose of the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army speak about the needs in the community during last year's Westland Community Foundation's Christmas

Foundation holds annual Christmas party benefit

The sounds of the season will fill the media center of John Glenn High School as the Westland Community Foundation hosts its annual Christmas Reception Tuesday, Dec. 11.

The annual event, in its 16th year, will be 6-8 p.m. and feature performances by John Glenn High School's Glenn Singers and the Salvation Army Band. Refreshments

and hors d'oeuvres, prepared by Chef Tony Paquette and the students from the culinary arts program of William D. Ford Career Technical Center, also will be served.

The party will serve as a fund-raiser for the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army. Last year the foundation provided \$16,000 in food purchases and spent another \$8,000 to sponsor families and buy coats.

Guests are being asked to make a donation of \$5 and two unwrapped new

Reservations are needed and can be made through Wednesday, Dec. 5, by calling (734) 595-7727.

John Glenn High School is on Marquette west of Wayne Road in Westland.

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COMPOST

Continued from page A1

accepted. Do not compost food scraps, animal waste, chemicals or sod.

 Compost will be picked up the same day as regular trash. Compost must be in cans with a yard waste sticker attached or Kraft-type brown bags. Plastic bags

or cardboard boxes will not be accepted.

 Compost must be separated from regular household garbage by 10 feet. Mixed compost and garbage will not be picked up.

 A separate truck will pick up compost. Brush or limbs must not be longer than four feet nor larger than three inches in diameter and must be tied in small bundles with strong cord (no tape). A maximum of eight bundles per week are allowed. No stumps or roots.

 Sod, dirt, wood chips or landscaping material

(wood chips, mulch, gravel, stone, cement, etc.), vines (of any sort), will not be picked up. Residents will have the responsibility of disposal. Bundles of hay/straw must be broken down and put into cans or paper bags.

· Christmas trees will be picked up at the curb for two weeks following the Christmas holiday starting in January.

For more information, call the DPS at (734) 728-1770 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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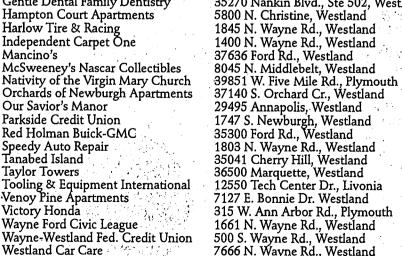
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OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY PETE SOUZA

ty business roundtable.

staff was aware of mv

company," Rush said.

meeting, Rush said

business owners.

When he entered the

Obama shook hands and

"The president is very

engaging and sincere. He

listens very well and was well-versed," Rush said.

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spoke with each of the

Some of the White House

Andra Rush of Rush Trucking in Wayne (in black and white dress) waits to meet President Barack Obama before his meeting with small business owners to discuss a balanced approach to the debt limit and deficit reduction, in the Roosevelt Room of the White House,

Wayne business owner talks money with **President Obama**

who would be personal-

ly impacted as part of the

2 percent paying higher

taxes, is that the austere

es would chill the improv-

ing economy and trigger

It wasn't Rush's first

time to talk with Obama

- she had briefly met him

during his first campaign

and again in Washington in 2008-09 during the auto

"I'm on the minori-

industry downturn.

a recession.

budget and higher tax-

By LeAnne Rogers Observer Staff Writer

It's not every day that someone is invited to the White House to meet with the president and his advisers.

But that's the call Andra Rush received just before Thanksgiving. The founder of Rush Trucking in Wayne, Rush was in Washington, D.C., last week as one of 15 business owners meeting with President Barack Obama to talk about the impending fiscal cliff facing the nation, if a budget deal isn't in place before the end of the year.

"I was very humbled and thrilled to have my voice heard," Rush said. "There were small business owners from all across America — different states, different size businesses."

The mandated tax increases and severe budget cuts that would result at the start of the new year without a budget agreement were the focus of the meeting, which lasted two hours, including time with staff.

"The president explained his view on the fiscal cliff. We expressed our views and concerns," Rush said. "Government revenues are historically at a low level and expenditures are at a high level — that gap has to be closed."

Both parties need to work together to resolve the budget situation, Rush said, adding certainty about the federal budget is needed by businesses.

"I hope that the Democrats and Republicans will come together and do what is right and best for the American people," Rush said.

Under the president's proposal, along with \$1 trillion in budget cuts, existing tax cuts for 98 percent of the population would remain in place, with a 2-percent tax increase for those mak-

ing more than \$250,000. The tax formula would be the same as during the Clinton administration and lower than during the Reagan administration,' Rush said. "The impact on the average taxpayer (of the higher tax rate) would be \$3,000 in discretionary income. That could severely impact us - my company depends

on the auto industry.' The concern for Rush,

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NEW FURNACE?

Parks and Rec has something for everyone this holiday season

Whether you're looking to get into the holiday spirit or take a break from all the festivities and shopping, the Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Department has something for everyone.

Upcoming holiday programs include:

• Holiday Tree Lighting -Join Wayne Mayor Al Haidous and Santa Claus 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Wayne Historical Museum to light the tree. St. Mary's Catholic Church Youth Choir will lead the gathering with Christmas songs.

At 7:15 p.m., the event will move into the historical museum to visit with Santa and have some cookies and hot chocolate served by the Wayne Beautification Committee.

The museum is located at One Town Square.

 Cup of Christmas Tea - This annual event will be held on 7-10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Wayne Community Center. This year the proceeds will benefit the **Business and Profes**sional Women's Wayne Memorial High School Scholarship and the Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Youth Programs.

• Lunch with Santa -Join the Jolly Old Elf for lunch 10:45 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Wayne Community Center. The cost is \$4 for Wayne and Westland residents and \$5 for non-residents, children 2 and under are free.

The cost includes pizza, salad, bread sticks, arts and crafts and face painting. Photo packages with Santa will be available. Tickets are, limited.

Proceeds from the Santa lunch will benefit the figure skating program.

• Kids Night Out -Need to finish some last minute shopping? Drop the kids off at the Wayne Community Center 6-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15. Bring a lined bathing suit, towel and lots of energy. Activities will include swimming, arts and crafts, games, pizza and pop. The cost is \$13 for Wayne-Westland residents and \$16 for non-

residents. • Golden Hour Christmas Party - The Wayne Golden Hour Christmas Party will be held at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at the Wayne Community Center. The event begins with a punch reception. Lunch will be served at noon. Tickets can be purchased for \$12 at the Wayne Community Cen-

• Member Apprecia-

tion Day - The Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Holiday Member Appreciation Day at the Wavne Community Center will be 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26. Enjoy free usage of all amenities including the indoor pool, exercise club, ice arena, indoor track, dry/wet saunas, health snacks, gifts and

• Family Winter Lock-In Visit - A Lock-in visit allows families to pay \$5 per visit per family and enjoy their choice of swimming, ice skating or using the indoor track. A visit is good 10 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday and 3:30-6 p.m. Sunday and is valid through March

 Winter Walker/Skating/Swim Passes - Get 30 visits to use the track, go to open skate or open swim for \$30 for Wayne-Westland residents, \$60 for nonresidents. Visits can be used through March 31.

•Unwind - Get a 10minute chair massage or foot reflexology for \$5 3-7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Wayne Community Center. The massage is provided by Strength and Spirit.

Visit www.ci.wayne. mi.us or call (734) 721-7400 for more informa-

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Alzheimer's Seminar Tuesday, December 4 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

"Know the Ten Signs of Alzheimer's Disease" presented by Roxanne Chang who is a member of the Speaker's Bureau of the Greater Michigan Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, and an elder law attorney in Plymouth. Any Social Workers who attend will be eligible for one CEU.

RSVP by December 2.

Winter Holiday **Vocal Ensemble** Saturday, December 8 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All you who are young at heart, come sip eggnog & enjoy holiday cookies while be entertained by the "Backbeat Boys" from Northville High School!

Christmas in Connecticut **Feature Film** Friday, December 28 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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Project Ace gets grant renewal

Project ACE (Access to College for Everyone) will receive a grant renewal to continue its efforts in embedding the collective impact framework with the . overarching goal of increasing the college attainment rates within the community, according to the Michigan College Access Network.

Project ACE was one of four communities awarded a \$20,000 collective impact grant renewal. The network is expected to report annual progress on key metrics on their local college access and success dashboard and continue to develop and execute data-driven collaborative action plans based on community priority areas. Project ACE serves the communities of Inkster, Wayne-Westland and Romu-

Eighteen communities will collectively receive \$474,000 through planning, startup and collective impact grants to support college access and success initiatives. The three types of grants are designed to help Michigan communities establish cross-sector collaborative leadership teams and action plans to dramatically increase their collegegoing rates.

"Serving as both an Advisory Board Member for Project ACE and as a business leader in the communities which Project ACE serves, I am especially proud of what our network has been able to accomplish to date," said James H. Allen, Fifth Third Bank officer. "This commitment will allow us to build upon the strong foundation we have established and move us further towards our goal of increasing college enrollment rates to 62 percent by the year 2015.'

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works set goals focused on student success, establish a system of data gathering and analysis, report results, and hold partners accountable for performance. The LCANs coordinate programs, services and resources that lower the barriers preventing students, particularly lowincome and first-generation college going students and students of color, from pursuing postsecondary educational opportunities.

This was our most competitive round of LCAN grants to date, the caliber of the proposals submitted made it extremely difficult to decide which communities to fund," said Brandy. Johnson, executive director of the Michigan College Access Network. "Each local college access network plays a critical role in sparking systematic change necessary to increase college readiness, participation and completion within their community."

Michigan has recently experienced a modest increase in its college attainment rate - from 35.6 percent of 25-to-64-year-olds possessing at least an associate's degree, to 36.4 percent. However, Michigan's rate still lags behind the national average of 37.9 percent.

It is MCAN's goal to increase Michigan's postsecondary educational attainment rate to 60 percent by the year 2025. With the newest planning grant recipients, MCAN now supports 51 local college access networks across the state. Funding from the State of Michigan made this round of MCAN grants possible.

For more information, visit www.micollegeaccess.org MCANalso is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/micollegeaccess

Superintendent: Educational reform is 'runaway horse'

By Sue Buck **Observer Staff Writer**

The push to reform teacher evaluations is a stressful topic in Garden City Public Schools.

Garden City Superintendent Michelle Cline said that the fervor begun by Gov. Rick Snyder to reform public educaton has become "a runaway horse" with the Republican Party.

"They have taken it and run " with it," said Cline, who spoke Thursday to members of the Garden City Kiwanis Club. "He was the driving force."

She acknowledged that some Republicans in the Legislature have said, "Hold on a minute." "It is a crazy thing," Cline

In 2011, the governor and the Legislature decided that there should be a formal teacher evaluation tool. Previously teachers were evaluated every year until they receive tenure at four years. After the fourth year, evaluations are every third year.

The reform change calls for evaluations every year.

"Last summer, if you did not have a teacher contract negotiated and signed, you had to start (the new procedure) right away," she said. "In Garden City, it was a huge cultural change for our teaching staff.'

Ratings changed from the previous satisfactory or nonsatisfactory grades to highly effective, effective, minimally effective and ineffective.

Garden City Public Schools is among 14 districts across the state that are participating in a pilot study of educator evaluation involving four different methods. It's using the Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching along with Montrose Community Schools in Genesee County and the Port Huron Area district in St. Clair

The work done in the pilot



Garden City Superintendent Michelle Cline

districts will help the state understand the feasibility of each tool and learn about the types and uses of data generated from the tools. Garden City school officials were trained in the use of the Danielson model just prior to the start of the new school year.

"It's not very different from what we had used," Cline said. "We used Charlotte Danielson as the basis for our evaluations, so there's not a big difference from what we had

been doing."
Cline said that Danielson did a lot of work in improving teacher performance, but not to evaluate them. A rubric defines different levels of effectiveness.

"We were one of the few in the state of Michigan who had to utilize the tool," she said. Administrators have to be

consistent in their evaluations. A major criticism was the time spent by administrators for more intense teacher evaluation, which "takes time away from everything," she said.

She agreed that teachers need to be held accountable. but a one-time test is not accu-

"It makes our teachers very uncomfortable," Cline said.

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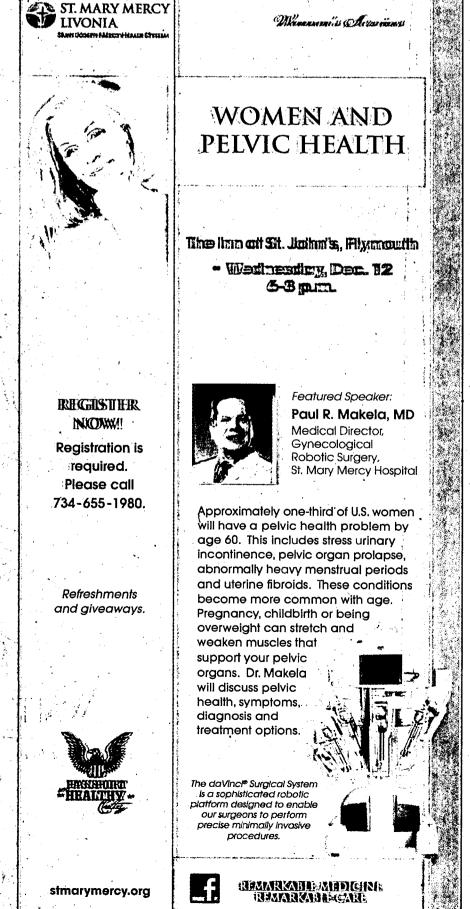
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Write on

Authors tackle NaNoWriMo's 500,000-word challenge

By Sue Mason **Observer Staff Writer**

Somewhere in Redford Friday, budding writers gathered for a "one last push party" and champagne toast at midnight to say farewell to the month of novel writing.

At 11:59:59 Friday, **National Novel Writ**ing Month, a "fun, seatof-your-pants approach to novel writing" event ended. While how many of the hundreds of thousands of people who logged on for NaNoWri-Mo finished remains to be seen. Chervl Vatcher Martin already knew she was a winner on Thurs-

"That was my goal, I had to win early this month," said the Canton resident who was at the William P. Faust Public Library Thursday evening for the final NaNoWriMo write-in. "I hit 50,752 words and became a winner on Nov. 25.'

Joining her was Terry Sample of Westland who needed less than 1,000 to hit the 50,000-word count required by NaNoWriMo.

"In 2011, I signed up, registered and never typed a word," said Sam-ple. "I'm very bad with procrastination and a lack of self-discipline. I had 49,019 words when I walked in here tonight. My daughter was very instrumental in keeping me online."

Keeping track

NaNoWriMo, which got its start in 1999 with 21 writers, requires participants write a 50,000word, or approximately 175-page novel, by 11:59:59 Nov. 30. It's web-



Cheryl Vatcher Martin of Canton talks to Terry Sample of Westland about writing during the final National Novel Writing Month drop-in at the William P. Faust Library Thursday.

site helps participants track where they are and counts the words in their completed manuscript. Those who meet the word count are declared winners, but there's nothing attached to that other than a feeling of accomplishment.

Last year, 256,618 participants sign up for NaNoWriMo and 36,843 of them crossed the 50word finish line by the midnight deadline.

Andy Schuck, head of library programs and adult services, started NaNoWriMo at the Westland library three years ago. Fellow librarian Marilyn Kwik had listened to a program about it and suggested he check... out. He did and introduced NaNoWriMo to patrons.

"We like to open cultural doors for people, this one has seemed to stick," he said. "We have people ask about it, it's almost

like a cult. They say about 10 percent of the people who enlist get to 50,000 words. It's more about the journey than getting to the finish line.'

Schuck isn't certain how many of the 12 writers who showed up for the NaNoWriMo kick-off event, were still doing it. The Thursday evening write-ins have been dropin programs.

'It's a daunting task, and people need to do their writing where they feel comfortable," he said. "For some, that's the library."

Vatcher, a published author, understands that. She started doing NaNoWriMo in 2004, but didn't meet the word count for the first time until 2006. She was on track to have this year's submission done by Nov. 14, but her computer died and she had to start over.

"I don't think any of us are frustrated writers,

we all just love to write," said Vatcher who runs the writer's club at the library.

"We're all writers and have stories in our heads and without this we wouldn't write them," added Diana Hirsch of Canton, who was almost 10,000 words short of finishing her novel by the deadline.

Requirements

Writers need to type at least 1,667 words a day to hit 50,000 by the deadlines. The NaNoWri-Mo website tracks participants' work online and lets them know what their word count is.

"The website says that on Day 29, I should be at 48,333 words," Hirsch said. "I need to do 5,815 words a day to finish. Last year I actually wrote 50,000 plus words, I know I can do that this year."

Each of the three NaNoWriMo partici-



and Fin keep Diana Hirsch Canton company as she works on her novel

pants had a different topic for their novels. Hirsch was writing about a woman who struggles with weight loss her whole life and how factors in her childhood affected that. Martin was writing a science fiction piece about time travel back to the Civil War. Sample was

doing a murder mystery. They all admitted that they started writing at a young age. Martin started at age 8, while Hirsch remembers doing a picture book about Noah's Arc when she was four. Sample used his father's manual typewriter to write a play for his kindergarten class.

They helped each other as much as they spent writing during the final two-hour write-in. Hirsch shared her idea of not using contractions in her story.

Pointers

"Someone told me last year not to use contractions. Don't is one word, but do not is two," said Hirsch who has two stuffed NaNo pals - Snuflet and Fin - who keep her company when she writes. "My husband

gave them to me to motivate me.'

Martin pointed out the need to write more than the required 50,000 words. The counter she said isn't accurate. Hirsch agreed. Last year, the counter added 33 words to her total.

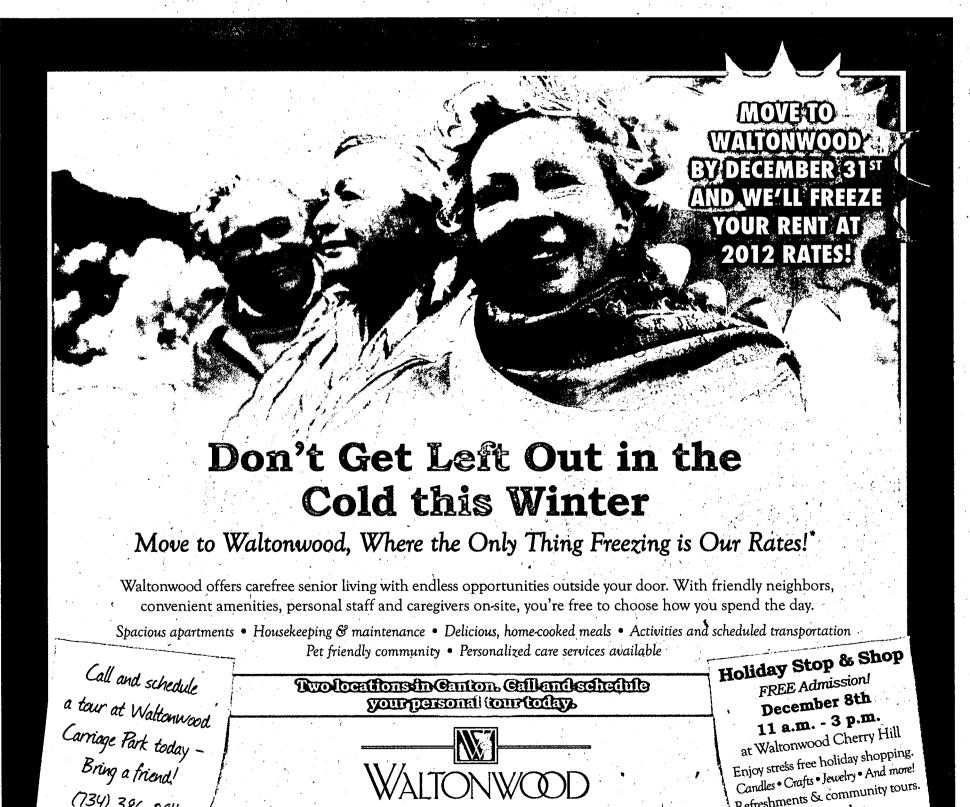
Martin already sees this year's NaNoWriMo novel becoming a trilogy, and Sample plans to start writing his second novel in this month. The subject is the "White Hurricane," a massive storm that hit the Great Lakes in 1913.

"It'll be a big tragedy with a fictional love story as the backdrop, like what John Cameron did with Titanic," he said.

And even though she needed to write more, than 10,000 words in the closing hours, Hirsch was confident of finishing in time.

"I've been doing a lot of writing the last few days, it's easier to write 5,000 a day at the end," she said. "I've told enough people about it, I have to do this. I wrote about it on Facebook and my blog."

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Wayne County judge shifts residency, owes property taxes in Birmingham

By Jay M. Grossman Staff Writer

Before Dana Hathaway takes the bench on the Wayne County Circuit Court, she might want to get her house in order.

Two homes, actually. Hathaway owes Birmingham Schools approximately \$6,500 in additional taxes, plus penalties and interest to Oakland County and the city of Birmingham after she rescinded a house at 174 Catalpa as her principal residence for the past three years.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 2, 2012

Birmingham Billing Manager Janet Laing said Hathaway purchased the house in 2010 and had been paying taxes at the principal residence rate. She came into Birmingham City Hall on Nov. 5 with an affidavit declaring the

Catalpa Street house as a non-principal residence. Laing said Hathaway has to pay the additional taxes because in Michigan, a property owner is not allowed to declare two homes as their primary

residence. Hathaway was elected in (November to serve a sixyear term on the Wayne County Third Circuit Court. She's the daugh-

ter of Michigan Supreme Court Justice Diane Hathaway, who's being investigated by the FBI over allegations of mortgage fraud.

Dana Hathaway declined to comment on this storv. She's listing a house in Grosse Pointe Farms as her principal residence, a necessary move since she ran for office in Wayne

County. According to real estate records, she and her husband purchased the house in March 2010 for about \$310,000. It was placed into foreclosure by the previous owner. The 3,657square-foot house was

built in 2000. It's now back on the back on the market with a listed selling price of \$560,000.

jgrossman@hometownlife.com (586) 826-7030



For the past three years, newly-elected Wayne **County Circuit Court Judge** Dana Hathaway said this Birmingham house was her primary residence. Earlier this month, she changed her tune and now lists a house in Grosse Pointe Farms as her primary residence.

AT-0E08791816

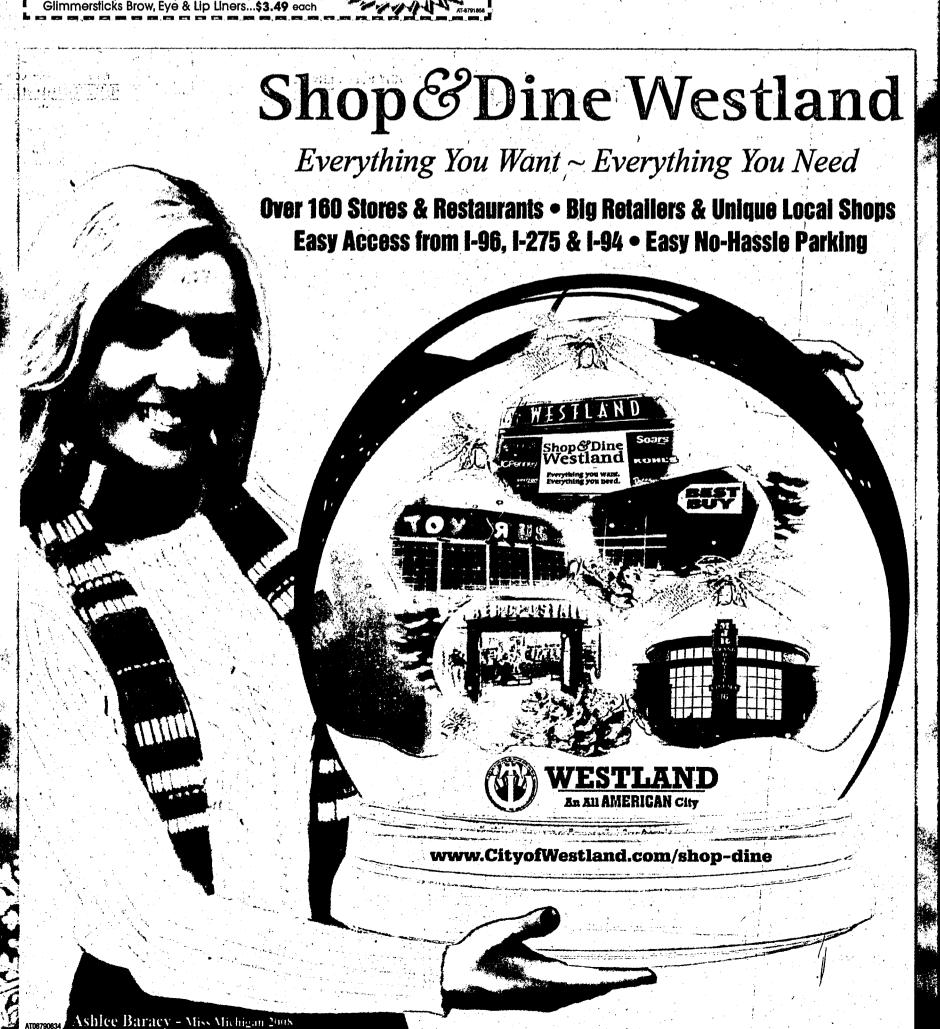


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5

Friends invite families to mill lighting

Wayne County Parks and the Friends of Nankin Mills is inviting families to the 25th annual Family Holiday Fest and Mill Lighting at Nankin Mills on Saturday, Dec. 8.

From 4 to 5:15 p.m., there will be several holiday crafts, games, prizes and refreshments in the Nankin Mills Internretive Cente

Immediately following, there will be a short outdoor ceremony with the mill lighting and sing-a-long, ending at 6

Throughout the program, children will have the opportunity to visit Santa.

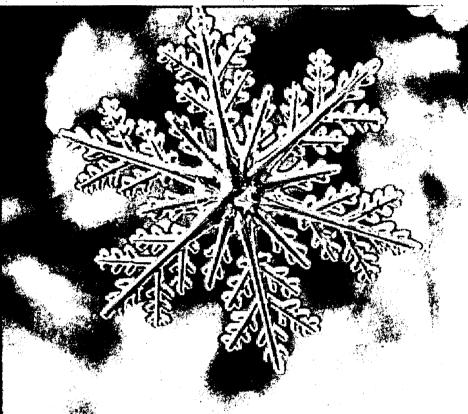
There is no charge for the mill lighting and

Santa visit, however, there is a cost of \$6 per child and \$2 per adult to participate in crafts and games. Space is limited, and preregistration is required. Call Wayne County Parks at (734) 261-1990.

The Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is located at 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.



Christmas caroling will be part of the festivities at lighting of Nankin Mills Saturday, Dec. 8.



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Project brings warmth, cheer to veterans, soldiers

By Sue Mason Observer Staff Writer

Friday may be packing day, but there's still plenty to do for St. John's Veterans Project volunteers.

Much like Santa Claus, they've made a list and are checking it twice to be sure they have everything they need to bring a smile to veterans at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor, a bit of warmth and food to homeless veterans and a bit of home to soldiers serving over-

In its sixth year, the project aims to give back to the veterans who have given so much for their country. The group out of St. John's Lutheran Church and School in Westland has already distributed 122 winter coats. hats, gloves and scarves. And, God willing, they will deliver 125 boxes for men and 10 bags for women at the hospital, 100 boxes to a center that works with homeless veterans and send 50 boxes to active duty soldiers.

"It's like giving a lit-

tle bit of a thank you for all they've given us," said Kendra Schaffer, who chairs the project. "When we go to the hospital, we see how important this is. Some of the patients, we've been told, don't get any visitors. We go in and thank them for giving us our freedom.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 2, 2012

"It's amazing how appreciative they are of the things we take for granted," she added.

But the state's sluggish economy has made getting donations difficult this year. With less than a week to go, the project is in need of cash donations to buy 50 pairs of men's pajama bottoms and another 10 pairs of women's lounge pants.

"We have no clothing donated for the women yet," Schaffer said. "We make up special bags for the women."

The project started with providing boxes for the patients. The boxes contain pajama bottoms, T-shirts, socks, underwear, playing cards, puzzle books and other personal care items.

The boxes are assembled at St. John's School, where students wrap them in Christmas paper to resemble presents. They also pitch in to form a human assembly line to help load a truck, donated by Glenn and Karen Stockdale of Westland, and go to the hospital, where they help put the packages on carts and

"We hear from the veterans how amazing it is see young people take time out of their lives to do this," said Schaffer's husband Fred. "They know that it's something good they're doing, but it also instills in young people how important freedom is and at what cost it . comes."

deliver them to patients.

Among the veterans they encounter is one known only as "Cookie Monster." He's the longest resident at the hospital and sits at the door to the activities room. He always asks them if they have cookies.

"I think he's in his 80s," Schaffer said. "We're not allowed to bring food in,

but we always sneak in cookies for Cookie Mon-

Over the years, the project has expanded. The first thing added was boxes for homeless veterans. Those packages are also wrapped in Christmas paper and include canned meals, desserts, crackers and other food and personal care items.

"We want every one of them to have at least one day of three good meals, so we provide three different pull tab foods soup, meat and a meal." Schaffer said.

Volunteers had hoped to be able to donate 100 blankets and tarps this year, but fell short of the mark. They were only able to do 25.

Three years ago, the volunteers started sending packages to active duty troops. The first two years, they had a member of the congregation who had someone stationed overseas and they adopted the soldier. This year they're planning on doing 50 boxes, but are having a hard time getting names

and addresses, Schaffer said.

They also are looking for such items as hand warmers, flavorings for water and beef jerky to put in the boxes. The school children make homemade cards for the all of the boxes and chúrch members are given envelopes to put their own personal notes in for the troops. They also make beaded candy canes with a card about the story of the candy cane that's given to the patients. Real candy canes are used for the troops and the homeless veterans.

Help has come from many places. Buffalo Wild Wings hosted a fundraiser and is providing food for packing day. The Westland Kmart store has been "wonderful about giving us things at sale prices." Thrivant Financial of Western Wayne County has been a "huge supporter," providing

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School in Livonia has "given us a ton of food and goods we can use," and Ken and Carol Sharp donated boxes of magazines and more than 100 pairs of gloves,

Schaffer said. "One lady made 300 scarves for us," she add-

But more is needed, if the project is to get everything it needs by Friday. Donations can be dropped off at the school at 2602 Wayne Road, north of Glenwood. They also can be made by using the Pay-Pal option on the project's website at www.stjohns-

veteransproject.com. People can also call Schaffer at (734) 891-8575 or her husband Fred at (734) 891-8166.

"I thank God we've been given the ability to do this," Schaffer said. "I hope we can continue to do this, but it wouldn't happen without all of the volunteers. We're a committee of eight, but on packing day we have 20 or more and it's the same on delivery day."

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

Volunteers needed to help with TSA's Bank Day

Volunteers are needed to help sell cards that will put a hot meal . on the table of homebound seniors on Christmas Day.

Each year The Senior Alliance holds Bank Day in which volunteers sell \$5 holiday cards at banks around the area. The \$5 represents the cost for delivering a holiday meal to a home-bound senior, and the card, signed by the donor, is included with the holiday meal.

This year The Senior Alliance will hold Bank Day on Friday, Dec. 14.

The seniors receive food through the Meals on Wheels program which provides a hot meal Monday through Friday. However, the program does not operate on holidays. The Senior Alliance Hol-

iday Meals Program was created to provide hot, delivered meals to home-bound seniors on four holidays out of the year, including Christ-

The Holiday Meals Program is financed entirely through private donations, as well as various fund-raising activities, such as Holiday Card Program, Bank Day and The Senior Alliance's Annual Golf Classic.

To volunteer on Bank Day, or to make a donation to SAHM, contact Heather Pinage at hpinage@tsalink.org or (734) 727-2063.

The Senior Alliance (SA) is a 501(c)(3)organization. Its mission is to help older adults remain as independent as possible within the community of their choice. TSA provides services free of charge to thousands of senior citizens and caregivers across southern and western Wayne County, including the home delivered meals, holiday meals to home-bound seniors, care management, information and assistance, along with other crucial wellness and life supporting ser-

The Senior Alliance, with offices at 3850 Second St., Suite 201, Wayne, provides services to western Wayne County, including the communities of Wayne, Westland, Garden City, Canton, Plymouth Plymouth Township, Livonia, Redford and Northville. For more information, call (800) 815-1112.

Help area children have a happy holiday season

Scoop the Newshound is asking local families to join the O&E Media toy drive to benefit youth served by Methodist Children's Home Society and Orchards Children's Services.

"Both organizations help protect abused and neglected children by providing housing, education and other services," said Choya Jordan, O&E Media marketing manager and project organizer. "Please consider donating a new unwrapped gift this year. Your gift will help brighten a youth's holiday sea-

Donate a new unwrapped toy and you will receive a voucher for a free Buddy's four-

square cheese pizza. Drop off gifts at these O&E Media and partner

 Plymouth Office and Distribution Center, 41304 Concept Drive (east of Haggerty between Schoolcraft and Plymouth roads).

 South Lyon Office, 101 N. Lafayette (corner of Pontiac Trail and Lafay-



ette in downtown South Lyon).

 Southfield Chamber of Commerce, 24300 Southfield Road, Suite 101 (248) 557-6661 (from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays).

• The Birmingham Community House, 380 Bates Street, in downtown Birmingham (248) 644-5832 (from 9 a.m. to 5 days)

All gifts must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7.

This is the second year the O&E has sponsored a toy drive to benefit these local organizations and help brighten the holi-

days for area children. The Methodist Children's Home Society in Redford has been successfully helping children for 95 years, but right now foster children are in dire straits. The

cost of caring for these. children has increased, but state funding has not. In these hard economic times, these children need help now, more than

Last year MCHS served more than 270 children through residential, foster care, adoption and literacy programs.

Orchards Children's Services has been a beacon of hope for children and families for more than 50 years.

Orchards seeks to protect and nurture children and youth by providing shelter, sustenance, life and educational skills and opportunities. Orchards programs and services touch children from birth to young adulthood, and the agency remains committed to them every step of the

Orchards was also recognized in 2011 as one of three agencies nationwide to receive the highest score in every category of assessment from the Council on Accreditation. This is a national accrediting body that demands the highest standards of service and

For more information contact Choya Jordan via email at cbiordan@hometownlife.com.

"The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Wayne Masonic Temple Association, a Michigan non-profit corporation, will be held at the corporate office at 37137 Palmer Rd., Westland Michigan on Tuesday December 11, 2012 at eight o'clock P.M. for the election of officers and such other business as may properly come before said meeting."

Publish: November 25, 2012

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland, 36601 Ford Rd., Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before the date of December 20, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. for the following (no exceptions will be made for late filings):

Power Stretchers for a Type 3 ambulance

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or at www.cityofwestland. com. Please direct questions pertaining to specifications to Robert Arbini, Deputy Chief at (734) 467-3252. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Robert Arbini **Deputy Chief**

Publish: November 30, 2012

CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

REGULAR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 19, 2012

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for December 19, 2012 has been cancelled due to the lack of

The next regularly scheduled Zoning Board of Appeals meeting will be held on January 16, 2013 in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI at 5:30 p.m.

Publish December 2, 2012





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Books galore at National Book Festival

f you missed this year's National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., Sept. 23-24, you still might be able to be a part

Established in 2001, the festival, was organized by the Library of Congress and hosted by former First Lady Laura Bush. As a librarian, Mrs. Bush was eager to celebrate all that's wonderful about the printed word and continued to host it throughout her years in the White

This first festival was a one-day event held in the fall of 2001 in the Library of Congress. More than 30,000 visitors swarmed the building that day, meeting authors, listening to lectures and participating in book signings. Due to its overwhelming

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success, the festival continued in 2002, moving outdoors to the Mall area between the Capital and the White House.

Despite the gloomy, rainy weather that year, the crowd of more than 40,000 book lovers attended in hopes of meeting a favorite author.

"Keep this up, and in 10 years you'll have 100,000 visitors," said bibliophile Malcolm Bliss of Virgin-

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Surprisingly Mr. Bliss was not far off.

In 2008, the honorary co-chairs of this festival was shifted to President and Mrs. Obama. The Obamas continued supporting the festival and in 2011 expanded the event to two days to include access to children and young adult authors as well as a Read and Build Area.

This year's festival, the 12th, boasted 125 awardwinning authors and more than 200,000 participants milling around the Mall, listening to lectures, meeting authors, discussing favorite books and, of course, reading. Perhaps the most inspiring sight during the festival was thousands of children, teens and adults sitting under trees, standing

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9 AM - 3 PM

in lines, and eating lunch while reading a book.

Well, by now you might be saying, just how might I be a part of this wonderful festival? The answer is simple: Visit the Westland Public Library during the next two weeks. From Dec. 4-15 you can stop by the library and enter a drawing to win an autographed book from one of your favorite authors. Whether you're a fan of Charlaine Harrris, or Tony Horwitz, Lois Lowry, Christopher Paolini or Ellen Hopkins you might just be lucky enough to add an autographed copy of their most recent book to your

Children are also invited to put their name in the drawing because Anna Dewdney's latest Llama Llama book is in the mix along with Marc Brown's illustrations in Judy Sierra's Wild About You.

bookshelf.

For anyone unable to attend the festival, author presentation webcasts are available at www.loc. gov/bookfest as well as the Library of Congress' YouTube channel.

Stop by the library to get in on the fun or to find out just about anything else. The library is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday -Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Or you can always visit us online at westlandlibrary.

HIGHLIGHTED **ACTIVITIES**

Holiday Concert: 7 p.m.

Dec. 4

It's the time of year that we endure a lot of stress and strain. The library is happy to offer an evening of musical cheer via the soothing strings of harpist Kimberly Waldorf, Please join us in the Faust Area for this winter delight. No registration is required.

Santa's Coming to the Library: 6:30-8 p.m. Dec.

Santa's Coming! Everyone is invited to visit Santa and remind him just how nice you've been all year. After your visit, come and listen to stories read by guest readers and enjoy some cookies and hot cocoa. Don't forget to bring your camera.

Gadgets, Tablets and Apps for the Holidays: 7 p.m. Dec. 5

Join Lindsay Wieczorek, gadget and app aficionado, as she discusses the latest technology trends to hit the market this coming holiday season, including tablets, e-readers, apps, movie and music streaming, and much more. Equipment will be on hand for you to test-drive after the talk. Sign up online at westlandlibrary.org/ events or call the library at (734) 326-6123 to reserve your seat.

Hot Cocoa Kits: 6:30 p.m. Dec. 6. All ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Have a lot of people on your "nice" list? Make a

gift for them that's fun, delicious and inexpensive. We'll show you how to make your own cocoa mix, personalize marshmallows, and wrap it up in a holiday package. A great gift for teachers and coworkers! Seating limited, registration required - sign up at the Reference Desk or call (734) 326-6123. Friday Night Mov-

ie: 6:30 p.m. Dec. 7. Join us for a recently run movie and a fun trivia contest with prizes. Tonight's movie, Your Sister's Sister, is about a man who goes on a trip to a friend's family cottage, only to fall for that friend's sister (did we mention that his friend is a woman?). This movie is rated R. Snacks and refreshments provided (donation suggested, not required). This is an after-hours event, so doors will open at 6:30 p.m. No sign-up required.

Holiday Stamping with Cari: 7 p.m. Dec. 11. Get ready for the holidays with Cari. Learn how to create beautiful holiday cards, tags and gift bags. All supplies will be provided. Space is limited so sign up today by calling the library at (734) 326-6123.

Information Central was compiled by Marilyn Kwik, head of information services. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.

WYAA cheer teams bring home medals

The Westland Youth Athletic Association has much to be proud of at the recent Western Suburban Junior Football League Cheer Rally.

The Westland Comets hosted to all nine units at Wayne Memorial High School.

The Westland Meteors achieved a bronze medal in the Varsity cheer

competition. The Meteors were coached by Jen Hewitt and their cheer director is Krista Dennis.

The Westland Comets received a bronze medal for cheer and silver medal for dance medals in Freshman competition. Their coaches were Taylor Gibson, Marisa Colosimo and Trudi Brothers.

The Comets JV squad, under the direction of Veronica Chambers and Stephanie Shippe, also claimed a bronze medal in cheer and silver in dance, while the Comets Varsity squad, coached by Dana Quattlander and Ashley Fracassi, won a silver medal in cheer and gold medal in dance.

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland, 36601 Ford Rd., Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before the date of December 20, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. for the following (no exceptions will be made for late filings):

63 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, 16 Spare Cylinders, Five RIT Packs, 53 Spare SCBA Masks, Fit Testing hardware and software Equipment, SCBA Repair Equipment (hardware and software) and Tools, Bottle Storage and Training

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or at www.cityofwestland.com. Please direct questions pertaining to specifications to Robert Arbini, Deputy Chief at (734) 467-3252. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Deputy Chief

Publish: December 2, 2012



CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF ADOPTION

Please take notice that at its regular meeting of Monday, November 19, 2012, the City Council of the City of Garden City did adopt the following schedule. All regular meetings of the City Council begin at 7:00 PM in the Civic Center council chambers, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135, (734) 793-1660, unless otherwise noticed.

2013 - SCHEDULE OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday Monday Monday Monday Monday

January 7, 2013 January 28, 2013 February 11, 2013 February 25, 2013 March 4, 2013 March 11, 2013 March 18, 2013 April 1, 2013 April 15, 2013 April 22, 2013 May 6, 2013 May 13, 2013 May 20, 2013 June 3, 2013 June 17, 2013 July 1, 2013 July 15, 2013 August 12, 2013 August 26, 2013 September 9, 2013 September 23, 2013 October 7, 2013 October 21, 2013 November 12, 2013 November 18, 2013 December 2, 2013 December 16, 2013

Council Meeting Council Meeting

Council Meeting

Council Meeting

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First lawsuit filed in Webster School abuse case

Read lawsuit online at www. hometownlife.com

> By Karen Smith **Observer Staff Writer**

A lawsuit was filed . Monday in U.S. District Court on behalf of a special-needs preschooler allegedly abused by a former Livonia Public Schools teacher. The suit seeks in excess of \$75,000 for physical pain and mental anguish the boy suffered.

The lawsuit is the first of at least three expected to be filed on behalf of children in the Webster **Elementary School class** taught last school year by Sharon Turbiak.

Attorney Ven Johnson of Detroit, who represents Jayden Gohl, 4, of Plymouth, had expected to file the suit last week, but the filing was delayed to ensure "that all necessary information was obtained prior to filing, said Amanda A. Krzystan. an attorney in his office.

LPS Superintendent Randy Liepa, one of the defendants in the suit, said Tuesday he had not seen a copy and would not comment on specific allegations. He said last week that parents have a right to seek a grievance through the court system.

"If that's what they wish to do, I certainly understand that's an

option for them," he said. Besides Liepa, the suit lists as defendants Livonia Public Schools, Turbiak of Livonia, former Webster Principal Shellie Moore and Nancy Respondek of Redford, a parapro who worked with

Turbiak in the classroom. The suit alleges that a social worker witnessed Turbiak assault Jayden on March 5, grabbing him by the top of his head, jerking it backward and yelling directly into his face, "You need to listen to me."

Jayden was born with hydrocephalus, has had seven brain surgeries and has a brain shunt. Any severe head movement and/or injury is potentially life-threatening to Jayden, Johnson said.

The social worker reported Turbiak's assault of Jayden to Moore, who in turn reported it to former LPS human resources chief Dorothy Chomicz, who soon after informed Liepa, the suit alleges.

But none of those individuals reported it to **Child Protective Services** as required by state law, the suit says.

Liepa, Moore, Respondek and others knew that Turbiak had verbally and physically abused children in the past and failed to pro-

We Feature



Jayden Gohl is held by his mother, Lauren.

tect Jayden, whose rights were violated, the suit savs

LPS also knew that its administrators, in particular, Liepa and Moore, were not adequately supervising and/or disciplining Turbiak for her use of excessive force, the suit says.

An internal report recently released by LPS includes witness statements saying Turbiak slapped and yelled at the children, let them fall and laughed about it instead of supporting them when they moved to the floor or a chair and put a boy confined to a wheelchair in the bathroom for timeout for 15 to 20 minutes. The report says Respondek

spanked a child. The first

documented complaint against Turbiak was dated Oct. 24, 2011, the report says.

The class was part of a Wayne RESA center program serving students from multiple districts. All 12 of the children who were in the class are cognitively impaired and some also have physical impairments.

Mark Schultz, the district's public safety administrator and a former police officer, reported the issue to Livonia Police Department on April 24, the day after he began the internal investigation. Livonia police sought warrants from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, but those warrants were denied and the case was closed.

No one has been charged with a crime.

Turbiak was placed on leave in April, and the school board voted June 18 to recommend the state tenure commission terminate her employment. Turbiak then resigned, effective March 31, 2013, and the Michigan Tenure Commission dismissed the case against her. She remains on paid administrative leave until March 31, 2013.

She has not returned calls from the Observer. Moore is on paid administrative leave through Dec. 31, 2012, the effec-

tive date of her resigna-

tion and retirement, Dana Whinnery, the district's new director of human resources said. She had requested and was granted a transfer from Webster and was reassigned to be the assistant principal at Riley Upper Elementary, he said. However, she requested and was granted a leave of absence Aug. 15 and then submitted her letter of resignation and retirement Sept. 7, so she never worked at Riley.

Respondek was fired June 13 by the administration, but union representatives notified the district Oct. 31 of their intent to appeal her termination to arbitration, Whinnery said. "We're waiting for formal paperwork," he added.

In previous interviews, Liepa said he knew in November about staff disagreements over working with children in the classroom, "not in regards to students being abused."

"At that point in time, it was no one's assessment there was anything more," he said.

He said the personnel department was handling the issue. In April, after Schultz began the internal investigation, Liepa said he "started hearing more of the issues identified in the report."

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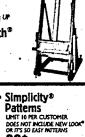
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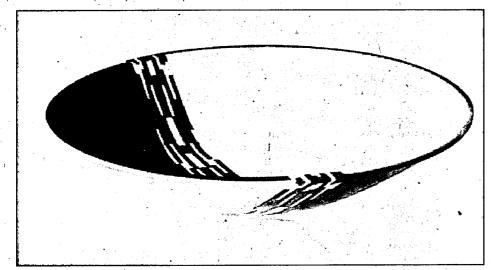
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Support local business, state economy



The Huron Valley Council for the Arts in Highland features a variety of works by Michigan artists. Seen here is Eclipse by Susan Murdock.

By Mary Quinley Correspondent

The next time you head out to tackle the holiday shopping crowds, think Michigan. From apparel and fine art to jewelry, edibles and toys, the possibilities are endless of made-in-the-state products appropriate for holiday gift giving. An added perk — you'll be supporting Michigan's economy.

Here are some local businesses that feature Michigan made merchan-

The holidays are extra special at the Huron Valley Council for the Arts in Highland. Gift seekers will find a vast selection of "pottery, jewelry, paintings, note cards, glassware, baskets, sweaters, scarves, purses, quilts and more," said Dianne Deinek, events and communications committee member.

The gallery will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each Saturday through Dec. 21 for the Festival of Trees Holiday Artist Market.

Got pets? Maestros Dog

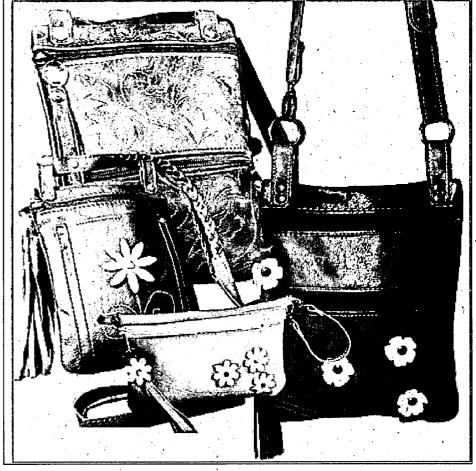


MARY QUINLEY

Wine, hard cider and a non-alcoholic sparkling cider produced by The Northville Winery make great holiday gifts.

Haus in Bloomfield Hills features made-in-house goodies for furry friends. "I make my own chicken jerky. Dogs love it — and people do, too!" said Ken Platt, who is co-owner

with his wife Janet. Custom gift baskets, as well as chicken breast chips, apple chips, cheese bits with flaxseed, pup cakes and bone cakes, are other options.



Bazl bags by Bev Larsen can be purchased at Huron Valley Council for the Arts in Highland.

In Plymouth, the Three Dog Bakery also specializes in edibles, like cookies, biscuits and personalized birthday cakes, for dogs and cats. Custom orders are welcome.

If you're in the market for a diamond ring, consider Jeffrey Allen Jewelers in Milford. "The stone setting and all of the repair work is done by me," owner Jeffrey Orzech said. Halo and pave, he said, are the most popular settings, especially for customers looking for engagement rings.

Michigan goodies

A stroll through Canton's Holiday Market reveals a variety of statemade goodies, from Petoskey-based Amer-

ican Spoon Preserves and Jams and 15 flavors of Detroit's Towne Club Soda, to bottles of Saginaw's Billy Bones BBQ sauces and rubs and Michigan wines and beers. Made-in-Canton Mama Mucci's Pasta and Pasta Sauce is also available.

Other area grocers, like Hiller's in North-ville, Plymouth and West Bloomfield; the Westborn Market in Livonia and Berkley; and Livonia's Joe's Produce, sell a wide variety of Michigan edibles, beverages and sweet treats. Kroger, Meijer and Costco carry products (salsa, guacamole and tortilla chips) from the Ferndale-based Garden Fresh.

When Maggie Cytacki and friends visited The Northville Winery recently, the foursome sam-

pled wine and shopped. "I bought a bottle of red, raspberry-flavored sweet wine and a CD produced by local musicians. It was nice that part of the proceeds for both items went to charity," said Cytacki of Livonia.

Hard cider and a nonalcoholic sparkling cider are other festive holiday gifts produced by the winery.

Cytacki, as well as Bernadette Diroff, like to purchase Sanders products from Aco in Westland for out-of-state relatives. "My daughter in Florida — who used to live in Michigan — loves Sanders hot fudge. I like

Please see SHOPPING, A12



Attention WWII Veterans and Defense Workers!!



John Glenn High School students are interviewing WWII veterans and defense workers as part of an oral history project. These interviews will be videotaped and submitted to the Library of Congress. Participants will also receive a copy at the WWII USO Dance on May 8th to share with their families. To have your story preserved for posterity please contact Michele Anderson at 734 419-2300 or AndersonM@wwcsd.net





NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE Sponsored by JOHN GLENN HIGH SCHOOL 36105 Marquette, Westland, MI



The Wayne Westland WWII USO Dance and Oral History Project is made possible in part by a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

SHOPPING

Continued from page A11

to send the fudge to her and her family for Christmas," said Diroff of Westland

Fun Stuff! in Birmingham carries a slew of varied Michigan products. "We have poly clay costume jewelry that is whimsical and colorful; the 1st & Roll football board game made by a father and son team: and dysfunctional chair sculptures — you can't sit on them — made of cast bronze and steel," owner Denise Kulak said.

Toys too!

Another Birmingham shop, Adventures in Toys also carries the 1st & Roll game and wooden baby blocks made in the state.

Foam football and soccer balls by Poof-Slinky® in Plymouth make great stocking stuffers. The balls are available at major chain stores.

If you wander into Sisters Art and Gifts at Westland Shopping Center, chances are you'll meet a Michigan-based artist or two to help you pick out a gift. "Everything I do, I incorporate poetry," artist Michelle E. Alford said. Poetry books, plaques and frames and stuffed animals are some of her creations.

The shop overflows with handmade items like hats, mittens, glassware, jewelry, coasters and paintings. Artist Kathy Sheeran talked about her textured paintings that hang on the walls of Sisters: "Everything comes from my heart right onto the canvass." Also on display are pictures of local historical sites — Michigan Central Station and Grande Ballroom, to name a few - created by photographer Richard Spitler.

Kilwin's (there are shops in Plymouth and

Where to find made in Michigan products

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- (734) 844-2200; Royal Oak (248) 541-1414, www.holidaymarkets.com
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- trendz.net Your Michigan Connection, Northville, (248) 380-9292, www.yourmiconn.
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- 6111, www.achatzpies.com • The Northville Winery,
- (248) 344-2131, www.thenorthvillewinery.com
- Main Street Art, Milford, (248) 684-1004, www.mainstreetartmilford.com
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- bornmarket.com Keg & Wine, Redford, (313) 538-1888
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- phone or web address After the Rain, Milford, (248) 685-9100
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- Hills, (248) 851-6770, www. theshirtbox.com
- Lafayette Party Store, South Lyon, (248) 437-3666
- Joe's Produce and Gourmet Market, Livonia, (248) 477-4333, www.joesproduce.com
- Kilwin's, Plymouth (734) 404-6719; Birmingham (248)646-5940, www.kil-
- wins.com Guernsey Farms Dairy, Northville, (248) 349-1466, www.guernseyfarmsdairy.
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Birmingham) is a great spot to purchase sweet

treats for chocoholics. For the eggnog lovers on your list, pick up a carton or two of the holiday drink at Guernsey Farms Dairy. The made-in-Northville beverage and almost three dozen flavors of ice cream, including Blue Moon, Chocolate Chip and Butter Pecan, are also available at many neighborhood grocers.

According to Stella Delap, owner of Basket Kreations in Plymouth, "gift boxes are the most popular" for holiday shoppers at her store. The Love from Michigan box,

filled with pretzels, Faygo and Sanders products, cherries, taffy, chocolate candy bars and Mucky Duck mustard, is a favorite. The shop also carries a nice selection of Michigan made salsas, cherry butter, jams, BBQ sauce, hand soaps and Pewabic Pottery.

Your Michi-**Made in Detroit**

Made in Detroit, a brand of Detroit-themed apparel, beer and accessories, can be purchased from many local retailers. After the Rain in Milford, Berkley's City Style and The Shirt Box in Farmington Hills are stores that carry the popular logo.

Weary souls in the mood for a boost might try a beer-based malt, milkshake or slider at The Rust Belt Market. This Ferndale haven for holiday shoppers features soaps, chocolates, makeup, re-purposed domino game piece bracelets and other jewelry, snowboards, apparel, hair accessories, purses, prints, paintings and soy candles. It is open weekends year-round and each

Friday during December. "I carry up north items in downtown Northville,"

said owner Geri Turnbull of Your Michigan Connection, referring to the slew of made in the state goods in her compact, six-footwide store. Popular items include a Michigan oven mitt printed with city names; cherry salsa from American Spoon, Cherry Republic and Cherry Stop; and Benjamin Twig's pancake mix with dried cherries.

At the Zodiac Ranch in Milford, Linda Lundstrom raises alpacas and sheep. Craft savvy customers who are interested in making holiday gifts, like felt snowmen or penguins, can purchase kits from the farm's shop and/ or attend a craft class. Call for an appointment.

Finally, be sure to check out local library and hospital gift shops for statemade merchandise.

Happy holiday shopping!



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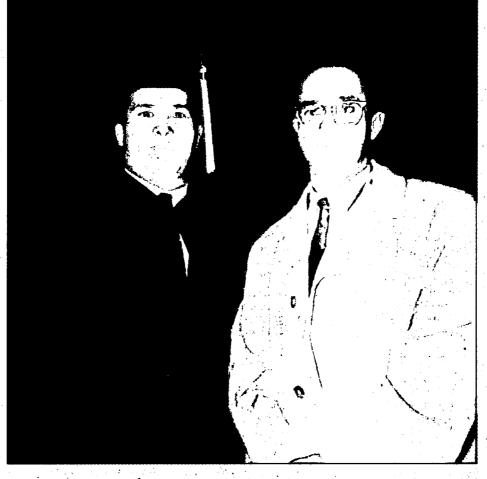
When the new University of Detroit Mercy George J. Asher L'aw Clinic Center opens for business later this month, it will mark 47 years since the law school's first urban clinic was founded and nearly 50 years since the passing of its namesake, a man who was known for his service to others during a very short yet extremely meaningful 40 years of life.

"The construction and dedication of the George J. Asher Law Clinic Center reflects both George's and U of D's legacy of serving others with competence and compassion," said George's younger brother, Anthony Asher, managing partner of the law firm of Sullivan, Ward, Asher and Patton, P.C. based in Southfield.

The Bloomfield Hills resident, a UDM and UDM Law alumnus, made a principal gift for the purchase and renovation of the new facility in memory of his late brother who passed away as a result of complications from hemophilia in

A historic Detroit firehouse, the two-story building will provide more than 6,000 square feet of space for the school's 10 legal aid clinics - Urban Clinic, Immigration, Mortgage Forclosure, Veterans/Project SALUTE, Veterans Appellate, Criminal Trial, Criminal Appellate, Juvenile Appellate, Youth Justice, and Mediation - in downtown

Additional support for the purchase and renovation of the building came from the heirs of Walter Buhl Ford III, who were the immediate past owners of the building, and



George Asher (left) was with his younger brother Anthony at his University of Detroit commencement ceremonies in 1961.

the McGregor Fund

"Service is one of the pillars of University of Detroit Mercy's mission, and for 47 years UDM's School of Law clinics have made a significant impact on the lives of many individuals in this community and across the country," said **UDM President Antoine** M. Garibaldi. "And, as a result of this new facil-. ity, more pro bono legal services will be able to be provided through the clinics due to the generosity of donors, many of whom are dedicated UDM alumni."

Anthony Asher was a first-year law student and his brother was just few months shy of graduating from the School

of Law when he died. Anthony Asher continued his studies with his brother's inspiration spurring him towards success.

As the eldest child of Syrian Catholic immigrants in Detroit, George Asher quit high school at the age of 16 to become head of a large household and support his family after both of his parents passed away. Anthony Asher, then 10 years old, looked to George as his surrogate father, and he was humbled by the sacrifices his older brother made for him and their siblings.

Despite the personal sacrifices he made for his family, George Asher went on to earn his GED

and became a highly successful non-lawver union negotiator for a local law firm. At the urging of the attorneys at the firm, he completed high school and began law school at the University of Detroit in the evening program while serving as a defender of workers' rights as a labor negotiator for the Hotel Bar and Restaurant Union.

It was during this time when he was representing the union's Local 705 members that he met his future wife, Pearl, who also was raising a younger sibling at the time. They met on the picket line at Richard's Drive-In in 1951. The labor dis-



A former Detroit firehouse has been transformed into the University of Detroit Mercy's George J. Asher Law Clinic

pute landed the pair in jail for a short time for contempt of court although it only strengthened their budding love affair. Pearl Asher, a Westland resident who passed away in February 2012, is remembered as an "uncompromising union activist," along with her late husband.

In 1957, George Asher, by then a veteran of . years in the building trades, turned his attention towards service to home owners after becoming the executive secretary of the Better Heating and Cooling Bureau, a consumer and customer protection agency for the heating, cooling and ventilat-

ing industry.
Shortly after his death, the City of Detroit took action, passing a heating ordinance which protected consumers from inadequate installations. The ordinance required city inspectors to get tough on code violations and forced contractors to follow installation guidelines created by the BHCB.

Suburban communities soon followed suit, forming the Reciprocal

Heating and Refrigeration Council. The watchdog group was formed to protect consumers from improper and possibly dangerous installations by enforcing the use of uniform codes throughout the state that were initially established by George Asher and his BHCB colleagues.

'My brother always promoted the industry and George wanted to protect the consumer and the homeowner," his younger brother recalled.

Until the opening of the George J. Asher Law Clinic Center, the most recent epitaph to George Asher's legacy was the dedication in the second edition printing of the labor negotiations book, Employer's Handbook for Labor Negotiations, published in 1964. On the first page of the book, which sits on the shelves of 137 libraries worldwide, Richard J. Fritz and Arthur M. Stringari, authors and former colleagues of George Asher, wrote, "To George J. Asher, a keen student of human behavior who taught us all many valuable lessons."

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Chytry From left),

Nancy Harm and

Elizabeth

Richards.

Kurlovich

and Ashley

behind the

riders as

escorts.

Dough

Laeder

walk

are Lauren

Westland rider saddles up for annual parade

Westland resident Lauren Chytry joined Harmony Acres in celebrating celebrated their 20th anniversary of riding in one of the country's oldest and most celebrated parades, America's Thanksgiving Day Parade in Detroit, with a return appearance that included two of the original horses.

Chytry was among three Westland residents joined the parade horse group this year. Chytry completed her 12th parade ride on parade horse veteran Harmony Diamond. She is a student at Schoolcraft College. Tom Kush of Westland served as the

group's credentialed official photographer, and Dough Kurlovich of Westland served as security escort.

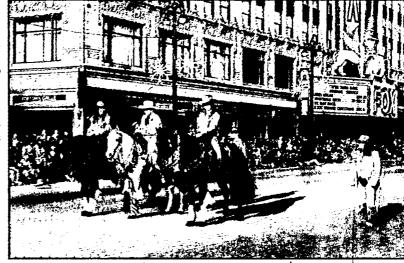
This year was Harmony Acres' 10th appearance in the 86th annual America's Thanksgiving Day Parade which marched down Woodward Avenue from Mack to Congress in Detroit on Nove. 22. The Arabian horses and their riders were decked out in their finest Christmas costumes as they marched down the 2.5 mile parade route.

The Harmony Acres Arabian Parade Horses, all siblings, wore matching red saddle blankets



Riders Lauren Chytry of Westland and Alyssa Laeder of Findlay, Ohio, share a hug with their mount, **Harmony Diamond during** the parade.

decorated with 4-inch silver Chonchos enhanced with Swarovski Crvstals. Red and silver tinsel topped by silk poinsettia flowers were attached to the horses' manes and tails. Garlands of silk poinsettia flowers and sleigh bells circled



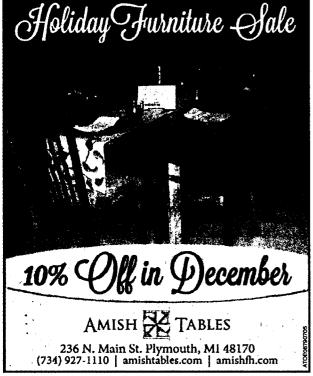
their necks. Red sports medicine boot covers with fringe and crystals topped hooves polished and accented with crystal snowflake designs. All horses wore sterling bridles, breast collars, and saddles with Tapada-

ro stirrups. The group has ridden in nearly 500 of the country's largest parades,

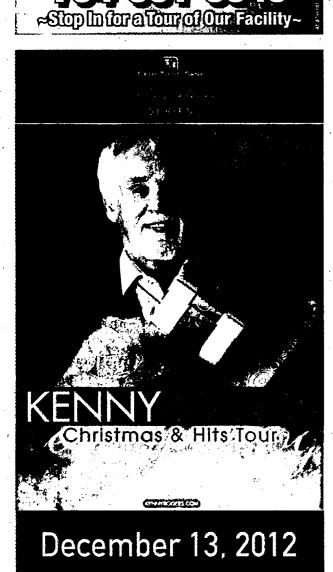
including all of Detroit's major parades, the Toledo Holiday Parade, Michigan Parades into the 21st Century Parade, Oldsmobile's 100th Anniversary Parade, Rochester's Christmas Parade, Benton Harbor's Great Floral Parade, Lansing's 150th Anniversary Parade and Milwaukee's

Great Circus Parade.

Riders in Detroit included Nancy Harm of Salem Township who is breeder and trainer of the horses; Elizabeth Richards and Ashley Laeder, both of Salem, who shared the ride on Harmony Sadefa, and Chytry and Alyssa Toupin of Findlay, Ohio, who shared the ride on Harmony Diamond.





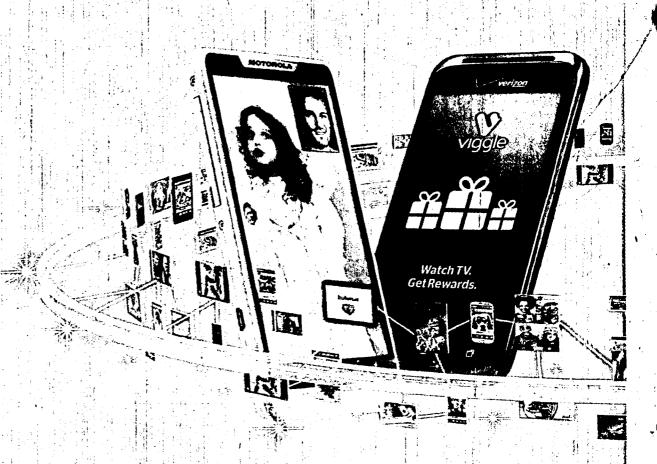


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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER ,

Stevenson's Josh Campbell returns to the backcourt for his senior year after averaging 12.5 points per game as a junior.

John Glenn ready to take next step

Boys basketball teams eye start of new season

By Brad Emons **Observer Staff Writer**

The Westland John Glenn boys basketball team ended last March with

some unfinished busi-

The Rockets led highly-touted Romulus by as many as seven points midway through the final quarter in a Class A district semifinal at Wayne. Romulus, however, escaped with a

66-64 victory thanks to a last-second shot by Wes Clark and

Nick Daniels

John Glenn

Capsule outlook of area teams, B2.

went all the way to the state semifi-

This Glenn team could be poised for a state tourney run if it can get through No. 1-ranked Romulus in the

"We lost a four-year starter in point guard Marquise Graves," Glenn coach Dan Young said. "We lost our best inside scorer in Eric Covile (Kellogg Community College) and our best shooter in (Desmond) Cervera. so we have a lot to replace."

But the cupboard is far from bare

Piease see PREVIEW, B2

Ocelots falter vs. Muskegon

A game-high 20 points by Jonanthan Campbell (Livonia Stevenson) was not enough as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team fell Friday against host Muskegon Community College in the opener of the Buffalo Wild Wings Classic, 63-60.

Campbell, a freshman guard, hit 4-of-8 shots from 3-point range and was 7-of-12 from the floor.

After Muskegon's **Delvon Brown missed** a pair of free throws with four seconds left, the Ocelots had a chance to tie, but Campbell's 3-point attempt missed the mark.

Richmond Jackson added 11 points for the Ocelots, who fall to 3-4 overall.

Jalin Gross and Kenya Oas led the Jayhawks (5-3) with 19 and 16 points, respectively.

MU men top **Gray Wolves**

The 24th-ranked Madonna University men's basketball team improved to 3-0 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference with a 58-48 victory Wednesday night over host Lourdes (Ohio) University at the Tam-O-Shanter Center.

The Crusaders, now 6-2 overall, got a gamehigh 17 points from junior point guard **Bobby Naubert (Livonia** Stevenson), who made 11-of-12 free throws and dished out six as-

Junior forward Fred Williams and junior... guard Travis Schuba each added 15 points as the Crusaders won despite hitting only 32.6 percent from the field (14-of-43).

They made up for that with 85.7-percent shooting from the foul stripe (24-of-28).

Williams also grabbed a team-best nine rebounds.

Lourdes, which had won four straight over MU dating back to the 2010-11 season, got 11 points off the bench from Corey Harvev.

Kellogg clips S'craft men

Nathan Taylor came off the bench to score 25 points and grab 16 rebounds to power **Kellogg Community** College to an 83-78 MCCAA non-conference men's basketball win Wednesday over host Schoolcraft College.

Marion Allen added 18 points, while Christian Covile (Westland John Glenn) and Quincy Armstrong Jr. each added 16.

Covile also grabbed nine rebounds for the Bruins (3-5).

Schoolcraft (3-3), which trailed 44-37 at intermission, got 21 points and 16 rebounds from Richmond Jack-

Jonathan Campbell (Livonia Stevenson) chipped in with 19 points, while Terrance Coles and Zinoviy Pelekh each added 16 for the Ocelots, who shot only 30.7 percent from the floor (27-of-88) and committed 19 turnovers.

Crusaders get last victory in NAIA pool play

By Brad Emons Observer Staff Writer

The margin of error proved to be razor thin for the Madonna University women's volleyball team during the NAIA National Championship held in Sioux City,

The 15th-ranked Crusaders' dreams of advancing to Friday's elimination round ended Wednesday at the Tyson Events Center courtesy of third-ranked Columbia University, which improved to 39-1 overall with a 25-23, 25-18, 23-25, 25-21 victory.

"Everybody is good here, so these kind of opponents you've got to finish



Abraham

sets the last few points," MU coach Jerry Abraham said. "We haven't been able to do that, and for some odd reason I don't they've been sharper than we

have, I guess. "They're really disappointed because they had been playing

MU, which also lost Tuesday to No. 10-ranked Oklahoma Baptist in four sets, closed out their season Thursday in Pool C with a 25-13, 25-23, 25-14 win over Carroll (Mont.) College to wind up 35-9 overall.

Unranked Carroll, which finished 0-3 in pool play, bowed out at 25-12 overall.

Senior Nastijia Baranvoska and junior Emilie Freeman (Lutheran High Westland) led the offensive attack with 16 and 13 kills, respectively.

Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Player and Setter of the Year Evia Prieditis had 39 assist-to-kills and 13 digs. Stacey Catalano also posted a team-high

On Wednesday, Freeman led MU for the second straight match with 16 kills and a .379 attack percentage, but it wasn't enough against Columbia.

Catalano added 14 kills to go along with nine digs, while Prieditis posted 42 assists, eight digs

and two block assists in the loss. Samantha Geile was the only Crusader to notch double digits in

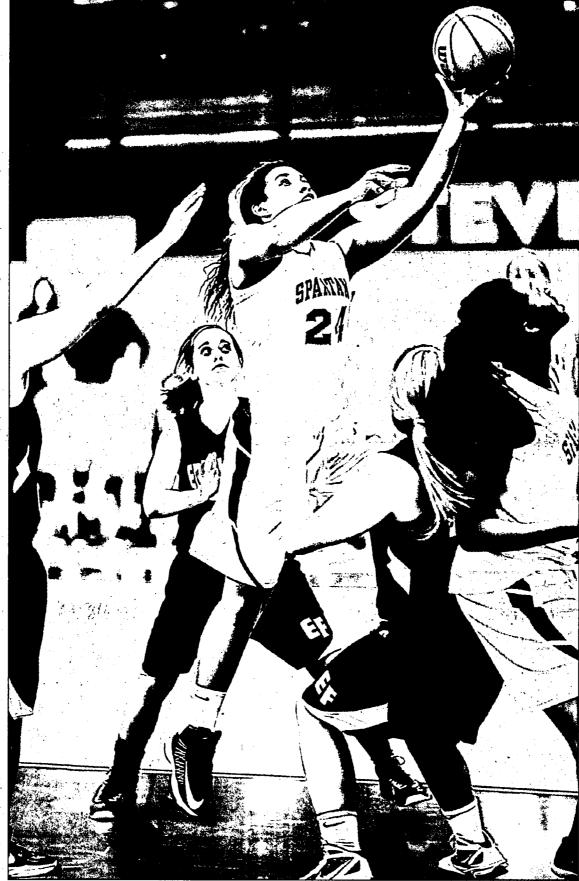
Columbia got a game-high 20 kills from Dominican Republic native Kahoriz Feliz, while Brooke Simpson and Trinity Ojo added 13 and 10, respectively.

Setter Paula Ferreira, who hails from Rio de Janiero, Brazil, had 49 assists, while Elena Berroteran, a native of Caracas, Venezuela, recorded 21 digs.

With Columbia holding a slim 10-9 lead early in the deciding fourth set, the Cougars went on a 7-1 run that the Crusaders were unable to recover from in a 25-

The Crusader offense mustered a .143 attack percentage, but the Cougars were red-hot, attacking

Please see CRUSADERS, B3



DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

Stevenson junior center Charlesann Roy goes inside with the left hand in Friday's season opener against

Spartans sharp against T-Birds 1), who only made 1-of-9 free

Wayne, Franklin also victorious

Senior forward Mara Murray popped in 14 points to spur Livonia Stevenson to a seasonopening 50-16 girls basketball victory Friday over visiting Dearborn Edsel Ford.

Six-foot junior forward Charlesann Roy added 10 points, while 6-2 senior center Uzoma Nwankwo grabbed nine rebounds.

The Spartans, who also got seven points from junior guard Rachel Wilkinson, led 19-9 at halftime before outscoring the Thunderbirds 14-0 in the third

Marisa Sauve scored nine points for the Thunderbirds (0-

WAYNE 52, BELLEVILLE 32: Junior guard Ashley Bland poured in 19 points to lead a balanced scoring attack Friday as Wayne Memorial (1-1) defeated the host Tigers (0-1) to give new coach Joyce Massey

her first victory. The Zebras also got 10 points from Honia Williams, while Julia Johnson and Bailey Hart added eight apiece.

Daniella Perez scored 13 to lead Belleville, which couldn't recover from a 28-13 halftime

"Ashley had a lot of help," Massey said. "We really had good balance.'

FRANKLIN 45, GARDEN CITY 28: Livonia Franklin (2-0) turned in another stellar defensive effort Friday to earn a

non-conference victory on the road against the host Cougars

The Patriots led 19-11 at half-

time and 30-23 after three quarters before going on a 15-5 fourth-quarter run. "The key to the win was

defense again," Franklin firstyear coach Jim Milican said. "They were scrappy and when we ran our plays we played well at the end."

Sophomore forward Sarah Cramton paced the victorious Patriots with 12 points, while senior guard Katelynn Devers and junior center Julie Magdowski added 11 and 10, respec-

Magdowski also grabbed sev-

en rebounds.

Cassea Bear scored six for the Cougars, who shot only 8-of-18 from the foul stripe.

BOYS BASKETBALL CAPSULE OUTLOOK

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 2, 2012

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

Head coach: Jim Solak, 11th year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division)

Last year's overall record: 7-14. Notable losses to graduation: Chad Evans, Charlie Hicks, Austin McDermott, Karl Tiama

Leading returnees: Robert Foster, Jr., 5-11 Sr. G; Dwayne Scott, 5-11 Sr. G; Colton Robison, 6-2 Jr. F; Jacob Whitlow, 6-3 Sr. F. Promising newcomers: Jaylen Davis, 6-0 Soph. G; Mark Leja, 5-7 Jr. G; Jeremy Lewis, 6-0 Sr. G; Brian Alsobrooks, 6-2 Soph. G; Arie Christon, 5-9 Jr. G; Donte Jackson, 6-0 Jr. G; Najuan Cousins, 6-4 Jr. F; Jon Hovermale, 6-2 Fr. G; Steve Van

Wormer, 6-4 Jr. F. Solak's 2012-13 outlook: "This team is guick and athletic, but inexperienced. We only have four guys that saw significant playing time last year so hopefully our athleticism will overcome some early mistakes and growing pains. This group is very confident and practices have been great. We're still trying to develop some chemistry and figure out our lineups, but the kids have been battling and improv-ing every day. I'm impressed with our desire to compete every day and willingness to learn. They're starting to believe and work as a team

LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Head coach: Jeremy Rheault, sixth year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division).

Last year's overall record: 6-15. Notable losses to graduation: Jacob Barham (third-team All-Area); Tommy

Leading returnees: Olushakin Cole, 6-1 Sr. F; Michael Gluth, 6-7 Sr. F; Andrew Lebbos, 5-11 Sr. G; Alex Armstrong, 5-11 Sr. G; Tyrone Rayford, 6-0 Sr. G.

Promising newcomers: Adam Monroe, 5-11 Jr. G; Nick Guest, 6-2 Jr. F; Nick Mar-deusz, 6-2 Jr. F; Alex Perelli, 5-10 Jr. F. Rheault's 2012-13 outlook: "Olushakin (Cole) was our most improved player last year, but injured prior to the district. He's very tough when he gets his body moving full speed and has a knack for finishing play. Michael (Gluth) was last year's hardest worker, and being 6-7, is a shot blocker and will be able to shooting from the perimeter and get to the rim. As the season progresses he should get strong and score in more ways. Adam (Monroe) will also be a scorer for us from the perimeter and handle the ball a majority of the time. Andrew (Lebbos) will be our primary ball handler. We'll be in each game until the buzzer, and will find out how we've improved soon enough

LIVONIA STEVENSON Head coach: Brandon Sinawi, second

League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (Central Division).

Last year's overall record: 12-9. Notable losses to graduation: Carey Cobb, Austin Bumpus, Vince Tomasi, Boulos Saba, Jonanthan Campbell.

Leading returnees: Josh Campbell, 6-1 Jr. G (second-team All-Area, 12.5 ppg; 6.5 rbs.; 2.7 steals); Joe Mims, 6-2 Sr. F.; Devin T. Kelly, 6-0 Jr. F; Chris Haldane, 6-3 Sr. F; Billy Bonanno, 5-10 Jr. G.

Promising newcomers: Jailen Webber, 5-10 Soph. G; Zach Atwood, 5-11 Sr. G. Sinawi's 2012-13 outlook: "We are going to continue to play tough defense. use our athleticism and try and play more up-tempo on offense. We've got terrific leadership this year and they work extremely hard and I am really excited to have this group of players this year. These kids, our seniors especially, are extremely dedicated and we should have a success ful season.

WESTLAND **JOHN GLENN**

Head coach: Dan Young, seventh year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division)

Last year's overall record: 17-5. Titles won last year: KLAA South Divi-

Notable losses to graduation: Eric Covile (first-team All-Area); Marquise Graves, Desmond Cervera. Leading returnees: Nick Daniels, 6-1

Sr. G (first-team All-Area; 17 ppg, 7 apg; 4 rbs.); Isaac Everette, 6-4 Jr. F (fourth-team All-Area); Aaron McClendon, 6-0 Sr. G; James Pruitt, 6-6 Jr. F.

Promising newcomers: Richard Roberts, 6-1 Sr. G; Mike Edwards, 6-8 Soph. C; Timonte Fergeson, 6-0 Jr. G-F; Davon Lundy, 6-0 Jr. G

Young's 2012-13 outlook: "We lost a four-year starter in point-guard Marquise Graves. We lost our best inside scorer in Eric Covile and our best shooter in Cervera, so we have a lot to replace. Nick (Daniels) will be a four-year starter and is a very good player. Isaac (Everette) started as a sophomore and is much stronger. He also brings experience. After that, everyone else is new, so it may take awhile before we are really clicking.

WAYNE MEMORIAL

Head coach: Mike Schuette, third year. League affiliation: KLAA Kensington Conference (South Division).

Last year's overall record: 8-13. Notable losses to graduation: Dezmon Burleigh (fourth-team All-Area), Michael Cooper, Jordan Lowry, Homer Ellis. Leading returnees: Josh Lowry, 6-0 Sr. G; Shane Granger, 6-2 Sr. G; Juawn Snipes, 6-1 Sr. G-F; Torrey Cooper, 6-1 Sr. F.

Promising newcomers: Jarrell Poole,

-10 Sr. G; Will Harris, 6-0 Sr. F; Jackie Muhammad, 5-8 Jr. G; Rafeal Parks, 5-10 Jr. G; Deandre Carter, 6-1 Jr. F; Jaden Jackson, 5-10 Jr. F; Carlos Pernell, 6-0 Jr. G-F; Brian Williams, 6-0 Jr. G-F; Rubin Devone, 6-4 Jr. F; Rio Washington, 6-5 Soph. F.

Schuette's 2012-13 outlook: "We will be a young team will little varsity experience. However, our younger players have played together for a number of years and they bring a lot of quickness and hustle to this year's team. Our seniors have had a varsity season under their belts and bring some experience and leadership to a team that promises to be competitive.

LIVONIA **CLARENCEVILLE**

Head coach: Justin Johnson, fourth year. League affiliation: Independent. Last year's overall record: 7-14. Notable losses to graduation: Sam Brown, Damien Quarles, Kassius Kelly. Leading returnees: Austin Douglass,

6-0 Sr. G; Zach Kubiak, 6-0 Sr. G; Kimani Dooley, 6-3 Jr. F; Jalen Bryant, 5-10 Jr. G; DeAnthony Price, 5-11 Sr. F.

Promising newcomers: James Hill,

6-3 Soph. F; Brad Davis, 6-4 Jr. C; Jawan Nelson, 5-8 Jr. G.

Johnson's 2012-13 outlook: "I'm not going to put pressure on my point guards at least early to try and push the ball too fast unless we get steal. They can run a half-court offense, they can get up and down the court, but if they go too fast then we're looking over turnover city. We're going to run some pressure de fense and get some steals, then be able to push the ball up. James Hill runs the court like Carl Lewis. He gets up-and-down so quick we can get some easy buckets if we're all doing what we're supposed to. We're not going to force it early because it's going to be detrimental. **LUTHERAN HIGH**

WESTLAND

Head coach: Jim Hoeft, first year. League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division). Last year's overall record: 12-10. Notable losses to graduation: Dawson Davenport, Taurrek Fikes, Matt Sylvester. Mitch Boehm.

Leading returnees: Nick Andrzejewski, 5-10 Sr. G-F; Ernie Babon, 5-10 Sr. G; Jake Davenport, 6-0 Soph. G; Nick Flanery, 6-1 Jr. F; Greg Klein, 5-11 Sr. F; A.J. Seltz, 6-1 Jr. F: Brandon Wyman, 6-2 Sr. F.

Promising newcomers: Stanford Cui, 5-11 Sr. F; P.J. Gusé, 5-11 Jr. G; Justin Hitchcock, 6-0 Jr. G-F; Daniel Roberts, 5-11 Hoeft's 2012-13 outlook: "I am really

excited about the upcoming season. These boys are a hard-working bunch and very focused. We don't have a whole lot of height, but I believe our speed and quickness will make up for that. The senior leadership on this team will be essential for our growth this season. I have a lot of court-savvy guys that really understand the game of basketball. Over all, this group really seems to understand the concept of team. I'm really looking forward to an exciting season."
WESTLAND HURON

VALLEY LUTHERAN Head coach: Jim Ott, 13th year. League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division). Last year's overall record: 6-15. Notable losses to graduation: Tom Gutierriez, Nate Kemppainen.

Leading returnees: Ryan Schaffer, 5-11 Jr. G; Brian Blackwood, 5-9 Sr. G; Alex Harris, 5-10 Sr. F; Justin Howell, 5-9 Sr. G; Jacob Miller, 6-0 Sr. F; Milan Monk, 6-0 Jr. C; Chad Morgan, 6-0 Sr. C; Kyle Schaffer,

Promising newcomers: Jordan Runstadler, 5-8 Fr. G; James Brown, 5-10 Jr. F; Collin Wagaman, 6-0 Jr. F.

Ott's 2012-13 outlook: "We return the majority of our roster from last year with high hopes. Our start to last year's season was extremely poor. The group came together in the second half of the season and lost a lot of close games to teams that beat us easily in the first half of the season. Even though the majority of the team is back, I would expect much better results than last year.

PREVIEW

Continued from page B1

for the Rockets, who are coming off a 17-5 season and a KLAA South Division title.

The Rockets will be tested in Tuesday's opener, when they travel to Dearborn Heights Robichaud, but will led by 6foot-1 senior guard Nick Daniels, an Oakland University signee.

Daniels is joined by a strong front line that also includes 6-4 junior forward Isaac Everette, 6-6 junior forward James Pruitt and 6-8 sophomore center Mike Edwards.

'Nick is one of the best players I have ever coached," Young said. 'He can score and assist. He has great vision and court awareness for a passer. He can get his own shot and is becoming a more consistent defender. He can score a lot in a hurry. Plus, he's a great kid."

Just who can challenge Glenn in the KLAA South is anybody's guess.

Livonia Churchill (7-14) returns senior backcourt players Robert Foster Jr. and Dwavne Scott, along with forwards Colton Robison and Jacob Whitlow. Freshman guard Jon ·Hovermale also looks promising.

"Team speed is definitely a strength and will definitely dictate what we do on both ends of the floor," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "I think all of the teams in our division have a shot at one of the four KLAA tournament spots so it should be an exciting year."

Livonia Franklin (6-15) will get a boost from 6-7 senior center Michael Gluth along with 6-1 senior forward Olushakin Cole.

"This group will truly be an all-for-one team, Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault said. "They want to earn everything together as a team and are developing competitiveness and toughness that this season is going to dictate."

Wayne Memorial (8-13) could be a sleeper led by 6-0 senior guard Josh Lowry, along with fellow senior guards Shane Granger, Juawn Snipes and Torrey Cooper.

"This year we look to use our quickness and

intensity to dictate the way we play," Wayne coach Mike Schuette said. "We want to get up and down the court as quickly as possible, yet under control and poised to play smart."

In the KLAA Central, Livonia Stevenson (12-9) has one of the area's premier guards in 6-0 senior Josh Campbell, who averaged 12.5 points, 6.5 rebounds and 2.7 steals per game. Returnees Joe Mims, Devin T. Kelly, Chris Haldane and Billy Bonanno hope to pick up the slack for the Spartans.

"We lost a lot of size to graduation last year, but we'll make up for it with speed and good guard play," Stevenson coach Brandon Sinawi said.

Clarenceville (7-14), an independent, will be joining the Western Wayne Athletic Conference in basketball starting in 2013-14.

Guards Austin Douglass and Zach Kubiak will be the key.

"We're breaking in new point guards," Clarenceville coach Justin Johnson said. "I think there's potential because there's a lot of hardworking kids, but it's going to take a while. It's going to be a process that I think that we can achieve, but everybody has to stick together."

Lutheran Westland (12-10), a Class D district finalist last year, has a new coach in former Warriors guard Jim Hoeft, who takes over for Doug Haller.

The Warriors will be led by Nick Andrzejewski, a senior guard.

The thing I am stressing the most in practice is defense first," Hoeft said. "I believe our team defense is and will be our greatest asset."

Lutheran Westland will compete again in the Red Division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference along with next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (6-15), which is led by junior guard Ryan Schaffer.

"This year has alreadv started well with good team chemistry and with everyone buying in on the changes we want to make from the previous year," HVL coach Jim Ott said.

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL

Tuesday, Dec. 4 Churchill at Dearborn, 7 p.m. Franklin at Seaholm, 7 p.m. Glenn at Robichaud, 7 p.m. Wayne at Belleville, 7 p.m. L. W'sld at Annapolis, 7 p.m. C'ville at Divine Child, 7:30 p.m

Friday, Dec. 7 Churchill at Garden City, 7 p.m. Franklin at S.L. East, 7 p.m. Luth. N'west at C'ville, 7 p.m. H.F. Academy at L. W'sld, 7 p.m. HVL at Wash. Christ., 7 p.m. (St. Joe Mich. Luth. Tourney) HVL vs. Mich. Lutheran, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8

St. Joe Michigan Lutheran Tournament, 5:30 & 7 p.m. **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Truman at C'ville, 7 p.m. Annapolis at L. W'sld, 7 p.m. Dearborn at Churchill, 7 p.m. Skyline at Franklin, 7 p.m. Liggett at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m

Tuesday, Dec. 4 HVL at Wash. Christ., 5:30 p.m. Thurston at Stevenson, 7 p.m. G.P. North at Glenn, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 6 L. W'sld at Garden City, 7 p.m Friday, Dec. 7
Glenn at Divine Child, 7:30 p.m. C'ville at N.D. Prep, 7:30 p.m. G.P. North at Lady., 7:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY Wednesday, Dec. 5 Stevenson vs. Canton, Franklin vs. Northville at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 6

Ladywood vs. Regina at S.C. Shores Arena, 6:55 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7

Churchill vs. G.P. North at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m Franklin vs. Canton at Arctic Edge, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8 Stevenson vs. Brighton at Kensington Valley, 4 p.m.

Ladywood vs. G.P. South at Arctic Pond, 5:30 p.m. Franklin vs. Dexter at A.A. Veterans 7:30 p.m. PREP WRESTLING Wednesday, Dec. 5

Wayne at Quad, 5:30 p.m. Livonia City Tournament at Stevenson, 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6 L. W'sld at Memphis, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8 Rocket Duals at Glenn, 9 a.m. Waterford Mott Inv., 9 a.m.

Garden City Inv., 9 a.m. Blissfield InviTational, 10 a.m. **BOYS SWIMMING** Tuesday, Dec. 4 Church. at W.L. West., 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 6

Gard.City at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.

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Saturday, Dec. 8 Rocket Relays at Glenn, 1 p.m. EMU Classic, 1 p.m GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Monday, Dec. 3 Livonia Blue, Brighton, Howell at Churchill, 6:30 pm. Thursday, Dec. 6 Livonia Red, Saline at Salem, 6:30 p.m. PREP BOWLING Monday, Dec. 3

Glenn vs. S. Lyon East, Wayne vs. South Lyon at Pinz Bowling Ctr., 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5 Glenn vs. South Lyon, Wayne vs. S. Lyon East at Pinz Bowling Ctr., 3:30 p.m. C'ville vs. Wyandotte

at Cherry Hill Lanes, 3:30 p.m. GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER Saturday, Dec. 8 Onsted Invitational, 10 a.m. MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Monday, Dec. 3

Owens at S'craft, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5 MU at N'west. Ohio, 7:30 p.m. Lorain at S'craft, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8 Cornerstone at MU, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Monday, Dec. 3 S'craft at Owens, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5

MU at N'west. Ohio, 5:30 p.m. Lorain at S'craft, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8 Cornerstone at MU, 1 p.m.





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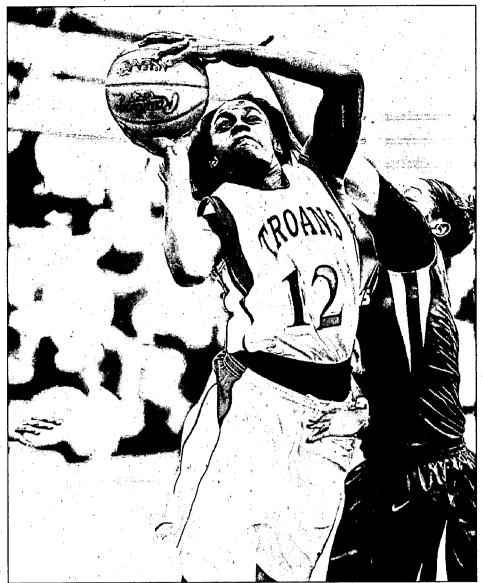
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DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

Clarenceville's Ayanna Buckley (12) finished with 16 points and nine rebounds in Thursday's win over visiting Allen Park Inter-City Baptist.

Blazers top Powers in season opener

Senior forward Kiley Gorski tallied a gamehigh 19 points before going down with an ankle injury in the final quarter Friday as host Livonia Ladywood downed Flint Powers Catholic, 53-38, in the season girls basketball opener for both teams.

The Blazers, who also got 16 points and eight rebounds from senior guard Andie Anastos, jumped out to a 14-0 lead and led 25-7 after one quarter.

"We came out ready to play, got a little stagnant, but found a way to finish the game," Ladywood coach Anthony Corat-

Freshman Cessa Coury hit five 3-pointers en route to a team-high 15 points for the Chargers. CRESTWOOD 42, LUTH. WESTLAND 21: Lutheran High Westland (0-1) couldn't overcome a 28-6 first quarter deficit Friday as host Dearborn Heights Crestwood (1-1) rolled to a non-conference win.

Danielle Clarke led the victorious Chargers with 15 points, while Oreyana Curry added nine.

The Warriors, who made only 9-of-37 field goal attempts (24.3 percent), got nine points from Chandler Davenport and five points and 16 rebounds from Alissa Flury.

"We had a rough first half, but showed improvements in the second half," said Lutheran Westland coach Sandi Wade, whose team committed 26 turnovers. "We still have a relatively inexperienced team and each player is still trying to figure out their new roles on the team. Once the girls become comfortable in their roles we will become even better as a team."

*CVILLE 44, INTER-CITY 31:
Junior center Ayanna Buckley had 16 points and nine rebounds Thursday night to spark host Livonia Clarenceville (1-1) to victory over Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (0-2). The Trojans, who led 28-8 at halftime and 44-13 after three quarters, also got 12 points – all on triples – from Mikala

Kieling.

Senior center Ashley Murphy chipped in with 12 rebounds and three assists, while Kelsey Griffin sparked the defense. Inter-City Baptist got a gamehigh 20 points from Rachel Muscat.

The Chargers went 8-of-12

from the foul line, while Clarenceville hit 8-of-13.

HVL 40, FRANKEL 23: Sophomore Julie St. John paced a balanced attack with nine points Thursday as host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (2-0) cruised to a non-conference win over West Bloomfield Frankel Jewish Academy (0-1). Senior Megan Prieskorn added eight points and seven rebounds, while junior Dayna Schroeder contributed six points, nine rebounds, four steals and two assists for the Hawks, who jumped out to a 29-3 halftime lead

29-3 halftime lead.
"I was pleased with how we started, but we did not end well," HVL coach Kris Ruth said. "Defensively we need to be more aggressive. In the second half we turned the ball over 22 times. We can't allow that to happen."

Natalie Ginis scored eight for , the Jaguars, who went 9-of-18 from the foul line.

Chargers de-iced by Wildcats, 10-2

Plymouth scored 10 unanswered goals after Livonia Churchill took an early 2-0 first period lead en route to a 10-2 victory over the host Chargers Friday at Edgar Arena.

Nick Schultz led the Plymouth assault with three goals and three assists, while Michael Schultz added three goals and two assists.

Zack Tavierne also added a pair of goals for the Wildcats (5-1, 1-0), including a power play goal with 6:43 remaining to end the game due to the eight-goal mercy rule.

Dean Guenther and Mitch Claggett also added goals for Plymouth, which was tied 2-all after one period and led 4-2 after two periods before adding four goals in the final 11:17 of the third. Churchill got goals

Churchill got goals from Riley Brown (from Tommy Carey and Drew Sparks) and Drew Puishes (Brown).

Jared Maddock was in goal for Plymouth, while Alec Calvaruso and David Turel each played for the Chargers (1-3, 0-1).

Chargers (1-3, 0-1).

STEVENSON 5, SOUTH LYON
3: Junior Dominic Lutz had three goals and two assists to lead Livonia Stevenson (5-1, 1-0) past host South Lyon Unified (0-1-1, 1-5-1) in a KLAA Central Division clash Thursday at Kensington Valley

PREP HOCKEY

After a scoreless opening period, Stevenson got on the board on Tyler Irvine's goal from Devin Kelly and Lutz at 3:10 followed by Lutz's first from Irvine at 7:21.

Alex Hudgens unassisted goal at 8:20 cut the deficit to 2-1, but Lutz notched his second from Kelly and Irvine at 9:40. With 8:03 remaining the final period, Corey Roberston tallied a power play goal from Cam Thomas, but Lutz notched his third from Irvine and Chris Catalano with 5:59 to go. Blake Robertson then scored

on a power play with the extra attacker with 1:17 left to cut the deficit to 4-3, but Kelly tallied an empty netter from Lutz and Catalano with only 27 seconds to go to seal the win.

Stevenson goaltender Connor Humitz made 19 saves, while Aaron Callan had 38 stops for South Lyon.

"A quality win against a quality opponent like South Lyon – on the road to boot – is always a good win for the team and for the program," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "We played hard and got better as the game went on, which was good to see. Give South Lyon credit, they battled hard and competed right until the end. We will take the win, but know that there is much to be learned from it as well."

from it as well."

FRANKLIN 2, COUNTRY DAY

2: Captain Mike Diaz tallied
goals in the second and third
periods Wednesday to enable
host Livonia Franklin (1-1-1)
to earn a tie with Beverly Hills
Detroit Country Day (5-0-1) at
Edgar Arena.

Jack Engel and Andrew Golem assisted on Diaz's first goal at 12:33 of the second, while Diaz's second goal came on a power play at 7:15 of the third from C.J. Cromie. Sophomore goaltender Matt

Monendo came up big with 36 saves, while Chris Cantrell had 14 for Country Day. Shane Switzer and Sebastian Stankiewicz scored secondperiod goals for the Yellow-

jackets.

CHURCHILL 5, HOWELL 2:

Tommy Carey tallied a pair of empty net goals during the final 1:12 as Livonia Churchill (1-2) Wednesday night over visiting Highlanders (1-3) at

Edgar Arena.
Carey finished with two unassisted goals and two assists on the night, while Evan Gibboney also added a pair of goals as new coach Jason Reynolds notched his first vic-

tory for the Chargers.
"There's still a lot of work to be done, but certainly to get that first victory was a treat tonight," Reynolds said.
It was 1-1 after one period as Matt Sinclair opened the scoring for the Chargers at the

Luke Otto, while Dominic Andrew countered for the Highlanders at 13:14. Churchill took the lead for keeps on Gibboney's power play goal from Carey at 2:55 of the second period. In the third, Gibboney

5:56 mark off an assist from

notched his second on another power play effort from Riley Brown and Carey at 8:37. Connor Doherty then scored from brother Casey O'Doherty at 10:44 to cut the deficit to 3-2, but Carey put it away with goals coming at the 15:48 and 16:49 marks after the Chargers fought off a 5-on-3 Howell

Churchill goalie Alec Calvaruso made 30 saves, while Chris Julian had 29 stops for Howell.

MU women rout Lourdes, 72-45

A 20-5 run midway through the second half was more than enough Wednesday as the Madonna University women's basketball team rolled past host Lourdes University, 72-45, at the Tam-O-Shanter Center in Sylvania, Ohio.

Senior guard Shantelle Herring hit 7-of-12 shots from the floor en route to a game-high 16 points as the Crusaders improved to 4-2 overall and 2-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Sophomore forward Chelsea Williams (Livonia Franklin) and fellow classmate Rachel Melcher added 12 and 10 points, respectively, off the bench. Heather Pratt also dished out six assists in the win.

In the win. Lourdes (3-5, 1-2),

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

unable to rally from a 38-16 halftime deficit, got 12 points from Lauren Tilden. MU shot 24-of-52 from

the floor (46.2 percent) and went 18-of-26 from the foul line (69.2 percent).

Lourdes shot just 13of-71 from the field (18.3 percent) and committed 22 turnovers. CINCY ST. 66, S'CRAFT 43:

Cameron Vaughn 15 points and 16 rebounds propelled Cincinnati State (5-0) to victory Friday over Schoolcraft College (2-5) in the opening round of the Buffalo Wild Wings Muskegon CC Classic. Desiree Ash and Grace McDougall added 13 and 10

points, respectively, for the Surge, which pulled away with a 38-23 second half. Ajai Meeks, a 6-foot-4 transfer from Providence.

paced the Lady Ocelots with

19 points and 11 rebounds, while E'Aijsha Guster (Westland John Glenn) and Brianna Berberet (Salem) added 10 and eight points, respectively.

respectively.

KELLOGG 57, S'CRAFT 43:
On Wednesday, host Schoolcraft College (2-4) collapsed in the second half falling to MCCAA non-conference foe Kellogg Community College (2-2).

Schoolcraft led 25-20 at

Schoolcraft led 25-20 at halftime, but shot only 31.6 percent from the field (6-of-19), including 1-of-9 from three-point range, during in the second half while being outscored 37-18.

The Lady Ocelots, who

dressed only six players, also shot 13-of-25 from the foul stripe (52 percent).

Ajai Meeks, a who recently signed with Eastern Michigan University, had 12 points and 12 rebounds for Schoolcraft.

while E'Aijsha Guster added 10 points.

Janeesa Jamierson led the Bruins with 14 points, while Malika Felnorl came off the bench to grab 13 rebounds and score eight.

SPORTS SHORTS

MU softball camp

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

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

Fundamentals (Camp I) – 8:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26;

Fundamentals (Camp II) – noon-2:30 p.m., Sundays, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24. (Cost for each is \$125 by Dec. 1; or \$150).

For more information, visit www.

Madonna Crusaders.com.

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 email tvovolleyball@sbcglobal.net. You can also visit www.tvovolleyball.com.

CRUSADERS

Continued from page B1

at a .353 clip to close out the match.

"Columbia is a good team, they're huge, and so was Oklahoma Baptist," Abraham said. "We were in both matches absolutely for sure, but we just didn't finish.

"We've been aggressive. I wish say I could say that we just weren't playing well. But I guess not well enough. We were missing some opportunities to close games out.

And for some reason, we had a net call (Wednesday) and a missed serve at 23 the day before. But they've been fighting and they've been fighting back."

bemons@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6851

SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are
wrongly rejected when
they apply for Social
Security Disability benefits. Money was taken
out of their paychecks
for Social Security
taxes to ensure that they
would receive disability
benefits if they could no
longer work full-time. Sadly, the
government denies approximately 60% of those who apply

for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.



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

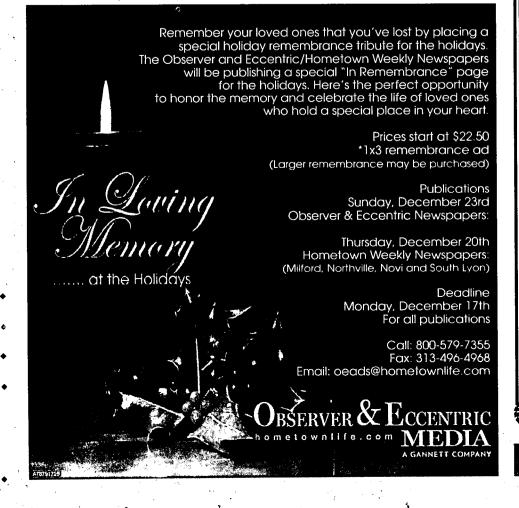
Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of 1-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security

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All-area spikers rise to great heights

FIRST TEAM

Erica den Boer, Sr., Canton: One of two key players from the 2011 Division 1 regional title team, co-captain den Boer continued to excel in 2012 for the Chiefs. She brought a power game up front and defensive tenacity in general.

A four-year varsity starter, den Boer collected 387 kills and 45 blocks and augmented that with 422 defensive digs and 71 aces, deservedly earning her selection to the all-conference and allregion teams.

'Her leadership as a captain, along with her on-court, allaround skills, enabled this year's team to be extremely competitive," first-year head coach Steve Johnson said.

She also was named to the allacademic team and will likely pursue a volleyball career in col-

Kaitiyn Schoeppner, Sr., N. Farmington: Schoeppner, who signed with Mississippi State, is a repeat member of the All-Observer first team. The 6-foot-3 senior had been a middle hitter, but she moved to the outside this year and had 573 kills; she also blocked 59 opposing spikes. The team captain never left the court, making 379 digs and serving 58 aces in an all-round effort.

"Kaitlyn is just a great player who has the potential to dominate and take over games," coach Jessica Condeni said. "She continues to want to get better and grow as an athlete. I'm really excited for her to continue her volleyball career at the next level."

Schoeppner also played half the season with a broken pinky finger on her left, non-hitting

She blocked that out and showed a lot of mental toughness," Condeni said. "Not many girls would say, 'I don't care if it's broken or it hurts; I'm going to go out and play anyway."

Emily Norscia, Sr., Liv. Churchill: The 6-foot senior outside hitter, who made honorable mention all-state, led the Chargers with 786 total kills (5.7 per set) to go along with a staggering .496 hitting percentage.

During her four-year career she had 1,964 total kills, which ranks her third all-time, as well as being recognized in the MHS-SA record book.

Norscia helped Churchill go 170-41-5 overall with one three division, two district, one regional and one conference title.

"Emily was our workhorse all year and a huge part of our success came from her ability to put the ball to the floor," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said of the team co-MVP. "Simply put, she was of the best outside hitters in the state.'

Katie Tomasic, Jr., Liv. Stevenson: The 6-foot junior outside hitter and setter, who recently committed to Miami (Ohio), led Stevenson in total kills with 510 to go along with 214 assist-to-kills. 143 digs and 21 aces.

Tomasic, an all-state honoree, also serve received at a 92-percent clip.

"It's been such a pleasure having Katie be around the program for three years and to see the success she has had thus far,' Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "It's a great feeling knowing you have her coming back for another year. She works very hard every day, loves the game and puts her team first outside of anything else. To step up and play the role as a setter this year was amazing, which goes to show the type of athlete she is."

Jenna Lerg, Soph., Farm. Mer**cy:** A big reason for Mercy's ongoing success is an attention to basic fundamentals and good execution. The Marlins emphasize passing, digging and serving first, and that's where Lerg plays a prominent role. The sophomore libero and second-vear varsity player was the key to a solid defense and the transition to a good offense. Lerg is one of Mercy's leading servers, too. Her sister, Lindsey, is a former threetime all-area selection who now plays for Michigan.

'Jenna is only a sophomore, but she's already being recruited by Michigan and Michigan State," coach Loretta Vogel said. "Many people don't give the libero as much emphasis as we do. I'm always big on defense, so having someone like Jenna just works really well in our system.

"She's very versatile. If we ever needed a backup setter, it would be Jenna. She's very capable of attacking, too. Next year and the year after that, she'll probably have to assume different roles, but this year she was our libero."



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Erica den Boer Canton



Kaitlyn Schoeppner N. Farmington



Emily Norscia Churchill



Katie Tomasic Stevenson



Mercy



Plymouth



Middleton Canton



N. Farmington



Katie Horton Wayne



Marissa **Pomaville** Churchill



Gutknecht



Plymouth



Mary Dulzo Mercy



Harrison

Madelyn Betts, Sr., Plymouth:

Over the past three years, Bet-

ts has been the epitome of con-

on offense and defense. Add to

those attributes her leadership

skills and steady demeanor and

it's no wonder the senior co-cap-

Betts, also named the Wildcats'

tain earned team MVP honors.

Offensive Player of the Year,

earned other accolades with her

all-conference academic and all-

selection to the all-conference,

region teams. She was a nom-

inee for the D1 all-state team,

released.

6.6 digs per game.

although results have not been

She led the way with 399 kills-

(9.5 per game), served at a 90.3-

percent success clip and tallied

"Not only was she our offen-

and off the floor," coach sar

ah Marody said. "She consistent-

ly showed poise and confidence

under pressure and carried the

team when the game was on the

play volleyball at Robert Morris

Rebecca Middleton, Sr., Can-

ton: The three-year starter and

University in Pennsylvania.

co-captain was the other key

returnee from last season and

she picked up where she left off,

Middleton registered 561 digs,

along with 67 assists and 42 aces

conference and all-region teams

(not to mention being named to

"Her leadership as a captain

was an important part of this '.

vear's team success by provid-

touches in serve-receive and

ing the setters with positive first

defensive transitions," Johnson

She will play volleyball next

year at Marist College in upstate

Nicci Joyce, Sr., N. Farming-

Marian and played one season at

North, instantly making the Raid-

ers a better and more complete

team. The 5-foot-9 senior out-

side hitter was a good comple-

ment to Schoeppner on the oppo-

site side of the front row, record-

ing 422 kills and 32 blocks. Joyce,

versity in South Carolina, was an

all-round player who also had 397

digs and 30 aces. The Raiders ral-

"Nicci understands volleyball

and loves to compete," Condeni

said. "She's such a hard worker

and, defensively, can get touch-

es on balls she has no business

touching. I was so lucky to coach

such a cool kid; she's such a big

"She's a really fun player to

some of the things she does on

the court, but it's just that pas-

sion and drive that makes her

piece to the puzzle."

hard to stop. She was the missing

watch. She has no business doing

lied around her competitive fire

and determined effort.

personality.

who signed with Winthrop Uni-

ton: Joyce transferred from

as she earned spots on the all-

the all-academic team).

New York.

anchoring the defense as start-

Betts accepted a scholarship to

sive standout, she was a leader

sistency and stellar play both



Holly Mossoian



Ayanna **Buckley** Clarenceville

Katie Horton, Sr., Wayne: The 6-1 senior, who signed with Ohio University, is a three-time all-Observer first-team selection who finished with 269 total kills, 254 digs, 189 blocks and 58 aces her senior season route to team MVP and all-KLAA honors.

"Being six feet tall, Katie is an intimidating factor when she walks in the gym," Wayne coach Samantha Dye said. "If in a game or just having fun. Katie always brings the heat on the court. She is aggressive and competitive, not letting anything or anyone stand in her way. Her last season at Wayne was a great one to watch. She kept on giving more and more. As a captain, she led the team in overall stats and led the team into victory more than

"There will never be another Katie Horton. She is unique and special in so many ways."

Marissa Pomaville, Sr., Liv. Churchill: The 6-1 senior, a twotime all-region pick and team co-MVP, finished her senior season with 452 kills and a team-best 101.5 blocks.

"Marissa has been our anchor in the middle for us for the past three seasons," Grenier said of the two-time all-KLAA selection. "During her three seasons looming large in the middle, Marissa has helped lead us to a state quarterfinal appearance, one district championship, two division championships and she has helped the program achieve 117 wins, with only 35 losses.'

Pomaville will continue her volleyball career at Northwood Uni-

Sarah Gutknecht, Sr., Farmington: A four-year varsity player and outside hitter, the 6-foot senior has a powerful spiking action and can hammer the ball with the best. When the set was on target and the attack synchronized, defenses rarely stopped one of Gutknecht's hits. The allround player had 293 kills, 44 aces and 265 digs. Gutknecht is an all-area softball player, too, and recently signed with Michigan State in that sport.

'Sarah was truly the ultimate senior captain," coach Mike Scott said. "She led by example on and off the court. We leaned on her a lot as a team and a coaching staff. I think it's pretty amazing she was able to handle all those things and still perform at the highest level. I hope the underclassmen on the team learned from her example."

Olivia Beyer, Soph,, Plymouth: The sophomore continued to shine in her second season as a starter at outside hitter, with 298 kills (6.5 per game) and 104 blocks (76 solo).

In addition, Beyer provided strong defense and intangibles such as her impeccable work ethic and energy that rubbed off on teammates. She was named to the all-conference and all-region teams and earned a spot on the all-conference academic squad.

"Despite her young age, Oliv-

2012 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

FIRST TEAM Erica den Boer, Sr., OH, Canton Kaitlyn Schoeppner, Sr., OH, N. Farmington Emily Norscia, Sr., OH, Liv. Churchill Katie Tomasic, Jr., OH/S, Liv. Stevenson Jenna Lerg, Soph., Lib., Farm. Mercy Madelyn Betts, Sr., OH, Plymouth Rebecca Middleton, Sr., Lib., Canton Nicci Joyce, Sr., OH, N. Farmington Katie Horton, Sr., OH, Wayne Marissa Pomaville, Sr., MB, Liv. Churchill Sarah Gutknecht, Sr., OH, Farmington Olivia Beyer, Soph., MH, Plymouth Mary Dulzo, Sr., S, Farm. Mercy Jamie Coleman, Sr., S, Farm, Harrison Holly Mossoian, Sr., Lib., Liv. Stevenson Ayanna Buckley, Jr., OH, Clarenceville Lexus Medina, Jr., MH, Huron Valley

ssica Condeni, North Farmington SECOND TEAM Abigail Dworzanin, Sr., OH, Salem Olivia Quinn, Sr., MH, Ladywood Cayla Bone, Sr., OH, Garden City Audrey Durocher, Sr., OH, Liv. Churchill Chelsea Janice, Jr., S, Canton Whitney Fields, Sr., OH, Farm. Harrison Claire Truskowski, Sr., S, John Glenn Hannah Long, Sr., S. N. Farmington Shayla Smalls, Jr., S, Plymouth Lexi Schultz, Sr., DS, Farm. Mercy Kellie Newton, Soph., Lib., Liv. Franklin

COACH OF THE YEAR

THIRD TEAM Nancy Krutty, Sr., S, Salem Minta Whitaker, Sr., OH, Garden City Jennifer Malcolm, Jr., MH, Plv. Christian Izzy Porada, Soph., Lib. Ladywood Madison Dest, Soph., OH, Huron Valley Jordan Diedrick, Sr., OH, Canton Allie Koestering, Sr., S, Liv. Stevenson Catherine Morgan, Sr., OH, Farm. Mercy Mackenzie Hamill, Jr., OH, Liv. Churchill Emilee Beyer, Sr., OH/DS, Plymouth Aldreanna Fikes, Sc. OH, Luth, Westland FOURTH TEAM

Ariele Paris, Sr., OH, Red. Thurston Nikki Busuito, Sr., OH, Red. Union Kennedy Gossett, Jr., Lib., Garden City Michelle Begovic, Jr., MH, Farmington Erika Hatcher, Sr., OH, Salem Ashley Murphy, Sr., MB, Clarenceville Christa Greenwood, Jr., MH, Farm, Mercy Elise Foss, Sc., MH, N. Farmington Amanda Hawkins, Jr. MB, Liv. Stevenson Julia Szuba, Sr., Lib., Liv. Churchill Jenna Reinhold, Jr., OH, Farm. Mercy

a O'Connor, Jr., OH, Farmington

HONORABLE MENTION Garden City: Julene Pummill: Redford Union: Caitlin Scanlon, Jamaya Dixon; Churchill: Krystyn Niescier; Stevenson: Annie MacDonald, Abby Whitehead, Morgan Copperstone, Mara Murray; Franklin: Mackenzie Lukas, Maggie Leins, Kelly O'Brien, Afton DeWyse; Lutheran Westland: Alissa Flury, Leah Refenes; Huron Valley: Anne St. John; Ladywood: Allie Malick: John Glenn: Hannah Staples, Wayne: Deja Tamlin, Danielle Robbins; Clarenceville: Tonya Vernier, Jodi Ankiel, Nicole Kurdziel, Christine Hurmiz-Farmington: Kelsey McDonald, Kat McAllister; N. Farmington: Lauren Caverly, Meghan Hurley; Mercy: Logan Horejsi; Harrison: Jessica Austin, Stephanie Wagner, Rachel Scrimger, Lavondria Covington, Amari Eadie; Plymouth: Caterina Soli, Kyra Neumann, Zoe Irvin: Canton: Dia Jackson, Sasha Cucuz, Madison Kielty; Salem: Emily Lipa, Julianna DiMichele, Breanne Beaver; Ply. Christian: Mary Anleitner, Rachel Fuller, Callie Morby.

ia shows poise and maturity on the court in pressure situations," Marody said. "She was the goto player for the guaranteed kill. Her enthusiasm and commitment for the game sparks her teammates on the court to push themselves harder and be that much better."

Big things are expected of her during the next two seasons, Marody added.

Mary Duizo, Sr., Farm. Mercv: The senior setter was a twoyear starter and three-year varsity player for the Marlins, who were 45-11 and went to the Class A state quarterfinals. Dulzo excelled at organizing the offense and distributing the ball for a well-balanced attack. She also was a key defensive player who helped to make Mercy a fundamentally sound team.

For any program, the No. 1 requirement is to have a successful setter," Vogel said. "We were fortunate to have Mary, and we had her for two years. When a team does well, it's always because of the setter. They're the quarterbacks, the pitchers. That's why we always put our setter on a pedestal.

"Serving is big for us, too. Without a doubt, Mary was our No. 1 server. She put a lot on the ball and caused the other team to be out of system. That was always our main emphasis. We would set our lineup so Mary would be that No. 1 server."

Jamie Coleman, Sr., Farm. Harrison: Coleman was a four-year starter and all-round player for the Hawks. She was an outside hitter her first three years, but she switched to being the primary setter as a senior in first-year coach Niece Curry's offense. Coleman, who is uncommitted, recorded 543 assists and continued to hit the ball, netting 138 kills in 433 attacks. She also had

185 digs, a dozen solo blocks and 22 block assists, and she was an 88-percent server with 63 aces.

"Jamie was a great asset for the 2012 Harrison volleyball team," Curry said. "She was a cocaptain and the team respected her leadership. She led by example by pushing herself and the team to get better every practice and game.

"Jamie leaves it all on the court; win or lose, she competes with a true passion for the game. She has been a joy to coach and her spirit will be missed."

Holly Mossoian, Sr., Liv. Stevenson: The senior libero anchored the Spartans' defense with a total of 308 digs in 474 chances for the Class A district champions.

Mossoian also serve received at a 79-percent rate (497-for-627). "Holly was voted most aggressive this season," Graham said. "She also has been around the varsity program for three years. She's grown and improved so

much from last year to this year. "I immediately had confidence in her back-row play. She's a tough girl who played through some tough injuries this year, but never doubted what she had to do and wanted to do. I'm very proud of her efforts this year."

Ayanna Buckley, Jr., Clarenceville: The 6-1 junior, a threeyear starter and Class B allregion pick, led the Trojans with 380 kills (3.4 per set) to go along with 88 solo blocks and a teamhigh 260 total digs.

"Ayanna is a powerful allaround player that excels in every part of the game. She has great court awareness," Clarenceville coach Wendy Merschman said. "She is an intense player and led us on offense and defense. She was huge at the net for us this year, making it a challenge for any team. I'm never worried when the ball is in her hands, she just dominates. Ayanna is also a very strong jump server and digs the ball well. She came up with some big plays all season long. Her numbers show how strong she is in every area."

Lexus Medina, Jr., Huron Valley: The 5-10 junior middle hitter led the Class D regional finalists with a total of 337 kills and 55 solo blocks en route to all-region and all-MIAC honors.

"Lexi is a very physically gift. ed athlete." Huron Valley Lutheran coach Mike Dest said. "She jumps out of the gym, and hits the ball as hard, if not harder, as anybody in the state. This year Lexi nas developed her skills to go along with her physical gifts. I know the coaching staff likes watching her get it going.

'Offensively she's very hard to stop, and its nice to see her putting her all-around game together offensively and defensively. The sky's the limit for Lexi in this game. With some hard work and more volleyball touches, she can go very far."

COACH OF THE YEAR Jessica Condeni, N. Farmington: In her second year as head coach, Condeni led the Raiders to new heights. They won their first district championship in school history



Jessica Condeni N. Farmington coach

and advanced to the Class A regional final at Brighton, finishing with a 34-12 record. Competing

in the Oakland **Activities Asso**ciation's top division (Red), North finished third behind

Class A powers Clarkston and Lake Orion, and one of its six wins was over state quarterfinalist Birmingham Seaholm. The Raiders also won the

Walled Lake Central tournament and were runners-up at Lakeland and Milford. North was a semifinalist at Marian. Condeni is a former player at Harrison High School and Wayne State Univer-

"I'm very lucky to have the team I did," Condeni said. "Everybody had a common goal to get better and we were never satisfied. We competed with teams. We had that fighting spirit all year, and we won a lot of games in five. I think we had a lot of mental toughness.

"It's a credit to how hard the girls worked in practice and how focused they were. We had such a strong senior class. That doesn't happen very often, not at North Farmington, so they'll definitely be missed. Our seniors were the backbone of our team. They had something to fight for, and they did a really great job."

Reason for the season

Bible characters come alive at Breakfast in Bethlehem

By Sharon Dargay O&E Staff Writer

Shona Vincent and Linda Crawford have cooked up a Christian alternative to the "Breakfast with Santa" activities that abound this time of year in metro Detroit.

The co-leaders of Kidz Connection, the children's ministry at Memorial Church of Christ in Livonia, along with 100 volunteers, have been busy the past few weeks transforming the church gymnasium, lobby, and fellowship hall, into Christ's birth place for a free, two-hour "Breakfast in Bethlehem" on Saturday, Dec. 8.

The event, packed with activities for kids and open to the community, will run from 10 a.m. to noon at the church, 35475 Five Mile, in Livonia.

Live animals, a living nativity, "shopkeepers" with hands-on craft projects, patrolling Roman soldiers and mingling townsfolk will help bring Bethlehem to life.

"It's a fun outreach and hopefully the community will come," Vincent said. "It's really in competition with 'Breakfast with Santa' and it's meant to give new meaning to what Christmas is all about, to teach children that we're not celebrating Santa Claus - although that is a fun thing and there's nothing bad about that but it's just a way to teach what Christmas really is and what we're celebrating, which is Christ's



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Portraying shepherds are Sissy Howard (left), of Romulus, Ralph Congdon of Livonia and Liz Nuorala of Westland. Sadie, Sissy's miniature poodle, is pretending to be a lamb.

birth. We want to teach them that and let them experience the sights, sounds, smells of what may have been. We can give the kids a sense of wonder."

Vincent attended a similar event 19 years ago at a Nazarene church. She doesn't recall much about the experience, other than "it was cool." When she and Crawford brainstormed ideas for Memorial Church of Christ, they decided their version of Breakfast in Bethlehem would take shape on a grand scale.

In the village

Visitors will enter the building and pass through a village gate before checking their jackets and coats in the "cloak room," staffed by a costumed volunteer. They'll receive a bag full of play denarii — ancient Roman cash — and then head to breakfast.

Before entering the gym to browse shops, each child will sign the town census book in English or in Hebrew with assistance.

"There will be a lot of different shops," Vincent said. "At the music and psalm shop they'll make instruments. They'll go to Herod's palace and make jewelry and interact with Herod, who will be sitting on his throne.

"We'll have Bethlehem bagels, the bakery where they'll decorate a cookie. We'll have a metal shop, a carpenter shop. They'll make a catchit toy and there will be a yard where they can play with it."

Families will get a chance to don costumes and take photos of themselves as nativity characters. Outside they'll see goats, chickens, lambs, calves, ducks and a living nativity, with Mary, Joseph, and shepherds.

"We'll have some roleplaying going on. We're going to have a beggar woman. We'll have a tax collector who will be right inside the door trying to grab the kids money and make them pay taxes. We'll have shep-



Breakfast in Bethlehem co-leaders Shona Vincent (left) and Linda Crawford work together in the church's youth ministry, Kidz Connection.



Teresa Prong, of Livonia, carves a Star of David from foam

herds just outside the door when families go out, saying 'Oh, did you see that bright star tonight?"

Creating the setting

The volunteers account for approximately one third of the church's

members. Some of them cut foam board into Stars of David, painted scenery and crafted palm trees from carpet roles topped with umbrellas decorated in green paper leaves at a work session earlier

Please see BREAKFAST, B6







PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nancy Ryan is a shopkeeper in Bethlehem. When she's not at work in Bethlehem, Nancy lives in Livonia.



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BREAKFAST

Continued from page B5

this week.

Ralph Congdon of Livonia, will portray a cen-. sus taker at the event, but also helped paint and create papier mâché scen-

"It makes me happy that I can do it. Whenever I can help anybody, that's what I do," he said.

Teresa Prang of Livonia and Krista Stelmaszek of Canton, both long-time members of the church, are in charge of decorations for the event. They found ideas for scenery online and from previous Vacation Bible School classes.

'This is such a good sense of community. It helps us as a congregation, to draw us closer, and hopefully will bring people in," Prang said.

The hands-on activities are aimed at sixth graders and younger, although the Breakfast in Bethlehem event is open to all

"I'm hoping the kids will be impacted by seeing Jesus in the stable and the humble beginnings he had," Crawford



Tiffany Reed, of Canton and LuDean Peters, of Livonia, use tissue boxes dipped in paint to print a brick wall.

said. "I also think the kids will really enjoy the live animals. I'm hoping it will make the whole Christmas season come alive to the kids and their fami-

Vicent and Crawford request that participants RSVP at www.memorialkidz.org to help them determine how much food they'll require for the breakfast.

Ladies shopping night set in Plymouth

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce presents its annual "Dashing through the Stores," a ladies night out, 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6 in downtown Plymouth.

This event is designed for women to holiday shop in Plymouth's unique shops and fill out wish lists for themselves. Many restaurants also will offer special drinks and appetizers for shoppers.

Participating this year: Agio Spa; Bella Mia; Candy Trail; Creatopia; Dazzling Daniela; Dearborn Jewelers; Eclectic Attic; Genuine Toy Co.; Gigi's Mode;

Hands on Leather; Haven, Home Sweet Home; Isabella's Copper Pot; Kemnitz Fine Candies; Kilwin's; Lolayan; Magnolia Fresh Flower Market, Old World Olive Press; Opndohr; R.S.V.P.; Simply the Best; Sun & Snow; TranquiliTea and Yogurt Palooza

donation drive for Plymouth Community United Way will be held in conjunction with the event. Shoppers can donate a new hat, scarf, mittens or gloves at any of the participating stores. For more information visit www.plymouth-

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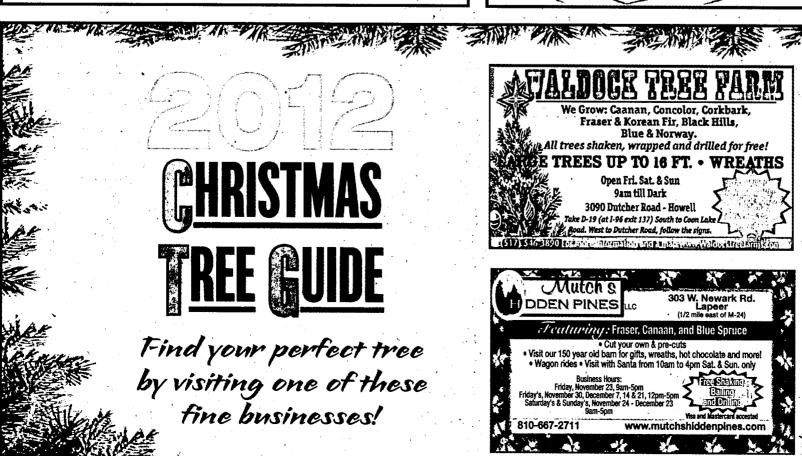
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Youngsters send gifts to Navy personnel

COMMUNITY LIFE

Children and families from the Felician Sisters Child Care Centers, Inc. recently collected treats from candy and hot chocolate to books and crossword puzzles - for sailors aboard the USS Oscar Austin DDG-79.

Terrie Nemeth, Kindergarten Readiness teacher, whose son, Jeremy, serves in the Navy, spear-headed the project at St. Mary Child Care Center in Livonia. In addition to children collecting items for donation overseas, staff members donated money to help defray the cost of postage.

The project took on a life of its own and resulted in more than 40 boxes being packed and mailed to the sailors. The children spent several days designing more than 300 Christmas cards that were sent with the boxes.



Sister Joyce Marie Van de Vyver gathers the troops of red, white and blue Christmas Elves at St. Mary Child Care Center in Livonia.

"Projects such as these are important learning tools for putting our Core Values into practice, espe-

cially for very young children who are just learning how to share with others, said Sister Joyce Marie

Van de Vyver, administrator. "They also become a vehicle for parents to begin discussions with

their children regarding peace and justice."

The Felician Sisters sponsor both St. Mary Child Care Center and the Montessori Center of our Lady. For information call (734) 655-1900.



Holiday brass concert

The Motor City Brass Quintet will play holiday and seasonal favorites noon, Wednesday, Dec. 5 in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, located on Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. Quintet members some are from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra — have performed with such ensembles as the Empire Brass Quintet, Spectrum Brass Quintet and Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble. The free concert is part of the Noon Concert Series that includes soprano Linda Meehan, Jan. 23, 2013; Tubao Bravo, Feb. 6, 2013; Gary Schunk Trio, Feb. 20, 2013; Schoolcraft Music Faculty, March 20, 2013; The Michele Ramo Group, April 10, 2013; and violinist Kirk Toth, April 24, 2013. Donations will be accepted at the door to help fund student scholarships. Call (734) 462-4403 for more information.

Shop for unique gifts at artist sale

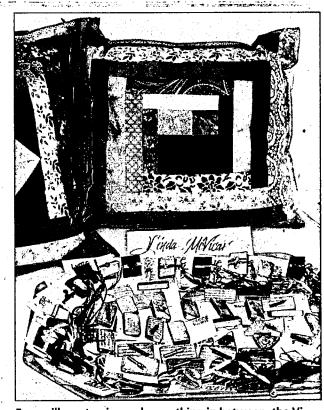
The Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) will open its third VAAL Holiday Shoppe Wednesday, Dec. 5. in the VAAL classroom at the New Five Village Shopping Center, 37653 Five Mile, Livonia.

The juried show and sale will be open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily through Saturday, Dec. 15. A special reception will be held 6-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7. Refreshments will be served.

The VAAL Holiday Shoppe offers shoppers an opportunity to select unique art gifts for holiday giving. The art work is by award winning artists including staff, members and non-members.

The sale will include unframed art, cards, jewelry, fiber, ceramics and one-of-a-kind art pieces, in every price range.

For more information call (734) 464-6772.



From pillows to pins and everything in between, the Visual Arts Association of Livonia offers handmade items for sale in its holiday gift shop.

Photographer uses Google Earth in genealogy

Doug Willett of Livoniabased Luna Tech 3D will talk about using Google Earth for genealogy at the next meeting of the Oakland County Genea-

logical Society. Willett is a "Google Trusted Photographer" who will explain how to use Google Earth in researching the neighborhoods of ancestors.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4 in room 303 of the Troy Community Center, 3179 Livernois, just north of Big Beaver, Troy.

For more information, call Dick Fellrath at (248) 519-5064. Visit www.ocgsmi.org.

Arthritis Today JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D.

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THE ANKLE

When someone mentions arthritis, what usually comes to mind is a swollen knee or a shoulder that can't move. The picture of a person limping on a bad ankle doesn't often come up, but

Ankle pain and swelling is common. Keep in mind that the ankle is more than the joint itself but includes the tendons that run on either side of the ankle joint. These parts control movement of the foot and toes. Finally, next to the bones are ligaments which bind the ankle to the foot and stabilize the small

Physicians make an effort to identify ankle pain because a patient with a bad ankle often will present with a painful, aching leg. A swollen ankle throws a strain on the rest of the leg that may lead the patient and potentially mislead the doctor to seeing the problem as coming from the leg not the ankle.

The most common cause of ankle pain is injury, usually of the twisting variety. Osteoarthritis may set into the ankle at any age, at times quite early if the person experienced a sports injury or from a vehicle such as car, motorcycle or cross country road bike.

Gout can strike the ankle; rheumatologic conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis, an ankylosing spondylitis need be considered in otherwise unexplained ankle pain. Infection occurs, but usually the inciting agent is identified from an evident

wound. Treatment may be difficult. In instances of injury, braces and splints are the therapies of choice, but they often cause as much strain as they relieve. Medication is only appropriate if the physician has identified an underlying cause.



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 Revela-

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

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

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

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile, west of Inkster Road, Livonia

Details: This service is designed for individuals who struggle with the holidays. It is for those who may be grieving, for those who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, or just struggling with the holidays in general. A coffee reception with care ministers will follow the

Contact: (734) 422-1470

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

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,



Detroit Lutheran Singers will perform 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7 at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon, Canton.

Canton

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 2, 2012

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

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

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

927-6686

CONCERT

Livonia

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

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.

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.

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

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

Contact: (248) 647-2380 **CONCERT**

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

Location: Faith Covenant Church,

35415 W. 14 Mile, Farmington

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.

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

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,

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 8 a.m., sale starts 9 a.m., Saturday, Dec.

Location: Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 Seven Mile, between Farmington Road and Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Come early for coffee and conversation. There will be a large quantity of European cookies, nut, poppyseed, and apricot rolls, perogies, sweet bread and stuffed cabbage available for purchase

Contact: (248) 476-3432

COOKIE WALKS

Time/Date: Doors open at 10 a.m. with an early bird sale starting at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 15

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

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

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

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, **Farmington Hills**

Details: Screening of "The Nativity." The movie is free and appropriate for the entire family Contact: (248) 553-3380

GRIEF SUPPORT

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

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

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734-423-3140 MAINTENANCE Full-time maintenance person needed for retirement com-munity in Westland. Requires general knowledge of preventative and regular repairs, including plumbing, electrical

and HVAC. Fax resume to: 734-729-9840, EDE

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Help Wanted - Medical

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holistic/alternative medicine is a must. Resume to:

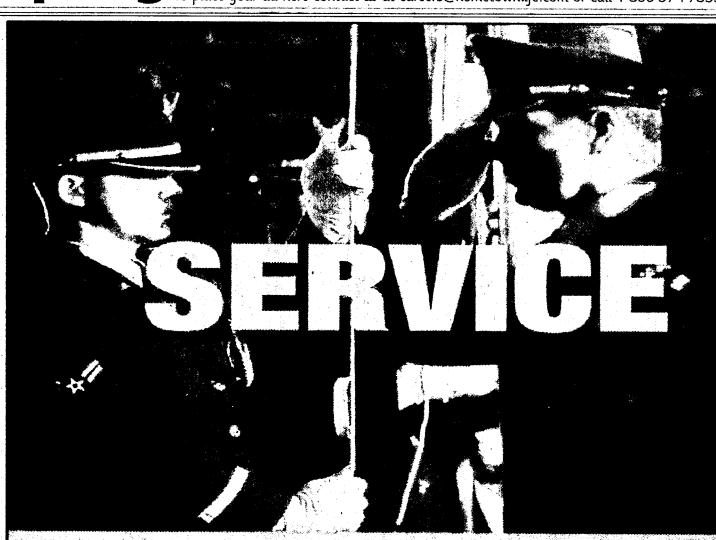


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Kavanaugh-Hollandsworth

Shanna Marie Kavanaugh and Bradford Hale Hollandsworth announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Garner and Mr. and Mrs. David Phalin, all of Chicago, Ill., is a stylist in Chicago, Ill.

Her fiancé, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rob Hollandsworth of St. Charles, Ill., formerly of Farmington Hills, is employed with Dean Foods Co., as a



sales rep. A February 2013 wed-

MILESTONES

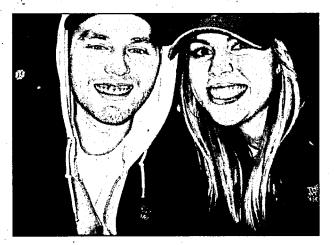
ding is planned at Hotel 71 in Chicago, Ill.

Young-Mitchell

Stephanie Alexandra Mary Young and Timothy Kevin Mitchell announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Robert and Mary Young of Burton, graduated in 2009 from Michigan State University with a B.A. degree in interdisciplinary studies in social science. She is employed by Young's Environmen-

Her fiancé, son of Kevin and Pamella Mitchell of Farmington Hills, graduated in 2009 from Michigan State University with a B.A. degree



in finance and is working on his MBA degree from Michigan State. He plans to graduate in April 2014. He is

employed by Ally Finan-

An August 2013 wedding is planned in Bay Harbor.

Long-time Livonia couple observes 70th anniversary

Robert and Phyllis (Zerilli) Mooradian of Livonia will mark their 70th wedding anniversary Dec. 16. They were married in 1942 at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Detroit.

They couple celebrated their milestone anniversary on Thanksgiving Day with their family.

'We got a very special, customized two-tier anniversary cake, a beautiful arrangement of all white flowers with roses, lilies and silver and white glittery embellishments, giant balloons that matched the cake and plates, napkins," said their daughter, Barbara Mooradian of Troy. "And I designed a customized banner we ordered from a sign company to make the day even more special."

She and her brothers rented two white stretch limos to whisk family away to dinner at Bucca de Beppo Italian Restaurant.

Her brothers are Paul (Pam) Mooradian of Bloomfield Hills, Don (Kathleen) Mooradian of Nashville, Tenn., and Bob (Mary Ann) Mooradian of Mt. Pleasant.

Grandchildren are Bryan Mooradian of Kalamazoo, Michael Mooradian of Royal Oak, Brandon (Crystal) Mooradian of Pell City, Ala., Rebecca (Jonathan) Moody of Nashville, Tenn., Mark Mooradian of Mt. Pleasant, and Joe Mooradian, of Nashville, Tenn.

Great-granddaughter is Emily Mooradian. A great-grandson is due this month.

Long-time residents

Robert recently celebrated his 91st birthday. He was born Nov. 16. 1921. Phyllis, born June 11, 1924, is 88 years old.

Both grew up in Detroit and lived there until 1952 when they moved to Livo-



Robert and Phyllis Mooradian of Livonia.



Robert and Phyllis Mooradian on their wedding day.

"They have many friends and love the sense of community that comes with living in Livonia," Mooradian said.

Robert served in the U.S. Navy and was stationed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba during WWII.

"Mom had movie star beauty — still beautiful and raised four wonderful children while Dad worked hard every day and went to night school to earn a college degree from Wayne State University.'

Two retirements

Robert worked at Ford Motor Company and retired at age 65. He returned as a consultant within weeks and worked full time for the next 15 years. He retired again at

Mooradian said her father made significant contributions in the cost analysis of manufacturing PEM Fuel Cells when he worked as a consultant. She said he is recognized as a leader and expert.

"Since Dad retired at 80 and worked most of his life, my parents find they love spending time together and have done this for the last 11 years. They also enjoy spending time with family and friends."

Phyllis enjoys crossword puzzles, reading, and visiting with friends. Robert gardens, enjoys landscaping and is a physical fitness advocate. He exercises, including power walking with weights and stomach crunching, for up to two hours a day, five-six times a week, Mooradian said.

"Anyone who knows my parents can see that they love each other very much. They kiss often every morning and night - and a lot in between. They write each other love notes, hold hands, and respect each other in subtle and obvious ways,' she said. "Even their little actions demonstrate respect, caring, and love. My mom says they never go to bed mad at each other and one or the other will give in if they don't see eye to eye.

"They are loving, generous parents who passed their values of hard work, integrity, compassion, and caring on to all of their children."

Passages

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Age 77, November 24, 2012. Wife of Neil and the late Ralph. Mother of Sandi (Kevin) Eis-brenner, Karen (Greg) Westfall, Doug Bailey, Mike (Lisa) Bailey, Jerry (Anna) Bailey, Mark Fawcett, and Paul (the late Charlene) Griffin. Grandmother of 14. Great-grandmother of 4. Sis-ter 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



DENISE D.

November 22, 2012, Age 60 of Garden City. Beloved wife of Charles "Chuck". Dear stepmom of Chuck Barackman. Loving daughter of Dick and the late Delores French. Dear sister of Douglas French. Proud Grandmother of Sara and Ryan Barackman. The family will gather with friends Mon 10 AM until the 11 AM Memorial Service at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth (at Gotfredson). Memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Presbyterian Church Deacons Fund or Grace Centers of Hope, 35 East Huron Street, Pontiac, MI 48342

To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com



DALY, JOHN ROBERT

Age 45, November 22, 2012. Beloved husband of Dawn, loving father of Caryn and Erin. John is also survived by his parents, Brian and Mary Daly and brother Stephen. John graduated from

Farmington High School, class of 1985. John was a retired U.S. Navy veteran with 23 years of service retiring as a Senior Chief. He was currently employed by BAE systems in Patuxent, MD. Internment will be at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.



Passed away on November 20th, 2012 at age 63. She was originally from Westland and is survived by her loving daughters, Bridgett (Ken) Monville, Christie Reed, and Brenda Earhart. Beloved wife of Donald Earhart and the late Billy Reed. Blessed with 8 grandchildren, Molly & Shelby Wysong, Nicholas & Lucas Monville, Cole Belknap, Paiden, Lucas Hailee, & Domanyk Meza. Sister of Cindia Lee (Mike)Tanner and the late Jimmy (Pat) Brown. Preceeded in death by her parents Bill and Verlon "Ruth" Lee and James Brown. Dec 8th from 1pm until Cremation memorial service at 2 pm at L.J Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 N. Middlebelt Rd, Westland. Infollowing at Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens, 17840 Middlebelt Rd, Livonia. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to her family

EMRICK, ELISE M.

November 4, 2012, age 95. She was one of the first female real estate brokers in Wayne County, having obtained her license in 1960. She and her husband Paul, operated Emrick Orchards until 1990 when she co-developed Emrick Orchard Estates. A Celebration of Life will be held on December 10, 2012 from 3pm until 7pm at Station 885, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth. Contributions are suggested to Wells Veterinary Scholarship, Michigan State University, F130 Veterinary Medical Center, East Lansing, MI 48824-1314

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



Age 91, passed away on November 24, 2012 in Birmingham, AL from complications of CIDP.

He was preceded in death by Patricia Kuban, his wife of 62 years, sons Jack and Karl and three sisters. Joe was born in Czechoslovakia in 1921, moved to Cudahy, WI with his parents at the age of 3. He proudly served his country in WWII, receiving many decorations and citations including a Purple Heart. Joe married Patricia Whidden in 1947. Demand for automobiles prompted Joe to move his family to Westland, Michigan in 1957 to work at Ford Motor Company until his retirement. Joe and Pat chose to spend their retirement years in New Port Richey, Florida. Joe was a very loving and supportive husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. All who shared his life will miss his quick wit, storytelling and amazing memory. He was a good man, mild mannered with an uncanny ability to take life's ups and downs with grace and humility. He loved God and was a good and faithful servant. Joe is survived by his sons Ronald, Rotanda West, FL, and Brian, Westland, MI, daughter Peggy (Dave) Carlington, Hoover, AL, one brother, Frank (Diane) Kuban, Racine, WI. He leaves behind seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. A military rites funeral will be held December 6, 2012, 11:00 am at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.



(Age 54) Beloved wife of Jeffrey. Loving mother of Jennifer (Travis) Black and Jonathon (Kara) Petriches and grandmother of Oliver Black & Jaycie & Kaylie Petriches. Dear sister of William (Margaret) Gauthier, Dolly (the late Robert) Morris, Jeanie (Ken) Steel, Richard (Pat-ty) Gauthier & Larry (Deborah) Gauthier & loving aunt of many. Daughter of the late Nelson & Alice Gauthier & Daughter in law of Pat (the late John) Petriches. Anne was manager of Neighbors Caring for Neighbors Clinics & Prescription Resource

Network Services of Henry Ford Hospital. Visiting Thursday 3 pm until 7:15 pm Scripture services at Henry Malburg Funeral Home 11280 32 Mile in Romeo. Visiting Friday 10 am until 11 am Memorial Mass at SS. John and Paul Parish 7777 28 Mile Romeo. In lieu of flowers donations for the care of diabetic patients at Neighbors Caring for Neighbors Clinics appreciated.



(henryfordgiving.com)

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, 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 phanie Funeral Mass Friday, 10:00 AM (in state 9:30 AM) at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 23615 Power Rd., Farmington. 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 Farmington (248-474-5200). Memorial contributions may be direct-

michiganhumane.org, or St. Anthony's Guild, 144 W. 32nd St., New York, NY, 10001-3202. heeney-sundquist.com

ed to Michigan Humane Society,





(NEE CORACY)

November 30, 2012, Age 91 of Lathrup Village. Mary's first pri-ority was her family and in her professional life she was a school librarian in the Detroit Public School system. She graduated Wayne State University in 1942, 1945 (BA,MA). Social activities included AAUW where she was a 65 year member and an active worker in the annual book sale where thousands of dollars were raised for women's scholarships. She was also involved in the Gourmet Foods group and active in an investment club, and the Cranbrook Writers Society. She was also a board member of the Metro Detroit Book and Author Society that raised thousands of dollars local libraries. avocations included travel to five continents and spending summers in the mountains of Colorado. Beloved wife of George M.D. Dear mother of James D. (Diane), John G. (Rita Aiello), William G. (Dana) G. Thomas (Donna) and Robert D. (Carrie). Grandmother of Kevin, Cory, Courtney, Daniela, Krista, Dean, Nate and Ryan. Also survived by seven great grand-children. Sister of Vito "Bill" Coracy (Anna). Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile), Sunday (today) 2-5 & 7-9p.m. Funeral Mass Monday 10a.m. at Church of the Transfiguration, 25225 Code Rd., Southfield. Visitation at church begins at 9:30a.m.

Memorial tributes to Wayne State University School of Library Science or the AAUW Birmingham Chapter. View obituary and share memories at www.Desmond

FuneralHome.com ATDESMOND SOM

VELLER (SUND), KATHLEEN

Age 89, of Toledo, Ohio, long time resident of Beverly Hills, Michigan, and recently of Rog-ers, Minnesota was welcomed 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 Tol edo, 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 Stephens Minister and served in the church library. Her varied interests included Bible Study, reading, 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 Toledo, OH, all who have survived her. A private family service will be held at Toledo Memorial Cemetery.

WASHBURN, PAULETTE D.

Age 62, November 25, 2012. Bemother 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. & Harris Funeral Home. 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City where funeral services will be held on Friday at 10:00 am. Interment at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Please sign the online guestbook at: rggrharris.com

In Memoriam



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 2,' 2012 at Calvery Baptist Church in Plymouth, Michigan. This will be at 2:30 for more information call 734-674-8666, her sister Alice.

es long.

Alexa Jordan Grant was born at 8:09 p.m., Oct. 3, 2012 at Henry Ford Hospital in West Bloomfield. She weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces and measured 20.5 inch-

Alexa Jordan Grant

Proud first-time parents are Livonia residents Katie and Brian Grant.

Her happy grandparents, Jean and Craig Fones and Colleen and George Mills, all are Livonia residents. Brian Grant's father, Ronald Grant of Shelby Township, welcomes his first grandchild.



Speaker to discuss Lyme disease and nutrition

The East Oakland-Northern Wayne Lyme Support Group will feature David Rodgers, who holds an M.S. degree in nutrition, at its next meeting, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, South-

Rodgers used his training as a nutritionist to heal his symptoms of Lyme disease, using only nutritional protocols while consulting

with Lyme-literate physicians in Southeast Michigan. He has been 95 percent symptom-free for more than four years. His nutritional practice, specializing in the treatment of Lyme disease and other chronic conditions, is located in Berkley.

The East Oakland-Northern Wayne Lyme Support Group, is sponsored by the Michigan Lyme Disease Association, and Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church. The group meets

the first Tuesday of every month, except January and July, and is open to anyone who has Lyme disease, suspects they may have the disease, or cares about someone with Lyme disease. There is no charge to attend.

For more information about Rodgers visit www. nutrientbalance.com or call (248) 291-7722.

For more information about the Michigan Lyme Disease Association, visit www.mlda.org or call (888) 784-LYME.

Learn to identify teen drug, alcohol abuse

"Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do," will run 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8 and 15, 2013 Elliott drive, Ypsilanti. The workshop series is designed for families and others who are concerned that a teen they know may be involved with alcohol or

drug use. The first part of the series, "What To Know," on Jan. 8, will help participants understand and recognize teen substance abuse problems. The second session, "What To

Do," on Jan. 15, will provide information on what should and should not be done when a teen substance abuse problem is suspected or identified. It will include a short talk by a recovering teen.

The program is free. It's targeted primarily to parents and caretakers of teens but is open to all. Free literature about alcohol and other drugs and teens will be provided.

The "Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do" program is sponsored by

Dawn Farm, and co-sponsored by the Livingston and Washtenaw Regional Coordinated School Health Program Advisory Team, and Saint Joseph Mercy Health System Greenbrook Recovery Center. The programs are presented by Dawn Farm and Growth Works therapists specializing in adolescent substance abuse • problems.

Call (734) 485-8725, email info@dawnfarm. org or go to http://www. teensusingdrugs.org for more information.

NEW FACES

Dr. David Crowl Jr., D.O., a board-certified internist, recently joined both the medical staff at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills, as well as Botsford's Midwest Internal Medicine Associates (MIMA). The medical practice recently earned Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan's designation as a patient-centered medical home practice.



Crowl

ed medical school at Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, where has

MIMA is served as an associate clinlocated ical professor since 2009. at 20317 He performed his inter-Farmingnal medicine residency ton Road at Garden City Hospital, in Livonia. where he held the position Crowl of chief resident. He also received the 2010-2011 attend-Medical Educator of the Year Award from Garden City Hospital. He will continue to train internal medicine residents at Botsford.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

December

LUPUS SUPPORT

The Lupus Alliance of Michigan will hold a lupus Support Group meeting, 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777, Livonia. Meetings are designed to assist people with lupus and their family and friends to get connected with one another, and to get a better understanding of the disease and how to fight it. Support Group meetings are offered free of charge to anyone interested in participating. For more information visit www.milupus.org, or call (800) 705-6677.

NEUROPATHY SUPPORT

The Southeast Michigan Neuropathy Support Group's next meeting is 7 p.m. Dec. 18, at the Civic Park Senior Center, Five Mile and Farmington Road, in Livonia. The group meets the third Tuesday of the month. The group is aimed at individuals with any kind of neuropathy. Questions? Call Len Mc-Culloch at (248) 474-2763 ext 22.

THYROID CANCER

Thyroid Cancer Support meets monthly and is free for all thyroid cancer patients and survivors as well as their family and friends. Its next meeting is 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 1641 Charlevois Drive, Troy. For more information, contact Gwynne at (248) 515-0348. Or visit Thyca.org

VOLUNTEER VOICES

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan extends an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends, to participate in singing. Times and dates of sessions in December vary. Call Len McCulloch at (248) 474-2763 ext 22. Or visit www.therapychoirs.org.

Ongoing

AQUATIC CLASSES

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and nonmembers of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join or for more information, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

ARTHRITIS SUPPORT

2-3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Krieger Center, DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. Enter the building via the South Garden entrance. Registration not required.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

BIPOLAR SUPPORT

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance meets 6:30-8 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon Road, Suite 160B, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-14. It is a self-help group for people suffering from depression and bipolar disorders. Meetings are open also to family members. All DBSA leaders are professionally trained and attend two trainings for every year to update their skills in leading the group. Call Nancy at (734) 536-3457 or Katrina at (734) 837-7700 with questions.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUPS

 St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of démentia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for information. Authorized by the Alzheimer's Association. Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to loved ones. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue, Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the second Thursday of the month; the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. Call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

CPR CLASSES

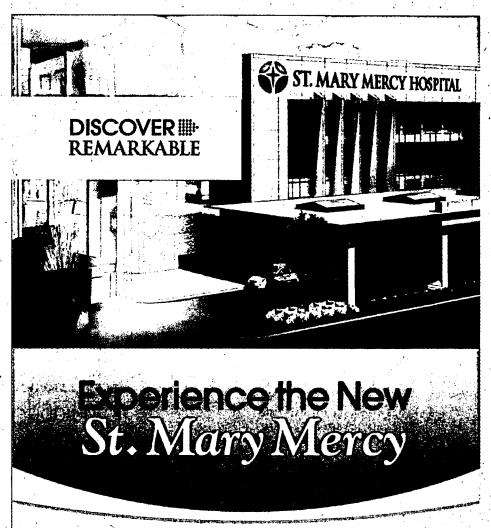
Classes range from basic CPR for people who want to know how to help save a life to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www. hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar or call (248) 937-3314.

DIABETES SUPPORT

An adult diabetes support group sponsored by the Plymouth Lions Club meets 2-3:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, in downtown Plymouth. Fern Vining, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Lion will facilitate. There is no charge to attend. Discussion topics will focus on understanding diabetes and self management strategies. Call Vining at (734) 454-0859.







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