CHEF COOKS THANKSGIVING FEAST FOR WAYNE-WESTLAND FAMILIES LOCAL NEWS, A6



# **Council will keep televising comments**

**By LeAnne Rogers** Staff Write

Based on proposed changes to their policies and procedures, Westland council members want to have rules for conduct at meetings strictly enforced

But council members didn't propose any changes to the current procedure of televising complete city council meetings on WLND.

At an earlier council meeting, a number of residents turned out to oppose the idea of not airing public comments as part of the council meeting broadcast.

When council members didn't discuss airing of citizens comments, resident Donna DeWitt asked when residents would again be threat ened with their comments not



aware of a Godbout threat. I think there was some

discussion. It would only happen with a council vote to change the policies and procedures. That hasn't occurred," Council President James Godbout said.

"I'm not

#### **Reviewing policies**

A council subcommittee had been reviewing the council policies and procedures, taking input from other coun-cil members. One suggestion was that the public comments no longer be televised in an effort to address rude behavior and personal attacks at

council meetings.

"We have an attorney's opinion saying we could do it (not air public comments). There was some preliminary discussion on it," Godbout said. "There was a lot of uproar about what was in these documents before it was even finalized.'

Information about the proposal went out and got people riled up, Godbout said, when there was not enough support from council members to make it policy.

"That information came from a document that was only for council," he said. "In my mind, there was no threat. There was no vote by council."

The attorney opinion, written in 2010, indicated the council had no legal obligation to air public comments on WLND. The comments would

still be allowed at the meetings but the opinion found that not including tthem hat on television wasn't a violation of the Open Meetings Act or free speech rights.

At the time of the 2010 opinion, DeWitt said the council approved reducing public comments from five minutes to the current three minutes.

#### 'Shut us up'

"You didn't like how some people were behaving. The talk was to shut us up or shut us down," DeWitt said. "This was the tactic in 2010 and it is the same this year.'

Some changes that were proposed in the policy were to emphasize that council business should be conducted electronically since tablets or laptops are provided to council members for official business

"I want to stress council members should download documents and be paperless. The tools are provided but I'm seeing a lot of paper coming into meetings," Godbout said.

Another proposal was that "strictly enforced" be added to the existing policy that the meeting chairperson immediately call to order a person speaking without being recognized. The policy also calls on the chairperson to possibly have the person removed from the meeting if they don't comply.

Council will still need to consider adoption of the policies and procedures at a regular council meeting.

Irogers@hometownlife.com 734-883-09039 Twitter: @LRogersObserver

## Survey: **Court doing** a good job

Westland's 18th District Court has received high marks for making customers feel safe in the courthouse and allowing them to take care of their business in a reasonable amount of time.

Citizens using the court were given a chance to fill out a Public Satisfaction Survey, designed by a committee of judges and court administrators from across the state.

Intended to improve service to the public, the survey was taken by all court users on two days in November 2013, including parties to cases, attorneys, witnesses,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After a software bug surfaces, John Marnon untangles the robot from the rack that holds the balls.

# Ready to compete in Russia

LTU student from Westland taking part in World Robot Olympiad

#### **By LeAnne Rogers** Staff Write

Sorting and collecting balls by color doesn't sound that difficult unless you have to build a robot and a computer program to do the task.

Lawrence Technological University

students John Marnon of Westland and Farmington Hills resident Philip Bigos have built their robot, programmed it and are arriving in Soci, Russia, today to represent the United States in the college category of the World Robot Olympiad.

Both 21, Marnon and Bigos will be graduating in the spring — the first Michigan students to earn bachelor of science degrees in robotics engineering. "Ever since I was a little kid I was

fascinated with machines, in particular machines that function with little human interface," said Marnon. a 2011 Westland John Glenn High School graduate and member of the first Wayne-Westland robotics team.

Working on their robot since last summer, Marnon was responsible for knowing the rules of the Olympiad games category. The theme this year is colo-

See ROBOT, Page A2

### Taste Fest has food, Sinatra and ugly sweaters

#### **By Sue Mason** Staff Writer

Westland Chamber of Commerce President Brookellen Swope knows she can't win, but that hasn't stopped her from buying a sweater worthy of being called ugly.

And she plans to wear it at the 2014 Holiday Taste Fest that's set for 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland.

"I think my sweater is ugly enough to win," Swope said. "I spent some serious money on this.'

A popular holiday event in Westland, this year's Taste Fest includes food provided Beaver Creek, Biggby Coffee, Cafe Marquette, Famous Dave's, Hammon's Kitchen, the Hellenic Cultural Center, Knox Catering, McDonald's, Max & Erma's, Moo Cluck Moo, Rose

Catering, Tim Hortons and Toarmina's Pizza. There also will be a cash bar.

Frank Sinatra impersonator Bart Ventura will entertain guests, while RC DJ & Video will serve as emcee for the

INDEX

#### See TASTE FEST, Page A2

victims and others.

The survey was part of a statewide initiative of the Michigan Supreme Court, and the State Court Administrative Office to measure and report on court performance. More than 20,000 surveys were completed statewide in 2013.

Along with safety and getting business done in a reasonable time court also did well in all other categories of the survey.

"When given the opportunity to judge us, the public has told us that we are doing a good job," Judge Mark McConnell said. "Our plan is to put the results of the survey to work, and do an even better job in the future."

The next set of surveys for the 18th District Court will be administered Nov. 20-21 and 24-26. The court will also implement a juror satisfaction survey in the near future to get input from those serving as jurors.

"Recognizing that we serve the public, we value their input. By increasing the number of days for the survey this year, we are able to obtain a greater response," Judge Sandra Cicirelli said.

**Court Administrator** James Gibbs said "our goal is for all court users to be satisfied with their experience in our court, and these results will help us focus on where we can do better."



PRICE: \$1



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A12	



# Dryer fire damages home

A dryer was determined to have caused the fire that damaged a home on Barchester in Westland on Nov. 13.

The fire was reported about 9 p.m. in the basement of the home where a load of clothes was in the dryer, Wayne-Westland Assis-

**TASTE FEST** 

Continued from Page A1

event, which is sponsored by the Chamber and the Westland Rotary Club.

There also will be a live auction and ticket raffle as well as the ugly Christmas sweater contest.

Tickets are \$25 each and Swope hopes to sell 400 of them. It's quite

tant Chief/Fire Marshal Kelly Eggers said. The family living at

the home at 30862 Barchester exited and called the fire department after noticing smoke. No one was injured. Damage to the home was estimated at \$45,000.

#### Tickets are available at the chamber office on Ford Road west of Wayne Road and at Juenemann Insurance Agency, 33652 Ford. For more information, call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at 734-

possible.

326-7222. Proceeds will go to the Westland Rotary Charities, the Joseph F. Benyo Scholarship Fund and Westland Chamber of Commerce.

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#### LOCAL NEWS

#### ROBOT

Continued from Page A1

#### nizing Mars.

Some areas produce an excess of materials, others need those materials.

#### **Object of game**

The object of the game is to program the robot to recognize the colors, collect the balls and move them to where they are needed. There are additional points for the single yellow ball and a time clock that can provide a penalty. And the robot can only be 12 inches by 12 inches.

"We will have to take the robot apart to transport it. We will probably have to reprogram it when we get there," Bigos said.

Earlier in the week in the "dungeon" of a building at Lawrence Tech, Marnon and Bigos were still tinkering with the robot, which has to do its

Philip Bigos and Jon Marnon wrote the code for the robot they built to compete in the Robot Olympiad in Soci, Russia.

task within five minutes

during the competition. Each of the three locations for collecting the

"We will have some time for testing. Some teams used a compass sensor (to direct the robot) but we used encoders on the motor to act as sensors," Marnon said. "Theoretically, it is less reliable but practically, it

#### is more reliable."

Along with the competition itself, Marnon and Bigos are excited about the trip to Russia, a 22hour flight.

"Canada is the most I've gone from the country and I was only on the border of Canada. So really, this is the first time I've been out of the country. It will be quite an experience," Marnon said.

#### 'Big experience'

"It will be an exciting experience. With all that is between Russia and the U.S., I don't know if it will happen again," Bigos said.

A straight-A student at Glenn, Marnon has faced challenges more of a social nature due to having Asperger's syndrome.

"I had high expectations for him. I knew that he would do exceptionally well," said Marcie Rosen, Marnon's teacher at Glenn. "It's huge for him to take this trip. I'm tremendously proud of him and what he has endured to get to this point. I couldn't be prouder if he was my child."

Marnon and Bigos return from Russia on Tuesday and were scheduled to have some free time for a couple tours on Monday after the competition was completed.

lrogers@hometownlife.com 734-883-9039 Twitter: @LRogersObserver

#### **Health screening**

Oakwood Healthcare and Wayne Senior Services are offering a free **Heart Health Screening** to everyone who is 18 years and older from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26, at Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis, Wayne.

Blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose and stroke risk assessment will be offered.

The health screening will be held in conjunction with the Community Center's Member Appreciation Day.

#### Pasta dinner

The Dyer Senior Center in Westland is holding its monthly pasta dinner from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and dessert for \$8 for adults, \$4 for children age 12 and under. Children age 3 and under are free. The Dyer Center is at

36745 Marquette, east of concerns. Newburgh, in Westland.

Parents are also welcome to attend. For more information, call Chief Jeff Jedrusik at 734-467-3226.

#### Winter Card Party

Ss. Simon and Jude Parish will hold a winter card party 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21, at the church, 32500 Palmer, west of Merriman.

There will be door and table prizes, 50/50 raffle, light meal and snacks. Tickets are \$8 each and are available at the door. Bring your friends and play cards and games of

For more information, call 734-722-1343.

#### **Craft-Vendor Fair**

A Family Fun Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair will be held from 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne. There will be holiday shopping, face

top prices paid

painting, raffles, games, treats and more. Admission is free, and drinks and snacks will be available for purchase.

#### **Pre-Black Friday** event

Designer Duds n Infant Treasures in Westland is holding a Pre-**Black Friday Ladies Day** Out Vendor Event from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, at the store, 815 N. Wayne Road.

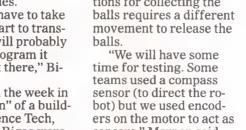
The monthly Ladies Day Out Networking Event and Vendor Show offers friends, family, associates and fellow mommies who don't "get out much" the chance to take an hour or so out of their busy lives to stop in and grab a bite, meet some new friends, shop, if you wish, get a massage, or taste some wine.

For more information, call Kelly Lonergan Taylor at 734-331-2519 or email her at taylorskkt@gmail.com.



**BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER** 

hometownlife.com



Pop with a Cop The Westland Police Dept. will host "Pop with a Cop" from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, in

the cafeteria at John Glenn High School. School Resource Offi-

For more information.

call 734-419-2020.

cer Joseph Bobby will meet with students to discuss any school safety concerns that they may have. The goal is to create a forum and an opportunity for students to feel comfortable expressing and sharing their safety

concerns with the police department. The main focus of this event is to receive direct

student input and feedback. This is an expansion of the "Coffee with the Cops" program that the Westland Police Department holds to meet with Westland residents to discuss neighborhood

we buy

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Dr. Irby-Johnson received her medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine and is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

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# Mystery donor gives \$1,000 to library, Jaycees, Tail Waggers, Goodfellows, RU band

By Beth Jachman Staff Writer

Anonymous 1679 has done it again.

Five more anonymous \$1,000 donations have been made recently.

Last week, the Redford Township District Library received a \$1,000 cash donation in the mail from "Anonymous 1679," according to Library Director Lisa Hoenig. "Really exciting for

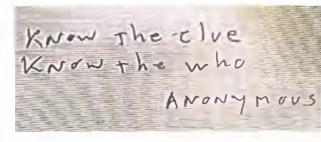
us," Hoenig said "We will definitely put this to good use. Someone is being very, very nice."

The mailing envelope had no return address, Hoenig said.

"Anonymous 1679" was hand written on a smaller envelope inside, which held the money. "There was no other note, just 10 crisp \$100 bills," she said.

Meanwhile over the weekend, Tail Waggers 1990, a nonprofit animal welfare organization, discovered a \$1,000 donation in the mail.

Laura Zain, founder of Tail Waggers, discovered



The Community Choice Credit Union branch in Redford received a donation with a note from Anonymous 1679 in October.

it in the mail and a short time later went over to meet with the Redford Jaycees where she discovered that they had also received a donation.

It was the same handwriting, and said "Anonymous 1679," Zain said. And the envelope contained 10 crisp \$100 bills, she said.

#### Gift helps animals

A note with the donation said, "For all the good work you do," said Rebecca Sullivan, director of programs for Tail Waggers.

While the Tail Waggers office is in Livonia, Redford is a major focus of the group.

"They're our focus. They are like our partners," Zain said. Tail Waggers has 1,394 active clients from Redford Township, she said.

Tail Waggers is also building a spay-andneuter clinic right now.

"We needed a little bit more money... that came and that's going to complete our project," Zain said.

"They would have no idea the good they did us," Zain said, as the group has about 170 animals on a waiting list for spaying or neutering. "My God, how do you thank somebody for this?" she said.

#### Goodfellows, too

Yesterday, the Redford Goodfellows opened an envelope from Anonymous 1679 with 10 crisp \$100 bills.

"That money will go a long way to brighten the Christmas of several children this year. To that generous person ... Thank You! from the Goodfellows and RTPD (Redford Township Police Department)," was the message posted on Facebook.

A few weeks ago, the Redford Township Jaycees were also the recipients of an anonymous \$1,000 cash donation.

"The only thing I know is that \$1,000 cash was left in our mailbox by Anonymous 1679," Redford Jaycees President Jennifer Kurland said. "It is a very generous

gift, and I am humbled that the Jaycees were chosen by this anonymous donor," she said. The Redford Union Music Program also received 10 new \$100 bills from an anonymous donor recently.

"We thanked the person on our social media pages but got no lead or response," Kevin DelPup, RU director of bands, said in an email. "We are very appreciative."

"We have no idea who it is either but we are very grateful for their donation to the Redford Union Music Program since there are no funds available for this program otherwise in this school district," Kelly Brazzil, RU Band Boosters president, said in an email.

"The funds are used to fix instruments and uniforms, to purchase music, and to defray camp costs for music students," she said.

The donations follow an anonymous donation made to Community Choice Credit Union in Redford in early October.

#### Gift to credit union

"Last week we received a piece of mail addressed to the branch manager and inside was \$1,000," Abbey Bierlein, Foundation Coordinator of Community Choice Credit Union, said in October.

Assistant Branch Manager Tim Young, who processes the mail, opened the envelop which contained 10 \$100 bills and a piece of paper that contained a handwritten riddle:

"Know the clue Know the who Anonymous 1679" "The riddle has us

thinking — it's hard not to," Bierlein said. The credit union often

gets donations for its scholarship fund but they've never gotten a donation this large anonymously, Bierlein said. This donation will also

go to the scholarship fund.

The Community Choice Credit Union Foundation has awarded more than \$600,000 in college scholarships to students in Southeast Michigan since 2009, she said.



# Hawk attacks bird feeder

ELDRED MASON Eldred Mason of Livonia got this picture of a hawk attacking one of his bird feeders. Normally, hawks swoop down to try to catch one of the birds at his feeders and fly away seconds later. But this one spent five minutes attacking the feeder, from the left side, from the right side, from the top - all over. "I thought, 'What is he doing, what is he doing?'" Mason

said. After the hawk left, Mason went out to fill his feeders. "What do you think I found inside the one he was attacking? A little red squirrel scared to death," he said. "Boy did he come out fast! This is what the hawk was after. What a wonderful, once-in-a-lifetime experience." We Create CONFIDENT HAPPY SMLES! HAPPY SMLES! Mow Offering NVISALIGN the clear alternative to braces CALL US TODAY....734-427-4525 Serving Livonia Families for 25 years DANIEL D



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CITY OF WESTLAND

Deputy Mayor Thelma Kubitskey, Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik and Council President Jim Godbout Officer congratulate Westland's newest police officer, Anthony Javonavich (second from right).

# New officer joins Westland Police

The City of Westland has a new police officer with the swearing in of Anthony Javonavich this week.

A U.S. Marine Corps veteran, Javonavich became the first Westland police officer to be sworn in at the new City Hall

Javonavich served in the Marines from 1991 until 1995 and was stationed in Japan and on the east coast. Javonavich started his public safety career with Highland Park. He has served with the Inkster Police Department for the past 14 years.

A Livonia-native and Churchill High School graduate,

Javonavich studied criminal justice at Schoolcraft College and he graduated from the Wayne County Regional Police Academy and the Oakland County Fire Academy.

'We welcome Officer Javonavich to our community and our police department, and we thank him for his service to our country," May-or William Wild said. "It's great when Westland can bring in new officers who already have a wealth of experience, and that's what we have with Officer Javonavich. We look forward to his dedication to serving our residents."

WAYNE COP CALLS

#### **Break-in**

A resident of the Park Hill Apartments, 33085 Park Hill, told police Nov. 9 that she returned home from work to find the apartment door damaged from being pried open.

Reported missing were a laptop computer, a piggy bank containing \$150, \$540 in cash, a silver and black diamond ring, a silver and diamond ring, a chef knife set and 30 Xanax pills.

#### **Retail fraud**

On Nov. 15, a clerk at 7-Eleven, 33920 Van Born, told police that at 1:37 a.m. a woman entered the store, walked directly to the beer cooler and

placed an unknown item into her purse before leaving the store. Checking the cooler, he said a box of Heineken beer was torn open and two bottles of beer were missing.

The clerk told police the woman is a regular customer at the store and he could identify her.

#### Larceny

A resident in the 34000 block of Richard told police that overnight Nov. 14-15, someone had stolen an inflatable turkey decoration from her front yard. She said she looked out the window in the morning and noticed it was missing. The inflatable was valued at \$30. By LeAnne Rogers

#### WESTLAND COP CALLS

ey had already been removed.

delivered Nov. 3 by the Post

an told police that on Nov. 6

rolet Equinox while it was

someone had hit her 2013 Chev-

parked at Kroger, 36430 Ford.

The rear bumper was dented

A Westland woman told

police Nov. 13 that she was in

S. Venoy, when another vehicle

backed into her car scratching

the bumper. The other car fled.

On Nov. 15, a resident in the

36000 block of Farragut report-

ed four tires, valued at \$700,

her parked vehicle getting ready for work at 7-Eleven, 160

On Nov. 12, a Westland wom-

#### Larcenv

\$2,000 after falling for a Nov. A resident in the 1700 block 10 telephone scam from a callof Surrey Heights told police er claiming to be collecting money owed to the IRS. Nov. 11 that he had ordered a 1979 Chevrolet Monte Carlo The man, who does not cam auto part valued at \$150 speak English well, came to but it wasn't delivered. He said he checked with the supplier and was told the part had been

Office.

Vandalism

and scraped.

Hit and run

Vandalism

report the incident with his daughter, who had spoken with the caller. The daughter told police the caller said he was an **ÎRS** agent and that her father owed \$2,000 in back taxes from 2006.

A Westland man is out

The caller said the debt had to be paid or a sheriff would be sent to the home to have them arrested. The daughter told the caller they could easily settle the debt. She said the caller told her to purchase Greendot money cards for \$2,000, which she did.

The woman provided the card numbers to the caller, who told her a package would arrive within a few days.

The following day, the wom-an said she told co-workers about what had happened and they all told her it was scam. She said she confirmed this on the Internet and tried to cancel the Greendot cars but the mon-

slashed on her 1998 Chevrolet Venture. The vehicle was parked on the street in front of her home.

#### Fraud

A Westland man told police Nov. 11 that he was checking his credit union account online and noticed two fraudulent transactions overnight. One was for \$265.48 at a Meijer store in Jackson, the second for \$225.49 at a Belleville Meijer.

The man said he canceled his debit card and contacted his credit union.

A Westland woman told police Nov. 11 that she had received a \$621 bill from Verizon but has never had an account with the company. The woman said the account had been opened in her maiden name Oct. 1.

#### Larceny from a vehicle

On Nov. 11, a resident in the 29000 block of Lacy told police that someone stole two cell phones from his vehicle while it was parked on the street. He told police there was an iPhone 4 missing along with a heavy duty phone used for work.

By LeAnne Rogers

#### GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

#### Larceny

A resident in the 2000 block of Arcola reported Nov. 16 that someone stole a brand new tire from the rear driver's side of his vehicle.

Lug nuts were on the driveway next to the vehicle, which was left jacked up by the thief. Garden City Police can-

vassed the area for signs of the tire with negative results.

#### Fraud

A 41-year-old Garden City woman who lives in the 29000 block of Marquette, reported Nov. 11 that someone fraudulently used her MasterCard to charge \$215 at a Meijer store in Royal Oak.

She said that she still had the card in her possession and had not authorized anyone to use the card.

Her account was canceled.

#### **Identity theft**

A 23-year-old Garden City man who lives in the 32000 block of Maplewood reported Nov. 14 that someone mailed a fraudulent Costco American Express card with his identification to his father's address.

The card bore the photograph of a black man who he did not recognize. The victim said that he never signed up for the card.

When he called Costco, the representative said that the card had never been used. The representative wasn't able to tell him who opened the account or at what store it had been opened.

Police provided him with information about identity theft.

By Sue Buck



vestigating a retail fraud and embezzlement that was allegedly committed by a 22-yearold Inkster woman and Kmart employee.

She was arrested Nov. 14 at the store, located at 29600 Ford. The store wants to prosecute.

The woman reportedly signed a statement admitting her guilt related to incidents over a three-month period.

She is accused of taking \$514 without authorization from the cash register and not paying for about \$100 in fountain pop.

The woman also allegedly fraudulently used the Kmart rewards card. According to the police report, it is against Kmart policy to use the rewards card for personal gain while working.

#### Fraud Garden City Police are in-

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- Table Runners
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#### A5 (WG) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# BUSINESS

SUE MASON, EDITOR SMASON@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-6751 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **Redford-based King Brothers Collision expands into Livonia**

King Brothers Collision, which has been in Redford for more than 40 years, opened a second location at 13131 Newburgh Road in Livonia in September. King Brothers specializes in collision repair, complete classic car restoration and auto detailing. Owner Jeffrey A. Fairbanks answered the following questions about the business, managed by his brother Matt Fairbanks.

Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature.

With a combined experience of more than 100 years, we specialize in all aspects of auto body repair, frame and uni-body repairs. Computerized color matching, using PPG Water Base Refinishing system. Also, auto restoration is a big part of what we do, from complete refinish up to frame-off overhaul projects.

#### What makes your business unique?

We understand how important our customers' vehicles are to them and what a large investment they are. We do what's necessary to restore their vehicle to pre-accident condition as quick as possible, not letting quality suffer in that process. We work hand-in-hand with all insurance companies and enjoy a Direct Repair Relationship with some.

How did you first decide to open your own business?

I had been working at a Southfield auto dealer and was contacted in



Cutting the ribbon (from left) are Suzie Bigelow, shop manager; Jeff Fairbanks, owner; Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey; Brad Fairbanks, technician; and Tony Fairbanks, quality control technician. Pictured between Jeff Fairbanks and the mayor is Matt Fairbanks, manager.

1997 by the then owner of King Brothers who was looking to retire. We struck a deal and here we are.

#### How did you decide to locate in Livonia?

Our customer base is made up of a strong mix of both Livonia and Redford residents along with surrounding communities like Detroit, Southfield, Novi, Farmington and Farmington Hills. This opportunity gives us a chance to reach Westland, Garden City, Canton, Plymouth and Northville as well. **5. Do you have a** 

5. Do you nave a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner? King Brothers Colli-

sion is a family-owned and operated collision repair facility that has been located in Redford for over 40 years. The opportunity to expand presented itself to us this fall, so we added a second location in Livonia. We couldn't be more excited.

Both of my sons, Brad and Tony Fairbanks, have grown up in this industry and I am lucky enough to work side by side with them as they help to shape the future of King Brothers. With our expansion, I was also able to add my brother Matt Fairbanks to our team. Matt's diverse background in the insurance and collision industry spans over 20 years. As the owner of a small business, I take great pride in treating my customers like famOur slogan: "We may meet by accident, but we stay friends for life!" If we do happen to

meet by "accident," my family, along with my team of certified technicians, will work together to ease the repair process for you every step of the way. We value your business and take pride in all of our work, big or small. From insurance claims, full classic car restorations to minor fender benders, we bring quality workmanship and stand behind our repairs for a lifetime

King Brothers Collision is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with free pick-up and delivery. For more information, call 734-744-8557 or visit kingbrotherscollision.com.

# Know how to get credit score information

A t a recent library talk I gave, one of the topics of conversation dealt with credit scores and credit reports. One of the guests was retelling a horror story of being denied credit based upon problems in a credit report.

I told him he was in good company because former Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke had also recently been rejected in his attempt to refinance.

I realized that many people don't understand the difference between a credit score and a credit report. Although they are related, they are not the same.

There are three major credit reporting agencies: Equifax, TransUnion and Experian. They each independently accumulate data and prepare a credit report. Therefore, most of us have three different credit reports.

The purpose of a credit report is to provide a detailed account of your credit history. These reports will include such things as your payment history, how much credit you have available and how much you use, credit inquiries and bankruptcies.

This information is accumulated and assembled into a report of this raw data. There is no number associated with a report and there is no opinion as to your credit worthiness. It is an accumulation of relevant data.

Your credit score is not determined by the credit reporting agencies but rather, by an independent company. The company that most in the financial world use to



compute scores is the Fair Isaac Company (FICO). Your FICO score is a mathematical equation that evaluates the information on your credit report. A FICO score can range from 300-850.

Since the information on your credit report can be different depending upon the credit reporting agency, consumers may also have a different FICO score. In other words, your FICO score at Equifax can be different than your FICO score at Transunion. As information in your credit report changes so does your score.

There are nuances as to how your FICO score is calculated but basically, it's based upon the following:

1. Payment history — 35 percent 2. Total amounts owed

2. Total amounts owed — 30 percent

3. Length of credit history — 15 percent

4. New credit — 10 percent

You are entitled to receive a free copy of your credit report annually from each agency. Go to annualcreditreport-.com. However, the free report does not include your FICO score — that you have to pay for.

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

#### **BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS**

Pre-Black Fridaytaking reservations for<br/>30-minute Christmas<br/>photo sessions now

taking reservations for 30-minute Christmas photo sessions now through Dec. 13. Differthrough Christmas THE MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIPS BEGIN

Designer Duds n Infant Treasurers Children's Boutique invites you to attend a Pre-Black Friday Ladies Day Out Vendor Show, set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, at the store, 815 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Vendors include 31 Bags, Heidi Fugate; Essential Bodywear, Carma Peters; Pure Romance, Jennifer Shepardson Ganzberger; Scentsy, Tina Moran; Dove Chocolates, Susan Frazier; It Works, Jennifer Consitt; Younique, Lena Kaczmarek, and more.

Lots of the vendors will have cash-and-carry items that would make great Christmas gifts. In addition, there will be raffles, which are a great way to walk away with some gifts as well.

These events are free and kids are welcome also.

Designer Duds also is

through Dec. 13. Different packages are available and can include photo discs, prints, greeting cards and Christmas outfits.

Call 734-331-2519 to reserve a spot.

#### Shop and Dine Time

The City of Westland has officially kicked off the sixth annual Shop and Dine Westland Holiday Campaign. A multifaceted marketing campaign, Shop and Dine Westland promotes the city's premier shopping district as a location that has "Everything you want. Everything you need" for everyone's holiday season shopping

list. Westland's Shop and Dine district is anchored by the Westland Shopping Center and is surrounded by more than 160 shops, restaurants and services. The city plans TV

Thanksgiving Day and a focus on female shoppers. The city's commercial, starring local resi-dent and 2008 Miss Michigan Ashlee Baracy, will run on popular cable stations. These commercials highlight and encourage shoppers to spend the day in Westland and enjoy the large selection of retails stores, fabulous restaurants and the state-ofthe-art MJR Theater. Radio ads will also be

Radio ads will also be hitting the air waves, and the city will utilize billboards on major freeways.

Back this year is "Wild About The Holidays!" This initiative will see Mayor William Wild playing the role of Santa as he greets customers at local stores and hands out gift cards to unsuspecting shoppers on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 28.





When it comes to building strategies that can help you reach long-term financial goals, you need someone you can count on. For more than 160 years, MassMutual financial professionals have helped businesses and families bring their dreams to life – and now, with the opening of MassMutual Southeast Michigan in Southfield, we're ready to start earning your trust. To learn more, contact us at our new office:

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LOCAL NEWS

hometownlife.com

# 7 stages of Facebook 'likes' addiction

#### "Likes."

Aren't they what Facebook is all about?

I mean, really. It's not like we have this burning desire to broadcast to the world our to-do lists, a photo of Aunt Mabe's rump roast, or the fact that little Susie possesses the innate talent to snort a Cheerio through her nose

OK, some people are overtaken by a burning desire to broadcast such information.



Courtne

Conover

GUEST

COLUMNIST

But for the vast majority of us, it's not these things that matter, per se. It's the validation and attention we receive for posting them.

And it's kind of

addictive. Which, when you think about it, is both silly and scary at the same time.

Here are the seven stages of Facebook "Likes" addiction:

1. Occurrence

Alright. First things first: Whether you just took some cookies out of the oven or you just hopped aboard a havride, before something can be elevated to Facebook post status, it has to happen in the first place.

2. Inspiration

Because we now live in a time where we post even the most mundane occurrence the milisecond after it's happened, this stage often happens before we consciously know it. In the case of the freshly baked chocolate cookies, we might get the urge to post a picture of them before the aroma even filters to the living room.

3. Expectation

This stage actually commences before we hit the post button. It is the little voice inside our head — the expectation — that whatever it is that we will post will not only garner the attention of our friends and followers, but that they will also care enough about it to "like" it.

4. Postation

No, it's not a real word. And, yes, I totally made it up. Postation is the act of posting our words or comments onto our Facebook page. This stage has been known to be accompanied by a bevy of emotions, ranging from pride to euphoria.

5. Anticipation

After something has inspired you to post — and you've done so — the only thing left to do is wait for



Chef Tony Paquette greets a friend who attended the buffet.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The room is packed for the annual feast.

**Thanksgiving buffet benefits** Wayne-Westland families

If success can be measured in the amount of leftovers, than this year's Thanksgiving Feast at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center was a huge success.

Put on by Chef Anthony Paquette, his staff and culinary arts students, the buffet brought together city and school officials and the public who enjoyed an early Thanksgiving dinner while helping the Wayne-Westland Family Resource Center

"It was a great turnout," Paquette said. "The need is always increasing, so this is great to see.'

This is the seventh year Paquette has staged the event. Guests paid \$10 each with the money going to purchase meal vouchers for hot Thanksgiving dinners for families in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

The menu included eight 22-24-pound turkeys, three 20pound hams, 200 pounds of potatoes, three full apple crisps made with 100 apples, 20 pies, six cheesecakes and 30 gallons of Chef Dave Hatten's always popular macaroni and cheese.

#### **Old friends**

"I'm really happy to see my old friends come back and visit," said Paquette who met guests as they came in the "This is part of what we do." door.

Many of the guests have been coming since Paquette started the buffet as a way of helping out in the community. Douglas Smith of Wayne has been attending three-four years and always tries to make an effort to be there.

'I didn't know where the money went until this year, I thought it went to culinary arts," he said. "Knowing makes this even better. You get a good meal and help a good cause."

Also a regular is Paul Motz, the director of Westland Youth Assistance.

"This is a nice community with a lot of great people," he said. "I see a lot of the city people here; it's nice to have them attend.'

According to Resource Center Director Amanda Dybus, the need for assistance among residents in the school district continues to rise, and with the help of Paquette and the Career Technical Center, the response from the community to that need continues to grow.

#### **Need increasing**

"This year the need is up, the number of people calling for information about the center and its services is up," she said. "It's vital for us to be able to provide food vouchers, and this is what we use to purchase them. Over the years, people have heard about this and it keeps expanding. Every year they come and it gets bigger and bigger.'

"This is so we can continue to do a good job of caring for each other," she added.

For Paquette, the buffet is just one of many activities his students are involved in. Upcoming is preparing food for the Wayne Goodfellows dinner and food for the Festival of Trees in Dearborn.

"I've been nicknamed the wizard for that one," he said. "We continue to stay busy. I have 100 kids enrolled and a lot want to learn to cook and be part of food service."

smason@hometownlife.com 734-674-2332 Twitter: @SusanMarieMason



ovember is Adoption Month, with Nov. 22 acting as National Adoption Day.

Adoption is the process by which a surrogate family legally gains custody

"likes" to come rolling in. Or so we hope.

6. Denial

This stage can go one of two ways and can basically be summarized by the following sentiments: What?!? I can't believe it. Ten "likes" in TWO minutes? This post is a gem!

You feel amazing.

Or.

What?!? I can't believe it. Only one "like?" It's been FIVE whole minutes. You feel like gum on the bottom of your shoe.

A few minutes later, the aforementioned thought is followed closely by ... Only ONE more "like." Even the pic Dan posted of his dead parrot got seven!

7. Denouement

Like the definition of the word itself, the denouement stage is the final resolution. The outcome. The end of the road for this particular post. And like #6, this phase is also like A Tale of Two Cities because it can either be fantastic or an epic fail, which, of course, is determined by the number of "likes."

If your post has attracted a ton, then, hooray for you, you're probably busy counting them like Monopoly play money or, if your post is really overachieving, you're replying to comments. But if you're still throwing shade over the fact that you've been trumped by Dan's dead parrot, you might feel like kicking your cat. And if you don't have a cat, you may be depressed enough to buy one solely for that purpose.

But in a matter of minutes, you'll cut your losses with this post and look forward to something else happening, which will set the vicious cycle into motion all over again.

And if you're overcome with the sudden urge to like something anything — you may start by clicking here to like The Brown Girl with Long Hair on Facebook: (facebook.com/thebrowngirlwithlonghair).

Yeah, shameless plug. Happy Facebooking!

Courtney Conover is a mom of two children, ages 1 and 3, and the wife of a former NFL offensive lineman. She has more Legos and NFL memorabilia lying around her home than she knows what to do with. She is also a certified yoga instructor and a contributing writer to the " Chicken Soup for the Soul' book series. She blogs at The Brown Girl with Long Hair (thebrowngirlwithlonghair.com/) and over-shares on Facebook (facebook.com/thebrowngirlwithlonghair).

of a child. On National Adoption Day, courts and communities in the United States work to finalize the adoptions of children in foster care.

Back in 2000, sponsors like the Alliance for Children's Rights, the Freddie Mac Foundation, and the Dave Thomas Foundation, among others, worked with state foster care agencies, law firms, child advocates, and courts to finalize adoptions in nine jurisdictions. By 2011, National Adoption Day was being celebrated nationwide. It is a collective national effort to raise awareness about adoption.

There are currently more than 100,000 children in foster care in the United States. A child in foster care waits an average of four years to be adopted. Nearly 50,000 children have been adopted on National Adoption Day since 2000, and last year, an estimated 4,500 children were adopted on

this special day, according to nationaladoptionday.org.



There are several amazing nonprofit organizations that raise awareness about adoption and adoptable children in foster care.

AdoptUsKids from the U.S. Children's Bureau and Wednesday's Child, put forth by the Dave Thomas Foundation, are two such efforts created by government and nonprofit agencies to further adoption in the United States.

Are you thinking about adoption? Learn more about the AdoptUsKids initiative at adoptuskids.org or visit Wednesday's Child on the web at wednesdayschild.davethomasfoundation.org. The Public Library of Westland also carries books about adoption, such as Adoption Nation: How the Adoption Revolution Is Transforming America by Adam Pertman or Inside Transracial Adoption by Gail Steinberg and Beth Hall. To search for books, use our online catalog at westlandlibrary.org.

#### **Highlighted Events**

Friday Night Movies: Pop-up History, 7 p.m. Nov. 21 — Join us tonight for a special Friday Night: Pop-Up History movie with the Westland Historical Commission's Jeff Koslowski. View a recently released movie and learn the history behind the movie on a side screen. An informal question and answer will occur after the movie. Tonight's movie, Saving Mr. Banks, is about a favorite children's author who "reflects on her childhood after reluctantly meeting with Walt Disney, who seeks to adapt her ... books for the big



NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

Monique Bush describes her adoption on Sept. 9, 1976, as "blessed." Her mother was "a wonderful pediatrician who raised me as a single parent. She gave me the best 31 years of my life until she passed away in 2007."

screen" (imdb.com). This movie is rated PG-13. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Youth Minecraft Club, 4-5:30 p.m. Nov. 22, kids under 12 — Join us as we play Minecraft on the Westland Library's multi-player server. If you don't have your own login but still want to play, still come; we'll get you started. We'll also have a fun Minecraft craft for you to do. Please note: Since this game is rated E10, players under 10 will be required to have a permission slip completed by a parent on the day of the event.

Kindergarten Book Club, 2 p.m. Nov. 22 — Join us as we read Alison Jack-son's book, I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie, talk about what we have read, and do a lot of other fun, book-related activities. This program does include a snack, so indicate any food allergies your child may have. Register for this program online, at the Youth Services Desk or by calling 734-326-6123.

Noontime Book Club, noon Nov. 25 Steve Hamilton, the Edgar Awardwinning author of the Alex McKnight series, tells the story of Michael, a young man who hasn't spoken since he was a child, in The Lock Artist. Limited number of copies will be available at the Reference Desk.

**Tween Writing Workshop**, 6 p.m. Nov. 26, Grades 5-8 — Do you like to write? If you're in grades 5-8, come to our Tween Writing Workshop. Each month, we'll explore different genres, play writing games, and, of course, write. This month, we'll focus on writing songfics. Do you have a favorite song that would be perfect inspiration for a story? Bring it to our next meeting.

No Academic Enrichment, Nov. 26

#### **Ongoing programming**

Job Seekers Lab, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays; 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays and 1-4 p.m. Friday --- Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an email account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job-related activity? Stop by the library, where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help. Drop in. No reservation needed.

Chess Group, 7-8:45 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays — Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to Chess Masters are all welcome. No signup required.

Computer Classes, including one-onone classes are offered all year long. Contact the library at 734-326-6123 to find out more.

The library also conducts several Storytimes for children each week, including Toddler Tales, Sleepytime Storytime, BabyTime, Preschool Storytime and Family Fun Storytime. Call the Youth Desk at 734-326-6123, ext. 2831, for more information or check out the website at westlandlibrary.org/ kids. No signup required.

The library will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26, and will remain closed on Thursday, Nov. 27, and Friday, Nov. 28, in celebration of Thanksgiving. We will resume our regular hours on Saturday, Nov. 29.

Information Central was compiled by Liz Waun. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call 734-326-6123 or visit westlandlibrary.org.

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ndrea Bocelli's

# 2014 U.S.A. Holiday Tour

An Invitation from Antonio Rugiero An Evening with Andrea Bocelli in Detroit

ny December



### 5:00 p.m. FULL COURSE DINNER AT ROMAN VILLAGE

Celebrate Andrea Bocelli in Detroit with dinner at Roman Village. Guests will enjoy the popular Spaghetti Carbonara "Alla Bocelli" a recipe that Andrea prepared himself in our kitchen.



6:30 p.m. **DEPART** for Joe Louis Arena to attend concert (on your own)

### 7:30 p.m. CONCERT (9th row- Main floor)



9:30 p.m. PRIVATE AFTERGLOW at Joe Louis Reception Room immediately following Concert





For tickets. contact Robin at Antonio's Canton 734-981-9800

# Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln MKS vehicles are Luxury for Less at Varsity Lincoln

By Greg Mullin Staff Writer

Varsity Lincoln of Novi's Lincoln MKS-A-THON is on.

The dealership offers no turkey, no stuffing, no pumpkin pie. Just great deals. More than 40 Lincoln MKS Certified Pre-Owned vehicles are onsite, ready to drive off the lot for as low as \$14,995.

Hurry over to Varsity Lincoln these next three days to catch the deals: » Thursday, Nov. 20,

8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. » Friday, Nov. 21, 8:30

a.m. to 6 p.m. » Saturday, Nov. 22,

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln MKS vehicles come with many bene-

fits, including: » A meticulous 200point inspection by factory-trained technicians

» 6-year/100,000-mile comprehensive warranty coverage

» Complimentary roadside assistance

Customers spoke for themselves, when detailing their experiences with the team at Varsity Lincoln.

"I have the MKS and I love, love, love the technology in it," exclaimed Lincoln MKS owner Latanya Tarleton, who has been a customer at Varsity Lincoln for 16 years. "I get the best service here. I never have to worry about anything," she continued about her Varsity Lincoln experience.

"There are numerous benefits of purchasing a Lincoln MKS, including the outstanding warranty that comes with the vehicles," conveyed Jere Law, Varsity Lincoln's General Sales Manager and Pre-Owned Director. "The 100,000-mile free bumper to bumper war<image>

More than 40 Lincoln MKS Certified Pre-Owned vehicles are on-site at Varsity Lincoln.

ranty that comes alongside all Certified Pre-Owned purchases is better than a new car warranty! Additionally, any time the vehicle is in for a service visit, you can receive a loaner for no cost exclusively at Varsity Lincoln!"

Loaded with features, the Lincoln MKS will satisfy any customer, Law explained.

"The Lincoln MKS provides a combination of sporty and luxury. Benefits include FWD or AWD, EcoBoost, Navigation, Bluetooth, SYNC, an adaptive suspension, a panoramic roof, and heated and cooled seats for comfort, just to name a few," Law detailed.

This model defines luxury that is incomparable in this price.

With Lincoln, most premium luxury features come standard, as opposed to paying additional for similar features on other comparable brands. "The Lincoln MKS stands alone in its class of vehicles," Law emphasized.

Drivers will also enjoy peace of mind from knowing that the Lincoln MKS will hold its value. "This model holds its value more than other models for many reasons," Law said. "Any depreciation has already been taken on by the previous owner. Plus, the advanced styling and dependability are advantageous add to the Lincoln MKS's value."

The MKS-A-Thon event showcases the Lincoln MKS which get an EPA-estimated 27 MPG and features models with EcoBoost.

"The Lincoln MKS's gas mileage, dependability and warranty make for a solid modern vehicle and overall excellent experience," Law stated. "The warranty is the key with all these cars; with Certified Pre-Owned, you get the best from Varsity Lincoln," Law said. Certified Pre-Owned financing is available for as low as 0.9% APR.\*

Varsity Lincoln is the number one dealer in the nation, based on 2013 Total New Retail Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction, per a Lincoln sales report.

"Leasing or buying from the number one dealer in the country gives you the best selection, price and service," Law expressed. "Our dealership is ready for

any situation that may arise, whether it is special financing or a specific request. We can handle every unique situation."

"Our customers speak for themselves and how their experience is. When you read the reviews our customers write online, you can see how happy they are before, during and after the sale," Law concluded.

\*0.9% APR for 36 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details.





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# Aging baby boomers at risk for dementia, Alzheimer's disease

**By Sue Buck** Staff Writer

The number of people diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease is growing.

The Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter is hoping to eliminate the disease through research while providing support.

"Almost 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease," said Theresa Russo, a representative of The Alzheimer's Association. "Every 57 seconds, somebody in our nation develops the disease. About 170,000 Michiganders are living with Alzheimer's.

Alzheimer's is the only cause of death among the top 10 diseases leading to death that cannot be prevented or even slowed.

"By 2050, the people affected by the disease are expected to be as high as 15 million," Russo said

She spoke recently at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City

People age 65 and older have a 10-percent risk of developing Alzheimer's disease. Baby boomers born from 1946 to 1964 are especially



BILL BRESLER I STAFE PHOTOGRAPHER Theresa Russo talks about the challenges of diagnosing and living with Alzheimer's disease

vulnerable.

"People are living longer," Russo said. "We are getting better about treating disease but not Alzheimer's disease.'

Experts say that Alzheimer's disease alone can bankrupt the Medicare system because of how expensive it is.

There's a difference between normal aging and the onset of Alzheimer's disease. Minor memory lapses, like making a bad decision once in a while, missing a monthly payment or losing

things from time to time, aren't a cause for concern. People can usually retrace their steps to locate a lost item.

Someone with Alzheimer's might forget the year or the decade, Russo said. "They cannot remember things which happened recently. They may remember childhood memories.

Warning signs are memory changes which disrupt daily life, routine and activities. The person may continue to repeat questions again and again. There are challenges in solving problems or balancing a checkbook.

Different factors are considered with diagno-

sis. "Physicians will look at whether you are having problems doing something that you could do easily before," she said.

There are red flags. Some people may take two hours to get home

from work when before it only took them 20 minutes. They might think that they have to go home and cook dinner for their children when, in fact, their children are grown. Sometimes the patient may forget whether they themselves have eaten.

There are other indicators like not dressing properly for cold weath-

"It's a change from the way the person was before," Russo said.

types of dementia and Alzheimer's disease is just one of them," she said. "Alzheimer's accounts for 50-70 percent

of dementias." Interventions and treatments are different for specific types of dementia and formal diagnosis by an experienced clinician is required.

"Everything that we do is controlled by the brain," Russo said.

In Alzheimer's, the brain atrophies and the atrophy begins to spread. In the late stages, there is difficulty swallowing.

She suggests keeping a specific log of activities to show the physician. Family history isn't always a determination of risk, she said.

There's also a younger onset dementia like frontal temporal disorder among those in their 40s and 50s. They have different challenges than someone with Alzheimer's disease.

"Often that person is fired from work and that is an early indication that there is a problem," Rus-so said. "Another early sign may be very aberrant behavior like infidelity or very outlandish behavior that the person didn't exhibit before.'

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER The lunchtime crowd at the Maplewood Center listens to Theresa Russo.

> Denise Carlson, a Garden City resident, said that her sister has dementia now.

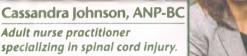
"My mother-in-law had dementia, too," she said. "She was a lively and active person and suddenly she didn't know anybody.'

Russo said that having dementia is not a precursor to Alzheimer's.

The health of caregivers is also at risk and there can be higher mortality rates and chronic diseases among caregivers than with the person who has dementia, Russo said. "Research shows that it takes a dramatic toll on your physical and mental health."

For more information about Alzheimer's disease, call 800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org/gmc

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Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan cept applications for Novi Center

Clarenceville offers Schools of Choice for 2nd semester The Clarenceville students in kindergarten School District will acthrough 12th grades will be available.

ning Dec. 1. If, at the close of the application window at

about Jan. 7. Questions regarding the schools of choice

er. Dementia is an umbrella term. "There are 60 or 70



minited Schools of Choice for the second semester of the 2014-15 school year Dec. 1-19. Limited openings for

Applications will be available in the superintendent's office or may be downloaded from the district's website begin-

3:30 p.m. Dec. 19, there are more applications than slots available, a lottery for placement will take place on or

program may be direct ed to the superintendent's office at 248-919-0250

4



2.

# Marine Corps' toy drive relies on volunteers

#### By Julie Brown Staff Writer

Each Christmas season, volunteers locally and throughout the U.S. work with members of the U.S. Marine Corps on Toys for Tots, which began in 1947. Residents are encouraged to donate new, unwrapped toys for children at area drop boxes.

Rebecca Perelli Yarbrough of Novi is a volunteer regional area coordinator for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots. She is in her 28th year of Toys for Tots volunteering.

"Children are our most important asset," she said of her work with all Toys for Tots efforts volunteer.

She told her dad about her son, now 21, who has worked on Toys for Tots all these years, too. Yarbrough couldn't give up volunteering when she saw the look on her son's face as he opened Christmas presents.

"Look at that face. I put that on 100,000 kids. Everything you do good in life comes back to you," she said. "Reward-



HAL GOUL PHOTOGRAPHER

Marines, including colleagues of Sgt. Shawn King, are key to the Toys for Tots drive, which dates back to 1947. A number of civilian volunteers also contribute many hours of time and effort.

ing is a small word compared to what it is."

Yarbrough's communities include South Lyon, Novi, Northville, Plymouth, Canton, Salem, Farmington, Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield and Milford.

In early November, Yarbrough was putting in eight-nine hours a day on Toys for Tots four days a week. That steps up to 15-hour days by mid-November when the volunteers get into their warehouse.

Those interested in volunteering can email Yarbrough, with sorting opportunities heavy in December after the warehouse gets set up in November.

"We've got some wonderful events coming up," Yarbrough said. Scouts assist with toy drives each year, there are pancake breakfasts, and many businesses sponsor Toys for Tots events.

"Oakland County is a stellar contributor to the program," she said. "They have always come through. It is just fantastic. Every year it overwhelms me."

Toys for Tots donation canisters are around town, too, and donations are also welcome online. Yarbrough said local community needs are first met, with additional donated toys then shifted to nearby needy areas.

"The goal is to put the toys out in the kids" hands," she said, adding some volunteers work year-round on drives to guarantee sufficient tovs.

The general cutoff age is 13, but volunteers try to accommodate teens who have younger siblings receiving toys, and ask about that on the application.

"Personally in my own heart they are the ones we need to connect with," Yarbrough said of the teens. "They get lost in the shuffle."

She's also requesting limited stuffed animals due to their harboring germs. Yarbrough noted that to request help you should visit the www.toysfortots.org website home page and click on the "Request Toys" tab.

She's seeking additional help with vehicles, such as a truck or cargo van. Dick Scott is donating a minivan, one of many business supporters the organizers appreciate.

Toys for Tots is a 67year-old national charitable program run by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, and provides happiness and hope to disadvantaged children during each Christmas holiday season. The toys, books and other gifts collected and distributed by the Marines offer these children recognition, confidence and a positive memory for a lifetime.

It is such experiences that help children become responsible citizens and caring members of their community, according to the Marine Corps website. Last year, the Marine Corps fulfilled the holiday hopes and dreams of 6.8 million less fortunate children in 762 communities nationwide. Since 1947, over 223 million children have been assisted.

"I think they're vital to the program," Yarbrough said of Marines, who staff some Toys for Tots events when not handling military duties. She added some families celebrate holidays other than Christmas.

"Our communities are very diverse culturally and socially," she said, with the goal to reach all kids in need. Volunteer Nakii Ad-

ams is at NAdams.T4T@gmail.com and handles Belleville, Inkster, Livonia, Romulus, Sumpter, Wayne, and Westland. Adams has limited telephone hours at 586-789-2164.

Volunteer Phil Smith is at PSmithToysfor-Tots@gmail.com and 586-770-7196. Smith handles Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, and Redford.

If you are unable to contact a local area point of contact, contact coordinator Marine Staff Sgt. Scott Bare at 586-549-9238 or Scott.Bare.T4T@ gmail.com. Checks payable to the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation are welcome at Toys for Tots Marine Coordinator, (ATTN) Marine Coordinator, 1st Bn 24th Marines, Selfridge Air National Guard Base. 27601 C St, Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

A wealth of information can be found on the www.toysfortots.org website. Organizers note that if you do not see your community listed, you should visit www.detroit-mi.toysfortots.org or www.trenton-mi.toysfortots.org.

# Tips for a safe holiday season

It's no surprise that as the holiday season approaches, family and friends gather to celebrate. With more cooking, decorating and rituals that include candles and open flames, the risk of house fires increase drastically during the month of December.

These holiday traditions can all lead to a devastating house fire when there are young children in the home. The U.S. Fire Administration reports there are approximately 128,700 fires during this festive month that account for 415 deaths and 1,650 injuries.

Burn awareness According to Dr.

GETTY IMAGES/FLICKR OPEN For safety consider using battery-operated, flameless candles.

tree in your home, keep it well watered and remove it after the holiday or when it becomes

dry. Holiday lighting:  » Keep a pan lid or cookie sheet nearby to cover the pan if it catches on fire.
 Be Prepared: To pro-

tect your loved ones,

care to children, regardless of a family's ability to pay. Each state-ofthe-art burn facility is staffed and equipped to provide reconstructive and restorative surgery for healed burns, as well as treatments for various other skin conditions.

The gift of prevention: The holiday season is a great time to spread safety awareness to all of your family and friends. Here are some gift ideas to present to loved ones, stuff stockings or to tuck under the tree:

**» Escape ladder:** The National Fire Protection Association recommends homeowners keep one escape ladder in each room located above the ground floor. Many models are built to stow easily under the bed or in the closet.

### Give something that means something – blood or platelets

The American Red Cross is asking eligible donors to give something that means something this holiday season — a lifesaving blood donation.

Blood donations often decline this time of year when donors get busy with holiday festivities and travel. Severe winter weather and seasonal illnesses, like the flu, can also have a serious impact on blood donations, but the need for blood remains steady. On average, the Red Cross must collect 15,000 blood prod ucts every day for patients across the country. Eligible donors with all types are needed, especially those with O negative, A negative and B negative. To learn more about donating blood and to schedule an appointment, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Grade School, 1621 Linwood Ave.

Southfield — Dec. 15, 6:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., Providence Hospital, 16001 W. Nine Mile Road. Canton Township — Dec. 15, 2:30-8:15 p.m.,

Dec. 15, 2:30-8:15 p.m., Gallimore Elementary, 8375 Sheldon.

Livonia — Dec. 11, 6 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile; Dec. 13, 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., Eddie Edgar Arena, 33841 Lyndon; Dec. 14, 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., Newburgh United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail.

Westland — Dec. 7, 8

David Herndon, M.D., with Shriners Hospitals for Children in Galveston, Texas, there are three types of pediatric burns that are common during the holidays. They include scalds from steam or hot liquids, contact with heat or flames and electrical burns. Understanding these common injuries and how to avoid them can help your family to stay safe this season.

#### Holiday fire safety tips

Look out for loved ones and prepare for the holiday ahead with these simple fire safety tips from Shriners Hospitals for Children:

Holiday decorations: Make sure your tree is at least 3 feet away from heat sources such as fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents.

» If you have a live

Publish: November 20, 2014

Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots and excessive kinking or wear before use.

» Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet.

**Candle care:** Consider using battery-operated, flameless candles.

» Never leave lit candles unattended. When using lit candles, make sure they are in stable holders and placed where they cannot be knocked down easily.

**Holiday Cooking:** Cooking is the primary cause of home fires and fire injuries, so keep an eye on what you fry.

» Stand by your pan and turn pot handles toward the back of the stove so children cannot reach them.

» Wear short sleeves or roll up long sleeves when cooking. make sure your home is equipped with working smoke alarms and fire extinguishers. The holiday season is a great time to change the batteries in your smoke alarms and to check fire extinguishers.

Have an escape plan for your family and always cook with care. Most importantly, if you or your child experiences a burn, consult a physician immediately.

**Expert pediatric burn care:** Since Shriners Hospitals for Children entered the burn care field, the survival rate for children with burns over more than 50 percent of their body surface has doubled. Today, patients with burns over 90 percent can survive, and go on to lead full, productive lives.

These hospitals provide critical, surgical and rehabilitative burn » Smoke detector: Some new smoke detectors offer advanced technologies, including a text message alert when a risk is detected or batteries are running low.

**» Flameless candles:** While a candle is always a classic gift, a flameless candle is a safer way to add ambiance to a room.

**» Fire extinguisher:** This safety equipment makes a great addition for the kitchen, garage or wood shop.

**» Batteries:** Fill those stockings with plenty of batteries to ensure smoke detectors are in working order for many months to come.

BBB

– Courtesy of Family Features Upcoming blood donation opportunities include:

Farmington Hills — Dec. 9, 1-6:45 p.m., St. John Lutheran, 23225 Gill Road.

Milford — Dec. 2, 8 a.m. to 7:45 p.m., Milford YMCA, 300 Family Drive.

Novi — Dec. 14, 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Prime Care of Novi, 39555 W. 10 Mile. Royal Oak — Dec. 4-5, 7 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., Beau-

mont Health Ŝystem, 3601 W. 13 Mile Road; Dec. 14, 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., Shrine Catholic a.m. to 1:45 p.m., St. Damian Catholic Church, 29825 Joy Road.

Farmington Hills Blood Donation Center — Monday and Thursday, 12:45-6:45 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., 31150 Haggerty, Farmington Hills.

Livonia Blood Donation Center — Monday-Thursday, 12:45-6:45 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., 36650 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

To donate blood, simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients.

For more information, visit redcross.org or Twitter at @RedCross.

#### 2015 FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING DATES

NOTICE OF SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF <u>THE WESTLAND FIRE AND</u> <u>POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION</u> TO BE HELD DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 14, 2015 AND ENDING DECEMBER 9, 2015:

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE MEETINGS OF THE WESTLAND FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE WESTLAND FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND, 36300 WARREN ROAD, WESTLAND, MICHIGAN, (734) 467-3190, WILL HOLD REGULAR MEETINGS AT THE FOLLOWING DATES, TIMES AND PLACES DURING THE 2015 YEAR IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
01/14/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
02/11/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
03/11/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
04/08/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
05/13/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
06/10/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
07/08/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
08/12/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
09/09/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
10/14/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
11/18/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD
12/09/15	8:00A.M.	WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD

PROPOSED MINUTES OF EACH OF THE MEETINGS LISTED ABOVE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS AT WESTLAND CITY HALL, 36300 WARREN ROAD, WESTLAND, MICHIGAN, NOT MORE THAN EIGHT BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SAID MEETING, AND APPROVED MINUTES OF EACH MEETING WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, AT THE SAME LOCATION, NOT MORE THAN FIVE BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE MEETING AT WHICH THE MINUTES ARE APPROVED.

THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN IN COMPLIANCE WITH ACT NO. 267 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF MICHIGAN, 1976.

EILEEN DEHART-SCHOOF, CMC WESTLAND CITY CLERK



**Aspen**Dental



Minimum savings is based on a comprehensive earnin and full X-ray series; to fuller for texture earning and y-rays, a finiminatio value, Minimum savings is based on a comprehensive earnin and full X-ray series; the value of the savings will vary based on doctor recommendation. Discounts cannot be combined with other offers or dental discound plans. 'Denture Money Back Guarantee applies to all full and partial dentures and covers the cost of the denture(s) only. Refund request must be submitted within 90 days after insert of final denture or hard reline. Denture(s) must be returned within 90 days after refund request date. Offer(s) must be presented at first visit. Offers expire I/31/15. ©2014 Aspen Dental Management, Inc.

#### A12 (WG) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **OPINION**

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

#### **OUR VIEW**

# Family caregivers are our unsung heroes

It is appropriate that National Family Care-givers Month shares November with the tradi-tional Thanksgiving holiday. While being thankful for all that we have, this month is a special time to recognize, praise and give thanks to the 42 million Americans - 2.1 million in Michigan who help care for aging parents, spouses and oth-er loved ones so they can remain at home rather than in often-costly institutions. Consider that in Michigan family caregivers

provide 1.4 billion hours of unpaid care each year. That care, which amounts to about \$16 billion annually, includes caring for loved ones in their homes. The so-called sandwich generation men and women who are still raising their children or financially supporting grown children, while caring for aged parents — is living a time-consuming, stressful and financially straining reality.

The important role family caregivers provide cannot be dismissed or taken lightly. Indeed, in American society, these caregivers are our unsung heroes.

Often faced with no other choice, a woman (typically) — if not caring for a loved one around the clock — will spend an average 20 hours per week providing assistance, usually to at least one or more aging parents, in their home.

And many caregivers provide this assistance while maintaining careers or, in many cases, giv-ing up careers to ensure quality care, further putting a hefty strain on families' financial health.

According to AARP, care-giving as the norm in family dynamics will only continue, particularly as America's largest population, the Baby Boomers — those in the post World War II generation — head into deep old age.

Yet, the Baby Boomer generation is also the one hardest hit by job loss and salary reduction in the country's - especially Michigan's - latest economic recession. Many in this generation are still putting their children through college, while their parents have reached the point in their lives where they need help and more intensive care.

AARP Michigan, which recognizes the changing dynamics of families, caregivers and sick or elderly parents, conducted a survey this summer of voters 50 and older. The results are not that surprising.

The survey showed that four of every five Michiganders want to live independently in their own homes as they age. Results also showed that it is family members who step up to provide assistance to maintain a loved one's independence. Assistance includes bathing, dressing, meal preparation, managing finances, transportation

# Enjoy face time with an extra plate at Thanksgiving

All the hubbub about shopping and Thanksgiving Day isn't new to the holiday. While this year some retailers

**OUR VIEWS** 

are promoting special hours for early shoppers on Thanksgiving, others are declining what ap-pears to be a growing trend. With a favorable response from buyers in prior years to opening on Thanksgiving, more retailers are responding by opening on the holiday or increasing the number of hours they are open. The en-ticement, of course, are special deals.

The enticement back in 1939 for President Franklin D. Roosevelt was not necessarily special deals, but the need to kick-start the shopping season — and the U.S. economy — by changing the date for Thanksgiving to the second to last Thursday in November.

That lasted until 1941; since 1942, the holiday has been cele-brated the last Thursday of November, a date set by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863.

Maybe we should be thankful that there is a Thanksgiving Day at all. The pilgrims had a pretty tough time their first winter in Plymouth, with more than half dying, according to various on-line websites. They could have been wiped out, if it weren't for the Wampanoag Indians, who traded their food in exchange for defense against rival Indian tribes.

That first Thanksgiving in 1621 reportedly featured a lot different menu — no cranberries nor potatoes, for instance, but plenty of seafood - than today's feast.

What was the same was that the pilgrims had guests over, namely the Indians, and that it was a celebration to mark the pilgrims' first autumn harvest. Those traditions continue

There is always room for an extra place setting at the Thanksgiving table.

today, as families pull up extra chairs and put a "leaf" or two in the table to extend its length and accommodate guests and special dishes, though not quite the five deer that the Indians brought to the original feast.

What has become tenuous for this holiday is the part about giving thanks and, for some families, that there is a Thanksgiving dinner at all. In this economy, even if you do have a job, it likely pays less or you are underemployed, meaning maybe not working full time or working at a low-paying job.

Enter Scary Mommy Nation. No, this is not some video left over from Halloween, it is a 501(c)3 charitable online organization that arose out of the concern of some mothers who worried that they would not be able to put much of anything on their Thanksgiving tables.

The result is that in just a few years, through online donations, the group has helped about 4,500 families survive Thanksgiving. Now that's talking turkey.

The number of those who could use some help, whether through a local church pantry or the more comprehensive Forgotten Harvest, can be overwhelming. But as Mother Teresa said, "If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."

FILE PHOTO

This Thanksgiving, there are families and individuals in our hometowns who would consider it a really big deal of a different sort to have a hot meal.

There is still time to make a donation to that food pantry or to extend an invitation to a neighbor to join in the family fare. There is always room for one more plate.

Thanksgiving continues to evolve. Most of the food we eat we have not grown or raised ourselves, but the constant - and real point — – of Thanksgiving is a celebration that involves family and friends.

And that is something to be thankful for.

After all, all that shopping on Thanksgiving would be pointless if there were no people to receive those gifts.

#### LETTERS

#### **Voters and education**

I would like to respond to two letters printed in the Thursday Observer. First, Skip Wehrle, an obvious Democrat, said that the voters haven't spoken because of the influence of PAC money and negative ads. All the money spent by outside interests do not mark one oval on a ballot. Mr. Wehrle gives a pass to the voters, saying how does anyone avoid the negative ads? The answer is simple. Think for yourself. What does a candidate say, and more importantly, what doesn't he say? Schauer said nothing to flesh out his "plans," repeated lies debunked by the media, yet got almost half the vote. I would sav that is on the electorate. Secondly, the letter from Al Churchill decried the state of education in this and other countries using vouchers. Then he cites the success of Finnish schools, and says we should emulate them. Doing a little research finds that Finland's success has to do with their education being culture based. The population is for all intents and purposes, white. Finnish and Swedish. Blacks make up less than 0.60 percent of the population. The curriculum focuses mainly on critical thinking and problem solving, project-based learning and how to learn. There is a lot of collaboration in the classroom. Now, who are the teachers? Only 1 in 10 primary school teacher applicants are accepted. It is harder to get into a primary school education program than it is to get into a medical program. What do those teachers earn? The starting wage in U.S. dollars is \$30,587, \$38,000 after 15 years, and maxing out at \$40,000 for primary school teachers. The top pay for secondary school teachers is \$45,900. All teachers are required to pass a three-year master's program. How many hours of education do the students receive? 680 hours in primary, 595 in lower secondary and 553 in upper secondary, per year. Plus the kids start preschool programs at age 3.

#### **SEND US YOUR** VIEWS

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats: Web: www.hometownlife.com Mail: Letters to the Editor, Wayne-Westland and Garden City Observer Newspapers, 29725 Hudson Dr., Novi, MI 48377-1736 Email: smason@hometownlife.com. Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Garden City which stated that I "Cannot Blow leaves into Street." Further I have "five (5) days" to "abate" said nuisance or else I will have to pay "all costs charged" as a "special assess-

and grocery shopping. While the survey also showed that 80 percent of those polled either have been caregivers in the past, are currently or expect to take on the role in the future, 73 percent also wanted political candidates to address care-giving issues.

Let's not forget what care-giving means today. Formerly the task of doctors and nurses, family caregivers provide complex medication management, injections and wound care, not to mention meeting the emotional, psychological and social needs to provide elderly family members with quality lives.

Understanding the difficulties faced by family caregivers, AARP Michigan wants a common sense solution. It is called the Caregiver, Advise, Record, Enable Act — also known as CARE — to be addressed in the state Legislature's new session beginning in January. The bill offers three important provisions:

» That the name of the family caregiver is recorded when a loved one is admitted into a hospital.

» That the family caregiver is notified if the loved one is to be discharged to another facility or back home.

» That the facility must provide an explanation and in-person instruction of the medical tasks the family caregiver must perform at home

AARP Michigan also wants nurses to be given more authority to heal and to ensure that commu-nity resources are available, including home care and adult day care. Equally important is the need for caregivers to receive training, help at home and workplace protections, AARP Michigan said.

The CARE bill is a step in the right direction that state lawmakers must embrace in the new legislative season. Providing care is not an easy task and caregivers must be supported with re-sources and easier access to provide the needed tasks required today.

No one really wants to recognize that their lifetimes are growing short. But elderly family members and even those headed in that direction must provide direction and information to potential caregivers about what they want for their lives, including designating a patient advocate.

While training for caregivers is essential, it is equally important that caregivers are armed with the legal permission to provide care and to make decisions, including financial. Otherwise, medical personnel who stand outside the family circle will make those decisions, often not what the patient or caregiver wants, but want is expedient and cost-effective for the medical industry.



Sue Mason, **Community Editor** Susan Rosiek, **Executive Editor** 

Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

So how does Finland pay for education? The top tax rate is 51.5 percent. The sales tax is 24 percent. Also, there is an additional 1-2 percent tax, if you are a member of one of the two main churches.

So could the Finnish model work here? Not a chance. Our culture rewards failure, and it is drifting to punish success. Mark J. Czajka Garden City

#### A grateful community

The Garden City community members who received the turkeys and the bags were extremely grateful!

When I arrived at Burger East to open Cougars Care Cafe at 8:20 a.m. Saturday, people were already in a line wrapped in sleeping bags. The need in our community is growing. To the Key Club for coor-

dinating the bags of goodies, those who donated to the project and Gordon Chevrolet for their generous donation of 100 turkeys, all of you are making a positive difference in Garden City.

The older people who attend the cafe are always amazed by our thoughtful, caring students volunteering to make the meal or working the food and clothing pantry.

Thanks again to everyone. I hope your Thanksgiving will be as happy as those you helped this weekend.

> Michelle Cline Superintendent Garden City Schools

#### No leaves in street

Two days ago my 18-year-old son (who is in charge of leaves) said to me, "When are all our leaves going to fall? I don't want to do it twice!'

I came home today to find a little, green notice stuck to my door from A. DiMichele, Code Ordinance Officer, DPS, City of

ment as provided in 1983 Code 92.05."

I took photos just after finding the notice on my door. They show that although I do have leaves, the majority are bright yellow in color and not dried out and therefore must have fallen shortly before the photo was taken. Further, the leaves were clearly not blown into the street, which, by the way, is not a city ordinance listed in 1983 Code 92.05. (I checked.)

I looked across the street and saw leaves in the street. Neither of my "leafy" neighbors received little, green notices from A. DiMichele. I am left wondering why I did. Though I have no idea who A. DiMichele is, did I do something to offend him/her? Did one of my neighbors call on me for some reason? If so, is A. DiMichele not able to notice that my bright yellow leaves indicate that they must have fallen recently? Did A. DiMichele not notice that my neighbors' dried up leaves blew into the street also - one neighbor's obviously intentionally and the other's not?

Why me, A. DiMichele? Wendy Grzych

Garden City

#### Thank you, volunteers

I would like to thank the volunteers who did the fall cleanup in the flower beds and large flower pots near the Garden City Public Library.

On Wednesday, Nov. 5 —a mild fall day with lots of sunshine ——the following people pulled up the dead annuals, cut down the perennials and raked up lots of yard waste: Lynn Cox and Janet Smith from the Garden City Library Board, Gail Hodge and Susan Trottier from the Friends of the Garden City Public Library, my husband Paul Bailey, a Garden Čity resident, and my childhood friend Patricia Collins, also from Garden City.

I want to give a special thank you to husband Paul who came early to help me get started on all the work plus at the end he placed many bags of yard waste into our van, later taking all these bags to the front of our house so that they could be picked up by the rubbish company.

> Nancy Bailey Garden City Library Board

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#### **INSIDE:** ENTERTAINMENT, B6 • FOOD, B7 • CLASSIFIED, B9

SECTION B (WGRL) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM SPORTS

ED WRIGHT, EDITOR EWRIGHT@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 734-578-2767

# Livonia Churchill icers are young and ambitious

#### By Ed Wright Staff Writer

When Livonia Churchill's hockey team takes the ice for the first time this season Friday night in Novi, it will be decked out in black, red, white and...green.

The green won't be visible on the Chargers' uniforms, but it will definitely show up on the the team's roster, which is loaded with young skaters.

"This is one of the youngest teams Churchill has had in several years," noted head coach Jason Reynolds. "We've been graduating seniors at such a high rate the past few years, we knew there would come a time to rebuild with a young core, and this is the year. "What's exciting about it is that our new players are very energetic, enthusiastic and hard-working. The positive attitude they're bringing to the program has had a unifying effect."

The Chargers finished a brutally-tough 2013-14 schedule with a 9-16-2 mark, but they did manage to win the KLAA South Division with a 5-5-1 mark.

Key returners from that squad include senior captain Dylan Smith, a top-line center, whose dynamic skills and leadership abilities are high on Reynolds' list of positives.

"Dylan has evolved not only as a highly-skilled player, but as a great leader as well," said

See CHURCHILL, Page B3



Livonia Churchill junior forward Sam Spayd (left) handles the puck in front of sophomore goalie Drew Broyles during Tuesday's practice.



#### New SC soccer coach

Schoolcraft College has selected Dave Carver as its new women's soccer coach, succeeding Deepak Shivraman. Carver currently is an assistant coach for the Schoolcraft men's soccer team, a position held since 2011.

He also serves as head coach for the AC Milan Detroit Soccer Club, which gives him comprehensive experience with age group programs designed to meet the needs of U7 to U18 boys and girls, according to a press release distributed by Schoolcraft.

"I am ecstatic about Dave accepting this position given his breadth of soccer proficiency originating in England and now being exhibited in the Livonia area,' noted Schoolcraft athletic director Sid Fox in the release. "His level of enthusiasm and passion for the game is only matched by his qual-itative teaching and coaching skills, which sets him apart from his peers.

Carver, a Novi resident, relished his time as a studentathlete while participating on the soccer team at Schoolcraft College in 2009.

As a student athlete that year, Carver led the Ocelots to the NJCAA National Championships. He also served as team captain in 2010 before graduating with an associate's degree in liberal arts.

# Baseball clinic

Livonia Clarence-

Livonia Stevenson hockey players faced off in a spirited scrimmage Tuesday afternoon, one day before their season-opening contest against Birmingham Brother Rice.

# **BLUE-COLLAR SPARTANS**

Stevenson icers stocked with talented, hard-working players

ED WRIGHT Livonia Stevenson forward Nate Sudek pushes the puck toward the goal during Tuesday afternoon's practice session at Eddie Edgar Arena.



#### By Ed Wright Staff Writer

With the graduation of its high-scoring and highly-acclaimed "Production Line," Livonia Stevenson's hockey team will turn to a blue-collar "assembly-line" approach this season.

Tagged the "Production Line" after accounting for close to 70 percent of the Spartans' goals during the 2013-14 campaign, Devin Kelly, Dom Lutz and Tyler Irvine have moved on to junior hockey, leaving the scoring duties on the shoulders of a number of blue-collar forwards, including four-year player and team captain Michael "Mick" Sinclair and alternate captain Ben Kowalske.

ED WRIGHT

"Mick has certainly earned the right to lead this team," said Stevenson head coach David Mitchell, who steered the Spartans to a Division 2 state title in 2013 and a regional final berth last season. "He's a smart player and a great character kid whose hard work rubs off on the rest of his team. I'm excited to see what he's going to do for us this season.

"Ben is a junior and threeyear player – another highcharacter kid – who leads by example. They're both out-

See SPARTANS, Page B3

ville will be hosting a six-week baseball camp starting Jan. 17. Trojans head baseball coach Craig Cotter will direct the program in conjunction with U.S. Baseball Academy.

Classes are available for players in grades one-12 and are limited to six players per coach. Sessions are offered in advanced hitting, pitching, catching, fielding and base-running. To register, visit www.usbaseball academy.com or call 1-866-622-4487.

# Softball clinic

Livonia Churchill will be hosting a series of softball clinics on Nov. 15 (noon to 2:30 p.m.), Nov. 21 (7-9:30 p.m.) and Dec. 6 (noon to 2:30 p.m.) and on four Saturdays in January and February

ary. The cost of the clinics is \$5 per day and pre-registration is required. For more information, send an email to chuchillsoftball@gmail.com or call 734-776-1716.

# Reporting results

Local high school athletic coaches are encouraged to report results of their team's contests to Observer sports editor Ed Ŵright, who can be reached at 734-578-2767 or ewright@hometownlife.com. The deadline for Sunday editions of the Observer is Friday at 10 p.m. The deadline for Thursday editions is Tuesday at 10 p.m.

# Patriots turning the corner in Gagnon's 3rd year

Franklin looking to make some noise in KLAA South Division

#### By Ed Wright Staff Writer

Entering his third season as the Livonia Franklin head hockey coach, Dennis Gagnon can finally see the light – and he's confident it's the red flashing one that goes off after the Patriots score a goal.

Following an eight-win 2013-14 campaign, the Patriots are entering a stage in the program's rebuilding process that brings Gagnon assurance that it is not only turning the corner, but skating full speed ahead. "We have 15 returning players this year, which makes it so much easier to prepare the team for the season," said Gagnon, a former Franklin player who played on four men's national amateur teams before trading in his goalie stick for a coaching whistle a few years ago. "The kids know our system now, which makes practices more fun and more constructive. We don't have to work on the little things as much."

When asked to elaborate on the Patriots' strengths heading into the 2014-15 campaign, Gagnon immediately mentioned his team's goal-tending tandem of senior Matt Monendo and junior Brian Hubbard. "They're both very solid back

See PATRIOTS, Page B2



Livonia Franklin goal-tender Matt Monendo goes low to stop a shot during Tuesday afternoon's practice session.

#### **PREP PROFILE**

# Whitney makes powerful first impression with Patriots

Former AAA hockey player adds punch to Franklin's attack

#### **By Ed Wright** Staff Writer

The steadily rebuilding Livonia Franklin hockey program added much more than just a brick in the wall when it welcomed junior Brendan Whitney into the fold earlier this fall.

An impactful forward for the AAA Redford Kings last year, Whitney decided to travel the high school route this season - and his choice has been met by rave reviews from everyone associated with the Patriots, foremost head coach Dennis Gagnon.

Even though he had yet to play an official game in a Franklin uniform, Whitney was named the team's captain during the pre-season - an honor that rarely goes to a first-year

player on a team. "This is a great group of guys and we're all working hard to keep this team moving in the right direction," said Whitney. "Coach Gagnon was very supportive of me coming here, plus I knew a lot of the guys on the team, which helped.

"There was a time when Franklin hockey wasn't always thought of as a positive thing, but with the new coaching staff and the new players we have coming in, this is turning into an up-and-coming team. I'm very happy to be a part of it.

While finances played a role in Whitney's switch, his move to the prep hockey ranks wasn't all about the money.

**ED WRIGHT** 

Livonia Franklin junior forward Brendan Whitney has made an instant impact in his first season with the Patriots' hockey program.

"My family will probably save about five grand with me playing high school hockey, but that was just one of the reasons I switched," he said. "I wanted to play for my school and play with the guys I go to school with."

Whitney said his games-played schedule will be reduced from 60-something to 20-something, but he's cool with that.

"The coaches said I can still get the same exposure (to college coaches) playing here as I could playing AAA, with a lot less traveling," he said.

Hockey has been Whitney's favorite sport since he first started skating at the age of 4. "You make the best

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friends of your life playing hockey," he said. "There's nothing else like hockey. I love it." Whitney said he has been impressed by his new team's attitude during pre-season training.

This is a very motivated group of players," he said. "We know what we have to do to win and we're going to do whatever it takes to get it done."

The owner of a 4.27 grade-point average and a passion for chemistry and physics, Whitney said intelligence definitely helps on the ice. "Everything happens so fast out there, you

have to be able to see all your options and pick the best one," he said.

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#### **COLLEGE CROSS COUNTRY**

# Churchill grads set for **NAIA championships**

Standout harriers to compete in Kansas

> **By Ed Wright** Staff Writer

A trio of former Livonia Churchill women's cross country standouts will be holding an impromptu reunion Saturday at, of all of places, **Rim Rock Farm in Law**rence, Kansas.

**Drawing ex-Charger** harriers Bethany Pilat, Sydney Anderson and Kerigan Riley together on the plains of America's heartland is the 35th annual National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Women's National Cross Country Championship.

Pilat, a junior at Olivet Nazarene University in Illinois, recently placed fourth in her school's conference race with a time of 18 minutes and 36 seconds.

Riley, a sophomore at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana, is a topseven runner for the Trojans while Anderson, a sophomore at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, will serve as an alternate for the talent-stocked

Saints "It will be so nice to see Sydney and Riley, but it will be kind of weird at the same time seeing them in different uni-forms," said Pilat. "I ran with them so many times as teammates, it will be strange running against them.

"When I was running in the pre-Nationals (last



The Madonna Univer- quartet in double figures Cornerstone (2-2, 0-1) ity women's basketball team pulled off an upset early in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference season Saturday at home by stunning No. 24-ranked Cornerstone University, 65-58. Oakland University junior Hayes transfer Michele Hayes (Southfield-Lathrup), a 6-foot guard, scored a careerhigh 17 points to lead the Crusaders, who improved to 2-1 overall and 1-0 in the WHAC. **Freshman Lindsey** Hernden (Romeo) chipped in with a careerbest 13 points, while sophomore Lizzy Otten (Grandville) added 12. Senior Rachel Melcher (Birmingham Marian) rounded out the

Pictured from left are former Livonia Churchill cross country standouts Kerigan Riley, Sydney Anderson and Bethany Pilat, all of whom will be in Lawrence, Kan., this weekend for the NAIA national championships. month), I looked over my here the past few days, but it's still going to be gan running right beside

cold. Once you start running, you try to block out the conditions.' Although she will

serve as an alternate on Saturday for Aquinas, Anderson is fired up for the experience.

"I'm really looking forward to it," "she said. "We have a very deep team, so I'm not in the top seven, but I had a pretty good season."

Anderson, who is working toward a degree in education, posted a season-best time of 19:23, which was good enough for 15th place in her team's conference meet.



with 10 points, six re-

with 14 points, while Jill

weather that has blanketed the Midwest the past few days hasn't deterred her team from training diligently for this weekend's huge race. "We've been able to do our stride work and our shorter intervals indoors, but we still do the majority of our training outdoors because we have to

be ready for running

outdoors Saturday," she

expected to be quite as

said. "Thankfully, it's not

cold in Kansas as it's been

shoulder and saw Keri-

Pilat said the frigid

me. That was pretty

cool.

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### PATRIOTS

Continued from Page B1

there," said Gagnon. "I think Matt is one of the best goalies around and Brian has improved dramatically since last year. He's put in a lot of hard work during the off-sea-son, and it looks like it's paying off. "I love the way Matt

competes at practice. He never gives up on a puck, even if it's in a drill and nobody is watching."

The Patriots' offense was infused with a jolt of energy when junior Brendan Whitney decided to join forces with his high school mates after a solid AAA career. Despite his first-year

status at Franklin, Whitney was selected as the Patriots' captain.

"Brendan brings us a lot of speed and experience," said Gagnon. "He's going to help us put a lot of goals on the board." Another solid leader

bounds and five assists. Sophomore Justice Dean (Garden City) pulled in a career-high 14 rebounds to go with her seven points.

The two sides traded the lead over the first 20 minutes until a triple from Hernden with 2:20 left in the opening half gave MU a 22-21 lead it would not relinquish the remainder of the game. After leading by four at halftime, the Crusaders opened up a 10-point advantage, 59-49, with

3:01 left after two Otten free throws. The Golden Eagles cut the lead in half, 60-55, with 1:12 left but could not get any closer as the Crusaders knocked down four of their five free throws over the final 40 seconds to seal the

WHAC lid lifter. Ellery Mast paced

for the Patriots is senior Justin Makowski, who is embarking on his third varsity season.

"Justin is a very solid defenseman and I'm looking for big things out of him this year," said Gagnon. "Both Brendan and Justin worked extremely hard during the off-season.'

Other key standouts Gagnon will look to for leadership - both on and off the ice – are juniors Jonny Parkinson, a defenseman; Brendan Nutting and Trevor Lassaline, both of whom are forwards.

Gagnon spoke highly of the returning defensive duo of sophomore Kolby Dewhirst, who excelled for the Patriots as a freshman, and third-year senior Bailey DiClemente, who appears primed for a break-out final season.

Also slotted to man the blue line for Franklin are seniors Quinn Shine and Daniel McMaster, junior Jaret Evans and sophomore Jack Ores.

Hendrickson pulled down 10 rebounds.

Madonna returns to WHAC action beginning at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at home against Ma-

at nonne against ma-rygrove College. conversione 76, MADONNA (MEN) 74: A Madonna University (2-4, 0-1) late rally fell short Saturday as No. 11-ranked Cornerstone University (4-1, 1-0) held on in the WHAC season men's baskethall oneger for both teams basketball opener for both teams. Dasketball opener for both teams. MU sophomore point-guard Khalil Malone, hitting 11-of-16 free throws, scored a game-high 23 points and grabbed six rebounds in the setback. MU, which trailed 73-61 with 3:59 remaining, pulled to within one, 76-74, when Malone hit the first of two free throws:

throws.

He missed the second, but Chris Dierker (Salem) grabbed his 10th rebound of the night and fed teammate Tyler Stewart (Salem), who missed the go-ahead three-pointer at the buzzer. Stewart and freshman Austin Johnson added 11 and 10 points, respectively, for MU, which trailed 35-33 at halftime. Senior center Donald Owens snared a team-best 11 rebounds, while Dierker added eight

points. Ben Lanning and Cory Cox (off the bench) paced the Golden Eagles with 17 points apiece, while Justin Pepper, Kyle Steigenga

and Michael McLaughlin each added 12. MU returns to WHAC action 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at home against Marygrove College.

"I'm confident in all of our defensemen, no matter which of them are on the ice at any given time." Gagnon asserted.

As far as forwards go, Whitney will be flanked by Lassaline and Chase Wallis on one line, while Nutting will center a trio that also includes junior Jack Engel and Zack Nelson.

The Patriots' other two forward lines include the threesome of center Nick Salisbury and wings Cory Linsner and freshman Nic Anderson; and center Austin Russell, who will be skating side-by-side with wingers Chase Herman and Damon Murray.

In addition to Gagnon, the Patriots' coaching staff includes Jymi Harms, Steve Piccoli and first-year assistant Tyler Morrison, who is a former Patriot skater.

The Patriots open the season Wednesday at 6 p.m. at home against Ann Arbor Skyline.

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LOCAL SPORTS

#### **COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL**

# Madonna gets NAIA playoff berth

#### National tourney set for early December

The Madonna University women's volleyball team came up short Saturday in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference playoffs, but the Crusaders are headed back to the postseason for the 14th time in school history under veteran coach Jerry Abraham.

On Saturday, host Daven-

**PREP VOLLEYBALL** 

port University locked up the WHAC regular season and playoff championships with a 25-21, 25-19, 25-19 victory over 16th-ranked MU in Grand Rapids.

The 15th-ranked Panthers (34-7) had already gained a spot to the upcoming NAIA National Tournament Dec. 2-6, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, after clinching the regular season title, while the 36-7 Crusaders will face Union College (Ky.), 30-9 overall, in a first-round NAIA play-in match 1 p.m. Saturday at Madonna. Krissy Dill, Molly Lameyer

Krissy Dill, Molly Lameyer and Hannah Stone each collected 10 kills to lead a balanced Davenport offensive attack, while setter Amber Getty finished with 33 assistto-kills in the victory over MU.

Maddy Casselman and Lexie Spetoskey sparked the Panthers' defense with 14 digs and 13 digs, respectively, while Dill added 10 digs.

Senior outside hitter Casey

Gates paced MU with 14 kills, while senior middle hitter Kayla Vogel added eight kills. Setter Spencer Stokes added 34 assists and 15 digs, while Amanda Obrycki had a teamhigh 19 digs. Earlier in the day, Daven-

Earlier in the day, Davenport swept Aquinas College in straight sets, while Madonna punched its postseason ticket with a 25-25, 25-20, 28-30, 25-17 WHAC semifinal victory over University of Northwestern Ohio (27-11). Gates, a transfer from Northwestern Ohio, paced MU with 16 kills and 10 digs.

Other MU standouts included Emily Johnson (14 kills, seven blocks); Vogel (10 kills), Stokes (50 assists); Obrycki (21 digs); Roxy Duzey (12 digs); and Cassie Castro (11 digs).

The Racers were led by Chanel Cantere's 20 kills, while Megan Fullenkamp added 15 kills. Setter Hailey Rosinki contributed 49 assists and 19 digs.

# Bulldogs tag Marlins, 3-1

#### Match signals end of Mercy spikers' season

#### By Dan O'Meara Staff Writer

Gia Milana and her Romeo teammates put on an impressive display of offense Tuesday, and their big hits signaled the end of the volleyball season for Farmington Hills Mercy.

The Bulldogs jumped out to a 2-0 lead in a Class A quarterfinal match and eventually defeated the Marlins in four games at Utica Ford High School, 25-16, 25-20, 23-25, 25-21.

Romeo threw an array of hitters at Mercy and was led by Milana, a junior who can absolutely pound the ball and has a booming serve, too. She had a game-high 31 kills.

But it wasn't just her. Sophomore outside Jodie Kelly was another big hitter with 16 kills. Junior setter Lauren Korth, who had 53 assists, also had eight kills and junior Erica Labaere five.

"She's a go-to player for us, most definitely," Romeo coach Stacy Williams said of Milana, who made a verbal commitment to Maryland. "Our program is fortunate to have her. We're fortunate to have all the girls.

"We use her for the go-to attack, but we use Lauren, Deanna (Krumholz). Everybody is an integral part of the team. They all have a role."

Mercy was beginning to hit its stride, having won the third game and leading 9-2 lead in the fourth. It was 15-8 when Kelly slammed three straight kills to spark the Bulldogs (43-8-1).

Korth had three kills during a fivepoint run that tied the score, 18-18. Williams called a timeout after Jenna Lerg pulled the Marlins within one, 22 21





Senior Shanleigh Conlan (left) and sophomore Bella McDonald combine for a Mercy double block.

didn't look like the same team that

"I expected a little more of what we

### **SPARTANS**

#### Continued from Page B1

standing leaders."

Mitchell said Sinclair and Kowalske epitomize what this Stevenson team is all about.

"This team's work ethic is tremendous," he said. "It's a good group of kids on and off the ice. They excel on the ice, in the classroom and in the community."

The Spartans' defense will be anchored by junior goalie Andrew Rozenbaum, who played at an extremely high level as a sophomore starter, Mitchell asserted. Rozenbaum will be backed up by Cullen Barber, who has proven to be dependable when called upon to secure the goal crease.

"We only kept two goalies this season because I am so confident in Andrew and Cullen's abilities," said Mitchell. Stevenson's defense is in good hands

Stevenson's defense is in good hands thanks to juniors Alec Allen and Adam Olson, and seniors Josh Denomie and Andrew Nowak, both of whom are three-year players.

"Overall, it's a strong group of defensemen," Mitchell said. "It's not necessarily a young group, but we have some guys playing different positions. I expect them all to play at a high level."

Led by Sinclair and Kowalske, Stevenson's contingent of forwards is balanced and steady.

"Unlike last year, we're going to be counting on all of our lines to score, not just our No. 1 line," said Mitchell. "I'm excited to see how they seize the opportunity."

The Spartans' schedule is loaded this season with powerhouse opponents, including Birmingham Brother Rice, who they open against Wednesday night at Eddie Edgar Arena, Novi Catholic Central and Trenton, to name a few.

"Our schedule is one of the most difficult we've had since I've been here," Mitchell said. "And playing Brother Rice in our first game, we don't get a chance to get our feet wet."

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Romeo scored the last three points to win the match with kills by Kelly

and Milana and a Mercy hitting error. "She stepped up for us," Williams said of Kelly. "We knew they were going to look at Gia for a lot of attacks — and we got a ton of them from her but Jodie really came through for us.

"They were crucial points; just when we needed them, she came through, and they were smart points, too. When the set wasn't there, she made a wise placement; when it was, she swung to kill."

Kelly was a difference maker in the last game, according to Mercy coach Loretta Vogel.

"Once we got No. 14 (Milana) in the back row, I expected us to gain more points," she said. "We just couldn't slow down their other left front. We should have controlled that and we didn't. I think that had an impact."

Romeo dominated the first game with Milana slamming kill after kill. Mercy (53-7-2) was on its heels and

**PREP PROFILE** 

played so well in the district.

The Marlins limited the big attacks by Milana in the second game and were more competitive. But the Bulldogs had a run of five points to get separation with a 17-12 lead and never trailed gain. It was no surprise three of the five points were kills by Milana.

"Game 1 was one I thought we could have played better," Vogel said. "In the end, there weren't many errors from anyone. They got their kills. It's not like we asked (the Mercy girls) to change something and they didn't. They did everything we asked."

The Marlins played like their usual selves in Game 3 and led all the way, although the Bulldogs made it interesting. Mercy continued on that trend in last game until Romeo made its move.

"Mercy is a tough team; they're relentless on the court," Williams said. "Their defense is very strong. We knew we had to match up with them defensively and go ahead and swing at the ball like we do. had in that third and fourth set at the beginning. It was a good thing we took those (first) two games, because Mercy started coming into its game. I'm glad we didn't have to go to a fifth.

"Our girls were excited. They were here; they were ready to win. They were going to make sure that we were going to Battle Creek on Friday.

"We lost in the quarters last year. This was our goal, to get to where we were and then go further. We got a little bit further, and we're hoping to see it through to the end."

Mercy played Romeo in an early season tournament and won, but the Bulldogs didn't have Milana in the lineup that day.

Better serving and a change in tactics helped Mercy win Game 3.

"You have to serve and pass, and that's what changed," Vogel said. "And we scored on the right side. Every time we set the ball to the right side, we scored."

# Spartans' Sinclair wears the 'C' with pride

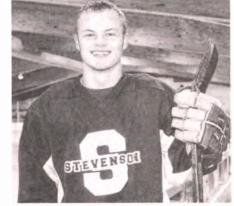
#### By Ed Wright Staff Writer

A future engineer, Livonia Stevenson senior Mick Sinclair's current agenda includes drawing up a winning blueprint for the Spartans' highlyrespected hockey program.

The well-spoken, straight-A student-athlete will be one of the frontrunners when it comes to filling the void left by the Spartans' graduated No. 1 forward line of Dominic Lutz, Devin Kelly and Tyler Irvine – both on the scoreboard and in the all-important leadership category.

tant leadership category. Voted unanimously by his teammates to serve as the team's 2014-15 captain, Sinclair asserted that he is up to the challenge.

"While it was a bummer losing those guys – I'm great friends with all of them and I wish them the best of luck at the next level – it's exciting to see who is going to step up and be the goal-scorers and who's going to step up and fill those roles," said Sinclair. "Being chosen as the captain is really an honor and I want to be humble about it. I have big shoes to fill replacing Dominic Lutz, but I'm very proud to be able to wear the 'C'."



ED WRIGHT Livonia Stevenson senior captain Mick Sinclair will provide the Spartans with scoring punch and leadership.

Sinclair has been pushing a puck across the ice as long as he's been riding a bike.

He started out in the Livonia minimite initiation program and has never looked back.

"I always watched the Red Wings when I was growing up and I played street hockey with my dad," he said. "The more I played, the more the sport grew on me. It kind of just snow-balled from there."

Except for a brief fling as a defenseman in squirt-level hockey, Sinclair has always been a forward.

"I experimented with playing defense when I was younger, but having to hang back like that wasn't for me," he said, smiling. "The coaches figured they're better off letting me get up front and go."

Sinclair said he appreciates the skills of current Red Wing Pavel Datsyuk, but not necessarily because of the All-Star's highlight-reel goals.

"I like to watch his positioning and how he puts himself in the right spot to make those highlight-reel goals," Sinclair said. "I like to go a little more in depth when I'm watching hockey than most people so I can learn things."

Armed with a stellar 4.1 cumulative grade-point average, Sinclair has his sights set on attending Michigan Tech University beginning next fall.

He will follow in the footsteps of his grandfather, his dad and his sister, Anna, who is currently in her fourth year at the highly-acclaimed school.

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#### CHURCHILL

#### Continued from Page B1

Reynolds. "He is a physical specimen for us on the ice and we will look to him to set the tone as far as aggressiveness and competitiveness."

Second-year senior Parker Hodges will flank Smith on the ice as well as serve as an alternate captain for Churchill.

"We have been very impressed by how Parker has really committed hims"elf to build up his body and get stronger for his senior season," Reynolds said.

The third member of Smith's forward line will be senior Justin O'Brien, a second-year player who has improved dramatically since his junior campaign.

"Justin was basically a utility player for us last year, but he has dedicated himself to get better and he has made huge strides," Reynolds said.

Also serving as alternate captains for the Chargers will be senior Dan Hudy, one of the team's top defensemen, and sophomore defenseman Joe Wozniak.

"I'm looking for Dan to have a banner year this season," said Reynolds. "And Joe is one of our hardest-working defensemen. He works so hard that he has really earned the respect of his peers, even the older players. He has a great attitude and a super skill set."

Sophomore Andrew Broyles enters the season as the Chargers' No. 1 netminder. He'll be backed up by senior Grant Klimkiewicz and freshman Chris Sergison.

"With Andrew, we are very fortunate to have a young, talented goalie who we'll be able to count on day in and day out for the next couple of years," Reynolds said.

Senior defenseman Jack Behen was primed for a stellar season until suffering a foot injury that may keep him off the ice for as long as three months.

"Beyond Dan, we're very young on defense," stressed Reynolds. "But the young guys are hungry and talented and they know they have to work hard every day to get better."

Other key contributors include sophomore forward Michael Papaioannou and freshman forward Conor Burnette.

"Michael brings speed and smarts to our younger core of players while Conor" is very tenacious," Reynolds concluded.

Churchill squares off against Lake Orion on Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Ice Arena.

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#### B4 (WGRL) 0 & E Media | Thursday, November 20, 2014

LOCAL SPORTS

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JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO Schoolcraft's Elise Tolbert (No. 23) puts an inside move against Kellogg's Ashtin Kaminer during Wednesday night's game.

# Lady Ocelots ride early lead to win over Kellogg CC

**By Tim Smith** Staff Writer

**COLLEGE BASKETBALL** 

A strong all-around performance in the first half enabled Schoolcraft's women's basketball team to essentially coast to a 67-46 win Wednesday night over Kellogg Community College.

It was far from a perfect performance, however.

The Lady Ocelots playing the first part of Schoolcraft's "Spirit Night" doubleheader stormed out to a 45-17 lead at halftime, with freshman guard and Wayne Memorial product Ashley Bland scoring 21 of those points. She finished with 27.

In the second half of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association matchup, however, Schoolcraft struggled from the floor (4-23) and did not play as crisply. The Bruins outscored

their opponent 9-3 to open the half to cut the



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO Schoolcraft's T'era Nesbitt (No. 24) dribble drives around Kellogg defender Erin Shafer.

deficit to 48-26 and briefto take care of the ball a ly kindle hopes of a rally. lot better."

"I think we got a little played a strong first half, lazy," Schoolcraft head coach Kara Kinzer said. with the Lady Ocelots 'We kind of threw the making 23 of 46 shots ball around too much. We from the floor (50 perweren't focusing on it, cent). that's something we're going to be talking about our focus was for the game, get in our motion. in the locker room because on Saturday we got attack the gaps, move it, a better team (Sinclair get everybody shots,"

CC) coming up. "We're going to have pressure the ball more, we got some tips off of that and some easy layups.

Bland was a big reason for the early jump, but the coach pointed to contributions from guard/forward Rikki Sherdt (10 rebounds) and guard Sara Gammons (10 points)

"Rikki is always a big part of it, she's going to get big rebounds for us," Kinzer said. "Sara's always going to control the tempo of the game, so pretty much our whole starting group really started the game off good for us.

Guard T'era Nesbitt also was strong for the Lady Ocelots (3-0), with 18 points and 11 rebounds (nine on the defensive glass)

Chipping in eight points and five boards was guard Elise Tolbert. Leading the Bruins (0-3) were forward Alexis Brautigam (18 points) and guard Sierra Stevens (16 points).

### HOCKEY Plymouth Whalers lambasted by Greyhounds, 8-1

#### By Tim Smith Staff Writer

For one period Saturday night, the Plymouth Whalers gave Sault Ste. Marie something to think about.

The Ontario Hockey League game was deadlocked 1-1 entering the middle frame at Compuware Arena.

But then the Greyhounds scored once, twice, ... six times to take a commanding 7-1 advantage as the Whalers' depleted, young defense had no answer for the Soo's potent power play.

Plymouth ultimately ost 8-1 before 2,747 spec

"You expect it, but you hope you can deal with it," said Whalers' head coach Don Elland, about the Greyhounds' highoctane power play. "It's 1-1 after one and we quit playing. When things got a little difficult we didn't push back.

"When you don't finish checks, ... and you let guys with great skill do what they want that's what's going to happen."

Leading the charge for Sault Ste. Marie (14-5-0-0) was center David Miller, with a three-goal hat trick. Seven other players tallied multiple points for the Greyhounds

put the Whalers up 1-0. Campagna one-timed a cross-ice feed from defenseman Mathieu Henderson past Soo netminder Brandon Halverson (37 saves). Also assisting was Sonny Milano.

But it didn't take long during the second period for the Greyhounds to get things rolling against the Whalers' relatively inexperienced defense.

Sault Ste. Marie broke the deadlock and went ahead to stay at 1:25 of the stanza when Miller finished a nifty 2-on-1 rush with linemate Michael Bunting.

The Greyhounds needed only 29 seconds to

to defenseman and Edmonton Oilers prospect Darnell Nurse at the right point.

Nurse blasted a shot that cleanly beat Whalers' goalie Alex Nedeljkovic, who stopped 26 of 33 shots in 40 minutes. Backup Zack Bowman finished the game for Plymouth.

Two minutes later, Tim Gettinger banged in a centering pass from Gabe Guertier for another power-play tally to make it 4-1.

The Soo surge continued at 12:46, when Miller netted another goal with the extra man. Bunting's shot was

penalty shot was awarded to Tolchinsky after he was hauled down on a partial breakaway with 21.7 seconds remaining in the period.

Kinzer said her team

"That's kind of what

Kinzer said. "Defensive-

ly, we were trying to

Tolchinsky skated in on Nedeljkovic and buried a shot low to the stick side for Soo's sixth goal of the period.

Bowman took over in goal for the third and he stopped 13 of 14 shots, only allowing another power-play goal (by Char-lie Graaskamp) with 1:15 left.

Caught shorthanded

that the team's youth and

inexperience on defense

showed itself against the

"You can only go so

long with having as many

injuries and suspensions

as we've had," Elland

said. "Every once in a

in it, guys are playing

while you get caught up

Greyhounds.

Elland acknowledged

minutes that they're not normally used to playing, or should be playing at this level.

"It's not their fault, they've been pushed into these situations. We're just going to have to deal with it until we get everybody back. Tonight we didn't deal with it very well."

Injuries continue to mount for the Whalers, with leading scorer Matt Mistele (hip) out of the lineup for the second straight game.

Pesky forward Danny Vanderwiel left Saturday's contest in the first period with an undisclosed leg injury.

tators in a lopsided home loss not seen in a while. The Greyhounds netted four goals on the power play and another on a penalty shot.

Scoring the lone goal for Plymouth (8-11-1-0) was center Mathew Campagna, a power-play tally with 3:48 to go in the opening stanza to briefly

**CITY OF LIVONIA** 

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS** 

**PUBLIC SERVICE DIVISION** 

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Livonia, Michigan, as owner, until 2:00 p.m.

on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at the City Clerk's Office at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic

Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154, at which time said proposals will be opened and

PROVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE

CITY OF LIVONIA, FOR A THREE (3) YEAR PERIOD

Instructions to bidders and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan

Inter-governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

Proposals must be submitted on the forms found on the MITN website. All addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. All proposals shall be sealed in opaque envelopes, plainly marked with the

name of the service bid upon, name of bidder, and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of

The City reserves the right to reject or accept any or all proposals in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until

Kevin L. Maillard, P.E.

Mayor, City of Livonia

LO-0000221702 3X4

Jack E. Kirksey

**Director of Public Works** 

strike on the power play, which was ranked sixth in the OHL entering the night. Winger Sergey Tolchinsky threaded a pass from the left point

#### stopped by Nedeljkovic, but the rebound slithered to the wide-open Miller at the left post for an easy tap-in.

Miller's hat-trick goal at 17:42 put the Greyhounds up 6-1 and — to add insult to injury --- a

> ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2014-33 November 12, 2014

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 5:40 p.m. at the Wayne Activity & Banquet Center, 35000 Sims Ave. MEMBERS PRESENT: Haidous, Hawley, Damitio, Rowe, Monit, Rhaesa. **MEMBERS ABSENT:** James. APPROVED: contract with Police Officer's Association of Michigan. Adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

> Matthew K. Miller City Clerk LO-0000221470 2x2



Meanwhile, the team's best defenseman — cap-tain Alex Peters — is likely out for the season after sustaining a knee injury and veteran Dman Gianluca Curcuruto remains out as he serves the final games of a lengthy suspension. Yet Elland emphasized

that injuries are no excuse for the team's lackluster showing against the Greyhounds.

"We get Chinner (Curcuruto) back next weekend, so that will help," Elland said.

Publish: November 20, 2014



#### MINUTES OF REDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2014

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the approved Minutes for meetings of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Redford for the month of October 2014 are posted at the following public places within the Township:

Community Center, 12121 Hemingway Fire Department, 15145 Beech Daly Library, 25320 Six Mile Road Department of Public Services, 12200 Beech Daly Police Department, 25833 Elsinore Town Hall, 15145 Beech Daly

Approved Minutes may also be viewed on-line at www.redfordtwp.com

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk **Charter Township of Redford** 

Publish: November 20, 2014

#### **ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID CITY OF LIVONIA 33000 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154**

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Livonia, Michigan as owner, until 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, December 18, 2014 at the City Clerk's Office at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, at which time said bids will be opened and publicly read.

FURNISH THE CITY OF LIVONIA WITH A WIDE AREA FIBER NETWORK **EXPANSION** 

Instructions to prospective bidders, Response Forms and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan

Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

All addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon.

A Non-Mandatory Vendor's Conference will be held on Wednesday, December 3, 2014 in the Second Floor Conference Room at Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154 to answer any questions prospective vendors may have.

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all proposals in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

> Jack E. Kirksey Mayor City of Livonia LO-0000221487 3x4

Publish: 11/20/14

publicly read.

#### **CITY OF LIVONIA** DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PUBLIC SERVICE DIVISION

#### **ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS** FOR

#### **CITY OF LIVONIA ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE**

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Livonia, Michigan, as owner, until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154, at which time said proposals will be opened and publicly read.

The City of Livonia seeks proposals for the following:

The City of Livonia seeks proposals for the following:

Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

a written Contract is signed by both parties.

#### ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE

Instructions to Bidders and Specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at <u>www.mitn.info</u>

Proposals must be submitted on the forms found on the MITN website. All addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. All proposals shall be sealed in opaque envelopes, plainly marked with the name of the material bid upon, name of bidder, and shall be addressed to the city Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities in bids. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

ADDRESS ALL BIDS TO THE CITY CLERK IN A SEALED ENVELOPE WHICH CLEARLY STATES THE NATURE OF THE BID.

> Kevin L. Maillard, P.E. **Director of Public Works**

Jack E. Kirksey Mayor, City of Livonia LO-0000221653

Publish: November 20, 2014

Publish: November 20, 2014

LOCAL NEWS

#### **RELIGION CALENDAR**

ONGOING

**CLASSES/STUDY** 

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island,

Contact: John Shulenberger at

21200 Haggerty, Northville

**Our Lady of Loretto** 

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

Daly, Redford Township

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

**CLOTHING BANK** 

Saturday of the month

Location: Canton Christian

Details: No documentation

Contact: info@cantoncf.org

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

Location: Salvation Army,

27500 Shiawassee, Farmington

Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

**Christ Our Savior Lutheran** 

second Tuesday, September-May

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Location: 14175 Farmington

Details: Mothers of Preschool-

ers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers

of infants through kindergart-

248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at

**Dunning Park Bible Chapel** 

Location: 24800 W. Chicago

moms can build friendships.

receive mothering support,

or Kristen at 734-542-0767

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Details: All Creatures ULC

sponsors the service, which is

conducted in an informal set-

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 15089 Newburgh,

Livonia. Enter through back.

Details: Music, singing, prayer

ting. Pet blessings are available

Five Mile, Livonia

after the service.

St. Edith Church

PRAYER

Contact: 313-563-0162

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

Details: MOPS is a place where

practical help and spiritual hope

Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911

Contact: Ethanie Defoe at

**FAMILY MEAL** 

Details: Free meal

Fellowship, 8775 Ronda Drive,

Location: Six Mile and Beech

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. last

Men's Bible study

and study at 8 a.m.

Township

Monday

Canton

needed

Thursday

MOMS

Church

ners

Road, Livonia

734-658-2463

and third Tuesdays

Road, Redford

Hills

734-464-9491

#### NOVEMBER **CHRISTMAS CAMP**

Time/Date: 3-8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22 Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City Details: Open to children preschool and up, must be potty trained: \$20 for the first child and \$15 for each additional

siblings. Parents can drop them off for crafts, games, movies, and pizza while they Christmas shop

#### Contact: 734-427-3660 DISCUSSION

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20

Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills Details: Rabbi Mark Miller presents a discussion, "The Jews of Cuba." The program is open to seniors and will include refreshments. Free; RSVP re-

auested Contact: Laura Lucassian, 248-851-1100, Ext. 3142; Ilucas-

sian@tbeonline.org **ST. NICHOLAS PARTY** Time/Date: 1-3:30 p.m. Sat-

urday, Nov. 29 Location: Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W.

Seven Mile, Livonia Details: Children will meet St. Nicholas and receive a gift while their parents take their pictures. The party includes a craft project, carol sing-along and refreshments. Youngsters can have their picture taken with a live reindeer, noon to 1 p.m. Free Contact: Richard Shebib at 248-345-9346 or paschabooks@sbcglobal.net

#### THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford Details: Sermon theme is Thanksgiving is a Time to Re-

member Contact: 313-532-8655 or 734-

968-3523

#### **THANKSGIVING WEEK** SERVICES

Time/Date: 10 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 23 and 30

Location: Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield

**Details**: Intergenerational service on Nov. 23 will honor ancestors. The sermon on Nov. 30 is about the evolution of human singing Contact: 248-0354-4488

#### DECEMBER **ADVENT REFLECTION**

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Dec. 2-3 ocation: St. John N

#### Passages Obituaries, Memories & Rememberance

#### How to reach us

1-800-579-7355 · fax 313-496-4968 · www.mideathnotices.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers • Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change.



**BOOTH, Margaret A.** November 16, 2014, age 75 of Wayne. Wife of the late Keith. Dear mother of David (Loretta), Sharon, and Douglas (Robin) Booth. Sister to the late Willard Miller. Grandmother to five, great-grandmother to seven, and great-great-grandmother to one. Memorial service at the Uht Home, Westland. Funeral 7 p.m. Family Saturday accepting visitors from 4 p.m. until time of service. Cremation rites have been accorded. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com.





#### CATALLO,

MARGARET A. Beloved wife of the late Leo. Loving mother to Albert Lee (Julie), Thomas Dale (Pauline), Cathy Christine Catallo and (Mark McAlpine). Grandmother to Darren (Casey), Heather, Kevin (Alexandra), and Katie Catallo (Markus Bauman). Greatgrandmother five of Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia 48154 from 2-4:30. Saturday memorial contribution may be directed to Leader Dogs for the Blind. Please share a memory of Margaret by signing her guestbook at: wwwrggrharris.com



InT



#### MARY FAYE

Age 82, died Sunday. Devoted mother of William (Victoria), Carolyn "Sis" Morrison, Diane (Tony) Mayberry, Janet (Dennis) Rowe, Michael (Lisha), and Robin Bush. Loving grandmother of 10 and great-grandmother of 12. Cherished sister of Uni Pearl Zula Scott, Dargie, Kirkland, and Louise Bradley. Preceded in death by husband William Robert "Bob' Clevenger; two sons-in-law Keith Bush and David "Turk" Morrison; two sisters Dorth Brown and Novell Bivens; also three brothers Varnell, Coy, and Tralve Williams. Visitation 2-8 p.m. Wednesday with an 11 a.m. Funeral Thursday, November 20, 2014 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville www.davidcbrownfh.com

CORNISH, CHARLES R.

Age 78 of Durand, passed away at his residence on Sunday, November 16, 2014. Cremation has taken place and there will be no services at this time. Charles was born June 30, 1936 in Wayne County, the son of Charles Howard and Anna Marie (Lundin) Cornish. He married Barbara Travis in Detroit on September 1956 and together raised 3 children. Prior to his retirement in 1989, Mr. Cornish was a Fireman on the Detroit Fire Department, while assigned to Fireboat he received the the Medal of Valor from the department. Charles is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barbara; three children: Judith Tisher of South Lyon, Steven (Jeanine) Cornish of Durand, Beverly (Frank) Laway of Cheboygan; eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by both parents and his two sisters: Katherine Secord and Elaine King. Memorial contributions given in Mr. Cornish's name are suggested to the Detroit Fireman's Fund. Online condolences may be sent to his

#### Community Farewell FORD, **ARNOLD MICHAEL**

His Legacy... Arnold Michael Ford, age 70, passed away on November 14, 2014. He was born October 9, 1944 to Arnold and Carol (Roughley) Ford. A Michael married the love of his life, Cynthia Kessler, on August 13. 1966 in Detroit, MI. He was the CEO and President of T & M Asphalt Paving until retirement this year. A. Michael was a collector of many things, including coins. In his spare time, enjoyed boating, he hunting, fishing, grilling, and traveling. Most importantly, A. Michael loved spending time with his family. He will be

greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. His Family... A. Michael leaves behind his wife, Cynthia; Michelle daughters, (Dean) Arndt of Avon, Ohio, Debbie (Dean) Ditto of South Lyon, Michigan; sons, Scott (Sara) of South Lyon, MI, Tim of South Lyon, MI; grandchildren, Mackenzie, Brendan, Gabrielle, Zachary, Lucas, Mason, Audrey, and Anthony. He is also survived by his brother, Jack (Sharon), Thomas (Susan), and sister-inlaw, Sharon Marie. A. Michael is preceded in death by his parents,

Arnold and Carol. His Farewell... A. Michael's Community Farewell will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2014 gathering from 10a.m. - 12 Noon, Farewell Service at 12 Noon at Shalom Lutheran Church, 1740 E. M-36, Pinckney with Pastor Kurt Hutchins as celebrant. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Michigan Humane Society or Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance Please leave a message of comfort to the Ford family by calling 1-877-231-7900 or sign his guestbook at

#### www.borekjennings.com. Borek Jennings Funeral Home

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow



View Online

www.hometownlife.com

PALAC, REBECCA J. November 16, 2014. Age 61 of wife of Westland. Beloved Daniel. Dear mother of Jeromey (Tammy) Cosby, and Derek, Clifford, and Ashley Palac. Daughter of the late Edward and Evelyn (Nichols) Ojibway. Sister to Phillip, Joseph (Susan), Kenneth, Rita, and Connie Kenneth, Connie Ojibway, and Ellen (Frank) Quinlivan, Debbie (Chris) Larcinese, and the late Ruth Grandmother Lamontte. to Cameron, Calvin, and Evan Rebecca Cosby. worked at Oakwood Hospital for over thirty years as a dispatcher and belonged to New Horizons Band of Canton and played at Evola Music. Funeral services from The Uht Funeral Home, Westland, Saturday 10 a.m. Friday 2-9 p.m. Visitation Cremation rites will be accorded and burial of cremains to take place at Great Lakes National Cemetery at a later date. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com.



#### TROSIEN, MARY ALICE

Age 88, of King George, Virginia, formerly of Livonia, Michigan, was called home to her Hcavenly Father on November 6, 2014. Beloved wife of Elmer Trosien for 56 years, prior to his passing in 2006. Loving mom, grandma and great grandma of Pam Treven, Deb (Pat) Machusak, Dawn Voigt, Marc (Margaret) Trosien; Grandchildren Eric (Karah) Trevan, Kurt Trevan, Brian Trevan, Ryan (Milissa) Machusak, Kara (Milissa) (Mark) Johnston, Chad (Tashina) Machusak Marc (Beka) Setzer; and great grand children Sierra, Avalon, Kaden, Ryleigh, Kala, Easten, Brailyn and Emmalee. Mary Alice will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. Family and friends will gather Saturday, November 22, 2014 10:00a.m. at Newburgh United Methodist Church, Livonia, MI to celebrate her life. Memorial contributions



Roman Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Craig Pohl, Director of New Evangelization for Lansing Diocese, speaks on "Men's Night," Dec. 2; Sr. Mary Finn of Sacred Heart Seminary speaks on "Women's Night," Dec. 3. Both events begin with dinner and child care is provided. Register in advance for child care

#### Contact: 734-455-5910 **ADVENT SERVICES**

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, 10 and 17

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: The meditation theme is Waiting With The Old Testament Church"

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

**DETROIT LUTHERAN** SINGERS

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

Location: Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Leverne, Redford

Details: Excerpts from Bach's Magnificat, along with carols and other songs; tickets are \$15 general admission, \$10 for seniors and students

Other concerts: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 at Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile, **Farmington Hills** 

Contact: www.detroitlutheransingers.com

**DVD COURSE** 

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Wednesday, beginning Dec. 3

Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Mark Berkson teaches a 24-part course on Cultural Literacy for Religion: Everything the Well-Educated Person Should Know." Free, walk-ins welcome

Contact: Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net

WINE & CHOCOLATE Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday,

Dec. 6

Location: Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills Details: Wine and chocolate tastings, musical entertainment and silent auction. Tickets are \$18 per person. For reservations, make checks payable to Sisterhood of Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301.

Contact: Harriet Cooperman, at 248-321-9023 or hscooperman@sbcglobal.net.

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: Praving silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information 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. 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 **SUPPORT** 

#### **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 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

A loving tribute

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family by going to

may be made to: Newburgh United Methodist Church "Elmer and Mary Alice Trosien Scholarship Fund

Honor the Memory and Celebrate the Life of passed loved ones by placing a Special Holiday Tribute. The Observer and Eccentric/Hometown Weekly Newspapers will be publishing a Special Tribute during the holidays. Here is the perfect opportunity to share your thoughts of loved ones who hold a special place in your hearts.

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#### ENTERTAINMENT B6 (WGRL) THURSDAY, **NOVEMBER 20, 2014**

**OBSERVER &** ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWN LIFE.COM

# Good mix: Buy unique gifts at holiday art sales in Plymouth, Farmington Hills

**Sharon Dargay** Staff Writer

Teera Losch is convinced that "everyone loves a good

mug." She'll have plenty of them — for shaving and drinking beer — at the annual Village Potters Guild holiday sale Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 20-23 in downtown Plymouth.

"I'm a new potter, so I make functional items...bowls, beer mugs. I've made shaving mugs — they're coming back in style," said Losch, who will participate in her first Guild holiday sale, along with 24 other potters, this weekend. "People do coffee mugs and tea mugs. We also have great sculptural art that people make. We get a good mix of decorative and functional art and have a great price range. Anyone and everyone can find something in their price range.

Shoppers will find ceramic items from \$4-\$200 at the sale which runs 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat-urday, Nov. 22 and noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, at the Guild studio, 340 N. Main, located behind the Crossings Restaurant.

"I think the best part is when you make something, you've put effort into it and someone appreciates it and wants to buy it," said Losch, who is looking forward to her first holiday show. She also sells her work through etsy.com/shop/CrazedClay and shows it on facebook.com/ crazedclay.

The Illinois native, a hormone researcher at the University of Michigan, began taking pottery classes at the Guild two years ago, after she and her husband moved to Michi-

"Being someone who moved from a different state, I didn't know anyone and I didn't have any friends. I knew I wanted to do a hobby. I took a small pottery class when I was getting my master's degree. I knew I wanted to get back into pottery."



Teera Losch, a hormone researcher at the University of Michigan, loves to work with clay in her spare time at the Village Potters Guild, in Plymouth.

she applied for membership in the Guild and is in her first of two years as a "guest" member. Afterward, she can apply for regular membership.

"I work full time, so pottery is my hobby. I can only get into the Guild on weekends and after work," she said. "I'm in my 20s, so I'm definitely the youngest one in the Guild."

#### **Knitting, pendants**

Two young artists also will sell their works Saturday at the Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC) holiday sale. Beatrice Savage, 10, of Plymouth, will be on hand with her knitted hats and Heather Graham, 17, of Livonia will sell pendants that sport small watercolor paintings under glass. Graham, who has taken classes at the PCAC also will show her wire-work jewelry.

"Instead of an open call for artists, I decided to do it by

PCAC executive director. "All of the artists were invited and all have some sort of relationship with the PCAC. "I have a church group that

meets here on Sunday — Friends of Unity — and they have a women's group that will be selling some of their pendants. One woman makes recycled wool mittens. Nick Bair, who taught here in the summer, hand illustrates glass ball ornaments. He draws right on the glass. They are just beautiful.

The show, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, at the PCAC, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth, also will include card sets, coasters, trivets, fused glass pieces, cork wine charms, ceramics and more. PCAC gift certificates will be available and National Honor Society students will sell baked goods at the event.

"It was well-received last

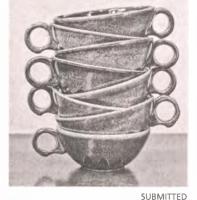
at the last minute. Last year it was just a two-hour event, but we had an art show opening in the main gallery at the same time," Howard said.

This year, the holiday sale runs in conjunction with an exhibit of mixed media paintings by Sunanda Mallick of Northville and acrylic paintings by Charles Stout of Plymouth.

"They are all for sale, along with instructor art. People can buy it right off the walls.

#### Winter Market

The Michigan Weavers Guild also runs an exhibit in conjunction with its annual holiday sale. Six members of the Guild will sell fiber art, including wearable items, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills. The exhibit runs Friday, Nov. 21-Jan. 9, 2015.



Plymouth potter Teera Losch makes functional items, such as these tea cups. She'll sell her art at the Village Potters Guild holiday sale, Nov. 20-23 in Plymouth.



SUBMITTED Woven garments, such as this red vest by Michigan Weavers Guild member Nancy Peck, and other fiber art, will be sold at the Winter Market, Saturday, Nov. 22, in **Farmington Hills** 

hibit nine or 10 years," said Judy Boesky, publicity chair. "Anyone (in the Guild) can participate and we have many talented members. We have anything from hand-weaving to beading, basketry, sculpture, jewelry and wall hang-ings. You'll see the breadth of what the Guild does.'

Boesky said most of the items in the exhibit also are available for purchase.

Visit the organizations' websites at michiganweaversguild.org, plymoutharts.com,

**GET OUT! CALENDAR** 

#### ANIMALS **DETROIT ZOO**

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking

Wildlife art: The Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition — a collection of images from the world's largest and most prestigious wildlife photography competition — makes its U.S. debut at the Detroit Zoo's Ford Education Center, Saturday, Nov. 22. The show runs through March 23, 2015, and is free with Zoo admission. It features 100 images from winners of the 2013 competition Contact: 248-541-5717

#### **ARTS AND CRAFTS CITY GALLERY**

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 21-Jan. 9, 2015

Location: The Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Michigan Weavers Guild exhibit includes a holiday sale with works by six Guild members, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22

Contact: 248-473-1859

#### **NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE** Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Sat-

urday, through Dec. 6

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville Details: 2014 International Mosaic Exhibit and Auction includes 141 mosaic

artworks from artists representing 13 countries. Northville Camera Club: "The Art of

Light," through Dec. 6 in the lower level gallery

Contact: 248-344-0497

#### **PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL**

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday, through November

Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth Details: "Levels." a solo exhibit of works painted in acrylics, by Charles Stout

Contact: plymoutharts.com; 734-416-4278

#### **VILLAGE THEATER AT CHERRY HILL**

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Nov. 30



OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE THEATER DEPARTMENT Oakland Community College performs Godspell through Nov. 22 on the **Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills.** 

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "He Was the President: John F. Kennedy 1960-61" features more than 40 black and white photos of John F. Kennedy, taken by Tony Spina, who spent more than 40 years as a Detroit Free Press photographer Contact: 734-394-5308

#### COMEDY **JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB**

.com

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20 and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 21-22

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia Details: Kevin Bozeman; \$12 for show only or \$22 with dinner, Thursday; \$16 show only, \$29 with dinner, Friday-Saturday

#### Contact: 734-261-0555; catchthefunny-

#### **MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY** CASTLE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20 and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 21-22

Location: Fourth and Troy streets in downtown Royal Oak

Details: John Heffron; tickets \$20 Thursday, \$25 Friday-Saturday Contact: 248-542-9900; info@ComedyCastle.com

DANCE **SOCK HOP**  Time/Date: 6-10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21 Location: Italian American Club of Livonia Banquet Center, 39200 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Music from the 50s and 60s for dancing, raffle prizes, ice cream treats, and more. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$8 for children, 5-11, and free for children, 4 and under. All tickets must be paid in advance

Contact: Helene LaRussa at 313-598-0150

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22 Location: 135 E. Main, Northville

Details: See Elf for free

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 21-22 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 23

Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth Details: My Old Lady, admission \$3 Coming up: The Boxtrolls, 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28, 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 29-30 Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penn-

theatre.com **REDFORD THEATRE** 

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21 and 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22 Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of



Indestructible Noise Command performs Friday, Nov. 21 at the Token Lounge in Westland

#### Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: A Christmas Story; \$7. Includes appearances by five of the film's cast members--- Zack Ward, Scott Schwartz, Yano Anaya, Patty Johnson LaFontaine and Drew Hocever. VIP event at 5 p.m. Saturday, costs \$25 and includes desserts, and a chance to meet the stars personally. Santa also visits the theater

Coming up: Christmas Vacation, 8 p.m. Dec. 5 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 6; \$5 Contact: 313-898-1481

#### HISTORY **DETROIT HISTORICAL** MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Dec. 28

Location: Second floor in the Community Gallery at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Details: Fourteen stained glass windows that were installed at the original St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center, built in 1929 and closed in 2005 in Farmington Hills, are on display. Admission is free Contact: 313-833-7935

#### **PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: 'Twas the Night Before Christmas exhibit runs through Jan. 11, 2015. The exhibit features scenes from stories and movies, such as Elf, Polar Express and A Christmas Carol. The Museum's Main Street also is decorated for the holidays. Beginning Nov. 29, Santa visits every Sunday until Christmas and will be on hand for the annual craft bazaar and open house, 10-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17

Contact: 734-455-8940

#### **HOLIDAY LIGHTS** LIGHTFEST

Time/Date: Grand opening, 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20; Lightfest hours 6-10 p.m. Friday-Sunday, through Dec. 31, excluding Dec. 25

Location: Along four miles of Hines Drive; enter at 7651 Merriman, between Warren road and Ann Arbor Trail, in Westland

Details: Drive by 55 holiday light displays; admission is \$5 per car. Opening night will feature music, entertainment, refreshments and fireworks

Contact: 734-261-1990; parks.waynecounty.com

#### **WILD LIGHTS**

Time/Date: 5:30-9 p.m. Nov. 22-23 and 28-30 and Dec. 5-7, 11-14, 18-23 and 26-31

Location: The Detroit Zoo, located on the I-696 service drive at Woodward Ave., in Royal Oak

Details: More than 5 million lights illuminate buildings, trees and animal sculptures through a portion of the Zoo. . Admission for ages 2 and older is \$8 in advance and \$10 at the gate; parking is \$6 per car. Buy tickets online at detroitzoo.org/events/wild-lights, at Detroit Zoo main admissions, or Kroger stores

Contact: 248-541-5717

alor - etchelorizit

**FILM MARQUIS THEATRE** 

Contact: 248-349-8110 **PENN THEATRE** 

**B7 (WGRL)** THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-8833 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# POTATOES PACK A NUTRITIONAL PUNCH

FOOL

# Nutrition Facts Serving Size 1 potato (148g/5.3oz)

**Amount Per Serving** 

Calories 110 Calories from Fat 0

% Dai	ily Value*
Total Fat Og	0%
Saturated Fat 0g	0%
Trans Fat 0g	
Cholesterol Omg	0%
Sodium Omg	0%
Potassium 620mg	18%
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 20	6g <b>9%</b>
26 27 28 1	2 3
Dietary Fiber 2g	8%
Sugars 1g	
Protein 3a	North Contention (Carlies

The average person's caloric needs have decreased since the 20th century when lifestyles were more active, yet nutritional needs are generally the same. Getting the nutrition you need without consuming too many calories can be as simple as incorporating nutrient-dense foods, such as potatoes, into your diet.

Not only are potatoes a cost-efficient kitchen staple, there are dozens of quick and easy ways to prepare this ultimate comfort food while taking advantage of an extra helping of nutrition.

> A medium-size potato (5.3 ounces or 148 grams) has only about 110 calories, 4-5 percent of the average adult's total daily calories, but provides much higher percentages of many nutrients.

The potato actually delivers a wide spectrum of valuable nutrients. For example, the potato is an important source of complex carbohydrates, often lacking in the American diet. The potato also is a good source of vitamin C and hard-toget B6 and has long been known to be a storehouse of minerals. The potato contains valuable supplies of essential trace elements such as manganese, chromium, selenium and molybdenum.

#### **Falsely fattening image**

Although you may think of the potato as a bulky vegetable, it is 80 percent water — just a little less than milk. However, its association with high-calorie toppings like butter, sour cream, gravy and mayonnaise gives the lowcalorie potato a false image. In fact, just one tablespoon of butter doubles the calories in a baked potato.

There are many low calorie ways to prepare potatoes deliciously. Here are just a few tasty low or no calorie topping ideas:

» Toasted sesame seeds

» Whipped butter and poppy seeds

» A spoonful of stewed tomatoes and a bit of grated cheese

» Melted butter or margarine thinned with lemon juice

» A mix of dried herbs: parsley, chives, basil or dill

» Mock sour cream (cottage cheese and lemon juice whipped in a blender)

» Chopped onion with coarsely grated black pep-

and the first of the state of t		
Vitamin A 0%	•	Vitamin C 45%
Calcium 2%		Iron 6%
Thiamin 8%	•	Riboflavin 2%
Niacin 8%	•	Vitamin B <sub>6</sub> 10%
Folate 6%	•	Phosphorous 6%
Zinc 2%		Magnesium 6%
Construction of the second state of the second	-	

\*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.

#### **BAKED FRIES WITH SALSA**

Servings: 4 Prep time: 10 minutes Cook time: 25 minutes

3 medium russet potatoes (5–6 ounces each) 1 tablespoon canola

or other vegetable oil 1 teaspoon dried Italian herb seasoning

¼ teaspoon salt (or to taste) Salsa, optional

Heat oven to 450°F degrees. Slice potatoes lengthwise ¼ inch thick, then cut each slice into ¼-inch-long sticks. Place in large bowl. Drizzle with oil and sprinkle with herb seasoning and salt; toss to coat evenly. Arrange potato pieces in single layer on nonstick baking sheet or baking sheet coated with vegetable cooking spray. Bake 20–25 minutes, until potatoes are golden

brown, turning once after 15 minutes. Serve immediately, with salsa for dipping if desired.

#### **MEDITERRANEAN POTATO SOUP**

Servings: 4 Prep time: 10 minutes Cook time: 25 minutes

1 ½ teaspoons olive oil
1 clove garlic, minced
½ cup chopped onion
4 cups low-sodium chicken broth (or vegetable broth)
2 cups water
3 medium red potatoes, unpeeled and cubed
3 carrots, sliced
½ teaspoon ground pepper
2 teaspoons Italian seasoning
1 (15-ounce) can red kidney beans, drained and rinsed
1 cup (2 ounces) whole wheat noodles, uncooked
2 cups fresh spinach (or 1 cup frozen spinach)

% cup grated Parmesan cheese

Heat oil in 2-quart pot; saute garlic and onion about 3–4 minutes. Add chicken broth, water, potatoes, carrots and seasonings; cover and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer 15 minutes.

Add kidney beans and noodles. Bring to boil again; cook until noodles are soft. Remove from heat. Just before serving, add spinach to pot and stir gently. Ladle into bowls and serve with Parmesan cheese.

#### per

- » Chive-spiked yogurt
- » Prepared horseradish
- » Heated marinara sauce
- » Low calorie dips or salad dressings

For more recipes and tips for preparing nutritious and appetizing potato dishes, visit

www.eatwisconsinpotatoes.com.

Courtesy of Family Features

#### QUICK AND HEALTHY CHILE LIME TACOS

Servings: 4 (two tacos each) Prep time: 5 minutes Cook time: 20 minutes

½ pound Wisconsin Yukon Gold or red potatoes, cut into bite-size cubes
Olive oil cooking spray
½ cup chopped onion
½ pound diced boneless, skinless chicken breast
¼ cup finely chopped poblano, Anaheim or bell pepper
1 teaspoon Mexican seasoning blend
½ cup red chile enchilada sauce
½ cup shredded reduced-fat Monterey Jack cheese
8 small corn tortillas, warmed or crunchy taco shells
Optional toppings: shredded cabbage or romaine lettuce, diced tomato, diced avocado, thinly sliced radishes, fresh cilantro leaves and salsa
8 lime wedges

Place potatoes in microwave-safe bowl and cover with plastic wrap. Microwave on high 5–7 minutes.

Spray large skillet liberally with cooking spray. Add potatoes and onion; cook over medium-high heat 5 minutes, stirring and coating with cooking spray occasionally. Stir in chicken, pepper and seasoning, and cook 5 minutes more. Add red chile enchilada sauce and simmer 5 minutes.

Place equal amounts of cheese on each tortilla and heat in skillet until cheese is melted. Add potato mixture and any other desired toppings. Serve with lime wedges.



#### B8 (WGRL) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### **REAL ESTATE JULIE BROWN, EDITOR** JCBROWN@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-842-8046

# Realtor survey: Obstacles real for young adults in buying home

Despite an improving job market and low interest rates, the share of first-time buyers fell to its lowest point in nearly three decades and is preventing a healthier housing market from reaching its full potential, according to an annual survey released Nov. 3 by the National Association of Realtors. The survey additionally found that an overwhelming majority of buyers search for homes online and then purchase their home through a real estate agent.

The 2014 National Association of Realtors Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers continues a long-running series of large national NAR surveys evaluating the demographics, preferences, motivations, plans and experiences of recent home buyers and sellers; the series dates back to 1981. Results are representative of owner-occupants and do not include investors or vacation homes.

The long-term average in this survey, dating back to 1981, shows that four out of 10 purchases are from first-time home buyers. In this year's survey, the share of first-time buyers dropped 5 percentage points from a year ago to 33 percent, representing the lowest share since 1987 (30 percent).

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says there are many obstacles young adults are enduring on their path to homeownership. "Rising rents and repaying student loan debt makes saving for a down payment more difficult, especially for young adults who've experienced limited job prospects and flat wage growth since entering the workforce," he said. "Adding more bumps in the road, is that those finally in a position to buy have had to overcome low inventory levels in their price range, competition from investors, tight credit conditions and high mortgage insur-



**GETTY IMAGES | THINKSTOCK** Despite an improving job market and low interest rates, the share of first-time buyers fell to its lowest point in nearly three decades.

ance premiums."

Yun adds, "Stronger job growth should eventually support higher wages, but nearly half (47 percent) of first-time buyers in this year's survey (43 percent in 2013) said the mortgage application and approval process was much more or somewhat more difficult than expected. Less stringent credit standards and mortgage insurance premiums commensurate with current buyer risk profiles are needed to boost first-time buyer participation, especially with interest rates likely ris-

ing in upcoming years." The household composition of buyers responding to the survey was mostly unchanged from a year ago. Sixty-five percent of buyers were married couples, 16 percent single women, 9 percent single men and 8 percent unmarried couples.

In 2009, 60 percent of buy-ers were married, 21 percent were single women, 10 percent single men and 8 percent unmarried couples. Thirteen percent of survey respondents were multi-generational households, including adult children, parents and/or grandparents.

The median age of firsttime buyers was 31, un-

changed from the last two years, and the median income was \$68,300 (\$67,400 in 2013). The typical first-time buyer purchased a 1,570 square-foot home costing \$169,000, while the typical repeat buyer was 53 years old and earned \$95,000. Repeat buyers purchased a median 2,030-square foot home costing \$240,000.

#### **Financing the purchase**

Nearly nine out of 10 buyers (88 percent) financed their purchase. Younger buyers were more likely to finance (97 percent) compared to buyers aged 65 years and older (64 percent). The median down payment ranged from 6 percent for first-time buyers to 13 percent for repeat buyers. Among 23 percent of firsttime buyers who said saving for a down payment was difficult, more than half (57 percent) said student loans delayed saving, up from 54 percent a year ago.

Ninety-three percent of entry-level buyers chose a fixed-rate mortgage, with 35 percent financing their purchase with a low-down payment Federal Housing Administration-backed mortgage (39 percent in 2013), and 9 percent using the Veterans Affairs loan program with no

down payment requirements. "FHA premiums are too high in relation to default rates and have likely dissuaded some prospective first-time buyers from entering the market," says Yun. "To put it in perspective, 56 percent of first-time buyers used a FHA loan in 2010. The current high mortgage insurance added to their monthly payment is likely causing some young adults to forgo taking out a loan.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Characteristics of sellers**

The typical seller over the past year was 54 years old (53 in 2013; 46 in 2009), was mar-ried (74 percent), had a household income of \$96,700, and was in their home for 10 years before selling a new high for tenure in home. Seventeen percent of sellers wanted to sell earlier but were stalled because their home had been worth less than their mortgage (13 percent in 2013).

Yun attributes the increase in seller's age and tenure in home to rebounding home prices. "Faster price appreciation this past year finally allowed more previously stuck homeowners with little or no equity the ability to sell after waiting the last few years," he said

Sellers realized a median equity gain of \$30,100 (\$25,000 in 2013) – a 17 percent increase (13 percent last year) over the original purchase price. Sellers who owned a home for one year to five years typically reported higher gains than those who owned a home for six to 10 years, underlining the price swings since the recession

The 2014 NAR Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers can be ordered by calling 800-874-6500, or online at www.real tor.org/prodser.nsf/Research. The study costs \$19.95 for NAR members and \$249.95 for nonmembers. Highlights of the report are available at no cost.

# FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM Protect your

# rights in oil, gas drilling issues

**Q: Our municipality seems** to be doing nothing about the possibility of oil and gas drillers coming onto our properties or adjacent properties to drill oil and gas. I am wondering what our associa-tion can do to stop it.

A: If you live in a subdivision or condo-

minium, you should get your association to retain counsel to deal with this matter, both legally and politically. You should band



Meisner

together with other associations to put pressure on the municipality as well as the gas and oil companies to insure you have adequate protections for your property. This is an ever-increasing problem that must be dealt with aggressively and forcefully by community associations that are potentially adversely affected.

**Q: The United States Con**stitution guarantees freedom of expression, freedom of religion and the right to bear arms. However, state legislatures, I am told, from Arizona to Massachusetts have been granting new and, in many cases, previously unheard of rights to marijuana and firearm retailers. This is, I am told, rapidly drawing planners and zoning practitioners into the debate over how these businesses best fit into their communities and whether their communities are legally obligated to accommodate these uses in the first place. What can we do about the situation?

A: It sounds like it is more a political than legal issue, but one has to be concerned about the fact that legislation might be passed that impacts adversely on the rights of community associations to protect their own interests. It may well be that a state statute preempts any particular Association Bylaw depending on the circumstances and y

#### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 7-11, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office.

4056 Augusta Ct 🖷 🔹 454 Fox Hills Dr N # A-6 300 Kendry 3750 Peabody Dr

×\$440.000 29915 Old Bedford St \$70,000 21625 River Ridge Trl \$140.000 29404 Shenandoah Dr \$525.000 29484 Shenandoah Dr \$356,000 26196 Valhalla Dr \$340,000 30873 W 11 Mile Rd \$1,157,000 30074 W 12 Mile Rd Unit \$238,000 115 28001 W 13 Mile Rd \$280.000 28400 W Nine Mile Rd \$130,000 21566 Waldron St \$475,000 30398 Wicklow Rd FRANKLIN \$97,000 30860 Hickory Ln \$535,000 HIGHLAND 2585 Briar Cliff Dr \$229,000 \$380,000 766 E Wardlow Rd \$489,000 350 Mcpherson \$489,000 3390 Ridge Rd \$700,000 LATHRUP VILLAGE \$143,000 17385 Avilla Blvd \$221,000 18970 Eldorado Pl \$300,000 28411 Eldorado Pl 18231 Santa Ann Ave \$213,000 MILFORD 2020 Burns Rd \$138,000 1313 Yellowstone Valley \$138,000 \$170,000 Dr NORTHVILLE \$179,000 38170 Connaught Dr \$83.000 808 Revere Ct 43524 Scenic Ln \$144,000 \$213,000 NOVI \$186,000 22573 Brookforest \$191,000 50721 Calvert Isle Dr \$250,000 45928 Crestview Dr 29561 English Way \$110,000 \$380,000 50652 Glades Ct E \$413,000 21901 Greentree Ln \$430,000 44454 Gwinnett Loop \$200,000 41600 Hamlet Ln 25922 Island Lake Dr \$330,000

\$183.000 \$210,000 \$302,000

24836 Jamestowne Rd \$305,000 24351 Knollwood St \$235,000 43479 Mclean Ct \$660,000 \$310,000 \$166,000

\$324,000

\$385,000

\$350,000

\$635,000

\$8,000

\$94,000

\$13,000

\$81,000

\$60,000

\$90,000

\$50,000

\$70,000

\$75,000

\$135,000

\$150,000

\$25,000

\$110,000

\$30,000

\$160,000

\$135,000

\$90,000

\$61,000

\$135,000

\$131,000

Listed below are cities. addresses. and sales prices.

**BEVERLY HILLS** 

\$372,000 16011 Amherst Ave 17810 Beverly Rd \$225,000 31384 E Rutland St \$244,000 16250 Locherbie Ave \$220,000 21617 Meadow Ln \$260,000 18414 Warwick St \$8,000 BIRMINGHAM 990 Canterbury St \$420,000 523 E Southlawn Blvd \$232,000 1920 Graefield Rd \$126,000 1235 Lyonhurst St \$754,000 309 N Eton St # C \$95,000 637 N Old Woodward \$300,000 Ave 1767 Norfolk St \$860,000 1546 Penistone St \$215,000 776 S Bates St \$1,075,000 411 S Old Woodward Ave \$177,000 Unit 1013 411 S Old Woodward Ave \$406,000 Unit 824 998 Suffield Ave \$665,000 268 W Brown St \$879,000 277 W Brown St \$1,425,000 2344 Windemere Rd \$220,000 **BLOOMFIELD HILLS** 1171 Kemper Ave \$119,000 \$250,000 6875 Castle Ct 125 Guilford Rd \$592,000 2390 Hickory Glen Dr \$410,000 \$1,999,000 401 Lone Pine Ct 2108 Park Ridge Dr \$260,000 1835 Stonycroft Ln \$238,000

5755 Raven Rd 4896 School Bell Ln 2940 W Hickory Grove Rd 5516 Westwood Ln 364 Woodedge Dr 42160 Woodward Ave Unit 54 3673 York Ct **COMMERCE TOWNSHIP** 9374 Boncrest St 9427 Boncrest St 2442 Charms Rd 4474 Darlene Dr 3793 Gulfwood Dr 3931 Lakes Edge Dr 3591 Loch Bend Dr 1291 Sleeth Rd 4630 Sundew St 1532 Trace Hollow Dr FARMINGTON 22627 Brookdale St 22820 Floral St 21016 Larkspur St 32282 Leelane 32340 Shiawassee Rd **FARMINGTON HILLS** 22293 Acadia Way 23332 Barfield St 27460 Beacon Sq 28225 Bellcrest St 35273 Caryn St 26320 Drake Rd 29279 Earth Ln 30160 Fox Club Dr 22147 Harsdale Dr 33547 Heirloom Cir 30324 Le Mans Dr 30793 Oak Valley Dr

\$327,000	28738 Quarry Ct	\$310,000
\$296,000	23917 Ripple Crk	\$166,000
\$173,000	39460 Westminster Cir	\$297,000
\$48,000	SOUTH LYON	
	26923 Bluegrass Ct	\$387,000
\$316,000	1333 Cartwright Ln	\$425,000
\$175,000	23090 Cheyenne Dr	\$424,000
\$75,000	1242 Coach House Ln	\$370,000
\$225,000	1349 Drury Ln	\$360,000
	1160 Fountain View Cir	\$143,000
\$475,000	61110 Greenwood Dr	\$79,000
	57200 Meadowcreek Cir	\$421,000
\$210,000	N	
\$145,000	57132 Meadowcreek Cir	\$365,000
\$88,000	S	
\$165,000	24522 Padstone Dr	\$79,000
	24563 Padstone Dr	\$73,000
\$120,000	24476 Ravine Dr	\$533,000
\$170,000	952 Ridgefield Ct	\$270,000
\$175,000	61232 Saddlecreek Dr	\$379,000
\$175,000	SOUTHFIELD	
	28279 Aberdeen St	\$46,000
\$185,000	28715 Fairfax St	\$80,000
\$316,000	25498 Parsons Dr	\$173,000
	29845 Rambling Rd	\$117,000
	27465 Red Leaf Ln	\$118,000
\$365,000	21499 Virginia St	\$172,000
\$134,000	21400 W Nine Mile Rd	\$13,000
\$449,000	23697 Wendy Ln	\$145,000
	17699 Windflower Dr	\$97,000
\$241,000	WHITE LAKE	
\$715,000	915 Aglaia Dr	\$225,000
\$292,000	8200 Filmore Ct	\$290,000
\$316,000	72 Lisa Cir	\$180,000
\$623,000	9376 Mandon Rd	\$145,000
\$305,000	1441 Midwood Dr	\$90,000
\$232,000	1153 Pinecrest Dr	\$224,000
\$160,000	301 Tower Rd	\$132,000
\$550,000		

#### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 28 through Aug. 1, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities. addresses. and sales prices.

**BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP** 

#### CANTON

42930 Barchester Rd 4042 Bruton Ave 7758 Charrington Dr 6532 Edgewood Rd 50906 Federal Blvd 1427 Hampshire Dr 49273 lvybridge Way 2412 Lexington Cir 5 2025 Lincoln Dr 1809 Manton Blvd 50472 Monroe St 2230 N Woods Ct 4490 Napier Rd 47604 Ormskirk Dr 47950 Pavillon Rd 43443 Proctor Rd 42731 Saltz Rd 3470 Shepherd Ct 41791 Singh Dr

1541 Valentine Ct 6874 Willow Creek Dr **GARDEN CITY** 31449 Alvin St 29949 John Hauk St 32661 Marquette St 6714 Schaller St \$185.000 LIVONIA \$188,000 38188 Ann Arbor Trl 18543 Bainbridge Ave \$245,000 \$265.000 27732 Bobrich St \$77.000 37073 Bristol St \$130,000 39097 Dover St \$135,000 10041 E Clements Cir \$260,000 37471 Eagle Dr \$255,000 30725 Fargo St \$220,000 11866 Farmington Rd \$340,000 8883 Knolson Ave 36420 Ladywood St \$227,000 \$443,000 18147 Levan Rd \$135,000 8900 Louise St \$425.000 15033 Marsha St \$190.000 9166 Newburah Rd 35493 Oakdale St \$180,000 \$211,000 14665 Park St \$358,000 19356 Pollyanna Dr

1224 Terrell Ct

\$175,000 30542 Puritan St \$242,000 14130 S Livonia Cres \$179,000 18259 Stamford St 18435 Westmore St \$83,000 NORTHVILLE \$95,000 16342 Brookwood Ct \$113,000 42337 Chatterton Ct \$110,000 39481 Edgewater Dr 39722 Muirfield Ln \$50,000 49432 N Glacier \$195,000 17599 Parkshore Dr \$119,000 15874 Portis Rd 351 S Rogers St \$208,000 \$171,000 19460 Scenic Harbour Dr \$118,000 39650 Southwind Ln \$295,000 45667 Tournament Dr 20568 Woodbend Dr \$78,000 \$123,000 **PLYMOUTH** \$245,000 9177 Baywood Dr \$235,000 13477 Cambridge Ct 1150 Dewey St \$98.000 \$45,000 40519 Micol Dr \$177,000 10163 N Canton Center \$177,000 Rd 47060 N Territorial Rd \$200,000 \$174,000 1340 Ross St \$245,000 1199 S Sheldon Rd

\$238,000	12026 Talltree Dr
\$155,000	48672 Timber Crest Ct
\$265,000	46645 W Ann Arbor Trl
\$175,000	1064 William St
	REDFORD
\$279,000	25301 Five Mile Rd
\$274,000	12960 Beech Daly Rd
\$309,000	26014 Grand River Ave
\$290,000	18287 Macarthur
\$400,000	16701 Norborne
\$980,000	9161 Rockland
\$338,000	
\$240,000	8911 Woodbine
\$261,000	14383 Wormer
\$295,000	
\$115,000	
\$465,000	WESTLAND
	1190 Abbey Ct
\$260,000	33118 Armada Ct
\$335,000	31214 Cooley Blvd
\$355,000	32337 Glen St
\$195,000	421 Lansdowne Dr
\$330,000	32224 Mackenzie Dr
	8203 Milburn St
\$999,000	6025 N Crown St
\$138,000	38224 N Rickham Ct
\$48,000	30801 Stephen Ct

best advised to get your board to activate its efforts to protect the interests of the association and to ensure that their documents are foolproof to the extent possible from areas which are adverse to the interests of a majority of the members.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95, plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, " second edition. It is available for \$9.95, plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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#### **Short sales**

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon. Please call the office at

248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

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**RSVP** with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.



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1st Choice Mortgage Lending	138560	(734) 459-0782	3.875	0	3	0
AFI Financial	2431	(810) 588-4424	3.875	0	2.99	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.875	0	з	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4.125	0	3.25	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4.125	0	3.25	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.875	0	3	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.75	0.5	3	0
Group One Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	4.25	0	3.5	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4.125	0.25	3.25	0

Above Information available as of 11/14/14 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a

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6			3			5	1	9
2		9			5		4	3
	4	5			1		6	8
			7		6		5	
		1	8	4		9	2	
4	7							
						L	evel: E	Beginner

puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

#### Here's How It Works:

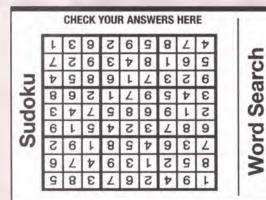
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric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

#### **EDUCATION WORD SEARCH**

WORDS

HNTEXTBOOKILCPFBDHFW	J Q D M A J O R T E A S E M E M S T E R	DEGREESSDPTTCLIQUELD	A D U K T E Y U I N N V S O R O R I T Y	U J N R S L C C E G W G R A D E S O I Q	F C A R L A N M C O N T I N U I N G S V	V M U A T I N W T K X O S E I L P P U S	S O B I R G O M K M M R O D I D G J G A	C U O P I J K W U S K J S D N E I R F W	SNKSFKPEMLSTEREOTYPE	N J S R O S I V D A U F V D I P L O M A	G A W U A N Y O C T R C W J D Q I K D X	P C O L L E G E K A G N I L O O H C S E	M L O C K E R S T E D O Y R C L P S U H	O U T L I N E E H O M E W O R K V S P M	RALUCIRRUCARTXEUUEME	Ð P N C O N C E N T R A T I O N C C A N	HMPXIREMEDIALMOFWVCT	O B I T B I L K B U N I V E R S I T Y O	I S Y U Q R O S S E F O R P L W L Q O R	ADVISOR ASSIGNMENT CAMPUS CLIQUE COLLEGE CONCENTRATION CONTINUING COURSICULUM DEGREE DIPLOMA DORM EDUCATION EXTRACURRICULAR FRATERNITY FRIENDS GRADES	HOMEWORK LOCKERS MAJOR MENTOR OUTLINE PRINCIPAL PRINCIPAL PROFESSOR REMEDIAL SCHOOLING SEMESTER SMART SORORITY STEREOTYPE SUPPLIES SYLLABUS TEXTBOOK UNIVERSITY
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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.



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#### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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D	5	U	R	5	N	P	6	I	T	L	1	H	P	V	D	0	W	I	L
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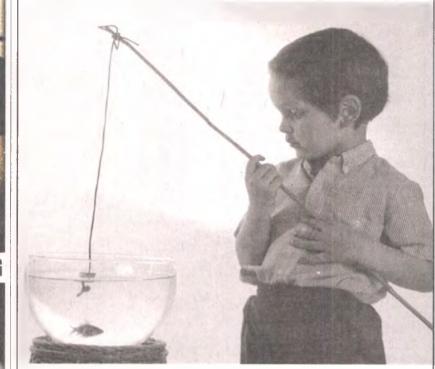
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