

Westland OKs 6-year firefighter pact

Council president voices objection to multiplier

> **By LeAnne Rogers** Staff Writer

A six-year collective bargaining agreement with Westland firefighters has been

approved by the Westland City Council.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2014 • hometownlife.com

The agreement had been tabled two weeks earlier when Council President James Godbout had an issue with the retirement multiplier in the contract. He was the only council member to vote against ratifying the contract.

"I won't support the contract as proposed. You all have short memories," Godbout said. "We have negotiated several contracts to date with the multiplier reduced to 1.7 percent.

In the firefighter contract, Godbout said the pension multiplier — a number used to

calculate pensions - is being reduced from 2.8 percent to 2.55 percent. For new hires, the multiplier will be 2.25 percent and no retiree health care will be provided.

"We are also allowing several hundred hours to be added to the average final compensation (used for pension calculations)," said Godbout, adding the 2.25 percent multiplier will cost the city more than \$800,000 compared to a 1.7 multiplier in the police contract.

The firefighters union projected a \$500,000 savings for

See CONTRACT, Page A2

Wayne lights up for Christmas

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

There is still time to get some lights and join the Holiday Parade of Lights Friday, hosted by the Wayne Rotary Club.

It's the 39th annual holiday parade hosted by the club and the second year for the evening lighted parade.

"There's no theme this year. It's basically use as many lights as you can put on the floats," Rotarian Gayle Rediske said. "We always have people who wait to the last minute (to sign up) - some even on the day.

The parade, which begins at 6 p.m., features not only lighted floats but many of the marchers representing different community groups decked out in lights. Once again, the Wayne Memorial and Westland John Glenn high school bands will be performing.

The parade assembles on Second

See PARADE, Page A2





Santa Claus is coming to town Dec. 3.

Westland tree lighting ceremony set for Dec. 3

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on hand for Westland's annual Tree Lighting ceremony 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, at the former city hall on Ford west of Carlson.

Following the Tree Lighting Ceremony, the children in the crowd can head over to the New City Hall, located at 36300 Warren Road, for cookies and cocoa with Santa beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The kids will be able to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus while enjoying refreshments and classic holiday movies. Children are invited to bring their letters to Santa and put

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See LIGHTS, Page A2

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High winds Monday helped spread a fire at Woodcrest Villa Apartments in Westland.

Fire destroys Westland 2-story apartment building

High winds fanned the flames at Woodcrest Villa

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

High winds Monday afternoon fed a fire that destroyed a 20-unit apartment building in Westland. The two-story building at Woodcrest Villa Apartments on Wayne Road was reported on fire about

"The wind had a significant impact ... It was pushing the hose (water) stream from the fire."

> MICHAEL REDDY, Westland fire chief

4:15 p.m. "The fire was already through the roof when we arrived. The 40mile-per-hour winds pushed the fire through the attic," Wayne-Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy said. "The wind had a significant impact on the fire. It was pushing the hose (water) stream from the fire. We had to move the trucks downwind.'

See FIRE, Page A2

Applicants sought for vacant Wayne council seat

The Wayne City Council has the help wanted sign out.

With James Hawley appointed last week as mayor to replace Al Haidous, who resigned in advance of his

joining the Wayne County Commission in January, council will need to appoint a new member.

The council has 30 days to fill the vacant seat. The appointed person would

service until the next regular election.

Interested residents must submit a letter of interest to the City Clerk Mathew Miller at Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne

Road, by 4:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8.

Applicants must be a registered voter in the city and cannot be in arrears to the city for taxes, water bills or other fines.



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A2 (W) 0 & E Media | Sunday, November 30, 2014



WAYNE-WESTLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT Fire destroyed a building of 20 units at Woodcrest Villa Apartments in Westland Monday.

FIRE

Continued from Page A1

Firefighters began battling the blaze on the interior of the building until it was clear it couldn't be contained due to the wind, he said.

Under Mutual Aid, firefighters from Garden City, Livonia and Inkster joined Wayne-Westland firefighters in fighting the fire.

There were five vacant apartments in the building but 15 families were displaced by the fire. Reddy said the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army were contacted to assist the residents who lost their apartments.

Woodcrest Villa management also worked with the tenants to help them relocate to vacate

LIGHTS

Continued from Page A1

them in Santa's Mailbox. Santa will take the letters back to the North Pole with him when he returns home.

At the Westland Holiday Celebration, the city will be accepting nonperishable food items and toys to be donated to the Westland Goodfellows. Collected items will be distributed this holiday season and all items will go to families within Westland.

"It's unfortunate that the tree lighting was scheduled at the old City Hall. We spent \$10

units within the complex, he said. 'The complex has a

community center and people sheltered there. No one was injured," Reddy said. "We evacuated all the residents and rescued one dog.

The cause of the fire is under investigation but arson isn't suspected, Reddy said. A maintenance employee had been working in one apartment in the building and the fire was reported a short time later, he said.

Damage to the building was estimated at \$2.5 million. "The whole building will have to be torn down and rebuilt. They won't be able to salvage any of it," Reddy said.

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million for a new building," said Westland

Council President James Godbout. "We get calls from citizens about which building (is open). This confuses them.

"There is more than ample space to conduct it here (the current city hall)

» The Wayne Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, at the Wayne Historical Museum. Visit with Santa Claus and have some hot chocolate immediately following inside the museum.

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More benches coming to downtown Wayne

By LeAnne Rogers Staff Writer

LOCAL NEWS

Downtown Wayne will be getting some new benches in the spring, if all goes as planned.

The Wayne City Council recently approved installation of the nine benches on westbound Michigan Avenue in an area between Second and Elizabeth streets.

Wayne Main Street's Design Committee sought city permission for placement of the benches, which still need Michigan Department of Transportation approval. The Design Commit-



Wayne Main Street is hoping to add benches downtown.

tee worked with the Wayne Building and Engineering staff to determine optimum locations for the benches, which will be placed in line with tree plantings and the accepted set-

Model building

The William P. Faust

Public Library, 6123 Cen-

tral City Parkway, is

offering an opportunity to learn a fascinating

urday, Dec. 13, Interna-

tional Plastic Modelers

bers will host a model

building program. The

society generously pro-

scale model building.

dren ages 8 and up ac-

companied by an adult.

the success of complet-

ing a snap-together mod-

Children will experience

This take-home pro-

ject is designed for chil-

Society of Livonia mem-

program

Wayne Main Street

Executive Director Lindsey Wooten said the benches wouldn't be placed at bus stops or in front of businesses which sell alcohol. "The benches were

placed in a way to inspire residents and businesses to interact, as well as add to the walkability of the downtown," Wooten said.

Sponsors for the benches, \$500 per bench, will be sought, Wooten said. The sponsored benches will have a plaque and be installed so they can't be moved.

If the bench installation was approved, Councilwoman Susan Rowe questioned whether the city would be taking on liability.

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"Not if it is in the right-of-way; that would fall under your general government immunity,' City Attorney Paul Bohn said.

Acquired used, the benches were designed for commercial use and have been completely redone, including the wrought iron and wood.

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by 734-595-7727 by Dec. **Christmas Reception**

The Westland Community Foundation is hosting its annual Christmas Reception at the John Glenn High School Media Center from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9.

The event will feature hors d' oeuvres prepared by Chef Tony and the students from the Culinary Arts Department of William D. Ford Career Technical Center, and entertainment by the John Glenn High School's Glenn Singers and the Salvation Army Band. Due to these very

difficult times, the foundation is asking for a donation along with two unwrapped, new toys for the children and families for the Salvation Army. Don't forget to buy for the teenagers.

CONTRACT

Continued from Page A1

the city due to the pension changes in the contract.

"Contrary to what was mentioned, the contract will save the city millions over the six years of the contract," Councilman Michael Kehrer said. "It's not a giveaway. They came in and negotiated. It's not a bad contract.

beneficial to all of us." Kehrer was responding to comments from resident Burke Rock,

who urged the council to table the contract. Noting the contracts included excessive time off, food allowances and other benefits, Rock called on the council to hold town hall meetings on the

agreements. Under the city charter, Westland has a Public Act 345 millage, which allows the city to levy an to fund police and fire retire-

Register at the Youth Services Desk, by phone

el while gaining skills in

patience and following

at 734-326-6123 or at westlandlibrary.org. The program is limited to 25 children and starts promptly at 1:30 p.m.

Taste Fest From 1:30-3 p.m. Sat-

directions.

AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Tickets are on sale for the Westland Chamber of Commerce's 2014 Holiday Taste Fest, set for 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, at the Hellenic Cultural Center 36375 Joy Road, Westland

Tickets are \$25 and include: food provided by more than 14 Westland restaurants, catering companies and culinary arts; and entertainment, including Frank Sinatra impersonator Bart Ventura. There also will be an auction, music and an

"The 3.5-mill increase

(for police and firefight-

er pensions) is the larg-

est tax increase in city

history," said Rock, re-

ferring to the millage

Members of the

during the current year.

Wayne-Westland Profes-

had already ratified the

agreement, which called

for a 3-percent pay raise

in 2015, a 1-percent raise

opener in 2017. Under the

in 2016 and a wage re-

sional Firefighters Union

ment expenses.

ugly Christmas sweater contest.

For tickets and more information, call the Chamber office at 734-326-7222 or Juenemann Insurance Agency at 734-261-5010.

WCGH reunion

The 30th annual Wayne County General Hospital holiday reunion will be held from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, in the party room at the Hibachi Grill Supreme Buffet at 6539 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

There is a large choice of food selections and a senior discount. All retirees and former employees are invited to attend. No reservations are needed. You can pay at the door.

For more information, contact the restaurant at 734-729-5688.

firefighters belong to one union but have separate contracts with their individual cities.

The recent collective bargaining agreement with the Westland Police **Officers** Association provides 2-percent wage increases in 2015 and 2016 with a wage reopener in 2017. The pension multiplier in that agreement is 1.75 percent.

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For reservations, call

vides a free snap-together model kit for each registered child and offers tips in the art of

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PARADE

Continued from Page A1

at Sims before heading west on Glenwood to Wayne Road, then south to Michigan Avenue and west to the end point, the State Wayne Theater.

The theater will offer a free screening of a new movie, Penguins of Madagascar, after the parade. Santa Claus will also be on hand.

"Children can visit Santa and take photos. The State Wayne has new seating and I think they want to showcase that for Wayne families," Rediske said.

The parade is part of a busy week in Wayne. On Tuesday, Dec. 2, Santa Claus will be at the City of Wayne Historical Museum to light the tree. The ceremony will be at 7 p.m.

The Wayne Beautification Committee will be serving hot chocolate and cookies, and Santa will be available for pictures, so parents should bring their cameras or smart phones

On Thursday, Dec. 4, the 15th annual Cup of Christmas Tea will be held at the Wayne Community Center.

The Cup of Christmas Tea committee is looking for hostesses to host a table. Each hostess is responsible for the sale of eight seats (\$80); the entire table setting, including tablecloth, dishes, (everyday, china or paper), flatware, coffee/ tea server (a carafe is suggested) and a pitcher (for water or punch);

dessert for their guests; a small gift or ornament for each guest, and a covered, lighted centerpiece. Ladies interested in helping can contact Susan Honke at 734-721-7400, ext. 1303.

Proceeds from Cup of Christmas Tea will benefit the Business and Professional Women's Wayne Memorial High School Scholarship and the Wayne-Westland youth programs.

A major fund-raiser for the Wayne Goodfellows is also happening Friday, Dec. 5. At the Wayne Community Center, it's the 28th annual **Goodfellows** Christmas Dinner.

Tickets are \$25 per person, including dinner catered by Chef Tony Paquette of the William D. Ford Career Technical Center. There will silent auctions and music by DJ Dock. The event is 5:30-midnight.

For tickets, visit the Wayne City Clerk's Office, Henry's Service Center or contact members of the Goodfellows.

And On Saturday, Dec. 13, it's Lunch with Santa 10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person for a resident and \$6 for non-residents and includes pizza, salad, bread sticks, pop and arts and crafts. Santa will be available for pictures, so don't forget the camera.

Tickets are on sale at the Wayne Community Center, Howe at Annapolis in Wayne.

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Livonia Public Schools honors four Teachers of the Year

By Karen Smith Staff Writer

Four teachers who credited their colleagues, mentors, students and families for their success were honored by the Livonia school board Monday as the 2014-15 Teachers of the Year.

The teachers and their awards are: Terry Macek, who teaches academically talented students at Webster Elementary, Elementary Teacher of the Year; Judy Bowling, media specialist at Cooper Upper Elementary, Upper Elementary Teacher of the Year; Janell Keberly, seventh-grade teacher at Frost Middle School; Middle School Teacher of the Year; and Jacqueline Price, English teacher at Franklin High School, High School Teacher of the Year.

Keberly is the first teacher in the history of the district to be married to another Teacher of the Year. Her husband, Russ, was a Teacher of the Year in 2007-08.

"How fortunate I am to have a middle school teacher for a husband to share stories with and to keep me sane," she said, publicly thanking him for his encouragement and pushing her to be her best. Russ teaches at Holmes Middle School.

She also thanked her children, Brynn and Logan, who attend Riley Upper Elementary and Buchanan Elementary. "Every day that I walk into my classroom, you are first in my mind and I strive to be a teacher that each of you would want to be in a classroom with," she said

Bowling said she has learned and continues to learn much from her colleagues. "Whether it be their wisdom, their time, their patience, their kindness, their dedication or their love.

each of them goes above and beyond what is required," she told the school board.

She said she is just one person on a team. "At Cooper there are no committees, only teams," she said. "We work as a team, we make decisions as a team, we implement new ideas as a team; when confronted by a problem, we Cooperize it as a team.'

Price said she learns just as much from her students as they do from her, as they make meaningful connections or insightful inferences about texts they are studying. She said she was humbled and honored by the award, but was 'feeling a little bit guilty for being recognized for doing work that I absolutely love with kids that often teach me as much as I teach them."

Macek was inspired by her fifth-grade teacher, Mrs. Malek. "At the end of my fifthgrade year, I knew I wanted to be a teacher," she said. "I wanted to be just like her. Her teaching style and personality made an everlasting impression on me. I wanted to not only teach each of my students the academics, but also the life lessons that would help them grow as a person."

Macek thanked all of the "wildcats" she works with at Webster, in addition to all Livonia Public Schools teachers. "What an amazing group of educators we have at all lev-els," she said. "Together we all make a difference. I am so proud to be a member of an incredible community.'

The selection process

The winning teachers were selected from 56 nominees recommended by teachers, administrators and parents from among the 1,000 educators in the district. A 13-mem-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Webster teacher Terry Macek.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Franklin High School teacher Jacki Price thanks her supporters.

ber committee made the selection.

Each teacher received an overnight stay at a Livonia hotel and a gift bag filled with goodies, all donated by local businesses.

School board president Mark Johnson called the winners "a great group of representative instructors.

Macek was nominated by parent Kristin Ebling. "Mrs. Macek delivers her classroom learning opportunities with enthusiasm, a caring attitude, an infectious love of learning, impeccable classroom management techniques and a true desire to make a difference in the lives of young people," she wrote.

Macek is known for donning her black robe and holding Conundrum Court when there is a word the students do not know, or there is a difficult



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Media specialist Judy Bowling.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Janell Keberly teaches at Frost.

problem that must be solved. Macek has the same students two years in a row and one of her traditions is the Macek Birthday Song, which students add on to every year. The song is quite long, but the students enjoy singing it.

Bowling was nominated by Cooper teachers Cathy Santi and Kathy Tyranski. They said multitasking is an "art form" of Bowling's. She handles multiple duties, seemingly with ease, including organizing the annual Battle of the Books in which more than 300 Cooper students engage in reading. They describe Bowling as humble, saying everything she does, she does for Cooper, not for herself. Principal Principal Terry

Taylor said, "We could not have the success we have at Cooper without Judy Bowling. She is an incredibly wonderful person, a gifted teacher and a tremendous friend to everyone at Cooper."

A mother of three, Bowling also runs marathons.

Keberly was born to teach. She started with her stuffed animals, moved on to teach Sunday School, was involved in the preschool program and the Early Literacy Volunteers at Franklin High School, tutored students in her neighborhood, worked with preschoolers at the Learning Tree Child Care Center and became a teacher in LPS' School Age Child Care program before being hired at Frost.

The three main concepts she values as a teacher are relationships, teamwork and collaboration. She was instrumental in starting the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports program at Frost, which has dramatically reduced the number of discipline referrals at Frost since its implementation in 2011.

Keberly was nominated by Carim Calkins, another former Teacher of the Year. "She cares deeply about her students and establishes a rapport in her class that is based on high expectations and mutual respect," he wrote.

Price was nominated by Franklin Principal Dan Willenborg, who says she develops her students' natural curiosity with thought-provoking materials in her classroom. She "does so with a witty sense of humor and a profound personal integrity and humility," he said.

Franklin teacher Jen Esparza said, "Teaching is not just a job for Jacki, it is a calling. She takes it with her wherever she goes. Jacki is — hands down the type of teacher I would want for my own children."

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WAYNE COP CALLS

Break-in

Police were called to an apartment at the Park Hill Apartments, 33085 Park Hill, Nov. 18, after a resident reported finding her door ajar when she arrived home. She said several kitchen cabinets were open, clothing was strewn in the hallway and drawers in her bedroom were ransacked. Nothing appeared to be missing.

The resident told police that since she had a break-in the previous week, she had been making sure the door was locked when she leaves.

Larceny

A resident in the 5000 block of S. Hubbard told police Nov. 18 that a large number of power tools and other miscellaneous tools, valued at \$2,500, had been stolen from the garage.

The resident and his wife have been living in Livonia since their home burned down in February. The wife told police she checked on the progress of the work on their home and noticed the garage had been broken into. She said she didn't know exactly what was missing.

The husband was able to provide a list of the stolen items.

Suspicious person

On Nov. 18, a resident of the Newberry Square Apartments, 35240 W. Michigan Ave., told police that about 7:30 p.m. she heard someone knocking on her door. Then she said it looked like someone was jiggling the handle as if they were trying to come in.

When she looked through the peep hole, the resident said she saw a man looking in from the hallway. When she yelled that she was calling police, she said the man was still there. He was gone when officers arrived.

Stolen vehicle

A Clinton Township man told police Nov. 19 that he left a 2001 Dodge Ram truck parked behind 7 Star Liquor, 4422 S. Wayne Road, overnight but it was gone in the morning. He said the vehicle had been locked and was paid off.

Larceny

On Nov. 20, a Romulus woman told police that someone had stolen her purse while she was at the U.S. 12 Bar and Grill, 34824 W. Michigan Ave. She said the purse was last seen on a table or on a chair near the bar. When she left the bar after 90 minutes, she said she didn't have the purse.

The missing purse was reported to contain \$50 in cash, two debit cards, insurance cards and six or seven prescription bottles.

Officers review security video inside the business for the time the woman said she was there but reported not seeing her.

Retail fraud

Police were called to the Food Basket store, 5703 S. Wayne Road, just before 8 p.m. Nov. 20 when the owner reported a man had stolen a bottle of Remy Martin VSOP cognac valued at \$45.

He said the man had come into the store, selected the cognac and held it for a few minutes before putting it back. The man went to the ATM machine, the owner said, but didn't use it and left the store.

A short time later, the owner said the man returned and again picked up the bottle of Remy Martin. This time he concealed the bottle under his jacket and walked out without paying, the store owner said.

The owner told police he went out and confronted the man who denied taking the liquor. The owner said he was unable to get the suspect's license plate number.

Larceny from a vehicle

An employee at Western Wayne Resources, 35000 Van Born, told police Nov. 21 that someone had stolen a fullsize Hankook spare tire, valued at \$244, from a Ford Econoline van. Since a similar larceny in August, the employee said he regularly checks the vehicles' attached spare tires and that was how he noticed the theft.

By LeAnne Rogers



Cheryl Sprague (left) and Charlene Jones, both Canton residents, display one of the 18 quilts volunteers from Geneva Presbyterian Church made for Starfish Family Services.

Church quilts offer warmth, love

By Julie Brown Staff Writer

The sanctuary of Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton was especially colorful during worship Sunday, Nov. 16.

The occasion was prayers over 18 quilts that women of the church made, with help from a couple of men, to do-nate to Inkster-based Starfish Family Services.

"This is the fourth year," said Charlene Jones of Canton, a registered nurse who works in pediatrics in Ann Arbor. "Because we want to help those in need, help those who are establishing homes. Compassion, love. We have a passion for the young children."

About 10 women meet each Monday evening at the church on Sheldon Road, with some volunteers doing machine stitching of quilts from their homes. "It's a fun form

of Christian fellowship," said Cheryl Sprague of Canton, a part-time office manager for an engineering firm in Lincoln Park. "We always have a fun time.'

Sprague noted when the project began several years ago, the volunteers tried to use patterns, but realized the patterns weren't needed. "Every one is so unique," Sprague said. "There's no two alike.

The 18 quilts made this fall were set up in the sanctuary for Nov. 16 worship and prayers over them and their creators. Quilter Lisa DeGroot of Canton paraphrased Teresa of Avila, in that Christ has no body.

"We are His eyes, His ears, His hands," said DeGroot, who works in culinary arts at the William D. Ford Career-Technical Center of the Wayne-Westland schools. "This is providing warmth. It's very practical.

The quilts have Scripture labels put on by volunteer Ella Bastine. There's a small inscription, "Made by Loving Hands, Geneva Presbyterian Church.'

The previous set of quilts from Geneva also went to Starfish Family Services. "They were so welcoming to us," Sprague said. "It was overwhelming." Jones and Sprague spoke

during the worship service, noting illiteracy is an issue for families served by Starfish, increasing the likelihood of dropping out of school, poor parenting and mental health issues. "Their mission is strengthen families to create better futures for chil-dren," Jones said.

"If it weren't for God's guiding us, we wouldn't be able to do this," Sprague added.

icbrown@hometownlife.com





Flu Season is here



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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.

1

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Questions are welcomed! Contact Cyndi Burnstein, School Leader, at cburnstein@newschoolhigh.org

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stmarymercy.org/smmmg

LOCAL NEWS

hometownlife.com

Shoppers gobble up deals Thanksgiving evening at Westland Shopping Center

By Sue Mason Staff Writer

The cha-ching of cash registers replaced the sounds of silver bells as **Black Friday aficionados** kicked off the holiday shopping season with gusto Thanksgiving evening.

The parking lot at the Canton Walmart on Ford Road was packed with shoppers on the hunt for the best holiday deals, while at Westland Shopping Center, the line stretched from the exterior doors at JC Penney to the Verizon store as people waited for its 5 p.m. opening.

"We got here about 5:30," said Catherine Osborne of Plymouth. "This took about a month of preparation. We've been to JC Penney, Kohl's, Sears, Claire's Children's Place and Toys R Us. I have most of my shopping done, but I cannot go out on Black Friday. I usually go out with a friend, but this is the first time she couldn't come.

"Even when I'm fully done, I keep shopping until time runs out," she added.

Helping her was son Aaron, 12, who was the designated "executive director." He got to make the final decision - yes, no, maybe - according to his mother and helped carry packages.

"It depends on how much I like," he said.

Stocking up

Bruce Zarb of Garden City had a spot staked out by Bath & Body Works, waiting for his wife Suzanne and daughter Rachel.

"I just want to go home," said Zarb, who

avne

See SHOPPERS, Page A7



Bailey Nutt of Westland takes advantage of the many sales to be had Thanksgiving night at Bath & Body Works in Westland.

TOM BEAUDOIN



TOM BEAUDOIN Shuree Neely of Plymouth looks on as friend Jeff Williams of Fenton is ready to head for the doors.



Thanksgiving night is a fun shopping experience for Mya Jonnson, mom Kim Eddy and sisters Jessica and Kristen at Westland Shopping Center.





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SHOPPERS

Continued from Page A6

was surprised by the number of people at the mall. "I feel bad for the people who have to work."

"I bought stuff (Rachel) wanted and I put off buying until now," Suzanne said. "I had coupons and then they gave us more coupons to come back in a few weeks."

Their shopping bag included a tote filled with more than \$100 in products.

In the mall's central court, former Westland resident Kim Eddy and daughters Mya, Jessica and Kristen Johnson were loaded down with packages from Aeropostale.

"Everything was 60 percent off," Eddy said. "We came out right after I cleaned up after dinner."

This was their first time doing the Black Friday shopping at Westland mall.

"It's a lot easier shopping here, there's less people," Jessica Johnson said. "Last year, we went to Twelve Oaks and it was crazy and the year before we went to Great Lakes Crossing and it was elbow to elbow."

The women stocked up on sweaters, skirts, scarves, sweat pants, pajama pants, tank tops and shorts. Some of the items were for Christmas presents.

After about two hours of shopping, Eddy said they might be out another hour or so. "I've been up since 7 a.m. cooking," she said.

Well-planned

Also surrounded by packages were Shuree Neely of Plymouth and Jeff Williams, formerly of Plymouth. They had gotten to the mall at 9 p.m. and by 9:45 p.m. were ready to leave, although Ashlee Neely wanted to go to Twelve Oaks.

"We knew what we were going for," Neely said. "Most of this is Christmas stuff, but a couple of the things from Bath & Body Works are for me. I'd do more shopping if I didn't have to carry all this stuff around."

Williams didn't have the Christmas spirit.

"Most of the stores they're going into, I'm the only guy," he said. "It's store after store for women, but I don't see any tool store for me."

Among the younger shoppers was Ben Christopher of Livonia. A student at Franklin High School, he was there with Connor Gawne of Westland looking for a pair of Vans shoes.

"This is my first time doing this; we've only been in two stores," he said. "I asked my brother for a pair of Vans for Christmas and he wanted to pick them up."

Gawne was indifferent about the idea of shopping Thanksgiving. "I'm used to seeing a

lot of people; I went out last year," he said.

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



Shopping carts were kept full at Westland mall.



TOM BEAUDOIN Plymouth resident Catherine Osborn and son Aaron enjoy the sales during their shopping trip Thanksgiving night in Westland.

1011 S 8





LOCAL NEWS

hometownlife.com

OLYMPIC MOMENT



Olympic swimmer Allison Schmitt gets Canton Charter Academy kindergartner Mihita Lokesh to help her demonstrate how tall you can get if you eat your vegetables.

Homegrown Olympian delivers inspiration to students

By Brad Kadrich Staff Writer

Dorothy Gale closes The Wizard of Oz by telling Auntie Em, "There's no place like home."

Allison Schmitt felt much the same way Monday, returning to Canton Charter Academy to talk to students there about the virtue of setting goals and working hard to attain them.

The Olympic Medalwinning swimmer from Canton, who was a member of the first graduating class of eighth-graders from the charter school, spoke Monday to

the assembly full of cheering students, staff and families for about 30 minutes, talking on topics ranging from eating vegetables to overcoming adversity. "It's awesome every

time I get to come home, because Canton is where I grew up," Schmitt said. "I love to give back. If I can change one kid's life, that would be a huge success for me.'

Standing in the school that served as a springboard for her, Schmitt extolled the virtue of doing well in school, pointing out her parents, Ralph and Gail, made sure she did her school work before she was allowed to do anything else

"It's an important lesson in life to have balance. ... In order to be successful, you have to have that balance."

ALLISON SCHMITT, Olympic swimmer

Facing adversity

Schmitt pointed out that, despite her swimming success, she has "had a lot of adversity" in her life. The most recent came last year when, after winning five medals in the 2012 Olympics, she failed to make the U.S. team in 2013.

"When I look back, the (adversities) were just little bumps," she said. "Everyone has failed to do something at some time. I could have cried and quit swimming. But I set my goals to do better. You learn life goes on."

Schmitt's message about setting goals was of particular interest to Canton Charter Academy Principal Janelle Magyar, who said that message is part of daily life at the school.

'We always talk about goal setting and how failure is just an opportunity to learn and grow," Magyar said. 'Allison embodies that perseverance. When she spoke to that, it was important. The kids know it wasn't always

KARISSA JAGACKI

AU.D., CCC-A

AUDIOLOGIST

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easy for her."

Lighter touch

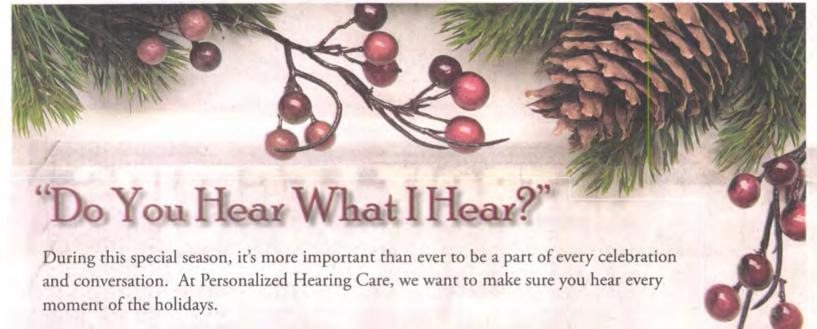
In a lighter moment, one student asked Schmitt to identify her "favorite treat." While the students chuckled, Schmitt admitted to having a sweet tooth. She quickly turned it into a discussion about health, urging kids to enjoy their treats, but eat their vegetables at the same time, a suggestion that drew a goodhearted groan from the kids

But Schmitt, nearly 6 feet tall, pulled kindergartner Mihita Lokesh to her feet and, noting the differences in their height, pointed out "eating my vegetables helped me get this tall."

There were more serious moments, too. One questioner asked Schmitt how she attained "balance" in her life and Schmitt was quick to point out the importance of having balance. For instance, Schmitt said, she had friends and family in her life, also loved soccer and plays the piano.

"It's an important lesson in life to have balance," Schmitt said. "It's like a domino effect. If you don't focus on one part of your life, it can come crashing down on the other parts. In order to be successful, you have to have that balance."

Ralph and Gail Schmitt were in the audience for their daughter's appearance and, not surprisingly, Gail Schmitt was reduced to tears.



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7

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"We're very proud," Gail Schmitt said. "It's very emotional. It's great to see your child set goals and reach them, whatever they are. It's very rewarding.

Allison is one of five children (she has three sisters and a brother) and she made a big point about how her parents have inspired her throughout her life. But Ralph Schmitt said it's really the other way around.

"She said we inspire her, but she inspires us ... all of our kids do," Ralph Schmitt said. "Whatever your child does, it inspires us."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com



LOCAL NEWS

Livonia arts group offers holiday shop



Scarves, necklaces and other accessories for the holidays like these will be available at The Visual Arts Association of Livonia's Holiday Shoppe.

Opening reception set for Thursday

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) is once again changing its year-round classroom into a Holiday Shoppe offering one-of-a-kind gifts created by area artisans. This juried event features pottery, fiber, hand-blown glass, jewelry and other accessories, wood items, clothing, ornaments, framed and unframed art and much more. Items in every price range will be available.

An opening reception will

be held from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4. The public is invited to come and enjoy refreshments, meet some of the artists and be the first to see the selection of gifts. There is no charge for this event.

The Holiday Shoppe will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, through Sunday, Dec. 14. The Holiday Shoppe is locat-

The Holiday Shoppe is located in the VAAL classroom at 37653 Five Mile Road, in the New Five Village Shopping Center, located at the southwest corner of Newburgh in Livonia. Look for the shop next to the UPS Store. Formed as a nonprofit organization in 1983, the Visual Arts Association of Livonia provides a variety of art classes, workshops and services for Livonia and surrounding communities.

Classes and workshops are taught year-round by awardwinning, professional art instructors. The winter class schedule will be available at the Holiday Shoppe.

For more information about VAAL or the Holiday Shoppe, call 734-838-1204 or go to the VAAL website at www.vaalart.org



Handmade Christmas ornaments are among the items for sale.











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LOCAL NEWS

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There was the year Fred Hill and his Briefcase Drill team got their marching orders from White Castle.



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NOVI TOWN CENTER SO MANY STORES

Briefcase Drill team steps toward retirement

Last performance set for Fourth of July

> **By Matt Jachman** Staff Writer

Thanksgiving Day marked the beginning of the end of an era for the Fred Hill Briefcase Drill team.

Founder and drillmaster Fred Hill said Monday his team's appearance in America's Thanksgiving Parade in Detroit will be its last and that the team will be shelving its briefcases and "marching off into the sunset" for good next summer.

The finale, Hill said, will be the Fourth of July during next year's Good Morning USA Parade in Plymouth - 30 years to the day after its first performance there. "Kind of poetic, isn't it?" Hill said.

The drill team -16men in business suits, carrying briefcases, stepping in unison and directed by Hill - is a crowd favorite in the Detroit area and has made appearances around the country, including at Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City, the Fiesta Bowl in Arizona, Navy Pier in Chicago and the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

"If you look back over, I don't know, maybe 150 appearances, we've done some pretty unique things," Hill said.



Fred Hill, seen directing his team, says Thursday's appearance in Detroit was the team's last Thanksgiving Day parade.

"If you look back over, I don't know, maybe 150 appearances, we've done some pretty unique things. If you look around, people don't carry briefcases any more."

FRED HILL, founder and drillmaster

Hill said the decision to retire is in step with the times.

"If you look around, people don't carry brief-cases any more," he said.

In addition, Hill said age has crept up on the team since he founded it

nearly 30 years ago. "None of us were really kids when we started," he said. "Too many guys on injured reserve."

Hill added that he has marchers on standby and has never had to run the team short of its full complement. "It seems like every time we have to appear, there's someone I have to replace," he said.

Thursday's performance in America's Thanksgiving Parade was its 25th appearance at that event; since 1988, the team only missed the Detroit parade in 2009 and 2012, years when it opted for the New York parade.

Hill hasn't ruled out bringing the team to events held between Thanksgiving and next July 4.

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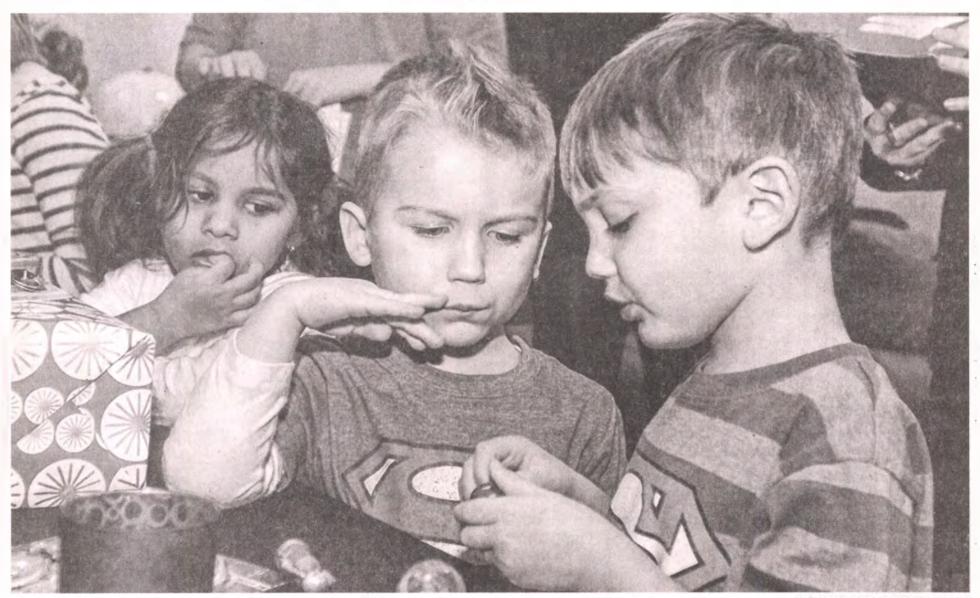
UPCOMING DATES:

Monday, December 8th 2014 | Saturday, January 10th 2015

1:00 pm-3:00 pm Livonia Civic Center Library 32777 5 Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48154 330 Family Dr., Milford, MI 48381

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Milford Public Library

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Ryan Roush (left) and Sachin Ploucha check out the toys during a program announcing the upcoming release of the Trouble in Toyland report.

JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Vigilance important to avoid 'Trouble in Toyland'

Report details toys deemed dangerous

By Nathan Mueller Staff Writer,

It's a scene Donna Bucciarelli has seen far too often in the emergency room.

A kid comes in after swallowing something he shouldn't have, or worse, he swallowed something that completely blocks the airway.

It is often a panic sitution at the time, but the key, said Bucciarelli, who serves as the trauma prevention coordinator for Beaumont Health System, is being vigilant, because many of these situations can be prevented.





JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"Supervision and common sense are the most important things," she said. "And it's not just with the new toys but keeping track of old ones as well.

Prevention is especially important as the holiday shopping season approaches and toys fly off the shelves. And Beaumont is once again at the forefront of the education process by sponsoring the release of the Public Interest Research Group in Michigan's annual Trouble in Toyland report.

The report, which is slated to be released early next week, provides safety guidelines for

consumers buying toys, as well as examples of toys currently on the shelves that pose potential safety risks.

The most common hazards found on store shelves include ones that are choking hazards, contain toxic substances, are magnetic and ones that make a lot of noise.

And Bucciarelli said these hazards are found in toys from numerous companies and various price ranges.

"We have seen it across the board," she said. "It's companies you don't recognize and ones you do."

PIRG's report found numerous toys this year that fail the toilet paper

roll test - meaning if it fits inside a toilet paper role, it is probably unsafe for children under 3 years old. Five toys were reportedly found with concentrations of toxins exceeding federal standards.

But while many of these toys remain on the shelves, Bucciarelli said a lot has been done over the years to cutback on those posing severe safety concerns.

"Without the constant policing and vigilance and knowing people are watching, I think the

the nation for helping educate parents about potential toy hazards."

For more information about the report and to get toy safety tips, visit www.toysafetytips.org.

standards would go back-

ward," she said. U.S. PIRG Consumer

Program Director Ed

Mierzwinski said they

"commend the emergen-

cy medicine and pediatric

experts at Beaumont and

other hospitals around

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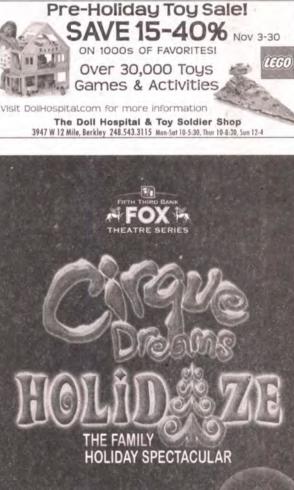
CITY OF GARDEN CITY WINTER TAX NOTICE

The 2014 winter taxes will be payable from December 1, 2014 through February 16, 2015 without penalty. Beginning February 17, 2015 thru March 2, 2015 a 3% penalty will be added to the unpaid taxes. Beginning March 3, 2015 all unpaid 2014 REAL property taxes must be paid to: Raymond J Wojtowicz, Wayne County Treasurer, The International Center Building, 400 Monroe, 5th floor, Detroit, Mi 48226 with an additional 4% administration fee plus 1% per month interest computed from March 1, 2015.

ALLYSON M BETTIS-Treasurer-City Clerk



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER The Chat and Count audio learner was found to produce noise Donna Bucciarelli, trauma prevention coordinator for Beaumont Health System (right), Dr. levels that are harmful to a child's ears. Robert Morden and nurse Erica Surman talked about what parents should look for in toys.



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HEAT IN THE COLD

With winter coming, now is the appropriate time to discuss joint care in cold weather. Of great importance is keeping the hands warm. Doing so is a major undertaking for a person with Raynaud's Disease. In this condition, blood vessels to the digits spasm and close off; no blood supply gets to the fingers. The effect is to cause the finger, or fingers, involved to become numb and white. This change lasts until the spasm ends and circulation can once again establish itself.

The spasm may last for moments to more than a half hour. The episodes of Raynauds may come only once or twice during the winter, or come on every day. The more episodes of Raynaud's that occur, the greater the chance fingertips may ulcerate with accompanying pain and infection. Therefore, physicians spend time discussing with patients having Raynaud's the importance of keeping hands warm.

The first point physicians make is that the hands need to be warm at all times. Just opening the front door and taking a few steps to pick up the paper requires wearing gloves, the same holds for a short walk from a market's parking lot into the entrance. If a building is cool, keep gloves on. It may be best to wear gloves at night if the bedroom is in the rear of the house, away from the furnace and likely to be one or two degrees cooler than the rest of the house.

Close attention to using gloves in winter applies to people with ostegarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis. Warm hands are more flexible than cold hands, warm hands fit better into gloves and grip canes, railings and car door handles better than cold hands.

Sleep Out raises money for homeless youth

LOCAL NEWS

By Matt Jachman Staff Writer

The idea of getting a bunch of car dealers to go homeless for one November night came up at a Detroit Auto Dealers Association meeting in August.

Not the kind of agenda item normally discussed at professional association meetings, it had been raised by Sam Slaughter, the owner of a string of area dealerships and the DADA vice president (and soon to be president).

"We looked at him like he was totally crazy," said Scott LaRiche, vice president and executive manager at Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth Township and a DADA board member.

Then Slaughter told them about Covenant House Michigan, a Detroit-based organization that provides shelter, food, education and life skills to homeless young people. The Sleep Out, held in Detroit and 14 other cities in North America that have Covenant House facilities, was designed to raise money for the organization.

"After we heard that, it was a no-brainer," LaRiche said. "Everybody signed up and we started raising funds."

Slaughter, LaRiche

and around 10 other DA-DA members joined about other 30 professionals Nov. 20 for the Sleep Out on the grounds of Covenant House Michigan, on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard near I-96. They bedded down around 11 p.m. and got up between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. 'It was a real eye-

opener for me," said LaRiche, who estimated he got maybe 90 minutes of sleep.

LaRiche was bundled up and in a sleeping bag, lying in a cardboard box, but that was no match for temperatures that, with the wind chill, dipped to around zero. There were also occasional interruptions by Covenant House staffers, asking participants if they wanted to go to the warming center, as they do when they see the real homeless. (LaRiche did not take them up on it.)

LaRiche left his box at around 5:30 a.m., exhausted.

"I cannot imagine having to do that two, three, four, five nights in a row, a month in a row," he said.

And LaRiche acknowledges he and fel-low Sleep Out participants had it comparatively easy: They were secure on the Covenant House grounds, knew where their breakfast



Participants included (from left) Scott LaRiche, Cheryl Wasilewski, Tavi Fulkerson, Sam Slaughter (behind Fulkerson), Bob Weller, Rod Alberts and Katie Bowman-Coleman.

was coming from and had the chance to take a hot shower and maybe a nap before heading to work.

"Going through what I went through for one night is hardly anything compared to what they (homeless youths) have to do on a daily basis," he said.

The experience was especially meaningful in light of the coming Thanksgiving, he said the day before the holiday.

"Every single year we

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talk about, 'What are you thankful for?" LaRiche said. "I'm going to be able to think of a lot of things I'm thankful for."

DADA members raised about \$78,000 in pledges through their participation, including some \$6,875 from LaRiche. In total, the first Detroit Sleep Out raised more than \$210,000, easily surpassing the goal of

\$150,000. LaRiche and other Sleep Out participants also got to look around Covenant House Michigan, attend a candlelight vigil, talk to staff members and meet two of the young people being helped by the program.

"There's actually a place that is helping people become productive members of society," he said. "It is absolutely amazing."

On any given night, according to Covenant House Michigan, there are mare than 5,000 homeless youths in the state.

Donations to Covenant House Michigan can be made at covenanthousemi.org/ donation/form. Mail can be sent to: Covenant House Michigan, 2959 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard., Detroit, MI 48208.

mjachman@hometownlife.com 734-678-8432 Twitter: @mattjachman

hometownlife.com

Auto dealer's good deed shows respect for military

When Scott LaRiche gave up his first-class airplane seat to a U.S. Marine earlier this month, he didn't seek any recognition for it, he says.

But news travels fast in the age of Twitter and, before LaRiche knew it, his good deed was widely known in the Detroit area, even mentioned on Frank Beckmann's radio show on WJR-AM (760).

LaRiche, vice president and executive general manager of Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth Township, had spotted the Marine, carrying an urn with the ashes of a comrade that he was accompanying home, boarding the plane in Los Angeles early Nov. 21. LaRiche was returning to the Detroit area from the Los Angeles Auto Show.

After consulting a stewardess, LaRiche learned the Marine was seated at the back of the plane. He walked back and insisted the serviceman take his seat in first class.

The Marine, hesitant at first, took the seat, LaRiche said. He was very dignified in the way he carried himself and the urn and a folded flag; LaRiche said he didn't learn how the Marine's comrade had died or even if his final destination was in Michigan.

"It was really an emo-tional thing," he said.

LaRiche said he wanted to duck publicity about the event, but once word got out, decided to use the publicity as a platform to urge people to show appreciation for those in the military and for military veterans.

- By Matt Jachman

CITY OF LIVONIA PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 502 of Act 110 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2006, as amended, and Articles XIX and XXIII of Ordinance #543, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, as amended, the City Planning Commission of the City of Livonia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, in the Livonia City Hall,

CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF CANCELLATION REGULAR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 17, 2014

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for December 17, 2014 has been cancelled due to the lack of agenda items

The next regularly scheduled Zoning Board of Appeals meeting will be held on January 21, 2015 in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI at 5:30 p.m.

Publish No ember 30, 2014

CITY OF WAYNE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

| The Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Wayne, Michigan, Michigan, Michigan, December 11, 2014 at 7:30 p.m., in the Wayne Activities Sims Avenue, to consider one request. 1, Araneae, Inc., on behalf of Jack Demmer Ford, 37410 M for permission to erect a sign. The property is located Zone. Section 1280.08(c)(2)(b) of the Planning and Zon sign to be placed on a building that has street frontag may be 1/2 square foot for each lineal foot of building from The plans submitted to the Building Department indices square feet. By ordinance, a second sign of 32 feet is a variance of 137.8 square feet. The text and any maps may be examined or written comments Clerk's Office during business hours (Monday-Thursday 10:00 at the public may appear at the public hearing in person or by cour Public Hearing, the Zoning Board will consider, and may act upon the second state. | y and Banquet Center, 35000 Michigan Avenue, has applied in a B-3, Business Extensive ing Code allows for a second e. The size of the second sign ontage. ates a wall sign that is 169.8 Illowed, therefore requiring a may be submitted at the City a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Members of insel. At the conclusion of the | 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the following item: Petition 2014-11-01-07 submitted by Robert Nofar pursuant to Section 23.01 of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, requesting to rezone the properties at 27403 and 27451 Schoolcraft Road, located on the southwest corner of Schoolcraft and Inkster Roads in the Northeast 1/4 of Section 25, from OS (Office Services) and M-1 (Light Manufacturing) to C-4 (High Rise Commercial). The above-mentioned petition will be on file in the City Planning Commission office, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan during the period of five (5) days immediately preceding the said hearing and may be examined by any and all persons during the normal working hours Monday through Friday. R. Lee Morrow, Chairman CITY PLANNING COMMISSION | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| ubic meaning, the 20ming Doard will consider, and may act upt | Matthew K. Miller | PUBLISH: November 30, 2014 | | | | | | | |
| addieds Managelow 20, 2014 | City Clerk | | | | LO-6600222895 3 | | | | |
| ublish: November 30, 2014 | 10-0000222096 3x3 | | | | 10-0000222895 | | | | |
| ESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 5, Chapter VII and Section 1 of Chapter VIII council does hereby establish a tax levy of 4.0447 mills, of the taxable valuation of axation in the City of Livonia for the next fiscal year commencing December 1, 20 n addition to the above amount which is authorized to be levied for general purport | all real and personal property subject to | CITY OF LI ADOPTED BUDO YEAR 2014 | ET FI | | | | | | |
| a) The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 0.8088 mills, of the Taxable Va subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, p the Charter of the City of Livonia, for the purpose of providing additional enforcement personnel, equipment, supplies and facilities of the City of Livonia to be levied for general municipal purposes; | ursuant to Section 1 of Chapter VIII of revenues for police protection and law | GENERAL FUND (101) PROPERTY TAXES LICENSES & PERMITS GRANTS | 402-446 465-519 528 | \$30,994,273 1,965,000 229,200 | EXPENDITURES | | | | |
| b) The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 1.2134 mills, of the Taxable Va subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, p the Charter of the City of Livonia, for the purpose of providing additional rev personnel, equipment, supplies and facilities of the City of Livonia; in additio for general municipal purposes; | ursuant to Section 1 of Chapter VIII of renues for fire, police and snow removal | STATE SHARED REVENUES CHARGES FOR SERVICES FINES & FORFEITS INTEREST & RENTS OTHER MISCELLANEOUS | $567-581 \\ 602-651 \\ 656 \\ 665-669 \\ 680-698 \\ -$ | 8,406,132 4,045,574 3,998,000 2,471,102 1,789,601 | | | | | |
|) The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 1,7000 mills, of the Taxable Va subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, purs Charter of the City of Livonia, for the purpose of providing additional revenues costs in the City of Livonia, in addition to the amount authorized to be levied f | uant to Section 1 of Chapter VIII of the | TOTAL REVENUES LEGISLATIVE JUDICIAL EXECUTIVE | | \$53,898,882 | \$1,124,964 2,998,122 | | | | |
| 1) The Gouncil does hereby establish a tax levy of 0.8088 mills, of the Taxable Va subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, p the Charter of the City of Livonia, for the purpose of providing additional rev facilities in the City of Livonia; in addition to the amount authorized to be levil. | ursuant to Section 1 of Chapter VIII of enues for library services, supplies and | FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION HUMAN RESOURCES GENERAL GOVERNMENT PUBLIC SAFETY- POLICE | | | $\begin{array}{r} 412,578\\ 2,635,331\\ 730,766\\ 1,271,628\\ 22,580,604\end{array}$ | | | | |
| O The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 0.0129 mills, of the Taxahle Va subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, p the Public Acts of 1925, for the purpose of advertising, exploiting and makin, advantages of the City of Livonia and to establish projects for the purpose of ene the trade, business and industries of the City of Livonia; in addition to the amgeneral municipal purposes; | ursuant to the provisions of Act 379 of g known the industrial and commercial ouraging immigration to, and increasing | PUBLIC SAFETY- FIRE PROTECTIVE INSPECTION OTHER PROTECTIVE | | | $\begin{array}{c} 13,583,688\\ 1,279,805\\ 2,034\\ 3,454,797\\ 418,006\end{array}$ | | | | |
|) The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 0.7855 mills, of the Taxable Va subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, revenues for a community recreation center, recreation personnel, equipmen addition to the amount authorized to be levied for general municipal purposes; | for the purpose of providing additional t, supplies, facilities and operations; in | TOTAL EXPENDITURES | | | 1,208,078 638,567 1,550,475 \$53,889,443 | | | | |
| () The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 0.8893 mills, of the Taxable Va subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, fo repairing or replacing public roads, sidewalks and trees in the City of Livonia for general municipal purposes; | the purpose of providing revenues for | SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS MAJOR STREET FUND LOCAL STREET FUND ROAD, SIDEWALK & TREE FUND | 202 203 204 | REVENUES \$4,548,427 3,022,068 4,908,201 | EXPENDITURES \$4,507,803 3,005,397 4,897,918 | | | | |
| The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 0.5000 mills, of the Taxable Va subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, nevenues for the City's community transit program and capital improvements the amount to be levied for general municipal purposes; | for the purpose of providing additional within the City of Livonia; in addition to | MUNICIPAL REFUSE FUND COMMUNITY RECREATION FUND TRANSIT AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND COMMUNITY TRANSIT FUND | 205 208 | $\begin{array}{r} 11,831,493\\7,205,073\\1,924,777\\998,328\end{array}$ | 12,123,862 7,638,988 1,924,777 1,223,403 | | | | |
| The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 0.2500 mills, of the Taxable Val subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, purs Charter of the City of Livonia, for the purpose of providing additional revenues for cultural and senior services in the City, including the Livonia Senior Cent addition to the amount authorized to be levied for general municipal purposes; | uant to Section 1 of Chapter VIII of the for staff, maintenance and support costs er and Greenmead Historical Village, in | PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION PLYMOUTH ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTH ADJUDICATED FORFEITURES FUND LIBRARY FUND | 261 262 265 271 | 595,000 892,756 422,500 3,512,453 | 1,187,170 858,050 1,042,870 3,491,437 | | | | |
| The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 2.4267 mills, of the Taxable Val subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, purs Public Acts of 1917, for the purpose of establishing, operating, maintaining an Collection System and/or plant for the collection and disposal of garbage and r to the amount authorized to be levied for general municipal purposes; | suant to the provisions of Act 298 of the d administering the Municipal Garbage | LIVONIA BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUT CABLE TELEVISION FUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS | TH 273 297 566 | 200,000 509,200 1,100 \$40,571,376 | 200,000 441,034 431 \$42,543,140 | | | | |
|) The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 0.5979 mills, of the Taxable Va subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year set out above, for the liabilities for the collection and disposal activities required for curbside recyclir in addition to the amount authorized to be levied for general municipal purpose | purpose of defraying City expenses and and yard waste composting programs; | DEBT SERVICE FUNDS 2008 MBA 16TH DISTRICT COURT 2005 MBA REFUNDING 2007 MBA REFUNDING 2007 PEDA COMPENSION DEPEND | 322 325 326 | \$603,658 368,601 2,512,375 | \$603,658 368,601 2,512,375 | | | | |
| The Council does hereby establish a tax levy of 2.0000 mills to be due and p Valuation of all real and personal property located within the Plymouth R taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year commencing December 1, pursuant to the provisions of Act 197 of the Public Acts of 1975, for the purpo | oad Development Authority, subject to 2014 and ending November 30, 2015. | 1998 PRDA STREETSCAPEDEBT TOTAL DEBT SERVICE FUNDS CAPITAL PROJECT FUND | 394 401 | 589,050 \$4,073,684 \$1,124,777 | 589,050 \$4,073,684 \$1,370,200 | | | | |
| and operations of the Plymouth Road Development Authority, in addition to t purposes. This millage shall be effective provided that all residential properti Road Development Authority district; | he amount levied for general municipal | ENTERPRISE FUND NEWBURGH VILLAGE SR. CIT. HOUSING SILVER VILLAGE SR. CIT. HOUSING | 294 296 | \$788,000 626,390 | \$713,092 620,188 | | | | |
| ND PROVIDED FURTHER, that the Wayne County Bureau of Taxation, City Ass ereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary or incidental to the full ity Clerk is hereby requested to immediately transmit copies of this resolution to ablish: November 80, 2014 | performance of this resolution, and the | GOLF COURSE | 508 592 | 1,937,478 <u>36,771,931</u> \$40,123,799 | 1,944,495 36,483,705 \$39,761,480 | | | | |

LOCAL NEWS



Bunny Watson and the "Girls" (from left) Valerie Haas, Anne Morgan, Jenna Hinton and Jennifer Beitzel.

Barefoot brings 'Desk Set' to stage

Barefoot Productions presents a gift of laughter for the start of the holidays, bringing the comedy *The Desk Set*, written by William Marchant, to the stage.

The Desk Set tells the timely story of Man (or Women) versus Machine. Written in 1955, this Broadway comedy is the story of Bunny Watson, head of the Reference Department of a large broadcasting corporation in Manhattan, and her "Girls," who find their jobs in jeopardy when Richard Sumner, an "Efficiency Expert," invades their Department with EMMERAC, the

electronic brain.

This lighthearted, family comedy will make audiences laugh watching Bunny and her team try to outwit EM-MERAC. Who will be the winner? The play is directed by artistic director Craig

The Desk Set was made into the Hollywood

classic film in 1958, starring Katherine Hepburn

and Spencer Tracy. The Desk Set opens at

8 p.m. Dec. 5. Additional

performances are 8 p.m.

Dec. 6, 12-13 and 2 p.m. Dec. 7 and 14. All seats

are \$15 and can be reserved by calling the box office at 734-560-1493 or

www.justgobarefoot-

.com. The intimate 99-

seat Barefoot Produc-

at 240 N. Main in Ply-

tions Theatre is located

going online to

mouth.

A. Hane.

The cast includes Jenna Hinton (Farmington), Valerie Haas (Redford), Jennifer Beitzel (Plymouth), Jonathon Wennstrom (Canton) as Richard Sumner, Anne Morgan (Livonia) as Bunny Watson, Michael Ludlam (Northville), Jerry Carney (Canton), Jane and Mike Cuba (Livonia), Pat Lillis and Kiersten Manifold (Ypsilanti). College robotics students place fifth in World Robot Olympiad

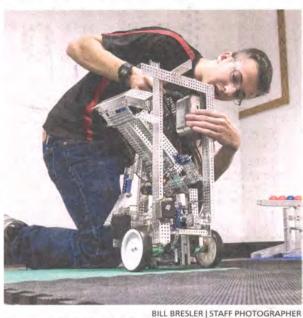
The Lawrence Technological Robotics team finished fifth in the University division of the World Robot Olympiad held recently in Sochi, Russia.

Lawrence Technological University students John Marnon of Westland and Farmington Hills resident Philip Bigos built and programmed their robot to represent the United States in the competition.

Marnon, a 2011 Westland John Glenn High School graduate, was member of the first Wayne-Westland robotics team.

In the spring, Marnon and Bigos are scheduled to be the first students in Michigan to earn bachelor of science degrees in robotics engineering.

In the elementary



John Marnon prepares the robot used in the Robot Olympiad. His team took fifth place in the college competition.

division of the competition, the team from Canton-Northville won a bronze medal.



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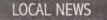
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A14 (WGRL) 0 & E Media | Sunday, November 30, 2014



hometownlife.com

Sikh building expansion approved in Canton

By Darrell Clem Staff Writer

A Canton-based gurdwara, or Sikh place of worship, has confirmed plans for an addition to the Singh Sabha of Michigan, already an architectural landmark on Canton Center north of Geddes.

Project engineer Hakim Shakir said the twostory, 7,000-square-foot addition will mostly house classrooms for children's religious studies on weekends, though it also will be used for purposes such as conferShakir said construction is expected to begin in spring and hopefully be completed by next

ence rooms.

fall. It marks the first major addition to the gurdwara since it opened in April 2008. Anne Marie Graham-Hudak, coordinator for the Plymouth-Canton

the Plymouth-Canton Interfaith Community Outreach, said the gurdwara's expansion is a positive development for the Canton community.

"It's a good thing because it brings more diversity and inclusion into the Canton commu-



Construction is expected to begin in spring for an addition to the Singh Sabha of Michigan in Canton.

nity and it attracts a high p caliber of people to our S community," she said. g "They want to live closer m to their schools and

places of worship. The Sikh community is a great benefit to the community." The project is set to move forward after Singh Sabha of Michigan received special land use and site plan approval Tuesday night from a supportive Canton Township Board of Trustees. Planning commissioners already had approved the plans.

Township officials say the addition could accommodate an anticipated six classrooms, four conference rooms and offices.

The primary purpose is to provide space for religious classes and the teaching of the Punjabi language. The expansion will be built on the south side of the gurdwara.

There are approximately 25 million Sikhs in the world.

Sikh means disciple or learner and Sikhism is founded on the 15th century teachings of Guru Nanak and 10 successive gurus. It teaches of one God, equality, hard work, meditation, tolerance, religious inclusion and other beliefs.

dclem@hometownlife.com Twitter: @CantonObserver 734-972-0919

Plymouth residents win Skate at the Joe contest

Plymouth resident, Jon Wilson and his family recently received the opportunity of a lifetime when they were among the randomly selected winners and guests in the Skate at The Joe sweepstakes sponsored by Flagstar Bank.

Wilson, his wife, and three children were treated to a two-hour open skate at Joe Louis Arena, along with a pizza party.

Wilson said it was exciting to have the opportunity to skate at The Joe. And 8-year-old Kasey added, "It was fun and the food was good!" Flagstar Bank is an

nd official partner of the Detroit Red Wings.

Duo presents benefit concert

FERNDALE — 'Tis the season for music and giving. Local duo Cello-Bella are truly in the spirit this year; they're playing a free secular holiday concert to benefit the Ferndale Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 11.

Cello-Bella's Alison Donahue and Mike Wilhelm are no strangers to the library's stage, having played the last of FPL's Summer Concert Series in 2013. Donahue wanted to show her appreciation for all of the work the library's done, especially in the arts, so she contacted FPL's concert coordinator, Kelly Bennett and suggested this special holiday benefit performance.

"Cello-Bella was a great addition to our concert series in 2013," Bennett said. "So when Alison contacted me about doing a benefit show featuring holiday songs, I jumped at the chance to bring this fun group back to the librarv."

The duo are very community-minded, so



Mike Wilhelm on the guitar and Alison Donahue on the cello will perform at the Ferndale Library.

it's no surprise that they wanted to help out the library with a free show.

"Having music in your life is such an expanding thing, and it puts you in situations you wouldn't be in during your regular job and puts you in the community," Donahue said. "Mike and I play a lot of different gigs around the area and we enjoy getting out there and reaching out to people and hopefully lifting up their day."

Cell-Bella specializes in jazz, swing and traditional American pop standards from the 1920s to the present. Donahue's polished jazz-based vocal styling strikes a classy harmony with Mike Wilhelm's blue-inspired guitar and vocals.

The special holiday show is free, but donations to the library are highly encouraged. All ages are welcome.



FLAGSTAR BANK The Wilson family of Plymouth won a two-hour open skate at Joe Louis Arena in a contest sponsored by Flagstar Bank.

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Read this before co-signing for student loan

Q: Dear Rick: I read an article about a father who co-signed a student loan for his daughter. When his daughter unfortunately passed away, he was held liable for the student loan. I was surprised the bank held him liable despite his loss. I have twin nephews who have asked me to co-sign their student loans. I want to help them, but I don't want to be held liable if they don't pay their loan back or if they should pass away before they've finished paying off the loan. Is there anything I can state in the loan documents or otherwise to protect me if I co-sign?

A: If your nephews are unable to make payment, the bank is going to seek payment from you. After all, that is why the bank wants you as a co-signer - to protect it from default. In some situations, you may have some sort of collateral that would protect you, but in this case it doesn't appear that there would be any. As a cosigner, that is the risk that you accept.

With regard to the untimely death of one of your nephews, if they die and still have an obligation on the loan, you would be responsible. However, there is something that you can do to protect yourself. Buy a life insurance policy on your nephews with you as the beneficiary. Then if one of the boys dies with an outstanding obligation, you could use the insurance to pay back the loan.

I recommend purchasing term insurance. It is the least expensive, particularly at the ages



of your nephews. One issue to consider with the insurance is the length of time you should have the coverage. I recommend at least a 20-year term, but you may find that at your nephews' ages, the cost for a 30-year policy is not much more expensive

It is not unusual for someone to be repaying their student loan for a 30-year period. In addition, if they do pay the loan off sooner, you can cancel the term policy or turn the policy over to your nephews if they want it. If not, you can let the policy lapse and walk away from it.

I read the article where the father was held responsible for his deceased daughter's loan. What happened was a tragedy, however, it is a fact of life that if you co-sign on a loan, you can be held responsible.

I always caution people about being a cosigner or a guarantor. Life insurance will protect you if the borrower passes away with the outstanding obligation. However, short of having some collateral, which in most cases is not realistic, if there is a default, you will be held responsible. Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloom

assetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email rick@bloom assetmanagement.com.

SPACIOUS DESIGN

Teddy Bears will rain down at Whalers game

The Plymouth Whal-ers and Plymouth Community United Way are hoping it will rain a torrent of teddy bears Saturday, Dec. 6, after the hockey team scores its first goal at Compuware Arena.

LOCAL NEWS

The annual Teddy Bear Toss not only provides toys to brighten the holidays of needy children, but comfort them in shelters and traumatic situations throughout the year.

Last year, more than 800 teddy bears were thrown onto the ice, creating an avalanche of stuffed animals.

This year, fans are being asked to bring a bevy of bears to top that total. The fun begins at 7:05 p.m.



The Plymouth United Way and the Plymouth Whalers are teaming up Dec. 6 for their annual Teddy Bear Toss.

For information, call Randi Williams at 734-453-8679, ext. 7, or email

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PLYMOUTH WHALERS

0 & E Media | Sunday, November 30, 2014 (WGRL) _ A15

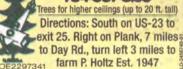
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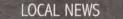


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A16 (WGRL) 0 & E Media | Sunday, November 30, 2014



hometownlife.com

The Cheese Lady comes to downtown Farmington

By Aileen Wingblad Staff Writer

A new downtown Farmington shop has 80-plus reasons for you to "say cheese" - with more on the way.

Visit The Cheese Lady on Grove Street - next to TJ Maxx - to find a massive assortment of artisan cheeses and complementary products to pair them with, including craft beers, wines, crisps, preserves and more.

Not sure what "goes with" what or unfamiliar with any of the names posted on the wall, listing the dozens and dozens of cheeses that fill the store's coolers? No worries. That's

what the "cheesemongers" are for, ready to share what they know and offer samples of their choosing or yours. "We talk cheese, we

sell cheese, we teach people about cheese,' said Kyle Tackett, degreed in culinary arts, and proud wearer of his cheesemonger title. "The thing about

cheese is people often

think of it as one-dimensional," Tackett said, "but it's so versatile. It can be part of so many different things - desserts, entrees, appetizers. There are so many uses and different varieties ... you can see why everyone loves cheese.'

The Farmington store, owned by Joe and Kendra Mantey, is the fifth Cheese Lady, a Michiganbased company founded by the original "cheese lady" Kathleen Riegler about 10 years ago. She and her husband John run their first store in Muskegon and take an active role in helping launch the franchises — as evi-denced by John's recent visit to the Manteys' store.

"Some people just haven't had any good cheese," Riegler said, explaining that the vacuum-sealed products typical of most supermarkets are what so many are used to, but are sorely lacking in flavor. Rather, cheeses have to be packaged properly and not sliced in advance, he said, to keep customers



Cheesemonger Kyle Tackett offers samples and plenty of cheese advice to customers.

hungering for more.

Tackett agreed. "We buy a better product, we handle it better, we take care of it better," he said. "You have to respect your cheese, treat it nicely."

Joe Mantey said he and his wife became fans of The Cheese Lady's Grand Rapids store about a year ago, after friends recommended they stop

there on the way to visit Mantey's dad, who lives on the western side of the state. After one visit, they were hooked.

"Then every time we visited my dad, we had to stop," he said, grinning.

Last February, he approached Riegler and got his franchise plan in motion. And downtown Farmington had to be the

spot. As a Farmington Hills planning commissioner and "one of the active Main Street people," Mantey said whatever helps revitalize the downtown benefits the entire Farmington-Farmington Hills communi-

ty. "On the planning commission, I tell people what they can and can't do with

their developments. Now, I'm learning about the other perspective," he said. "Now, I'm putting my money where my mouth is."

Eventually, Mantey expects to offer 150 varieties of cheese, but for now is easing into the business with a little more than half that amount, such as blended cheddar, goat and sheep's milk cheeses, smoked, blues, soft cheeses and more. Some are seasonal, like Cranberry Le Roule, which will be offered through the holidays only. About 70 percent are European, with the rest from Michigan, Vermont, Wisconsin, Iowa and California.

"Just come in and taste," Mantey said. "Let the cheese speak for itself. It will remind you that it is one of the good things in life."

The Cheese Lady is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Phone 248-957-9581.

awingblad@hometownlife.com

CHRISTMAS:

Livonia A.M. Rotary Club inducts new members

The Livonia A.M. Rotary Club recently inducted four new members. From left, Liz Smith, District Governor, and Pat Zucal, President, welcome Mike Roberts, Straits Lighting Co.; Jeff Adams, Metro Agency Inc.; Eric Ladwig, The UPS Store; and Dennis Wright, Livonia City Treasurer.

Projects the club has been working on include supporting Sears in its efforts to help local families for the holidays, a food pantry at a local school and anti-bullying programs with local elementary schools.

To join, call Zucal at 734-525-1100.



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LOCAL NEWS

Celebrate Kwanzaa with the community

By Joanne Maliszewski Staff Writer

The planners of this year's annual Kwanzaa celebration believe the world would be a much better place if people embraced and lived according to the holiday's seven principles.

"We live by these principles throughout our entire lives," Wayne Smith said. "They are an inspiration."

Kwanzaa's seven principles are the heart of the celebration 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, in the upstairs auditorium at the Farmington Hills branch of the library, 32737 12 Mile.

"You have to have faith in something or someone," Ouley Saulsberry said.

Smith and Saulsberry are among the event's planners, who also include Douglas Saulsberry, Donna Smith, Roy and Sonia Anderson and Dirk and Jessica Beamer.

The public is invited to learn about the seven principles that are based on African tradition and do not involve politics or religion. The principles are: self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith.

The seven principles and the celebration have Laurie Scott, children's librarian, excited. While the event has been celebrated in the library, this year marks the library's first year as co-sponsor.

"I jumped on the bandwagon," Scott said. "We are providing the space and the general library publicity. I value this as a cultural awareness event."

The principles, Scott said, are about community and each other. "Community togetherness, knowing your community and yourself. This is a celebration of all that."

In the years the planners have organized the event, increasingly more people attend, particularly with children. "By bringing in the library, it puts out the word of the diversity we have in this of history; a unity cup, a symbol of unity; fruits and vegetables, symbol of the harvest; a candle holder, a symbol of origin; and gifts for good behavior in the past year. "When we then call on

"When we then call on our ancestors, it warms my heart," Wayne Smith said.

The Kwanzaa planning committee has quite a few sponsors that help create a successful celebration. Papa John's pizza and Johnny Pomodora's have helped since day one, while others are Beans & Cornbread restaurant, Busch's Fresh Market, Heartland Market, Whole Foods Market, Farmington Community Library and Chicken King.

"This has grown and evolved since it was started," Roy Anderson said. "It's a joy to see so many faces."



JOANNE MALISZEWSKI The planners of the 2014 Kwanzaa celebration include: Donna and Wayne Smith, Laurie Scott, Farmington Community Library children's librarian, Douglas and Ouley Saulsberry and Roy and Sonia Anderson. Also on the planning committee are Jessica and Dirk Beamer.





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community," Douglas Saulsberry said.

The celebration will include music, dance, storytelling and family presentations of the Kwanzaa principles.

Again this year, popular storyteller Rosie Chapman will be on hand. And, for the first time, the Harrison High School Dance Troupe, led by teacher Tumijah Banks, will perform. Return African dancer Andrea Hetheru also will perform.

"The principles cross ethnic, religious and economic lines," Roy Anderson said. "It is about unity and all of us coming together."

In reaching that goal, Ouley Saulsberry said, everyone must find purpose in life and help each other and the community. Sonia Anderson agreed. Before she really knew about the Kwanzaa holiday, she was raised in its traditions of family and community: "The whole Kwanzaa idea is just that."

While presentations will be made — including from Farmington Public Schools officials, who were in on the beginning of the annual celebration almost 10 years ago – visitors can look forward to refreshments, food and a chance to gather.

Sonia Anderson and Donna Smith claim the food department of the celebration. Each will cook and bake for the event, including peach cobbler, green beans, macaroni and cheese, sweet potato pie and pecan pie, to name a few delicacies.

"The real purpose is that people are socializing and sharing what's happened in the past year," Donna Smith said.

No doubt there is tradition laced through the celebration, based on the seven principles. Visitors will see the foundation mat, a symbol

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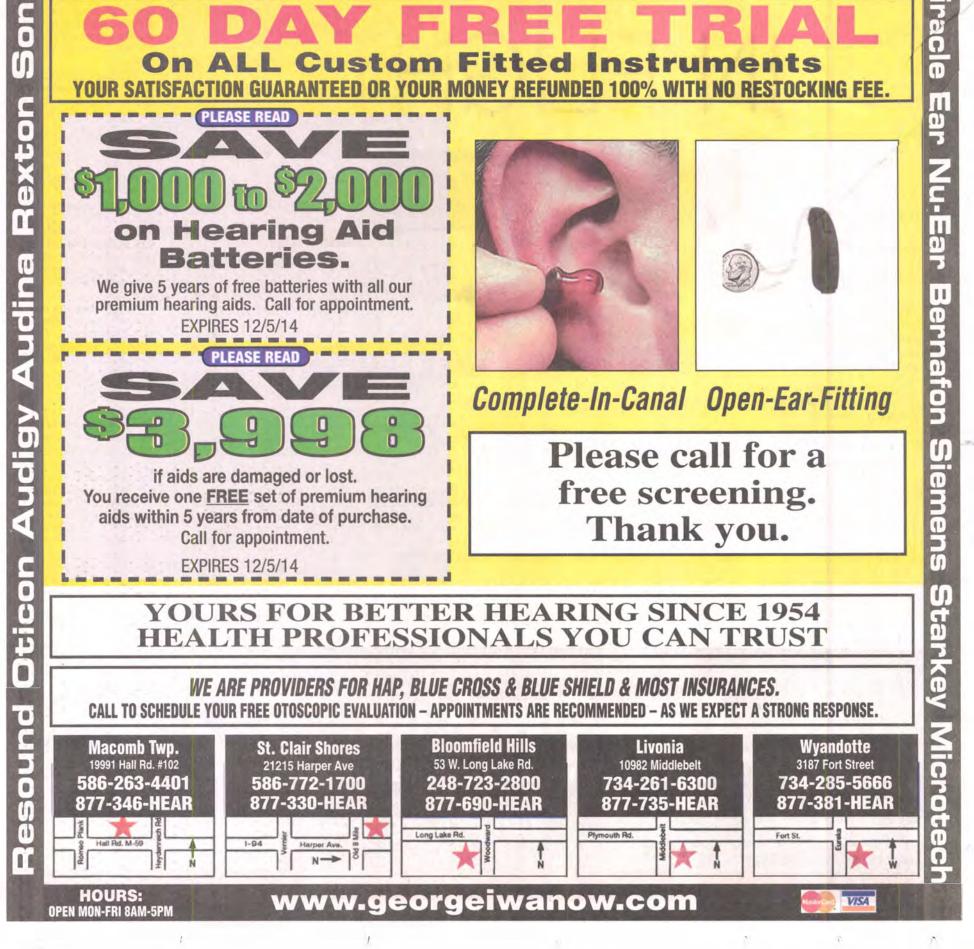
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PREP BOYS HOCKEY

Stevenson cooks up 7-1 rout

Spartans carve up Chargers in Thanksgiving Eve game

> By Ed Wright Staff Writer

Blue Wednesday preceded Black Friday by about 48 hours at Eddie Edgar Arena. Decked out in its midnightblue road uniforms, Livonia Stevenson carved up Livonia Churchill 7-1 Wednesday night in an arena-shaking Thanksgiving Eve hockey rivalry showdown played before enthusiastic student cheering sections from both schools.

The Spartans (2-1) deliv-

ered the first blow 2:22 into the contest when Shane Leonard's perfect centering feed was deposited into the net's top shelf by senior captain Mick Sinclair, who had positioned himself comfortably on the door-step of the goal crease.

Just over six minutes later, however, it was a staggering two-goals-in-13-seconds combination by Stevenson's Alex DeFlorio and Vince Glenn that gave the "guests" a 3-0 advantage that Churchill (1-1-1) was never able to recover from.

"Whenever we score a goal, we tell ourselves that we need to go out even harder the very next shift, and that's what we did," said DeFlorio, when asked about his team's bangbang net-finders. "We did a good job of getting the puck out of our zone tonight and moving it around. We did the little things we needed to do."

Although the back-to-backers were significant, they weren't the equivalent of a knock-out punch, Stevenson head coach David Mitchell emphasized. "Those two goals definitely

"Those two goals definitely helped give us momentum and they helped settle our guys down a little bit, but it was still way too early – especially against a rival like Churchill – to say they knocked them out,"

See STEVENSON, Page B4



Livonia Churchill goalie Andrew Broyles (No. 1) contends with offensive pressure from Livonia Stevenson forwards Justin Alton (No. 22) and Randy Maples (No. 12).



North Farmington-Harrison senior goalie Brendan Dilloway focuses on the puck as Austin Bottrell (19) and a teammate try to slow down the Farmington skater.

One's all it takes

Plymouth's Bump scores only goal in hard-fought win over Canton

By Evan Paputa Correspondent

In life, lessons normally come in moments of defeat.

Wednesday night, the Plymouth varsity boys hockey team proved that the same cannot be said for hockey games — the Wildcats' youthful unit shut out Canton 1-0 and learned how to handle the atmosphere of a cross-campus rivalry as well.

"It was a growing moment for a lot of our guys that were in their first time in this environment," Wildcats head coach Gerry Vento said. "A lot of prep (Plymouth junior varsity) players stepped up that were sophomores last year and I thought grew up in this game tonight. Beating Canton goaltender Nick Borg proved to be a daunting task for the Wildcats all night. Borg stopped 28 of 29 shots faced on the night. Plymouth finally snuck one by him with 7:29 remaining in the second period of the KLAA South Division matchup. In the midst of a six-player scrum in the corner behind and to the left of Borg, Plymouth's James Baldwin dug the puck out and shoveled a pass towards the right slot. The man on the spot was Alex Bump who wristed it past Borg. "I was hanging out in the high slot, just sitting and wait-ing," Bump said. "Our main goal was putting the puck on net. As soon as the puck comes out of the scrum, you just have to be ready to put the puck in the net." As marvelous of a shot that Bump's was, the play would not have been possible without Baldwin coming out of the pile with the puck and firing a picture-perfect pass.

PREP BOYS HOCKEY

IN FLIGHT

Flyers skate to 4-2 win over rival Falcons in hockey match-up By Dan O'Meara

The North Farmington-Harrison hockey players and coaches were counting their blessings on the day before Thanksgiving, too. All four of them!

The Flyers jumped to a big lead early and overcame a Farmington comeback effort for a 4-2 victory over their crosstown rivals Wednesday night.

"Tm happy with the way we battled," North-Harrison coach Ken Anderson said. "There's a lot of adversity and a lot of things going on in a rivalry game. We stuck to it and worked our tails off and got rewarded for it."

The Flyers were on the scoreboard just over a minute into the game (15:54) when Danny Arnold stole the puck near center ice for a break-



Flyers senior defenseman Frank Zak (5) protects the puck from Farmington sophomore forward Collin Finn.

away and beat Falcons goalie Hunter Firestone with a nice move in front of the net.

North-Harrison (2-1) got its second goal a mere four seconds into a power play late in the first period (3:55).

The puck floated across the crease as Firestone tried to cover it, but Jack Cikra was unmarked on the other side and had an easy shot into the open half of the net.

The Flyers made it a three straight early in the second period (15:56) when Joey Lajcaj ripped a long slap shot that made it through a maze of players to the back of the net on a power play.

"It was nice for our young guys to get into the game a little more, playing with a lead," Anderson said. "Every time we play the Falcons, it's never safe. They battled, battled and got back in it in a hurry."

Falcons rally

Farmington (1-3) scored both of its goal within a 1:02 span late in the second period to make a game of it and put some suspense into the competition.

Jordan Hoke scored the first on a bang-bang sequence on a power play with 3:34 remaining. Drake Cole took a centering pass from Richard Lantz and made the initial shot; Hoke scored off the rebound.

Just over a minute later (2:32), Jason Petras pulled the Falcons within one when he scored from Cole and Hoke.

The sudden scoring outburst and one-goal difference conjured thoughts of a 2010 game in which Farmington rallied from a 4-2 deficit to win 5-4.

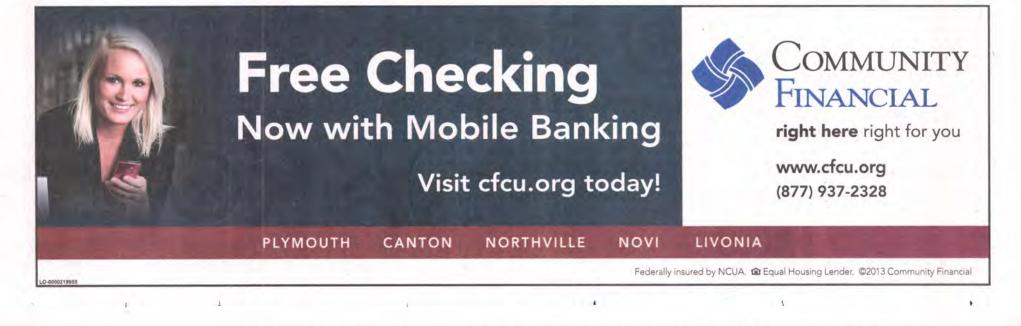
"A lot of things go through your mind," Anderson said. " I warned our guys: 'The Fal-

See FLYERS, Page B5

"We cycled it down low and tried to get it to the net as fast as possible. That's what we do, we battle," Baldwin said.

Vento said the goal "is kind of the way we're going to be this year. We're not a highflying team that's going to score a lot of goals in transi-

See PLYMOUTH, Page B2



LOCAL SPORTS

hometownlife.com

WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

Green to swim at Florida Atlantic

Division I university signs versatile Canton senior all-stater

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

Canton senior swimmer Claire Green is riding a wave of personal success.

Last weekend, Green earned Division 1 allstate honors in the 500 freestyle, finishing seventh at Eastern Michigan University with a time of 5:06.89. She also competed in the 100 breaststroke and came in 16th (1:08.80).

Green also announced she had an early signing

to swim at Florida Atlantic University, a Division I college located in Boca Raton.

Her signing took place Nov. 17 at the Canton High School pool, with coaches Ed Weber (Canton Chiefs), Josh and Alexandra "Coach Z" Morgan (Plymouth-Canton Cruisers) and former Olympian Chris Thompson (also with the PC Cruisers) on hand to celebrate with her.

Also at the ceremony was Weber's young daughter, Maddy, the

either in the crease or

two, three feet from it."

high school squad's favorite on-deck cheerleader and helper.

"I can't wait to be swimming outside and be able to walk to class with wet hair if I want," said Green about the chance to attend school in the warm-weather state.

Green's parents, Patty and Todd Green of Canton, said she "is excited for the opportunity to swim at a Division 1 school with new positive, energetic coaches determined to grow and improve their team." In an email to the

Observer, they continued to note that FAU's coach-



Canton Chiefs senior all-state swimmer Claire Green (seated), recently signed to swim at Division I's Florida Atlantic University. Standing (from left) are Plymouth-Canton Cruisers coaches Alexandra "Coach Z" and Josh Morgan, former Olympian Chris Thompson and Chiefs head coach Ed Weber. Standing next to Claire is Maddy Weber, who helps her dad with the high school team.

ing staff is headed by former Olympian Lara Preacco, assistant coaches Manny Naguchi (formerly of Michigan State University) and Kyle Berg (former Kenyon College D3 champion coach).

Swimming for the Owls will be only part of the plan for Green at

degree in physical therapy.

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

FAU. She will study for a

PLYMOUTH

Continued from Page B1

tion. It was a grind-it-out goal and a lot of our goals are going to be like that;

Taking the lead Bump is making a name for himself as a junior in his second season on varsity. Vento is



impressed with his team mentality and work ethic.

"He's intense, brings it every shift. He's turned into a leader for us already," Vento said. Early on this season

the Wildcats have taken on the identity of being gritty not pretty, like the successful Detroit Red Wings teams of the late 1990s.

"Definitely we pride ourselves on that. This year's team is a lot like last year's team: we're not going to win games 7-1, 7-2," Vento said.

Although there were many Plymouth players playing in just their third varsity game, it didn't show.

"Baldwin and (Jake) Silvester played outstanding. (Parker) Lazorka was great. Top to bottom, everyone stepped up."

The jump from prep level hockey to varsity is a huge one with an overall faster pace, according to Vento.

"The pace of play and the physical play. It's just less time, less space," Vento said.

For the night before Thanksgiving, students from Plymouth, Canton, and even Salem packed the stands at the Arctic Edge. The energetic environment brought out the best in the players' competitive spirits.

"I was a little nervous at the beginning, but once I got a couple of shifts in I was good to go." Baldwin said.

go," Baldwin said. "It's always big against Canton and Salem. You can't let the environment grab you, you have to tone out the crowd," Bump said.

The victory over Canton is a big momentum builder for Plymouth and a big step in the right direction for the long season ahead.

"I have to say what a fantastic game that Canton played. I know they may have struggled in years past, but Brad has put together a nice team," Vento said. "It's great that all three Park teams are playing well. All those cross-campus games are going to be just like this, nail-biters."

Optimistic outlook

Canton is coming off of a 3-21 season last year that included two losses to Plymouth by a combined 7-1 margin. The Chiefs played with pride all night long, but couldn't sneak one past Plymouth netminder Erik VandenBosch, who stopped all 13 Canton shots.

"Plymouth was the better team tonight. They came out and skated hard for the whole game," Canton head coach Brad Barath said. "We didn't really skate until the last few minutes."

Borg played phenomenally on the night despite the Bump goal. He constantly was stretching out across his goal and turned away several Plymouth opportunities.

"He was outstanding. Plymouth actually took it to us all game and Borg played outstanding for us," Barath said. Defensively Canton was able to sustain and minimalize four Plymouth power plays including a five-minute major called just 1:39 into the second period. The Chiefs defensive unit, led by Borg, helped keep them in the game until the very end.

"We hung in there because of Borg. They had their opportunities and he was there to stop the puck," Barath said. "He's just a workhorse, he absolutely works. He's not the most fundamental goalie in the world, but he's a Dominik Hašek — all over the place and making saves he needs to make."

In the end Canton may not have been able to leave with a victory, but they still have remaining rivalry games left against Salem and Plymouth.

"We play Plymouth the day before Thanksgiving every year, it's tradition," Barath said. "It's nice to see where you're at in the beginning of the year."



AU's coachth his team fast, bodies are bigger,



ALL-AREA GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Area's elite runners earn all-Observer honors

FIRST TEAM Maddy Trevisan, Farming-

ton: She had the fastest time of any area runner at the Division 1 state meet, with 18:12.1. It was her peak performance of the season and a personal record time. She finished in 12th place and earned all-state recognition

In only her second season in the sport, Trevi-

san won the regional race at Willow Metropark with a time of 18:41.5 She also was first in all three

OAA White Divi-Maddy sion jamborees, Trevisan Farmington the Catholic Central Invitational and the city meet.

In addition to those achievements, Trevisan was 10th in the Spartan Invite at Michigan State University and third in the Oakland County championship race at Kensington Metropark.

"Maddy had one of the finest cross country season in Farmington High School history," coach Charles Bridges said. "Her time at the MHSAA finals is likely the fastest time in FHS girls cross country history

"More importantly, Maddy enjoys running, competing and being part of our team. Maddy has a knack for bringing out the best in herself, as well as those around her.

Lauren Arquette, Salem: The fourth-year varsity runner had an incredible swan song, epitomized by her selection as the team's Most Valuable Runner as well as being an individual state qualifier.

The senior also was team co-captain and a KLAA scholarathlete.

Arquette registered a personal best of 18:43 for the third fastest time in school history. She

tallied 91.25 points this season (second most for a Salem senior) and 279 career varsity points, the program's fourth best ever.

Lauren

Salem

Arquette

Other highlights included being champion at the Ramblin' Rock and DeWitt invitationals, earning second place at the Wayne County Meet (first team all-county) and fourth place at the Division 1 team regional. "Lauren is a tremendous competitor and really came into full maturity as a distance runner this season," coach Dave Gerlach said. "Lauren's strength and ability to run all 5,000 meters at a fast pace were great attributes. "The success she had again this season was due to the hours and years of dedication and hard work that she has put in.' Anya Cho, Salem: Another key reason for the Rocks' march to the state finals was Cho, who was named the team's Most Valuable Senior. Also a co-captain and KLAA scholar-athlete recipient, she enjoyed successes such as finishing fourth at the Wayne County Meet (first team allcounty) and ninth at the D1 team regional. She qualified for the state

meet as an individual (Salem also qualified as a team) and scored 80 varsity points to

bring her fouryear total to Anya Cho 275.25 (fifth Salem most in program history)

Her personal best was 19:16.4, seventh fastest time in school history

"Anya has battled and shown perseverance this season which has got her back on first team," Gerlach said. "Her leadership, work ethic and passion for this sport have helped make this team successful once again.

Addison Mussen, Churchill: She piled up a mountain of impressive credentials as a freshman, including top 10 finishes at the Livonia City Meet (fifth), Monroe Jefferson Invitational (seventh), Running Fit Coaching Legends Meet

(10th), Wayne County Championships (eighth) and KLAA Conference Meet (fifth with a

personal best 19:17). An accomplished soccer

player as well, Addison Mussen capped Mussen her season with Churchill an 11th-place

showing at the Division 1 regional meet (19:45) and a 126thplace finish at the D1 state meet (20:00).

"Addison is the whole package when it comes to running," coach Sue Tatro said. "She is talented, hard-working, competitive and smart. I knew she would have an immediate impact on our program from day one

"She is extremely motivated and has a great amount of desire when it comes to workouts and meets. She has a great future and I am looking forward to seeing what she will accomplish during the next three seasons.

Allysen Eads, Mercy: She had a good conclusion to her high school career in cross country, finishing fourth among area runners and 82nd overall in the Division 1 state meet with a time of 19:22.6. She was ranked 114th going into the meet and improved her standing considerably.

The four-year nner and

Annie Bonds, Plymouth: One of the best stories of the fall was the emergence of Bonds, a sophomore who showed the poise and competitive drive of a senior.

She posted a personal best of 19:24 at the Wayne County Meet (third overall, named to all-county first team).

At the D1 regional, she came in 15th with a time of 20:05

and then registered a time of 19:30 at the state finals. "Annie

worked hard for the success she **Annie Bonds** achieved this Plymouth season," assis-

"She was a bright surprise as a freshman last year, ran track in the spring and then put in a lot of off-season mileage over the summer.

'She was determined to be healthy, strong and fast for her sophomore year. The real secret to her success is her mental toughness; she doesn't give up - ever.'

Madalyn Simko, Salem: Named Salem's Most Valuable Freshman, she tallied 69.75 varsity points - the third most for a freshman in school history

Her best time of 19:28.6 is the second fastest ever posted by a Salem freshman.

Other accolades included finishing 10th at the D1 regional (19:43) and

qualifying for the state meet as

Madalyn with confidence Simko

Salem and competitiveness," Gerlach said. "Madalyn ran like a seasoned veteran, even as a freshman.

"A great combination of athleticism and raw talent helped Madalyn become one of the most successful freshman in Salem history."

Kathleen George, Churchill: Only a sophomore, she kicked off the season with a bang by winning the Livonia City Meet in 20:41. She followed that up with strong showings at the

Ramblin' Rock Invitational in 20:01),

(sivt)

Monroe Jef-

excel."

Shekinah Johnson, Salem: A veteran standout on the track and field team, she came out for cross country as a senior and chalked up a season to remember.

She was the team's Rookie of the Year and tallied 67.5 varsity points, registering a personal best of 19:36.7 (14th fastest time for

a senior in program history). Johnson also

finished seventh at the D1 regional with a time of 19:37 and qualified for the state meet as an individual.

"A true running machine," said Gerlach,

also her track coach. "Strength, speed and determination is what makes Shekinah an unbelievable athlete.

Shekinah

Johnson

Salem

"Her foot speed and turnover combined with true grit made Shekinah a very successful attribute to our team."

Jenna Wisner, Lutheran Westland: She won the Division 4 regional with a time of 20:43 and ran 19:40.6 to finish 10th at the state meet. The junior standout had a best time of 19:30 at the Divine Child Falcon Invite.

Korey Szymaniak, Garden City: She finished 13th in the Division 1 regional with a time of 19:54 and placed 151st at the state meet, where she ran 20:14.7. The junior had a best time of 19:34 at the Divine Child Falcon Invite.

CO-COACHES OF YEAR

Dave Gerlach, Salem: The Rocks did not miss a beat after losing brilliant runners such as Kayla Kavulich (MSU) to graduation.

The team returned several standout veterans and wel-

comed talented newcomers such as senior Johnson (a rookie in cross country) and freshman Simko to form a juggernaut that **Dave Gerlach** ultimately qual-Salem coach ified as a team for the Division 1 state finals (after finishing second at the

regional). Along the way, Gerlach presided over a group that won the Franklin Invitational, Holly Invite, DeWitt Invite and



Maddy Trevisan, Junior, Farmington Lauren Arquette, senior, Salem Anya Cho, senior, Salem Addison Mussen, fresh., Churchill Allysen Eads, senior, Mercy Annie Bonds, sophomore, Plymo Madalyn Simko, freshman, Sale Kathleen George, soph., Churchill Shekinah Johnson, senior, Salem Jenna Wisner, junior, Lutheran W. Garden City

Korey Szymaniak, junior, Gar SECOND TEAM Natalie Douglas, junior, Franklin Caroline George, soph., Churchill Lauren Bernhardt, senior, Churchill Ellary Marano, senior, Franklin Elízabeth Tripp, senior, Salem Amanda Pokryfky, senior, Franklin Sierra Bowden, junior, Salem Kayla Hughes, junior, Salem Shelby Abbott, senior, N. Farmingt

CO-COACHES OF YEAR

HONORABLE MENTIONS Plymouth: Hailey Foster, Madelyn Rush; Canton: Kate Cotham, Samantha McGrath, Samantha Rohrbach, Shilpa McGrath, Samantha Rohrbach, Shilpa Pindolla, Paige Calvert, Rosie Rufe, Allison Putz, Salem: Erin McCann, Kayla De-IaCruz, Kaya Knake, Shea Wilson, Kary Robeson, Brianna Essien, Gabby DelaCruz, Marlo Sharpe, Karissa McCarthy, Leah Stevens, Jessica Hughes, Kelly McEvilly; Farmington: Morgan Merlino, Erin Abramczyk, Joelle Lochrie, Rebecca Lindow Marchent, Maus, Bohest, Victoria, Rabe Harrison: Maya Roberts, Victoria Blaga; Harrison: Maya Roberts, Victoria Blaga North Farmington: Karlie Cummins, Carolyn Chow, Mercy: Lauren Lyde, Erin Haapala, Sophie Lamphier; Churchill: Christina Murphy, Hailey Pampreen, Gabrielle Swider, Franklin: Camyn Zurawski; Stevenson: Julia Cercone; Kennedy Thurlow, Ladywood: Catherine McLauro, Samantha Horn, Allw Alli Scash McLauro, Samantha Horn, Allw Alli Scash McLaurin, Samantha Horn, Ally Hill, Sarah Wilson; John Glenn: Caroline Mahalak; Mary Luckhardt; Wayne Memorial: Nikita Bhnagu, Kelsie Wysong, Victoria Boyd; Rectord Union: Cliffangela

sion for the sport and team as possible. We try to stress hard work, goal-setting, competitiveness, fun, friendship, teamwork and leadership to get us to where we expect to

be. "As the head coach, it is my job to keep this team disciplined, focused, motivated and on the right track. ... But I am only one person who can only do so much. ... I need all of us, this family, to continue to help in making this organization a positive experience and program for all of these young ladies along with providing memories that last a lifetime."

Sue Tatro, Churchill: She guided the young (just one senior) Chargers to a KLAA South Division championship and a berth in the Division 1 state meet.

The team followed a perfect course throughout the season, starting modestly at the outset before gaining steam and building momentum during the all-important

final weeks weeks of Octoer and into November. "I knew back in July this was

a special group of young ladies,"

"They worked

Tatro said.



an individual. "A wellrounded athlete who burst on the cross country scene this year

tant coach Alice Ahearn said.

PREP SWIMMING

three-time team MVP was eighth at the regional with a time of 19:37.6.

Eads is the Catholic League **Allysen Eads** champion, win-Mercy

ning all three jamborees and the championship meet on the Possum Hollow course at Kensington Metropark.

"It was a good way to cap off her final year of cross country, making all-area again," coach Gary Servais said. "She comes to work every day and is a leader at practice, in the school and the community.

"Allysen is our scholarathlete award nominee in the Catholic League for cross country. She's really looking forward to a good track season based on what she did in cross country."

MSU Invitational (20th in 19:43),



onship (15th in 20:10) and KLAA Conference Meet (sixth in a personal best 19:29)

A KLAA scholar-athlete, George closed her campaign with a 191st-place showing at the D1 state meet.

"Kathleen is a lot of fun to coach because she has a true passion for running and a great desire to compete," Tatro said. "Not only is she talented, but she also has a phenomenal work ethic.

"With each season, she gains more and more confidence. I believe that she is on the verge of taking her running to the next level and I look forward to the watching her continue to

ne County Cham ionship and came in second at the Ramblin' Rock Invitational.

The Rocks were runners-up in the KLAA Central Division and Kensington Conference and finished 11th as a team at the state finals at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn.

Gerlach pointed with pride to the fact there were 32 varsity letter winners (14 for the first time), 31 athletes eclipsing the 24-minute mark (six finishing under 20 minutes) and 15 of 29 returnees running faster for 5,000 meters than ever before.

"This is an honor to be recognized by the Observer in 2014," Gerlach said. "This year was a mystery going in as to what Salem was going to be and through these young ladies work ethic and passion it was extremely successful.

"We as coaches try to lead by example with as much pasSue Tatro Churchill coach

extremely hard and embraced the team concept from June to November.

"The culmination of their diligence and dedication paid off at the end of the season when it really counted. They accomplished a lot despite the adversity that they faced throughout the season with injuries and illnesses.

"I am very proud of the girls and thoroughly enjoyed coaching them. I will really miss Lauren Bernhardt and her senior leadership next season, but I am thrilled that the rest of the crew will be returning!"

Marian survives thrilling battle to win D-2 swim title

By Marty Budner Staff Writer

Marian coach Bill Thompson said it was the most exciting swim meet he's ever witnessed.

Five teams were in contention for the Division 2 girls swimming crown Nov. 22 at the Holland Aquatic Center going into the final event - the 400yard freestyle relay. A number of different scenarios were possible depending upon the outcome but, simply put, the winning 400 free team would take the meet

As it turned out, Birmingham Marian edged Ann Arbor Skyline by the slimmest of margins - 0.06 seconds - to capture the state championship. The Mustangs 400 free relay quartet thrilled the loud and boisterous crowd by touching first in 3:27.64, while Skyline was right behind in 3:27.70.

Marian finished the highlycompetitive meet with 231.5 points. Skyline was runner-up with 220 points, closely fol-



Senior Hannah Richard scored important points in the 100 fly to help Birmingham Marian clinch the Division 2 state title.

lowed by Portage Central at 219.5, Dexter with 217 and Birmingham Seaholm at 211. The top five teams were separated by a mere 20.5 points.

"It think this one was the most exciting for me because it was with every team. There were basically five teams whose final results were based on that (last) relay," said Thompson, a 1973 Groves graduate. "We had to win (the relay) to win (the meet) or we would

lose by a half a point. All the contending teams were in that least heat of that last relay. It was basically however you finished would determine where you would finish.

NANCY D. MURPHY

"The excitement was there. The fans were there. The kids were going absolutely nuts. I have a tendency to step back and watch things. Just look at everything that was going on. It was everything you want a sporting event to be - for the

kids, for the fans, the parents going nuts and the coaches jumping up and down. Everyone was a kid. Everyone was just letting it go. It was a wonderful environment.

'That last relay was incredible. That's the way sports was meant to be. This one was fun," he added. "When you're in a meet like this and the way everyone swam, it was like no one lost. Teams just beat each other. All the teams swam so well.'

Pulte paces team effort

The Mustangs had a small but mighty - contingent of 11 state qualifiers. Eight of them accounted for Marian's 231.5 points.

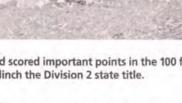
Marian was led by Floridabound and 15-time all-state swimmer Mollie Pulte, who was a double individual winner and a member of both winning freestyle relay teams. Pulte won the 200 free in 1:48.28 and the 100 free in 50.21.

Pulte anchored the meetdeciding 400 free relay team, rallying from behind in her leg to help Marian land the top prize. Junior Christina Schott, sophomore Sophia Schott and sophomore Kailynn Swantek swam the first three legs.

"Mollie has always been good, but the biggest thing about Mollie this year was that she became a leader and someone who cared about her team and her teammates in everything she did," Thompson said. "At the state meet, she took the lead and it was coming from a teammate and not the coach. Her biggest asset, to me, was leadership.

"In that deciding relay, (Pulte) came from behind on the last leg to win it and you could just see her determination when she reeled (her opponent) in on the first length and came off that last turn and just held on for dear life and basically stuck that finger on the wall to finish first," he added. "It was for all the marbles and she did a real good job."

See SWIM, Page B4



LOCAL SPORTS

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE



Carrying the puck up the ice Wednesday night against Windsor is Plymouth Whalers forward Sonny Milano (right).

Whalers win 'ugly' on beautiful goal

Milano finds mark for decisive tally against pesky Spitfires

By Tim Smith Staff Writer

Sonny Milano skated around and around in the left circle, hanging onto the puck for what seemed like a minute.

Unable to find a teammate to pass to, the Plymouth Whalers forward reluctantly shot it — and it was good that he did, because it sizzled over the glove of screened Windsor goalie Brandon Johnston for a power-play goal.

Milano's fourth goal of the season gave Plymouth a 4-2 lead with 3:42 left in the second period Wednesday night and it turned out to be the winner as the Whalers hung on for a 4-3 Ontario Hockey League victory at Compuware Arena.

Only 1,637 fans were on hand for the Thanksgiving Eve contest, played on an evening when Compuware also hosted a Novi Detroit Catholic Central game on the adjacent Olympic-sized ice sheet.

The Spitfires nearly tied the game with seconds to play after pulling Johnston. But a slap shot by Trevor Murphy clanged off the crossbar behind Plymouth goalie Alex Nedeljkovic (the game's No. 3 star with 44 saves).



RENA LAVERTY | PLYMOUTH WHALERS Plymouth Whalers forward Sonny Milano's shot hits the top-right corner during Wednesday's 4-3 win over Windsor at Compuware Arena.

start against the Spitfires, who fell to 7-15-1-0 and are in the basement of the OHL West Division.

It took 25 seconds for the Whalers to get on the board. Defenseman Mathieu Henderson rushed down the right wing and fired a crisp pass to Connor Sills for the one-timer from the left circle. Windsor responded just 50 seconds

later. Slater Dogett slammed a shot that caromed in off the goal post.

Milano displayed his playmaking skills before the period ended and the Whalers built a 3-1 lead as a result. He assisted on two goals just 1:05 apart, both with the Spitfires shorthanded.

Hurricanes prospect after whistles.

With about 17:30 to play in the second, Nedeljkovic had his goalie mask knocked off during a scrum that led to a tussle between Plymouth's Mitch Jones and Windsor's Markus Soberg.

There were after-the-whistle encounters later in the game, too.

"The past three years playing Windsor, it's always a physical game," Nedel; kovic said. "I expected nothing less. ... You know it's going to come sooner or later and you try not to worry about it, you try not to let it bother you.

"You just worry about playing the game and know that if they do come after you like that then they're going to face some consequences.'

Soberg did close the gap to 3-2 with 9:05 remaining in the second, when he flipped a shot from the right side of the Plymouth goal that somehow got behind Nedeljkovic.

But the Whalers regained their twogoal lead when Milano scored his topshelf beauty at 16:18. Los Angeles Kings prospect Mistele and Campagna assisted.

It's still two points

With Nedeljkovic solid between the pipes, the Spitfires could not break through for a third goal until 14:53 of the

PREP HOCKEY

Franklin icers steamroll Lakeland

By Ed Wright Staff Writer

From the opening face-off Wednesday night at Eddie Edgar Arena, Livonia Franklin's hockey team got stronger and stronger.

Fueled by first-period goals from Brendan Whitney (shorthanded) and Chase Wallis, the Patriots stuffed White Lake-Lakeland, 5-0, to improve their record to 2-1, the Eagles slipped to 0-3.

Senior goal-tender Matt Monendo was brilliant between the pipes as he earned the first shut-out of his four-year varsity career by stopping all 27 shots the Eagles fired at him.

Whitney, a junior captain, got things rolling for the hosts when he deposited a shorthanded goal 2:34 into the contest. Whitney was assisted by Trevor Lassaline. Wallis kept the momentum going with a power-play net-finder at the 12:48 mark thanks to helpers from Whitney and Justin Makowski.

Franklin's Brendan Nutting made it 3-0 in the final minute of the second period by netting his first goal of the season off an assist from Makowski.

Zack Nelson tacked on his first goal of the year on a pow-er play with 15:37 left in the game. He was assisted by Bailey DiClemente and Jack Engel. Wallis closed out the scoring a minute later with a goal assisted by Quinn Shine and Whitney.

Lakeland's Brandon Pomerleau (32 saves) played well in a losing cause.

"What a great win for our program ... I'm so happy for our guys, especially Monendo," said Franklin head coach Dennis Gagnon. "It was great to see Nelly and Nutting bag their first goals of the season. Kolby Dewhirst and Makowski were rock solid anchoring our defense.

"We're definitely having a lot of fun right now, but you're only as good as your last game.

"Coach (Don Elland) has been stressing a lot lately to shoot the puck, so I think we've been working on it in practice," said Milano, a first-round draft choice in 2014 of the Columbus Blue Jackets. "Lately I've been shooting the puck more and luckily that one went in.

"I was just looking for the right play. There was no other play but to shoot.'

Let it fly

Elland emphasized that Milano has a sniper's touch, but that the first-year Whaler looks first to set up teammates something he did twice during the opening period, when Plymouth built a 3-1 lead despite being outshot 16-13.

"We got to get him to shoot the puck more," Elland said. "He's got a good shot, but he does like to make plays.

Plymouth (10-12-1-1) got off to a fast

With Plymouth on a five-on-three power play, Milano sent a pass to center Mathew Campagna and he made no mistake ripping it past Johnston (21 saves).

Drawing the second assist was forward Connor Chatham (two helpers), who later left the game with an undisclosed lower-body injury.

At 17:23, Milano threaded the puck from the left side of the Windsor cage to forward Matt Mistele for the tap-in at the right post.

Getting chippy

Despite the two-goal edge, the Whalers needed strong goalkeeping from Nedeljkovic to keep the Spitfires at bay.

The goalie needed to contend with plenty of traffic around the crease, beginning during a contentious second period when Windsor sent 17 shots on goal and constantly bumped the Carolina final period. Murphy walked into the high slot and buried a shot over Nedeljkovic's trapper.

Plymouth persevered in the final minutes, with Nedeljkovic and his defense scrambling to deny the Spitfires from forcing overtime.

It didn't hurt that Murphy's would-be tying goal hit iron instead of twine.

Moments later, the final horn sounded signifying Plymouth's second consecutive win - although Elland wasn't entirely happy with how the team performed.

"At this time of the year, with all our injuries, we just got to take 'em (wins) where we can get 'em," Elland said. "I know (it was) ugly, but a 'W' is a 'W.' At the end of the year, it's two points that we need."

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We'll enjoy this win over the long holiday weekend and get back at it Monday.'

Franklin will face Livonia Churchill at 8 p.m. Wednesday at Eddie Edgar.

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ED WRIGHT Franklin's Brendan Whitney in front of the Lakeland crease Wednesday.

STEVENSON

Continued from Page B1

said Mitchell. "We always know when we play a quality, well-coached team like Churchill it's going to take a complete, 51-minute effort.

DeFlorio has already netted five goals in three games, but he deflected any post-game notion that he was the Spartans' No. 1 scoring threat.

"Somebody different scores for us every night, so it's a team effort and it will be all season," the modest forward

Stevenson goal-tenders Andrew Rozenbaum (who played the first 40 minutes) and Cullen Barber were up to the Chargers' challenge the entire night, although they didn't face nearly the pressure that was applied to Churchill goalie Andrew Broyles, whose performance was much stronger than his seven-goalsallowed stat line would indicate.

offered.

The Spartans attacked the Chargers' zone in semi-automatic waves, keeping Broyles bouncing around like a Toys R Us shelf stocker on Black

Friday. Leading 3-0, Stevenson kept

the scoring blender three minutes into the seocnd period when Ben Kowalske shoveled in a rebound shot in front to extend the Spartans' lead to 4-0. DeFlorio and Alec Allen garnered helpers on the goal.

DeFlorio nearly made it 5-zip, but Broyles stoned his break-away attempt with a quick-twitch stop at the 12:20 mark.

Rozenbaum's best stop of the night came moments later when he re-directed a dangerous rush by Josh Friend. Kowalske's second goal of

the night with 8:10 remaining in the second period upped the Spartans' edge to 5-0. Del·lorio picked up the helper.

Despite their huge deficit, the Chargers kept the heat on and finally lit the lamp 2:21 before the second intermission when Parker Hodges lasered in a shot from the right flank.

Sinclair (from DeFlorio) and Kowalske (from DeFlorio) capped the Spartans' scoring.

Kowalske joined DeFlorio as the two Spartans to no ch hat-tricks this season.

Stevenson took Thanksgiving off before traveling to Bloomfield Hills on Friday for a talent-laden tournament hosted by Cranbrook.

"This is a balanced group of kids who work extremely hard," Mitchell concluded. "This was a very solid team effort tonight, but everyone on this team knows we have to compete and be consistent for 51 minutes of every game we play. Our schedule is very tough and the season is a grind, so we have to keep working, keep learning and keep developing each and every day if we want to be successful."

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SWIM

Continued from Page B3

Third state championship

Sophia Schott took top honors in the 50-yard freestyle, winning in 23.66. Also in that event, Christina Schott was sixth and Swantek tied for seventh as the Mustangs trio combined for 44.5 points. The Schotts also scored for Marian in the 100 free behind Pulte.

Senior Hannah Richard scored points in the 100 fly (10th place), freshman Lauren Biglin scored in the 500 free (12th), freshman Gabby Granata scored in the 100 back (13th) and sophomore Rebekah Irwin

scored in the 100 breast (12th). The Schott sisters, Richard and Pulte comprised the winning 200 free relay team.

"For Sophia to win the 50 free was amazing," Thompson said. "She beat a top-notch swimmer on pure, basically guts. She went out there and did it and when she got her hand on the wall, that was incredible.'

Marian finished with an 8-2 record this season, with its only losses to Catholic League rival Farmington Mercy and Grosse Pointe South. The Mustangs won the Holland Invitational, finished second in the Catholic League championship meet and third in the annual Oakland County meet.

The state title was Marian's third in program history, but

the first in Division 2. The Mustangs won consecutive Division 3 championships in 2007-08.

"What was great is that we knew we would have to be a team. They just gelled into a team and everybody played a part in it," Thompson said. "Even the kids who didn't make it back to the second day, they were cheering and were part of it. For me, that's the most important thing. That they have that experience and they learn from it.

To have it finish the way it did, it was a fairy-tale ending to our season," he added. "This season went better than I probably ever would have thought. They basically made the decision they were going to do it and they did it.'



All-state swimmer Mollie Pulte of Birmingham Marian races to first place in the 100-yard freestyle at the Division 2 state championship meet.

LOCAL SPORTS

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

Crusaders stumble late in loss to Saints

By Brad Emons Staff Writer

It's still early in the season, but the Madonna University men's basketball team is still searching for an identity while undergoing growing pains.

That was evident again Tuesday night as visiting Aquinas College, holding a 51-50 lead with only 4:37 left, outscored the Crusaders 9-2 down the stretch to earn a 61-52 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory.

The loss dropped MU to 3-6 overall and 1-3 in the WHAC, while Aquinas, paced by senior Anthony Williams' game-high 26 points, improved to 5-3 and

3-1. MU committed 21 turnovers, which led to 27 Aquinas points. And the Saints also made a living at the free-throw line going 22-of-30 (73.3 percent), while the Crusaders

were a mere 1-of-7 (14.3 percent). "I thought we did a lot of things well, but the things we didn't really hurt us," MU coach Noel Emenhiser said. "Going 1-of-7 (free throws) and, on top of that, missing several front ends of one-andones was a difference during certain sections of the game where we were clinging to a tight lead."

The Crusaders clicked in

the early going, leading by as many as 10 with 6:20 left first half, but suddenly found them-selves down 32-28 at intermission after Aquinas made a 12-2 run "If we had made free

throws, we could have extended that lead a little bit and really changed the outlook of the game," Emenhiser said. "Then just some decisionmaking and ball-handling errors really gave them opportunities which led to scores and easy buckets. When we made them play in the half court, I thought we did a pretty good job.

Williams, a 6-0 guard from East Chicago, Ill., made 7-of-11

shots from the floor, including 3-of-4 from 3-point range, to go along with 9-of-10 free throws. He did not commit a turnover and had three steals and two assists

"He's a good player, kind of the heartbeat of their team right now, makes them go, Emenhiser said. "And we knew that coming in, but he did enough, made enough plays, got open in the right spots. He really hit some daggers, a deep 'three' against our zone, then a few other plays, a jumper right there at the end for the game that really helped them to seal it up.

Senior forward Jeff Schmitz (South Lyon), who was saddled

with four fouls down the stretch, was the only Crusaders player to score in double figures with 14 points.

Freshman Austin Johnson (Spring Lake) added eight points, while 6-8 senior center Donald Owens (Inkster), the only returning starter from a year ago, added six points and team-high eight rebounds. "We got a lot of good play-

ers, but we haven't been able to develop that killer instinct just yet," Emenhiser said.

The Crusaders return to WHAC action at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, at Concordia University in Ann Arbor.

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FLYERS

Continued from Page B1

cons never give up; they're never out of it.' I explained, 'We've been here in the past, and we have to keep working, keep working.'

"We always tell the kids, 'You have to handle the highs and lows," Farmington coach Bill Newton said. "I thought we handled the lows, getting down 3-0.

"We got back in it and just couldn't finish it off to get over the hump and get the lead. But give Ken's team credit; they played hard."

Head-spinning finale

The third period was like one continuous power play as the officials called penalty after penalty. Each team took turns having the man advantage. There was a lot of 4-on-4 and 4-on-3; Farmington even had a 5-on-3.

But the Flyers weathered the storm and the adversity of which Anderson spoke (half of their 12 penalties in the final period).

Petras stole the puck inside the blue line early on and fired a shot, but senior defenseman Lucio D'Ascenzo raced to the net and knocked the puck away.

Shortly after that, Austin Bottrell, who assisted on the Cikra and Lajcaj goals, added an insurance goal with 8:29 to play and the teams at even strength for a rare time.

'That was huge because you're nail-biting; you're on the edge of your seat with a one-goal lead," Anderson said. "One shot ties it up. When you get that fourth goal, it brings us up and brings them down a little. That was huge."



North Farmington-Harrison senior Danny Arnold stole the puck and scored the first goal of the game on a first-period breakaway



your whole team changes. Every time we get on the ice we get better; that's the good thing.

"But we have to score goals. We left a lot of goals on the table. When we get those Grade A scoring chances, we have to make sure more than 50 percent go in and we didn't tonight."

Flyers leadership

While half the North-Harrison team is composed of new players, the nine varsity veterans are carrying the load. They include everyone who figured in the scoring, Dilloway and D'Ascenzo.

"They're all stepping up," Anderson said. "It was exactly what we needed and was nice to see. I think we're right where we need to be.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Justice served: Dean lifts MU

> **By Brad Emons** Staff Writer

Madonna University junior guard Justice Dean is making up for lost time.

The red-shirt sophomore guard from Garden City, who played in only five games last season due to a stress fracture, continued her strong play Tuesday night with 23 points and a team-high 11 rebounds as the MU women's basketball team downed visiting Aquinas College, 87-75, in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference game.

Freshman guard Lindsey Hernden (Romeo) paced MU, which improved to 4-2 overall and 3-1 in the WHAC, with a game-high 24 points, while Oakland University transfer Michele Hayes (Southfield-Lathrup) added 22.

The 5-foot-9 Dean, who also missed her junior year of high school with a torn ACL, went 8-for-9 from the floor, including 5-of-5 from 3-point range, to go along with a pair of free throws.

Solid netminding

Senior goalie Brendan Dilloway played exceptionally well for the Flyers, who were outshot by a small margin in the third period. The overall tally was pretty close.

"We really didn't know what we would get out of Brendan (this season), and he really stepped up big," Anderson said.

"He was awesome; he gave us exactly what we needed. He wants it really bad. The more confidence he gets, the more he can carry us through.

Farmington raised a championship banner at Farmington Hills Ice Arena before the game in celebration of the Division 3 state title it won in



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Farmington junior Cam Noseworthy (left) has the edge in a race for the puck with senior Danny Arnold.

March.

"The Flyers played real hard and I'll give them credit," Newton said. "They took it to us the first period. I think we were still standing around, celebrating the banner and not focusing on what we needed to focus on.

"But we got back in it. We're not very deep; we had a lot of guys who played a lot of hockey. We just didn't finish. We had a lot of chances to score and we just didn't score.

"I really want to give their goalie credit, too. He played well. He was square to the puck; he made stops with his feet, and he made some good glove saves. But we have to

find a way to score goals, too.

Need more offense

The Falcons need to be more effective on the power play and capitalize on the opportunities they had Wednesday, he added.

"We really have to focus on the power play next week and get it humming," Newton said. "It would be nice to get it over 20 percent; right now we're in the low single digits. That will be our biggest emphasis moving forward.

"We're going to give up goals. That's just the way it's going to be. When you lose three senior defensemen,

"I don't think we're playing really well at this point. It was a solid effort, and the guys played with a lot heart. There are things we can do better. but I'm happy with where we are."

Newton said he's not disappointed with his team's record or where the Falcons are at this early stage.

"We have to get them better every day at practice," he said. "It's all about getting focused for (the state tournament). We have to keep getting better in November, December and January for February

"Last year, when we had eight seniors, we could chew some butt in there. This team is different. We have to do a lot of teaching. That's the fun of being a coach, and it's a different challenge for us this year.'

"This season is better than I expected coming off an injury," said Dean, who is averaging 17.1 points and nine rebounds so far this season. "I've got my teammates supporting me. It's been a good so far."

The Crusaders were good from the perimeter, nailing 13-of-28 shots from 3-point range as Hernden got hot by hitting 6-of-10.

And it was out of necessity, as starting forward Rachel Melcher (Birmingham Marian) and starting center Erin Menard (Livonia Churchill) both got into foul trouble. Melcher, who had five points, played only 14 minutes before fouling out.

"We played small, we play small often because if we board, we can run the ball quicker and can get out in transition," Dean said. "We gave up a lot of easy layups, though, which wasn't very good. We didn't want them to score on us that much. But we hit a lot of our shots. We were fortunate. We did well at the free throw line (18-of-23). We rebounded, we worked hard and it worked out.'

Aquinas (3-7, 2-2), which dressed only nine players, got 23 points from Kesley Spitzley and 16 points and 12 rebounds from Allison Heberlein.

Chelsea Matley also added 10 points as the Saints were unable to overcome a 39-32 halftime deficit.

Despite being outscored 44-26 in the paint, MU was able to fend off the Saints with solid perimeter play, often going to a five-guard set.

"We play physical, got to stay in front," Dean said. "And then it's better because they don't push the ball. And then their posts (players) are trying to guard us, but we have all the guards out there so it gives us an advantage on offense. It's run-and-gun, get the layups when you can and shoot the 'threes.' It's fun."

And it's also fun having Dean back healthy and in the starting lineup.

Madonna returns to WHAC play at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, at home against Concordia University.

PREP SWIMMING & DIVING

Hoag erases one of Vanker's longtime marks

By Marty Budner Staff Writer

Jenny Vanker is widely considered the top female to ever swim at Birmingham Seaholm High School.

An individual state champion through the mid-'90s, Vanker's legacy is displayed on the high-profile record board hanging on the north end pool wall. As of two weeks ago, Vanker held six individual and was part of two relay school records. A high school swim meet consists of 12 events.

Vanker's record list was reduced by one at the recent Division 2 state championship meet held Nov. 22 at the Holland Aquatic Center.

Although seeded fifth, senior Celia Hoag brilliantly swam to first place in the 100-vard breaststroke in 1:03.66. The time eclipsed Vanker's old mark of 1:04.46, set in 1994. Hoag's winning time also would have set Seaholm pool and OAA records.

In addition, Hoag was a member of Seaholm's winning

200-yard medley relay, which also established a school record of 1:45.22. That team included senior Mykala Arnold (backstroke), Hoag (breaststroke), freshman Linnea

Anderson (butterfly) and Allie Russell (free-



Hoag sey Gariepy, Natalie Pierce, Mykala Arnold

and Emily Parsons.

Proud of state effort

Hoag proudly reflected Tuesday on her state meet accomplishments in the poolside hallway at Seaholm.

"It's insane. She was an amazing swimmer," Hoag said of Vanker. "I never thought I'd be able to break one of (Vanker's) records when I first started swimming here. It's really exciting.

"Last year was when I first started to think about it when

I went to 1:04. This year, I really went for it and wanted it really bad," she said. "It will be weird to see my name up there. I like it. I was hoping to get up on the board and be remembered. That was important to me and I'm really happy. It was a great way to end the season.

Hoag said it was the first big championship of any kind she's ever won.

One of Hoag's motivating factors was the result of last year's state meet. She was seeded first in the 100 breast. but finished fourth - just 0.42 seconds behind winner Brooke Rowe of Battle Creek Lakeview.

"This was really exciting for me. I had never been a champion before," said Hoag, who also placed 12th in the 200 free. "This was one of the first races I had ever won because swimming is such a big sport down here and there's a lot of competition. I had never won anything before, so this was really cool to have this experience.

"I think the energy from the team and all the people really helped me. We were all just so excited and that's what makes you pumped up to race hard and make those people proud of you. I knew I had to make it count because it's the last one - last one, fast one. It's an incredible experience.

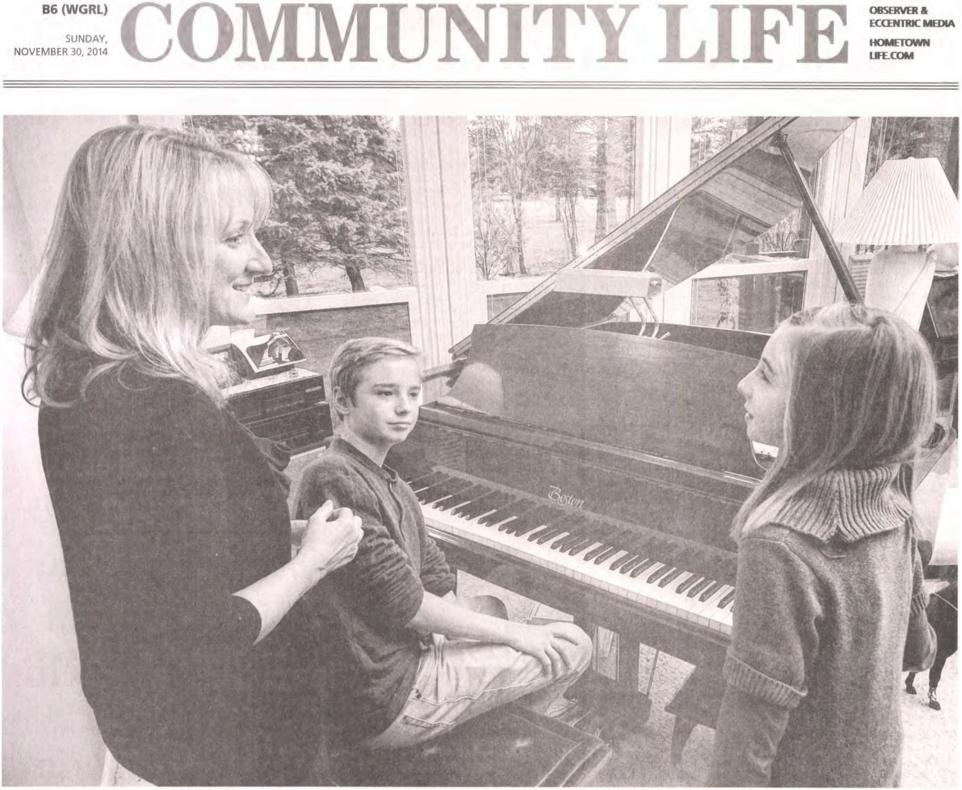
"It was amazing. I could hear all the people yelling my name and cheering for me while I was swimming," she added. "That was really cool and I loved it. It's a surreal experience. It doesn't feel real."

Veteran head coach Karl Hodgson was excited for Hoag, a four-year varsity swimmer who served as one of five team captains this season.

"It's quite an accomplishment. I never thought I'd live to see the day when a Vanker record went down," he said. "She had mentioned the record to me on occasion and I think that's something that she had been eying."

style).

in 2011 by the quartet of Kel-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Peggy Nielsen, program coordinator for SandCastles, a grief program for youngsters, talks with piano students Zach Waarala of Canton and Eva Naberhaus of Northville during a break between their piano lessons. Zach, Eva and 114 other piano students will perform a benefit for SandCastles Dec. 6 at Laurel Park Place in Livonia.

Piano students entertain, benefit charity cause at Laurel Park Place

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

If you plan to shop at Laurel Park Place on Saturday, Dec. 6, be sure to include a little relaxand-listen time at the mall.

nd-listen time at the mall. One hundred sixteen piano ganization, part of the Henry Ford Health System Hospice, that offers support groups for grieving children, teens and their families.

"I thought it was a good cause," said Zach Waarala, 15, a piano student from Canton. "I've lost people in my life, but ing on the upcoming gig. "I will be a little nervous, but I think I'll be OK."

Berghoff said the youngsters will perform the pieces they know best. Focus is key in a mall setting where "there are lots of distractions" and the audience constantly changes. southeastern Michigan, including Livonia, with each serving between 15-30 families. Families attend sessions every other week and generally remain in the program for a year to 18 months. Some seek help immediately after a death session starts with dinner for group facilitators, who are trained volunteers, and families. After dinner, family members meet in support groups for ages 3-6, 7-9, 10-12, teens, and parents.

"A lot of times kids just

throughout the day — and it's all for a good cause.

"We are calling it Rockin' The Keys For Charity," said Maxine Berghoff, event chair and a member of the Livonia Area Piano Teachers Forum, an organization of approximately 100 piano teachers in southeastern Michigan. Berghoff suggested the idea to the organization after participating in a similar event while living in Florida.

"The performing experience motivates the kids to practice," she said. "It's a great opportunity for them to gain experience. It allows students to share their talent while supporting a worthy cause."

Students each collected at least \$25 in pledges to secure a performance time. The money they raise — nearly \$7,000 so far in pledges — will benefit SandCastles, a nonprofit orI think it's cool they have a place to go to let anger out or talk about it."

Zach, a Canton High School sophomore, has taken private piano lessons for six years and performed in recitals and competitions. He says he's "more excited than nervous" about playing to a potentially large audience in the mall.

"I'm just thankful for the opportunity."

Zach, who raised the most money in pledges, will play his own arrangement of *Silent Night*.

Eva Naberhaus, 9, of Northville trailed Zach in pledges by approximately \$10.

"I was able to collect \$150. I decided to do it because it's for charity," she said.

Eva's working on a rocking Christmas tune in rehearsals. "I think I'm going to have to

work hard," she said, reflect-

Free services

"I'm excited. I got to listen to them play," said Peggy Nielsen, SandCastles program manager, after hearing both Eva and Zach rehearse. "They were so good and practicing so hard. It was fantastic."

She said the event will give shoppers and opportunity to relax and "enjoy some great music."

Donation canisters will be set out to help raise even more money for the organization, which runs on charitable contributions.

"We fundraise our entire budget and we don't charge families for services," Nielsen said. "A lot of families that come to us have had one parent die and that cuts the family income in half."

SandCastles runs support groups in eight locations in in the family, but others may wait for several years before joining.

"I had one boy who joined four years after the death of his father. He did OK after the death initially, but four years later a grandparent died and everything started going wrong," Nielsen said. "Grades dropped. He got into trouble. The family joined the program and then the dad's death came up.

"The quirky thing about grief is you're going to do it at some point. You have to do the work to get through it. If you try and not do the work, it will come back at some other time."

Dinner, support

SandCastles gives families a place to "process" their grief, find support and understanding from other families in grief and learn coping skills. Each don't know someone else who has lost a mom or dad and they feel like they are the only one in the world. By coming into SandCastles you are surrounded by people going through something similar to what you're going through. It helps normalize the process."

Volunteers go through 26 hours of training before they facilitate a support group. Nielsen said prior counseling experience or work with children isn't required. The organization also needs program aides, speakers bureau and fundraising committee members, in addition to facilitators.

For more about SandCastles, visit aboutsandcastles.org or call 313-874-6881. For more about the Livonia Area Piano Teachers Forum, visit laptf.org.

Skip candy-like soap packets if you have young kids

Several days ago, the media warned consumers about laundry soap in plastic pouches that you just throw into a clothes washer and they do the job.

I know they work because a while back I went to the grocery store and purchased a container of these for our use at the cottage. My darling Valorie loves the top load washer at the cottage and thinks these tablets are great. No measuring or mess with a cup, just throw it in and you save time. All very fitting for a busy person who does the laundry, you bet.

The consumer warning, which I believe was on all television networks across the land, and rightfully so, stated that thousands of children visited the emergency centers of hospitals every year. One of the reports showed children selecting a soap packet when placed beside candy. The packets are brightly-colored, some with two-tone stripes, similar to treats. Any child who has ever tasted a candy cane would



certainly select this packet of detergent and no wonder it has become a national safety concern.

You know that the manufacturers are not going to pull this product off the market because it is a big money maker for them and it would just be too saintly for them to show this kind of concern. This packet, made of plastic decorated with candy cane stripes, dissolves in the washer after it begins to agitate. It is easy for a child to bite through this plastic and the liquid detergent to run down the throat of the unsuspecting toddler. I remind you, this is happening to thousands of children across this country. Manufacturers say they have made containers harder to open and yet a television report shows a 3-year-old child opening a container. You

know that a child will dedicate a lot of time to open something they can't and making it any harder will prevent some senior citizen from getting in there.

My father used to tell me that if I gave him a problem to always have an answer to solve it. I can't this time, Dad, except to say that soap companies should not be producing this product. It has caused death and just how stupid can they be? If you have children I suggest you do not buy these packets because you know it is bound to happen.

Plastic problem

A few years ago, these packets of detergent hit the market and proved very successful. There was a problem with them in the beginning when the plastic wrap on them didn't dissolve during the wash cycle. My friend, Mike Miller, called me for service on his dishwasher because it stopped cleaning the dishes after he used dishwasher soap packets. I told him about this problem



Single-use laundry detergent packets and candy may appear similar to young children.

and he called me back and told me, "I have the spray arm out of the dishwasher and I am pulling little strips of plastic out of the holes in the spray arm with a small pair of needle nose pliers." That did the trick for Mike and I added that he should turn up the temperature on his hot water heater. I guess the manufacturer made the plastic a little thinner.

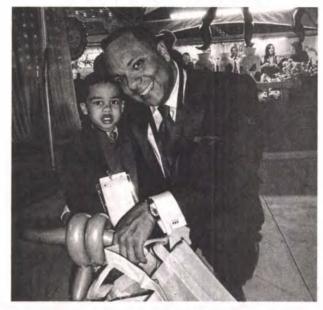
In closing, let me once again voice my concerns about the lack of publicity regarding appliance recalls. There are millions of appliances under recall that homeowners have no clue about. Most are prone to catch fire whether they are turned on or not. There is a good chance that you have one in your home and I suggest you search the website Saferproducts.gov and type in your model and serial number.

I commend the television networks for the fine coverage on these detergent packets and I think the whole intent came from the fact that children are involved. Maybe that's the secret to greater coverage on this subject of recalled appliances. An appliance fire can kill a child. Stay tuned.

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

Olympic gold medalists party at Hob Nobble Gobble



Canton residents Shawn Wilson Jr. and Shawn Wilson II attend the Hob Nobble Gobble for their second year. Wilson is an employee with Presenting Sponsor Ford Motor Co.

Touchdown at Ford Field on Friday, Nov. 21. The Hob Nobble Gobble celebrated its 25th anniversary with 2,000-plus party rockers in the house that night. The Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation's premier fundraiser supports 88 years of bringing America's Thanksgiving Parade to Detroit and nationwide, airing on WDIV-Local 4.

Ford Field had pretty much everything during the Hob Nobble Gobble except a skating rink. That didn't deter Meryl Davis and Charlie White, Olympic gold medalists in ice dancing, from showing some slick moves on the dance floor to rapper Vanilla ICE and pop band MKTO. Davis and White, who train at the Arctic Edge in Canton, were named grand marshals of the 88th American Thanksgiving Parade.

Along with the world's top skating pair, clowns were everywhere. And not just any clowns — the Distinguished Clowns

.



Corps (DCC), comprised of 165 business and community leaders, including Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation Chair Eric Larson and his wife, Kathy, and daughters Paige and Makenzie of Bloomfield Hills.

"The Parade has had a long, great history with Detroit — 88 years — and we're in the best shape," said Eric Larson to the Hob Nobble Gobble partiers.

Larson also congratulated the team at M-1 Rail, the Woodward Avenue Streetcar Project in Detroit, for working with the Parade Company to ensure a smooth Thanksgiving Parade route along the construction area.

"You don't have to wear your hard hats," Larson joked. Tell that to the Big

Heads.



Blue-haired Canton couple in the house: Brian Lawrence and Lisa Raiche



Belleville resident Kelly Springer, (left) Canton resident Melani Ivery, and Detroit resident Brianne Brown enjoy Hob Nobble Gobble. Note to self: "Don't wear high heels to the Hob Nobble Gobble when you're six months pregnant," Ivery advises.



Wheelz, Smiggins and Gracie — have you driven a Ford lately? Wearing their clown costumes are Todd Delo (left) of Holt, Sherrie Chrysler of Redford and Cheryl Woodard of Holt.

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

^{In}Loving Memoryat A the Holidays Call us for our Special Holiday Rate

Publications Sunday, December 14th through Thursday, December 25th Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Deadline For Sunday Publication/Friday 4 p.m. prior Thursday Publication/Tuesday 9:30 a.m. prior

Observer & Eccentric

Call **800-579-7355** Fax: 313-496-4968 email: oeobits@hometownlife.com



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

BUTTERMORE. HELEN

November 19, 2014. Age 94 of Canton. Beloved wife of the late Alvin "Mickey". Dear mother of Sharon (Cliff) Moyer, Linda VanderRoest, (David) and Wayne Krupin (Laura Barnett). Cherished grandmother Robert (Michelle) Moyer and Tricia (David) Rice. Greatgrandmother of Samantha and Michaela Moyer, Alexis Rice, and great-great-granddaughter, Baily Rice. Also survived by two step-grandchildren and five stepgreat-grandchildren. Funeral Tuesday 11 a.m. from the Chapel of the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 42600 Ford Road (west of Lilley). Family will receive visitors Monday, 3-8 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Angela Hospice or Marywood Nursing Care Center would be appreciated. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at

griffinfuneralhome.com GRIFFIN L.J. GRIFFIN FUNERAL HOME, INC



CALE, MARY BEATRICE Of Issaquah, Washington, went home to be with the Lord

÷ on 21 November, 2014. She will be reunited with her parents, Frank and Kathleen Looney, and her husband, John J. Cale, Jr. Francisco. in San Born California on 30 July 1933, as an only child. Mary grew up in San Francisco area and attended the College of the Holy Names, Oakland, CA earning a B.A. and her Teaching Credentials. While visiting Hawaii she met a Marine Corps Lieutenant whom she married. Over the course her adult life Mary was actively engaged as a teacher. First as an elementary school teacher in California, then Hawaii and later in Bloom-field Hills, MI. After getting an Learning advanced degree in from Marygrove Disabilities College, she took on the role over the following years as a Learning Disabilities teacher in several Detroit area school districts establishing programs to help students identify and overcome their challenges. In 1996 John and Mary moved to Wash-ington State, living first in ammamish before residing in Issaquah. Growing up Mary was an avid fan of tennis, golf, and college football. She also loved animals, especially dogs which while g while raising her children. Mary is survived by her three children: Judy Cale Brown, Kevin Cale, and Terry Cale Rossi; son-in-law Dino Rossi, and seven grandchildren. Funeral services will be held on 10 December at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church, 220 Mountain Park Blvd. SW, Issaquah, WA, with internment to follow at Tahoma National Cemetery, Kent, WA. Memorial contributions may be made in the memory of Mary Cale to the American Cancer Society.



DAHN, ANNA MARIE

With family at her side, Anna Marie Dahn passed away from kidney cancer at her home in Holland early in the evening of 23rd, 2014. November Marie Dahn was the beloved wife of Douglas for 50 years and cherished mother of Katherine Marie Hartgerink, Jennifer Anne Poudrier, and Douglas Robert Dahn. She was also the loving grandmother of Abby, John, and Matt Hartgerink, Hunter and Brody Poudrier, and Jonah and Micah Dahn. She was the dear sister of the late Judy Stade, and caring aunt to Julie Stade and Carla Shupp. She was sister-inlaw to Richard Dahn, the late Barbara Dahn, and the late Stade, and guiding Chuck mother-in-law to Philip Hartgerink, Johanna Paas, and Tracy Poudrier. She was born on July 4th, 1939 in Detroit, MI to parents Robert Temple and Mary Temple. The family lived in Detroit throughout Anne's childhood. Some of Anne's favorite memories were boating on Lake St. Clair and taking overnight trips to Put-in-Bay. Anna Marie graduated from Dominican High School and the University of Detroit. She studied chemistry at U of D and was a member of the Kappa Beta Gamma sorority. Anna Marie met Douglas Dahn in 1960 while they were both still in college. They married in 1964 in Detroit, MI. After the wedding, Anne and Doug moved to Birmingham, where their three children Katie, Doug, and Jen were born. Anna Marie was a stay-at-home mom during the children's formative years. There was a family meal every week-day night and family was extremely important to her. She was an amazing cook who was always making slight adjustments to her well documented recipes. Anna Marie worked to raise money for Children's Hospital in Detroit in a couple of dif-ferent ways. One was through an event called Tennis Crumpets, and the second by way of the Festival of Trees. Anne was quick to jump in to help and enjoyed the social aspect of these two charitable events. Sports was a big part of Anna Marie's life as well. An avid University of Michigan fan, she had season tickets to the "Big House" for over 30 years.

Tennis was a sport that she shared with her husband and kids, and from most accounts, became quite good. Anne also spent countless hours taking her tron sporting event another. If it wasn't a gymnastics meet, then it was a tennis match or a soccer game. Gardening was another one of her passions. She was knowledgable on every type of flower and choreographed the garden so that there was a different flower blooming at any given time during the growing season. With a smile that would light up a room, Anna Marie was someone who lived life from moment to moment. She said the first thing that came to her mind, which could just as easily be a compliment or a criticism. You always knew where Anna Marie stood on an issue, and this straight up approach, combined with her smile and social nature made her truly unique. It is these qualities that helped her establish so many good lasting friendships over her lifetime and made her such a wonderful wife and mom, and it is these qualities that we will all miss so much. The funeral service was held on Saturday, November 29th, 2014 at 2:00 pm at All Saints' Episcopal Church located at 252 Grand Street, Saugatuck, MI 49453. A celebration of Anna Marie's life began after the service at the The Mer-maid Bar and Grill, 340 Water Street, Saugatuck, MI 49453. In lieu of flowers, please make don-ations to the Allegan County Hospice atwww.alleganhospice.c om/donate.php. Special thanks to her two main care givers Patty and Joann who have become like family to us. Arrangements by Dykstra Funeral Home - Mulder Chapel. To sign an on-line regis-try or leave a memory please vis-it www.dykstrafuneralhome.com



MELLAS

DOROTHY ADELINE November 25, 2014, at Died VNA Hospice House in Vero Beach. She was born in White Plains, Kentucky. She spent most of her life in Michigan before moving to Palm City, Florida in 1995. She only recently moved to Horizon Bay, Vero Beach. Before retiring, Dorothy worked at Michigan National Bank and then later, for several years, as Office Manager for Gene Harris Insurance Agency, Livonia, Michigan. She enjoyed her retirement in the Charter Club community where she was active in card groups, and volunteered for holiday decorating and women's luncheons. She enjoyed golf and won the "Most Improved Putter Award". She danced at the Kravis Center, West Palm Beach, and in New York City for the "Fabulous Footnotes". She also enjoyed her new life at Horizon Bay, Vero Beach, where she is remembered for her smile and her friendliness. Survivors include her husband of 67 years, Charles A. Mellas of Vero Beach; son, Charles M. Mellas and Jewel Burgess of Duluth, Georgia; daughter and son-inlaw Cheryl and Paul Showerman and reach; son Cheryl Vero son and daughter-in-law, and James Mellas of Brighton, MI; sister, Tawana Williams of Blairsville, GA; six grandchiland nine greatdren: grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to VNA Hospice of Indian River County, 1110 35th Lane, Vero Beach, FL 32960; www.vnatc.com. SERV-ICES: A Memorial Service will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m., December 5 at South Florida National Cemetery, Lake Worth. Arrangements are by Cox-Gifford-Seawinds Funeral Home and Crematory, Vero Beach. An online guestbook may be signed at www.coxgiffordseawinds.com



Van Voorhis, Thomas C. August 16, 1925 - November 16, husband of 2014. Loving Annemarie Lilly Van Voorhis joining her in heaven. Father of four children: Karen Bradley, Fayyad, Michael Van Voorhis. Opa to twelve grandchildren: Kristen, Daniel Jr., Richie. Robbie, Louisa, Bella, Ali, Zayd, Dima, Sami, Kaitlin and Lauren, Loving brother of the late Ann Van Voorhis Keller. Tom was a Varsity Athletic Marketing and Development executive at Oakland University for more than 10 ears after retiring from General Motors Corporation. A 35-year veteran of General Motors, Tom was most recently a Marketing Executive within the AC Delco division. Tom earned both undergraduate and masters degrees at The University of Michigan. He was also a long-time supporter of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Tom served honorably in both World War II and earned 2nd Lt. US Army Reserve in the Korean Era. A public memorial service will be held in Spring 2015 at Ward Church, Northville, MI. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Ward Church, 40000 Six Mile Rd., Northville, MI, 48168. Serving the family is Lynch and Sons Funeral Home, Walled Lake. Condolences at : www.LynchFamilyFuneral



View Online www.hometownlife.com

O'REILLY, JOHN A. Goshen, Indiana, Age 89, died Monday, November 17 in his home. He was born Sept. 13, 1925 in South Norwalk,

onnecticut to James J. and Margaret M. O'Reilly. On July 9, 1952, he married the love of his life, Patricia A. Pond, at St. Mary's Church, Norwalk, Conn. They celebrated 62 years of marriage before Patricia died in July of this year. John embarked on the greatest adventure of his life in September of 1943. Enlisting in the U.S. Navy, he left the East Coast for the first of many Midwestern homes. He completed radio school at Great Lakes

Naval Station and was sent to the Pacific Theatre where he served as a radioman in the Kwajalein Atoll. Returning to Connecticut after the war, he complete his GED and received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, Conn. He was a member of the Naval Reserve and was briefly activated during the Korean War. After school he embarked on a shortlived career as a history teacher. While using the school wood shop to build a table, John found an advertisement for the DeWalt Saw Company in a woodworking journal. He immediately wrote to the firm asking for an interview. and a sales career was born. As John built his career, he and Pat travelled to Jackson, Miss., Cincinnati, Ohio, and for more than 30 years, Plymouth, Mich. He often told stories of working the State and County Fair circuits demonstrating product. No family vacation or Sunday drive was complete without at least one detour into an industrial park, or along a waterfront or rail line. Eventually the original DeWalt Company became part of Black and Decker. John continued to work for the combined group until 1968 when he and two partners started Power Tools of

Michigan, a manufacturer repre-sentative of professional wood vorking equipment. Even though PTM was dissolved in 1997. John continued to represent certain product lines from his home until 2002 when he and Pat joined the Greencroft Community in Goshen. John enjoyed

people. While never specifically joining organizations, he was always willing to help with a project (especially home improvements) or serve on a committee. He was still in touch with service men with whom he had served in the Pacific and recently donated memorabilia of his service to the

'A Wider World' on PBS raises awareness of disabilities

his month in Our Mental Health I'm proud to profile a wonderful, weekly, PBS television show called A Wider World. The show airs locally

at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday on WTVS. It is a half-hour magazine-format show, which is is entering its 15th season.

A Wider World offers viewers hope and information about disabilities and features numerous resources for rehabilitation, entertainment, and education. Episodes give accounts of people dealing with disabilities. This inspires people who have special needs. It shows programs that help persons of all ages. It offers hope by diminishing the isolation and stigma about disabilities.

The information provided includes raising awareness of disabilities and resources, education about new technologies, and updates about new legislative actions furthering the cause of our citizens with special needs.

Did you know that the most recent edition of the American With Disabilities Act says that more than 54 million Americans are challenged with some sort of disability? These range from hearing and sight impairments, developmental disabilities, stroke, traumatic brain injury, Parkinson's disorder, orphan diseases and more.

During my 40-plus vears of work as a psychotherapist I've had the fortune of working with individuals and groups that represent all of the above special needs categories. Some have congenital (from birth) disabilities. Some have acquired (from trauma) disabilities.

I have also had the pleasure of working with the like-minded staff of A Wider World. Jim Saliba is the program's executive oducer. Elizabeth Kelly is the program's host. Jeremy Taylor is editor,



camera man, and narrator. All three are "de-

scendants" of Roger McCarville who had created the PBS TV show Disabilities Today many years ago. With Roger's passing, the show's name changed to A Wider World in 2008. You see, Roger was a friend of mine and encouraged our forming the Therapy Choirs of Michigan, www.therapychoirs.org. In no small way, Roger encouraged the cause of choir therapy, which began with only one singer and has developed, over 17 years, to special needs, therapeutic singing groups in three counties. With the help of Volunteer Voices from many communities, TCM has given hundreds of free performances, throughout Michigan, in its' "Tour of Hope." as Roger called it. TCM is very grateful for the ongoing working relationship with the staff of A Wider World and delighted that they have featured our therapeutic choir in five separate

episodes. Through A Wider World, choir therapy and countless other recreation and therapeutic programs for people with disabilities have found an audience throughout the world. I encourage all readers of this column to tune into A Wider World each week. You will be glad you did! Dates, times and archived You-Tube shows can be found via the Internet.

Len McCulloch is a Diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in mental health, addictions, trauma, brain injury and social work. With his director of operations, Sherry Cantrell, he created and directs the Therapy



CAVIN, BETTY

Passed away on Novem-ber 19, 2014 in Plymouth MI at the young age of 90. She was the loving and feisty wife to the late Raymond Cavin; mother to Michael (Doris) Cavin; wonderful grandmother to Tracey, Sarah, and Shaun Cavin; and great-grandmother, "G.G." to Xavier, Marni, and Harper Cavin. Betty was a social and active woman, who lived life to the fullest. She enjoyed traveling, gardening, reading, and most importantly spending time with her family and friends. She will always be remembered by those who knew and loved her as a vibrant, fun-loving, caring, and giving person. She will be deeply missed

HARRIS, **TODD DAVID**

Age 43 of Taylor, died suddenly Wednesday, November 26, 2014. Beloved husband of Dana. Loving step-father of Hayley, Dylan, Logan, Machayla, Katrina and Dalila. Dear brother Machavla, of Thomas (Ellen) and Kenny. Preceded in death by his parents Kenneth Wayne and Linda Mae and a brother Timmy. He will be greatly missed by family and friends

> May you find comfort in family & friends

HOEKSTRA. DALE V. MD

November 10, 2014 Albuquer-que, NM Dale v. Hoekstra was the only child of the late Professor and Mrs. Hoekstra. Born and educated in Highland Park Public Schools, graduated from The United States Air Force Academy, Wayne State University Medical School, Beaumont Hospital orthopedic surgery residen-cy, and spine fellowship at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. Dr. Hoekstra enjoyed practicing his specialty at Henry Ford Hospital, later joining Rochester Hills Orthopedics until relocating to Carrie Tingly Pediatric Orthopedic Hospital in New Mexico in 2007. As medical director he continued his love and commitment of teaching and training medical students and resident the skills and compassion necessary to be successful orthopedic effective and surgeons. He leaves his wife Stephanie Hoekstra, his daughter Caroline and her husband and grandchildren, and a host of colleagues, extended family and friends

Directors.com LYNCH & SONS Funeral Directors

In Memoriam

BUTTERMORE. HELEN

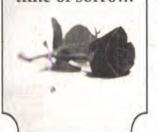
November 19, 2014. Age 94 of Canton. Beloved wife of the late Alvin "Mickey". Dear mother of Sharon (Cliff) Moyer, Linda (David) VanderRoest, and Wayne Krupin (Laura Barnett). Cherished grandmother of Robert (Michelle) Moyer and Tricia (David) Rice. Greatgrandmother of Samantha and Michaela Moyer, Alexis Rice, and great-great-granddaughter, Baily Rice. Also survived by two step-grandchildren and five stepgreat-grandchildren. Funeral luesday 11 a.m. from the Chapel of the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Ford Road (west of 42600 Lilley). Family will receive visitors Monday, 3-8 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Angela Hospice or Marywood Nursing Care Center would be appreciated. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at





War. He loved building furniture, as well as decorative and useful items, many pieces grace his home, his daughter's home and those of friends and rela-Survivors include his tives. daughter, Ann Linley, son-inlaw, Gary, and grandsons, Michael and Daniel, all of Elkhart; his brothers, Thomas of Fort Worth, Tex., Robert (Lynn) of DeForest, WI; and Patrick of Charleston, S. Carolina; sisters in-law, Patricia (James) O'Reilly of Norwalk, Conn.; Marine Vincent) O'Reilly of Harrisburg, Penn.; Maureen (Fred) Rottjer of Trumbull, Conn., and Eileen Connors of Norwalk, Conn.; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was proceeded in death by his sisters, Elizabeth O'Reilly and Margaret Harlow, his brothers, James, Gene, and Vincent, brothers-in-law, liam Harlow and George Con-nors, and sisters-in-law Rose (Gene), Martina (Thomas) and Sybil (Patrick). A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at noon Saturday, Nov. 29, with visitation for two hours prior at the Greencroft Meeting House, 1904 S 15th St, Goshen, IN 46526. The Rev. Bob Van Kempen, of St. Mary's Bristol presided. Memorials are welcomed and may be sent to the Greencroft Foundation's Employee Appreciation Fund or the

Admiral Nimitz Foundation through the National Museum of the Pacific War'in Fredricksburg, Tex. The family would like to extend our profound thanks to the teams at Greencroft at Home, Fresenius Medical Care, Goshen Hospice, and the office of Dr. Kay, for John's end-of-life care and to our friends and family for their loving care and support along the journey. Rieth-Rohrer-Ehret Funeral Home, Goshen, is handling arrangements and online condolences may be sent at www.rrefh.com May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



Choirs of Michig www.therapychoirs.org.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay, sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Heritage Park

Wil-

The park is located on Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills. Pre-register for programs online at recreg.fhgov.com or at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile.

» Make a grapevine wreath using materials found in nature, 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the nature center. Crafts for children also will be available. \$8 per person or \$24 for a family of four.

» Make-and-Take Garden Gifts workshop runs 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16. Cost is \$5. An additional \$5 materials fee will be collected. Registration is required at least three days before the workshop: Register for classes at

the Costick Center, 28600 W 11 Mile, or online at recreg.fhgov.com. Call the nature center at 248-477-1135 or email asmith@fhgov.com for more information.

Holiday Shopping Escape

Join the Holiday Nature Preserve Association for a nature hike noon Saturday, Dec. 6, starting at the Nankin Mill parking lot on Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail, in Westland. The walk is free and runs 60-90 minutes; holidayassociation@hnpa.org.

Friends of Maybury

Take a night hike listen for owls, 6-8 p.m. Dec. 6. Meet at the concession building at the park, which is located on Eight Mile west of Beck in Northville. Register for Owl Prowl at friendsofmaybury.org. Call 248-349-8390 for more information.

Matthaei Botanical Gardens

Letters & Leaves exhibit runs through Jan. 4, 2015, and explores the link between poetry and nature. Includes an installation of nature-inspired photography. Special events include Wonders of Winter kids program featuring stories, crafts and wreath making, 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 6; poetry reading 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10; and a visit with Father Christmas, noon to 2 p.m. Saturday Dec. 20. Exhibit and program are free, except Wonders of Winter, which costs \$10 per child. Matthaei Botanical Gardens is located at 1800 N. Dixboro, Ann Arbor; 734-647-7600.

English Gardens

» Make a holiday porch pot at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at all stores. Cost is \$49.99. » Select one of two designs to make a winter fairy garden, 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at all stores. Cost is \$39.99. Pre-registration for workshops is required. Visit english gardens.com.

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HEALTH

SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR SDARGAY@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 313-222-8833 FACEBOOK: HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Canton girl heads an 'army of elves' at Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis

By Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

Emi Werschky ballet dances.

Her best move in gymnastics is a cartwheel.

And she recently portrayed a horse, mouse and towns person in the play *Cinderella*.

But there is something else the 7-year-old Canton Charter Academy second-grader wants you to know about her personal achievements. She has done it all between heat packs and weekly shots.

"I have arthritis," she explained, during a recent lunchtime interview at her school, where fellow students are fundraising for the Arthritis Foundation's Detroit Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis. "It feels good to teach all these people who don't know that kids have arthritis, that they do."

Emi is getting plenty of chances to educate others about her illness, an autoimmune disease that typically causes joint inflammation, but that can involve eyes, skin and gastrointestinal tract. She's this year's youth honoree for the Jingle Bell Run/Walk and has her own team, Emi's Army of Elves, that will participate in the fundraiser on Dec. 6 in Detroit. Her story and her photo is printed on event publicity posters distributed, not only at her school, but throughout Southeastern Michigan.

Supporting the Foundation

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She and her family, including parents Lisa and Tony, have been active in Arthritis Foundation events since Emi was diagnosed with the disease at age 2 ½. They've walked in the Foundation's annual spring event at the Detroit Zoo and attended galas. Tony and Lisa also earned silver (Tony) and bronze (Lisa) medals in the Forge through Hell, an extreme 5K for the cause. The entire family, including

Emi's three siblings, attended Arthritis Foundation family camp earlier this year in Lapeer and got a chance to meet other children with arthritis.

"It was a nice experience. We met some families we've seen since at other events. You feel close because it's hard for other people to understand just what you experience. When we started putting up posters with Emi's picture and her story, people would come up to me and say, 'Oh my gosh, I didn't know this is what you've gone through.' Well, we don't usually walk around telling everyone what we've gone through," Lisa said. "We just do it. It's the way it goes and we're OK with that. We've accepted our journey and our path and we're thankful it's not any worse. But we still pray for healing and that it's not our path forever."

It's been an on-again, offagain journey as Emi has been in remission, out of remission and in again over nearly five years.

Ups and downs

"Even in remission she will get injections of Enbrel for the next three to four years. Right now she's on Enbrel, a biologic drug, and methotrexate, a low-dose cancer drug. One of the biggest hurdles we face is that when her arthritis flares we can up the medication to fight the arthritis, but in doing so, we usually add other problems. So, you're kind of in a race to try to get the arthritis under control so you can get off those medications so she can get back to feeling good and having that sense of humor and that smile and being the normal little adorable 7-yearold we love so much. But it comes and goes.

advertising opportunity



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Emi Werschky of Canton is youth honoree for the Arthritis Foundation's 2014 Detroit Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis. She's ready to dress as an elf to head up her team, Emi's Army of Elves.

When her arthritis flares when her immune system "kicks into overdrive" and attacks the her joints, Lisa said. Both drugs she takes, administered in a shot each week, can lower her immune system, making her more susceptible to illness.

"She can get the flu and her arthritis could flare. She could get a cut and her arthritis could flare. The more illness you have, the more likely your arthritis will flare. We did the happy dance all the way out of the rheumatologist office the first time we were in remission. And it only lasted about a

month."

Diagnosis

Lisa discovered her daughter's illness when Emi, then an active and independent toddler, began asking to be carried everywhere. She noticed her knee was swollen and her daughter was limping, but was told it was a symptom of a virus. A follow-up visit to the doctor's office confirmed the arthritis. She received steroid injections in her sore joints almost immediately and started on a series of medications that have increased in strength over the years. Lisa estimates

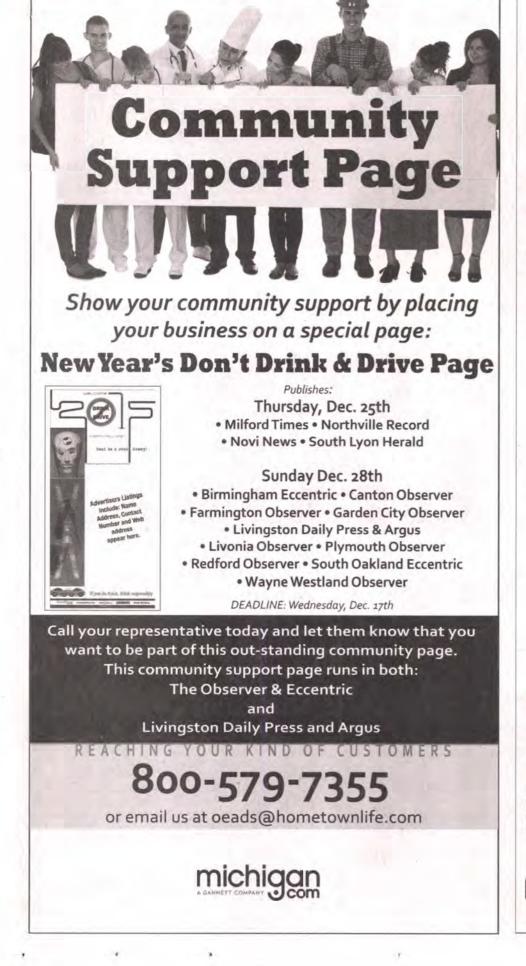
that her daughter has tried "well over a dozen" medications since she was diagnosed. Her arthritis has affected mostly knees, ankles, wrists and occasionally elbows and shoulders.

"When we started this we heard a lot of people say kids outgrow this. We've noticed they've stopped saying that to us. We try to take it one day at a time and we celebrate days she feels well and we do what we can to get through the days she doesn't."

Emi is looking forward to the Jingle Bell Run/Walk, where she'll dress as "head elf" for her team and ride through the event in a "sleigh" pulled by her mom, who will be in reindeer costume. Her dad will run the race. One sibling will pass out candy canes along the route and two others will ride with her.

The event starts with registration from 7:30-8:30 a.m., followed by the quarter-mile "Snowman Shuffle" fun run for children at 8:50 a.m. and the 5K run/walk and 10K run at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 at Compuware, 1 Campus Martius, Detroit. A soup and chili party follows the event. Medals will be awarded for top three finishers in 13 age groups, along with prizes for largest team, best costume and top fundraiser. Fees are \$35 for the 10K, \$30 for the 5K and \$12 for the Snowman Shuffle. Visit jinglebellrundetroit.kintera.org for more information.

"People think that their donation doesn't count, or doesn't make a difference," Lisa said. "The biologic drug that Emi is on is a direct result of research done by the Arthritis Foundation and without supporting the Arthritis Foundation and providing funds and research, she wouldn't be in remission."



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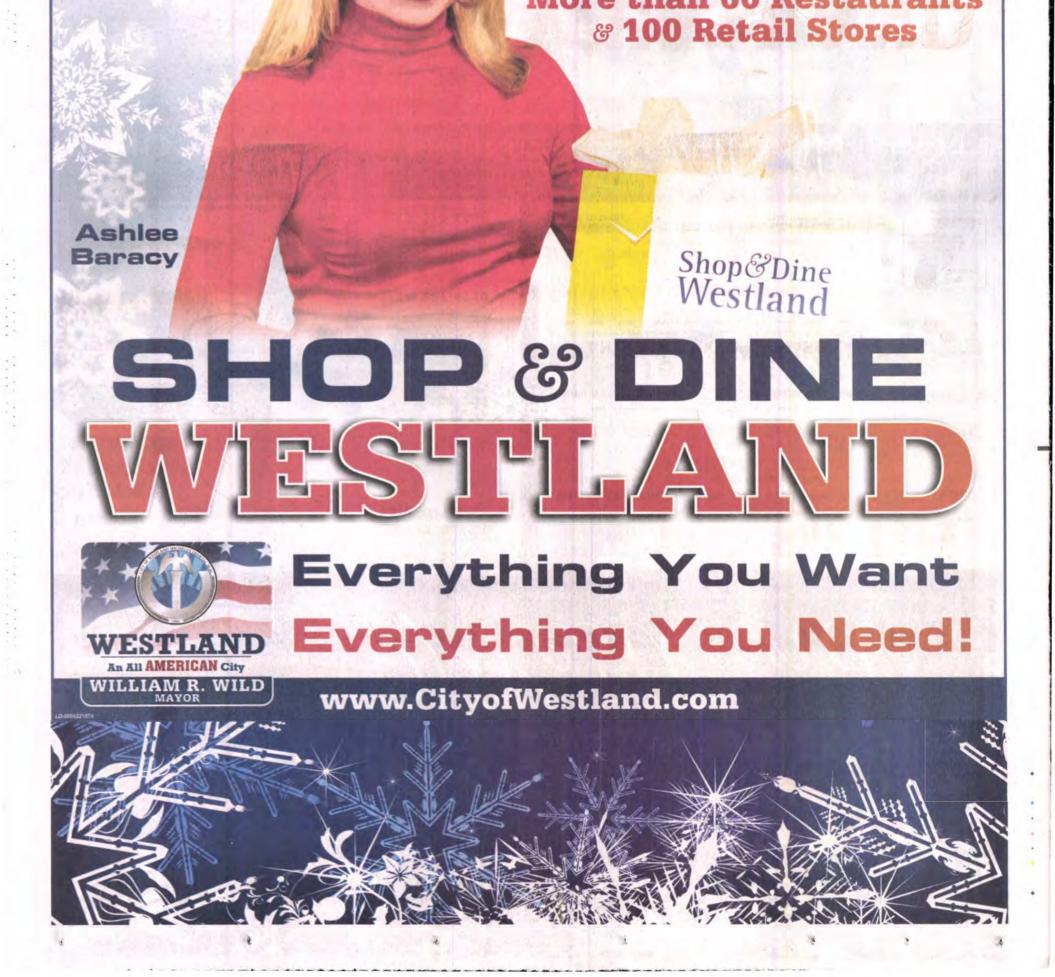
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How to approach a small-town job search

JOBS

By Justin Thompson

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A lot of career advice targets workers in moderately sized cities who have more access to job opportunities. Rural communities have a limited number of companies and a population competing for fewer jobs. How can a worker from a smaller town make an impression on a company without being a pest?

Job seekers should adapt their job-search strategy depending on the local workforce climate. From there, it comes down to adjusting how you apply for jobs. In some instances, you can take a more out-of-the-box approach to job searching when in a smaller town.

Be unique

"In rural communities, it's sometimes easier to just go directly to the company and apply face to face," says staffing manager Joshua Johnston. "It can create a lasting impression and can help hiring managers attach that impression to the résumé." If that's not an option, you can still stand out, Johnston says. Anything that grabs a hiring manager's attention or makes a lasting impression may get you ahead of the competition.

"One candidate called a pizza delivery service and had them deliver not only a fresh, hot pizza, but a laminated copy of the résumé around 11:15 a.m.," Johnston says. "Ultimately, they really wanted to work for that specific company and wanted to think outside of the box." As unusual as this example is, the tactic is helpful for those who find themselves repeatedly applying to the same company for multiple positions.

Use your networks

Johnston suggests that you reach out to friends, relatives, teachers, former co-workers, acquaintances and even your doctor or dentist to ask if they

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are aware of any local job vacancies. Telling everyone you know or meet that you're looking for a job can help you with job leads.

In addition, use social networking websites such as LinkedIn to connect with hiring managers at local companies. However, don't use a generic introduction. Personalize your invitation, be creative and be specific about why you're reaching out -- whether it's to make a connection or follow up after submitting an application.

Find your focus

Résumés that aren't tailored to the specific position and lack language from the job requirements usually won't get a second

look. Know how to position your résumé to show proof of your experience, instead of including a laundry list of daily duties.

When there are fewer job opportunities in your community, narrow your focus and stop applying for every opening at every company. Be honest about your education, work experience and any supplemental experiences, such as volunteering, and choose the career path in which you'll have the most success.

Look beyond your ZIP code

You can also broaden your job search to include companies across the U.S. that hire telecommuters or allow employees to work offsite. Finding a company not based in your area doesn't necessarily mean that you have to move, so if you do the research. you may be able to find companies that are willing to hire an out-of-town worker.

Justin Thompson is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, The Work Buzz. He researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.



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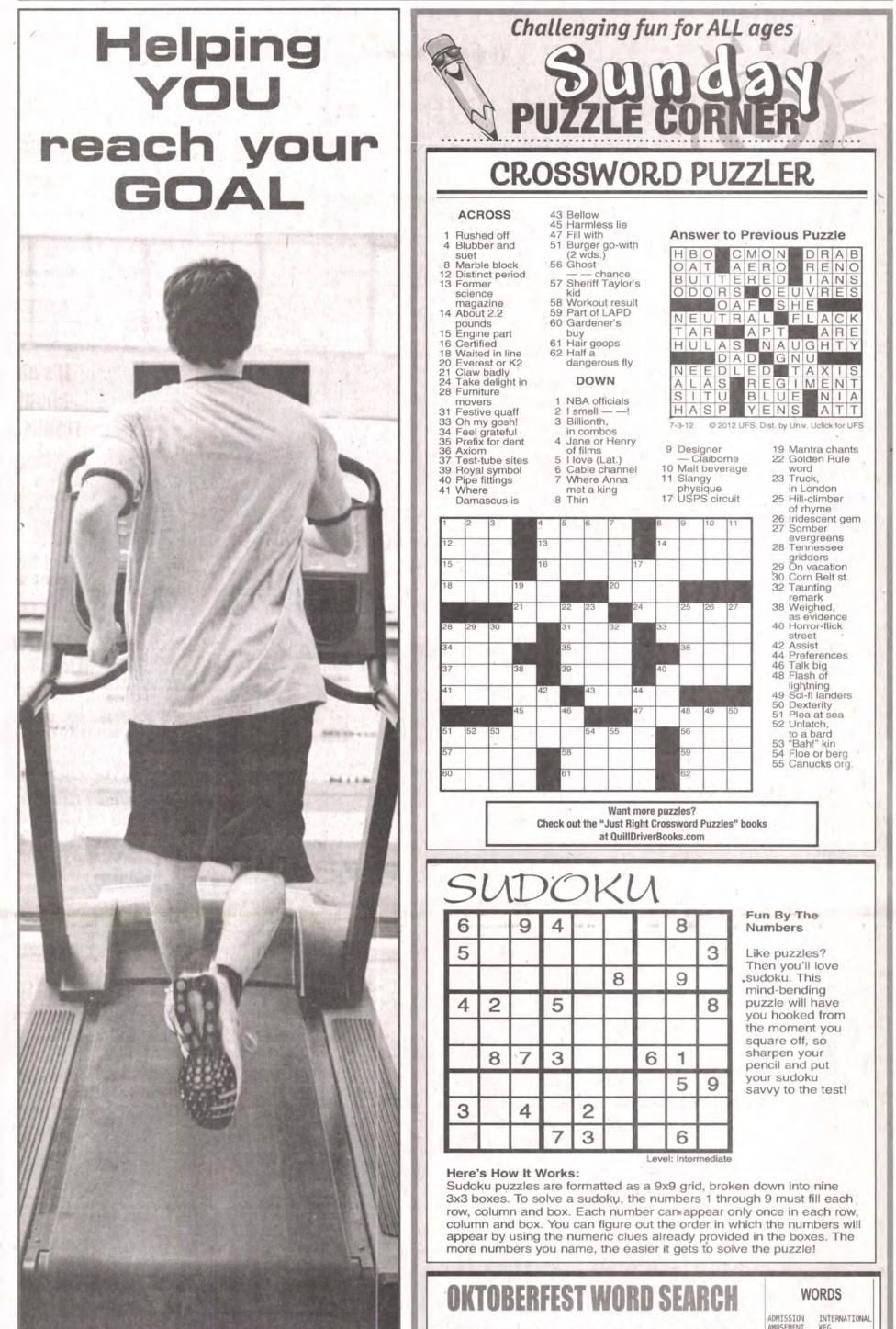


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Test drive 2015 Ford F-150 during special event at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia

By Greg Mullin Staff Writer

Take a sneak preview of the 2015 Ford F-150 during the Ride and Drive Event at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia from 5-9 p.m. Monday, Dec 8.

Customers can test drive the soon-to-bereleased 2015 F-150 alongside a Ford product expert while enjoying appetizers and soft drinks. Also, WYCD 99.5-FM and radio personality Linda Lee will be on-site to meet and greet visitors, and there will be giveaways and prizes to win.

To register for the test drive event, visit www.f150drive.com/ billbrownford.

Anticipation is building for the revamped F-150. The vehicles are expected to be on the lot in late December or early January — but Bill Brown Ford is taking pre-orders now.

"Customers are really enthusiastic," says Andrea Calvaneso, Marketing Director for Bill Brown Ford. "Most of all, they're excited about seeing the new body style."

Thanks to an all-new aluminum body construction, the 2015 Ford F-150 is lighter than previous models.

"By getting rid of 700 pounds, the 2015 F-150 has increased its towing capacity while also improving fuel economy a win-win," Calvaneso says.

Other highlights include:

» The availability of the all-new 2.7-liter Eco-Boost model

» A 360-degree camera view to assist with parking and maneuvering



Customers can test drive the soon-to-be-released 2015 F-150 during the Ride and Drive Event at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia from 5-9 p.m. Monday, Dec 8.

» Active park assist

» Remote tailgate release

» 8-inch productivity screen in the instrument cluster

» Quad-beam LED headlamps

Available engines include:

» 325-horsepower, 2.7-liter V-6

» 365-horsepower, 3.5-liter V-6

» 385-horsepower, 5.0-liter V-8

» 282-horsepower, 3.5-liter V-6

"Once they become available, we will have a strong allocation for our customers to purchase," Calvaneso says. Bill Brown Ford's seasoned sales associates have superior product knowledge, allowing customers to find the F-150 that suits them best.

"Bill Brown Ford has extraordinary service across the board," Calvaneso says. "We are a full-service dealership new and used sales, service, Quick Lane Tire & Auto Center, body shop and a state-of-the-art Fleet Center — that accommodates all of your needs before and after the sale."

Located at 32222 Plymouth Road in Livonia, Bill Brown Ford is proud



The 2015 Ford F-150 includes an 8-inch productivity screen in the instrument cluster.

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Bill Brown Ford is open for new and preowned sales from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Thursday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Pre-owned sales are also available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, call Bill Brown Ford at 734-421-7000 or visit www.BillBrownFord-.com.

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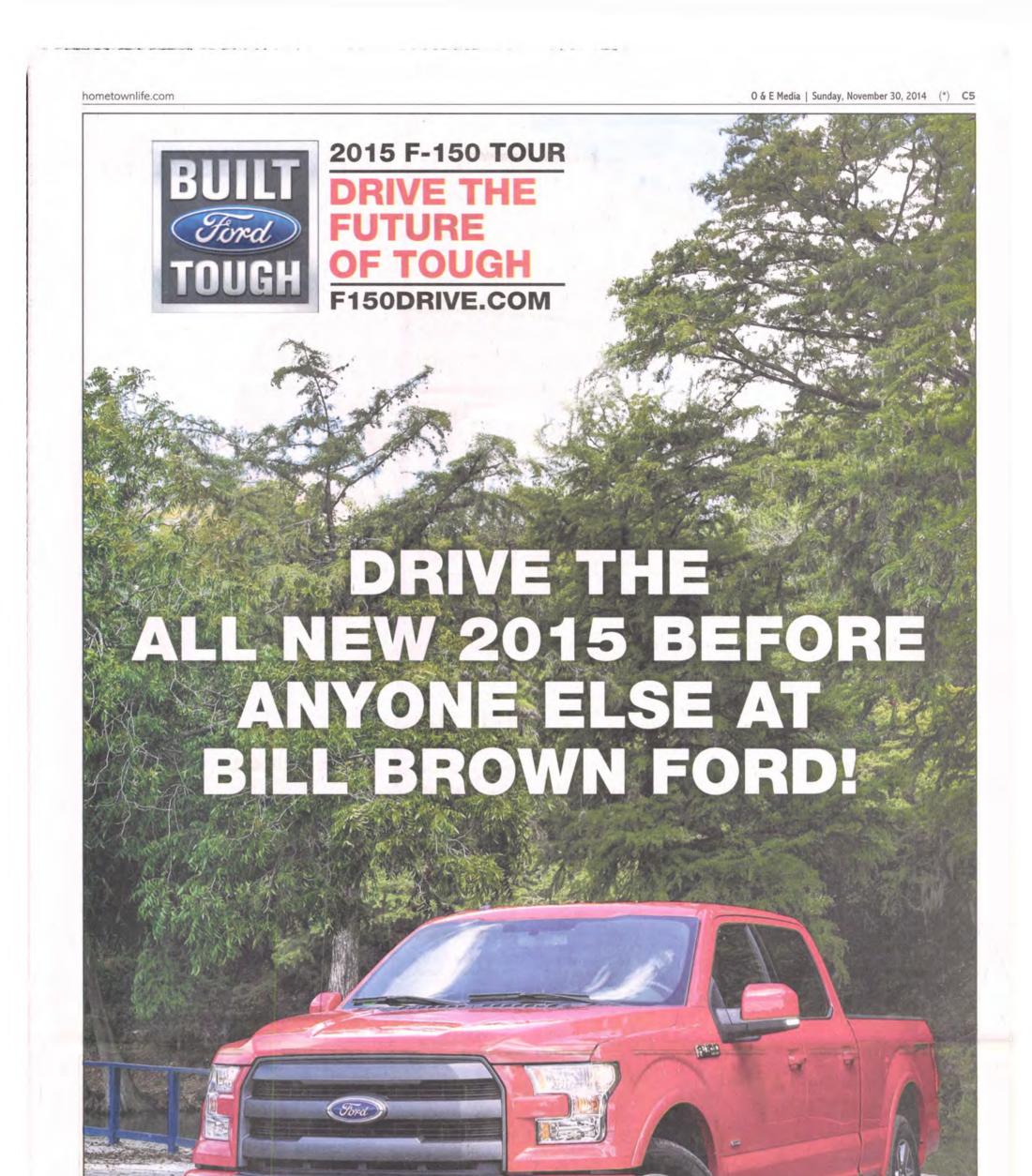
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