

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2013 • hometownlife.com



Firefighter's death ruled homicide due to arson

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

It came as a shock to George Marvaso that the fire that killed a Wayne-Westland firefighter and destroyed his family business has been found to be arson.

"I was very surprised. We kept pushing the insurance adjusters. Three or four months ago, they finished their investigation," said Marvaso, who owned the Electric Stick/Marvaso's Italian Grille. "The fire wasn't caused by human hand — there were no accelerants." Now the fire has been ruled

a case of arson and the death of Wayne-Westland firefighter Brian Woehlke, killed fighting the May 8 fire, is listed as a homicide.

On Wednesday, Marvaso said he and family members met with Michigan State Police about the investigation.

"We requested the meeting. I want to be clear — we did nothing (connected to the arson)," Marvaso said. "We had tripled our gross in the last three years. We were so underin-



Woehlke

sured. This is the worst thing that ever happened to me."

May 8 fire

A Dearborn Heights resident, Woehlke, 29, died of smoke and soot inhalation fighting the fire that destroyed the Electric Stick/Marvaso's Italian Grille on Wayne Road at Hunter in Westland.

"I submitted my report to the Wayne County Prosecutor and the Michigan State Police," said Wayne-Westland Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal John Adams. "The cause of the fire was

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Firefighters from four departments helped battle the fire, which destroyed the Electric Stick and Marvaso's Italian Grille. The fire burned for four hours before being extinguished. FILE PHOTO



Zach Wiertalla and his father Jeff of Dearborn Heights fill out holiday cards for troops serving overseas. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

Memoir writer finds she was worth a chew

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Ann Tobias isn't one to sit around. Seven years after retiring, she's as busy as ever, writing children's books, feeding the hungry at the Salvation Army, doing upholstery and drapery work, and doing quilting at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Wayne.

But the biggest job she has taken on since retiring in 2006 has been writing about her life from growing up in Murray, Ky., to the lessons learned during 50 years of classroom teaching in her memoir, entitled *For a Chew of Tobacco*.

"The hardest thing to write about was the house I grew up in," said the Westland resident. "We were poor, we didn't have running water, electricity and heat. The windows were so poorly installed that when it snowed you could see the pattern of the window in snow on the floor."

The writing process wasn't an easy one for Tobias. She wrote and rewrote repeatedly. Her first editor told not to try to write in sequence rather when she thought of something, write about that. She did and when she went to put it together, "it was a mess."

"I met a wonderful lady who needed a couch re-upholstered for her son, she was willing to type it and put it in good order, so we bartered," Tobias said.

A young woman at Office Max helped her put it together and bound it. From there, she sent it to a nephew to read.

"He's very bright, he told me what it needed," she said. "He said, 'I think you have a lot of potential, but you need

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Anne Tobias's memoir looks at the events that shaped her life from her birth to her more than 50-year career in teaching. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MESSAGES FROM HOME

Shoppers send holiday wishes to active duty military personnel

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Gloria Komor collects all things polar bear, so when she saw a card with a mother polar bear and her cub she knew it was calling her name.

The Garden City resident was among shoppers who stopped to sign Christmas cards that will be sent to U.S. troops on active duty and away from home for the holidays. This is the eighth year the Westland Jaycees have

land Shopping Center on the Friday after Thanksgiving to have people sign the greeting cards.

"I try to stop and do something like this a couple of times a year," Komor said. "My nephew is in the Navy, he shipped out the first of November for training. We already miss him."

Komor's message was a big thank-you for their service to their country and "for giving us their holidays for us."

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Gloria Komor of Garden City shows her thanks for those who serve in the military with a card for the holidays.

Wayne, Westland light up for the holidays

Westland residents can get in the spirit of the season at the city's annual tree lighting ceremony Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Mayor William Wild will be joined by Santa and Mrs. Claus in throwing the switch that will turn on the lights in the civic center complex on Ford south of Wayne Road. The ceremony will be held in front of City Hall at 5:30 p.m.

Immediately following the tree lighting ceremony, families are invited to visit the William P. Faust Public Library for cookies and cocoa with Santa beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Youngsters will be able to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and enjoying refreshments and holiday stories read by local dignitaries.

Children can bring their letters to Santa and put them in Santa's Mailbox at the library. Santa will take the letters back to the North Pole with him when he returns home.

Donations of nonperishable food items also will be collected at the Westland Holiday Celebration. The food will be given to the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps.

The City of Wayne will hold

its annual tree lighting ceremony at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, at the Wayne Historical Museum at 1 Town Square between East and West Michigan Avenue.

The St. Mary Catholic Church Youth Choir will lead the crowd with Christmas songs, and from 7:15 p.m. to 8 p.m., cookies and hot chocolate will be served inside the museum by the Wayne Beautification Committee.

The festivities will continue at 6 p.m. Friday Dec. 6, with the Wayne Rotary's 38th annual Christmas parade and the first year as a Holiday Parade

of Lights.

This year's theme is "Holiday Lights," and participants are being asked to light up their entries.

The lineup starts at 5 p.m. on Second Street between Sims and Ash. Participants must enter through Second Street and Sims parade check-in and will be given their lineup spot. Hot chocolate will be available during the lineup.

Canned food also is being collected for St. Mary's Outreach Center's John Bolde Food Depot during the parade. Donations can be dropped off at the parade check-in area.



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CARDS

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"I'm very proud of them," she said.

Supporting troops

Jeff Wiertalla and his son, Zack, of Dearborn Heights also filled out cards. Wiertalla is a military veteran; his son is thinking of joining the service.

"I do everything I can to support the troops," Wiertalla said. "I was on active duty for nine years and getting mail while you're overseas is a blessing. When you're away from home, getting cards and letters means a lot. It meant a lot to me."

"This is important to support the guys. Let's face it, it's a sucky job," he said.

The pace was little bit slower than usual, but within 1<AF>1/2<XA> hours of setting up the table by the Kohl's entrance, more than 100 shoppers signed cards.

"We're hoping for 1,000," Westland Jaycees member Jennifer Sroczyński said. "We only do this on Black Friday and it used to be that the place was packed. The first year we did this we have 5,000 cards. It's really dropped significantly every year. I think there are less people out shopping on Friday."

Working in four-hour shifts, the Jaycees planned to be at the mall until 6 p.m. They also were collecting donations to pay for the postage.

The Jaycees tried to do cards for the troops twice a year, with a massive card signing at

Thanksgiving and around the Fourth of July, but scaled back to once a year.

"We didn't get a good response, so we went back to once a year on Black Friday," she said.

Kohl's is a shopping destination and the Jaycees get a fair number of people leaving the store to enter the mall to stop by and sign a card as well as those heading for the parking lot.

'Hurry home'

Donna Thayer and Bill Bashara of Livonia made sure they stopped. Bashara has two sons in the Marines, one of whom did two stints overseas.

"I know how important it is to get a card or something from back home," he said. "My one son wasn't home for two Christmases. He lives in

California and will be with his family this year."

He had a simple message for the soldier who gets his card: "Just hurry home."

This year's project came together at the last minute and while Gary Bulson of Men on the Move in the past has been able to donate the cards, he couldn't this year, so the Jaycees purchased them from Party City.

"I'm just glad we're able to be here and glad people are able to stop," said Sroczyński.

Wiertalla made sure to wish the recipient of his card well.

"I told them they're in my thoughts and the always are," he said.

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MEMOIR

Continued from Page A1

someone independent to edit it."

In paperback

That editor originally wanted the book published in hardcover, but Tobias balked, thinking it would be too pricey. She opted for paperback, and the book is now available on amazon.com and at Borders and Barnes and Noble.

The title is a reflection of her birth. Her father had been stranded by flooding, and when it came time, her mother sent for the midwife who chewed tobacco. Her mother paid her for her services with a chew.

The youngest of six children, Tobias had a hard time with writing and spelling growing up. Her sister-in-law helped her, making sure the words in her school work were spelled correctly. In fourth-grade, the class had to write stories and read them. When Tobias did hers, she never read what she had written.

"I would enhance it," she said. "The teacher sent my work to *Story Parade*, a children's magazine that featured children's work and they published it."

Tobias spent her entire educational career from first-grade through college in one campus. When she was done, she had a master's degree in teaching. At age 12, she went to live at the church house where she became a nanny to a woman's two children. When they went to summer camp, she went along. When they needed groceries, she took a taxi to the store.

She made \$8 a month and didn't return home until the woman's husband returned from the service.

Each chapter of her book covers an event in her life and ends with a moral of the story. One

chapter is the story of a troubled student she calls Lost Lamb. Another looks at struggles with the "some struggles with the school administration — "They wouldn't let us wear pants." And another touches on the subject of head lice.

"One friend said that one chapter would have caused her to stop teaching, it was about a child screaming while trying to pass a tape worm," Tobias said. "What do you say? Do you do what a mother would do or do you slink away?"

Reflection on life

The last chapter is a reflection on her life.

"It reflects on whether I was worth a chew of tobacco," said Tobias who gave her book to retired Garden City school administrator Mark Gutman to read. "He called and said, 'I love this book.'"

Garden City resident Jeanne Shroat, whose husband is a nephew of Tobias's, also sings the praises of the book.

"I knew her outstanding work as a teacher in Garden City as well as general facts about her family," she wrote in a review on amazon.com. "This book, however, gives us all her personal memories of growing up in Murray, Ky., and the experiences that affected her entire life. Who would have thought the 'super teacher, mom, artist' felt inferior. I hope she finally sees herself as any of us who have tried to keep up with her sees her — as an amazing woman well worth that Chew of Tobacco."

With her memoir done, Tobias can turn her attention to another book, *Elephant Annie*. The children's book is at the publishers, but there is a difference over what the children's book should be.

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ARSON

Continued from Page A1

some type of incendiary. There were no accelerants found. There were multiple points of origin."

On Tuesday, the Michi-

gan State Police Second District Special Investigations Section announced it was investigating the fire and Woehlke's death as a homicide due to the fire being arson.

"The Fire Department is responsible for determining the origin and

cause," said Adams. "The state police are responsible for the criminal side — to identify the person who intentionally set that fire based on the facts."

The investigation into the fire has been a collaborative effort of the Fire Department, state police and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, he said.

"We are not able to comment on the matter because it is currently under investigation," said Maria Miller, spokeswoman for the prosecutor's office.

'Heavy hearts'

Western Wayne Firefighters Association Local 1279 President Mitch Tokarski issued a statement on Woehlke's death being ruled a homicide.

"We continue to have heavy hearts following the details released today by the Michigan State Police and Fire Marshal John Adams. Local 1279 and its members will continue to support the Woehlke family through these tragic events. Our focus is now to assist the

Michigan State Police in any way possible to find justice for our brother Brian A. Woehlke."

A Wayne-Westland firefighter for only six months, Woehlke is survived by his wife and young daughter.

While he has been in negotiations for a temporary space for a charity poker room, Marvaso said he wants to rebuild his business.


"The insurance has paid us nothing. We have no money to get anything," said Marvaso.

A fundraiser to assist the Marvaso family is scheduled for 5-8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9, at the Westland Charhouse, 35613 Warren Road. Tickets are \$40 per person. Contact Dennis LeMaitre at 734-260-4682 or keygraphicsolutions@yahoo.com.

The MSP asks anyone with information about the fire to contact Michigan State Police Special Investigation Section at 877-616-4677. Tips can remain anonymous.

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WESTLAND GOODFELLOWS

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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, 2013

Participating Goodfellows' Partners

Allstate Insurance, Hassan Farhat	956 N. Newburgh, Westland
B & G Tax Service	32508 Michigan Ave., Wayne
Biggby Coffee	37644 Ford Rd., Westland
Catherine's	34764 Warren Rd., Westland
Community Dental Assoc.	820 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Dairy Queen	36520 Ford Rd., Westland
Daniel SharpSmart	5770 N. Hix Rd., Westland
Don Massey Cadillac	40475 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
Family Video	146 S. Venoy, Westland
Forum Fitness Center	34250 Ford Rd., Westland
Fountain Park Apartments	37410 Fountain Park Circle, Westland
Gentle Dental Family Dentistry	35270 Nankin Blvd., Westland
Hampton Court Apartments	5800 N. Christine, Westland
Independent Carpet One	1400 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Lutheran Church of Our Saviour	29425 Annapolis, Westland
Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church	39851 W. Five Mile Rd., Plymouth
Orchards of Newburgh Apartments	37140 S. Orchard Cr., Westland
Our Savior's Manor	29495 Annapolis, Westland
Parkside Credit Union	1747 S. Newburgh, Westland
Speedy Auto Repair	1803 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Taco Bell	6925 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Tanabed Island	35041 Cherry Hill, Westland
Taylor Towers	36500 Marquette, Westland
Venoy Pine Apartments	7127 E. Bonnie Dr., Westland
Wayne Ford Civic League	1661 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Wayne-Westland Fed. Credit Union	500 S. Wayne Rd., Westland
Westland Bowl	5940 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Westland Car Care	7666 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Westland Chamber of Commerce	36900 Ford Rd., Westland
Westland City Hall	36601 Ford Rd., Westland
Westland Fire Station-Main	Ford Rd at Central City Parkway, Westland
Westland Library	6123 Central City Parkway, Westland
Westland Nursing & Rehab. Centre	36137 W. Warren Rd., Westland
Westland Police Dept.-Lobby	36701 Ford Rd., Westland
Westland Senior Center	1119 Newburgh Rd., Westland
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WESTLAND...35735 W. Warren Rd. Btw. Party City & Petco (734) 729-3810
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Collaborative effort results in cleanup of trash, tires in Wayne

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

The unseasonably cool weather was actually a boon to a collaborative effort to clean up some illegally dumped tires and trash from along the Rouge River on Saturday.

"We kicked off at 8:15 a.m. It was a perfect day for it. It was brisk — you needed to move around to keep warm," said Wayne-Westland Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal John Adams, who heads ordinance enforcement.

About a dozen community service workers from Wayne 29th District Court provided labor to clean up the property access from the parking lot of a car wash on westbound Michigan Avenue.

"We think the property belongs to Wayne County. It's part of the Rouge River basin," Adams said.

The Wayne Department of Public Works fabricated a trailer and existing hard surface swale was temporarily extended 12 feet. That allowed the DPW to use a backhoe to lower the trailer down the slope and pull it back up when it was filled.

"We had been working on this since spring. In this part of the city, you can only get a good cleanup without foliage," Adams said. "Early in the spring, it was too wet — we tried a couple of times. Then it was late in the fall."

Lending a hand with the cleanup were Highland Landscaping, a city vendor, and Henry's Service Center, the latter donating disposal of more 70 tires removed from the hillside.

"I imagine the dumping has been going on for a decade. We pulled out 30 yards of debris plus the tires," Adams said.

In an effort to curb future illegal dumping from the parking lot, Adams said the city is working with the car wash owner about fencing the busi-



Volunteers clean trash that was thrown behind the car wash on Michigan Avenue. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN



John Ridley of Ypsilanti throws out one of more than 70 tires that littered the gully behind a car wash on Michigan Avenue.

ness dumpster and also access to the swale.

"The cleanup is not the end

all on this. There is a security camera on the building and we want to get a wider range that will catch whoever is dumping," Adams said.

This site had been a particular sore point with some Wayne council members, Adams said.

"Being new to the City of Wayne and taking over ordinance enforcement, some council people were very concerned about what happened there," he said. "This was a collaboration of resources. We're good at bringing resources together and managing all the resources needed to solve the problem."

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Full trailers of trash are pulled out of the gully along the Rouge River Saturday in Wayne.

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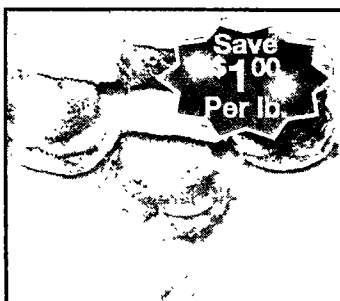
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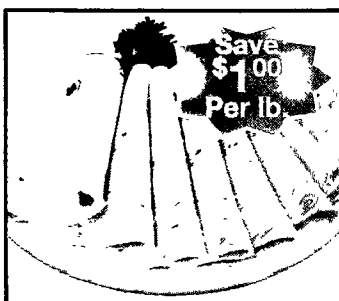
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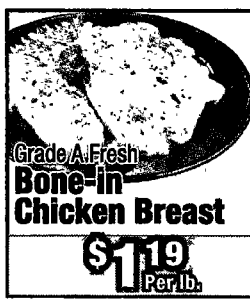
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Edison students use pennies to help LLS

Here's an equation students at Thomas Edison Elementary had fun solving. What do you get when you add 11 silver dollars, one 50-cent piece, 1,835 quarters, 3,757 dimes, 3,088 nickels, 31,349 pennies and \$257 in bills?

The answer is \$1,570.82 ... the amount families of the Westland school donated to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society last month through Pennies for Patients.

Seventeen Edison classrooms enjoyed a friendly two-week competition to see which could collect the most money for LLS. Students took home individual change boxes to fill and then pour into classroom jugs. Stephanie Mueller's fourth-grade class won the competition for second consecutive year, with more than \$200 collected this year.

The LLS mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. LLS leads the way in funding blood cancer research, and also provides information, patient support services, and advocacy for better treatments. Many LLS-funded advances are helping not only blood cancer patients, but people with other conditions, including solid tumors and autoimmune diseases.

"We think the Pennies campaign is a terrific service program that actively involves students and teaches the importance of helping others" said project coordinator Mary Biber. "Just for fun we did some additional number crunching. We calculated that's more than 40,000 coins school families anted up to help children and adults suffering from blood cancers!"

This is the third year the



Second-grader Jade Hunter personally brought in \$42 pennies his grandfather, Richard Pierce of Clawson, had been collecting since he was born.

school has participated in Pennies for Patients. More than 900 Michigan schools participated last year.

Edison second-grader Jade Hunter personally brought in \$42 in from his grandfather, Richard Pierce of Clawson. When Jade was born Pierce started collecting pennies. Upon hearing of the Pennies for Patients program, they decided together that was just the cause to help.

"I want the kids to be happy and get better," said Jade.

"I am immensely proud of everyone in the Edison Elementary family for their philanthropy and dedication to helping others," said Edison Principal Chris Swanson. "More than \$1,500 raised in coins in two weeks is an amazing feat that everyone should be in awe of."



Sophia Biber, a third-grader in Deborah Mayo's class, helped her mother Mary count the coins.

LPS OKs changes to parapros' contract

The Livonia school board has amended the health insurance portion of its contract with the Livonia Paraprofessionals Association so it would be more consistent with benefits already approved for other employee groups, said Stacy Jenkins, administrator of district communications.

The board voted 6-0 to replace the 200-member group's current health insurance options with the MESSA Choice/Choices II Plan, effective Jan. 1, 2014.

Trustee Randy Roulier abstained from voting because of a possible conflict of interest. Roulier works for Blue Cross Blue Shield.

When the board approved its current two-year agreement with the LPA back in March, it made no changes to health insurance at the time.

Under the amendment, in-network deductibles will be \$200 for singles and \$400 for two people and families. Employee contributions will remain at the same level as they are in the current agreement. Employees pay annual increases, if any, in MESSA premiums in excess of the percent increase of inflation as defined in PA 152, and determined by the State of Michigan for the preceding calendar year. The amount will be cumulatively added to the employee contribution on July 1 of each year.

The current two-year agreement, which ends June 30, 2015, calls for a 0-percent pay raise and two additional professional development days, both concessions by the membership, Superintendent Randy Liepa said.

Staff believes the settlement to be fair and consistent with guidelines previously established by the board, Jenkins said. The other bargaining groups that already have health care insurance like the paraprofessionals will have in January include AFSME, which represents the district's food service workers, bus drivers, custodians, and maintenance and warehouse employees; Supervisory Employees' Association Livonia Schools (SEALS), and the Livonia Secretaries Association.

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Turning 90 with a song

Turning 90 years old is a milestone, so Westland resident J. Bernard Taylor decided to have a public celebration — a vocal music recital.

"I've been singing all my life," said Taylor, a Plymouth Oratorio Society member who decided to give the concert after auditioning for a role. "I was a bass. I didn't get the part but the idea came to me. I could still sing."

So, Taylor organized the recital of mostly secular music for 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy, Dearborn Heights. The concert is free although a freewill offering will be accepted. Everyone is welcome and a reception with refreshments will follow. Taylor won't actually turn 90 until Dec. 27.

"I'm 90 years old but I sing as good as ever. I think my technique is better than 20 years ago," said Taylor, a retired Presbyterian minister. "It's been over 30 years since I gave a concert. I had done joint recitals and two by myself. When I joined the Presbytery, it sort of fell away."

Second career

A Philadelphia native, Taylor was ordained in 1981 after retiring from a

25-year career as a business teacher.

"I had thought about the ministry for a few years. It just hit me one night that I should do it," Taylor said. "I was a department head at a vocational school. I took a sabbatical leave and went to the seminary. I liked it and I was able to retire (from teaching)."

Taylor had received a bachelor of science degree from Temple University in 1950 where he majored in accounting.

"It was difficult for a black person to be hired as an accountant so I became certified as a teacher," Taylor said. "Wilt Chamberlain was a student at the school."

Prior to college, Taylor served in an all-African American Army Port Battalion that was part of the D-Day invasion.

"We unloaded ships. It was particularly important to unload at the (Normandy) beach," Taylor said. "We were there three or four months. We stayed on the beach, then we went to LeHavre."

Later, Taylor served as a clerk in Paris, working for the regiment establishing cemeteries for American military killed in action.

"I sang with the American Church in Paris choir. It's the oldest American church on for-

eign soil," said Taylor, who returned from Europe in 1946. "I've done a lot of things in my life."

Crazy about Internet

A widower, Taylor moved to Westland in 2009 after marrying his current wife Beulah. The couple met over the Internet. "I'm crazy about the Internet and YouTube. My wife is learning to knit online," Taylor said. "I spend a lot of time online."

As far as his longevity, Taylor attributes it in part of exercise — he started jogging at 50 and still walks for exercise.

"My mother died at 92 - we have strong hearts. A lot of it is luck," Taylor said. "Most people my age wouldn't think of doing a recital. It's really to honor God to do it at this age."



Taylor

Get healthy with Buddy Up 2.0

Register for free seven-week program

A Wayne native and contestant from season 13 of NBC's *Biggest Loser*, Allen "Buddy" Shuh is once again giving the gift of health to his community.

Residents of Wayne and Westland are invited to join Buddy for Buddy Up 2.0, a free seven-week program that begins in January and blends nutrition and wellness education with physical activity and exercise.

"When I launched the Passport to a Healthy City campaign, my goal was to inspire and encourage Westland residents to work towards a healthier lifestyle through education, diet and exercise. We are lucky to have Buddy Shuh as a role model in the campaign, leading our citizens by exam-

ple," Westland Mayor William Wild said.

Obesity is the leading preventable cause of death worldwide and is one of the most serious health problems of the 21st century. Statistics show that 30 percent of Michigan's population is overweight. That equates to 25,000 Westland residents who are overweight.

These statistics are just as staggering for children in the United States, with 30 percent considered overweight, 18 percent of which are considered obese. Left unchecked, health care costs related to obesity will account for 16 percent of healthcare-related expenses in 2030.

The Buddy Up series will begin Jan. 11 and continue every Saturday for seven weeks. Participants should plan to arrive each Saturday at 8 a.m. for weigh-in, followed by a fitness

and wellness session from 8:50-10 a.m.

The last session will take place March 8 as participants will choose a 5k run/walk or a Mayor's Mile for their final challenge.

This is the second installation of the Buddy Up program, and program directors are expecting a huge turnout. Last year brought in more than 350 registrants, and the registration for this year is already halfway to that number.

While the program is free to everyone, Wayne and Westland residents will be given priority as the program nears capacity. Register at and click on the Buddy Up logo, as soon as possible.

"Buddy has shown how hard work and dedication to a healthier lifestyle can change your life for the better and he is paying that message of wellness forward," Wild said.



Shuh

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'WE'RE ON A MISSION'



Shoppers and employees at Journey's get up and dance to the "Cupid Shuffle," played by a DJ outside the Macy's store at Westland Shopping Center. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

Shoppers embrace early start to Black Friday shopping

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

There were deals to be had Thursday evening and Jill Grandetti of Westland and Joni Mance of Livonia had an armful as they headed to their car to unload.

"We're going back to Macy's; they have cashews for 50 percent off," Mance said. "We do this every year. We so look forward to this, although it used to be at 4 a.m. We're on a mission."

"This is a tradition, something we do every year," Grandetti said. "As we shop, we get things on our list."

The women were among thousands of people at Westland Shopping Center as the traditional Black Friday opening to the holiday shopping season started Thursday evening.

And if retailers wondered what the response would be to opening their doors on a day tradition-



Gaurav Patel of Livonia is new to the crazy shopping experience as he lived in Bombay, India, and arrived in Michigan in October.

ally set aside for families, the cha-ching of cash registers gave them the answer.

"This was hard to gauge, it's a whole new

See SHOPPING, Page A7

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SHOPPING

Continued from Page A6

territory for us," said Patrick Derrig, mall marketing manager. "But we're packed."

From a Salvation Army bell ringer to a disc jockey blending holiday songs with the *Cupid Shuffle* played by a DJ outside Macy's, shoppers were in a festive mood Thursday evening.

"People have been really nice," said Diane Moton of Inkster who was manning a red kettle near Olga's. "One young man, I'd say he was 14-15, gave me a donation and then 20-30 minutes later he brought me hot chocolate."

"Everyone is in a really good mood, people are having a good time," said Carol Rutz, mall general manager.

Pan-tastic purchase

Grandetti and Mance managed to get frying pans normally priced at \$39.99 for \$11.99 at Macy's.

"We're not really here for the door busters, the real deals are limited quantities and you've got to wait in line," Grandetti said.

Nicholas Tubbs looked a lot like Santa Claus with shopping bags slung over his shoulder. In from Louisville, Ky., he was the bag man for his mother Ollie and sisters April and Bridgett.

"I'm just wandering around with them," he said.

The group had already been to JC Penney, Sears, Aeropostle and Champs at the Westland mall and were getting ready to relocate.

"I think we're heading to Briarwood," April Tubbs said. "I've been to Walmart and Toys R Us and when we got here, I thought I have to buy something for myself."

"I was looking for boots and found them," Ollie Tubbs said.

It was questionable if the group would be shopping until the sun came up.

"Nicholas and I may have to drop them off," April Tubbs said.

Nil Akbari of Plymouth was at the mall with his mother Manju. He admitted that had he not gone out with his mother he would have been doing a more typical teenage thing — playing video games. His mother likes the Black Friday shopping experience and getting the blockbuster deals, it was just OK for him.

"Last year I went to a different mall, but decided to come here," Manju Akbari said. "My husband didn't come, but he wanted cologne. I got myself the cookware."

Bag carrier

Pat Goetz of Canton was surrounded by shopping bags as he sat on the bench with his mother-in-law Betty Lockhart, also of Canton.

His wife Tracy was doing the shopping. "I got promoted, I got bumped up to bag carrier," Goetz said. "I haven't had to stand in any lines, I'm just holding the bags."

Most of what Tracy Goetz was buying were gifts, including her husband's gifts to her — "because I don't buy the right things." They started at the mall at 8 p.m. and planned to work their way back to Canton.

"We might hit Target and when Lowe's and Home Depot open, I'll get the things I like," he said.

"But she's the shopper."

Shoppers were lined up outside Victoria's Secret where a security guard monitored the comings and goings.

Shelby McCale, Cassie Leleniewski and Zoe Worosz, all of Garden



People wait to check out in Kohl's which had record breaking sales Thursday evening. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDIN



Garden City residents Andrew Barikmo (from left), Selena Muscat and Ben Arent take a break from shopping during Thursday evening.

City, had specific items they were looking for at the store.

"I'm looking for Christmas gifts and for myself. They have yoga pants for \$25," Worosz said.

"The sales here are really good," McCale

said. "They have an app for your phone that tells you about their Black Friday deals."

The trio started their shopping adventure at 9:39 p.m. And had already made stops at Pac-Sun and Bath and Body Works.

Amazing sight

Gaurav Patel looked dazed as shoppers moved past him. Sitting on a bench outside of Macy's, he was getting his first taste of Black Friday and American holidays.

"He just came here from India on Oct. 8, he's never experienced anything like this," said his uncle, Mahesh Patel of Livonia. "He's from Bombay. They don't have things like snow there."

Andrew Barikmo of Garden City was out shopping for himself. He had been out since 8:30 p.m. with friends Selena Muscat and Ben Arent.

"This is my first time, I've never been out on Black Friday," he said. "I thought it would be more crowded."

"Last year, it was more crowded because

everything opened at midnight," Arent said.

With a late start to the holiday shopping season, retailers were looking to get a jump on the all important sales. The National Retail Federation is projecting a 3.9 percent increase in holiday retail sales this.

And the earlier start may have paid off. By Friday morning, the Westland Shopping Center was quieter, but the early opening seemed to pay off for some retailers. "I heard Kohl's had record breaking sales," Rutz said.

The next big shopping day comes tomorrow — Cyber Monday, when shoppers turn to the Internet to look for deals.

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Friends join for candlelight vigil

Children worldwide will be remembered

Candles will glow around the world Sunday, Dec. 8, when tens of thousands of bereaved parents, siblings, grandparents, relatives and friends will join together to light remembrance candles to honor the memories of children who have died, but will never be forgotten.

Held annually the second Sunday in December, this will be the 17th Worldwide Candle Lighting sponsored by The Compassionate Friends, the nation's largest self-help bereavement organization for families that have suffered the tragic loss of a child. TCF has more

than 650 chapters in the United States, with sister organizations in at least 30 countries around the globe.

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

It's important for western Wayne families and friends to know the Livonia chapter has started a new list of children to be honored at the candle lighting.

For more information or to register a child, call 734-778-0800 or email tcfcandlelight@yahoo.com

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

Friends and family are invited to the remembrance and candles will be provided. Parents do not have to attend to register their child.



The annual Compassionate Friends candlelight vigil takes place at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park.

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YAM celebrates bomber's 70th birthday with party

The Yankee Air Museum is sending out an invitation for the public to join in a 70th birthday party of its storied North American B-25D Mitchell bomber, "Yankee Warrior."

The beautifully restored, pristine twin-engine bomber — which turns 70 on Sunday, Dec. 8 — remains in top-flight condition.

The celebration begins at 1 p.m. and runs until 4 p.m. and will surround the aircraft, which is Hangar 1, Bay 8 on the west side of Willow Run Airport. There is no cost to participate. Birthday cake and soft drinks will be served.

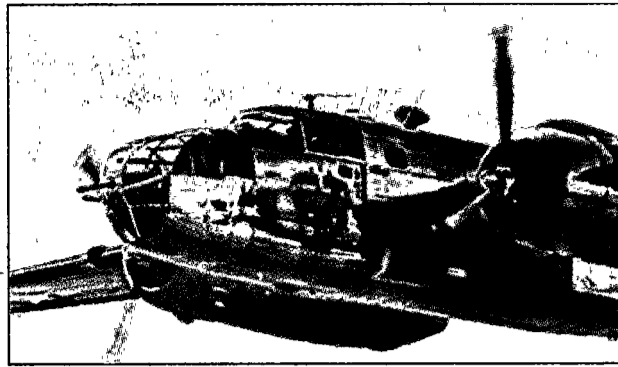
"This is a great opportunity for the public to get up close and learn more about an historic World War II aircraft," said Ray Hunter, chairman of the YAM Board of Directors. "It's important and it's a tangible application of our mission to

preserve and honor aviation history and its participants through a living, flying museum."

Hunter said that this B-25 rolled off the assembly line on Dec. 8, 1943 and was delivered to the U.S. Army Air Forces on Dec. 17, 1943. This medium bomber flew with the 12th Air Force, 57th Bomb Wing, 340th Bombardment Group, 489th Bombardment Squadron based in Corsica, Italy. It flew eight successful combat missions.

One of two D's

YAM's B-25 Mitchell is one of two remaining D models and one of two B-25s with a documented combat history. The B-25D Mitchell bomber was acquired by the Yankee Air Museum in 1987 and flies regularly through the spring and summer. This plane is never on display at the Museum's Collections and Exhibits Building on



The "Yankee Warrior," manufactured Dec. 8, 1943, by North American Aviation in Kansas City, Kan., flew combat missions with the 12th Air Force, 57th Bomb Wing, 340th Bombardment Group, 489th Bombardment Squadron. After the war, it was used primarily as a trainer by the Royal Canadian Air Force. The Yankee Air Museum purchased the plane in 1988 to join the fleet of flyable World War II aircraft. YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

the east side of Willow Run Airport.

"Having an event like this, especially the day after Pearl Harbor Day, is important to the community," said Kevin Walsh, YAM executive director. "Aircraft of this type, and their gallant crews, provided the first

strike back at the enemy in April 1942. Now, we remember and respect our veterans while providing teachable moments for our young people."

Walsh looks forward to having the public visit the flyable aircraft in the hangar but added that

the Yankee Air Museum is consistently adding new exhibits, displays and programs. He said people should also visit the Museum's Collections and Exhibits Building during the normal operating hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

In planning the event, Gerald Lester, the Yankee Warrior's public relations officer said honoring the aircraft and the people who care for it, both then and now, is very important.

"Yankee Warrior is a tribute to our veterans. The current crew works scores of hours preparing for every flight and there is real affinity, indeed a personal bond between all of us and this machine," Lester said. "When the crew suggested a party, it seemed the natural thing to do and inviting the public is icing on the cake."

'Pleasure of company'

According to Lester, there will be a very short program and a fact sheet on the aircraft will be given to attendees. Some of the current pilots and crew will be available for photo opportunities and to answer questions.

"The honoree requests the pleasure of your company," Lester said. "No gifts please."

Hangar 1 is on the northwest side of the airfield. Follow the road signs for west and south access to Willow Run Airport to get to Hangar 1. Entry will be through the door under the awning of M2 Aircraft Management, Willow Run Airport, Kirk Profit Drive, Building 2601, Hangar 1.

Yankee Air Museum security volunteers will be on hand to help direct free parking and access to the birthday party.



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Consumer group issues toy warnings

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The holiday shopping season kicked off Thanksgiving Day with consumers trying to score the best deal. But the Public Interest Research Group in Michigan is cautioning those shopping for children to take a closer look at what they are buying to ensure that that best deal is in the best interest of kids. The consumer group released its 28th annual Trouble in Toyland report Tuesday that details the dangerous or toxic toys that can still be found on store shelves at everywhere from dollar stores to major retailers. The report, which was unveiled in partnership with Beaumont Hospitals at Safety City U.S.A. in Royal Oak, touches on four hazards — toxic, choking, magnetic and noise — and urges law-

makers to continue to be vigilant in enacting safeguards to protect children. "The message is clear, we need to protect our littlest consumers from unsafe toys," said Eric Mosher, PIRGIM program associate. "Parents and caregivers should be aware of these common hazards while shopping this holiday season and throughout the year." Mosher said a lot of progress has been made since 2008 when the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act was enacted in response to a "unprecedented wave of recalls," but it didn't solve everything. "Unfortunately there are still products out there that fail to meet these important safeguards," Mosher said. "And some standards need to be even stronger." The leading cause of



Luka Inadeski and Lexi Berezowsky play with the Chat & Count smart phone that PIRGIM believes could cause damage to hearing. PHOTOS BY NATHAN MUELLER | STAFF WRITER



Matthew Derkowski, left, plays with a toy as Luka Inadeski and Lexi Berezowsky look on. The toy would pass the CPSC small parts test, but is still one PIRGIM believes is a hazard.

toy recalls is choking hazards because, as Mosher notes, "toddlers like to put things in their mouths."

He said between 2001-2012, more than 90 children choked to death on balloons, balls, toys and small parts of toys. And in the past year alone the Consumer Product Safety Commission recalled more than 172,000 toys for being choking hazards.

Mosher said a reason why many products hit store shelves is because they pass through the small parts choke test cylinder that PIRGIM feels is too small.

The group urges parents to complete their

own at-home test with a toilet paper roll.

"If it can pass through the toilet paper roll it is a choking hazard for children under three," Mosher said.

One of the most dangerous hazards mentioned in the report pertains to toxic toys because they can not be seen. According to the report, the following problems were found with toys.

A Ninja Turtles pencil case sold at Toys "R" Us was found to have 150,000 ppm of one of six phthalates banned from toys, as well as excessive levels of cadmium, the report said. It is not recalled because it is not a

toy subject to the CPSIA's phthalates or toxic metal limits, the report said.

The Lamaze activity mat also tested high with antimony, but is allowed to remain on store shelves because it doesn't violate the CPSIA's soluble antimony limit, the report said.

Magnets pose a major threat to children because if swallowed they can cause severe internal damage, according to the report.

Toys that emit loud noises, like the Chat & Count smart phone that tests above 85 decibels and is intended to be held close to the ear, can lead to hearing loss down the

road, the report said.

State Sen. Roger Kahn, who serves Saginaw and Gratiot counties, said he is working on two pieces of legislation for Michigan.

The first deals with mercury and cadmium content on toys, and the second is the creation of a safe toy for children council.

The full PIRGIM report can be found at www.pirgimfund.org, and parents are encouraged to take a short quiz to test their knowledge at www.toysafetytips.org.

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POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

When the public hears the term "post traumatic stress disorder," what comes to mind is a veteran from the Middle East wars who experienced a vicious battle encounter, saw comrades die, and who suffered a war wound that though serious allowed survival.

The same term gains another usage in Fibromyalgia. In such instances, the physician is reflecting on the event that set the Fibromyalgia in motion. Often the patient will relate how the aching associated with the condition came and went over the years, but after the accident or traumatic event, the aching became intense and continuous.

In civilian life the trauma takes forms like a sudden rear end collision, a fall from a theater stage or scaffold or even a physical scuffle. What happened was the traumatic stress event, while not the underlying cause, acts as the immediate event that brings the Fibromyalgia to the forefront.

At present, physicians do not know the underlying cause of Fibromyalgia, though current concepts place the problem in a pain center in the midbrain. The connection between the immediate traumatic event and the midbrain pain center remains elusive but it is likely that research within the next five years will uncover the relationship.

The patient gains when the physician is able to point out that the Fibromyalgia has a definite starting point, and the mystery evaporates as to why and how it occurred. Often, the best medicine that a physician can offer in treatment is to give the patient a rational explanation of Fibromyalgia. Then the individual can focus on caring for the body rather than worrying why the pain is ongoing.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY WINTER TAX NOTICE

The 2013 winter taxes will be payable from December 1, 2013 through February 17, 2014 without penalty. Beginning February 18, 2014 thru February 28, 2014 a 3% penalty will be added to the unpaid taxes. Beginning March 1, 2014 all unpaid 2013 REAL property taxes must be paid to: Raymond J Wojtowicz, Wayne County Treasurer, The International Center Building, 400 Monroe, 5th floor, Detroit, MI 48226 with an additional 4% administration fee plus 1% per month interest computed from March 1, 2014.

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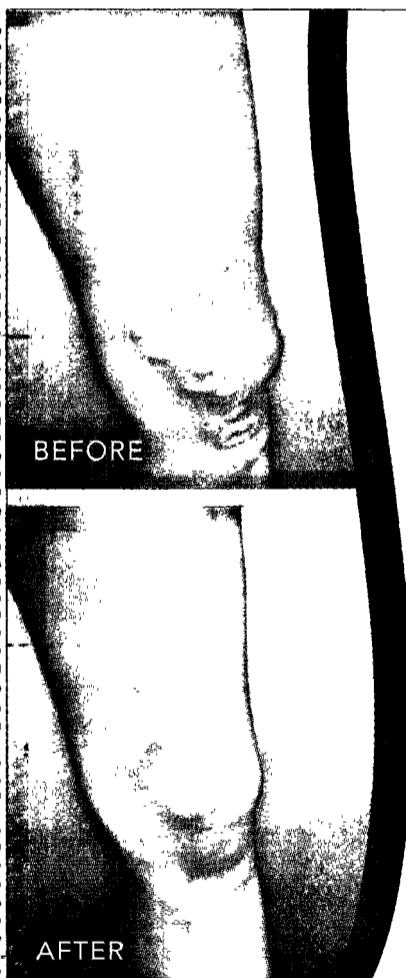
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State Rep. Robert Kosowski, D-Westland speaks at the Governor's Summit on Veteran Talent before his bill, HB 4752, was signed into law. The bill is part of a package making it easier for veterans to qualify for licensing in several occupations.

Governor signs Kosowski-sponsored bill

State Rep. Robert L. Kosowski, D-Westland, joined Gov. Rick Snyder on stage at the recent Governor's Summit on Veteran Talent to witness the governor signing House Bill 4752 into law. The bill permits relevant military experience earned by honorably discharged veterans to qualify for licensing as a stationary steam engineer or boiler operator. In addition, the law waives the initial licensing fee for qualifying veterans. Kosowski was the primary sponsor of the bill. "Our veterans have

risked their lives for their country and far too often return to civilian life with barriers to employment," Kosowski said. "The unemployment rate for veterans in Michigan of 7.9 percent is simply unacceptable. We must do everything in our power to provide employment opportunities to our veterans, and House Bill 4752 is one step toward making entry into the job market easier." HB 4752 was one of five bills related to veterans' issues signed by the governor at the event. "I am honored to have been invited to witness

this important bill signed into law. I wish to thank Gov. Snyder for his recognition of the importance of veteran employment and his leadership on the issue. House Bill 4752, and the other bills signed today, will make Michigan a more attractive and welcoming state for our veterans who have sacrificed so much on our behalf," Kosowski said.

Holocaust Center, Wright museum partner for events

The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus and Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History are partnering on a two-event series, Dec. 5 and Dec. 12, focusing on Jewish-African American relations. The presentations are part of a current Holocaust Memorial Center exhibit, "Beyond Swastika and Jim Crow," on display through Dec. 15.



Howard Lupovitch



Genna Rae McNeil

The exhibit tells the story of Jewish professors who fled Nazism and came to America in the 1930s and 1940s, finding teaching positions at historically black colleges and universities. The exhibition explores the encounter between these scholars and their students, and their impact on each other, the civil rights movement and American

society. The first takes place at 7 p.m. on Dec. 5 at the Holocaust Memorial Center, 28123 Orchard Lake Road, in Farmington Hills. Howard Lupovitch, director of the Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies at Wayne State University, will present on "Emancipation and Abolition: The Transatlantic Search for Freedom."

Lupovitch will explore the activism of a group of Jewish freedom fighters who fought for Jewish emancipation in Central Europe until 1848, and then came to America and joined with the abolitionists to fight against slavery. Admission is \$8 (free for Holocaust Memorial Center members).

On Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m., the Charles H. Wright Museum, 315 E. Warren

Ave. in Detroit, hosts University of North Carolina professor of history Genna Rae McNeil for a presentation on "Convergence in the Midst of Conflict: African Americans and Jewish Relationships, 1930-1954." Admission is free.

McNeil will discuss the courage of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, martyred in Germany during World War II, the impact of Jewish scholars at black colleges and universities, and Jewish defenders of the rights of blacks in movements for justice, freedom and equality prior to the civil rights movement.

Sponsors include the Anti-Defamation League, Michigan Roundtable, Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Cohn-Haddow, Wayne State University Law School and Damon J. Keith Law Collection.

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Five people injured in Merriman Road crash

Five people were transported to area hospitals following a three-car accident that closed Merriman just north of Warren Road in Westland midday Tuesday.

At approximately 12:24 p.m., a Ford Fusion that was traveling south on Merriman crossed left of center and collided head on with a Ford F-150 which was traveling north, according to Westland police.

The F150's rear end became airborne and landed on a third vehicle. The speed limit on

Merriman is 40 mph. One passenger had to be extricated from her vehicle by Wayne-Westland Fire personnel.

Five people had to be transported to area hospitals and were listed in serious to temporary serious condition.

Police said the preliminary investigation is showing the at-fault driver may have been impaired and distracted at the time of the accident.

Merriman was reopened approximately one hour later.



Five people were transported to area hospitals following a serious accident on Merriman just north of Warren Road Tuesday.

Give the gift of education this holiday season

Q: Dear Rick: I've decided that this year, as opposed to buying my grandchildren gifts, I'm going to establish a college fund for them. I have nine grandchildren and I'd like to put \$1,000 for each into a 529 plan. My grandchildren are of different ages and they live in different states; therefore, I want to make sure that the plan I select can be used by any of the grandchildren. Are the 529 plans the best way to go or is there another way to save for college? I've done some research on 529 plans and I've narrowed my



Rick Bloom

MONEY MATTERS

search to two plans, the Michigan plan or Vanguard. I'm leaning toward the Vanguard plan because currently I have all my money in Vanguard. And it is a very easy company to deal with. Which one would you recommend?

A: A gift of an education, particularly in today's world, is a wonderful gift. In fact, I can't think of a better gift for a grandchild to give a grandchild.

When it comes to saving for a grandchild's college education, a 529 plan is the best way to go. These plans offer flexibility, a variety of investment alternatives, tax breaks and are an easy way to save for college.

In reviewing the Michigan and the Vanguard plans, there are a number of similarities. Both have very low costs and are very flexible - basically, you can use the proceeds for any public or private institution in the country.

Therefore, it doesn't matter where your grandchildren go to college. In addition, both plans are easy to administer and make receiving distributions relatively easy. Therefore, from an administrative standpoint, both are excellent plans.

From an investment standpoint, the Vanguard 529 has more options than the Michigan plan.

In addition, through the Vanguard plan you can also invest in some Vanguard funds.

Not all 529 plans are the same. Some, particularly those sold by financial salespeople, have high costs, such as commissions, and limited investment options. In addition, some plans are

more difficult from an administration standpoint than others and some have limitations in regard to the institution where they can be used.

One item that favors the Michigan plan is its low minimum. Vanguard has a \$3,000 minimum, while the Michigan Education Savings Plan has a \$25 minimum. It's available for everyone. Considering you want to invest \$1,000 per grandchild, I recommend the Michigan plan, which also allows you to deduct your contribution on your Michigan income tax return.

As you begin to look for holiday gifts for grandchildren, don't forget about a gift of an education and a 529 plan. Good luck.

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

I-96 project to begin after Jan. 26

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Work on the impending I-96 project in Livonia and Redford will not begin until at least the end of January, according to the Michigan Department of Transportation.

MDOT spokeswoman Diane Cross said the project, which will close a seven-mile stretch of the freeway through the two communities, won't begin until after the North American International Auto Show in January.

The agency put out a news release Monday saying the shutdown wouldn't start until after Jan. 26, the end of the auto show in downtown Detroit.

Cross said MDOT will not be able to start the construction until then because of other issues and not the auto show. MDOT will open bids by contractors Dec. 11. By the time a contractor is selected and work is ready to begin, it will be at least the end of January.

The auto show reference was used to inform people heading downtown during the two-week event that I-96 will continue to operate as usual.

Start date not related to auto show

"That decision was not made because of (the auto show)," Cross said. "One has nothing to do with the oth-

er."

She said signs and other information will be posted to inform motorists who are unaware of the upcoming shutdown.

The \$170-million project will shut down seven miles of the freeway both directions, running from Telegraph in Redford to Newburgh in Livonia. The shutdown will start early next year and run through the rest of 2014 after a vote was taken to shut the freeway down completely.

The project will reconstruct I-96 in this span, and repair or replace some 37 bridges across the freeway.

Another public meeting is expected to take place sometime early next year, but Cross said no date or location has been set yet.

A local project to help alleviate future traffic in Livonia and Redford should see completion sometime this week, Cross said. MDOT began work earlier this fall to widen the exit ramp to Six Mile off southbound I-275 to help accommodate traffic the state expects with the shutdown. Crews are wrapping up work to extend the ramp, which will provide another full lane.

The official detour freeways MDOT is using during the shutdown include I-696, I-94 and the Southfield Freeway.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com

WAYNE COP CALLS

Stolen vehicle

On Nov. 22, a resident in the 33000 block of Gertrude reported he parked his 1995 Ford E150 in his driveway, unlocked, overnight. The next morning the van was found missing.

The vehicle is paid off and the owner had the only set of keys.

Larceny

A woman told police Nov. 17 that she parked her vehicle at Kroger on Michigan Avenue unlocked with a Samsung tablet sitting on the front passenger seat. When she returned, she said the tablet was gone.

Break-in

A resident in the 4000 block of Carnegie told police Nov. 21 that someone had broken into her garage. The garage door had been forced open and the door frame was cracked and damaged.

A generator was reported missing from the garage.

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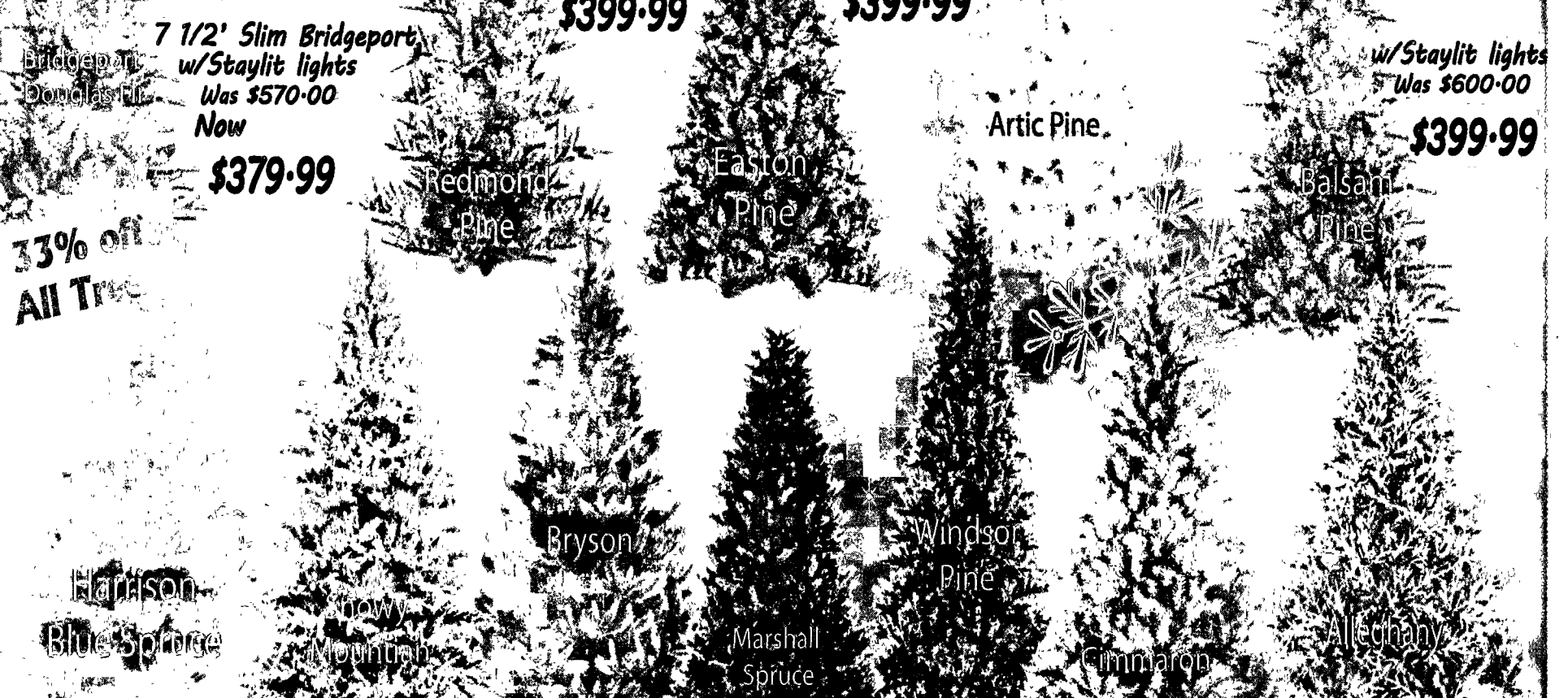
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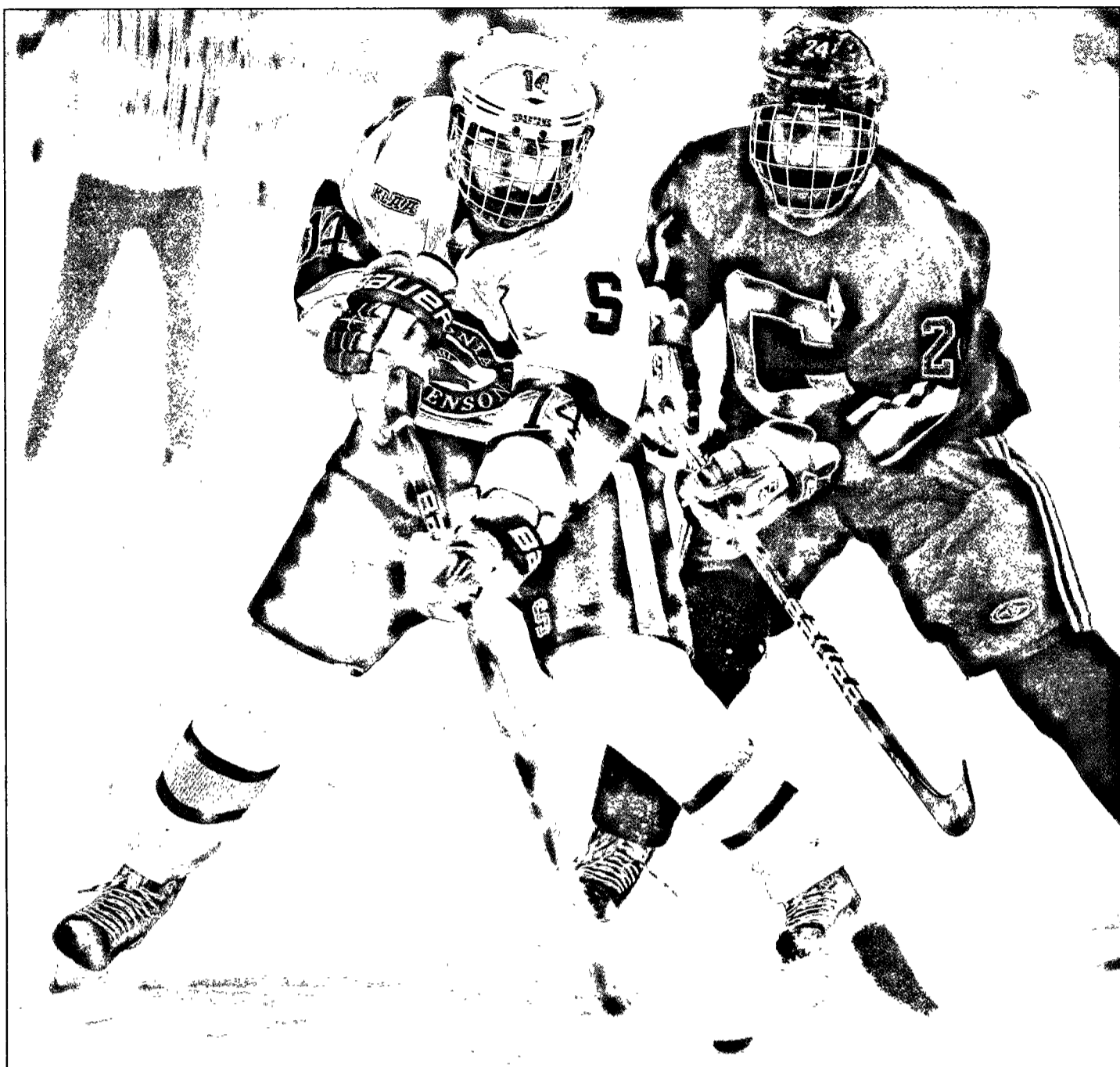
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PREP BOYS HOCKEY



Stevenson's Drew Hunter (14) controls the puck in front of Churchill's Drew Puishes (2). DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

PREP HOCKEY

Falcons ice 4-0 victory over Flyers

Farmington senior goalie John Lethemon pitches shutout over crosstown rival North-Harrison

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Farmington took an early and let senior goalie John Lethemon do the rest in its annual Thanksgiving Eve hockey game with North Farmington-Harrison.

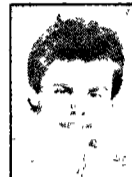
Lethemon stopped all 32 shots he faced and secured a 4-0 victory for the undefeated Falcons over their crosstown rivals Wednesday night at Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

"We have a really good goalie, so we play to his strength," Farmington coach Bill Newton said, adding it was the same in a 2-1 win over Novi, which enjoyed a 41-23 advantage in shots on goal.

"We'll let in shots from the outside. What we try to do is make sure there are no second or third opportunities, which we did pretty well tonight."

Newton is not the least bit concerned about the Falcons being outshot with Lethemon as the last line of defense.

"We're going to get outshot," he said. "We're designed to play that way. He's going to stop 99.9 percent



Lethemon

See FALCONS, Page B4

Lutz sparks Spartans

Senior nets five goals in 8-0 win against crosstown rival Chargers

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's Production Line was hitting on all cylinders in Wednesday's annual Thanksgiving Eve boys hockey clash with Livonia Churchill at Edgar Arena.

The Spartans, in fact, got to feast at the table a day early as they improved to 3-0 overall by carving up the Chargers en route to an 8-0 victory.

Senior Dominic Lutz continued his early season scoring binge with five

goals to run his season total of 11.

Lutz had plenty of help from as line-mate as Tyler Irvine had a goal and four assists, while Devin Kelly also chipped in with four assists.

Stevenson, ironically, was outshot 10-8 in the first period but led 1-0 thanks to a short-handed goal by Lutz just 1:53 into the game off an assist from Irvine.

Stevenson, however, took control with three goals in the second period and added four more in the final period capped by Alec Allen's goal from Jon McDonald to end the game with 7:03 left.

"Churchill came out prepared and give them credit," Stevenson coach

David Mitchell said. "They worked really hard and outshot us in the first. Give them all the credit in the world, but it's good having that line and the chemistry with that line. Those three guys can play at the high level and high speed. When they get rolling and finish that's what can happen."

Lutz got his second 7:56 into the second period on a quick wrist shot following a face-off with Kelly assisting.

Ray Chartier then glanced a shot from just inside the left point that came off a Churchill defenseman and behind goaltender David Turel at 13:25

See SPARTANS, Page B4



Senior defenseman Roman Firestone winds up for a shot on a Farmington power play in the 4-0 win. JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BOYS HOCKEY

Plymouth finally solves Canton goalie in 3-1 win

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Gerry Vento didn't have to say a word to his Plymouth varsity boys hockey team after Canton tied Wednesday night's game in the third period.

And just 57 seconds later, Vento's Wildcats went up 2-1 on a goal by junior forward Andrew Jossey (his second of the KLA South contest).

The Wildcats tacked on another goal for good measure and skated off the Arctic Edge Arena ice with a 3-1 victory, the team's first win of the young season after two losses.

"You just got to go out there and give it your all," Jossey said when asked about his mind-set immediately following Canton's earlier equalizer by sophomore Hunter Oatman. "I mean, I didn't know I was going to score, but I got a chance and I capitalized."

Jossey didn't have much to say about his game-winner, where he eluded a Canton defenseman below the circles and waited out junior goalie Nick Borg



Plymouth's Michael Scarpello is checked by Canton defenseman Hunter Schlapp while trying to jam the puck past Chiefs goalie Nick Borg. In the background is Canton's Michael Gaffka. ANN ESPINOZA

before flipping the puck into the net with 5:15 left in the third.

His coach, however, did. "He (Jossey) had a great game,"

See WILDCATS, Page B4

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Oshawa nips Whalers in shootout

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

If every there was a moral victory, the Plymouth Whalers secured one Friday night at Compuware Arena.

That's because it was the Eastern Conference-leading Oshawa Generals that needed a shootout to squeak past the Whalers, 4-3, before 2,759 fans.

Oshawa (20-6-0-1) evened the Ontario Hockey League contest at 3-3 midway through the third on a goal by Mitchell Vande Sompel, who took a pass from Michael Dal Colle and ripped a shot that sneaked through Whalers goalie Alex Nedeljkovic (47 saves).

Following a scoreless overtime, Scott Laughton and Plymouth's Zach Lorentz traded goals in the shootout before the winner was netted by Josh Sterk.

"They're first in their conference, so they're a good team," Plymouth head coach and general manager Mike Vellucci said. "They have that one line that's really good. We tried to hold them at bay as much as we could."

That line included Dal Colle and Philadelphia Flyers property Laugh-



Plymouth Whalers defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto (No. 32) shown during a recent game, continued his physical brand of play Friday night against Oshawa. RENA LAVERTY

ton, who scored his 20th of the season on the power play during the second period to knot the game at 1-1.

Plymouth, looking to bounce back from Wednesday's home loss against Owen Sound, had taken a 1-0 lead with 4:02 to play in the first when forward Carter Sandlak roofed a cross-crease dish from linemate Connor Chatham for his team-leading 16th of the season.

Vellucci noted his team played hard and persistent, but had trouble

See WHALERS, Page B4

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Skyline's Young takes over Glenn A.D. reins

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

After a four-year hiatus, Westland John Glenn High School has a full-time athletic director once again.

Pending approval Dec. 9 by the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Board of Education, John Young will assume the duties, while Greg Ambrose, who has overseen two high school programs, will return to his original position at Wayne Memorial.

The 53-year-old Young, who played baseball four seasons and also served as an assistant coach through 1989 at the University of Michigan, comes to Skyline from Ann Arbor Skyline where he helped launch that school's brand new athletic program in 2007.

A committee of five sorted through nearly 100 candidates.

Among the committee members included Glenn principal Dave Ingham; John Albrecht, Executive Director/Student and Legal Affairs; Joan Sedik, Human Resources



John Young

Executive Director; Dr. Paul Salah, Deputy Superintendent; along with Ambrose

"We did multiple rounds of interviews," Salah said. "We went through a very rigorous paper screen. We interviewed around 100 candidates. There were a couple of recommendations made."

Young, who also served as an assistant baseball coach two seasons at Michigan State and 14 as an assistant at Bradley University (Ill.), sat through a final interview with Wayne-Westland Superintendent Dr. Gregory Baracy.

"He possessed several characteristics," Salah said. "He's been an athlete at all levels including the pro level, the high school and collegiate level. He's played and coached competitive baseball for over 30 years. He not only has a clear understanding of the NCAA rules and guidelines, but also the MHSAA rules and guide-

lines. He presented himself as a man with a great amount of character and integrity. He was very knowledgeable and we were very impressed. He has some really good experiences at Skyline, so he can hit the ground running."

Severe cuts, close to \$1 million made recently in athletics by the Ann Arbor Public Schools, may have played a factor in Young's decision to apply for the Glenn job.

"We've made cuts every year since I've been there," Young said. "That's just the way things are today with the Governor pulling funding out the way he has. Ann Arbor has been hit pretty hard financially, but we've made cuts everywhere including athletics. Athletics has been hit pretty hard. It's been kind of a juxtaposition, I guess, for Skyline trying to build a program while the funds are being cut. That was an interesting process to go through, but the district was very fair to Skyline. We weren't hurt any more than anybody else by the

cuts."

Prior to his six-and-half-year stint at Skyline, Young worked four years at the Greater Lansing Sports Authority. Prior to that he was an assistant baseball coach for two seasons at MSU (2003-04).

"For me personally it was more of a personal opportunity for me to advance my career there and a better opportunity for me and my family," Young said. "I think John Glenn, and Wayne Memorial as well, have excellent facilities. They're well maintained. They play in an excellent league (KLAAs). There's a lot of things that are attractive about this position that I'm sure they had several qualified applicants."

Young is a graduate of Utica Ford High School where he was a 15th-round draft pick by Pittsburgh. But he turned down the Pirates' offer and opted to play four seasons at Michigan, where he made the 1981 All-Big Ten Tournament team and hit .400 in the College World Series.

The former catcher was drafted in the 19th round by Detroit following his senior year and spent two years in the Tigers' minor league system before becoming an assistant at U-M under Bud Middaugh.

Young has a bachelor's degree in education and a master's in education administration. His final day at Skyline is Tuesday, but now he's spending time learning the landscape at Glenn.

"I've had a couple of conversations with Greg Ambrose," Young said. "It's just more get a feel than anything else. With basketball starting this week and all that, it's a situation where I'd really like to hit the ground running and maintain."

"What Greg maintained with two buildings for the last few years ... that's an unbelievable task because I know just maintaining one building what a lot of work that is. I congratulate him for keeping two programs afloat for as long as he did."

When former Glenn athletic director Brian

Swinehart left to take a similar position with the Walled Lake Consolidated Schools in 2009, budget cuts in Wayne-Westland forced Ambrose to assume athletic administration duties at both high schools.

"I'm just trying to fit into the system and find out how John Glenn does things," Young said. "Of course, with my diverse background in college athletics, and high school athletics, some time in professional baseball, and in the professional work world, hopefully I can bring some additional ideas and maybe some additional strategies that will help some programs move forward."

"But I really don't have a good handle on any of the day-to-day stuff. I'm excited about having some help. I didn't have a lot of help at Skyline other than some volunteers I recruited and things like that. It's my understanding we have some event coordinators and people like that in place."

bemons@hometownlife.com

COLLEGE BASKETBALL WRAP

Schoolcraft men prevail on Sewell's clutch tip-in

The Schoolcraft College men's basketball team won in dramatic fashion Friday afternoon in the Muskegon Community College Thanksgiving Tournament.

Terrill Sewell's tip-in with only 0.3 seconds left off an out-of-bounds pass Devonta Riley gave the Ocelots an 83-81 triumph over the Alma College JV squad.

Schoolcraft (5-3) rallied from a 38-32 halftime deficit by outscoring the Scots 51-42 in the second half.

Basel Ibrahim led Schoolcraft with 26 points, while Terrence Coles (Redford Thurston) added 15 points and nine rebounds.

Sewell (Canton) finished with 11 points and nine boards, while Riley also had 11 points and dished out eight assists.

Malcolm Thurmond and Nick Sullivan scored 25 and 18 points, respectively, for Alma.

ST. XAVIER (Ill.) 91, MADONNA (Men) 78: Brad Karp scored 27 points and Jack Krieger added 19 off the bench Friday as No. 11 St. Xavier University (5-2) downed No. 17 Madonna University (5-4) in a battle of NAIA Division II nationally ranked teams.

The host Cougars trailed 21-20 with 8:58 remaining in the first half before going on a 25-4 run to end the half and take a 45-25 advantage.

Michael Simpson added 18 points and nine assists for the winners.

Travis Schuba and Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) tallied 19 and 17, respectively, for MU. Donald Owens chipped in with 14 points and nine rebounds.

SCHOOLCRAFT (WOMEN) 70, ALMA JV 60: Tabitha Mann came off the bench to score 18 points and grab 11 rebounds Friday as Schoolcraft College (3-4) downed the Alma College JV in the Muskegon CC Thanksgiving Tournament.

Brianna Berberet (Salem) and Alexis Smith (Livonia Franklin) chipped in with 15 and 13 points for the Lady Ocelots, who led 35-32 at halftime. Sara Gammons also dished out 10 assists. The Lady Ocelots shot 46 percent from the floor (29-of-63).

Kaitlyn Kendall paced the Lady Scots with 25 points and 12 boards, while Mackenzy Nichols added 11 points.

MADONNA (WOMEN) 74, LOURDES 66: Rachel Melcher poured in a game-high 24 points and Tori Duffey chipped in with 20 to propel the Madonna University (4-4, 3-1) to a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference win Tuesday night over visiting Lourdes University (Ohio).

Duffey, a sophomore transfer New Hampshire, was 6-of-14 from the floor and 6-of-8 from the line while also grabbing seven boards as MU moved into a six-way tie for first in the WHAC.

Junior guard Chelsea Williams (Livonia Franklin) also chipped in with 14 points and six rebounds. Lourdes (3-5, 1-3), which got as close as five in the final minute, got 17 points and 12 rebounds from Taryn Hampton.

SCHOOLCRAFT (MEN) 73, ST. CLAIR (ONT.) 66: Point-guard Basel Ibrahim scored 24 points and dished out seven assists Tuesday as Schoolcraft College (4-3) earned a non-conference victory over host St. Clair College (5-4) in Windsor.

Terrill Sewell chipped in with 18 points and 16 rebounds, while Andrew Mapley also had a double-double with 15 points and 12 boards for the Ocelots. Maki Nuna paced St. Clair with 18 points, while Khoi Pham added 11. Isaiah McConney contributed 10 points and 10 rebounds.

ST. CLAIR (ONT.) 74, SCHOOLCRAFT (WOMEN) 66: Kenly Rizea scored 17 points to host a balanced scoring attack Tuesday night as St. Clair College (7-2) routed Schoolcraft College (2-4) in Windsor.

Sara Gammons and Brianna Berberet (Salem) tallied 12 and 11 points, respectively, for Schoolcraft. Jaide Lyons added 10 points for the victorious Saints.

THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Monday, Dec. 2
Luth. Westland at Annapolis, 7 p.m.
Lakeland at N. Farmington, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 3
Milford at Clarensville, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Edsel Ford, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 4
A.A. Skyline at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
A.A. Skyline at Wayne, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5
Luth. Westland at Luth. NW, 7 p.m.
Huron Valley at Inter-City, 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 6
W.L. Central at Farmington, 7 p.m.
F.H. Mercy at Salem, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7
Canton at B.H. Marian, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Dexter, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8
N. Farming. at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.
F.H. Mercy at Canton, 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 9
A.A. Pioneer at Salem, 7 p.m.
Harrison at Birm. Groves, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 10
Farming. at St. Catherine, 7:30 p.m.
St. Clair at Crestwood, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 11
Franklin at A.A. Skyline, 7 p.m.
Garden City at Wayne, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 12
Clarensville at Berkeley, 7 p.m.
Ladywood at Grosse Ile, 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 13
Farmington at St. Catherine, TBA.
Harrison at Arbor Shootout, TBA.

PREP HOCKEY

Monday, Dec. 2
F.H. Mercy vs. Ann Arbor at Edgar Arena, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 3
Farmington at Lakeland, 5:15 p.m.
Franklin vs. Stevenson, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 4
Franklin vs. Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Churchill vs. Canton at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5
Divine Child vs. Plymouth at Arctic Edge Arena, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 6
Ladywood vs. A.A. Skyline at Veterans Arena, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7
F.H. Mercy vs. Country Day at Edgar Arena, 8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8
Stoney Creek vs. Canton at Arctic Edge Arena, 6 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 9
E. Grd. Rapids at Farmington, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 10
PCS Penguins vs. Port Huron at Glacier Point Arena, 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 11
Northville vs. Plymouth at Arctic Edge Arena, 8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 12
Stevenson vs. Brighton at WWU Lawson Arena, noon.

Friday, Dec. 13
North-Harrison at Clarkston, 6 p.m.
Stoney Creek at Farmington, 7 p.m.

FRANKLIN vs. SALEM

at Ply. Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m.
Churchill vs. Pt. Huron Northern at McMorrin Arena, TBA.

PREP WRESTLING

Saturday, Dec. 7
Waterford Mott Inv., 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8
Northville Invite, 9 a.m.
Glenn Rocket Duals, 9 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 9
Howell Wilkinson Classic, 9 a.m.
Trenton dual-meet tourney, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 10
Warren Woods-Tower Duals, 9 a.m.
JV AA Pioneer Invite, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 11
Garden City Tourney, 9:30 a.m.
Blissfield Invitational, 10 a.m.

Thursday, Dec. 12
Ypsilanti Invitational, TBA.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Tuesday, Dec. 3
Livonia Red vs. W.L. Maroon-Gold at W.L. Central, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 4
Salem at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5
Waterford at Canton, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 6
Livonia Blue vs. Milford-Lakeland at Hartland Bounce, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7
Judges Cup Invitational, TBA.

PREP BOWLING

Saturday, Dec. 7
N. Farmington Tournament at Drakeshire Lanes, 9 a.m.

GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER

Saturday, Dec. 7
Novi Fire Up Invitational, 9 a.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

Wednesday, Dec. 4
N'western Ohio at MU, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5
Schoolcraft vs. Rochester JV at Oakland Christian H.S., 8 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 6
MU at Cornerstone, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

Wednesday, Dec. 4
Schoolcraft vs. Rochester JV at Oakland Christian H.S., 6 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5
N'western Ohio at MU, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 6
MU at Cornerstone, 1 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Friday, Dec. 6
Soo Greyhounds vs. Ply. Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7
Guelph Storm vs. Ply. Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 8
TBA - time to be announced.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Naubert pours in 29 in MU win vs. Lourdes

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

There's a long way to go in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference men's basketball schedule - 18 games to be exact - but Madonna University got a signature win Tuesday night.

The 17th-ranked Crusaders got 29 points from senior point guard Bobby Naubert and a lift from their bench during the second half to earn a hard-fought 67-57 victory over visiting Lourdes (Ohio) University.

MU improved to 5-3 overall and sits alone alone in first in the WHAC at 4-0, while Lourdes falls to 6-2 and 3-1.

The Crusaders trailed by as many as seven, 40-33, with 13:36 left in the game on a layup by Elvis Butler, who led all scorers with 31 points.

But MU rallied with a 14-0 run, thanks in part to its bench, which outscored the Gray Wolves 27-10 on the night.

Zach Wedesky, a junior guard, came off the bench to add eight points, two steal and two assists in 16 minutes, while freshman forward Dan Hall contributed six points, three rebounds and two steals in 10 minutes. Junior forward Jeff Schmitz chipped in seven points in 12 minutes.

MU trailed 26-25 at the half and came out slowly to start the second half. Wedesky's triple with 2:45 left put MU up 61-53 and Derek Lennen's floater in the lane with 1:23 remaining sealed the win.

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Talent abounds on All-Observer boys soccer team

FIRST TEAM
Collin Hewett, GK, Salem: Salem's varsity boys soccer team piled up big victories all season and the stellar play of senior goalkeeper Hewett had plenty to do with all of them. The fourth-year varsity player tallied nine shutouts, pacing the Rocks to the Kensington Conference championship followed by triumphs in the Division 1 districts and regionals.

"Collin was at his best in our biggest games," coach Scott Duhl said. "His performances against Canton in the conference championship and district final (both shutouts) will go down as two of the top goalkeeping moments against a cross campus rival at Salem."

"Then to follow it up with the game of his career against Saline (a 1-0 win) in regionals was quite remarkable. He was fantastic this year and ... he will be impossible to replace."

Hewett — named as a first team all-star as well as to the all-region, all-district and all-conference teams — also stonewalled Novi-Detroit Catholic Central in a penalty kick shootout to win the regional final to advance the Rocks to the D-1 semifinal.

Colton Robison, GK, Churchill: The senior goalkeeper made 120 saves in 14 games with a 1.25 goals-against average for the Chargers.

Robison, who will play at Schoolcraft College next fall, is a two-time all-KLAA and all-district selection.

"Colton was a three-year starter and one of the most talented keepers to come through Churchill in the last 20 years," Churchill coach Matt Grodzicki said. "He has the ability to make the most difficult saves look routine and can steal a game for you. He will be missed."

Billy Werthman, Def., Stevenson: The senior defender had two goals and four assists while being voted team MVP by his teammates.

Schifano, headed to play next fall at Schoolcraft College, was also an all-KLAA and all-district selection.

"Billy was a huge key to our success this year," Stevenson coach Ken Shingledecker said. "He is extremely dangerous on dead-ball situations and provided stability to our back line. He is an intense competitor and would give top effort every time out."

Hayden Steinman, Def., Franklin: The senior defender and captain, a three-year varsity player, earned all-KLAA, all-district, all-region and honorable mention all-state honors this season.

As a junior, Steinman also made all-conference and all-district.

"Hayden has great field vision, aggressive and (is) a tactical player," Franklin coach Vic Rodopoulos said.



Collin Hewett Salem



Colton Robison Churchill



Billy Werthman Stevenson



Hayden Steinman Franklin



Jack Zemanski Canton



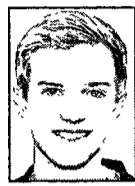
Nate Bur North Farmington



Connor Cole Salem



Ryan Schifano Stevenson



Carter Schenk Canton



Andriy Pelekh Salem



Brady Cole Salem



Griffin Parks Canton



Sam Zapata North Farmington



Troy Gotchev Luth. Westland



Scott Duhl Salem coach

Jack Zemanski, Def., Canton: A key reason why Canton's defense shut down opponents all season — 0.59 goals per game allowed — was the cool and calm junior defender.

Zemanski, in his third varsity season, shut down some of the best forwards in the state and he was rewarded by being named as an honorable mention all-state pick, not to mention to the all-region, all-district and all-KLAA teams.

"His ability to win the ball, keep possession and distribute it made him one of the top defenders in the conference," coach Mark Zemanski said. "He controlled the middle of the field and helped anchor our defense."

Nate Bur, Def., N. Farmington: The Raiders take great pride in playing good defense and it's players such as Bur who have built that reputation and tradition. The senior center back organized and led another strong defensive effort this year. Bur, an all-state academic selection and OAA scholar-athlete, was voted team MVP by the Raiders.

"Nate ran our defense superbly all season," Horner said. "Although not overly tall, he has a great vertical leap and routinely won headers from taller players. He came up on free kicks and scored an important goal for us against Dearborn. He helped engineer regular-time shutouts against Berkley and Northville and he was instrumental in holding CC to a single goal. Nate is an all-division and all-district player, too."

Connor Cole, MF, Salem: Whatever the Salem Rocks needed in a contest this season, Connor Cole was there to deliver the goods. The senior scored 14 goals along with five assists to share team MVP honors as the Rocks enjoyed their first regional title since 2009. For his efforts, Cole also was selected as a first team all-stater, along with all-region, all-district and all-KLAA honors.

Clutch and competitive, he scored the only goal in Salem's victory over Canton in the D-1 district final, as well as the winning goal in the conference championship win (also against the Chiefs).

"Connor is tremendous off the dribble, he has good vision and is one of the best competitors I have ever been around," Duhl said. "When we were down, we put Connor up front and when we were winning, we played Connor in the back."

"He can really get it done on both sides of the ball. His willingness to dig deep in difficult situations is one of the main reasons we were able to be a state semifinalist."

Ryan Schifano, MF, Stevenson: The senior had two timely goals in the district and led the Spartans in assists with nine.

Schifano also earned all-district, all-region and all-state honorable mention.

"Ryan's work rate is top-notch," Shingledecker said. "He would work just as hard defending as he would trying to create goals. He did a great job impacting game if he was playing up top or in the midfield."

Carter Schenk, MF, Canton: One of the players who spearheaded Canton's outstanding season (17-2-3, KLAA South Division title) was Schenk, who tallied seven goals and seven assists in his junior season.

The attacking midfielder parlayed great speed, strength and determination to consistently break down opponents.

"Carter was not only a force to be reckoned with offensively," Zemanski said. "He also used his size, strength and great work ethic to dominate the middle of the field and help the team defensively."

Schenk was an all-state honorable mention

2013 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS SOCCER FIRST TEAM

Collin Hewett, Sr. GK, Salem
 Colton Robison, Sr. GK, Liv. Churchill
 Billy Werthman, Sr. Def., Liv. Stevenson
 Hayden Steinman, Sr. Def., Liv. Franklin
 Jack Zemanski, Jr. Def., Canton
 Nate Bur, Sr. Def., N. Farmington
 Connor Cole, Sr. MF, Salem
 Ryan Schifano, Sr. MF, Liv. Stevenson
 Carter Schenk, Jr. MF, Canton
 Andriy Pelekh, Sr. MF, Salem
 Brady Cole, Sr. F, Salem
 Griffin Parks, Sr. F, Canton
 Sam Zapata, Jr. F, N. Farmington
 Troy Gotchev, Sr. F, Luth. Westland
COACH OF THE YEAR
 Scott Duhl, Salem

SECOND TEAM

Mike Bolin, Sr. GK, Liv. Stevenson
 Adam Hodgson, Jr. GK, Huron Valley
 Evan Gregg, Sr. GK, Liv. Clarenceville
 Corey Shelton, Sr. GK, Farmington
 Eimil Hennes, Sr. Def., Farm. Harrison
 Josh Dillon, Sr. Def., Salem
 Calvin McCracken, Jr. Def., Plymouth
 Olatoyosi Kufoniji, Jr. Def., Garden City
 Sam Belcher, Jr. Def., Canton
 Cody Widlak, Sr. MF, Canton
 Jason Ligouri, Jr. MF, Plymouth
 Brian Cavicchio, Sr. Def., Liv. Churchill

Matt Freed, Sr. MF, Liv. Franklin
 Daniel Savor, Sr. F, Westland Glenn
 Lucas Albrecht, Jr. F, Plymouth Christian
 Zach Lumley, Sr. F, North Farmington
 Jeff Okerstrom, Sr. F, Redford Union

HONORABLE MENTION

Garden City: KC Berezovsky, Austin Abers, Matt Castaneda, Redford
Union: Adam Chernavogge, Churchill; Tyler Piotrowski, Erlin Guri, Daniel Jones, Krishna Madathada; Franklin; Stephen Barczuk, Greg Bo, Robert Jiga; **Stevenson:** Austin Price, Gino D'Orazio, Hunter Mullett; **Clarenceville:** Cameron Fyfe, Alan Baumgardner; **Lutheran Westland:** Walter Gembarski, Nick Flanery; **John Glenn:** Akshay Kamanna, Adam Valentine, Erick Cheek, Carlos Santiago; **Wayne:** James Herdon, Martin Ballah, Devon Westfall; **Canton:** Hunter Olson, Brandon Pickert, Zach Homco, Aidan Shennan; **Plymouth:** Alex Decker, Danny Butes, James Gibbs, Nathan Harris, Nick Freda; **Salem:** Alex Price, Joe Kunnath, Jordan Salhani, Nick Massey; **Ply. Christian:** Jacob Bailey, Adam Powless; **Farmington:** Jake Zervos, Billy Williams, Tyler McCullough, N. Farmington; **Christian Beckwith:** Luke Karana, Alex George; **Harrison:** Moussa Zaatari, Josh Brunett, Derek Haefer, Isaac Kawesa.

raise and the games get harder, he was more and more effective for us."

Cole earned selection as a second team all-stater. Other kudos for the senior included being named to the all-region, all-district and all-conference teams.

Griffin Parks, F, Canton: Whenever the Canton Chiefs needed a big play, inevitably it was senior forward Parks who delivered it — scoring 25 goals and 12 assists for the state-ranked team.

Parks capped a stellar four-year varsity career with a bevy of awards and accolades, most notably first-team all-state and member of the Dream Team. He also was named to the all-region, all-district and all-conference squads.

"Griffin was the focal point of our offense and used his great speed and 1-v-1 skills to lead the team in both goals and assists," Zemanski said. "His great finishing and play-making ability helped him to be involved in over half our team's goals."

"Griffin was a great team leader who led the team both on the field with his tremendous playing ability and off the field by always motivating his teammates to play their best and believe in themselves. We will really miss him next year."

Sam Zapata, F, N. Farmington:

The junior forward scored 11 goals and had four assists, earning a Division 1 all-state honorable mention. He scored two goals in a win over Catholic Central and he had other big goals against Troy and Berkley. Zapata, an ODP Trials team member who plays club soccer for the Michigan Impact, also assisted with an overtime goal against Northville in the district.

"Sam was our go-to striker all season," coach Mike Horner said. "Sam is great with both feet, but has an absolute cannon with his left. He needs very little space to manufacture a shot and was double teamed often during the season. Sam is an OAA scholar-athlete and an OAA all-division player, too."

Troy Gotchev, F, Luth. Westland: The senior forward proved to be a

prolific scorer for the Warriors as he finished with a team-best 28 goals and six assists en route to all-MIAC Red honors.

"He works hard and he has speed and good foot skills," Lutheran Westland coach Sam Makki said. "And he can out-run defenders. He's not tall, but he's a tough boy. He works really, really hard."

"He's looking forward to playing soccer in college and I hope he gets there some time."

COACH OF YEAR

Scott Duhl, Salem: To say Salem head coach Scott Duhl enjoyed a truly memorable rookie season at the helm is an understatement. But Duhl, himself a stalwart prep player for the Rocks during the 1990s, had all of that and more as he took over the top job from longtime head coach Ed McCarthy.

The Rocks went 16-3-6, but displayed an uncanny knack to come up biggest when it counted most. Salem started the year as a finalist at the Balconi Invitational and then captured the KLAA Central Division title before besting Canton for the Kensington Conference crown.

Led by a senior cast featuring four All-Observer first teamers (goalkeeper Collin Hewett, forward/midfielders Brady Cole, Connor Cole, Andriy Pelekh) and second teamer and defender Josh Dillon, Salem went on to win championships in the Division 1 districts and regionals before bowing 2-1 to Ann Arbor Skyline in the semifinal at Holt.

"I was very fortunate to study the game under Ed McCarthy for the last nine years (as a Salem assistant)," Duhl said. "I learned a lot about game management and handling players, amongst many other things. To come into a top program and make a run to the state semifinals in my first year was very exciting and a season I will always remember."

"It will also be very difficult to repeat the type of success we had this past year. We had 11 seniors that were major players in our back to back conference championships. The senior group was very motivated by being upset by Plymouth a year ago in the district final and they played like it all year long."

Other seniors chipping in as Salem stockpiled victories and trophies included defenders William Benintende, Joe Kunnath, Alex Price and Walid Kandah; forward/midfielders Matt DeMoss and David Schroeder.

Duhl added that the senior class "is a group that comes around once every other decade. Each one of them played a significant role in our success this year. They will all be missed."

CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeal will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2802-R. Samona-1870 S. Wayne Rd.

Req. for a 9.1 ft. rear yd. setback variance from Ord. 248 in order to construct a 1,600 sq. ft. addition to the existing commercial building at the site that would be located 10.9 ft. from the rear lot line; whereas Sec. 9:4.5(a) requires a minimum rear yd. setback of 20 ft.

Publish December 1, 2013

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1991	Ford	1FDGS24H9MHA60995
2000	Ford	1FAFP56S6YG288482
1999	Mercury	1ZWFT61LXX5638730
2003	Chevrolet	1G1JC12F437136249
1985	Buick	1G4BN69YXFX463734
2002	Hyundai	KMHDN45D12U253714
2001	Chevrolet	1G1JC124717192715
2005	Mitsubishi	4A3AB36F35E018270
2005	Jeep	1J4HR58N75C731188
2002	Dodge	1B3ES26C82D550006
2001	Ford	1FAFP56S71G122477
2004	Ford	2FTRF12264CA31237
1999	Chevrolet	1G1JC124XX7258568
1999	Pontiac	1G2WH54T1NF206893

Publish: December 5, 2013

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SOCIAL SECURITY

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Attorneys Bleske 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.

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 Bleske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bleske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Bleske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-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 benefits.

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BOYS HOCKEY WRAP

Bears trap Franklin icers; Spartans triumph in overtime

Berkley got two goals and one assist from Max Dooley in an 8-0 mercy rule boys hockey win Wednesday night over host Livonia Franklin at Eddie Edgar Arena.

The Bears led 1-0 after one period and 4-0 after two before scoring four times in the final period. Berkley ended the game on a mercy with 2:13 left

on a power play goal by Riley Lenhard.

Also getting into the scoring act for Berkley was Alex Rawlik, Kevin Jurvis and Ian Melrose with one goal and one assist each.

Robby Flannery and Curtis Carne each added two assists, while Zack Segall and Ryan Austin also scored goals.

Stephen Wroe got the shutout in goal for the Bears (2-0-1).

Franklin's Matt Monendo stopped 28-of-34 shots before being lifted with 13:35 left in the third for Brian Hubbard, who stopped 4-of-6.

"This was our first real test against a skilled, senior laden team and it didn't go very well," said

Franklin coach Dennis Gagnon, whose team dropped to 2-1 overall. "If we are going to be competitive against the stronger programs, we need to play smarter and tougher. And it's our job as a coaching staff to make sure we do."

STEVENSON 4, ROCHESTER UNITED 3 (OT): Cole Christie's goal from Tyler Irvine 2:56 into overtime gave Livonia Stevenson (4-0) a victory over Rochester

United (2-1) in Friday's first round of the Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Tournament at Wallace Arena.

Stevenson jumped out to a 3-0 lead as Irvine scored from Dominic Lutz and Devin Kelly in the first period followed by goals by Alex DeFlorio (from Alex Hunt) and Lutz's 12th of the year (from Irvine) in the second period.

But Rochester roared back on second-period goals by Nick Drinkard and Graham Day followed by Jimmy Pittel's game-tying goal 2:29 into the third.

Stevenson netminder Andrew Rozenbaum made 23 saves, while Riley Morgan had 28 for Rochester.

"It was a good win against one of the up-and-coming teams in high school

hockey," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "Rochester has a solid program and it was a good win."

Host Cranbrook, which faced Stevenson in the final, beat Grosse Pointe North in the first game, 5-3.

NOVI 3, SALEM 2: Novi scored on the power play with seven minutes to play in the third period Wednesday night to spoil Salem's season opener at Plymouth Cultural Center.

Scoring both goals for the Rocks (0-1-0) was Jason Newell, set up each time by Jack Driscoll. Stopping 14 shots for Salem was goalkeeper Parker Godfrey.

The Wildcats led 1-0 after one period and 2-1 after two before Newell tallied the equalizer in the third.

FALCONS

Continued from Page B1

of every first shot. He had to make some big second and third saves, but not a ton."

The Falcons jumped to a 3-0 lead in the first period, matching their record, with goals by sophomore Joe Majoris, senior Nick Kozoro and junior Drake Cole.

Senior Nick Heffron assisted on all three and scored the fourth goal with Farmington short-handed at 8:59 in the third period.

On the first goal, Majoris took a centering pass in front of the net, made a half turn and lifted a backhand shot into the net at 12:44.

Six minutes later, Majoris fired the puck across the goal crease to Kozoro at the far post. Flyers senior goalie AJ Miller made an outstanding save on a quick wrist shot by Kozoro, who scored on the rebound.

The Falcons got a third goal a minute later on a power play when Heffron, from back of

the net, centered the puck to Cole, who quickly knocked it home.

"We started out slow," North-Harrison coach Ken Anderson said. "Every mistake we made, they capitalized on. Give them credit. They were right there, ready to go."

"We buried some shots; we banged a couple off the post, too," Newton said. "You've got to give the opponent credit. They came out in the second period and really put it to us the first 12 minutes. Ken had his team ready to go in the second period."

The Flyers put consistent pressure on the Falcons, outshooting them 13-6 in that period and testing Lethemon, who stopped a wraparound attempt and made a big save on a shot by junior Austin Bottrell.

"We did a terrible job of getting the puck out of our zone and that's something we have to work on," Newton said.

North-Harrison took a couple of late penalties and gave Farmington consecutive power plays for much of the final 4:12. It had a deflating effect

on the Flyers, who had to focus on playing defense and lost their momentum.

"There was no strategy change," Anderson said of his team's improved play in the second period. "It was just a good, stern talking-to. A little emotion raged in (the locker room) between the periods and it probably fired them up a little more."

"We played with a lot more energy, a lot more purpose and it showed on the ice. We didn't score any goals, but we put a lot of pressure on. That's the way the whole game should have been."

The Flyers (1-2) had a number of one- and two-one breakaways in the second and third periods, but they misfired a few times from distance and could never get the puck past Lethemon.

"The same thing happened in the Novi game with the other team," Newton said. "They just can't believe the puck isn't going in with Johnny."

"They'll start pressing a little bit and maybe taking a penalty they



Flyers defenseman Sean Devlin (left) and Falcons forward Joe Majoris go after the puck. JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

shouldn't. He frustrates the other team big time.

"John has been unbelievable in the first three games. He's always square to the shooter and he plays big. We said earlier we'll go as far as he's willing to take us."

Newton added he considers shots on goal to be

the most overrated statistic in hockey, especially when Lethemon is between the pipes.

"Quality scoring opportunities is the No. 1 stat," he said. "If you look at a lot of college and pro teams, that's the stat they really look at. How many quality shots

are you giving up? Shots on goal doesn't mean a whole lot."

Anderson said the Flyers have to learn from the late second period and not take the bad, momentum-killing penalties they did.

North-Harrison managed to rebound and outshot Farmington in the third period, too.

"Give their goalie credit; he's a big kid and a real good goalie," Anderson said. "Hopefully, we'll give him more of a workout in the next game (Saturday, Dec. 21)."

"We made three critical errors in the first period and they capitalized on all three. They were just mental errors; that's what they were, just bad plays. But we played well after that."

Newton likes what his team has done thus far. Kozoro, Grant Newton and Lethemon also had assists for the Falcons, who had 27 shots on goal.

"We're getting nice play from our seniors," he said.

"We have a nice, balanced team right now. We're very excited about where we are."

WHALERS

Continued from Page B1

against the potent Oshawa power play — ranked third in the OHL.

"We had to stay out of the box and we didn't do that for the most part," Vellucci said.

Plymouth took a 2-1 lead with 8:42 left in the second, when forward Danny Vanderwiel refused to give up on the puck in the crease and finally pushed it past Oshawa netminder Daniel Altshuller (27 saves)

for his fourth of the season.

But Oshawa went on successive power plays right after that goal. Plymouth (11-15-0-2) did kill off the first penalty, but could not contain the Gens in their subsequent manpower advantage.

Oshawa pretty much had control in the Whalers' zone the entire power play, directing nine shots at Nedeljkovic — who nearly managed to keep the Gens off the scoreboard.

Unfortunately for the home team, Sterk's sharp-angle shot from

the right side of the net found its way past Nedeljkovic with 14 seconds to go in the power play.

"We were tired," Vellucci said. "Obviously the same guys (are) killing, so can't take two penalties in a row like that."

Still, Nedeljkovic was brilliant, stopping 24 of 26 shots in the middle period alone.

Grit pays off

At 3:22 of the third, the Whalers showed they also could get it done on the power play when Lorentz stuffed a wrap-around between Alt-

shuller's left pad and the post to make it 3-2. It was his 11th goal of the year.

Assisting were defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto and Sandlak (one goal, two assists).

"We got to score those nasty goals in those tough areas because we're not as skilled as everybody else," Vellucci said about the goals by Vanderwiel and Lorentz.

"And we're young, we're not as strong. So we got to compete and battle for those tough goals."

That lead held up for about eight minutes, until Vande Sompel's goal

forced OT and the decisive shootout.

One of the standouts of the night for Plymouth was Lorentz, who continues to shine in just about all situations.

Lorentz credited his linemates (Sandlak and Chatham) for his personal success, but said getting a point against Oshawa couldn't hurt the team's confidence going forward.

"It was a tough one out there, getting the loss in the shootout, but we all battled hard tonight," said Lorentz, traded to Plymouth from Windsor

for Alex Aleardi (Farmington Hills) last season. "All four lines were going and especially Ned (Nedeljkovic), he was definitely kicking tonight."

OWEN SOUND 3, PLYMOUTH 1: On Wednesday at Compuware Arena, the Whalers fell behind 3-0 in the first period to the Attack and could not recover.

Scoring for the Whalers (11-15-0-1) was Carter Sandlak, with his team-leading 15th goal of the season.

Plymouth starting goalie Alex Nedeljkovic was pulled after Owen Sound's third goal, by Zach Nastasiuk at 13:15 of the first. Backup Zack Bowman came in and stopped all 26 shots he faced.

Earning the victory for Owen Sound (12-10-1-3) was goaltender Brandon Hope, a Canton native. Hope made 43 saves.

PLYMOUTH 2, WINDSOR 1: The visiting Whalers squeaked out a one-goal win Sunday in Windsor, thanks to a 44-save performance by Nedeljkovic and two goals in the third by forward Matt Mistele.

SPARTANS

Continued from Page B1

to make it 3-0.

Irvine then scored with just 15 seconds left in the second off assists from Chartier and Allen to make it 4-0.

"After one (period) we just reminded them it's a hockey game," Mitchell said. "Churchill is a good team over there. They're a solid hockey club, have some good players and well coached, so ... it was no surprise to us. We were good being up 1-0. It was a good, hard-fought game. Churchill-Stevenson games usually are. We just talked about staying the course and

maybe limit some of their chances.

"We gave up some chances that first period and our goalie Andrew Rozenbaum came up big for us and made sure we had the zero on the board after one. He held us in it until our offense got us going."

It was all Spartans in the final period as Lutz scored three straight — from Kelly and Irvine at 0:34; from Kelly at 3:23; and a power play goal from Irvine and Cole Christie at 7:28.

Stevenson outshot the Chargers 29-11 over the final two periods.

"We had a lot of great energy coming into this game," said Churchill coach Jason Reynolds,

whose team slipped to 0-3-1 overall. "I was really proud of my boys and the way they played in the first half of the game. If we can bottle that for the rest of our games this year I think we'll win a lot of them."

"That being said, the score sheet doesn't tell the lie. They have one incredibly productive line over there on the other side. And it's showing in every game they play. It's going to take another team to match up a competitive line against them to slow them down, but so far nobody has been able to do it yet."

Reynolds was searching for answers on how to stop Stevenson's Produc-

tion Line.

"The biggest key is just trying to find opportunities to take passing lanes away between Lutz, Kelly and Irvine," the Churchill coach said. "That's a tough thing to do consistently for three periods. And I know Dave (Mitchell) has said it in the past, once those guys get going tend to produce in multiples."

"It's a tough lesson for us, but at the same time there are a lot of good things that come away from this game for us and hopefully after a nice break we'll get back to work and get back on the winning track."

If there was any shining light for the Chargers it was the play of senior

goaltender David Turel, who made 31 saves.

"I really can't blame David for any of our shortcomings," Reynolds said. "He really played fantastic. He certainly deserved a lot better today. I think it was just a couple of unlucky bounces, some deflections and some unlucky plays that just got the better of him tonight. He's a good goaltender and showed a lot of heart tonight. We're really proud of him."

Meanwhile, a demanding non-conference schedule will keep the Spartans, the defending MHSAA Division 2 champions, on their toes throughout the season.

"We preach that our

success is due to our approach and the process we go through every single day," Mitchell said. "We know every game is going to be a difficult hockey game and we have to stay true to what we do to prepare. It's really in our preparation. And the amount of preparation and the work that these kids put in ... we guard against that overconfidence that on any given night any team can hang with us, and we have to be concerned about what we're doing."

"We stay focused on doing the little things shift by shift, period by period, game by game."

bemons@hometownlife.com

WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

Vento said. "He's a big boy, he's got soft hands and a great shot. That second goal, there was a lot of patience there and he delivered a big one for us."

"He hung on to the puck long enough, he was patient and ended up with wide-open net."

Getting it back

Plymouth's insurance goal with 3:50 remaining by sophomore Alex Bump (from Charlie Supernois and Kyle Melnick), followed a Canton giveaway behind Borg — a diminutive goalie who was the biggest reason the Chiefs were mere minutes away from gaining a point in the standings.

Borg stopped 37 of 40 shots, many from point-blank range.

"Give Canton credit,"

Vento said. "They hung around and their goalie I thought played a fantastic game and kept them in."

"They got their goal. But we responded and came back with a couple big shifts, got the momentum back."

That Borg played so well did not surprise Canton first-year head coach Brad Barath, whose team fell to 1-1.

"He was absolutely unbelievable," Barath said. "If not, the game's over in the second period. He absolutely stood on his head."

Not quite as tested was Plymouth junior goalie Jared Maddock, who still had to make several clutch stops among his 16 on the night.

The scoreless opening period was relatively even, with Plymouth holding a 9-6 shot advantage.

One of Plymouth's most dangerous bids was



Plymouth senior Kyle Melnick (No. 6) tries to slip past Canton defender Matt Eastman (No. 16). ANN ESPINOZA

a play by junior forward Josh Smith with about 11 minutes left. He walked out of the left corner, veered toward the goal and snapped a 10-foot shot that Borg stopped.

Later in the period, with Canton on the power play, senior forward Christian Flack centered the puck to senior forward Brendan O'Hare, whose bid was turned aside by Maddock.

With the game still 0-0 in the second, Borg kept

it that way with two monster stops in the same sequence.

First, Borg flashed his right pad to kick out a shot by Melnick. The play continued and a subsequent slapper from between the circles by junior defenseman Ben Chafin was kept out.

No chance

Plymouth, struggling on offense with just two goals in the first two games, got on the board

with 5:48 left in the second at the tail end of a five-on-three power play.

Jossey blasted a screen shot from above the left circle that sailed into the top right corner in the blink of an eye. Setting up the goal was senior forward John VanDenBeurguey.

That the game remained just 1-0 after two periods was largely thanks to Borg, who stopped 14 of 15 shots during the middle period.

The Chiefs were outshot 16-5 in the third, but briefly gave their fans something to scream about, tying the contest 1-1 with 6:12 remaining in the third.

Flack threaded a cross-crease pass to Oatman, stationed near the right post. Oatman one-timed the puck past Maddock. Senior defenseman Collin Smith drew the second assist.

Yet it didn't take long at all for the Wildcats to respond with the tie-

breaker by Jossey (assisted by senior forward Corey Smith).

Canton's collective energy level dipped following that goal, understandable with only 14 skaters.

"We're short guys, so our top guys are running a lot," Barath said. "Like I said before, we can't get into penalty trouble and we did a little bit there in the second period and so that hurt us."

"And that was the first rivalry experience for a lot of those guys, so we were on our heels a little bit, a little nervous. But overall I think we played pretty good, especially for the second game of the year."

Plymouth will host Dearborn Divine Child at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday (at Arctic Edge). The next contest for the Chiefs is 8 p.m. Wednesday at Eddie Edgar Arena against Livonia Churchill.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Livonia resident recreates White House Christmas tree for holiday walk

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Tina Lindsay occasionally tears up when she talks about the blaze that destroyed her Livonia home five years ago. But she'll be all smiles when visitors next weekend tour the 7,500-square-foot house that replaced it. Lindsay, whose home is on the Livonia Christmas Walk, is eager to show the rebuilt abode, as well as her decorating efforts.

"There are 19 areas we decorated in the house. We did every single room," she said.

The Lindsay home is among five residences, along with the Simmons/Hill House at Greenmead, that will be decorated for the holidays and open to ticket-holders on the walk, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. Tickets are \$9 in advance, \$10 the day of the walk. Advance tickets are available at Livonia's public libraries and at Greenmead, located at Newburgh and Eight Mile. Proceeds benefit the restoration and maintenance of the historic site.

Members of Friends for the Development of Greenmead, the organization that sponsors the walk, approached Lindsay last year about participating, but she and her husband, Chris, and their two daughters, Caitlyn, 8, and Mariah, 4, planned to be out of town.

"I thought to myself that the next year, for sure I would do it. I told them I would," she said.

Pitching in

She started decorating about a month ago, enlisting the help of friends, her daughters and her mother for some of the larger projects. Lindsay's mother and father, Nick-

ey and William Necker, co-own the house and live with their daughter and her family. Lindsay, an only child, grew up in Livonia and graduated from Stevenson High School. Her husband, whom she met through a family member, graduated from Franklin High School.

"Every room is so big. We needed to do more in each room to make it feel full. Adding a few things wasn't enough. We added more and then switched things around and switched colors and we were climbing out of boxes and were entangled in glitter."

She and a friend placed table top Christmas trees, sparkly figurines, roping and wreaths, bows and ornaments throughout the house, letting their imaginations and advice from others guide them.

White House tree

The most time-consuming project stands in the spacious family room. Lindsay and her helpers painted 487 clear, round ornaments for what has become Lindsay's favorite Christmas tree. She plans to add another 13 bulbs to round out the number at 500.

The tree, with its candy cane-style swirl of colored ornaments, replicates a White House Christmas tree from 2012. Lindsay recorded a television program last year about decorations at the White House. She used the recording as a reference when she decorated her own tree.

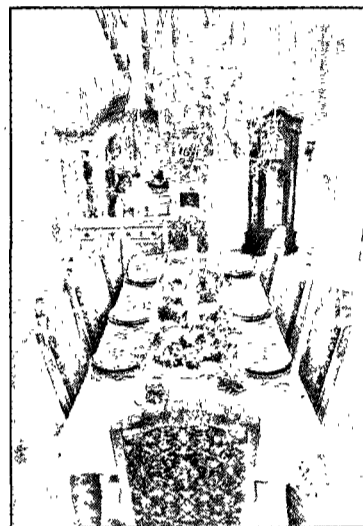
"We got clear ornaments, dumped paint inside with a tiny bit of water, shook them up, tipped them over Dixie cups, let them drain over night and let them dry five to six



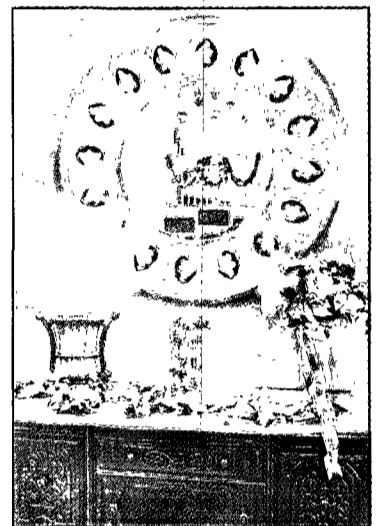
Tina Lindsay, and daughters Mariah, 4, and Caitlyn, 8, painted the 500 glass ornaments on the tree in the background. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Nineteen areas, including rooms and hallways, are decorated for the walk at the Lindsay home.



The dining room table is set for the holidays.



The mirror on the wall by this chest reflects decorations on the other side of the room.

days. The color is inside, so the bulb is shiny, not dull," Lindsay said. "It took three of us to place the ornaments. We wired them ourselves."

Finishing touches

She planned to decorate her final tree for the walk on Sunday, Dec. 1, and will hold a "baking day" later in the week. The live evergreen will wear gold and crystal ornaments

and plates full of baked goodies will greet visitors as they walk through the kitchen.

Guests also will get a chance to leaf through a photo album that documents changes in the house, from its early days in the 1940s, to its charred remains after the fire in February 2008, and finally to its reconstruction. Lindsay said a steel liner in a fireplace broke loose just six months after the family moved into the house,

causing flames to spread.

"It was very bad. They gutted everything. It was a three-year ordeal."

In addition to the album, several photos of the house are displayed in a hallway which visitors will use to exit the residence. The sentiment printed above the photos advises "Remember to cherish each moment, for this is what memories are made of."

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Should reader replace old appliances before selling?

This column is a follow-up to my last column about hidden problems that we hear so little about.

As an example, I am quoting an email sent to me from Tony in Westland who wrote: "I had to laugh while reading your column in the *Observer* newspaper, Nov. 10, 2013. You mentioned the light staying on when the door was closed. I had this same problem several months ago with my Sears Kenmore. At first, I thought it was simply a switch, but when I bypassed the two switches with a jumper wire, it didn't fix it. I then searched the Internet and found that there was a recall but it affected refrigerators that were manufactured before mine. The thought occurred to me, 'If this existed before mine, why didn't they fix the problem?'"

"Anyway, I did find that there was a class action lawsuit for this problem. I had my wife call Sears and they told us that even though our refrigerator was not recalled, they extended the warranty for this problem. They replaced the circuit board and the light fixtures, which had turned a nice brown color as well as melting a lot of the plastic. Incidentally, the bulbs that were in there were 60 watts. He told us not to put anything higher than 40 watts. Even though it takes two bulbs, it's fine with one."

"I have to admit that I was shocked when I did the research. I discovered that my unit is made by LG. I would have never bought this if I knew it was made by LG. This company used to be Goldstar and their electronic equipment was unreliable. Thanks for the excellent column and the advocacy that you do for consumers."

My thanks to Tony for the educational email he sent me and also to the other readers who make me aware of many other things going on with their appliances. A special thanks to service technicians who also feel the pain of consumers and want to see issues resolved in a better fashion.



Joe Gagnon

APPLIANCE DOCTOR

Old or new?

An email from Donna just exemplifies what is going across America at an alarming rate. Donna writes: "I have a question for you which is of the utmost importance to my cousin, who lives in southeast Florida. My husband and I just returned from staying with her and her husband. They have a beautiful home, immaculate, really, which is about a half mile walk from Juno Pier. Unfortunately, they will be ready to retire next year, and will not be able to keep their home due to taxes and insurance. The home has all of the original appliances, which are now 34 years old. My cousin fears the age of the appliances gives the home an "uncared" for appearance, which could not be further from the truth. The thing is, my aunt, her mother, who lives not too far away on Singer Island, recently bought all new appliances, including stove, refrigerator, dishwasher and microwave. The blue lights and the stainless steel are absolutely beautiful, but she has had nothing but trouble with all but the microwave. "My cousin is very concerned about buying new appliances and having nothing but trouble. She also doesn't want to pay an arm and a leg for them. Are there any good looking, good working appliances out there at affordable prices?"

Well, Donna, I will give you a suggestion to pass on to your cousin. Keep all the old appliances in place. Someone may walk into that house and purchase it based on the fact that he or she may prefer the old appliances and the quality they still hold today. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m. Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

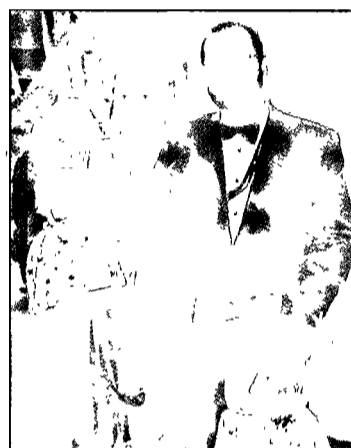


Randy Mauck, (left) Lisa Brancato and Dawson Mauck of Detroit and Cole Wilson of Westland, enjoy Hob Nobble Gobble. PHOTOS BY JULIE YOLLES

Parade supporters eat, mingle, dance at Hob Nobble Gobble

We give thanks for 87 years of America's Thanksgiving Parade. And even more thanks to the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation for 24 years of hosting Detroit's premier family fun-raiser, The Hob Nobble Gobble. The 24th annual Hob Nobble Gobble brought nearly 2,000 supporters to Ford Field last Friday, less than a week before showtime: America's Thanksgiving Parade.

The black-tie gala had nonstop live entertainment, including *America's Got Talent* Kenichi Ebina; a buffet of every cuisine imaginable,



Katie and Clayton Welch of Livonia, along with their daughters, Kendra, 2 and Megan, 4, look picture perfect for their photo opp with Santa.



Redford resident Sherrie Chrysler (left) wears her Smiggins the clown costume at Hob Nobble Gobble. With her is Detroit resident Cheryl Woodward.

including Thanksgiving in a cup (turkey, cranberry sauce and stuffing); sugar, sugar and more sugar — cotton candy, candy apples and even Girl Scouts cook-

ies; corn dogs, fries, Shirley Temples; tattoo and face painting, Disney radio contests and since it was held in Ford Field, dancing with Detroit Lions' Roary.



Julie Yolles

SOCIAL SCENE

20th Anniversary Wayne County's Lightfest

Features more than 47 giant animated holiday themed displays!

Nov. 14 to Dec. 31
 Mon. - Thurs. 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
 Fri. - Sun. 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

\$5 fee per vehicle
 (closed Christmas Day)

- **New LED lights!**
New displays and the show has been converted to LED lights!
- **Lightfest 8K Fun Run/Walk on Nov. 12**
- **Bike Through the Lights on Nov. 13**
- **Reindeer Nights**
Back by popular demand! There will be live reindeer at Santa's Workshop on Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9 and 16.
- **Toy Night Tuesdays**
Nov. 19, 26 and Dec. 3, 10 and 17. Bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the \$5 vehicle fee. Toys will be donated to the Wayne County Family Center.
- **Live Entertainment**
Santa's workshop on Dec. 4 and 11.
- **Photos with Santa**
at his workshop nightly starting Nov. 22 until Dec. 23 at the end of the Lightfest.

For fees and registration information visit www.waynecounty.com

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REGISTRATION DATES:

Monday, Dec. 9 through Thursday, Dec. 12
5pm - 8pm

Monday, Jan. 6 through Thursday, Jan. 9th
5pm - 8pm

Monday, Jan. 6 and Wednesday, Jan. 8th
9am - noon

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Registration held at:
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 9101 Hillcrest St. • Livonia, MI 48150
 Behind Franklin High School



RELIGION CALENDAR

DECEMBER ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5

Location: St. Michael School cafeteria, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: St. Michael the Archangel's Women's Guild invites women to an evening of fellowship, music, and reflection on the Advent season. Tickets are \$5 each and tables of 10 are \$30. The guild asks each guest to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Reservations are required.
Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 207; swilliams@livoniastmichael.org

ADVENT SERVICES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 4, 11 and 18

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Details: The theme for meditations is "Waiting for the Savior."
Contact: 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

CANDLELIGHT NIGHT

Time/Date: 5-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14

Location: Zhong Shu Temple, 23845 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Details: Reception starts at 5 p.m., followed by evening ceremony at 6 p.m. Potluck dinner after the ceremony. Bring a vegetarian dish with no garlic and no onions to share.
Contact: RSVP to michigan-temple@yahoo.com

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

Time/Date: 12:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7

Location: St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 1309 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Children, 3-10, can celebrate Christmas, make projects, prepare and eat snacks, play games and sing songs
Contact: 734-453-0460

CONCERT

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

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: "Ringing Carols Through the Night" will feature the church's choirs, including bells. The concert concludes with a sing-along
Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200; www.livoniastmichael.org

CONCERT

Time/Date: During 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services, Sunday, Dec. 8

Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia

Details: The Advent/Christmas Cantata will include music by the adult and children's choirs, handbells, brass and string instruments, as well as Scripture appropriate for the season
Contact: 734-522-6830; christoursavior.org

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, and 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8

Location: Praise Baptist Church, 45000 N. Territorial, Plymouth

Details: "The Glorious Impossible" a free choir concert, will feature contemporary and classical sacred music
Contact: 734-455-2300; www.pbcplymouth.org

CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8

Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: The 32nd annual Christmas concert will feature St. Aidan's Adult Choir, Children's Choir, and Contemporary Ensemble. Minimum donation is \$5 along with two nonperishable food items.
Contact: 734-425-5950

CONCERT

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

Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: The 32nd annual Christmas concert will feature St. Aidan's Adult Choir, Children's Choir, and Contemporary Ensemble. Minimum donation is \$5 along with two nonperishable food items.
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Contact: 734-425-5950

10

Location: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 35300 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Finnish American Singers of Michigan performs a free, faith-based Christmas concert called "Pikkujoulu," which means "Little Christmas" in Finnish. The church is barrier free.
Contact: 248-478-6520

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14

Location: St. Timothy Presbyterian Church, 16700 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Christmas Cantata will include secular and religious music and will include handbells. Free will offering
Contact: 734-464-8844; sttimothy@pcusa.org

CRAFT SHOW

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7

Location: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Buyers will find various crafters and product vendors, a bake sale and raffle. Admission is \$1 or the donation of one nonperishable food item for the Good Hope Food Pantry. Spaces are still available for sellers.
Contact: Bobbe Dauer at 313-570-5970 (evenings) or jbkj11@aol.com. Emmanuel Lutheran Church is a "nut-free zone." No nuts or nut products are allowed in the church, including at the craft sale
Contact: 249-442-8822

GIRL'S NIGHT OUT FOR ADVENT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5

Location: St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Advent speaker Mary McKeon, a graduate of Marquette University, has been an inner city school teacher, worked for the United States Senate in Washington, D.C., worked in adult and religious education, youth ministry, and currently is a commissioned intern of Manresa's Ignatian Spirituality Program and trained spiritual director. She will guide the group in pondering "Journeying with Mary." Includes a chili dinner. RSVP attendance and child care needs. Last-minute walk-ins permitted.
Contact: 734-455-5910

GUY'S NIGHT OUT FOR ADVENT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4

Location: St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Guest speaker, the Rev. Joe Krupp, is a University of Michigan graduate and a former comedy writer who was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Lansing, in 1998. Embracing his inner "Spartan" he is the director of campus ministry at Michigan State University, a regular on Catholic television and monthly writer for *Faith Magazine*. The event is free. RSVP attendance and child care needed. Last minute walk-ins are welcome.
Contact: 734-455-5910

JEWISH NEW TESTAMENT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10

Location: The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, at the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Amy Jill Levine will present "The Jewish Annotated New Testament: Why Jews (and Christians) Should Read this Book." Levine is a professor of New Testament and Jewish studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School and College of Arts and Sciences. Book signing and dessert reception follows the presentation. \$10 for JCC members, \$12 for nonmembers. Registration deadline is Dec. 6
Contact: 248-441-1900; theberman.org

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11

Location: Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Cost is \$15 and includes buffet, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay at the door (cash only) with the exact amount. Stay for cards games and conversation until 9 p.m.. RSVP by Dec. 8. Widowed Friends is a peer group of the Archdiocese of Detroit.
Coming up: Christmas dinner, 5:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, at Red Olive Banquet Center, 1059 W. Ann Arbor Road, east of Sheldon, Plymouth. Dinner served at 6 p.m. followed by special entertainment, and Christmas carols. Cost is \$30 and includes choice of menu items, tax and tip. RSVP by Dec. 10 to Carol at 734-464-7836 or Gerry at 734-259-5024.
Contact: Cookie at 248-357-2183, Pat at 248-545-8348 or Carol at 248-924-3677

Dec. 11

Location: Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, Livonia

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Contact: Cookie at 248-357-2183, Pat at 248-545-8348 or Carol at 248-924-3677

JANUARY 2014 YOUNG FIVES PROGRAM

Time/Date: Jan. 6, 2014

Location: St. Paul's Preschool and Daycare, 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Details: New Young Fives program begins. Preschool/daycare runs 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday for ages 2 1/2-5.
Contact: Karen or Robin at 248-474-2488

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberger at 734-464-9491

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays.

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville

Contact: 734-846-4615

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study
Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday.

Location: School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Catholic author and Bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads the study of Acts of the Apostles.
Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200, or www.livoniastmichael.org

Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays

Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

CONTACT: 248-374-5920

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal
Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

FOOD BANK

New Hope Church

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only

Location: 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton

Contact: Call pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at 734-270-2528.

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners
Contact: Ethanief Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.
Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.
Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

Nardin Park United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests.
Contact: 248-476-8860

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back

Details: Music, singing, prayer
Contact: Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri at 734-464-8906

St. Michael Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.
Contact: 734-459-3333

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 304

Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated. Occasionally includes guest speakers; open to the public and visitors are welcome.
Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org

First Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 7-7:15 p.m., social time; 7:30 p.m., announcements; 7:30-8:30 p.m., program; 8:30-9 p.m. ice cream social, Thursdays.

Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5
Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.
Contact: 313-534-0399

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Sunday

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship, coffee, doughnuts, conversation.
Contact: 248-374-5920

Song Circle

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.
Contact: 248-737-1931 or email nancyellen879@att.net

SUPPORT

Apostolic Christian Church

Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily

Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.
Contact: 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling.
Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group
Contact: 248-433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations
Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

Riverside Park Church of God

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

Nurses, pharmacist weigh in on ACA impact

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

The Affordable Care Act and its implications for health care have dominated recent headlines, nationally and locally.

"Most folks can pay for the new premiums as long as they don't get sick," said pharmacist Dale Knab, owner with his wife of Wiltse's Community Pharmacy on Main Street in Plymouth. "Certainly the co-pay amounts are going up. I'm not sure anyone really knows at this point what will happen."

Doctors have spoken on the ACA and health care, but nurses and pharmacists also have views. Marilyn Gardner of Canton is a registered nurse with 42 years experience, and works at the VA Medical Center in Ann Arbor, where she's been five years. She studied for nursing on the west side of Michigan, before the B.S.N. or associate's degree programs became commonplace.

"I do hear some from the employees," Gardner said. "I do think there's a lot of uncertainty about the Affordable Care Act."

Charlene Jones of Canton is a registered nurse at Primary Pediatrics of Integrated Healthcare Associates in Ann Arbor. Much of her job is determining where patients should go.

"That's a lot of what my job is, doing the triage," said Jones, who earned her B.S.N. from Bowling Green State University in Ohio and has practiced since 1977. "Cost is an issue. They try to hold back from coming in if they don't have to. Sometimes they come in the office first. They might need to go somewhere else."

That could be an urgent care or even the emergency room, a call nurse can help make. Both nurses have handled minor health issues for people when asked.

Gardner's patients will be less impacted by the ACA, as they have veterans' benefits, but do pay some for treatment, based on their service record, illnesses and other factors.



Dale Knab of Wiltse's Community Pharmacy said pharmacists have long been front-line health care providers. TONY BRUSCATO

Nursing today

Gardner worked at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital by Ann Arbor for 32 years, and has views on nurses' role in health care. She agreed the computer and documentation increased in nursing.

"But the care still has to be given," she said. "I worked in critical care. You still had a lot of hands-on nursing." She's now in pre-op and post-op care at the VA, preparing patients for surgery and doing some recovery.

"I think there is a lot more opportunity for teaching and follow-up" for nurses today, Gardner said, including working with families. Doctors have limited time with patients: "I think the nurse does play a bigger role in education and follow-up. You play a key role in their recovery and education."

Gardner has been with the VA long enough to get retiree health care for herself. "I think there's still a lot of uncertainty," she said of the ACA. "Somebody's got to pay. There's going to be a lot more people who can get medical treatment."

Premiums and costs will remain an issue, Gardner added. "It's hard to say if it's going to prove a good

thing or not."

Jones said some older nurses are concerned about less hands-on care. "It's still things you need a nurse for," Jones said. "There have been changes. It's still a good field."

Pharmacist's view

Knab, who earned his doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Michigan, bought Wiltse's in Plymouth with wife Andrea, also a pharmacist, in 1980. He noted some older patients, including those on Medicare, are confused about coverage changes coming Jan. 1.

"I think it's too soon to tell," Dale Knab said, noting difficulties with the government's health care website. "I think in general it will work. It's going to take some time."

Knab, an Ann Arbor resident, has been pleased to see Blue Cross Blue Shield suggest alternatives to customers whose policies are ending. "I don't think it's as bad as it could be," he said. "I think they're doing a pretty good job."

All pharmacies experience some confusion each Jan. 1, he said, with changes in prescription coverage each year going back to when it started. "A number of these plans are going to have some changes in them," Knab said.

Older people are generally less computer-literate, he said, and some don't have a younger family member to help with online research and issues.

He and other pharmacists recommend that a patient's prescriptions all be filled at one pharmacy, to allow monitoring of side effects and interactions. Knab sees pharmacists continuing as visible health care providers.

"I don't know that's going to increase," he said. "It's certainly already there." When he's working at his store, he's visible and available for health care questions, some of which get answered by phone.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

DECEMBER

HOSPICE SEMINAR

Hospice and palliative care expert Dominic F. Glorioso Jr., D.O., will present a free community lecture, 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2, at Botsford Hospital's Education and Administration Center, Classroom C, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. Glorioso, director of palliative care at Gettysburg Hospital in Gettysburg, Pa., and a hospice physician at York Hospital, York, Pa., will discuss death and dying and the importance of family support. For more information, call 248-442-7986. **KIDNEY BALL**

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan will hold its ninth annual Kidney Ball beginning with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner served at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the MGM Grand in Detroit. The event, which features the theme "A Midwinter Night's Dream," will include a night of live music, dancing, a live auction, silent auction, food, cocktails, and even a candy "bar" to top off the evening. Tickets are \$250 per person, available at www.nkfm.org/events or by calling 800-482-1455. **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. to noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch and

1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch. To join or for more information, visit www.ymcadetroit.org. **BREAST CANCER SUPPORT**

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

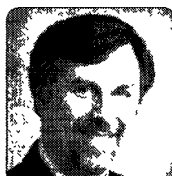
Garden City Hospital offers free blood pressure testing, cholesterol (\$5), and lipid panel (\$10) testing, 10 a.m. to noon the first Tuesday of each month in the main lobby of the hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. No registration is required. Senior citizens can have their blood pressure tested monthly, free of charge, at 8:30 a.m. the first and third Tuesday and second and fourth Thursdays of each month at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road, at Wayne Road in Westland; 10:15 a.m. every other Wednesday at Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City; and every second Tuesday at the Redford Community Center. For more information, call 734-458-4330. **CHOIR THERAPY**

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan extend an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends, to participate in singing. Call Len McCulloch at 248-474-2763, Ext. 22.

Baby, It's Cold Outside!

...Stay Warm and Practice Proper Winter Safety!

From A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Szczeciński
Sports Medicine

A snowy day can add a nice touch to the holidays, but with temperatures below freezing, it's important to exercise caution when going outside. GCH Family Practice and Sports Medicine Expert, Dr. Stanley Szczeciński, provides essential information for staying healthy when the weather outside gets frightful.

Q: What exactly is hypothermia?

A: Hypothermia is when the body's core temperature drops from its usual 98.6 degrees, and becomes a medical emergency when dipping below 95 degrees or less. Anyone who spends extended periods of time outside in cold winter temperatures is at risk for hypothermia. In addition to the lowered temperature, someone experiencing hypothermia may suffer from extreme shivers, confusion, slurred speech, clumsiness, disorientation, dizziness and drowsiness.

When heading outdoors, make sure you dress warmly. It's wise to dress in layers when you'll be exerting yourself in frigid temperatures so that you can start out properly insulated, and then shed layers as your body temperature starts to rise as a result of your level of activity.

Make a point of wearing clothing made from synthetic materials to help conserve body heat. Avoid wearing clothing made from cotton fibers. If cotton gets wet, it takes some time to dry and during that time, you run the risk of becoming severely chilled and losing much needed body heat.

Q: How do you know if you have frostbite?

A: When it's cold enough, skin can freeze, resulting in frostbite. Frostbite not only is painful, it can result in loss of fingers and toes. Early warning signs of frostbite may include but are not limited to tingling, numbness or coldness in an affected area. While we all experience cold fingers, toes, hands, feet and faces in cold weather, the feeling goes beyond mere cold. Skin in the affected area may begin to appear white or 'frosted', and skin may feel tight and resistant when pressed. Frostbite may also be indicated when a person experiences lack of sensations to the affected area. Normal sensations like pain disappear and hands or feet may feel 'heavy'. Be prepared and dress properly when going outside in cold weather. This is especially important when letting children play outside. If you feel you or a loved one is experiencing frostbite or hypothermia, get them to a warm place and remove any wet clothing. **GENTLY BEGIN WARMING THEM, AND SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY. IF A PERSON HAS FROSTBITTEN TOES OR FEET, AVOID LETTING THEM WALK, UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. DO NOT USE HEAT FROM HEATING PADS, A RADIATOR, FIRE OR HOT WATER.**

From chilling temperatures to slippery sidewalks, winter brings many unique safety concerns. Keep your family cozy and safe this winter. Remember to dress appropriately, use extreme caution on frozen lakes and rivers, go outside in groups or at least let someone else know where you are, prepare your car for winter travel, don't "over do it" when shoveling and stay hydrated. If you get wet or cold, go inside right away. If you're concerned, play it safe and see a physician.

Happy holidays from Garden City Hospital!

If you have a health or medical question, or would like to make an appointment with one of the GCH Health Experts, visit GCH.org or call 877.717.WELL.

VETERANS' COFFEE HOUR Q&A



Schoolcraft College

Enjoy free coffee and donuts and get answers to your questions about the benefits, services and resources available to military veterans, including:

- ★ Medical benefits
- ★ Employment benefits
- ★ Special benefits for disabled veterans
- ★ State and local benefits available for veterans
- ★ Educational benefits

Two consecutive Mondays:

December 2 & 9 ★★ 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus

18600 Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile Roads

McDowell Center Room 205, Veterans Services/Career Services Suite

Q&A WITH:

Department Service Officer Toni Moses,

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

DAV is a veterans' advocacy and assistance group.

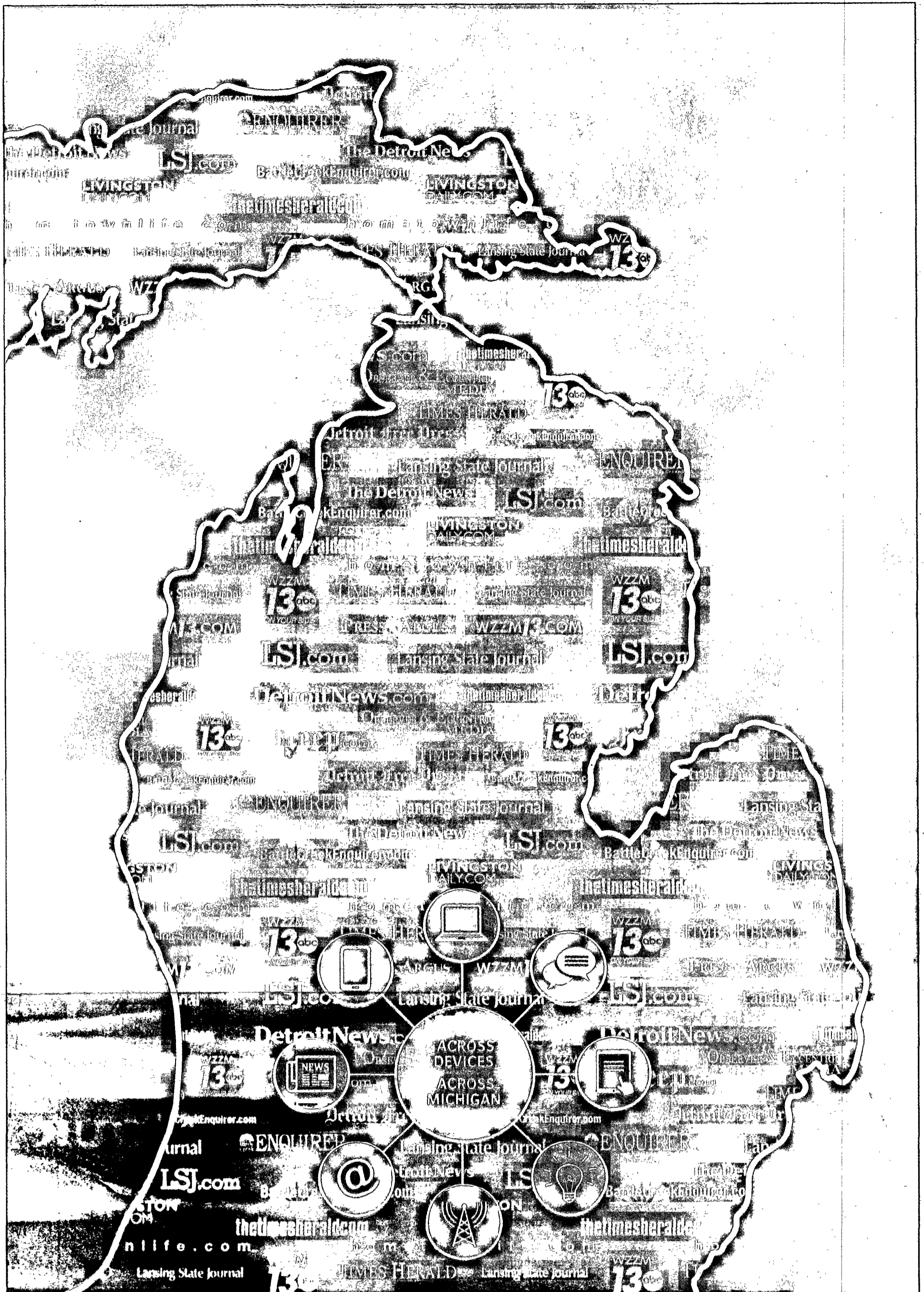
DSO Moses will answer questions about a wide range of benefits, services and resources available to veterans. Learn more at www.dav.org

Veterans Services Coordinator Pam Paxton-Keehner,

Schoolcraft College

Ms. Paxton-Keehner will answer questions about how veterans can use their educational benefits to pursue a college education. Learn more at www.schoolcraft.edu/veterans or 734-462-4400, x5346.

This event is free and open to all veterans and those who care for and support them.



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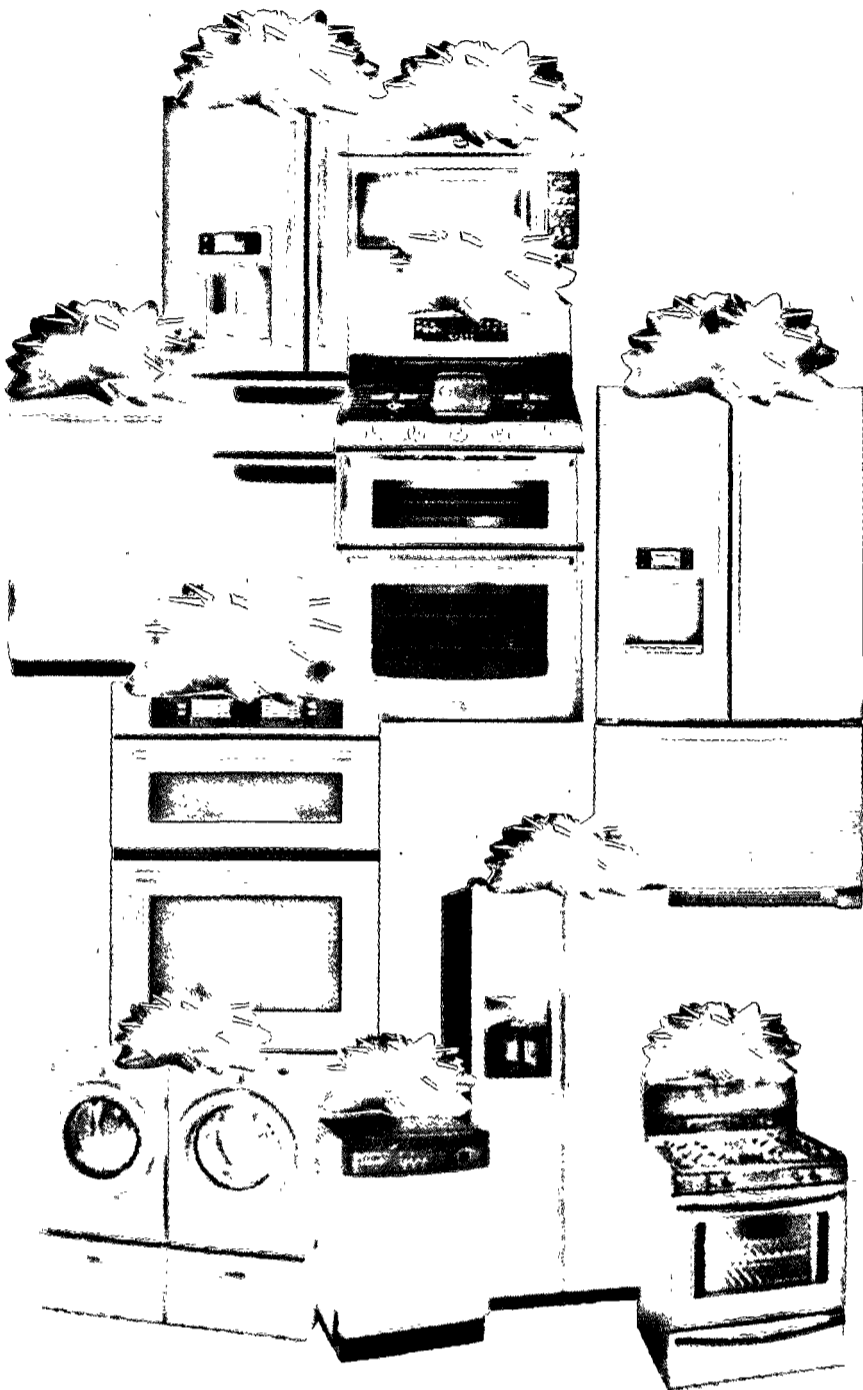
*Source: Monthly unique visitors, comScore Multi-Platform Report, March 2013

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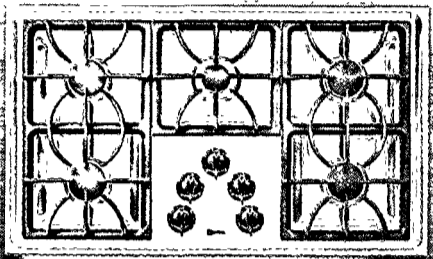
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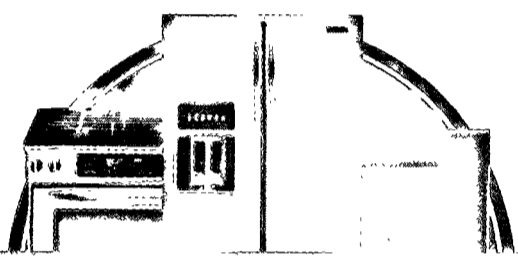
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Why every job seeker needs a portfolio

Nicki Krawczyk
Founder of
FilthyRichWriter.com

Job interviews used to be about showing up, answering questions and being polite and professional. Now, with how competitive it is to get a job, successful candidates need to also focus on proving their usefulness to the company and their uniqueness as professionals.

How?

Portfolios -- visual representation of previous work -- have been go-to job search tools for copywriters, graphic designers and artists for years. But the benefits of a portfolio can be reaped by any serious job applicant, regardless of the industry. While they shouldn't replace résumés, portfolios can help bring your experience to life.

Here are some benefits:

1 People like pictures. It's simple but true: Instagram and Pinterest wouldn't be successful if it weren't. You can draw people in by showing an interesting visual representation of your previous work experience and volunteer activities. Did you volunteer for Habitat for Humanity? Use a picture of you helping to build a house. Did you do work on a social media campaign? Use a picture of some of your tweets and posts. Did you work the front desk for a pharmaceutical firm? Use some of the firm's pictures of people its drugs have helped (Always give photo credit and be sure that the photo is available for public use.) The purpose of the photo is to catch someone's eye and draw him in to learn more. The more interesting the picture, the better: just be sure it's relevant.



2 People like stories. Once you've drawn someone in with a picture, use a paragraph to tell a story about what you did at a company or in a volunteer position. Make sure you focus on how you benefited the company and made a difference. Use this story to answer the questions, "How did I help this company/organization meet its mission?" and "What did I do differently or better than others have done?" Keep it to just a few sentences, but keep it interesting. Remember, you've always got your résumé to fall back on for bullet-point details.

3 Portfolios let you feature your strengths. When you put together a portfolio, you're guiding a hiring manager through the story you



want to tell. Instead of having to give all of your job duties equal weight (like on a résumé), you can feature the elements of your background that make you most interesting and most useful to the company with which you're interviewing.

The interviewer is in the position to decide whether you get the job, but it's up to you to guide the discussion toward the things about you that make you the best candidate.

So, how do you build a

portfolio? You'll want both an online and a print one. Sending a link to an online portfolio with an application or cover letter lets you show off your skills before an interviewer meets you. A print portfolio lets you show off your skills in person. For your print portfolio, you

can go to an art store and simply pick up a presentation case with clear archival pages (kind of like old photo book pages) in which to put samples. In a pinch, you could even use a good-looking binder.

For your online portfolio, sites such as wix.com, imcreator.com, virb.com and squarespace.com let you create your own site with a gallery/portfolio section and a place for a bio about yourself. Some offer free services, while others cost a small fee.



Portfolios are an effective way to help you direct the conversation about yourself as a job candidate. But, right now, not that many people outside of the creative industries are doing it, which means that creating your portfolio is just another opportunity to stand out and prove what an insightful, strategic and unique professional you are.

Nicki Krawczyk is a copywriter, copy coach and founder of FilthyRichWriter.com, an online resource for new and aspiring copywriters.



"The benefits of a portfolio can be reaped by any serious job applicant, regardless of the industry."

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DIRECT CARE STAFF needed to work with adults with DD in the Westland/Canton/Livonia area. Must be at least 18 yrs old with diploma or GED, valid Driver's Lic. w/acceptable driving record & clean criminal record. CLS, MORC, or NSO training preferred. \$8.10/hr to start. Call 248-661-8785 or Fax resume to 248-788-0264.

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Help Wanted - Medical

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MEDICAL ASSISTANT Pediatric office in Livonia. Exp req. approx 30 hrs/wk 734-591-0220

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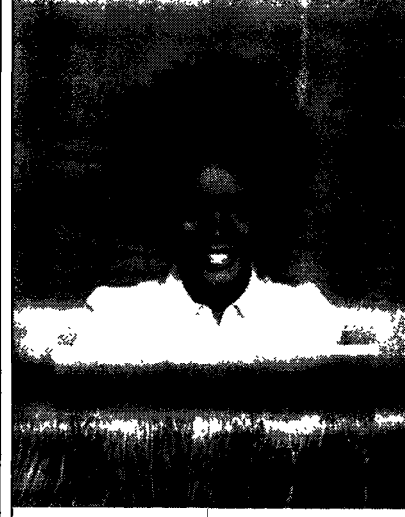
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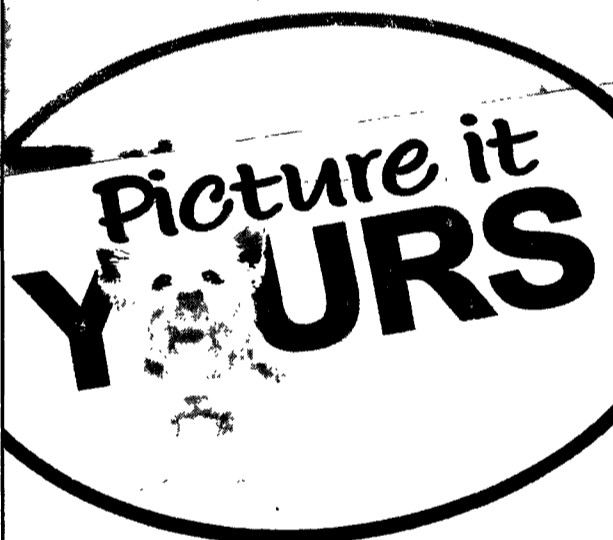
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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Big galoot
- 4 The mind's I?
- 8 Isinglass
- 12 Lemon drink
- 13 Fossil fuel
- 14 Bloodhound's clue
- 15 Himalayan city
- 17 Pollo vaccine inventor
- 18 Paint with fingers
- 19 Subsidies
- 21 Gridiron div.
- 23 "Don Juan" poet
- 27 Removes, as branches
- 30 Morays and congers
- 33 Environmental prefix
- 34 Pointed arch
- 35 Grass-skirt accessory
- 36 Part of a.m.
- 37 Diner sandwich

- 38 Types
- 39 Archaeologist's find
- 40 Pod contents
- 42 Stomach muscles, for short
- 44 GI supply
- 47 Bauxite giant
- 51 Norse Zeus
- 54 Gorges
- 56 Lion's share
- 57 Neanderthal home
- 58 Depot (abbr.)
- 59 Laid-off
- 60 Malamute's load
- 61 Term of endearment

DOWN

- 1 Acorn droppers
- 2 Sandler or West
- 3 Party
- 4 Neck warmer
- 5 Very long time
- 6 Put cargo on board
- 7 Botch
- 8 Like a damp rock
- 9 Mont. neighbor
- 10 Blimp title
- 11 Indiana Jones' quest
- 16 Pastor's abode
- 20 Small shot
- 22 Nun's room
- 24 Tear to pieces
- 25 Eight, to Livy
- 26 Caroler's tune
- 27 Slow pitches
- 28 Leer
- 29 Fountain of jazz
- 31 Mouse alert
- 32 Elvis' daughter
- 36 Usher's beat
- 38 Suffix for hero
- 41 "— Schoen"
- 43 Made public
- 45 Beaded shoes
- 46 Football shape
- 48 Wallet filler
- 49 — von Bismarck
- 50 Strong — ox
- 51 Teahouse attire
- 52 Fizzle
- 53 Under the weather
- 55 Day before

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12			13					14				
15			16					17				
18					19		20					
			21		22		23		24	25	26	
27	28	29		30	31	32			33			
34				35					36			
37				38					39			
40			41			42	43					
			44		45	46		47		48	49	50
51	52	53			54		55					
56					57					58		
59						60						61

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SUDOKU

8	5			1				
							4	
		9	8	5				
1	7			4				
		2					1	5
		4	5					1
7	6			8	2			
	2	5	3		7			

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

AUTO WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- ACURA
- AUDI
- AUTOMOTIVE
- BMW
- BUICK
- CADILLAC
- CHEVROLET
- CHRYSLER
- DEALERSHIP
- DESTINATION
- DRIVE
- FINANCE
- FORD
- GENERAL MOTORS
- HIGHWAY
- HONDA
- HOOD
- HUMMER
- HYUNDAI
- INFINITY
- INTERIOR
- JAGUAR
- JEEP
- LEASE
- LEXUS
- LICENSE
- MERCEDES BENZ
- NISSAN
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- PONTIAC
- REGULATIONS
- STEERING
- SUBARU
- TICKET
- TIRES
- TOYOTA
- TRADE
- TRAFFIC

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

9	2	5	3	6	1	7	8	4
7	1	6	4	9	8	2	5	3
3	8	4	5	7	2	9	6	1
4	6	8	2	3	6	1	7	5
5	9	6	1	7	4	3	9	8
1	7	3	9	4	5	8	2	6
2	4	9	8	5	3	6	1	7
6	3	1	7	2	9	5	4	8
8	5	7	6	1	4	3	9	2

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Word Search

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



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Car Report

Advertising Feature

Hyundai may be capacity-constrained and so not chomping up market share in the United States like it was a couple of years ago, but the company continues to be practically unsurpassed at doing interesting things.



By Dale Buss

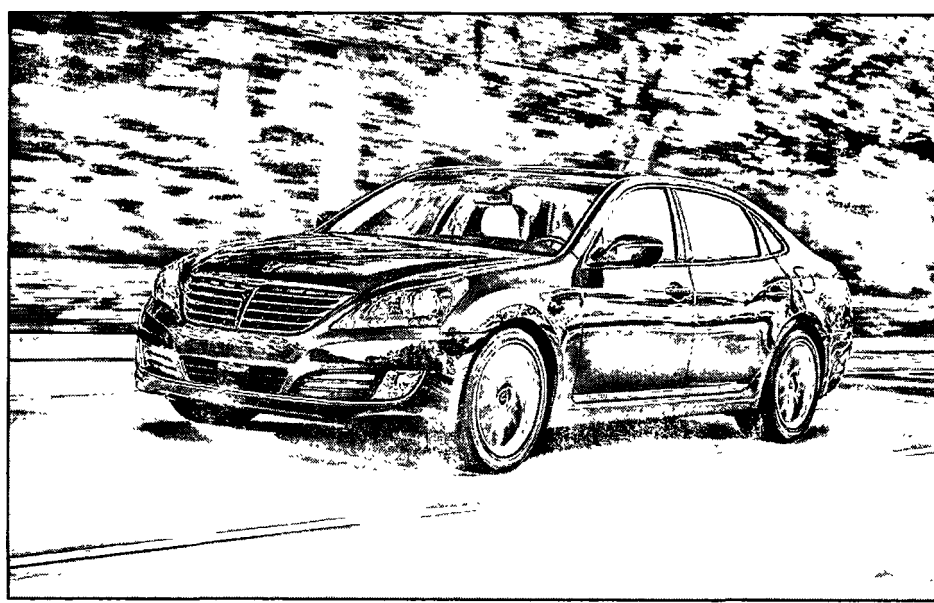
Witness American CEO John Krafcik's declaration at the Los Angeles Auto Show that Hyundai will leapfrog the plans of both Toyota and Honda and introduce a retail fuel-cell vehicle next year.

And while Hyundai has had more than its share of doubters all along about its strategy to stretch its single brand across a lineup of vehicles that ranges from just \$15,000 to as high as \$69,000, there's no doubting the credentials that the brand already has established at the high end with Genesis and Equus. Hyundai largely has managed to come through on its promise to field U.S. luxury cars that could stand up to high-end competition but do so on a more-affordable basis.

In fact, Equus just achieved the highest overall score and the best in the luxury segment in the annual Total Value Index compiled by Strategic Vision for the 18th year. The study looked at nearly 46,000 new-car buyers for 2013 models between September 2012 and March 2013, and their ownership experiences, as well as customers' views on their purchases.

Hyundai overall scored well, too, ranked as the leading brand for Total Value and getting special notice for Sonata, Genesis and Elantra in addition to Equus.

The 2014 Equus represents the ultimate truth-telling in what Krafcik has been saying for years, as he



The 2014 Hyundai Equus cuts a fine figure in the luxury segment.

and his Korean bosses have pushed Hyundai into ever-pricier segments of the U.S. market: The brand will create new benchmarks in vehicles that provide competitive quality and appeal but at more-than-competitive prices.

Many reviewers have argued that Equus, with starting prices at around \$61,000, comes very close to providing an equal match to competitors such as the Lexus LS460 that are priced at least \$10,000 higher.

Spending a week in an Equus lends plenty of reasons to come to that conclusion. It's not very distinctive in design, though it's clearly a luxury sedan. But there are indications even before you're in the car that Equus is something special. For example, its 16.7 cubic feet of trunk space is more than respectable, and when the trunk cavity is empty, it looks like it'll take a lot to fill it up.

And once a driver is in the seat, Hyundai's argument for this car unfolds convincingly. The power provided by

its 5.0-liter, 429-horsepower V8 is superbly available and propels Equus forward with exquisite smoothness as it builds. Handling, too, is comparable to that provided by Lexus and other Japanese competitors.

And Hyundai has done a good job of appropriating touches that have worked for some of the luxury rivals it wants to emulate. Its seat-position controls high on the side doors of Equus for both front passengers are configured in a seat shape in which each individual button corresponds to the appropriate part of the seat, an innovation that has been led by Mercedes-Benz.

Equus is no Volkswagen Phaeton when it comes to creature comforts. But some of what it provides is close to what VW briefly brought to American drivers several years ago in a car that could easily push a \$100,000 price tag. Take the rear seats of Equus, for instance.

In Korean business culture, the back seat is especially important because executive are often chauffeured. So Hyundai has loaded up the back seat of the Equus Ultimate version with a dual-screen entertainment system and very comfortable heated, cooled and reclining outboard seats. By pressing a button in the rear, a passenger can collapse the front passenger seat, opening up huge legroom. There are powered sunshades. And infotainment controls in the rear armrest are equally capable with those up front.

Equus buyers no longer receive a free iPad as they did a couple of years ago when Hyundai was introducing the nameplate. But since its long-ago, pioneering promise of a 100,000-mile powertrain warranty on its



The rear seat of Equus is a study in creature comforts.

cars, the brand has emphasized the importance of customer service, and that's certainly the case with Equus. Buyers get three year or 36,000 miles of free maintenance, and owners don't even have to go to the dealership: Hyundai will dispatch valets with a complimentary loaner to pick up and drop off the car.

Krafcik said a few years ago that the quality of the customer experience would be key for Hyundai to make its brand and cars credible to upwardly mobile luxury buyers with Genesis and Equus. And at least so far, Hyundai has counted that as a strength.

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