

## Vacant school to be temporary city hall

By LeAnne Rogers  
 Staff Writer

When Wayne City Hall staff have to relocate while repairs are being made to the building's roof, they will be temporarily moving into a former school. The city has already met with Wayne-Westland School officials and will be moving into the closed Vandenberg Elementary School, Interim City Manager David Murphy said.

"They will lease the building

to us for \$1. We can fit everyone in there," Murphy said. "Our IT people met with their IT people. I think it will work out just fine."

City Hall wouldn't be expected to move until spring when contractors can begin repairing the building's failed roof. Closed since 2010, Vandenberg is located at 32101 Stellwagen.

The steel trusses on city hall were found to have failed earlier this year when Wayne-Westland firefighters investigated a

smoke complaint. A smoking motor in the air handling system was a minor problem but the failed roof trusses required the council chambers to be closed as unsafe.

"The structural engineer is working. It will be early April or mid-May for the construction," Wayne-Westland Department of Public Works Director Ramzi El-Gharib said. "We will have to move out, the contractor will remove the roof, they will put in the new roof and we will move back in."

The cost for replacing the roof is about \$350,000 and will largely be paid by the city's insurer, the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority. Belfor is coordinating the project.

Located on Wayne Road just north of Michigan Avenue, Wayne City Hall was constructed in the 1940s as a recreation building. The council chamber was part of a gymnasium/roller rink. The building was remodeled in 1988.

The weight of the record

snowfall last winter is believed to have contributed to the roof failure.

The current flat roof will be built up to address some of the past problems, El-Gharib said.

The council held meetings at the Wayne Community Center before settling on a room at the Wayne Activities and Banquet Center as temporary meeting space.

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## Free Thanksgiving turkeys for vets

By LeAnne Rogers  
 Staff Writer

Westland veterans received free turkeys last week, just in time for Thanksgiving.

Originally, the veterans were supposed to stop by the Wayne Ford Civic League to pick up their turkeys. Some veterans stopped by but State Rep. Robert Kosowski, D-Westland, delivered a number of the turkeys to the homes of the veterans.

"We helped out 63 families, which is pretty awesome. We had a good mix of veterans," Kosowski said. "The majority were Vietnam veterans. I hoped for World War II veterans."

During World War II, Kosowski's grandfather Alex Iwasko died serving aboard the U.S.S. Rich, a destroyer sunk by mines in 1944.

Kosowski sponsored the turkey giveaway along with Westland Mayor William Wild and the Wayne Ford Civic League. The turkeys came from Meijer at a very good price, Kosowski said, with support from America Advance.

Wild's office took calls from veterans and the home deliveries were scheduled.

At the start of the two-hour pickup period, about a dozen veterans stopped by get their turkeys.

Veteran Ralph Zewicke stopped by to pick up a turkey and ended with taking three — one for his uncle, a World War II veteran, and a neighbor, another veteran.

When notice went out about the free turkeys for veterans, Robert Hallmark said his wife, stepdaughter



State Rep. Robert Kosowski (left) and Wayne Ford Civic League President Vic Barra present a Thanksgiving turkey to veteran Dennis Rachwal.

See TURKEYS, Page A2

## Council rejects court's staffing request

By LeAnne Rogers  
 Staff Writer

A request to make a currently part-time position full-time at Wayne 29th District Court has been rejected by the city council, but that may not be the end of the issue.

"The city is required by law to fund the court in a reasonable manner. The next step is to call the State Court Administrator," 29th District Court Judge Laura Mack said. "We will settle this with an arbitrator. The city will have to pay for it. I will let the city know."

For council members, the issue was the current fiscal year budget shortfall — a number that currently isn't certain — and a citywide hiring freeze.

Mack and Court Administrator Linda Gable submitted the request to expand to full-time the deputy criminal/mental health court clerk. The court has received a mental health court grant that would pay for the additional hours.

"We have more part-time people as a ratio with full-time people than any other court," said Mack, adding there are six part-time staff and four full-time workers, including Gable.

Like other city departments, Mack said the court has cut its budget, going from \$900,000 to \$650,000. By not having a full-time criminal clerk, Mack said another staff member has to fill in two days a week, and mistakes are being made.

"Bad things happen when mistakes are made in court," said Mack, who noted that another part-time position had been left unfilled along with mental health court grant funding for the expanded deputy criminal clerk position. "I pledge to work with the city and do all we can to keep costs down."

**Maintain position**

Council members questioned whether the grant obligated the court to maintain the position after funding ended.

See COURT, Page A2

## 12-year-old struck and killed by train in Wayne

Wayne police are continuing to investigate a pedestrian/train accident that killed a 12-year-old Westland boy Sunday.

Police described what was called a very tragic accident at Venoy and the railroad tracks. The boy and his friend were on foot attempting to

cross the railroad tracks with a train oncoming.

The boy continued onto the tracks and was struck by the train, police said, while the friend stopped.

Police didn't identify the youngster who was killed in the accident.

"We're going to hold off

releasing information until we've talked to the (victim's) family," said Wayne Interim Police Chief Alan Maciag.

Wayne police officers responded to the accident scene just before noon and confirmed the 12-year-old had been killed.

The youngster was report-

ed to have been struck and killed by the Wolverine Train 353 traveling from Pontiac to Chicago.

There were 92 passengers reported to be on the train, which was held at the scene for about four hours following the accident.

By LeAnne Rogers



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# Westland council unhappy with rentals delay

**By LeAnne Rogers**  
Staff Writer

Without an approved fee schedule, Westland can't rent meeting rooms

in the new city hall or the Farmers Market Pavilion.

Council members were scheduled to discuss the fee schedule at

recent study session and weren't happy when administration didn't have a proposal ready.

"I expressed my displeasure to the mayor (William Wild) last week. I have received more than one call from residents saying they can't rent a room due to council not having approved the fee schedule," Council President James Godbout said.

Knowing for a year that the new city hall and Farmers Market Pavilion would be opening, Godbout said the fee schedule should have already been in place.

"We have a \$60,000 hole in the budget. We have no revenue coming in," Godbout said. "We could have had revenue from the pavilion for months and there are no city hall (room) rentals. (Hiring) the Parks and Recreation director has nothing to do with the fee schedule."

Wild was absent from the meeting but Deputy Mayor Thelma Kubitsky said the fee schedule would be ready for the second council meeting in December to take effect Jan. 1. She noted council was scheduled at their meeting to confirm the appointment of a new Parks and Recreation director who will be on board soon.

"You can say there will be a new Parks and Recreation director but there were rental fees for the Bailey Center," Godbout said. "We're not reinventing the wheel. We lost revenues for Christmas parties again."

# Mom arrested for leaving kids alone

**By LeAnne Rogers**  
Staff Writer



Little

Child Protective Services, which placed them with their

maternal grandmother. Identified as their mother, Little was located and reportedly told police she had left the children alone for seven hours while she was attending school. Police said Little told them she had left the children alone for about four hours the previous day.

Little was arrested pending charges from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. A not guilty plea was entered at her arraignment. She was released on personal bond and scheduled for preliminary examination Dec. 4.

A Westland woman is facing child abuse charges after reportedly leaving her young children unattended for hours.

Brittany Little, 22, was arraigned Nov. 21 in Westland 18th District Court on two counts of second-degree child abuse, two counts of fourth-degree child abuse and two counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Westland Police were called to the Forest Lane Apartments, 6200 N. Wayne Road, on Nov. 19 on a report of a 4-year-old child outside, clad only in his underwear.

Officers reportedly found a second child, 10 months old, inside the apartment when they arrived. Both children were taken to Garden City Hospital for evaluation and turned over to

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# UAW Local 900 supports Westland veterans memorial

The Veterans Memorial Garden of Westland received a boost from UAW Local 900 and Ford Michigan Assembly Plant workers.

At Monday's council meeting, Westland Councilman Bill Johnson, UAW Michigan

Assembly Plant chairman, presented a \$10,000 donation to the memorial garden on behalf his members.

The memorial garden, located behind the William P. Faust Library, was dedicated on Veterans Day 2013.

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# TURKEYS

Continued from Page A1

and stepson all called to let him know about the giveaway.

"I really appreciate this. And I appreciated everyone feeding me on Veterans Day," said Hall-

mark, who spent 21 years combined in active duty and reserve time in the Navy. "My wife said I took it upon myself to eat myself to death."

Hallmark recounted getting free food on Veterans Day at Tim Hortons, International House of Pancakes, Subway, Texas Roadhouse, Fam-

ous Dave's and Applebee's and also enjoyed a free movie.

"I'd like to expand this next year. We will probably do a dinner. I wanted to help out in our area," Kosowski said.

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# COURT

Continued from Page A1

Gable said there wasn't that requirement in the state grant.

"We haven't had a financial statement to know if we can afford it," Mayor James Hawley said. "If we approve it, there will be other departments with as firm justification. It's a difficult time. We also have a hiring freeze. I haven't heard anyone say we should release it for other departments."

The 2014-15 fiscal year budget was adopted by council with a deficit, which was earlier set at about \$500,000. The city has been without a finance director for several months, making it difficult for the council to get a specific number for the shortage.

Interim City Manager David Murphy didn't recommend allowing the position to be filled, citing the inability to know if the city can afford the position, including legacy costs, which can fluctuate.

"It's not fair to hire someone and lay that person off in six months. I would ask you to wait a couple of months," Murphy said.

A motion to approve making the clerk position full-time failed with support only from Councilmen David James and John Rhansa.

"We know we are in the hole. We passed a budget with a hole. We have no idea how short we are," Councilwoman Susan Rowe said. "We understand how critical it is for the court. As elected officials, we can't again go ahead and spend money we don't have."

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## Schoolcraft College students ride to victory in bicycle competition

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College student Joshua Costa got real acquainted with the college's fitness center the past several weeks.

Costa, a Livonia resident, was one of several hundred students involved in a competition called the Fall Frenzy, put on by a company that has developed an interactive stationary bicycle used in the event. The competition, which pitted several dozen schools against each other, challenged schools to see who could ride the farthest during a 48-hour period each week.

Using the Expresso interactive bicycles built by Interactive Fitness, students, including Costa, were running the bicycles, sometimes all night, to try to beat other colleges and universities across the country.

The hard work paid off, as Schoolcraft was the winner in the competition, defeating several schools in a tournament that saw students bike for several thousand miles.

And Costa's time at the fitness center was also an accomplishment: not only did his team win, but he placed second in the entire country in distance ridden over the five-week period, clocking 668 miles during the competition.

There were days he would begin in the middle of the night and stay at the college until the middle of the next day.

"I came for the midnight shift. I'd go and sleep in my car for a few hours and came back," he said. "I was here for every shift."

The school was awarded a trophy, dubbed the



Schoolcraft College fitness center assistant manager and fitness lead Lisa Cunningham and Livonia resident and student Joshua Costa pose with the "Golden Spokes" trophy last week at the Livonia campus. The trophy was awarded to Schoolcraft College after students won a competition against several other colleges and universities across the country riding interactive, stationary bicycles the longest.

"Golden Spokes" trophy, last week by company representatives.

The bicycles look like traditional stationary bicycles, but come equipped with a computer system that allows users to simulate riding in various conditions and locations, including a track and hilly communities.

More than 370 people at Schoolcraft participated with varying amounts of participation. In addition to Costa, two other riders placed in the top 10 for mileage ridden during the event: Pat Mog of Canton, an employee in Schoolcraft's Facilities Management Department, placed fourth with 571.1 miles, and student Jose Ramirez of Northville came in ninth, riding 485.4 miles.

### Defeated other larger schools

The school went head-to-head with others in the United States, competing against Carnegie Mellon

University, Houghton College, Louisiana State University and Gannon University, riding more miles in a two-day period than each one en route to their championship.

Lisa Cunningham, the fitness center's assistant manager and fitness lead, said defeating such larger schools, especially LSU, was great for the college.

"That one was fairly large," she said of the win over LSU. "They also won it last year; they were the champs in 2013."

Costa said he helped recruit people to come in overnight, something that needed to be approved by management, as the fitness center typically closes at 9 p.m. He said throughout the five-week event, he probably spent more than 24 hours riding. "I just wanted to help Schoolcraft win," he said. "It was fun."

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## 'Smart meter' hearing set for Tuesday in Lansing

Suzanne Yarbrough of Livonia plans to attend a state House hearing on "smart meters" at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, in Lansing, and she hopes other area residents will join her.

"Anyone who wants to testify regarding the health, safety, privacy (and) cyber hacking (of smart meters), or their electric bill going up for a meter that is no benefit to customers can testify," said Yarbrough, who has spoken out against smart meters at Livonia City Council meetings.

The hearing, held by the Michigan House Oversight Committee, will take place in Room 519 of the Anderson House office building, 124 N. Capitol.

"Smart meters" are a

high-tech alternative to conventional utility meters that are attached to homes to remotely report through radio frequency waves when and how much electricity is used by homeowners.

State Rep. Tom McMillin, committee chair, called the hearing after being contacted by many constituents and other citizens about privacy, health and safety concerns relating to the meters.

"With this hearing, we're giving the people of Michigan an open and transparent platform to not only voice their concerns but hopefully have them addressed by public utility officials" said McMillin, R-Rochester Hills.

"Residents have con-

tacted my office, terrified that their power will be shut off after receiving letters from utility companies threatening to do just that if they don't allow a smart meter to be installed on their home, even though they have a perfectly working analog meter."

Residents can testify during the committee or submit written testimony. Representatives from the Michigan Public Service Commission, DTE Energy and Consumers Energy have been invited to testify and respond to citizens' concerns.

For more information, residents can contact McMillin by emailing TomMcMillin@house.mi.gov or by calling 517-373-1773

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## Livonia native serves with Navy maritime patrol squad

A 2011 Stevenson High School graduate and Livonia native is serving with Patrol Squadron Sixteen (VP-16), also known as the "War Eagles."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Nichole Lindberg is a naval aircrewman with VP-16, a Jacksonville-based squadron that operates the Navy's newly designed maritime patrol aircraft, the P-8A Poseidon. Each aircraft has an aircrew of nine, is nearly 130 feet long, weighs up to 188,200 pounds and can travel more than 560 mph and nearly 1,380 miles on a tank of gas.

As a naval aircrewman, Lindberg's job duties are to perform as a member of an integrated tactical crew aboard maritime patrol aircraft and an integrated, tactical and logistics worldwide intelligence network.

"I am a radar operator and ensure the safety of a crew during flight," Lindberg said.

The Navy's replacement platform for the P-3C, the P-8A Poseidon, is designed to secure the Navy's future in long-range maritime patrol capability, while transforming how the Navy's maritime patrol and reconnaissance force will man, train, operate and deploy.

"I am impressed by the P-8 because of its advanced capabilities," Lindberg said.

The P-8A provides more combat capability from a smaller force and less infrastructure while focusing on worldwide responsiveness and interoperability with traditional manned forces and evolving unmanned sensors.

Lindberg is proud of the work she is doing as part of the squadron's 260-member team, help-



Petty Officer 3rd Class Nichole Lindberg is a naval aircrewman with VP-16, a Jacksonville-based squadron that operates the Navy's newly-designed maritime patrol aircraft, the P-8A Poseidon.

ing to protect America on the world's oceans. "The squadron is a good work environment and everybody cares about everybody else's well being," Lindberg said.

Lindberg's parents inspired her to join. "The Navy is a family business in a sense. Both of my parents are still in the Navy, so growing up in this lifestyle made it an easy choice to serve," she said.

The P-8A leverages the experience and technology of the P-3C's capabilities and assets to meet the Navy's needs of developing and fielding a maritime aircraft equipped with significant growth potential, including an extended global reach, greater payload capacity, higher operating altitude, and the open systems architecture.

The War Eagles were the first squadron to deploy with the new P-8A platform. One of their first major missions was participating in the

search for Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 in the southern Indian Ocean.

Sailors' jobs vary considerably in VP-16. Approximately 60 officers, and 200 enlisted men and women keep the squadron running smoothly — including maintaining aircraft airframes and engines, processing paperwork, handling weaponry and flying the aircraft.

"Every day I feel an extraordinary amount of pride to serve alongside our great nation's most inspiring men and women," said Cmdr. Daniel Papp, VP-16's commanding officer. "Our team is filled with hardworking and highly qualified professionals who hold uncommon levels of responsibility and accountability in support of our mission: To provide maritime patrol services to the fleet in support of national interests. Their work ethic, commitment, enthusiasm, and esprit de corps are second to none!"

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## John Glenn High students turn out for Pop with Cop

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

Westland Police Officer Joe Bobby is well-known around John Glenn High School. The school's resource officer, Bobby interacts with students on a regular basis.

But when he staged his first Pop with a Cop, he was worried no one would show.

Just the opposite was true. More than a dozen students stopped by the cafeteria last Thursday to have a pop or bottle of water and talk about anything and everything — University of Michigan football coach Brady Hoke, basketball and the school district's tardy policy.

"I got the idea from the chief's Coffee with a Cop," Bobby said. "I did it so they could address their concerns or ask questions off the record and in an open forum. It's a positive thing."

Many of the students were members of the basketball team. Many of them already knew Bobby who spends 90 percent of his time in the school.

"I already knew him around school," Bobby Powell said. "This gives a different vehicle to meet him outside of school."

"I've been cool with him, we've spoken a lot of times," Freddie Thompson said. "I like having a relationship with him. Whenever I talk with him, he gives me a lot of good information."

Some students questioned Bobby about being a police officer, how he gets along with other police officers and how



Joining Westland Police Officer Joe Bobby for Pop with a Cop were John Glenn students Tre'vaughn James, Tion Liddell, Christian Agnew, Terrance Dupree and Saturi Lunad.



Senior Jamie Melchor likes having a relationship with Resource Officer Joe Bobby.

many police dogs the department has. He was also asked about using a Taser.

"No one goes to work wanting to Taser or use force," he said. "It's not fun, but sometimes it's necessary."

Principal David Ingham also joined in, fielding questions about which tests are needed for college and the appeal process for being absent for 15 days.

"I'll probably do it again," he said. "You get to know kids. I had them stopping me in the halls during the day and asking if Pop with a Cop was on. That's a positive thing."

"It's nice to know the officer," senior Jamie Melchor said. "I have a bond with him."

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## Motion hearing in soccer ref death case pushed back again

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

More delays have taken place in the trial of Bassel Saad, the man accused of killing a soccer referee in Livonia.

A motion hearing was originally scheduled for last Friday afternoon, but was once again delayed, this time to 9 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26, said Wayne County Prosecutor's Office spokeswoman Maria Miller.

Also changed in the case is the jury trial date: it will now take place beginning at 9 a.m. Feb. 23 in judge Thomas Cameron's courtroom in the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit. It was most recently set for Feb. 9, though that date was also chosen after it was pushed back from its originally scheduled date of Dec. 8.

The motion hearing was expected to deal with three separate



Saad

motions, including one filed by the prosecutor to allow for other previous incidents to be included as evidence during the trial. The defense attorney's motions include one motion to quash and another to suppress photos from being included.

Saad, 36, of Dearborn is accused in the death of John Bieniewicz of Westland, a soccer referee who was officiating an adult league match Saad was playing in earlier this summer at Livonia's Mies Park. Witnesses said during the preliminary examination in July that Saad struck Bieniewicz as he was in the process of ejecting Saad from the game. Saad is charged with second-degree murder and

faces up to life in prison if convicted.

The case has stalled since it was bound over to circuit court earlier this summer: several delays have taken place, and Saad has also retained a new lawyer to represent him.

The most recent delay occurred when circuit judge Cynthia Gray-Hathaway recused herself from hearing the case earlier this month, claiming she could not be unbiased, as she has a background in sports. She also said Saad's new attorney, Cyril Hall, had represented her in an unrelated case previously. The case was redrawn to Cameron earlier this month.

Saad is being held in the Wayne County jail on \$1 million bond.

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## Westland family reportedly interrupts home break-in

A Westland man has been charged with breaking into a home — a crime that was interrupted by the homeowners.

Westland police were called to the home at 206 S. Carlson just before 8 p.m. Nov. 20. The family had just returned from dinner and one family member heard a loud noise, believed to be the suspect fleeing the house.

A rear window was found to have been broken. The family report-



Thomas

ed a large amount of jewelry, a coin collection, computers and a handgun were missing.

The investigation led officers to an apartment complex at Western Hills Apartments in the 37000 block of Cherry Hill where a suspect was found to be in possession of property stolen from the home along

with three stolen handguns.

Malik Travez Thomas, 18, has been arraigned in Westland 18th District Court on charges of first-degree home invasion, receiving and concealing stolen firearms, larceny of a building and felony firearm.

Bond for Thomas was set at \$125,000/10 percent. A preliminary examination has been scheduled for Dec. 4.

By LeAnne Rogers

**City of Livonia:** Regular Meeting Minutes of 10/20/14  
**Present:** Kritzman, Pastor, Meakin, Toy, Scheel, Nash, Brosnan  
**Absent:** None  
Meeting called to order @ 7 pm  
#300-14 Approving minutes of 10/6/14 Meeting. Several items received and filed.  
#301-14 Approving block party on Bennett between Westbrook and Parklane on 10/31/14 from 6 pm - midnight.  
#302-14 Approving sidewalk waiver for 20320 Purlingbrook.  
#303-14 Approving sidewalk waiver for 33831 Orangelawn.  
#304-14 Approving renewal of the Standard Software Maintenance Agreement ("SSMA") between the City of Livonia and New World Systems, for the period December 1, 2014 to November 30, 2019.  
#305-14 Accepting proposal from Accumed Billing, Inc., PO Box 2122, Riverview, MI 48192, to perform emergency medical billing services for a three (3) year period (with an option to renew for an additional two (2) year period under the same terms and conditions upon mutual consent by the City and Accumed Billing, Inc.) at the rate of 7.29% of each bill collected.  
#306-14 Approving the City of Livonia Health Reimbursement Arrangement Plan.  
#307-14 Approving the merger of the two part-time positions of Deputy Clerk and Elections Coordinator into one full-time position of Deputy Clerk; approving appointment of Susan Hoff to the position of full-time Deputy Clerk; establishing the full-time salary for this position in the amount of \$62,192.00, or an amount equal to that of the Deputy Treasurer, with the further understanding that all benefits as previously approved by the Council for other appointed positions within the City be also extended to this position. (CR 279-11)  
#308-14 Authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2015 Sewer Cleaning Jet Truck utilizing the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) Purchasing Contract which was awarded to Jack Doheny Companies, 777 Doheny Court, Northville, MI 48167 (under Contract No. 022014-SCA), in the amount of \$207,267.84, to replace a current vehicle from budgeted funds.  
#309-14 Authorizing the purchase of one (1) Case 580SN 2WD Backhoe/Loader utilizing the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) Purchasing Contract which was awarded to Southeastern Equipment Co., Inc., 48545 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI 48374 (NJPA Member No: 40280), in the amount of \$83,601.20, to replace a current vehicle from budgeted funds.  
#310-14 Approving and authorizing the modernization of the traffic signal at I-275/I-96 NB Ramp at Seven Mile Road; approving of the City assuming its 67% share of the annual energy and maintenance costs for such modernization; appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of a sum not to exceed \$225.00 annually from the Michigan Transportation Fund.  
#311-14 Approving and authorizing the modernization of the traffic signal at Old M-14 (Ann Arbor Road) at Newburgh Road; approving of the City assuming its 50% share of the annual energy and maintenance costs for such modernization; appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of a sum not to exceed \$576.00 annually from the Michigan Transportation Fund.  
#312-14 Approving and authorizing the modernization of the traffic signal at Old M-14 (Ann Arbor Road) at Ann Arbor Trail; FURTHER, the Council does hereby approve of the City assuming its 50% share of the annual energy and maintenance costs for such modernization; appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of a sum not to exceed \$528.00 annually from the Michigan Transportation Fund.  
#313-14 Approving and authorizing the modernization of the traffic signal at Old M-14 (Plymouth Road) at Levan Road; approving of the City assuming its 50% share of the annual energy and maintenance costs for such modernization; appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of a sum not to exceed \$576.00 annually from the Michigan Transportation Fund.  
#314-14 Approving Petition 2014-08-SN-02 submitted by WorkForce Software, for a wall sign for the four-story office building (Seven Mile Crossing), located at 38705 Seven Mile Road, subject to conditions.  
#315-14 Referring the matter of scheduling a meeting for the purpose of discussing the clarification and possible verbiage change to LOCC Resolution #06-13 in regards to absences of the City Councilmembers at meetings.  
#316-14 Approving the Annual Budget of the City of Livonia for the fiscal year commencing December 1, 2014, and ending November 30, 2015.  
#317-14 Establishing a tax levy of 4.0447 mills, of the taxable valuation of all real and personal property subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year commencing December 1, 2014, and ending November 30, 2015, as well as various additional levies to support the proposed budget.

Second reading and approval of the following ordinance:  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 260 OF TITLE 6, CHAPTER 04 (DOGS) OF THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED**  
First reading of the following ordinance:  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SUBSECTION (p) OF SECTION 11.03 OF ARTICLE XI OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE."**  
#318-14 Approving and establishing a \$25.00 fee to non-residents and a \$10.00 fee to residents per exam for test proctoring and a \$10.00 per obituary fee for genealogical research for all library patrons.  
#319-14 Approving Petition 2014-08-08-10, to remodel the exterior of the commercial/office building (Mark E. Building - O'Malley's Bar & Grill), located at 15231 Farmington Road, subject to conditions.  
#320-14 Approving Petition 2008-11-06-04, directing the Department of Law to prepare an amendment to Section 11.03 of Article XI of the Livonia Zoning Ordinance No. 543, requiring approval of any licensed business pursuant to the Deferred Presentment Service Transactions Act.  
Meeting adjourned @ 7:34 pm  
Complete meeting minutes @ City Clerk's Office  
**Terry A. Marecki**  
Livonia City Clerk  
Publish: November 27, 2014

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# Shop is 'Downton Abbey' fans' cup of tea

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

There was just a touch of England among the prim and proper crowd at the TranquiliTea open house Sunday, Nov. 16.

The business on Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth hosted an open house with tasting of nine teas, five from the popular PBS *Downton Abbey* television series set in Great Britain in the early 20th century.

"This gives them an opportunity to try products that normally aren't available for sampling," said Colleen Cannon, who with her husband Pat owns TranquiliTea. "We were very pleased with the end product. We thought it was quite delightful."

The *Downton Abbey*-based tea is new and popular. "They are based on characters," Livonia resident Pat Cannon said of the *Downton Abbey* teas. "We actually carry *Downton Abbey* jewelry as well and *Downton Abbey*-inspired tea cozies."

He paused to compare the British series' venue and Plymouth. "I think it has to do with the small town aspect of the area," Pat Cannon said. "Obviously we don't have a big manor hanging over us. It's kind of that hometown feel."

The Cannons, in business at TranquiliTea for



Colleen and Pat Cannon of Livonia were pleased to welcome visitors to the open house Sunday, Nov. 16, at their TranquiliTea store in downtown Plymouth.

nearly nine years, were pleased with the steady turnout at their business open house. "Business is picking up. I think it'll really start taking off after Thanksgiving," he said. He agreed last winter's weather hit many retailers hard.

"We are in Michigan and we do get snow," Pat Cannon said.

One visitor Sunday to TranquiliTea was Suzan Zissimos of Redford. "I was going through town

and I always like to stop here," she said. "It's fun to taste all the samples."

She picked Holiday Spice as her holiday tea favorite. Zissimos was accompanied by husband Pete, with both avid *Downton Abbey* fans.

"The acting is very well done," Pete Zissimos said. "The character Matthew should have never died. It's a timepiece. I like that."

*jcbrown@hometownlife.com*

# SEMCOG report paints stark picture of road conditions

Just how bad are roads in southeast Michigan? According to SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, they're not good at all.

Each year, as required by law, SEMCOG works with local road agencies to evaluate the condition of the major roads in the seven-county region. The preliminary results of this summer's work are in and they paint a stark picture.

Southeast Michigan has seen a staggering jump in the total miles of roads that should be repaired by completely tearing them up and rebuilding them from the ground up. Of the nearly 4,500 miles of major roads that were evaluated this summer, more than 1,900 miles need to be rebuilt, an increase of more than 500 miles compared to two years ago, when these same roads were last evaluated.

Another 1,900 miles are in need of preventive maintenance in order to keep them from also slipping into poor condition.

Only 650 miles - or 14 percent - are considered to be in good condition.

"People may want to blame last winter's weather for the rapid deterioration of our roads," said Carmine Palombo, deputy executive director of SEMCOG. "However, the weather simply exposed the real problem. Our state has been disinvesting in roads for years.

"If the Senate funding proposal is enacted, we will begin to see the condition of our road system improve over time. Un-



Of the nearly 4,500 miles of major roads in southeast Michigan, only 650 miles are considered to be in good condition

fortunately, if major funding increases do not occur, the decline in the condition of our roadways will continue," she added.

The SEMCOG region has nearly 29,000 miles of public roads. Of that total, approximately 8,000 miles are classified as "federal-aid eligible," which means a portion of the cost to repair them can be provided by the federal government. This includes all freeways, highways and many of the major streets motorists use every day. Over the course of two years, a team of specially trained local, county and state employees evaluate the condition of all 8,000 miles of federal-aid eligible roads. This evaluation process has been in place since 2004; at that time, only 9 percent of the roads were considered to be in need of replacement.

While the evaluations include a detailed accounting of road conditions, results are reported in three simple categories. Roads rated as "good" have no significant issues related to their condition.

Roads in fair condition are beginning to show

some wear and tear and require certain preventive maintenance in order to improve their condition and extend the useful life of the roadway. Preventive maintenance is relatively inexpensive and can usually delay the need for replacement by 10 to 15 years.

Roads in poor condition have moved beyond the point where preventive maintenance can be effective. The only option for these roads is complete reconstruction, which is much more costly.

The same roads that were evaluated in 2012 were also evaluated again in 2014. Below is the comparison of road conditions from those two years.

Good - in 2012, 16 percent or 721 miles were in good condition compared to 14 percent or 650 miles in 2014.

Fair - in 2012, 52 percent, or 2,328 miles, were in fair condition compared to 43 percent or 1,940 miles in 2014.

Poor - in 2012, 32 percent or 1,427 miles were in poor condition compared to 43 percent or 1,937 miles in 2014.

## City of Livonia: Regular Meeting Minutes of 10/20/14

**Present:** Krizman, Pastor, Meakin, Toy, Scheel, Nash, Brosnan  
**Absent:** None  
Meeting called to order @ 7 pm  
#300-14 Approving minutes of 10/6/14 Meeting.  
Several items received and filed.  
#301-14 Approving block party on Bennett between Westbrook and Parklane on 10/31/14 from 6 pm - midnight.  
#302-14 Approving sidewalk waiver for 20320 Purlingbrook.  
#303-14 Approving sidewalk waiver for 33831 Orangelawn.  
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#306-14 Approving the City of Livonia Health Reimbursement Arrangement Plan.  
#307-14 Approving the merger of the two part-time positions of Deputy Clerk and Elections Coordinator into one full-time position of Deputy Clerk; approving appointment of Susan Hoff to the position of full-time Deputy Clerk; establishing the full-time salary for this position in the amount of \$62,192.00, or an amount equal to that of the Deputy Treasurer, with the further understanding that all benefits as previously approved by the Council for other appointed positions within the City be also extended to this position. (CR 279-11)  
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#316-14 Approving the Annual Budget of the City of Livonia for the fiscal year commencing December 1, 2014, and ending November 30, 2015.  
#317-14 Establishing a tax levy of 4.0447 mills, of the taxable valuation of all real and personal property subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year commencing December 1, 2014, and ending November 30, 2015, as well as various additional levies to support the proposed budget.  
Second reading and approval of the following ordinance:  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 260 OF TITLE 6, CHAPTER 04 (DOGS) OF THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED.**  
First reading of the following ordinance:  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SUBSECTION (p) OF SECTION 11.03 OF ARTICLE XI OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE."**  
#318-14 Approving and establishing a \$25.00 fee to non-residents and a \$10.00 fee to residents per exam for test proctoring and a \$10.00 per obituary fee for genealogical research for all library patrons.  
#319-14 Approving Petition 2014-08-08-10, to remodel the exterior of the commercial/office building (Mark E. Building - O'Malley's Bar & Grill), located at 15231 Farmington Road, subject to conditions.  
#320-14 Approving Petition 2008-11-06-04, directing the Department of Law to prepare an amendment to Section 11.03 of Article XI of the Livonia Zoning Ordinance No. 543, requiring approval of any licensed business pursuant to the Deferred Presentment Service Transactions Act.  
#321-14 Suspending the rules for procedure as outlined in CR 574-82 to permit consideration of items that do not appear on the agenda.  
#322-14 Approving the tentative agreement between the City of Livonia and AFSCME Union Local 192 for the period December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016.  
#323-14 Resolution by Pastor and Meakin, unanimously adopted, approving the proposed contract between the City of Livonia and Livonia Police Officers Association (LPOA), Subunit B, Police Service Aides for the period October 20, 2014 through November 30, 2017.  
Meeting adjourned @ 7:41 pm  
Complete meeting minutes @ City Clerk's Office  
**Terry A. Marecki**  
Livonia City Clerk  
Publish: November 27, 2014

## CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 23 11/17/14

Presiding: President Godbout  
**Present:** Coleman, Hammons, Johnson, Kehrer, Reeves  
211: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 11/3/14.  
- Appr. 1 yr. Contract w/WH Canon for City Hall Landscape Maintenance Services; amt. not to exceed \$17,091.  
- Intro Manpower Budget Amendment 2014-03; General Fund.  
- Adopt Budget Amendment 2015-01; General Fund Budget Transfer for Animal Control.  
- Adopt Budget Amendment 2015-02; General Fund for COPS Grant.  
- Adopt. Clyde Smith Farm's Condos LTSW Maintenance Facilities Resolution.  
- Appr. Clyde Smith Farm's Condos LTSW Facilities Maintenance Agreement.  
- Adopt Prepared Resolution adopting WWCS Partnership Agreement Re. Jefferson Barns interior renovations.  
- Adopt. WWCS Partnership Agreement Re. Jefferson Barns interior renovations.  
- Proclaimed 11/29/14 "Small Business Saturday".  
213: Appr. WPPFFU CBA 2014-2020.  
214: Appr. SLU for prop. expansion of Malarkey's Irish Pub, 35750 Warren Road.  
215: Conf. appt. of J. Mistak as Parks & Rec Director effective 12/1/14.  
216: Conf. appt. of Fr. R. Kerr to DDA to fill unexp. term to exp. 9/6/15.  
217: Conf. re/appt. of S. Larimore to EDC/TIFA for 4 yr. term to exp. 11/15/18.  
218: Conf. re/appt. of T. Nix to Board of Review for 3 yr. term to exp. 12/6/17.  
219: Appr. checklist: \$ 3,113,805.90.  
Mtg. adj. at 8:15 p.m.  
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.  
**James Godbout** Eileen DeHart-Schoof, CMC  
Council President City Clerk  
Publish: November 27, 2014. LO-000221018 34

**City of Livonia: Regular Meeting of 11/05/14**  
Meeting called to order @ 7 pm  
**Present:** Toy, Scheel, Nash, Krizman, Pastor, Meakin  
**Absent:** Brosnan  
#325-14 Approving minutes of 10/20/14 meeting  
#326-14 Approving minutes of Special Meeting 10/22/14  
Several items received and filed.  
#327-14 Approving reappointment of Jack Engebretson to the Livonia Brownfield Redevelopment for a 3 yr term expiring 11/24/17.  
#328-14 Approving the reappointment of Joe Taylor to the Livonia Brownfield Redevelopment Authority of a 3 yr. term expiring 11/24/17.  
#329-14 Authorizing the purchase for \$45,199.09 for Rain Bird Irrigation Products for Idyl Wyld Golf Course from Automatic Irrigation Supply Company.  
#330-14 Authorizing the City to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between Wayne County and the City authorizing the City to become a Closed POD to ensure the City is enabled to acquire and provide the required medication/medical supplies needed during an event that jeopardizes the health and welfare of Livonia citizens.  
#331-14 Approving the 2015 Road Repair Program, for the third year of the 10 year road paving millage.  
#332-14 Accepting the quote of Bidigare Contractors to perform emergency repair and replacement of a 12" water main at Schoolcraft College.  
#333-14 Approving Petition 2014-09-08-12 submitted by Triumph Building Co. to amend site plan for the Cade Meadows property at 36905 Ann Arbor Tr. (CR 82-07)  
**Second Read and approval to Ordinance:**  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SUBSECTION (p) OF SECTION 11.03 OF ARTICLE XI OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE."**  
**First Read to the following ordinance:**  
**AN ORDINANCE ADDING SUBSECTION (w) OF SECTION 11.03 OF ARTICLE XI OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE."**  
Scheel steps from the podium @ 7:18 pm  
#334-14 Approving the reappointment of Lynda Scheel to the Livonia Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for a 3 yr. term expiring 11/24/17.  
Scheel returns @ 7:21 pm  
Krizman steps from the podium @ 7:21 pm.  
#335-14 Authorizing City to execute a QBS Contract Amendment with Orchard, Hiltz, McCliment to provide design and construction services for the 2015 Asphalt Road Program in an amount not to exceed \$207,500.00.  
#336-14 Authorizing City to execute a QBS Contract with Anderson, Eckstein, and Westrick to provide design and construction services for the 2015 Concrete Road Program in an amount not to exceed \$396,470.00.  
#337-14 Authorizing City to execute a QBS Contract with Orchard, Hiltz, McCliment to provide design and construction services for the DWRF Project in an amount not to exceed \$1,315,000.00.  
#338-14 Authorizing City to execute a QBS Contract with OHM to provide design and construction services for the SAW program in an amount not to exceed \$952,300.00.  
Krizman returned to the podium @ 7:24 pm  
#339-14 Approving and granting Petition 2014-08-02-11 to operate a second hand store at 31092 5 Mile.  
#340-14 Approving the proposed schedule of Council Study and Regular Meeting from 1/2015-12/31/15.  
Meeting adjourned @ 7:26 pm.  
Complete meeting minutes available at City Clerk's Office.  
**Terry A. Marecki**  
Livonia City Clerk  
Publish: November 27, 2014. LO-000223273 307



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Debbie Gaber of Dearborn brought granddaughter Alaina Smith, 11.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Who cares about cold and snow when you have a chocolate-covered doughnut? Nicole Giacchina and 2-year-old daughter Novella Ventimiglia are from Wayne.

## Hines Drive lights up for the holidays

More than four miles of Hines Drive are a glow with the opening of Wayne County Parks' 21st annual Lightfest.

A popular holiday attraction, Lightfest features more than 55 animated holiday-themed displays that line Hines Drive from Merriman Hollow in Westland to Warrendale Park in Dearborn Heights.

It's now open 7-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6-10 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Hines Drive closes to traffic at 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and at 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday. The display is closed Christmas Day. Cars can enter at Merriman Road north of Warren Road in Westland. The cost is \$5 per car.

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 9 and 16, also will be Toy Nights with visitors invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the \$5 vehicle fee. Toys will be donated to the Wayne County Family Center.

And there's more to Lightfest than the lighted displays. Youngsters can visit Santa in his workshop at Warrendale Park. Santa will be there now through Tuesday, Dec. 23, to visit with children. And for youngsters, who'd prefer to write to Santa, can drop their letters in a giant mailbox outside his workshop.

And there are more lights to be turned on. The Friends of Nankin Mills and Wayne County Parks will be holding the Family Holiday Fest and 26th Annual Mill Lighting on Saturday, Dec. 13.

There will be children's holiday crafts and games with prizes 3:30-5:15 p.m. Families can participate in holiday games, such as "fruit-cake bowling," "Candy Cane Scavenger Hunt", and "Reindeer Antler Wreath Toss" as well as make several seasonal crafts to take home. Prizes are awarded for games.

The annual Friends of Nankin Mills Traditional Mill Lighting and Sing-A-Long will be 5:15-6 p.m. and include a visit from



Driving through the tunnels of light.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



The parade of cars move through Hines Park.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Santa Claus.

For more information on this or any other Wayne County Parks event, call 734-261-1990 or visit [www.parks.wa.ynecounty.com](http://www.parks.wa.ynecounty.com).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
The Livonia Franklin High School Chorus entertains with holiday tunes.



Five-year-old Mason Jenks meets Santa Claus. Mason attended Lightfest with his grandma, Gail Jenks of Canton. Mason and his family live in Westland.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Handle the holidays with confidence, creativity

The beauty of the holiday season is often compromised by the stress of preparations and the desire to create idealized memories. With time at a premium, making choices about baking, cooking, decorating and crafting can seem overwhelming.

Fear not! A selection of titles from the Wayne Public Library can help you navigate the holidays with confidence, creativity and aplomb.

For the adventurous baker, there's *Joy the Baker: Homemade Decadence: Irresistibly Sweet, Salty, Goopy, Sticky, Fluffy, Creamy, Crunchy Treats* by Joy Wilson. This volume, complete with

mouthwatering photographs, includes recipes for everything from compound butters and tantalizing beverages to decadent treats with unusual flavor combinations, such as Lavender Palmiers and Lemon-Buttermilk Pie with Maple-Cranberry Sauce. Wilson maintains a blog — [JoytheBaker.com](http://JoytheBaker.com) — where she shares her unique culinary creations.

Does the frantic holiday pace make a home-cooked dinner seem impossible? *Dinner: the Playbook: a 30-Day Plan for Mastering the Art of the Family Meal* by Jenny Rosenstrach features easy, gourmet, go-to recipes for busy nights. This slim book contains 80 kid-tested recipes designed to combine maximum flavor with

minimum fuss, as well as five-day weekly meal plans to simplify choosing your nightly dinner. The author combines fancier fare, such as Maple Candy Pork Chops and Quick Coq Au Vin, with homey favorites, such as Chicken BLTs and a Baked Potato Bar. Rosenstrach emphasizes the importance of planning to make the week-day dinner rush more manageable, and she includes a range of helpful tips to organize and prioritize mealtime.

If your tinsel is in tangles and your garland is a mess, turn to *Decorating for the Holidays* by the creative crew at Martha Stewart Living. Martha provides tips for bringing nature indoors by crafting unique decorations from pine cones, greenery, berries and

more. Learn how to add sparkle to your holiday table with sugared lemons and gilded almonds and walnuts. And explore Martha's recipes for such holiday delicacies as Silver-Leafed Almond Fudge and Chocolate Génoise.

*Simply Handmade: 365 Easy Gifts & Decorations You Can Make* covers the year of celebrations from Valentine's Day to Christmas. Brighten your holiday decor with a Christmas Candy Topiary or Peppermint Candy Wreath. If candy isn't your artistic medium, there are designs for Sparkling Beaded Candleholders, Ribbon Poinsettia Rings, Marbleized Centerpieces, and so much more. Many of the projects require no special skills and transform ordinary components

into extraordinary objects.

*101 Christmas Ornaments from the Clever Crafter Series* includes instructions for a variety of adornments that are easy to make and add personal charm to any holiday tree. With categories from Country Christmas and Cute and Clever to Trash to Treasure and A Touch of Elegance, you're sure to find the perfect decoration to create for that special someone.

Whether your ideal holiday includes the enticing aromas of fresh-baked goodies and a home-cooked dinner, the glittering sparkle of a beautifully-decorated room or the simple joy of creating one-of-a-kind keepsakes, the Wayne Public Library has materials to inspire you and

help you realize your dreams.

The Wayne Public Library is at 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne. The library is open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and noon-5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. The library is closed Sunday and Monday. For the holidays, the library will be closed on Nov. 27 and 28, Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1.

For more information, call 734-721-7832 or visit [www.wayne.lib.mi.us](http://www.wayne.lib.mi.us).

*Information Central* was compiled by Kathleen G. Kozakowski, Adult Services Librarian. The Wayne Public Library is at 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne. For more information, call 734-721-7832 or go online to [www.wayne.lib.mi.us](http://www.wayne.lib.mi.us).



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

By Greg Mullin  
Staff Writer

Varsity Lincoln of Novi's Lincoln CPO-A-THON is on. The dealership offers no turkey, no stuffing, no pumpkin pie. Just great deals. More than 100 Lincoln Certified Pre-Owned vehicles are on-site, ready to drive off the lot, for as low as \$12,995.

Hurry over to Varsity Lincoln these next three days to catch the deals:

- » Friday, Nov. 28, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- » Saturday, Nov. 29, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- » Monday, Dec. 1, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln vehicles come with many benefits, including:

- » A meticulous, 200-point inspection by factory-trained technicians
- » 6-year/100,000-mile comprehensive warranty coverage
- » Complimentary roadside assistance

Customers spoke for themselves, 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.

"I have an MKZ from Varsity Lincoln; I've had it for about a year now. It's a beautiful interior, a beautiful exterior, it handles well on the road and gives me good gas mileage!" said Lincoln MKZ owner Gary Trudeau. "I love this place. I wouldn't even consider buying a car from anybody else!"

"I'm very, very satisfied — very happy with it," said Rich Lewnau, describing his Lincoln MKZ purchase.

Jason Towe told us why he got into a Lincoln, stating "I definitely love the comfort and the sportiness of the Lincoln.



A 2013 Lincoln MKX Ultimate FWD (Stk # 39131) is one of the more than 100 Lincoln Certified Pre-Owned vehicles on site for Varsity Lincoln of Novi's Lincoln CPO-A-THON.

The cost was a big factor for me, it was actually cheaper than my last car I owned, and I feel I'm getting a better quality car for what I'm paying!"

"There are numerous benefits of purchasing a Certified Pre-Owned, 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 warranty 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, a Lincoln will satisfy any customer, Law explained.

"Certified Pre-Owned vehicles not only provide a peace of mind on the road, but also 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 articulated.

"Drivers will also enjoy peace of mind from knowing that Lincoln vehicles will hold their value," Law said. "Any depreciation has already been

taken on by the previous owner. Plus, the advanced styling and dependability are advantageous to a Lincoln vehicle's value."

"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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**Welcome Dr. Irby-Johnson**  
The St. Mary Mercy Medical Group would like to extend a warm welcome to NiJuanna Irby-Johnson, MD. She joins our medical group of over 25 primary care and specialty physicians as an internal medicine physician. She has more than 10 years of experience in adult primary care, preventative care and management of chronic disease.

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.

[stmarymercy.org/smmm](http://stmarymercy.org/smmm)

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**Event  
Hours:**

Friday 11/28/14 8:30am-6pm • Saturday 11/29/14 8:30am-5pm  
Monday 12/01/14 8:30am-9pm

\*Based on 2013 Total Certified Pre-Owned Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction per Lincoln Sales Report. ^As low as 0.9% APR for up to 48 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. \*Price does not include tax, title, license and dealer fees due at point of purchase. Inventory and pricing subject to change. See Varsity Lincoln for details. Offers end 12/31/14.













# Celebrate the season with big SAVINGS!

Prices in this ad are good starting Friday, November 28.



**USDA Choice Boneless Chuck Roast**  
Beef Chuck  
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**Kroger Milk or Orange Juice**  
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**Progresso Soup**  
18.5-19 oz;  
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**Cheetos or Fritos**  
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**Coca-Cola, Pepsi or Vernors**  
Select Varieties, 12 pk, 12 fl oz  
Cans, 8 pk, 12 fl oz Bottles or  
Pepsi 6 pk, 24 fl oz Bottles  
When You **BUY 3**  
Final Cost  
**3\$12**  
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When you buy 3 or more in the same transaction with card. Quantities less than 3 priced at \$4.99 each with Card.



**5\$10** for  
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**Marie Callender's Entree**  
12-19 oz, Stouffer's or  
Lean Cuisine, 6-12.875 oz  
or Healthy Choice, 9-12.5 oz;  
Select Varieties



**Tombstone Pizza**  
Select Varieties,  
17-27 oz  
**2\$6**  
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With Card



**Red Baron Pizza**  
Select Varieties,  
14.76-23.45 oz or  
Singles, 2 ct  
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**DiGiorno or California Pizza Kitchen Pizza**  
Select Varieties, 12-34.2 oz  
**4.99**  
With Card



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COLLEGE CROSS COUNTRY

## UPLIFTING EXPERIENCE

Kroll helps Spartans harriers win first NCAA championship

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Moments before Saturday afternoon's official trophy presentation at the NCAA Women's Cross Country Championship won by Michigan State University, Spartans head coach Walt Drenth approached fifth-year senior Sara Kroll and asked her an unforgettable question.

"He said, 'Do you want to hold the trophy for us?'" recounted Kroll, a former star long-distance runner at Livonia Churchill. "I was emotional all day



Churchill graduate Sara Kroll was picked by MSU women's cross country coaches to hold the NCAA championship trophy during Saturday's presentation.

any way, but when he asked me that I just broke down in tears. It meant so much to me. He told the team, 'Sara Kroll is going to hold the trophy!' Wow, what a

feeling!"  
After red-shirting in 2013, Kroll capped her amazing com-

See KROLL, Page B3



Sara Kroll holds the NCAA championship trophy.

### Zywick lauded

Garden City native and Westland John Glenn graduate Brooke Zywick, a



Zywick

senior volleyball player at Marist College, was recently named

to the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference's All-Academic team. To be eligible for the award, student-athletes must have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.2 or higher.

Zywick has blazed an impressive trail at Marist, where she has set the school's all-time career and single-season records for digs.

She was named the MAAC's "Libero of the Week" in consecutive weeks in September.

### Pilat 129th

Livonia Churchill graduate Bethany Pilat capped a fantastic junior season on the Olivet Nazarene (Ind.) University



Pilat

women's cross country team by placing 129th

at Saturday's National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Championships held at Rim Rock Farm in Lawrence, Kansas.

Pilat covered the 5-kilometer race in 19 minutes and 39.20 seconds to help the Tigers place 16th in the final standings.

Olivet registered 321 points

### MU hoops

Khalil Malone's career-high 25 points was not enough Saturday as the Madonna University men's basketball team fell at No. 4-ranked Davenport in Grand Rapids, 70-57.

The 5-foot-9 sophomore point-guard from Waterford Mott was upstaged, however, by Davenport's Dominez Burnett, who finished with 29 points and eight rebounds.

Donald Owens and Zak Lewis each chipped in with nine points for the Crusaders (3-5, 1-2), who shot 19-of-45 from the floor and 15-of-19 from the foul line. Owens also snared seven rebounds.

Grand Valley State transfer Daina Grazulis dominated inside with 22 points and 17 rebounds Saturday as No. 4-ranked Davenport University (5-0, 3-0) pulled away midway through the second half to earn a WHAC victory over Madonna's women's team (3-2, 2-1), 73-55.

Alex Law and Tiesha Stokes added 13 and 10 points, respectively, off the bench for the Panthers, who shot 31-of-63 from the field and committed just nine turnovers.

MU got a career-high 25 points along with seven rebounds from junior guard Michele Hayes, a transfer from Oakland University via the University of Toledo.

PREP SWIMMING



JAYNE FRONEY

Livonia Stevenson's swimming and diving team qualified seven swimmers for Saturday's Division 1 finals at Eastern Michigan University. Pictured are (back row from left) Sara Bowen, Merrill Froney, Rebecca Arakelian, (middle row from left), Rachel Arceri, Bayne Froney, Brenna Erickson and (front row) Melissa Flannigan.

## MAKING WAVES

Stevenson swimmers and LCSC's Tucker cap season with strong showings at D1 finals

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's seven-member swimming contingent made a splash at Saturday's MHSAA Division swimming and diving championships at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Pool.

The Spartans earned 68 points to finish 14th overall. Saline edged runner-up Farmington Hills Mercy, 267.5-262, to capture the D1 title.

While all seven Spartans who earned a spot in the state meet excelled, a few were on the cusp of earning coveted All-State

honors, which come with a top-eight finish in each event.

Merril Froney placed ninth in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5 minutes and 7.44 seconds while teammate Rebecca Arakelian placed ninth in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:06.38.

Arakelian capped an outstanding high school swimming career by also taking 10th in the 200 individual medley (2:07.15) and by helping the Spartans' 400 freestyle relay quartet, which also included Rachel Arceri, Brenna Erickson and Froney,



JAYNE FRONEY

Livonia Stevenson's Brenna Erickson (middle) gets off a quick start during 50-yard freestyle event Saturday at Eastern Michigan University.

See WAVES, Page B2

PREP PROFILE

## Downtime not on Cramton's agenda

Franklin senior excels in three varsity sports

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Livonia Franklin senior Sarah Cramton would undoubtedly qualify as an *anti-couch potato* – a person who makes chilling in front of a big-screen TV secondary to staying active on her school's sports teams.

Cramton is an athlete for all seasons, excelling in volleyball in the fall, basketball in the winter and softball in the spring.

By the time she graduates in June, Cramton will have collected close to double-digit varsity letters – a feat that is almost unheard of in this era of high school sports specialization.

Given her DNA, the personable Patriot's accomplishments are not surprising. Her father, Mark, and her uncle, Scott, are both

physical education instructors at Garden City High School.

"My dad always encouraged me to stay active in sports, ever since I was a little kid," Cramton said. "He always told me to do my best in whatever I was doing."

That, she has. Cramton was an all-around standout on Franklin's volleyball team, which wrapped up its season early this month.

With just a four-day break to rest, Cramton attended the Patriots' first basketball practice on Nov. 10.

In March, she'll transition from hoops to softball with little time to rest, but that's how she likes it.

"I like staying busy," she said. "When I'm



ED WRIGHT

Livonia Franklin senior Sarah Cramton is a rare three-sport athlete.

See CRAMTON, Page B2

PREP PROFILE

# Smith provides leadership for young Chargers

Senior has honed hockey skills since his Timbits days

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Armed with a quick smile (and a full set of perfect teeth), Dylan Smith resembled anything but a menacing hockey player as he walked from the Devonaire Ice Arena locker room to his car Monday afternoon.

But put the Livonia Churchill senior along the boards with possession of a loose puck up for grabs, and the talented center's competitive edge will surface quickly.

That edge – combined with a top-shelf skill set – is one of the reasons Smith was selected to serve as the Chargers' captain this season.

"Dylan has evolved not only as a highly-skilled player, but as a great leader as well," said Churchill head coach Jason 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."

Smith has been on the fast track (or rink) to hockey success since he was a small child growing up less than a mile from Churchill High School. He started skating when he was 2 or 3 years old, and it wasn't too long before sticks and pads were added to his equipment bag.

"I started playing hockey when I was 5 or 6 for the Timbits mini-mites," said Smith. "I actually scored my first goal at Eddie Edgar. I got past the defense and slid the puck past the goalie. I still remember it."

One of Smith's current line mates – fellow senior Justin O'Brien – has not only been a good friend since Smith can remember, but the two share the same level of passion for hockey.

"Justin and I have played hockey together pretty much our entire lives," Smith said. "We were probably 5 when we met. We have great chemistry on the ice, so being on the same line with him is awesome. We kind of know what one another is thinking."

Smith said he feels honored to be selected to wear the "C" that goes along with the captaincy.

"Churchill has such a great hockey history, I want to do whatever I can to keep the success going this year," he said. "We have a very young team – we have five freshmen – but we're hungry and we work hard."

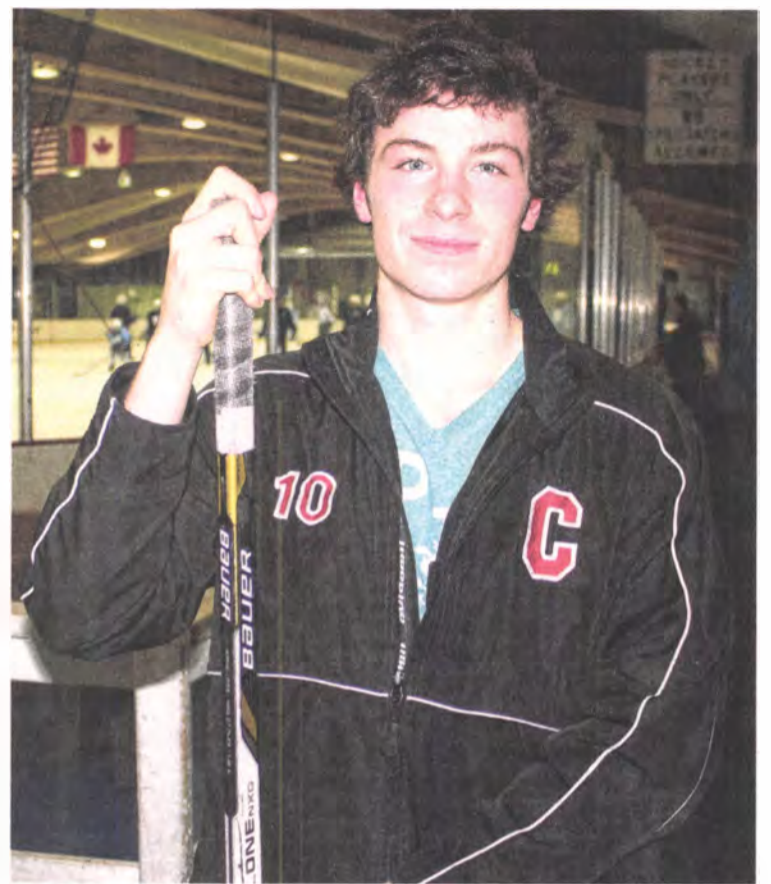
Smith's on-the-ice philosophy isn't complicated, he said. "When I get the puck on the my stick, I keep my head up and try to find an open teammate," said Smith, who tallied eight goals and 15 assists as a junior. "And hopefully whichever teammate I pass it to gets a goal. I know it's not that easy, but that's what I try to do."

A baseball and basketball player as well as an icer during his pre-high school days, Smith focused most of his extra-curricular time on hockey once he started attending Churchill.

An exceptional student who carries a "3.7 or 3.8" grade-point average this year, Smith definitely wants to continue to play hockey after he graduates in June.

"I've been in contact with a couple colleges," he said. "A lot of it depends on how my senior season goes."

ewright@hometownlife.com



ED WRIGHT

Livonia Churchill senior captain Dylan Smith leads a young but talented hockey team this season.

## WAVES

Continued from Page B1

take 10th in 3:34.43.

Erickson also sparkled in the freestyle sprints, touching 10th overall in the 50 with a 24.61 clocking and 10th in the 100 with a time of 53.40. Arceri was 14th in the 100 (53.86).

Stevenson's 200 freestyle relay foursome of Erickson, Arceri, Sara Bowen and Arakelian placed 11th in 1:39.24.

The Spartans' 200 medley relay team of Bayne Froney, Merrill Froney, Bowen and Melissa Flannigan placed 24th in Friday's preliminaries with a time of 1:55.50.

Arceri barely missed



ED WRIGHT

Waterford United senior Miranda Tucker, a resident of Plymouth and member of the Livonia Community Swim Club, broke two state records at Saturday's MHSAA Division 1 swimming and diving meet held at Eastern Michigan University.

advancing to Saturday's final in the 200 freestyle as she placed 18th with a time of 1:56.98. Only the top 16 finishers in the preliminaries make it to the final round.

Merril Froney placed

27th in the 200 free with a time of 1:57.98.

Waterford United senior Miranda Tucker, who lives in Plymouth and swims for the Livonia Community Swim Club during the off-season, had a banner day, setting a pair of MHSAA Division 1 records.

Tucker, who has committed to competing at the collegiate level for Indiana University, won the 200 IM with a record-setting time of 1:59.14. She also broke the D1 state record in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:00.56.

Westland John Glenn sophomore Kera Sells placed 23rd in both the 200 IM (2:14.49) and the 100 butterfly (1:00.28).

ewright@hometownlife.com

## CRAMTON

Continued from Page B1

not doing sports – which isn't very often – I like to relax. But I'd rather be playing something."

Cramton's role on this season's Franklin girls basketball team will be multi-faceted. In addition to serving as a dead-end perimeter shooter and hustling defender, she'll fill the role as one of the Patriots' four senior captains along with Erin and Jessica McNally, and Tyonna Tate.

"I like this year's team a lot," she said. "A few of us have played together since middle school and the new girls we have on the team are

really working hard. I think it's going to be a good season."

Cramton admitted to being a competitive person.

"I absolutely hate losing," she said, smiling.

Cramton said she'd have a hard time deciding if she could only play one sport at Franklin.

"I enjoy playing volleyball the most, but softball is probably the sport I'm best at," she said. "I really enjoy basketball, too."

Ironically, Cramton listed a game-winning goal in soccer as the high school athletic accomplishment she's most proud of.

"I played soccer growing up and I played soccer instead of soft-

ball my freshman year of high school," she said. "I scored a goal that helped get us into the district final [which the Patriots ultimately won]. That's probably my best achievement so far."

Cramton's future aspirations include earning a nursing-related degree at either Michigan State University or Grand Valley State University.

Her mom and sister both work in the medical field, which has ignited her interest in nursing.

Cramton is a star in the classroom, too, having chiseled out an outstanding 3.5 grade-point average through three-plus years of high school.

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## COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

## Sioux City-bound MU clips Union

Gates, Stokes spark NAIA play-in triumph

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

The Madonna University women's volleyball team had to win a play-in game Saturday to advance to the NAIA National Tournament and the host Crusaders answered the call.

Senior outside hitter Casey Gates led the way with 17 kills and three others reached double figures as the 37-7 Crusaders punched their ticket to Sioux City, Ia. with a 25-21,

25-22, 21-25, 25-20 triumph over Union College (Ky.).

Kayla Vogel added 14 kills, while Samantha Geile and Emily Johnson each added 10 as 16th-ranked MU hit at a .309 percentage.

"It actually was a good match and a good opponent," said coach Jerry Abraham, who guided MU to a runner-up finish in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

"Union was very scrappy and had a couple of hard hit-

ters. I thought we played real well on both defense and offense.

"We great, great match from both Sam Geile and Casey Gates on the outside. Both kind of controlled the nets today.

"They had a lot of terminating hits, a lot of game-changing kind of hits. Kayla Vogel and Emily Johnson were unstoppable on the slide and from the middle attack."

Junior setter Spencer Stokes, a transfer from Oakland Community College, racked up 50 assists, and senior defensive specialist Amanda

Obyrcki paced the defense with 15 digs.

"We had a well balanced game defensively, offensively, and our setter (Stokes) controlled the tempo today," Abraham said.

"She had a nice game and made good decisions at the net. I think we kept them off balance and we needed to play a real strong game on both sides of the ball, and we did tonight."

Marissa Elam and Rachel Andrews paced Union (30-10) with 16 and 12 kills, respectively. Setters Chandler Gray and Heather Fields combined for 41

assists with 21 and 20, respectively.

Twenty-four NAIA teams advance to play Dec. 2-6 at the Tyson Events Center in Sioux City, Iowa.

The Crusaders will make their third straight appearance and the 14th under Abraham, who is in his 28th season as Madonna coach.

"For losing three All-Americans and four starting seniors, the kids have responded, and I'm just very proud of them," said Abraham, the all-time leader in wins among NAIA coaches.

## PREP HOCKEY

## Stevenson knocks off Hartland, 2-1

In a rematch of the 2013 Division 2 state championship game, Livonia Stevenson clipped host Hartland 2-1 Saturday afternoon thanks to timely goals from Alex DeFlorio and Alex Hunt, and solid play between the pipes from junior goal-tender Cullen Barber.

The Eagles entered the contest ranked No. 4 in Division 2 by State Champs, while Stevenson carried a No. 5 ranking into the clash.

Hartland has played in the past two D2 state championship games, losing to Stevenson in 2013 and Trenton this past March.

"It was a solid, solid team effort for us tonight," said Stevenson head coach David Mitchell. "Again, we got better as the game went on. To come into this arena [Hartland Arena], on the road, against a top team like Hartland and get the win is huge for our team and program.

"We understand that we have to keep working, staying



Livonia Stevenson's Stephen Olschanski lines up a shot during last week's game against Birmingham Brother Rice.

ED WRIGHT

true to the process and get better every day. I'm very, very proud of our players and

coaches." Following a scoreless opening 32 minutes, the Spartans

lit up the scoreboard first when DeFlorio netted his fourth goal of the season on a

five-one-three power-play that was assisted by Alec Allen.

Hunt provided what proved to be an all-important insurance net-finder with 8:18 to go in the third when he scored for the first time this season thanks to a helper from Randy Maples.

Hartland made things interesting with 6:37 to play when Blake Heier tallied an unassisted goal, but the Spartans closed the contest with air-tight defense.

Junior Christian Spangler turned in an exemplary performance for Hartland as he was credited with 48 saves. The Spartans rifled 12 shots at Spangler in the first period before launching 20 in the middle stanza and 18 down the stretch.

Barber made eight saves during the first 17 minutes, seven in the second period and six in the final period.

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## PREP HOCKEY



Livonia Franklin's Brendan Nutting pushes the puck up the ice during a game earlier this season.

ED WRIGHT

## Pats play well in 2-1 loss to 'Cats

Plymouth outlasted Livonia Franklin, 2-1, Saturday night in a defense-dominated KLAA South Division hockey game played at Canton's Arctic Edge Arena.

The loss dropped the Patriots' record to 1-1 heading into Wednesday's 8 p.m. home game against White Lake Lakeland.

Senior goal-tender Matt Monendo played brilliantly in the crease for the Patriots as he turned away 28 Wildcat shots to give Franklin a chance. Plymouth goalie Jared Maddock countered with 17 saves at the other end of the ice.

All three of the game's goals came in the action-packed second period. The Wildcats netted a power-play goal from Alex Bump at the 8:22 mark. He was assisted by James Baldwin and Zach Weiner.

Franklin answered less than two minutes later when Trevor Lassaline evened the ledger at 1-1 with a bad-angle, needle-threading goal that was assisted by Chase Wallis and Jonny Parkinson.

Plymouth scored the eventual game-winner with just over two minutes left before the second intermission when Baldwin scored thanks to helpers from Jake Silvester and Jared Merandi.

"Our guys battled and played a very disciplined game both in our defensive zone and by staying out of the penalty box with only one penalty," said Franklin head coach Dennis Gagnon. "Monendo was solid and gave us a chance to win.

"Plymouth has a big and fast team with great coaching and usually ends up a top-ranked team. I'm very proud of our guys' effort and grit."

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## DIVISION 2 FOOTBALL SEMIFINAL

## Sailors score late and rally to beat Hawks, 25-24

By Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

Muskegon Mona Shores overcame injuries to two quarterbacks and daunting odds for an improbable victory over Farmington Harrison in a Division 2 semifinal football game Saturday, 25-24.

Behind on the scoreboard the whole game, the Sailors scored with 4:48 remaining in the fourth quarter and claimed a come-from-behind win at Howell High School.

Third-string quarterback Elijah Wilson connected with Kobe Burse for a 76-yard touchdown pass to pull Mona Shores within a point, 24-23.

On the two-point conversion, Wilson faked a pitch to his left, turned to the right and threw a pass to a wide-open Deontay Moffett in the end zone for the winning margin.

It was a play the Sailors had never run, according to Mona Shores coach Matt Koziak. He opted to go for two because the first- and second-string holders were the injured quarterbacks.

"I was going to practice one of our freshmen holding, and I just said, 'Ah, forget it,'" Koziak said. "We knew they were in man (coverage); maybe this will work. We went for it and got it. It's almost like a destiny."

Six-foot-5 starting quarterback Tyree Jackson, who committed to the

University of Buffalo, injured his left knee on the third play of the second quarter and didn't return.

Junior backup Tyler Trovinger was taken to a hospital by ambulance early in the fourth quarter, following an end-zone collision with Harrison's Michael Ojemudia.

"When we beat Muskegon, I thought that couldn't be topped, at least for a while," Koziak said. "To win the way we did — we lose our best player and the backup quarterback goes down. Our third-string quarterback gets in and the receiver makes a great catch.

"It's an unbelievable win, No. 1 easily. Farmington was unbelievable; they were down to their third-string quarterback, and they played their tails off. I don't think you could ask for a better semifinal football game."

## Hawks try to rally

After the Sailors (12-1) took the lead, Harrison junior quarterback Anthony Giovanni was tackled just short of the 30-yard line on fourth-and-3 from his 27.

Injured senior quarterback Jevon Shaw, who made several appearances in the game, tried to rally the Hawks in the final 1:17.

Wearing a knee brace, Shaw was unable to escape the Mona Shores defense when he scram-

bled, and seven of eight pass attempts either were knocked down or fell incomplete.

"Jevon not practicing a long time, it was tough for him to get into a rhythm of throwing," Harrison coach John Herrington said.

"I think our kids played one of their better games. I think they outplayed (the Sailors) most of the time and were more physical most of the time. But sometimes it doesn't always work out."

The Hawks took a 24-17 lead at the start of the fourth quarter. Giovanni found a wide-open Jared Char down field in the left flat for a 41-yard pass.

A Mona Shores player made a near-costly mistake on the kickoff when he downed the ball at his 2-yard line.

## Safety not awarded

The Hawks (10-3) thought they deserved an additional two points for a safety on the play Trovinger was hurt.

But the officials ruled forward progress and put the ball back at the 2. After watching the replay on film, Herrington said it was definitely a safety.

"The kid was down a good yard into the end zone," he said. "It's not that big a deal; we should have won anyway. The slant pass, letting the guy get away from us, that was the one that hurt."

A 71-yard punt got the

Sailors away from their goal line to the Harrison 23. The Hawks picked up three first downs as they tried to work the clock, but the drive stalled at the Mona Shores 42.

It was two plays later the Sailors struck for the long TD pass on Wilson's fourth snap from center. Burse caught the ball behind the defense and ran away from the last defender.

## Hawks on top early

To start the game, the Hawks took a quick lead with junior Alex Bolstrum's 30-yard field goal after receiving the opening kickoff, and they made it 10-0 with an 83-yard pass play between Shaw and Iwarri Smith.

Mona Shores scored on Deontay Moffett's 13-yard run, and the Sailors added a safety when Giovanni slipped on the slick turf in the end zone, putting the tally at 10-9.

Harrison recovered a fumble at the Mona Shores 17 and capitalized with Giovanni's 10-yard pass to Ojemudia, giving the Hawks a 17-9 halftime lead.

The Sailors tied the score with a drive to start the third quarter. Trovinger scored on a 1-yard sneak and passed to Moffett for the two points.

Harrison marched to the Mona Shores 1 when it got the ball again, but it lost a fumble in the end zone.

## KROLL

Continued from Page B1

petitive cross country career Saturday the way all young runners dream about doing so: by helping MSU win not only its first women's cross country title, but the first women's championship in any sport in the school's storied athletic history.

Kroll placed 61st overall with a time of 20 minutes, 56.70 seconds on the challenging 6-kilometer course.

The Spartans dominated the race by compiling just 85 points—the lowest total at the NCAA

Championships since the University of Washington had 79 in 2008 — to easily out-distance runner-up Iowa State by 62 points.

"My initial plan was to try to stay with my two teammates, Rachele (Schulist) and Lindsay (Clark), but the pace for the first 1,000 meters was very fast, so I decided to back off a little bit and save my legs for the end," she said. "I saw online today that I was 96th after 2,000 meters, 76th after 4,000 and I finished 61st, so my on-the-fly decision worked well."

Kroll was the fifth Spartan to cross the finish line, behind Schulist (fourth place in 19:54.30),

Clark (11th in 20:16), Leah O'Connor (17th in 20:20.80) and Julie Otwell (20:29.50).

"What a great group of people," MSU director of cross country and track & field Walt Drenth told msuspartans.com. "They really did what they've done all year. They stayed patient and they ran well late. They stepped up for each other. It was a great team effort."

"To win a national championship, it's a really proud moment. I'd really like to thank Spartan nation, that was amazing to hear that 'Go Green, Go White.' I couldn't be more proud to be a Spartan right now."

Kroll's senior season at

MSU was drenched with success. In addition to earning All-Big Ten second-team and All-Region first-team honors, she placed 15th at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional Championships and 11th at the Big Ten Championships.

The daughter of Michael and Anna, Kroll is majoring in special education and has been accepted to participate in the highly-acclaimed "Teach For America" program.

The Spartans were to be recognized during halftime of Monday night's men's basketball game against Santa Clara.

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## OHL HOCKEY

# Late goal lifts Whalers to 2-1 win

Big game by Nedeljkovic, goal by Scognamiglio lead Plymouth

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

So far, nothing has come easy for the Plymouth Whalers this season, and that applied to Saturday's 2-1 victory over Niagara at Compuware Arena.

The Whalers, still smarting from a 9-3 loss Friday night at Guelph, thought they would be getting veteran defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto back after finishing a 12-game suspension.

They kind of did, for a while. Curcuruto injured his shoulder midway through the first period. Later on, forward Will Bitten took an elbow to the head and missed the final eight minutes.

Yet, the Whalers persevered and skated off with the two points, improving to 9-12-1-1 and ending a four-game skid in which they were outscored, 26-10.

"It was a total team letdown yesterday (against Guelph)," Whalers coach Don Elland said. "And I give the guys all the credit in the world."

"We challenged them; we went over film and we called a few of them out — that they got to be better and they all were."

He joked the only player he thought *didn't* play well was goalie Alex Nedeljkovic, who stonewalled the IceDogs to the tune of 43 saves just one night after the Storm victimized him for nine goals. Nedeljkovic was selected as the No. 1 star Saturday.

"He knows that (loss to Guelph) wasn't on him," Elland



Plymouth Whalers goalie Alex Nedeljkovic makes one of his 43 saves Saturday night against Niagara. Here, he denies a bid by Anthony DiFruscia (No. 10).

said. "You don't give up nine goals (and) it's just the goalie's fault."

Plenty of others contributed, including forwards Cullen Mercer (one goal, one assist) and Vincent Scognamiglio, who tallied the winning goal with a screen shot from the left circle that beat Niagara netminder Brent Moran with 5:54 left.

"Mercer was great; Scogs was great, not just because he got the goal," Elland said. "First time we used him on PK, because we just don't have bodies. Did a great job."

"Misty (Matt Misteale) was really good. Sonny (Milano), probably the best game he's played since he's been here. Everybody stepped up tonight

and we needed to after we weren't very good last night."

Scognamiglio skated down the left wing and, using a Niagara defenseman as a screen, snapped a low shot inside the right post for the tiebreaker. Assisting were Mercer and defenseman Mathieu Henderson.

There still were some tense moments the rest of the way, particularly during Niagara's 10th power play of the night. Conversely, the Whalers only had the extra man four times.

The IceDogs (6-16-0-0) fired off one last salvo in the final minute but could not hit the target.

Elland emphasized that the kind of team effort that the Whalers displayed Saturday is

what will be needed to stay in the playoff hunt in the OHL West Division. Plymouth still has 17 of 18 games remaining against division rivals Windsor, Saginaw and Sarnia.

"Until we get everybody back on board it's going to have to be all hands on deck," Elland said. "I know that's a cliché, but everybody's going to have to go."

Mercer, who was a forechecking force all night, got the Whalers on the board late in the first period.

Plymouth's power-play goal was set up by Misteale and Milano, who threaded a pass in front to Mercer for the finish.

At that point, Niagara carried the edge in play and a 16-5 edge on the shots board.

## Lady Ocelots' offense struggles in loss

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

It was a good-news, bad-news afternoon for the Schoolcraft women's basketball team Saturday against Glen Oaks Community College.

The Ocelots lost 51-50 in the non-conference matchup, but Schoolcraft coach Kara Kinzer wondered whether a few positive plays down the stretch might have made a difference.

Although the host Ocelots, particularly T'era Nesbitt and Jessica Parry, played stellar defense to keep Glen Oaks scoring threat Anika Gasic to just 11 points, the Vikings were able to grab some offensive rebounds and score key putbacks in the final minutes.

"If we would have made a couple different plays, where we would have boxed out defensively it would have a totally different game," said Kinzer, whose team dropped to 4-2 overall.

The Lady Ocelots trailed 27-20 at halftime, struggling to find an offensive rhythm against the Vikings' zone defense. Schoolcraft hit just 10 of 40 shots (25 percent) in the first half.

Things improved slightly in the second half, in part due to a number of transition points off steals (Rikki Sherdt had three steals, Sara Gammons and Wayne Memorial alum Ashley Bland had two each).

"They played a zone on us and we kind of hesitated from it," Kinzer said. "They packed it in on us and didn't let us drive much, so that hindered our scoring ability."

Schoolcraft was led by Bland, who scored 17 points. Chipping in with 12 points each were Gammons and Nesbitt.

## PREP VOLLEYBALL

## Novi's bid to be No. 1 is blocked by Romeo

Gia Milana's 29 kills lift Bulldogs to title in Class A state final

By Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

Jen Cottrill described her team as "relentless and fearless," and that was once again on display Saturday in the Class A volleyball final at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

Although it battled from two sets down for the second straight day, Novi came up just short this time as Romeo, led by Gia Milana's match-best 29 kills, survived a five-set thriller to capture its first state title, 25-23, 25-22, 14-25, 25-27, 15-9.

Novi, which finished its best season in school history at 54-6-1, nearly duplicated its stirring semifinal comeback Friday when it rallied from two sets down to stun Grand Haven.

But Milana, a 6-foot-1 junior committed to Maryland, asserted her authority in the final set as she came up with six kills, including championship point.

"That's pretty miraculous to do in the first place, at this point, at this place in the state tournament. Twice is a lot to ask," Cottrill said of the back-to-back comebacks.

"(Milana) came back in the front row at the end. She's a great player, a phenomenal player. We don't have a lot of height and she's hitting the ball pretty high. We made some errors in the fifth set, too."

"But I'm proud of them. For a team to come back being down 2-0 two matches, in the state semis and final, speaks a lot about their character."

Cottrill tried to make defensive adjustments



With heavy hearts, Novi players applaud state champion Romeo after falling in five sets in the Class A volleyball final at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena. Emily Robinson (center) holds the state runner-up trophy.



Novi's Erin O'Leary (center) and Olivia Bradford go up for the block against Romeo attacker Gia Milana during Saturday's Class A final at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.

on the fly, but it seemed Milana was able find the floor enough times despite making 14 hitting miscues.

"In the third set, she made a lot of errors and that allowed us to get some easy points to give us some momentum," Cottrill said. "In the end, she was just hitting around our block, hitting over our block, and that's pretty tough to defend."

Jodie Kelly and Lauren Korth added 13 and 11 kills, respectively, for Romeo (45-8-1), which

lost twice to Novi in the Seaholm tournament.

Victoria Iacobelli, one half of the potent 5-foot-9 junior outside hitting twins for the Wildcats, finished with a team-best 19 kills; sister Paulina added 14 kills.

Sophomore Alyssa Cummings, who came on strong in the third and fourth sets, also had 14 kills. Freshman setter Erin O'Leary had 47 assists and senior Jennifer Kulie 11 digs.

"They were just an amazing team," Milana

said. "They fought. We knew they were going to come back and fight and they did. We had to fight back. We worked our butts off and we got it done."

When Victoria Iacobelli got hot on offense in the third set with six kills and two blocks, the Wildcats seemed to carry the momentum into the fourth set, which was nip-and-tuck all the way.

But Milana came through in the final set as the Bulldogs raced to a 7-2 advantage and never let Novi get closer than two, 8-6.

Romeo coach Stacy Williams used an identical word to describe the Wildcats.

"Relentless," she said. "(Novi) just wouldn't give up. It was just a match — two top teams in the state that were fighting for it. And nobody was willing to let it go."

"That's what it really came down to. You had two fantastic teams fighting for a championship. No better way to finish it."

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Ocelots men's cagers survive Glen Oaks' surge

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Young Schoolcraft players getting used to the college basketball grind were taught a lesson in what happens when assuming a game is well in hand.

An apparent blowout turns into a bit of a nail-biter.

That's what happened Saturday afternoon, when Schoolcraft's men's basketball team led 74-49 midway through the second half, but needed to hold off a late uprising by Glen Oaks Community College to win 95-85.

"It's what having freshmen's all about," Ocelots head coach Abe Mashhour said. "Obviously, we're a very young team, so it takes some learning for them to understand they have to close out games a lot better."

"I thought we were terrific for 32 minutes, we played very well, we played hard. They need to understand that at this level, guys can make plays. Every guy on the other team's a good basketball player. That's why they're playing at this level."

Mashhour, whose squad improved to 8-1, attributed much of the momentum shift during the second half to players getting "complacent" and not protecting the basketball.

Leading the Glen Oaks charge in the final eight minutes was guard Christopher Harris (23 points). He scored 12 points — including a pair of treys — as the Vikings closed the gap from 78-52 to 81-71.

Glen Oaks (4-1) actually cut the gap to six points (88-82) with 46 seconds remaining before Schoolcraft's Lito Booth (23 points) made four consecutive free throws

the boost the lead back to 10.

"I thought our inside people played very, very well," Mashhour said. "After the first eight minutes of the game, we did an excellent job of ... keeping them off the offensive boards."

"We did quite a few good things."

Mashhour cited the play of 6-foot-6 freshman forward James Pruitt (Westland John Glenn).

"He stepped up for us. This was his first game where he played quite a few minutes," Mashhour said. "I thought he was terrific, did a lot of the intangibles, blocking shots, rotating defensively."

Schoolcraft built a 50-36 halftime lead, bolstered by back-to-back threes from the right wing by freshman forward Marcus Williams (19 points, a team-high nine rebounds).

Booth, a freshman guard, stopped-and-popped from the top of the key to expand the Schoolcraft advantage to 61-42 with 17:30 remaining.

Freshman forward Davon Taylor (seven points, seven boards in 18 minutes), a Canton alum, went strong to the rack for a layup.

With the Ocelots' quickness and aggressiveness paying dividends, a steal by Taylor in the defensive zone led to a put-back by freshman guard Ja'Christian Biles (15 points), making it 65-45 with about 14 minutes left.

Schoolcraft really got it going for a minute or two when Biles threw down a pair of slams, sandwiched around a backdoor layup by freshman forward and Brighton alum Nathan Kamal, upping the Ocelots' advantage to a whopping 74-49 with 11:54 remaining.



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Airplanes. LOOK! SELL YOUR CAR FOR ONLY \$30.99!

Snowmobiles. Skidoo 2001 MXZ 700 & 3 place snowmobile trailer.

Trucks for Sale. FORD F-150 XLT 2012. Extended cab, 4x4, ABS, tow hooks.

4 Wheel Drive. SIERRA 1500 2011. Ext. Cab, 4WD, SL, 58k, 1 owner.

BUICK ENCLAVE 2009. CXL, FWD, ABS, leather/heated seats.

BUICK ENCLAVE 2012. FWD, leather, heated seats. Black Metallic.

GMC TERRAIN 2011. FWD, 4 dr., SL-E, 1, 42k, 1 owner, extra clean.

GMC SIERRA 2010. Crew Cab, short box, 4x4, SLE, ABS, traction control.

BUICK LACROSSE 2008. 36,000 Miles, White Opal, 1 Owner, Fully Loaded.

BUICK LUCERNE 2011. CXL Premium 4 dr sedan, Fully loaded, A real beauty!

BUICK ENCLAVE 2010. 43K, leather, heated seats, ABS, traction control.

BUICK ENCLAVE 2011. FWD, 4 dr., SL-E, 1, 42k, 1 owner, extra clean.

GMC YUKON 2011. 4WD, 4 dr., 1500 SLT, Leather, Pwr, Sunroof.

SEBRING TOURING 2008. FWD, air, cruise, heated mirrors. \$8345.

FIESTA SE 2012. FWD, 29K, One Owner, Ford Certified. \$14,988.

FOCUS SES 2010. FWD, ABS, 1 owner, Ford Certified. \$14,488.

REGAL CXL 2011. CXL R1 Russelsheim, 48K, 3rd row seat, 1 owner.

REGAL CXL 2011. CXL R1 Russelsheim, 48K, 3rd row seat, 1 owner.

CONTACT US AT: 800-579-7355. www.hometownlife.com. DEADLINES: Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday, Tue. at 3 pm for Thursday.

Chrysler-Plymouth. LOOK! Chrysler 2005 T&C VAN. 56k miles \$10,000.

FORD. FIESTA SE 2012. FWD, 29K, One Owner, Ford Certified. \$14,988.

FORD. FIESTA SE 2012. FWD, 29K, One Owner, Ford Certified. \$14,988.

FORD. FIESTA SE 2012. FWD, 29K, One Owner, Ford Certified. \$14,988.

FORD. FIESTA SE 2012. FWD, 29K, One Owner, Ford Certified. \$14,988.

FORD. FIESTA SE 2012. FWD, 29K, One Owner, Ford Certified. \$14,988.

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# Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

### ACROSS

- 1 Cinemax rival
- 4 Slangy summons
- 8 Grayish morsel
- 12 Nose-bag
- 13 Flying prefix
- 14 Gamblers' mecca
- 15 Hot — rum
- 17 Holm and Woosnam
- 18 Foul smells
- 19 Artists' lifeworks
- 21 Big lug
- 23 H. Rider Haggard novel
- 24 Not taking sides
- 28 Publicity provider
- 32 Pothole filler
- 33 Quick to learn
- 35 "— we having fun yet?"
- 36 Luau numbers
- 39 Mischievous

- 42 Scout leader, often
- 44 Eland cousin
- 45 Harassed
- 49 Urban cruisers
- 53 Mournful wail
- 54 Subject to uniformity
- 56 In — (as found)
- 57 "— Bayou" (Linda Ronstadt tune)
- 58 Ms. Peeples of TV
- 59 Briefcase closer
- 60 Desires
- 61 Legal rep

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

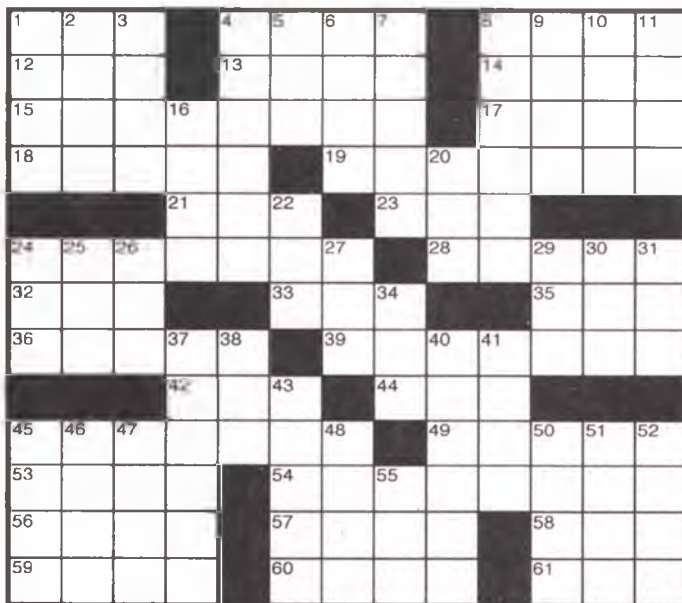
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### DOWN

- 1 Boxcar rider
- 2 Modern-speed unit
- 3 Dog in "Beetle Bailey"
- 4 Type of salad
- 5 Debussy subject

- 6 Sandwich cookie
- 7 Leaf junctures
- 8 Gibberish
- 9 Raise, as kids
- 10 Murray or Rice

- 11 Honcho
- 16 Easy gait
- 20 TV band
- 22 JFK watchdog
- 24 Last degree
- 25 Perfume label word
- 26 Search engine find
- 27 RN helper
- 29 Contented murmur
- 30 PC monitor
- 31 Thing on a ring
- 34 Give a ticket to
- 37 Makes sense (2 wds.)
- 38 "My gal" of song
- 40 Loosens
- 41 Magellan discovery
- 43 Triple Crown race
- 45 Antique auto
- 46 Charles Lamb
- 47 Diner sign
- 48 Edit out
- 50 Warrior princess
- 51 Put one's foot —
- 52 RBI or ERA
- 55 Thug's piece



Want more puzzles?  
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books  
at [QuillDriverBooks.com](http://QuillDriverBooks.com)

## SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending 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!

## NOVELIST WORD SEARCH

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

### WORDS

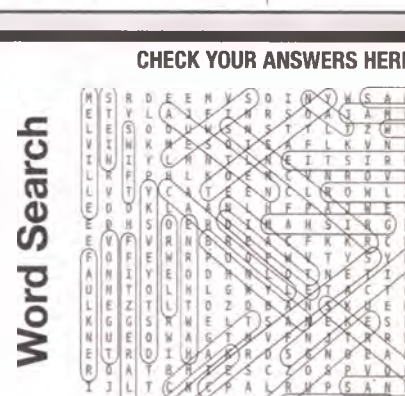
- AUSTEN
- BRONTE
- BUNYAN
- CARROLL
- CERVANTES
- CHATT
- CHRISTIE
- DEFOE
- DICKENS
- DOSTOEVSKY
- DUMAS
- FAULKNER
- FITZGERALD
- GRISHAM
- HAWTHORNE
- HEMMINGWAY
- JAMES
- JOYCE
- KING
- LEWIS
- LONDON
- MELVILLE
- MORRISON
- ORWELL
- ROWLING
- SAND
- SINCLAIR
- SPARKS
- STEIN
- SWIFT
- TAN
- TOLSTOY
- TWAIN
- VONNEGUT
- WILDE
- WOOLF

### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

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

### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE









## Prunes sweeten holiday treats, adding fiber, vitamins



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

### Gingersnap Prune Cheesecake Bites

Cookies, cakes and pies are the typical treats associated with the holidays, but there are other ways to celebrate the sweetness of the season. Flavorful appetizers, beverages and snacks can also carry those richly sweet tastes you crave.

According to registered dietitian Dawn Jackson Blatner, healthy swaps can be easy and flavorful with just a little planning. Whether you're eating out or hosting your own holiday bash, there are ways to choose more healthful options for your celebrations.

To help you enjoy all the sweet dishes of the season, Blatner created the following recipes which feature one of her favorite ingredients — prunes. This versatile ingredient can sweeten up dessert, provide balance to a savory appetizer and add body to a slimmed-down version of hot chocolate, while providing fiber and other nutrients.

Keep portion control in mind and remember that giving into cravings in a small way can minimize the chance of over-indulging later. For a skinny take on a popular holiday dessert, top simple bite-size cheesecake with juicy prunes and tangy ginger. The use of Greek yogurt instead of cream cheese keeps calories down but protein up, and SunSweet's Plum Amaz!ns top it off for a sweet fruit flavor. In fact, using 1 1/4 cups 2 percent plain Greek yogurt instead of the same amount of regular cream cheese saves more than 700 calories while adding 12 grams of protein per recipe.

Finding the perfect holiday appetizer that is both delicious and healthy is not always easy. Substitute fruit in dishes where veggies are more expected, such as a decadent bruschetta. Dress up toasted

baguettes with balsamic-prune relish and goat cheese for a taste that is nothing but a sweet reward, and delight your fellow party goers with a tasty appetizer they can also feel good about.

### Reducing fat

Remember that beverages can pack a big calorie punch, especially with specialty flavors and syrups added in. Ward off the chill in the air with a sweet, new and reduced fat version of hot chocolate. Adding prunes and prune juice is a surprising way to reduce fat and still enjoy the rich and creamy flavor of this classic drink. The prunes act as a fat mimic, providing body and thickness while complementing the chocolate taste.

Typical hot chocolate recipes using whole milk can have more than 5 grams of fat per serving, whereas this lightened up version has only 3 grams of fat per serving if made with 2 percent milk.

Looking for a DIY gift idea that is delicious and indulgent without the guilt? Swap out the typical cookie platter for a wholesome alternative in a jar. Tied with a pretty bow or raffia, a Mason jar filled with sweet and crunchy trail mix makes a perfect present from the heart. PlumSweets provide the goodness of real fruit with diced prunes dipped in rich dark chocolate. Combine them with heart-friendly nuts and whole grain cereal for a snack that tastes too good to be good for you.

Get started with these delicious recipes created by Dawn Jackson Blatner, and visit [www.sunsweet.com](http://www.sunsweet.com) for additional recipes.

### GINGERSNAP PRUNE CHEESECAKE BITES

Servings: 12

- 1 1/4 cups 2 percent plain Greek yogurt
- 1 egg
- 2 tablespoons coconut sugar
- Cooking spray
- 12 small gingersnap cookies
- 1/2 cup Plum Amaz!ns
- 2 tablespoons minced candied ginger

Preheat oven to 325°F. Combine yogurt, egg and coconut sugar in medium bowl and stir by hand until smooth. Mist mini-muffin tin with cooking spray. Place gingersnap cookie at base of each mini-muffin mold. Note: If cookie is too large, use fine cheese grater or knife and trim to fit. Fill each muffin tin to top with yogurt mixture. Bake for 35 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool for 10 minutes. Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes to set. Stir together Plum Amaz!ns and ginger. Top each mini-cheesecake with Plum Amaz!ns mixture.

### PLUM MASON JAR TRAILMIX

Servings: 5 cups (20 1/4-cup servings)

- 1 cup almonds
- 1 cup pepitas (green pumpkin seeds)
- 1 cup large unsweetened coconut flakes
- 1 cup favorite whole grain cereal (such as puffed brown rice)
- 1 cup SunSweet PlumSweets (use PlumSweets dark chocolate or Greek yogurt)

Combine all ingredients in bowl. Spoon mixture into Mason jars.



### BALSAMIC PRUNE & GOAT CHEESE BRUSCHETTA

Servings: 12

- 1/2 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1 cup thinly sliced red onion
- 12 prunes, quartered
- 12 slices (1/4-inch each) sourdough baguette, toasted
- 3 ounces soft goat cheese
- 1 cup arugula (about 36 leaves)
- 2 tablespoons chopped walnuts

Simmer vinegar and onion about 8 minutes, until onion is tender. Add in prunes until warm, about 3 minutes. Top each baguette slice with 1/4 ounce goat cheese, 3 arugula leaves, 1 tablespoon prune mixture and 1/2 teaspoon walnuts.

### PRUNE-SPICE HOT CHOCOLATE

Servings: Three 1/2-cup servings

- 2 cups reduced fat dairy or plant-based milk
- 4 prunes
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/2 cup prune juice
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Pinch cayenne
- Pinch sea salt

Add all ingredients to blender and puree until smooth. Heat mixture until almost boiling in pan on stovetop or in mugs using microwave.

# Special events celebrate the holiday season



### CANTON BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

**When:** 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6  
**Where:** Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton  
**Details:** Tickets on sale at the Summit Front Desk (no online sales) and conclude Dec. 1. Get your picture taken with Santa, make a craft and enjoy a Christmas story. Tickets are 3 and under: \$4 resident and \$5 nonresident; ages 4-12: \$15 resident and \$18 nonresident; and 13 and up: \$19 resident and \$23 nonresident. Children will also receive a holiday souvenir, crayons, and a place mat to color. Table seating is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

### CANTON TREE LIGHTING

**When:** 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3 (official tree lighting at 6:30 p.m.)  
**Where:** Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton  
**Details:** Kick off the holiday season with the annual Township Tree Lighting Event. The official tree will be lit and special festivities will take place both indoors and outdoors. Join in for seasonal entertainment, crafts, activities, refreshments and visits with Santa! No registration necessary. \$5 per family.

### FAMILY HOLIDAY FEST AND MILL LIGHTING

**When:** 3:30-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13  
**Where:** Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland  
**Details:** Join us for an old-fashioned celebration of the season at historic Nankin Mills. From 3:30-5:15 p.m., families can participate in unique holiday games and make several seasonal crafts. The second part of the program features a community sing-along, mill lighting and special visit from St. Nick. Cost is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult for crafts and games. Add \$1 for out of county residents. Pre-registration required. For more information, call 734-261-1990.

### FARMINGTON HOLLY DAYS

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 6  
**Where:** Downtown Farmington  
**Details:** Get that warm, nostalgic feeling of old as you stroll through downtown Farmington listening to carolers, sampling freshly baked cookies while sipping hot chocolate. Bring family and friends to see the free Holiday Movies at the historic Farmington Civic Theater. Join the tree-lighting celebration at the Gov. Warner Mansion. There will be a visit from Santa and activities for all the kids to enjoy. Entertainment, food and lots

of holiday spirit will be aglow. The Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce will host Holly Days in 2014. The Farmington Winter Market will be 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 6 at the American Legion Hall, 31775 Grand River Ave. in downtown Farmington.

### FARMINGTON HILLS BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

**When:** 9 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 13-14  
**Where:** The Longacre House, 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.  
**Details:** Cost is \$13 for residents, \$18 for nonresidents. Register by Dec. 7 or until sold out. Special breakfast with Santa with time to share your Christmas list. Each child receives a gift and picture with Santa.

### FARMINGTON HILLS HOLIDAY SHOPPING EXPO

**When:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14  
**Where:** The Costick Activities Center, 28600 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Vendors, crafts and food and refreshments. Admission is free.

### FARMINGTON HILLS KWAANZA CELEBRATION

**When:** 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6  
**Where:** Second floor auditorium of Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** No registration, all ages welcome. Hear stories, see dancers, learn about Kwanzaa, enjoy food samples. Hosted by the African American Family Network.

### FARMINGTON HILLS STORIES AND COOKIES WITH SANTA

**When:** 6:30-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5  
**Where:** The Longacre House, 24705

Farmington Road, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Cost is \$8 for residents and \$13 for nonresidents. Milk and cookies by the fire while Santa reads a holiday story, afterwards each child gets an individual visit with Santa. Register by Nov. 28 or until sold out.

### FARMINGTON HILLS TREE LIGHTING

**When:** 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2  
**Where:** By the fountain area outside city hall, 31555 11 Mile, Farmington Hills.  
**Details:** Trees will be illuminated along with a 20-foot candle. The festivities will include songs performed by members of the Farmington Hills Youth Theatre, directed by Mel Sheatzley with the Actors Avenue. After the ceremony, refreshments will be served inside Fire Headquarters, and Santa will visit.

### GARDEN CITY SANTALAND PARADE

**When:** 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 29  
**Where:** The parade will begin at Garden City High School, travel south on Middlebelt Road, turn east on Ford Road and conclude on Central Street.  
**Details:** One of Garden City's oldest traditions, the 54th annual parade will feature marching bands, floats and balloons, as well as a visit from Santa during post-parade events. The theme of this year's parade is "Christmas Through the Decades." KT Maviglia, Miss Michigan 2014, will be one of the 54th Santaland Parade Grand Marshals. Many past Miss Michigans have served as Grand Marshals. More information can be found on the parade's website at [www.santaland-parade.com](http://www.santaland-parade.com).



Walk through Kellogg Park and see the Christmas trees and visit with Santa every weekend between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve. File Photo.

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- Wayne-Westland
- Northville
- Novi
- South Lyon
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### HIGHLAND TREE LIGHTING, FESTIVAL OF TREES

**When:** 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8

**Where:** Veterans Park at the corner of Livingston and John streets in downtown Highland.

**Details:** Spring Mills Elementary honor students will lead attendees in carols and will help summon Santa and Mrs. Claus. Families can get their pictures taken with Santa at the Highland Station House across the street. Cider and cookies will be offered. In addition to the township tree lighting, the Highland Downtown Development Authority is having a Festival of Trees to celebrate the new streetscape and light it up for the holidays. Once all trees are decorated by Dec. 1, the public will vote and a "People's Choice" winner will be crowned.

### LIVONIA LUNCH WITH SANTA

**When:** 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13

**Where:** Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, southeast corner of Five Mile and Farmington roads

**Details:** Children are invited to have lunch with Santa. Cost to attend is \$5 per person and includes a lunch of pizza, drink and chips; crafts, games and a special visit from Santa. Attendees will also take home a souvenir picture of them with Santa. Advance registration is required. Call the Livonia Parks and Recreation office at 734-466-2410.

### LIVONIA TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

**When:** 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2

**Where:** Livonia City Hall and Civic Center Library, Five Mile and Farmington roads

**Details:** The public is invited to sing holiday carols with the Livonia Civic Chorus, visit Santa, make holiday crafts, watch a magic show and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies. Refreshments will be served at the Civic Center Library. There is no charge to attend. Co-sponsored with Livonia Rotary Club, Livonia Libraries, Livonia Civic Chorus, Livonia Parks and Recreation and Busch's Fresh Food Market in Livonia.

### MILFORD CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

**When:** 5:45-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4

**Where:** Main Street in downtown Milford.

**Details:** Get in the spirit of the season. Enjoy the hospitality of the downtown merchants, the strolling entertainment and the special promotions and refreshments. Santa arrives at 5:45 p.m. and will stay at the Village Center Mall next to Center Street Park until 9 p.m. 248-684-1975.

### MILFORD CHRISTMAS PARADE

**When:** 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 29

**Where:** Main Street through downtown Milford

**Details:** The Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce will host the annual Christmas Parade. This will feature a special appearance in the parade by Santa Claus himself.

### NORTHVILLE EVENTS

**Small Business Saturday** – Nov. 29, presented by the Northville DDA, 248-349-0345

**Contra Dancing** – 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21. All ages. Mill Race Village, 248-348-1845 or millracenorthville.org. Admission charge varies. At the New School Church. Wear comfortable clothing. Only clean, indoor, smooth-soled shoes permitted on dance floor.

### NORTHVILLE NITE FAMILY NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

**When:** 4-7 p.m. Dec. 31

**Where:** Northville Recreation Center at Hillside Middle School, 700 W. Baseline

**Details:** This family-friendly New Year's Eve celebration will feature crafts, huge inflatable games, entertainment and more. There will be a New Year's Eve countdown at 7 p.m. Contact Northville Parks and Recreation for tickets at 248-349-0203. A spaghetti dinner will be served.

### NORTHVILLE TINSEL & TREASURES HOLIDAY MARKET

**When:** 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14

**Where:** Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main St.

**Details:** More than 75 juried artists and fine craftspeople from the Midwest will showcase their unique pieces of work. From glass design, gourmet foods, jewelry, original fashions, home decor, authors and much more. Everyone is bound to leave with their hands full of great finds. For more information, visit [www.hcshows.com](http://www.hcshows.com).

### NOVI LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

**When:** 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5 (tree lighting at 6:15 p.m.)

**Where:** Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile.

**Details:** Santa visits, train rides, marshmallow roasting, live reindeer, free refreshments, craft show and magic shows at Novi Public Library at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. More information at [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org)

### NOVI ROCKIN' AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

**When:** Noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 (55 and older)

**Where:** Meadowbrook Activity Center, 248-347-0414

**Details:** Fun-filled Holiday Luncheon. Pre-registration is required and is available now at the Older Adult Services office, 45175 10 Mile, and the Meadowbrook Activity Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road. Keep the wonder of the holiday season in your heart as Novi brings you tidings of joy. Entertainment will be featured. Resident \$7, nonresident \$8.50.

### NOVI SKATE WITH SANTA

**When:** 3-4:50 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21

**Details:** Skate with Santa, raffles and games. For all ages. Cost \$4 for residents, \$5 for nonresidents. Skate rental is \$3.

**Where:** Novi Ice Arena, 42400 Nick Lidstrom Drive. Visit [www.noviicearena.com](http://www.noviicearena.com).

### NOVI TWELVE OAKS MALL EVENTS

**When:** Various times

**Where:** Twelve Oaks mall, 27500 Novi Road, Novi

**Details:** Ice Palace Featuring Disney's Frozen, through Dec. 24; World of Wicked, through Dec. 14; live radio broadcast with Jay Towers of WNIC-FM (100.3), 6-10 a.m. Nov. 28; Santa Paws (pet photographs), 9-10:45 a.m. Dec. 7 in Center Court. Space is limited and reservations are a must for pet photos. Call 248-348-9438 to reserve a spot. Dogs and cats must be on leashes or in carriers and up to date on shots.

### PLYMOUTH SANTA ARRIVAL

**When:** 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28

**Where:** Plymouth's Kellogg Park. Children's holiday entertainment featuring Joel Tacey on the band shell in Kellogg Park from 5:30-6 p.m. Santa arrives by fire truck, greets kids and receives the key to the city of Plymouth at 6 p.m. Lighting of the holiday tree in Kellogg Park along with a PCEP Choir performance.

**Details:** Santa arrives, lights the official Plymouth Christmas tree and then goes to his house on the outskirts of Kellogg Park and meets children. He does that every weekend between Thanksgiving weekend and Christmas Eve. The Plymouth Historical Museum will host an open house from 6-8 p.m. which includes Santa's workshop in the lower level with crafts for kids. They will be featuring their "Twas the Night Before Christmas" exhibit. The Walk of Trees with festively decorated trees in Kellogg Park runs Nov. 28 through Jan. 1.

### MORE PLYMOUTH FUN

**When:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10

**Where:** Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main

**Details:** Simply Dickens Christmas Show with traditional carols and attire from the 18th and 19th centuries. Comedic skits. Call 734-455-8940. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

**When:** 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, in downtown Plymouth

**Details:** Sidewalks Dressed in Holiday Style. Horse and carriage rides for a small fee. Schoolcraft College barbershop quartet will perform. Evenin' Gentlemen Brass Ensemble, with shopping specials starting 5 p.m., dining specials starting 7:30 p.m. Community sing-along at 8:45 p.m. in front of Boule Artisan Bakery.

**When:** 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, in downtown Plymouth

**Details:** Twas Ladies Night Before Christmas. First 500 women receive a free jingle bell bracelet. Merchants will offer specials.

### REDFORD BLIZZARD BRUNCH WITH SANTA

**When:** 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13

**Where:** The Redford Community Center,

12121 Hemingway, Redford.

**Details:** Tickets are \$6 for an adult, \$7 for a child. Cost includes "snowy" games, "cool" crafts and a light brunch. An adult must accompany each child and all attendees must have a ticket. Tickets are limited and available on a first-come first-served basis. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Purchase them from the Leisure Services Office, 12121 Hemingway (and Capitol), inside the Redford Community Center.

### REDFORD OLDE FASHIONED HOLIDAY

**When:** 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4

**Where:** Township Hall Complex, 15145 Beech Daily Road, Redford

**Details:** The township will once again be transformed into a winter wonderland. There will be carriage rides, a special children's area, caroling and pictures with Santa. Be sure to dress warmly.

### HOLIDAY MAGIC MARKETPLACE!

**When:** 4-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4

**Where:** Royal Oak Farmers Market, Civic Center, Royal Oak

**Details:** The Royal Oak Farmers Market will host a Holiday Marketplace before, during and after the City Tree Lighting Ceremony on Thursday, Dec. 4, from 4-8 p.m. Over 60 local crafters and artisans featuring antiques, collectibles, crafts, and many downtown merchant booths.

### SOUTH LYON COOL YULE

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 6, all day across the community

**Details:** On the first Saturday in December, groups across South Lyon come together to offer free/low-cost family friendly activities across the community and to support local charities. From the Christmas in the Country Craft Show to the Cool Yule Lighted Parade and tree lighting ceremony, this event is sure to offer something for everyone! Enjoy everything from the Christmas in the Country craft show (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) at South Lyon High School, Candy Cane Hunt (10 a.m.) in McHattie Park, live reindeer, Christmas cabaret concert, lighted holiday parade and tree lighting ceremony. Visit [southlyonmi.org](http://southlyonmi.org) and [southlyonchamber.com](http://southlyonchamber.com) for more details.

### WAYNE COUNTY LIGHTFEST

**Through** Dec. 31, 7-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6-10 p.m. Friday through Sunday, closed Dec. 25.

**Where:** Hines Park; enter off Merriman Road, between Ann Arbor Trail and Warren Road, Westland.

**Details:** Visit the Midwest's longest drive-through holiday light display for four miles of colorful lights with a fee of \$5 per car.

### WAYNE LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE

**When:** 6-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5

**Where:** Line up will be on Second Street and Sims. The parade will end at the State Wayne Park Theater with a visit from Santa.

**Details:** For the second time the Wayne Rotary Christmas Parade will be a lighted parade. Organizers are encouraging everyone to capitalize on the nighttime aspect of the parade by lighting up their entries.

### WESTLAND SENIOR CENTER CHRISTMAS PARTY

**When:** Noon to 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12

**Where:** Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, south of Ford Road, Westland

**Details:** For more information and tickets, call 734-722-7628.



Santa waves to all the visitors in downtown Milford during the annual Christmas Parade.

## Holiday Lighting 101



(Family Features) While decorating the tree, house, or garland, a whole section of lights can go dark – along with holiday spirits. Light outages can be frustrating and time-consuming to repair during the busy holiday season.

The LightKeeper "Pros" have developed tips to keep holiday lights and spirits bright, and keep everyone safe, too.

**Measure:** To estimate the number of lights needed for your tree, plan on an average of 100 lights per every foot of tree height.

**LED vs. incandescent:** LED lights are more expensive than incandescent, but last longer. Due to their low voltage, more sets of LEDs can be strung together end-to-end than traditional sets. Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory such

as Underwriters Laboratory (UL).

**Inspect:** Before stringing lights check for broken bulbs and sockets, frayed cords, burnt out lights and loose connections. Replace and repair any damaged light sets. For sets with bulb outages, use the LightKeeper Pro for incandescent lights or the LED Keeper for LEDs to find and fix the problem in seconds.

**Connect:** Connect no more than three strands of mini string sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for the safe number of LED strands to connect. Use no more than three light sets on any one extension cord.

**Indoor vs. outdoor:** Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use. Outside lights are exposed to water, so should be rated for outdoor use. Wrap connections with electrical tape when two or more light strands are being used. Outdoor lights should be plugged into circuits protected by ground-fault-interrupters (GFCIs).

**Live and artificial trees:** To string lights on an evergreen, begin at the top of the tree and wind strands through its center, widening with the tree's

shape. For deciduous trees, work your way up. Wrap lights around the base of its trunk, moving upward in a spiral formation. If you use an artificial tree, choose one that is tested and labeled as fire resistant. Artificial trees with built-in electrical systems should have the UL label.

**Replace and repair lights:** To get the most out of your light sets, do occasional visual checks for any bulbs that are no longer working. Replace those bulbs as soon as possible. If a light set stops working or a section goes dark, use the LightKeeper Pro (for incandescent lights) or LED Keeper (for LEDs) to find and solve the issue in seconds.

For questions about holiday light repairs, call the holiday lighting pros at Ultra-Lit year-round, and 7 days a week between Thanksgiving and Christmas at 888-858-2548 or visit [www.UltraLit.com](http://www.UltraLit.com).



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

# Eggs and essentials for sweet eats

## Classic HOLIDAY DESSERTS

(Family Features) The holidays are a special time of year to celebrate and connect with family and friends. From a cookie swap at work to a formal holiday dinner at home, with the right kind of recipes and a little planning, any holiday gathering can be a sweet success.

But, before you tie your apron strings and grab your rolling pin, avoid the last minute trips to the store by stocking up on baking staples like flour, butter, sugar and especially eggs.

As a versatile and affordable ingredient, eggs can be used in everything and offer limitless baking possibilities — from pies to cookies to eggnog. Plus, at 15 cents apiece, they can be an affordable way to feed a crowd for the holidays.

For holiday recipes, baking hacks and more, visit IncredibleEgg.org and Incredible Eggs on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest.

### Mini Pumpkin Pies

Prep time: 35 minutes

Chill time: Several hours or overnight

Cook time: 35–37 minutes

Yield: 6 mini pies

**Crust:**

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup vegetable shortening, cold
- 2 egg yolks
- 6–8 tablespoons ice water, divided
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

**Filling:**

- 3 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin
- 3/4 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 cup half and half

To make unbaked crusts, mix flour and salt in large bowl. Cut in shortening with pastry blender until pieces are size of small peas. Mix egg yolks, 6 tablespoons ice water and lemon juice in small bowl. Add to flour mixture, 1 tablespoon at a time, stirring lightly and tossing with fork until moistened and dough just holds together. Add remaining ice water, if needed. Gather dough and shape into six 1-inch-thick disks. Refrigerate, wrapped in plastic wrap. 1 hour or overnight.

Roll out each dough disk on lightly floured surface, rolling from center to edge, to form 6-inch circle. Fold into quarters; ease and unfold into 4-inch pie plate. Press pastry gently against bottom and sides of pie plate, easing out any air. Trim edge leaving 1/2-inch overhang. Fold overhang under; flute edge. Refrigerate, covered, at least 30 minutes.

Heat oven to 400°F.

Whisk eggs, pumpkin, brown sugar, cinnamon, salt, ginger and cloves in medium bowl. Beat in half and half. Pour approximately 2/3 cup into each mini piecrust.

Carefully place pies on rack in oven. Bake 15 minutes. Reduce oven to 350°F; continue baking 20–22 minutes or until knife inserted midway between center and edge of pie comes out clean.

Cool completely on wire rack. Refrigerate, loosely covered, until firm, several hours or overnight.

Garnish with toasted pecans and whipped cream.



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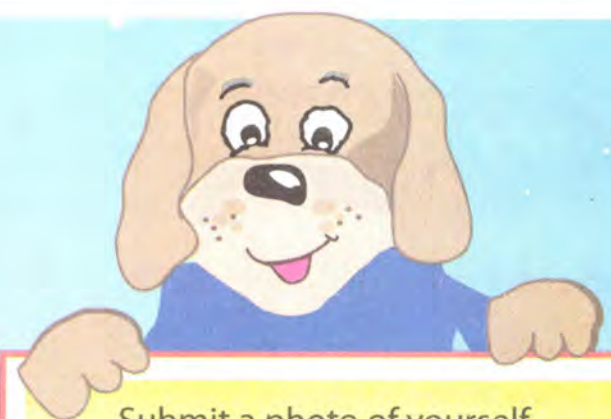
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# Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

## Jumping into the Holiday Season

Scoop wants to see how you jump start your holiday season.

You could win a \$25 gift certificate to Sky Zone Indoor Trampoline Park in Canton.



Submit a photo of yourself "Jumping for Joy" and you could win. The more creative the better! Include the phone number, age, community of residence, and name of each person in the photo. Winner's parents may need to completed a wavier and registration online at skyzone.com before admittance into the park.



### Thanksgiving: Giggles & Riddles

- Q: Why did the police arrest the turkey?  
A: They suspected it of fowl play!
- Q: What happened when the turkey got into a fight?  
A: He got the stuffing knocked out of him!
- Q: What's the sleepest thing at the Thanksgiving table?  
A: The NAPkin!
- Q: Why do most people go to grandmother's house on Thanksgiving?  
A: Because the house cannot come to them!
- Q: Why was the turkey the drummer in the band?  
A: Because he had drumsticks!

### Facts & Fun

**Did You Know?**  
BLACK FRIDAY IS NOT THE BUSIEST SHOPPING DAY OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON. THAT DISTINCTION BELONGS TO THE SATURDAY PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS DAY.

**GET THE PICTURE?**

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?  
ANSWER: FOOD BASKET

### Fun with Anagram

Rearrange the letters of the phrase to find the hidden word

**saving knight**

-----  
Answer: Thanksgiving

Courtesy of Metro Creative

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Jayla Walker	Redford Twp.	11/4
William Taylor IV	Inkster	11/5
Terry Woods	Oak Park	11/11

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**Coordinator/Contributing Writer:**  
Choya Jordan, Marketing Manager

**Design/Layout:**  
Randall Masters, Graphic Artist

Interested in becoming a sponsor of Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights or have general questions?  
Email: cbjordan@michigan.com

### Join Scoop's Birthday Club!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Boy or Girl: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Parent's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the form and have your parents fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!

\* Required for Birthday Club

### Share your talent!

Do you write, draw, make crafts, take photographs, or do something else that you would like others to know about? Share your talent with us. We may share your extraordinary talent in an upcoming Scoop's Hound Dog Highlight.



### Deadline for submissions:

Mail all entry forms to: Scoop the Newshound, 29725 Hudson Drive, Novi, MI 48377  
All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric by close of the business day on **November 28**  
or email your information to: cbjordan@michigan.com. Winners to be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.