

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014 • hometownlife.com



IMPROV SHOW RAISES FUNDS FOR DETROIT CREATIVITY PROJECT
ENTERTAINMENT, B10

Miller appointed to Wayne City Council

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

It was close to the deadline but the Wayne City Council has appointed Anthony Wayne Miller to fill a vacant council seat.

The appointment came after the council interviewed three candidates — Miller, Milton French and Jim Jeziorowski — Tuesday at a special council study session. A fourth applicant, Lucietta Miles, didn't show up for the interviews.

A 26-year resident of Wayne, Miller is currently a produce manager at the Kroger store at Warren and Middlebelt in Westland. Over his career in the grocery industry, Miller said he also worked for Farmer Jack and A&P.

"I learned a lot of leadership and communication skills, a lot of people skills," Miller said. "You have to have that in a grocery store. I am very self-motivated, compassionate and have a strong work ethic."

A question put to the candidates was how they would

handle an issue that was important to the continued stability of the city, yet might not have the total support of the community.

"We would need to clarify the information so all are well-informed," Miller said. "There are some very complex issues that need to be put more into layman's terms."

Miller described himself as civic-minded, noting he had been attending city council meetings for several years.

"The city has a lot of potential. I hoped to see it (realized)

years ago," Miller said. "I feel I have the ideas and the enthusiasm to push the ideas through."

The initial motion offered was to table appointment of a council member — the council only had 48 hours to meet the 30-day requirement of the charter to fill the spot. The vacancy was created when James Hawley was appointed mayor to replace Al Haidous, who was elected Wayne County Commissioner.

"If we don't appoint tonight, we will have to call a special

election. If we can't decide tonight, how will we decide in two days?" Councilwoman Susan Rowe said. "What is the issue? Why are we tabling this?"

Councilman Skip Monit had offered the tabling motion. "I'd like some time to consider it more," he said.

Agreeing with Monit, Councilman Albert Damitio said he thought all three candidates would be good and he didn't have a strong preference at

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Westland Councilman Bill Johnson, UAW Local 900 committee chairman, presents Heather Hatfield-Clear of the Westland Goodfellows with a donation raised by union members.

UAW raises \$69,000 for Goodfellows

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

In their effort to make sure no kid is without a Christmas, the Westland Goodfellows got their annual boost from UAW Local 900.

At a recent council meeting, Councilman Bill Johnson, committee chairman at Local 900, presented a check for \$68,707 raised at an annual bowling fundraiser to the Goodfellows.

"My two kids saved me money this year, so I will give the money to make it \$69,000," said Johnson, who added \$293 to the donation.

Goodfellow Heather Hatfield-Clear

accepted the donation, noting that 757 Westland children had already received Christmas assistance through the charity.

"About 50-60 new requests landed in my email today. We'll take care of them by the end of the week," Hatfield-Clear said. "I really want to express our gratitude to Bill Johnson and Local 900. They are invaluable."

The Goodfellows spent about \$100 per child, Hatfield-Clear said, which means spending about \$80,000 over a couple of weeks.

"Without Bill's (fundraiser) money, we would not be able to do it," she said. "We are so thankful to the UAW leader-

ship — Bill Johnson, Mike Smith and Don Conger. We're very grateful."

The Goodfellows also receive assistance from the Friendship Center, where donated items are sorted and packed for distribution, Hatfield-Clear said, along with police, firefighters and many volunteers.

Johnson credited the generosity of his members at the Ford Wayne Assembly Plant.

"They don't usually have to be asked," he said.

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Pair charged in Westland man's death

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Two men are facing felony charges in connection with the fatal shooting of an elderly Westland man in Detroit earlier this month.

Dale Morgan, 42, of Ypsilanti, has been charged with first-degree murder, felony murder and felony firearm in the death of Charles Graham, 79. Cortez Butler, also 42, of Detroit has been charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.



Butler



Morgan

Based on an investigation by Detroit Police, Graham met with Morgan at approximately 5:30 a.m. Dec. 6. The two men went to a house in the 9300 block of Woodlawn in Detroit where they met Butler.

A short time later, the three men got into a nearby car. It is alleged that Butler handed Graham a bottle of unspecified pills and asked Graham for money. There was reportedly a dispute between the men and when Graham would not give the money, it is alleged that Morgan fired a handgun, fatally striking Graham in the head.

Morgan and Butler both reportedly had fled the scene. Following their investigation, Detroit Police arrested the two defendants Dec. 11.

Arraigned on Saturday, Morgan was remanded to jail with no bond set. Butler was also being held in lieu of \$1 million bond. Not guilty pleas were entered for both Morgan and Butler.

Both defendants are scheduled for preliminary examination at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 23 in 36th District court.

Morgan was paroled in 2013 for criminal sexual conduct and possessing a sawed-off shotgun. He also served time for two charges of escape/assaulting a prison employee and being a prisoner in possession of a weapon, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Butler is scheduled to be on

See CHARGED, Page A2

Upgrades to Westland Police Station discussed

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

With the new city hall open, soon to be followed by a new Fire Station 1, the Westland Council is turning its attention to the city's police station.

"One of the things we talked about with capital improvements at the police department was doing a needs assessment instead of throwing money at things hit and miss," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "It's kind of

what the library did a few years ago."

The city hasn't invested much in the police station in awhile, he said, so the roof, heating, cooling and other aspects of the building need to be assessed.

Real estate consultants Plante Moran CRESA had assessed the facility needs for the station, originally built in 1975. The tab to fully upgrade the building was estimated at \$4.8 million if done over seven years, just over \$4 million if all the work was done now.

"If you wanted to do it all now, there would be considerable savings," said Eric Dumont of Plante Moran CRESA.

At a recent study session, council members got their first look at the assessment of the police station, ranking various elements from poor to excellent. Overall, the property was ranked in good condition but Dumont noted that other than upgrades to the dispatch center, there have been no major renovations to the building.

"We are recommending you replace a lot of the external envelope — windows, doors, tuck pointing. That solidifies the building," Dumont said. "Replacing the HVAC alone makes huge steps. The staff has to go outside to close windows."

While the city isn't looking at renovating to a green certification level, Dumont said the recommendations did take into account energy efficiency, along with handicapped

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Westland Mayor William Wild (left), Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik, Westland BP gas station owner Steve Hamade and Westland Council President Adam Hammons show off the Westland Mission: Green Eco Friendly award.

WESTLAND POLICE VEHICLES GO GREEN

Westland Police are becoming more eco-friendly thanks to having 20 new E-85 powered patrol vehicles on the road — eight new 2014

Ford Explorer SUVs and 12 new 2014 Ford Taurus cars. “The mayor has challenged all city departments to lower their

carbon footprint and the Westland Police Department is committed to greening our patrol fleet,” Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik said. “These vehicles are more fuel efficient, producing less tailpipe emissions. The vehicles are not only more efficient but are equipped with the latest technology, which assist officers in their day-to-day jobs.”

Westland Mayor William Wild recently presented the police department with a Westland Mission: Green Eco Friendly award. The presentation was made at the BP Gas Station, 6690 N. Newburgh, which sells E-85.

The award was presented as part of the Mayor’s Mission Green initiative that was started in 2009.

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UPGRADES

Continued from Page A1

accessibility and life safety issues.

Many of the council members' questions

AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Trivia Tournament

Sgt. Romanowski VFW Post is holding a Trivia Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 27, at the post, 28945 Joy Road, Westland.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and the first questions are at 7:15 p.m. The cost is \$20 per table, maximum of four people per table. There will be prizes, raffles, pizza at halftime and a cash bar.

For reservations, call Dianna at 313-278-3784 or email John at welchmandj@hotmail.com.

New Year's Eve Party

AMVETS Post 171 will hold a New Year's Eve Party from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the post, 1217 Merriman, south of Cherry Hill, Westland. The cost is \$25 per person and \$45 per couple and includes dinner, dancing, champagne and pizza at midnight. For tickets or more information, call 734-721-2990.

Pasta dinner

The Dyer Senior Center in Westland is holding its monthly pasta dinner from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and dessert for \$8 for adults, \$4 for children age 12 and under. Children age 3 and under are free.

The center also will hold its monthly game night at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15.

The Dyer Center is at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland. For more information, call 734-419-2020.

Wayne Main Street

Wayne Main Street, a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization is looking for volunteers. Following the Main Street Four Point Approach, Wayne Main Street focuses on Design, Business Empowerment, Promotions, and Organization to revitalize Downtown Wayne. Anyone interested in volunteering or getting involved is welcome to visit the office located in the Wayne Activity and Banquet Center, 35000 Sims Ave., Wayne.

For more information, visit the Wayne Main Street website at www.downtownwayne.org, call 734-629-6822 or email info@downtownwayne.org

wayne.org.

DeMolay Meeting

The Wayne Masonic Lodge will host an informational day for Michigan DeMolay, a youth movement for men ages 12-21, at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at the lodge, 37137 Palmer, west of Wayne Road, Westland.

The day will be a meet-and-greet with video games and board games.

For more information, contact Ray Lemons at 734-552-3125 or Raymond.Lemons@gmail.com.

American Legion

The American Legion Westland Post 251 meets the first Wednesday of each month at the VFW Post 3323 located on Wayne Road and Avondale. The meeting is called to order at 7 p.m. Veterans male and female who are interested in attending our meeting or want more information are welcome. Information also is available online at www.post251.org or by calling 734-326-2607 or 734-455-3415.

Toastmasters

Looking for a job promotion or perhaps a new and better career? Toastmasters International can help you land the job of your dreams by improving your speaking ability, self-confidence and leadership skills.

Toastmasters Westland Easytalkers currently has openings for new members. The group meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday at 35613 W. Michigan Avenue, Wayne, two blocks west of the State Wayne Theater.

Call Luddie Connor for more information at 734-414-0034.

Healing Hearts

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, a grief support group for adults who have lost a loved one to the prison system, provides a safe environment allowing members to share in a non-judgmental atmosphere.

Meetings are from 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of every month at the Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland.

For more information, contact Bonnie at 734-646-2237.

centered on the worth of the current building versus the potential investment and the useful life of the building once upgrades are done.

“Will it behoove us to spend that money on this building? If we make the repairs over seven years, will we have an antiquated building that is too small for our needs?” Councilman Dewey Reeves said.

With the proposed improvements complete, Dumont said the building would be expected to be good for 20 years.

“We don't expect to outgrow the building. (Westland) Youth Assistance is out of the building (relocated to city hall),” said Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik, adding the department has addition-

“Operationally, we need to be next to the court. We max out at 40 prisoners (in the jail),”

JEFF JEDRUSIK,
Westland police chief

al storage space available at city hall.

The cost to construct a new police station would be an estimated \$9 million to \$11 million, Dumont said, adding that was just a ball park figure.

“Operationally, we need to be next to the court. We max out at 40 prisoners (in the jail),” Jedrusik said. “We prob-

ably have not been without 40 prisoners in a long time. We're at the max with prisoners, no doubt.”

As part of the facility upgrades, Dumont said video surveillance and security card swipe improvements are included in the recommendations.

Wild noted that, earlier, Jedrusik identified \$1.2 million in improvements that were to be funded through capital improvement funds that haven't been spent.

Council wasn't asked to take any action regarding the proposal, Wild said, but work would be put out to bid to get firm cost figures.

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MILLER

Continued from Page A1

that time.

Eventually, the tabling motion was withdrawn, and Rowe offered a motion to appoint Miller. Monit cast the only vote against the appointment.

“I'd have voted no for any of the three (applicants). I didn't feel comfortable with the decision based on the interviews,” said Monit, who had

wanted more time to vet the applicants.

Miller won't take his council seat until the next regular meeting scheduled for Jan. 6. Miller will serve until the November election.

“I'm not nervous at all. It was always in the back of my mind to do something to give back to the community,” he said.

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CHARGED

Continued from Page A1

parole until July 2015. He served 20 years for second-degree murder and two years for felony firearm stemming from a 1991 homicide, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

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Bob and Myrna Payton of Romulus remember their grandson during the 18th annual worldwide candle lighting.



Westland residents Alivia Secord and grandmother Margaret Antio remember Justin Alan Antio.



Rico Morris (front) and his wife Chelsea (Taylor) remember a family member in Kellogg Park in Plymouth on Sunday.

ALWAYS REMEMBERED

Candlelight vigil honors children who died too soon

They came to mourn, to shed tears and to share laughs over those gone too soon. The Compassionate Friends' candle-lighting service Sunday evening in Plymouth drew dozens of people to Kellogg Park, where, with poetry, song and a "circle of light" echoed around the world, they remembered relatives and friends who died before their time.

It was the Livonia group's 18th annual worldwide candle lighting and also the 17th event in Plymouth.

The event included the reading of poems, playing of recorded music and a PowerPoint presentation of hundreds of names of the deceased, who were also remembered on ornaments that decorated TCF-sponsored Christmas trees in the park.

There were similar events Sunday, organizers said, at 7 p.m. local time in every time zone across the globe, adding up to a rotating 24-hour vigil.

Gail Lafferty of Livonia, an event organizer, said reaching out to others who are grieving helps them with their own mourning. Lafferty lost son Max, 18, the day after Christmas in 1995.

"The holidays are hard for us," Lafferty said. "People were there for me. ... This is kind of paying it forward."

Started in the United States in 1997 as a small Internet observance, the event has since swelled in numbers as word has spread throughout the world of the remembrance.

Starting in New Zealand, candles are lit at 7 p.m. local time. As candles burn down in one time zone, they are started in another, creating a virtual 24-hour wave of light.



Redford residents Jasmine Johnson and Chelsea Carradine come and light candles in memory of family members.

Christmas

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GARDEN CITY COP
CALLS

Vandalism

A security guard at Garden City Hospital reported finding graffiti at about 9 a.m. Dec. 12 on an interior stairwell of the medical building at 6255 N. Inkster Road.

Garden City Police were called to observe the damage made by black spray paint at the third-floor west stairwell.

It looked like the suspect or suspects were attempting to gain access to that floor. The police report indicated the lock that was broken off had already been disposed.

Stolen catalytic converters

Two Garden City residents reported that catalytic converters were stolen from their vehicles.

In one incident, reported Dec. 15, someone stole a \$400 catalytic converter from a 2002 Oldsmobile, which was parked overnight in front of a house in the 5800 block of Deering.

In a second incident, reported Dec. 15, someone stole a catalytic converter from a 2000 Pontiac Grand Am parked in front of the owner's home in the 28000 block of James.

Property damage

A car owner in the 30000 block of Pierce said that he was driving his 2013 Ford Escape on southbound Merriman near Windsor about 7:30 p.m. Dec. 14 when his vehicle was struck by a rock.

When the driver checked, he found damage to the molding on the passenger side.

A resident in the 6200 block of Lathers reported damage Dec. 14 to his Ford Explorer caused by a BB gun. He said that the rear window was shattered by the BB gun.

The vehicle had been parked on the north side of Elmwood.

Vehicle theft

A resident in the 5700 block of Gilman told police that someone stole his 2005 Ford Explorer on Dec. 13. He last saw the vehicle parked in his driveway about 10 p.m. Dec. 12.

By Sue Buck

WESTLAND COP CALLS

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 1300 block of Sharon told police that his 2000 Chevrolet Malibu was parked in the street Dec. 14. When he started the car Dec. 16, he discovered the catalytic converter was missing.

On Dec. 10, a resident in the 33000 block of Balmoral told police that someone stole the catalytic converter from his 2002 Pontiac Grand Am while it was parked in the street overnight.

A Garden City woman told police that after having dinner at Red Lobster, 5744 N. Wayne Road, Dec. 14 she started her vehicle and noticed it was loud. She found that the catalytic converter had been cut off her 2004 Chevrolet van.

Suspicious circumstances

Just after 2 a.m. Dec. 9, a Roscommon resident told police she was outside a

home in the 32000 block of Oscoda Court when she saw a man going through her parked car. She said she went directly inside and called 911.

The man was gone when police arrived. The officer noted that the dome light was on and it looked as if the car had been searched. The woman said the car had been left unlocked.

A resident at the address told police that a children's scooter was stolen from his vehicle, which had been parked in the driveway unlocked.

Larceny

A resident of an apartment at 36152 Hunter told police Dec. 9 that someone stole a UPS package delivered to his home Dec. 5. The package, containing four glasses valued at \$40, was tracked by his sister, the man said, but he wasn't home at the time it was delivered. Police talked with a neigh-

bor, who reported seeing an unknown man take the package from the doorstep.

Stolen keys

The keys to a 2000 Pontiac Grand Prix were reported stolen Dec. 9 after the car was left running in the parking lot of the Colonial Condominiums, 37574 S. Colonial Drive. The owner, a Westland woman, told police she was visiting family and left the car running to warm up.

After about 10 minutes, she said she returned to find the keys gone. She was heading for a locksmith to get the locks changed.

Vandalism

A resident in the 38000 block of Lori Lane told police Dec. 13 that someone threw eggs on the front of his house and shattered a window well cover. A front window was reported earlier to have damage from a BB hole but now someone had pressed against it causing it to shatter.

Larceny

A radar detector and a GPS unit, valued at \$230, were reported stolen from a vehicle parked unlocked in the 32000 block of Cheboygan Court on Dec. 14. The resident said he saw a man running from his vehicle at about 11 p.m. and discovered the thefts.

Vandalism

A resident in the 34000 block of Frances told police that on Dec. 15 at about 1 a.m. she heard her car alarm go off. Checking the car, she said there were pry marks on the passenger door but no entry was made to the car.

Hit and run

On Dec. 15, a resident of the River Bend Apartments, 31097 Warren Road, told police that someone had struck his car, damaging the front passenger side bumper and grill.

By LeAnne Rogers

WAYNE COP CALLS

Break-in

A resident of a condominium in the 3000 block of Riverside reported a series of thefts Dec. 9 that she thought might stem from her wallet being stolen last summer.

The woman said her wallet and identification had been stolen while she was shopping at Kroger in Westland on Aug. 30 but she hadn't reported the incident to police.

On Sept. 25, she said her lawn company found her wallet — not the one stolen from Kroger — discarded behind her residence. She said about \$250 cash, credit cards and identification were missing. The wallet had last been seen on the kitchen counter.

After that incident, the resident said she checked and found a hidden key was missing from a plant in front

of her home. She didn't report the incident to police.

Then on Oct. 9, she said someone entered her home while she was sleeping. She said she found the sliding glass door open and \$90 cash missing. She didn't make a report to police but said she changed the locks.

Then the resident said she was out of town for several weeks and returned Dec. 6. During that time, she said someone had pried open the lock box on her front door and taken the key. A 60-inch television and \$50 cash were missing. This time she made a report to police.

Larceny

A Lincoln Park man told police Dec. 9 that he left his vehicle parked at Wayne Tower, 35200 Sims, for about an hour. When he returned, he said his wallet was missing from the console. The

vehicle doors had been left unlocked.

Stolen vehicle

A 2008 Jeep Patriot, left running to warm up, was reported stolen Dec. 10 just after 8:30 p.m. from Collision Pro, 32444 Michigan Ave. The owner said he had gone back inside the building for about five minutes before he realized the vehicle was gone.

Larceny from a vehicle

On Dec. 12, a resident in the 4300 block of Myron told police that she had left her vehicle parked unlocked overnight. In the morning, she said she found the console and glove box open.

Checking further, she said two GPS units, four pairs of Skull Candy earphones and two cell phone chargers, valued at just under \$400, were missing. The resident also reported \$5 in cash was

taken.

Vandalism

The driver's side window and extended cab window on a 2006 GMC Sierra pickup truck parked in the 34000 block of Ash were reported shot out with a BB or pellet gun Dec. 12. The vehicle had been parked on the street overnight.

The officer noted one window had been shot once while the other had been shot twice. The damage was estimated at \$300.

Larceny

A red Toro snow blower valued at \$500 was reported stolen from a garage in the 38000 block of Laurenwood on Dec. 13. The owner told police the garage door is left open regularly and the snow blower was parked near the door.

By LeAnne Rogers

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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.

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Livonia school board extends superintendent's contract to 2018

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

The Livonia school board on Monday extended Superintendent Randy Liepa's contract by one year to June 30, 2018, but made no changes to his compensation package.

The 6-1 vote followed approval of Liepa's evaluation based on the Michigan Association of School Boards tool, for which he received a highly effective rating.

Liepa was also congratulated earlier in the meeting for being named Region 9 Superintendent of the Year for 2015 by

the Michigan Association of School Administrators. Region 9 encompasses the tri-county area.

"I think he's doing unbelievably," school board president Mark Johnson said, following the meeting. "We (board members) go to seminars, conferences, classes around the state for our professional development, and we continue to do that even though we're board certi-



Liepa

fied, and it never stops: When people say what district are you from and we say Livonia, they say, 'You people are the luckiest people around because of your superintendent.'"

Trustee Eileen McDonnell said at the meeting she voted no on the contract extension because there was a misunderstanding and she didn't know until she got her board packet over the weekend that the board would be extending his contract.

Vice President Colleen Burton said the board had discussed in closed

session extending the contract and that members had been given a copy of his contract three or four weeks ago.

Trustees Randy Roulier, Tammy Bonifield and Dan Centers said their recollection was the same as Burton's.

After the meeting, McDonnell said, "It was mentioned in closed session that some of the board members wanted to look at extending Dr. Liepa's contract but there was not a formal discussion amongst all the board members to do so. Placing the extension on the agenda attached

to his evaluation motion in my opinion was not the way to do this. I voted no because of this reason."

Johnson said there were no changes made to Liepa's compensation package. "We just didn't feel at this point in time, this was something we wanted to look into," he said.

Johnson said there is no specific time of year the board looks at Liepa's compensation but that the board wants to make sure it is commensurate with other superintendents' pay.

According to the MA-

SA, Liepa was recognized for "his strong, innovative and approachable leadership of Livonia Public Schools." The organization cites student achievement data that includes standardized test scores that are consistently above state averages and Liepa's leadership in piloting academic programs that ensure groups of students with specific needs are given the resources to reach their full academic potential.

Liepa's base salary remains at \$182,500. Liepa has been superintendent since 2003.

Fundraiser set to cover funeral costs of Westland boy hit by train

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A fundraiser is being organized to help cover funeral costs for a Westland youth killed by a train in Wayne.

Nicknamed Chew, Raymond Joseph Patton, 12, died Nov. 23 when he tried to cross the railroad tracks at Venoy with a train oncoming. Raymond continued onto the tracks and was struck while his friend stopped.

"I was kind of stunned. The day after the accident, I put out on social media to let me know about any fundraiser," said Buddy Shuh, a pastor at Merge Community Church, which meets at Westland John Glenn High School. "I heard nothing. We are a community and we should help."

Shuh was sought out by one of Raymond's teachers. Now Shuh and a group of volunteers are putting together a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for 5-6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4, at the



Raymond Patton

Westland Friendship Center. About \$1,500 has been raised toward the \$6,500 cost of the funeral, which Shuh said was handled at Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne at cost. "This family is in such a bad place, they have lost their son," Shuh said.

Head of the Michigan Tears Foundation Chapter, which provides financial and other support to families who have lost an infant, Shuh said parents often aren't prepared for the funeral expenses when they suddenly lose a child.

"We will accept dona-

tions at the door. We will have five or 10 baskets for a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle," Shuh said. "What we really need are food sponsors so we don't have to buy that."

The City of Westland is participating in the Compassionate City Initiative and immediately allowed use of the Friendship Center, Shuh said.

So far, other volunteers helping get the fundraiser organized are coming from Shuh's church and the Wayne-Westland Schools.

Raymond, who would have turned 13 on Dec. 28, lived in Norwayne. He is survived by his parents Margarete Turner and Raymond R. Patton; and siblings Raymona, Lovey, Derek, Lonnie, Kyle, Sabrina and Raymond James.

Anyone interested donating or helping with the fundraiser can contact Shuh at buddyshuh@me.com.

lr Rogers@hometownlife.com
734-883-9039
Twitter: @LRogersObserver

Pantry 4 Paws pet food assistance available for the holidays

With the holidays fast approaching and some families struggling to provide a Christmas for their children, Livonia-based Tail Waggers' 1990 would like the community to know that family pets can enjoy the holiday season by receiving help from its Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance Program.

The community is encouraged to help fill the Pantry by dropping off food and/or supplies for both dogs and cats to the Tail Waggers' office located at 28402 Five Mile Road at Harrison between Middlebelt and Inkster. The goal is to collect enough food so that dogs and cats in the community can have a little something special under the tree for them this holiday season. Both dog and cat treats are desperately needed as the supply has run extremely low. Gift cards to PetSmart, Petco, Target and Walmart are welcome.

The Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance Program gives assistance to



The Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance Program gives assistance to animals in need so that they can stay with the family they have grown to love.

animals in need so that they can stay with the family they have grown to love. Founder Laura Zain said, "The goal of the Pantry 4 Paws program is to help eliminate additional financial stress on a family during the holiday season and to ensure the animals of the community are being fed and not going to sleep hungry at night."

Local businesses are also encouraged to become a collection point for the Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance Pro-

gram along with an invitation to the area Scouts, church groups, youth groups, schools etc. that are in need of a special project. All collection points will be given a sign, personalized flier, collection bin and exposure on the Tail Waggers' 1990 website.

Families in need of pet food assistance can contact the Tail Waggers' office at 734-855-4077 or email them at tailwaggers1990@yahoo.com. While no income verification is necessary, the Pantry 4 Paws program does require that animals in the home are up-to-date on their vaccinations within a three-month period of starting the program. Tail Waggers' 1990 affordable vaccinations to make it simple for pet owners.

Financial contributions can be made through the website at tailwaggers1990.org or by mail to 28402 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48154. All financial contributions are tax-deductible.

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TOM BEAUDOIN
Garden City Hoses team member Nate Zuzga works his way to the goal at the game Saturday night.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Firefighter Tom Wincel and Police Officer Micah Hull pose for the puck drop by Garden City Mayor Randy Walker.



TOM BEAUDOIN
The Garden City Firefighters team pose with the traveling trophy after winning the hockey game in a shoot-out Saturday.

Garden City firefighters win back charity hockey trophy in Guns vs. Hoses game

By Sue Buck
Staff Writer

The Garden City Firefighters won the fourth annual Garden City Guns vs. Hoses Charity Hockey Game on Saturday at Garden City Ice Arena. "It went great," Firefighter Tom Wincel said. "The Fire Department won 5-4 in a shoot-out, evening the series 2-2. It was a very close game."

According to Wincel, the fire department jumped out quick, taking a 1-0 lead just a few minutes in the game. The score was 3-1 after the first period.

But the police came out hard and scored three goals quickly in the third period to take a 4-3 lead.

"It was a physical game," Wincel said. "With 55 seconds left in the period, the fire department pulled the goalie, leaving 6-on-5 and scored the tying goal, making it 4-4."

The tie-breaking rule is a shootout to determine the winner. Each team got five shooters — the fire department scored three goals and the police scored two.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Garden City Hockey Association and the Garden City Youth Athletic Association.



TOM BEAUDOIN
The Garden City Police line up for the National Anthem before the start of the fourth annual hockey game held in Garden City.

Looking for win

The Garden City firefighters were looking for a victory Saturday. The firefighters took back the trophy they won in the inaugural game.

The event included a basket raffle, 50/50 and an exhibition by the Garden City Mites hockey teams.

Fire Chief Catherine Harman was thrilled with her department's win.

"The event appeared

to be very well attended," she said. "The raffle highlight I thought was the hand-crafted wooden ladder truck made by a resident, Tom Blanchard. He gave it to the fire department and we absolutely loved it. The piece was amazing."

"He told us we could raffle it off, and after some discussion it was decided to add it to the raffle."

Harman said that she personally put about three quarters of her

raffle tickets into the bag for the ladder truck.

"The winner was a young boy," Harman said. "Captain Gary Gallo and his wife were in the stands and saw the boy carrying the ladder truck back to his seat. Captain Gallo said the look on his face and in his eyes said it all. Other spectators who saw the boy with the seat also mentioned the look on his face."

Big turnout

Police officer Bruce Shippe, who helped organize the event, pointed out that the fire department now has two wins and the police department two wins for this event.

"We had a big turnout again this year, and Tom and I are glad to see the event grow each year," Shippe said. "It was nice to see the GCYAA and the GCHA, the fire and police departments along with the community come together to help

these two organizations. Everyone enjoyed the event and we received a lot of compliments and great feedback."

Fire boots also were on display to collect donations. It also expanded to include the arena's Learn to Skate program, with firefighters and police officers on hand to help novice skaters.

Tickets were a donation at the door.

sbuck@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @SueSBuck



TOM BEAUDOIN
Xavier, Craig Jr. and Autumn Harman are ready to cheer on the firemen at the Guns vs. Hoses hockey game.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Hockey parent volunteers Solmon and Rita Foster sell T-shirts to raise money for the Squirrt league in Garden City before the big game.



TOM BEAUDOIN
Garden City High School Marching Band members, Spencer Williams and Justin Outlaw pump up the crowd during the hockey game.

Tips to get you through the holiday season

Sometimes you can find holiday tips in the least sought-after places. And since the holidays are so close that you can almost smell the eggnog, here are some tips provided by the United States government you might want to check out.

One tip that can't be mentioned too often is: buy safe gifts. According to the Consumer Product Safety Division, "choose age-appropriate toys and look for labels with safety advice. For young children, avoid toys with small parts, sharp edges and electric toys that can heat up. Always purchase safety gear in addition to sports-related gifts or ride-on toys." For a list of recalled toys and more safety hints, check out www.cpsc.gov.

No matter how much money you have in your bank account, give the gift of service. Whether it's reading to a child, visiting someone who is ill or home-bound or helping out at a soup kitchen, this is a tip that

is worth sharing all year long. To find local volunteer opportunities, visit www.serve.gov.

Whether decorating inside or out, keep your family protected. Remember to be safe and save money with LED Lights. "If you use strings of lights to decorate your home, consider switching to LED (light-emitting diode) holiday lights," recommends www.energy.gov. "LED lights are much cooler than incandescent bulbs and less likely to cause a fire. They also use 75 percent less energy and last 25 times longer, which translates to energy and cost savings." Keep Christmas trees well watered and away from any heat sources. And remember to extinguish all candles before leaving your house or going to sleep. Why not make this the time of year to check the batteries in your smoke detectors?

What list of holiday tips would be complete without a word or two about food? This one is no different. Pay attention to food portions and exercise. Although splurging during the

holidays tends to be a tradition with most folks, a few extra pounds can add up through the years and cause more long-term health problems than they are worth — yes, even that extra very thin slice of cheesecake. Find out how you can enjoy your must-have foods during the holidays and still stay on track by visiting www.choosemyplate.gov. Even if you asked Santa for a 10-pound weight loss, you still better plan on learning how to make exercise and physical activity a regular part of your day. (Santa has to look out for your best interest, too.)

No matter if the presents are wrapped, dinner is prepared, the tree is decorated and all seems right, perhaps the most often overlooked tip is: get through the holiday blues. Holidays often heighten stress and emotions and since everyone experiences these in the different ways, visit the National Institute of Mental Health at www.nimh.nih.gov and find out ways to work through them. And as the winter continues after the holidays, remember to keep in mind that win-

ter depression could be a sign of seasonal affective disorder (SAD), which may be caused by the lack of sunlight. Treatment for SAD is much like other forms of depression, but also involves light therapy.

For more tips on ways to ensure a happy holiday, visit www.usa.gov/citizen/yopics/happy-holidays.shtml or stop by the library. The Westland Public Library has a vast array of books, videos and audio books to keep you warm this winter, help you prepare that just-right dinner or provide last minute gift ideas. If you think print is passe, check out our website and learn how you can check out streaming videos, download books and magazines and much more. Our website is available 24/7, in case you find yourself up late, with library card in hand and listening for the sound of hoofs on your roof.

Highlighted Events

Friday Night Movie, 7 p.m. Dec. 19 — Join us for the Friday evening institution known as Friday Night Movies. Tonight's movie, *Jersey*

Boys, is the story of four young men from the wrong side of the tracks in New Jersey who came together to form the iconic 1960s rock group The Four Seasons. Rated R. Snacks and refreshments are provided on a donation basis. Each week also features a trivia contest with small prizes handed out after the movie. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. There will be no movie shown Friday, Dec. 26.

First and Second Grade Book Club, 2 p.m. Dec. 20 — The First and Second Grade Book Club meets once a month to discuss books and engage in other fun activities. December's selection is *Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen. This program includes a snack, so please indicate any food allergies your child may have upon sign up.

Holiday Concert: Tara Scott, 2 p.m. Dec. 21 — Take a break from the stress of the holidays and enjoy a fun sing-along. Librarian Tara Scott will lend her beautiful singing voice to some favorite holiday songs, with accompaniment by Kathy Scott and Mary Scott.

Teen Advisory Board, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 22, Grades 7-12 — Here's your chance to have a say in how the library runs. Give your opinion on what you'd like to see and do at the library. Pizza is served at every meeting.

Introduction to Library Databases, 7 p.m. Dec. 22 — Library databases contain a lot of information that you can't find for free on the Internet. Learn how to use our premium online resources to do research, prepare for an exam, look up a business or find auto repair information. This is our Internet Special Topics course for December. Prerequisite: Internet Basics or some experience using an internet browser. Register in advance at the Reference Desk.

The Library will close Dec. 24-26 in celebration of the Christmas holiday.

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

Lucky Dog's Karafotis immerses herself in community

By Greg Mullin
Staff Writer

A business owner, resident and tireless volunteer, Stacy Karafotis has become deeply ingrained in Garden City's supportive culture.

And she's had quite a busy year since opening Lucky Dog Luxury Daycare and Boarding at 5921 Middlebelt in November 2013.

After nearly 30 years as a veterinary technician — eight years at an animal emergency hospital in Chicago and 19 years at Plaza Veterinary Hospital in Farmington — and with twins on the way, Karafotis decided the time was right to take a leap and start a business, somewhere she could take the kids.

She started talking to Craig Poisson, a former coworker at the veterinary hospital who formerly owned 4-Legged Friends Daycare and Boarding in Livonia.

"One day I just said, 'Why don't we open a doggie daycare?' she said. 'Do you want to get back in business? And he said yes.'"

The decision of where to open the business was easy: Garden City.

"I think it's a great community," said Karafotis, who attended Garden City West High School and then Garden City High School after the school was combined with Garden City East High School during the 1982-1983 school year. "I lived here just about all of my life. And I feel that it's very family-oriented and we are very close-knit, so we try to support

each other. "Everybody here tries to shop Garden City. If you know someone that has a business and you went to school with them, then you try to support them. And I knew that it would be like that."

The business is just six blocks from Karafotis's home.

Kim Dold, interim director of the Garden City Downtown Development Authority, said the business has been a great asset to the downtown area.

"From what I understand, she's doing very well," Dold said. "Stacy is a very dynamic personality, and when she makes up her mind about doing something then you know she's out there and she does it."

That's for sure.

Garden finds new home

When Maxwell's Art and Treasures closed a couple years ago, the Garden City Garden Club's Gardenville was displaced.

"We were basically homeless," said Cheryl Partin, a Garden Club member for about 15 years. "There was no place else. There were different ideas about vacant lots. ... There just weren't really any other options."

Enter Karafotis, an advanced master gardener and the club's current president, who offered part of her business's parking lot to the group, which has about 25-30 members.

Partin says the club jumped at the opportunity.



Partners Craig Poisson, former owner of 4-Legged Friends Daycare and Boarding in Livonia, and Stacy Karafotis with some of their clients.

"We said, yes, of course it would be perfect, if we could do it," Partin said. "It was a win-win situation for everybody."

Helping young readers

In March, during National Reading Month, Karafotis reconfigured the store to create areas where youngsters could read to dogs. About 80 kids and 17 dogs participated in the three-hour event.

"They are service dogs with different service organizations," she said. "Kids, most with disabilities or just reading problems, got a cozy little corner — we took all the kennel doors off and we had different areas where we had blankets and pillows and the kids sat down and read a book to the dogs."

"The kids love it because dogs don't judge you, so you can mispronounce words or stutter or have a hard time and the dogs don't laugh at you."

Online rescues

With over 1,300 likes, Lucky Dog's Facebook page has become popular for pictures of cute pets. Karafotis says the page reaches 10,000-20,000 people a week.

But it's also become the go-to page when a local dog goes missing. Thanks to a universal microchip scanner, the staff can scan any pet's microchip.

"We've had a ton of people bring in lost pets here and we scan them," she said. "Then right away I take a picture and I post it on our Facebook page. Literally just in the last two months we have found the home of six lost dogs; one was in Livonia and the rest were in Garden City."

Karafotis also works with local authorities.

"Anytime there's a lost dog or a home fire, or anything — our police chief Bob Muery knows Stacy's number; our fire chief Cathy Harman knows Stacy's number," Partin said. "If there's a fire situation with pets and there's nowhere to take them, Stacy opens up Lucky Dog."

Recently, a Lucky Dog customer faced a \$3,000 bill for her dog's emergency surgery.

"I knew that the lady didn't have a lot of money, so we started the Lucky Dog Fund — all of our clients started putting money in," Karafotis said. "We were able to give \$300 that week."

Currently, Lucky Dog is conducting the People

and Pet Food Drive, which runs through Dec. 20.

Karafotis and Poisson plan to distribute the pet food to three local rescues and give the groceries to the food pantry at the Maplewood Community Center and First United Methodist Church of Garden City.

Karafotis says Poisson doesn't receive enough credit publicly for Lucky Dog's success.

"Craig has a pretty big following," Karafotis said. "He was the drummer in this real popular punk band called the

LUCKY DOG LUXURY DAYCARE AND BOARDING

Lucky Dog is open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at 5921 Middlebelt. For more information, call 734-261-PETS or visit lucky-doggardencity.com.

Trash Brats. A lot of people are star-struck when they come in and find out he's here."

Juggling act

Karafotis has also offered free nail trimmings and giveaways at the Garden City Flea Circus, won third place at the 2014 Garden City Chili Cook Off in October and hosted the Rev. Joan Christoffers for her annual Blessing of the Animals event in October.

"Stacy is awesome," Partin said. "To open up a business being as involved as she is, and to be doing all that she does with twins. Her business is accessible 24/7. She's got a great family and friend support team, but she's very energetic and very ambitious."

"I don't know how she does all that she does."

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STATE WAYNE OFFERS LUXURY SEATING WITH NO PRICE INCREASE

With all updates complete, the new and improved State Wayne Theatre is bustling with holiday moviegoers enjoying the true luxury of first-class seating — new power recline leather seats in every theater.

Some of the first customers to enjoy these important modern upgrades to an otherwise classic, historic movie house will be community groups using the re-grand opening for charity fundraising opportunities. In each case, Phoenix Theatres is donating the proceeds of every movie ticket back to the organizing group, each for their own charitable causes.

Westland John Glenn has been having a series of movie showings in which proceeds will go to the student body's efforts for the American Cancer Society. This evening (Dec. 18) is the last day. Saturday, Dec. 20, Champions of Wayne is having a similar fund raiser for the group's mission at Wayne Memorial High School.

Moviegoers who bring a school ID or print off the flier from the Phoenix Theatres website (www.phoenixmovies.net) will qualify for the donation back to their school cause.

Phoenix Theatres's renovation to every auditorium in the downtown four-screen State Wayne Theatre includes the most exciting feature — the replacement of every seat in the building with large, electric power, leather recliners. Each auditorium now features wall-to-wall plush carpeting, reconfigured aisle spacing to provide every guest with 6 feet of leg room, and new vastly increased digital picture sizes.

"We remain true to our mission at Phoenix Theatres of focusing our attention on making the customer experience the best we can offer, where every seat in the house is the first-class section," Phoenix Theatres owner Cory Jacobson said. "We have significantly upgraded our newest property, the State Wayne, where every guest gets



The marquee says it all about upgrades at the State Wayne Theatre in Wayne.

PHOENIX THEATRES

to watch their favorite films in plush recliners with power-lift footrests, better sight lines; and in a completely new environment coupled with fully updated digital picture and sound."

Phoenix Theatres owns and operates the theater at The Mall of Monroe and purchased the State Wayne Theatre building from the City of Wayne in mid-September. It also operates the theater at Laurel Park Place in Livonia, which will become the company's third theater to install plush power-reclining seats by the end of December 2014.

"Phoenix Theatres is currently the only theater that is not raising prices for the luxury of reclining while experiencing the latest Hollywood releases — all part of our effort to maximize customer comfort, convenience

and value. We hope to be the finest movie-going value anyone can find anywhere in Michigan," Jacobson said.

The new seating design has the following features:

» Loveseat pods for two, with a flip-up middle armrest and drink holders.

» Power recline feature for virtually limitless relaxing positions at the touch of a button.

» Designed for cozy, luxurious comfort and lumbar support.

While the theater will provide the latest in comfort and technology for customers, the classic features of the State Wayne architecture and style remain intact.

"Without question, the classic wrap around marquee with its 1,152 lamps is the character of

the theater and one of the most unique historical marquees in the country — it's part of what drew us to Wayne in the first place," Jacobson said. "I personally have a great love for the classic movie theaters across America and the State Wayne is one of the finest in Michigan, a real gem right here in our own backyard."

Phoenix Theatres was named the 2013 Business of the Year by the Wayne Chamber of Commerce.

Phoenix Theatres opened its first Detroit-area theater in 2001 and currently operates 10 screens at Laurel Park Place in Livonia, 8 screens at the Mall of Monroe in Monroe and 4 at State-Wayne.

For more information, visit www.phoenixmovies.net.



Wayne Main Street: 2014 Year in Review

As 2014 comes to a close, it is time to reflect on the accomplishments of the Wayne Main Street program in its first year. Volunteers have been hard at work laying a strong foundation for our program. Highlights of the past year include:

» Documenting over 700 volunteer hours.

» Partnering with Growing Hope & Wayne Chamber of Commerce for weekly presence at Wayne Farmer's Market.

» Tracking over \$120,000 of private investments on exterior building renovations in Main Street District.

» Awarding three downtown building owners with complimentary Design Services from Michigan Main Street Center.

» Welcoming five new businesses that created approximately 80 new jobs downtown.

» New monthly e-newsletters for both community members and business/building owners.

» Successful events, including Rubber Duck Race at Rouge-A-Palooza and the Downtown Wayne Scarecrow Show.

» Obtaining two graduate student Interns from Eastern Michigan University's Historic Preservation Program.

» Small Business Saturday retail event that resulted in new customers and an additional \$3,000 in sales for holiday shopping in Downtown Wayne.

Upcoming events and services include:

» General Meeting Lunch & Learn — Interested in knowing who volunteers on Wayne Main Street committees? Here is your chance to meet some fellow community members and learn about the progress that they've been making! Bring your own sack lunch and enthusiasm. Public is welcome.

When: noon Thursday, Jan. 15.

Where: Community Living Services, 35425 W. Michigan Ave.

» Partner Roundtable Meeting — Wayne Main Street invites representatives from service organizations and churches in Wayne for the opportunity to share information about the Wayne Main Street Program and obtain information about special events in 2015 to include on the Downtown Event Calendar.

When: 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22

Where: Wayne Activity and Banquet Center, 35000 Sims St.

Lindsey Wooten is executive director of Wayne's Michigan Main Street program. Contact her at 734-629-6822 or director@downtownwayne.org



By Lindsey Wooten
GUEST COLUMNIST

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Gubernatorial appointment

Gov. Rick Snyder announced the appointments of Joe Tasma of Westland, Grace Lee of Bloomfield Hills and Mahima Mahadevan of Canton to the Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission.

The 21-member commission, housed in the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, advances the full and equal participation of Asian Pacific Americans in Michigan.

"Grace, Mahima and Joe are talented and experienced appointees and I look forward to the work they will do on this commission," Snyder said.

Members will serve four-year terms to expire Nov. 30, 2018. Their appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Premier agency

As a business leader and involved citizen in Garden City, the Allstate agency of Paula Schembri has been designated an Allstate Premier Agency for 2014.

The Allstate Premier Agency designation is bestowed on less than 48 percent of Allstate's nearly 10,000 agency owners across the country. This designation is being presented to Allstate agency owner Paula Schembri for her outstanding business performance and commitment to putting customers at the center of her agency's work.

"The Premier Agency designation is not just about successful business results," said Gary Heslinga, Michigan sales leader. "The honor also demonstrates commitment in being accessible to customers and using her knowledge to help ensure customers have the insurance products they need to protect them-

selves and their family."

Schembri's agency is at 29207 Ford in Garden City. Contact her at 734-427-6020.

New owners

Minneapolis-based Timberland Partners has purchased Turtle Cove Apartments in Westland. The 192-unit complex is located near I-275 and I-96. It offers one-, two- and three-bedroom homes with washer/dryer connections, walk-in closets, gas ranges, refrigerators with ice makers and private patios or balconies. Community amenities include an outdoor swimming pool, barbecue and picnic areas and a children's playground. The clubhouse features a coffee bar and free Wi-Fi.

For more information, go to www.turtlecoveapartments.com. Timberland Partners currently owns over 8,600 apartment units and 550,000 square feet of commercial property in 11 states.

Season of pancakes

The holiday season has begun, and what better way to start it than by enjoying a meal at your local IHOP restaurant, which has once again introduced special holiday signature pancakes and traditional favorites along with a sweet new desert.

Now through Jan. 1, IHOP restaurants will be offering guests their version of a season's greeting with three holiday hotcakes: new Caramel Bon Bon Pancakes, Pumpkin Cheesecake Pancakes and Raspberry White Chocolate Chip Pancakes.

And once again, IHOP restaurants will feature traditional and craveable holiday dinners and dessert.

IHOP restaurants can be found at 24140 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, and 14200 Middlebelt, north of I-96, in Livonia.

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Local woman gets free furnace for Christmas

Christmas came a little early for Carol Vettese, 12 days early to be exact. The Livonia resident received a new furnace — free of charge — thanks to the collaborative efforts from members of the Southeast Michigan Chapter of the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (SEMIACCA).

Vettese was paid a visit for a free furnace inspection during SEMIACCA's 28th annual Al Keats Day — Project Senior Heat on Dec. 6 by technicians from Slasor Heating & Cooling of Livonia. The technicians concluded that her 25-year-old furnace, which hadn't worked in over a year, needed to be replaced. And that's just what they did on the following Saturday.

Thanks to the furnace donation from Williams Distributing of Grand Rapids, which has branches in Metro Detroit, and the donated labor from Slasor co-owner Craig Jones and two of his technicians, Vettese has moved out of her confined basement space that she shared with her three dogs and a cat back into her own upstairs bedroom. She had been running small electric space heaters to stay warm.

"I've lived in this house for 17 years," Vettese said. "I've tried to keep up with repairs but my rheumatoid arthritis has had a big effect on my health. I've been in the basement with a curtain over the stairs to keep the heat in." Besides her physical ailment, other setbacks have left her with the lack of resources to replace the furnace.

Barbara Fahrenkrug, support coordinator for The Senior Alliance, noticed the lack of heat when she had recently visited Vettese to discuss home cleaning services. Fahrenkrug put Vettese in touch with the Area Agency on Aging, who has recommended senior citizen homeowners for participation in SEMIACCA's Al Keats Day.

Slasor's Jones said it was a no-brainer to replace the furnace. "It was pretty much shot," he said. Jones, technicians Kory Kerkhof and Andrew McLean spent 3 1/2 hours installing the new high-efficiency Goodman furnace and the necessary ancillary items to once again bring heat to the chilly home on the brink of the cold winter season.

"I wouldn't have known about this program if it weren't for Barbara and the Senior Alliance," Vettese said. "Now it feels like Christmas for me."

Vettese hugged each Slasor worker as they headed out the door in the early afternoon — grateful for something that most homeowners take for granted: heat.

SEMIACCA completed 56 service calls on Dec. 6 and planned to install a total of five new furnaces, thanks to Williams Distributing and several other SEMIACCA contractor members. Senior citizens who would like to sign up for this free service next year are encouraged to contact the Area Agency on Aging in their communities.

For more information on SEMIACCA, visit www.semiacca.org.



Kory Kerkhof, left, and Craig Jones carry out the old furnace.



As Westland Mayor William Wild makes remarks at the grand opening, staff from Air Time Trampoline Game Park show off their skills using the equipment.

Trampoline, tech businesses celebrate openings

Two new businesses, Online Tech Data Center and Air Time Trampoline and Game Park, have officially opened their doors in Westland.

"These grand openings are a great way to close out a strong year of business growth in Westland," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "Our city's business-friendly approach, our great residents and the central location are all contributing factors as to why businesses large and small want to come to our All-American City."

Online Tech, a Michigan-based company, is investing \$10 million into its new Westland Data Center, which is its fourth in Michigan and its fifth nationwide. The company provides businesses with secure, compliant cloud computing and off-site backup and

disaster recovery services.

Online Tech opened its doors 20 years ago and serves businesses of all sizes, from community start-ups to Fortune 500s. Online Tech will create at least 15 jobs by opening their location in Westland.

Air Time Trampoline Game Park is another Michigan-based company with two other locations in Troy and Sterling Heights. The company provides trampoline-based games and activities for customers of all ages, from children's groups and family events, to other groups and organizations looking to have a fun, out-of-the-ordinary event.

Their \$2 million investment into their Westland location on Warren Road east of Newburgh, will also create 75 jobs.

The Community Calendar runs in the Observer as space permits. Nonprofit groups and community organizations are welcome to submit news of upcoming events. Include a daytime telephone number and contact person. Email address is: ksmith@hometownlife.com.

SWING INTO SERVICE FOR OUR SOLDIERS

Time/date: 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19.

Location: VisTaTech Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia.

Details: Phi Theta Kappa of Schoolcraft College presents a night of swing dancing with live entertainment from the 15-piece Rhythm Society Orchestra to support Disabled American Veterans. The event is open to the public. Pre-sale tickets are \$15, at the door, \$20. To purchase by credit card, call 734-462-4422. Additional donations welcome.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Time/date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20.

Location: Sgt. Romanowski VFW Post, 28945 Joy Road, Westland.

Details: Post members, friends and supporters are invited to a holiday celebration. Cost is \$10 per person and includes hors d'oeuvres and snacks, music by DJ Haley's Comet and cash bar. Bring a dish to pass. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Contact: Call John at 313-719-2748 or the post at 734-525-9353.

LIVING NATIVITY

Time/date: 6-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 20-21.

Location: Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

Details: Come to Memorial Church of Christ to celebrate the true Reason for the Season by visiting a live Christmas nativity. Set up on Memorial's front lawn will be the stable scene from Bethlehem where Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus, wise men, shepherds, angels and live animals will re-create the birth of the Savior. Christmas carolers will sing and cookies and cocoa will be served.

TOYS FOR TOTS BENEFIT SQUARE DANCE

Time/date: 2:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21.

Location: Civic Center Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia.

Details: For experienced square dancers, this benefit costs \$10 per person (or one unwrapped toy) with everything being collected that day going to Toys for Tots. Infant, toddler and preschool toys are always needed.

Contact: 734-637-8819 or 734-236-4735.

YOUTH SYMPHONY CONCERT

Time/date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21.

Location: Thurston High School, 26255 Schoolcraft, Redford.

Details: The Livonia Youth Symphony Orchestras of Michigan invites the public to its Christmas concert. Tickets are \$7 at the door, \$3 for senior citizens. The LYSO is a nonprofit youth organization celebrating its 55th year in Livonia. It is comprised of school-age string players, winds, brass and percussionists.

Contact: daveteds@aol.com.

HOLY LAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Time/date: 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21.

Location: Basilica of St. Mary, 18200 Merriman Road, Livonia.

Details: Carols and hymns for the Nativity of Our Lord. Concert proceeds benefit the International Orthodox Christian Charities.

Contact: 734-422-0010.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Time/date: 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21.

Location: VFW Hall, 31611 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Details: Michigan Classic Cards will hold a euchre party/progressive tournament (10 rounds) paying out more than \$700 in prizes. Includes dinner, party favors, pizza and champagne toast. Cost is \$32 before Dec. 19, \$40 after. Money from 50-50 tickets goes to the group's charity, Help's on the Way (<http://helpsontheway.org>).

Contact: 734-673-2225.

NEW YEAR'S EVE EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

Time/date: Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; game starts at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31.

Location: VFW Hall, 31611 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Details: Michigan Classic Cards will hold a euchre party/progressive tournament (10 rounds) paying out more than \$700 in prizes. Includes dinner, party favors, pizza and champagne toast. Cost is \$32 before Dec. 19, \$40 after. Money from 50-50 tickets goes to the group's charity, Help's on the Way (<http://helpsontheway.org>).

Contact: 734-673-2225.

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OUR VIEWS

Don't take holiday drinks on the road

We say the same thing every year about this time, and we always hope someone's paying attention: If you celebrate this holiday season with a drink in your hand, don't take it on the road.

We join with voices from organizations like Mothers Against Drunk Driving and local law enforcement agencies — but is anyone listening?

When Mothers Against Drunk Drivers launched their red ribbon campaign in 1984, 897 lives were lost on Michigan roads as a result of crashes involving alcohol (or 59 percent of all traffic fatalities). That number has dropped dramatically over the years, but, as we see it, one alcohol-related death is one death too many.

In Michigan, a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or greater is the level at which a driver is considered legally intoxicated. According to MADD, drunk driving fatalities with a .08 BAC or higher represented 28 percent (259) of all total traffic deaths in Michigan in 2012. There was a total of 5,471 alcohol-related crash injuries and 10,014 alcohol-related crashes in which the BAC was .01 or higher. The taxpayer subsidy of drunken driving fatalities was \$1.3 billion.

According to MADD, drunk driving fatalities with a .08 BAC or higher represented 28 percent (259) of all total traffic deaths in Michigan in 2012.

Predictably, driving danger is higher than average during holiday periods. The U.S. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism reports that 40 percent of traffic-related deaths during Christmas and New Year's involve drunk drivers.

This week police agencies around the country have launched the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over." Due to the increase in drunk driving-related fatalities around the holidays each year, law enforcement agencies will be out in force through Jan. 1 actively searching for drunk drivers.

The facts are grim: In December 2012 there were 830 people killed in crashes involving at least one driver or motorcycle operator with a BAC of .08 or higher; 26 of those deaths occurred on Christmas Day. On average, a third (31 percent) of all crash fatalities in America involves drunk driving. But on Christmas day 2012, the percentage jumped to 36 percent.

You think it can't happen to you, of course. You know it can't, because you're not a drunk driver. But consider this: there is the same amount of alcohol in one regular beer (12 ounces, 5 percent alcohol), one glass of wine (5 ounces, 12 percent alcohol), one glass of fortified wine (3 ounces, 20 percent alcohol) and one shot of spirits (1.5 ounces, 40 percent alcohol).

Four drinks will elevate blood-alcohol level of a 160-pound man to 0.09, which is legally drunk in Michigan. That's four 12-ounce beers, glasses of wine or four shots of hard liquor. A 140-pound woman hits the same level with just three drinks.

With a 0.02-0.03 BAC, you could experience a loss of coordination, feel a slight euphoria and loss of shyness, and be mildly relaxed and maybe a little light headed. With a 0.04-0.06 BAC, there may be some minor impairment of reasoning and memory, a lowering of caution. Your behavior may become exaggerated and emotions intensified.

With a 0.07-0.09 BAC, you will probably believe that you are functioning better than you really are. There will be slight impairment of balance, speech, vision, reaction time and hearing. Your judgment and self-control are reduced and caution, reason and memory are impaired.

It's the holidays, and we're not saying adults shouldn't drink. By all means celebrate the holidays; those who choose to drink should drink responsibly, and don't drive after you've been drinking.

And we'll keep saying it until we're sure everybody's listening.



The National Highway and Traffic Administration and local law enforcement agencies are asking holiday revelers to "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over."

LETTERS

Thanks for editorial

I just want to thank you for your "Our Views" article on "Family caregivers are our unsung heroes" in the Opinion page of the Nov. 20 edition of the *Observer*.

I personally appreciate the recognition, as I am a registered nurse by profession and have been a caregiver for most of my adult life as a nurse, mother, daughter and niece and can honestly say I have experienced the situations discussed in your article.

I am part of the Michigan family caregivers who provide 1.4 billion hours of unpaid care each year. You don't expect payment, because what you are doing is out of love and concern, but the reality is that this does take a toll and does cause significant stress and is financially straining on families attempting to maintain the ability of loved ones to remain in their own home while providing care and support for their own family.

I am grateful that AARP is attempting to address this issue with the CARE legislation, however, in addition to what they are recommending, more needs to be done both on a state level and national level. Expanding the Family Medical Leave to extend to all employment statuses should be considered or an elder care tax credit. Perhaps this could help lessen the financial strain caused by job loss and salary reduction as we attempt to care for our loved ones. The care we provide helps to keep aging loved ones in their homes and hopefully prevents more costly alternative care, which would be more taxing on the already taxed health care industry.

Thank you *Observer* for your kind recognition of the 42 million Americans who are trying to do the right thing for one day we will be in that same situation requiring assistance as we head into old age ourselves.

Donna Ruemenapp
Livonia

Safe holiday travel

Before packing up the car to head home for the holidays, make sure your vehicle is ready for the journey. Conducting a thorough vehicle inspection will help avoid the inconvenience and potential safety hazards of breaking down miles away from home.

The nonprofit Car Care Council recommends a check of the following, often overlooked, items: tires and tire pressure, brakes, hoses and belts, air filters, wipers, exterior and interior lighting, and fluid levels, including engine oil, windshield washer solvent and antifreeze/coolant. A pre-trip inspection provides the opportunity to have service repairs made at home by your own trusted technician who knows the vehicle.

The council also recommends that drivers keep important telephone numbers in their cell phone or glove box in case of a breakdown or travel emergency. Vehicles should have a roadside

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We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:
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emergency kit that includes items such as a first-aid kit, tire-changing jack, tire pressure gauge, jumper cables, flashlight and blanket.

Motorists can order a free copy of the recently updated 80-page Car Care Guide for the glove box at www.carcare.org/car-care-guide.

Rich White
Executive Director
Car Care Council

Bill promotes tolerance, diversity

Last month, as Thanksgiving approached, national attention fell upon Fort Lauderdale, Fla., when two pastors and a 90-year-old friend were charged and arrested for feeding the town's homeless population. The two, the police alleged, violated the town ordinance that effectively prohibited their act of charity. The previous month, in Houston, a group of ministers were told by the city council they would have their sermons subpoenaed to ensure their language would not violate a recently passed ordinance. Several years ago, tragedy struck in Clinton County, Mich., when a young man died in a car accident. The family, Jewish Orthodox, were outraged when the county medical examiner performed an autopsy despite the religious objections of the family.

These examples of religious infringement in Michigan and elsewhere indicate, regrettably, how citizens are witnessing their First Amendment civil liberty rights eroded by some sectors of society and government. In Michigan, an effort is underway to pass legislation that would address the problem. The measure, called the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), is modeled after a federal bill sponsored by U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer, passed by Congress near unanimously, and signed into law by President Clinton in 1993. Some 19 states have gone on to pass similar versions after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the policy did not apply to the states. Since that time, the court has ruled on at least two occasions that the federal RFRA law is constitutional.

When the federal law passed in 1993, it was supported by a

wide breadth of religious and civil liberty organizations, including the American Jewish Congress and the American Civil Liberties Union. Today, the ACLU is citing RFRA in its defense of a Sikh man in New York State who was told he could not join the university ROTC unless he shaved his beard. The intent of the RFRA policy is to ensure constitutional religious liberty rights are not violated. The federal law, and similar state versions, forbid government from placing a substantial burden on someone's sincerely held religious beliefs unless there is a compelling governmental reason to do so.

Yet despite more than 20 years of federal statute, and numerous years of similar state laws, opponents of the proposed Michigan law have sought to mock the legislation by presenting wild hypotheticals and misinformation of how RFRA could deny services or emergency care to classes of persons. Federal law is clear: emergency care cannot be denied to any person. These efforts are clearly intended to thwart religious diversity and railroad the proposed law from a public relations perspective. One would be hard pressed to find a case where a defendant was allowed to break local, state or federal criminal laws citing RFRA as a defense.

Tom Hickson
Vice President, Public Policy and
Advocacy
Michigan Catholic Conference

Constitutional powers

Please call and write your U.S. Senators and Congressmen and request that they vote to sue and impeach President Obama on grounds of over-reaching his authority as president. Mr. Obama was elected president, not dictator or king. He says that the Constitution gives him power to "go it alone."

I can tell you where the Constitution says the president does not have that power: Article 1, section 8 defines ("enumerates") all of the powers that the federal government, including the president or Congress, has.

The 10th Amendment then says that if a power is not enumerated in Article 1, section 8, the Federal government does not have that power. "Any power not expressly enumerated in the Article 1, section 8 does not belong to the federal government, but is reserved to the States and the people."

"Executive orders," which is what Obama is using to bypass both Congress and the will of the American people, are not an enumerated power granted to the federal government (including the president) by the Constitution. In fact, the term "Executive Order" is not used anywhere in the Constitution. If the president can pass laws by writing an executive order, then Congress serves no useful purpose.

Gerald N. Wiggins
South Lyon

GUEST COLUMN

No more excuses, let's fix our roads

Our state's economy is recovering, people are moving back to Michigan and our small businesses continue to grow and create more jobs.

But we have a glaring problem that we have waited too long to address. Michigan's roads continue to worsen every day that we fail to pass a comprehensive long-term solution to improve our roads.

No more excuses. We need more money to fix the roads.

It's a long-running joke among Michiganders that when you take a family trip and you're driving south, you don't need a "Welcome to Ohio" sign to know when you've crossed the state line — you can just tell because the roads are suddenly smooth.

Why is it that Ohio seems to have so much better roads than Michigan? Are they just designing better roads? No. It's because Ohio, as well as every other state in the country, invests more per capita in road funding every year than Michigan does.

The joke isn't funny anymore. The average Michigander pays \$539 annually in additional vehicle repairs because of our poor roads. We've been under-investing in Michigan's infrastructure for decades. Today, Michigan ranks dead last in the



Mike Nystrom
GUEST COLUMNIST

United States in per capita spending on infrastructure. That's unacceptable for the state that's known for putting the world on wheels.

And the roads will only get worse without a road-funding solution. If we choose to do nothing — again — eventually we will need to completely reconstruct every single road in the state, costing us almost 10 times as much as it costs to maintain them now. In fact, back in 2004, the cost of returning all of Michigan's roads to "good" condition was \$3.68 billion.

By 2011, because we chose not to fix our roads, the cost had ballooned to \$11.5 billion. Every day we wait, it becomes more and more expensive to fix Michigan's roads.

If we choose to invest more in our roads today, we would actually save money in the long run. For every dollar invested in maintaining our roads and bridges, we save at least \$6 in reconstruction costs.

For too long, we've used Band-Aids to fix our roads, but that is not an acceptable answer

anymore. Some 48 percent of major roads in Michigan's largest cities are in poor or mediocre condition; 27 percent of Michigan bridges are in need of repair, improvement or replacement.

Michigan families deserve safer and more reliable roads and it's time we take action.

Passing Gov. Rick Snyder's plan and fixing the roads needs to be a top priority for Michigan's Legislature before the end of the year. If we pass the bill to fix the roads, we'll create more and better jobs, save money and save lives.

We'll either pay now or pay more later. We've already waited too long. As we continue the comeback of Michigan, increased funding for roads and bridges is critical to building and maintaining a 21st century road system that will meet the demands of Michigan's growing economy.

Every Michigander deserves better infrastructure and needs to call or email their state representative and encourage them to support Gov. Snyder's plan to enact a comprehensive and long-term solution to fix Michigan's roads.

Mike Nystrom is executive vice president of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association.

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BOYS HOCKEY

Monendo helps Patriots tie Spartans 1-1

Senior goal-tender turns away 57 Stevenson shots

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The big guy protecting the goal crease Friday night for Livonia Franklin's hockey team was anything but a "Welcome" Matt as far as Livonia Stevenson was concerned.

Patriots senior goal-tender Matt Monendo turned in a performance to remember as he

stymied 57 shots to help Franklin earn a 1-1 tie against the state-ranked Spartans in a spirited encounter at Eddie Edgar Arena.

Stevenson net-minder Andrew Rozenbaum was equally effective as Monendo, but he wasn't nearly as busy, stopping just 15 Patriot pucks.

The result left Franklin with a 3-3-1 record while Stevenson's mark heading into the weekend was 5-2-1.

The first period ended with a scoreless draw even though the Spartans outshot their cross-town foes by a 22-5 margin.

The Patriots seized a 1-0 lead at the 5:43 mark of the second

period when Brendan Whitney converted a short-handed break-away opportunity thanks to helpers provided by Chase Wallis and Justin Makowski.

Stevenson knotted the game at 1-1 approximately seven minutes later when Alex DeFlorio flicked home a goal following chaotic scramble in front of the goal crease. Mick Sinclair picked up an assist on the equalizer.

Stevenson outshot Franklin 21-6 during the second 17-minute stanza.

The Patriots had a power-play opportunity over the final 70 seconds of the game, but

couldn't beat Rozenbaum.

"Our guys played their hearts out," said Franklin head coach Dennis Gagnon. "Stevenson is one of the top programs in the state, with an outstanding coaching staff, and a talented and deep team."

"Even though they outshot us by a wide margin, I was very happy with our 'D'-zone coverage and our ability to keep a lot of their shots out of the high-percentage scoring area. It was a great week for Franklin hockey and I'm thrilled for our players."

ewright@hometownlife.com

Franklin hoops tourney

A talent-laden field is set to square off in next week's Livonia Franklin Boys Basketball 2014 Holiday Tournament.

In Monday's opener set to tip off at 5:30 p.m. in the Patriots' gymnasium, Redford Thurston will match up with Salem. In the 7 p.m. nightcap, the host Patriots will take on Walled Lake Western.

The winners of Monday's contests will play Tuesday at 7 p.m. for the championship. The losers of Monday's games will play for third place in Tuesday's 5:30 p.m. game.

PREP PROFILE

Hudgens is Thurston's man of 'steal'

Senior guard is a threat at both ends of court

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

If you're a point guard bringing the ball up court against Redford Thurston's boys basketball team, and Rickey Hudgens is anywhere close to one of your passing lanes, you're better off taking a detour.

Armed with incredible defensive instincts and a passion to defend, Hudgens turns soft passes into easy transition points for the Eagles, who have been fortified by the senior shooting guard's skills for the past three seasons.

Rarely does a Thurston game unfold in which Hudgens doesn't pile up multiple thefts - and if foes aren't careful, he'll register six like he did Friday night against Livonia Stevenson.

"I think the key to Rickey's defense is that he understands the game so well and he's usually in great position to get steals," said Thurston head coach Brian Bates. "He works hard at it, too, which helps. He's a really good offensive player, too. He can really shoot the ball."

A three-year varsity starter, Hudgens said instincts and awareness are critical.

"I read the ball-handler's eyes and his hands," he said. "Most of my steals come when I read where they're going with the ball and I fill the passing lanes."

"I love playing defense. For me, defense is offense because I can get some easy transition baskets off steals."

Hudgens has gotten a rush out of playing hoops since his first-organized experience as a fourth-grader playing for an AAU team. This past summer, he played for the Michigan Playmakers AAU team, which competed in big-time tournaments in Indianapolis and Las Vegas.

"I love basketball because it gives me a chance to express myself," said Hudgens, who listed Kevin Durant and Kobe Bryant as his favorite NBA players to watch. "Playing against really good com-

See HUDGENS, Page B3



Redford Thurston senior Rickey Hudgens is a three-year varsity player who excels at both ends of the court.

BOYS BASKETBALL



Westland John Glenn senior post player Mike Edwards attacks the basket during Tuesday night's 82-54 victory over Livonia Stevenson.

MIKE'D UP

Crowd-pleasing Edwards powers John Glenn to dazzling debut over Livonia Stevenson

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

One thing became crystal clear Tuesday night during Westland John Glenn's season-opening 82-54 triumph over Livonia Stevenson: The backboards and rims in the Rockets' gym are well-constructed, otherwise they wouldn't have survived the dunking assault delivered by 6-foot-10 senior high-riser Mike Edwards.

With a few Division 1 college basketball coaches in the stands, including one gentleman representing Texas Christian University and another from Boston College, Edwards put on a show, throwing down four first-half slams on the way to a 14-point night.

John Glenn senior guard Mychael Bradley also had a lot to do with the dazzling debut of new Rockets head coach Rodd Watts as he contributed 19 points, eight rebounds and four steals.

Edwards didn't block a ton of shots, but that's only because the Spartans wisely didn't venture too close to his 747-esque wingspan.

"I like how we came out tonight and prepared ourselves during warm-ups, then played all the way through once the game started," said Edwards, who also generated six rebounds and three steals. "I love coach Watts' style. I have more options on the court; more chances to score the ball."

Edwards' first of three first-quarter jams came under two minutes in when he threw down a feed from Bradley, who he's been playing with since the two were in sixth grade.

"I think it hypes everybody up when I can do that," said Edwards. "It seems to give ev-



Livonia Stevenson's Nick Hitchcock puts up a soft left-handed hook shot over John Glenn's Daijon Parker.

erybody more energy to play harder."

The Spartans did a better job of containing Edwards in the second quarter when he was held scoreless, due in part to time spent on the bench with three fouls.

"First of all, when you play somebody who's that tall, you have to have a guy who is willing to contend with him," said Stevenson head coach Kareem Smartt. "He had a couple dunks

See DAZZLING, Page B3

MU women cagers win

Sophomore Lizzy Otten came off the bench to score nine points Saturday as host Madonna University rallied from a nine-point halftime deficit to beat Lourdes University, 62-55, in Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference action.

The Crusaders trailed 32-23 at intermission before taking the lead for keeps, 35-34, on a layup by Otten with 14:59 left.

Junior guard Michele Hayes (Inkster/Southfield-Lathrup) hit only 6-of-19 shots from the floor, including 1-of-7 free throws, but led MU in scoring with 13 points.

Freshman Lindsey Hernden added 12 points as the Crusaders shot 20-of-58 from the floor (34.5), including just 3-of-20 from three-point range.

Senior forward Rachel Melcher pulled down a game-best 13 rebounds and added five assists as MU improved to 7-4 overall and 6-1 in the WHAC.

Lourdes rallies to clip MU men

Zach Steinmetz scored a game-high 24 points and pulled down nine rebounds as Lourdes (9-3, 5-2) rallied late for a 63-61 WHAC men's basketball victory Saturday over host Madonna (4-8, 2-5).

Aaron Ashley added 18 points, while Brillon Pritchett came off the bench to add 10 for the Grey Wolves, who led 35-31 at half-time.

MU got a team-high 18 points from sophomore point-guard Khalil Malone, while Jeff Schmitz and Donald Owens each added nine.

The Crusaders trailed by as many as 10 with 1:50 left in the opening half before going up by five with 6:10 remaining in the game.

The Crusaders made 18-of-39 shots from the floor (46.2 percent) and 18-of-27 free throws (66.7 percent). Madonna was outrebounded 33-19.

MU returns to action Tuesday when it hosts the two-day Best Western Crusader Classic facing Finlandia (Wis.). Game time is 7 p.m. The Crusaders will then meet Goshen (Ind.) College beginning 3 p.m. Wednesday at home.

Thurston loaded with talent

Veteran coach Bates impressed by team's hustle, intensity

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

There's a lot to like about the 2014-15 Redford Thurston boys basketball team — both on and off the court. "This is a very cohesive team and a great group of guys," said Eagles head coach Brian Bates, whose teams have captured back-to-back Class A district titles. "They get along well, they work hard and they share the ball. I enjoy coming to practice every day." Already 2-0 (through Friday night's victory over Livonia Stevenson), the Eagles have dis-

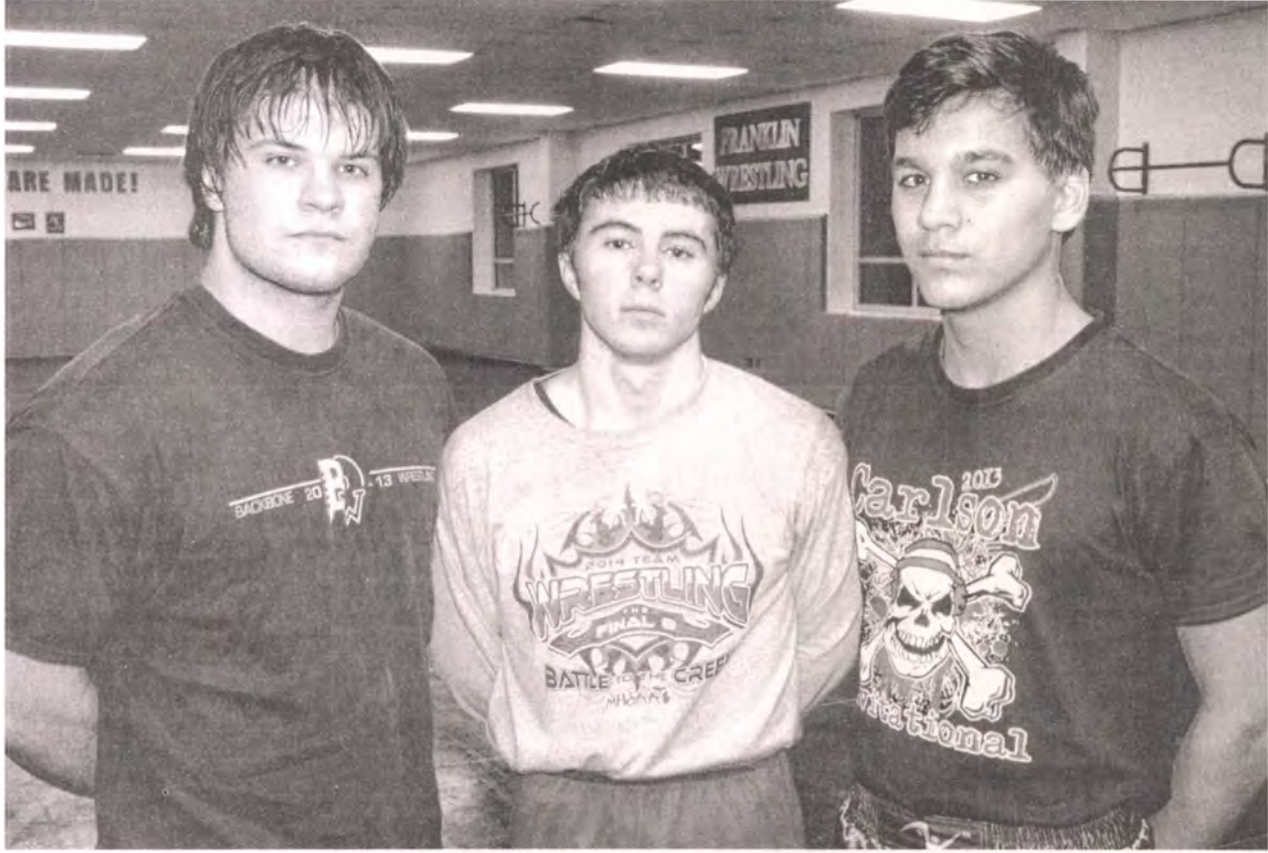
played a consistent level of intensity at both ends of the court so far, Bates said. "These kids enjoy playing defense, and they hustle," he said. Thurston is stocked with a high-achieving trio of captains: junior 5-foot-9 point guard Brandon Marshall, 6-2 senior shooting guard Rickey Hudgens and senior 6-5 post player Isiah Crofford. "Brandon started just about every game for us last year as a sophomore and he grew up a lot out there," said Bates. "He's a great ball-handler and he can shoot the ball. He's the front man on our

press, too, so he's a good defender. "Rickey is a three-year varsity player who brings great leadership to the team. He'll speak up, plus he speaks with his actions. He's a very good defensive player and he can really shoot. "Isiah is a force inside for us. He rebounds well, he can defend and he can score inside." Joining the tri-captains in the starting lineup will be senior sharpshooter Marquie'l Thomas, a 6-foot senior, and senior power forward Deaunte Jackson, a 6-3 banger inside. "Deaunte is a really good rebounder; he had

11 for us the other night," said Bates. "He's a good defender for us and he's a smart player." Among the Eagles' top reserves are 6-1 senior Eric Booker, who can provide instant offense off the bench; energy guys Treven Gary and Juan Fizer; and 6-4 junior Kobe Williams, who will relieve Crofford in the paint. "As the season goes on, I expect a lot more of our younger players will earn minutes in the rotation, too," Bates noted. "That will allow us to keep everybody fresh so we can run more."



Junior point guard Brandon Marshall returns to run the show for Redford Thurston's basketball team.



Pictured are Livonia Franklin wrestling captains (from left) Joe Fortin, Adam Ross and Nathan Atienza.

Team chemistry high on HVL's list of strengths

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The return of its two leading scorers will make the 2014-15 Huron Valley Lutheran girls basketball team a threat to score in the paint and on the perimeter. Coming off a co-championship season in the MIAC Red Division, the Hawks will be energized this season by senior post player Julie St. John and sophomore point guard Sam Golchuk, both of whom poured in 24 points in Monday night's emphatic victory over Macomb Christian. "It's always nice when you can bring back your two leading scorers from the previous season," said HVL head coach Kris Ruth. "We only have seven girls this season, so there isn't a lot of depth, but I like our team chemistry." Despite her 10th-grade status, Golchuk is anything but intimidated when she steps on the court, Ruth noted. "Sam is very aggressive on the floor for us," said Ruth. "She does a great job of running the show. She's a good pass-

er, a good shooter and she can defend." Although not blessed with towering height, the 5-10 St. John can more than hold her own in the paint, Ruth emphasized. "Julie gets good positioning on rebounds and she can finish around the basket," she said. Serving as a co-captain along with St. John is senior Taylor Rea, whose skills set is multi-faceted. "Taylor is very versatile; she can play the post and she can play guard," said Ruth. "She rebounds well for her size and she is a good shooter." Rea is capable of leading the Hawks in scoring on any given night. Jenna Lovell is also a threat to post double-digits. Providing invaluable intangibles for the Hawks will be seniors Jessie Strauch, Miranda Schaeve and Sam Shelton. "I can rely on all three of these girls for strong leadership and strong effort on the court," said Ruth.



Pictured are Huron Valley Lutheran captains Taylor Rea (left) and Julie St. John.

Strong captains set to lead Patriots

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Livonia Franklin wrestling team's impressive set of tri-captains offers proof that leaders come in all sizes, shapes and ages. Coming off the school's first-ever trip to the Division 1 state finals this past spring, the Patriots will be led on the mats (and off) by senior 130ish-pounder Adam Ross, whose dramatic last-match victory in the regional finals propelled Franklin to Battle Creek; junior 215-pound standout Joe Fortin and sophomore Nathan Atienza, who last

year earned the distinction of becoming the first freshman wrestler in Franklin history to capture all-state accolades. "I have complete confidence in all three of these guys to lead us, both individually and together," said Franklin head coach Dave Chiola, who is starting his 15th year at the helm at Franklin and his 30th overall as a high school wrestling coach. Atienza is just the third sophomore captain Chiola has selected in his three decades of coaching. "Nathan is a really good, hard-working kid,"

said Chiola. "All of the kids respect him — not just the kids below him, but even the juniors and seniors who are bigger and older than him. It's a lot of responsibility for a sophomore, but he's ready for it." Ross, who will compete anywhere from 125 to 140 pounds, is the kind of blue-collar, get-after-it athlete who others gravitate to. "Adam is one of those kids who hadn't wrestled much before his freshman year, but he came in and just got better and better every year. He works hard and he'll wrestle whatever weight

we ask him to. He sets a good example for everybody else." Leadership is embedded in the DNA of Fortin, who is "a natural leader" in the estimation of Chiola. "From the first day I met him I knew he was a leader," Chiola said. "He's a very smart, mature kid who absorbs everything you give him. Even when he was a freshman, if I had to leave the room for something, I'd say, 'Joe, make sure they do this' and 'Joe, make sure they do that,' and it would get done." The Patriots' line-up will also be fortified this winter by the return of state-qualifiers Nick Robertson, a senior who will wrestled at 140 or at a weight class close to that, and Jeremy Nelson, who made it to the Palace as a sophomore.

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Wayne Planning Commission is scheduled to meet in regular session on the second (2nd) Tuesday of each month at 7:00P.M. in the Wayne Activity & Banquet Center (WABC), 35000 Sims Street, Wayne, MI 48184. For calendar year 2015, those twelve (12) meetings are as follow:

January 13	April 14	July 14	October 13
February 10	May 12	August 11	November 10
March 10	June 09	September 08	December 08

The Commission reserves the right to schedule special meetings as desirable or necessary

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 18, 2014

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Wayne Zoning Board of Appeals is scheduled to meeting in regular session on the second (2nd) Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Wayne Activity and Banquet Center, 35000 Sims Avenue, Wayne, MI 48184. For the calendar year of 2015, those twelve (12) meetings are as follows:

January 8	February 12	March 12	April 9	May 14
June 11	July 9	August 13	September 10	October 8
November 12	December 10			

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 18, 2014

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Engineer for the City of Wayne has determined that the building/structure located at 35132 W. Michigan Avenue, in the City of Wayne is a dangerous building in accordance with City Ordinance 1472, Sections 1 through 3. In order to protect the public health, safety and welfare, the owner/interested persons, Jared D. Fisher, Leola Fisher AKA Leola Thyne, Ken Soble, Nations Finance Corp, Michigan Department of Treasury, US Department of Treasury, GMAC, LLC, Barnett, Inc. and County of Wayne Treasurer, Raymond J. Wojtowicz must complete the alterations, repair or rehabilitation, or the in the alternative, the demolition and removal of the building, structure or portion thereof within 90 days of by the public hearing, whichever occurs first. If the alterations, repair or rehabilitation, or possibly the demolition and removal of the building, structure of portion thereof, are not completed prior to the public hearing set for January 21, 2015, at 3:30 p.m. at City of Wayne, Police Department, located at 33701 E. Michigan, Wayne County, Michigan 48184, the owner/interested persons are required to appear before the hearing officer and show cause why an order should not be issued to demolish or make the building/structure safe and further that cost thereof shall become a lien against the property unless such alterations, repair or rehabilitation, or demolition and removal is made with the time period specified.

This notice must be published in a local newspaper for three consecutive weeks.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 11, 18, 25, 2014

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Engineer for the City of Wayne has determined that the building/structure located at 4616 Hayes, in the City of Wayne is a dangerous building in accordance with City Ordinance 1472, Sections 1 through 3. In order to protect the public health, safety and welfare, the owner/interested persons, Vincent J. Petitpren, Peter A. Petitpren and County of Wayne Treasurer, Raymond J. Wojtowicz must complete the alterations, repair or rehabilitation, or in the alternative, the demolition and removal of the building, structure or portion thereof within 90 days or by the public hearing, whichever comes first. If the alterations, repairs or rehabilitation, or possibly the demolition and removal of the building, structure or portion thereof, are not completed prior to the public hearing set for January 21, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. at City of Wayne, Police Department, located at 33701 E. Michigan, Wayne County, Michigan 48184, the owner/interested persons are required to appear before the hearing officer and show cause why and order should not be issued to demolish or make the building/structure safe and further the that cost thereof shall become a lien against the property unless such alterations, repair or rehabilitation, or demolition and removal is made within the time period specified.

This notice must be published in a local newspaper for three consecutive weeks.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 2014

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Engineer for the City of Wayne has determined that the building/structure located at 3241 Third, in the City of Wayne is a dangerous building in accordance with City Ordinance 1472, Sections 1 through 3. In order to protect the public health safety and welfare, the owner/interested persons, Jamie Conn, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., successor to Resmae Mortgage Corporation and County of Wayne Treasurer, Raymond J. Wojtowicz must complete the alterations, repair or rehabilitation, or in the alternative, the demolition and removal of the building, structure or portion thereof within 90 days or by the public hearing, whichever occurs first. If the alterations, repair or rehabilitation, or possibly the demolition and removal of the building, structure or portion thereof, are not completed prior to the public hearing set for January 21, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. at City of Wayne, Police Department, located at 33701 E. Michigan, Wayne County, Michigan 48184, the owner/interested persons are required to appear before the hearing officer and show cause why an order should not be issued to demolish or make the building/structure safe and further that cost thereof shall become a lien against the property unless such alterations, repair or rehabilitation, or demolition and removal is made within the time period specified.

This notice must be published in a local newspaper for three consecutive weeks.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 4, 11, 18, 2014

PREP WRESTLING ROUNDUP

Stevenson wrestlers go 3-2 in Saturday event

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Senior Scott dominant for Spartans with five pins at 215

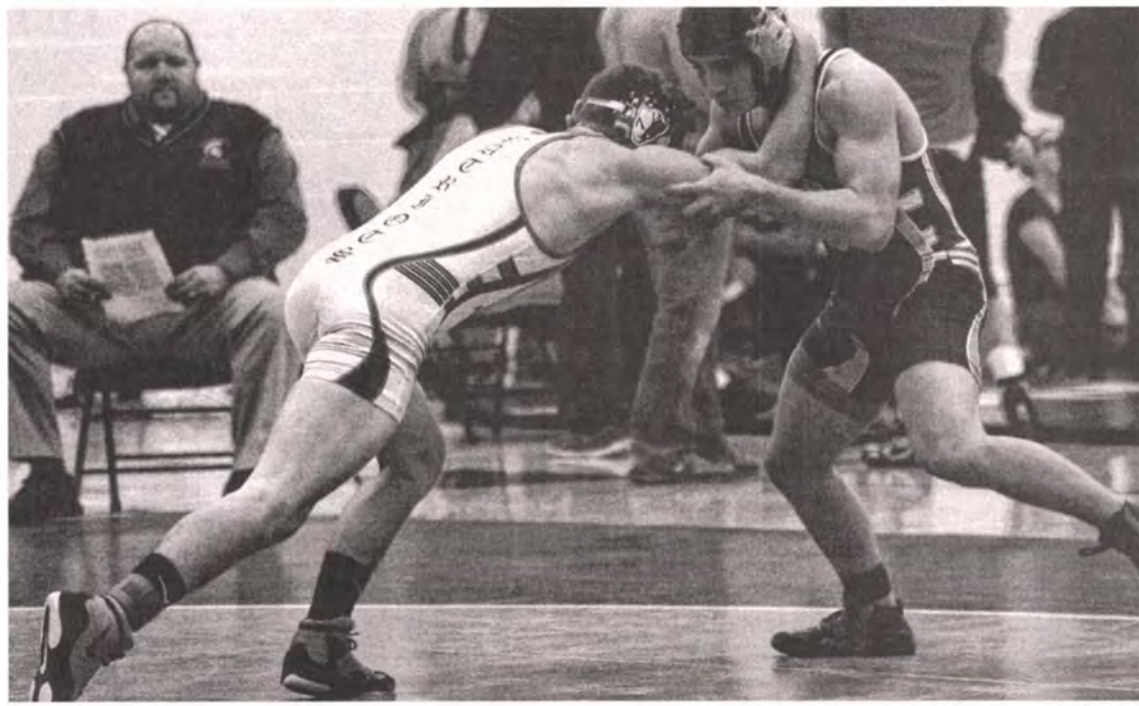
Livonia Stevenson's wrestling team registered a commendable 3-2 record at Saturday's team tournament hosted by Farmington Hills Harrison High School.

The Spartans upended Royal Oak (57-21), Harrison (42-36) and Livonia Clarenceville (49-21), and dropped decisions to eventual champion Pinckney (39-36) and Southfield (44-34).

"It was a well-run tournament with a pretty even competition level," said Stevenson head coach Dan Vaughan. "Our team is very young and we did well for the first weekend."

Leading the way for the Spartans was senior 215-pounder Brad Scott, who pinned all five of his opponents.

Two other Spartans went 5-0 on the day: 135-pounder Taria Alcodray and 140-pounder Will Eckerle.



Livonia Stevenson wrestler Will Eckerle (right) is pictured competing in the Livonia City Tournament last week.

Tyler Statham (152) and Tyler Denski (285) went 4-1 while 145-pounder Shaun Lopes won three of his four matches.

Churchill takes title

Livonia Churchill's wrestling team is off to a sterling start to the 2014-15 season -

and that's putting it mildly.

Just a few days after winning their first Livonia City Wrestling Tournament title in a decade, the Chargers success-

fully defended their title at the Waterford Mott Invitational.

Among the four Chargers who went 4-0 was 215-pounder Baker Hadwan, whose most eye-opening victory came against Salem's Mitch Gross, who is currently ranked No. 4 in the state at 215 pounds by michigangrappler.com.

Host Rockets 2nd

Westland John Glenn turned in a strong performance at Saturday's Rocket Duals as it advanced to the finals before falling to state power Novi Catholic Central, 45-21.

Southgate Anderson placed third and Livonia Franklin was seventh in the 12-team competition.

John Glenn upended Ypsilanti Lincoln, Roseville, Belleville and Clarkston on the way to the championship match against the Shamrocks.

Three Rockets finished unbeaten during the tournament: 215-pound senior captain Nate Irvine (5-0), junior 130-pounder Payton Bene-tauer (4-0) and freshman 119-pounder Anthony Gibson (4-0).

ewright@hometownlife.com

John Glenn overtakes Spartans; Churchill wins; Ladywood falls

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn's pressure-cooker defense sparked the Rockets to a 42-35 victory over host Livonia Stevenson Tuesday night.

The triumph improved John Glenn's record to 1-2.

"Our No. 1 goal tonight was to play with intensity for 32 minutes and the girls were up to the challenge," said John Glenn head coach Derrick Jordan. "We employed a lot of ball pressure on their guards and that led to some easy baskets at the other end."

Kimah Stribling led the Rockets' balanced attack with 11 points. Ariana Hassan also turned in a solid effort with 10.

Arryn Dochenetz (nine points) and Amanda Schultz (eight) accounted for the bulk of the Spartans' offense.

Diamond Jordan led the Rockets' glass attack with double-digit rebounds.

Churchill triumphs

Livonia Churchill's Pummil sisters - Hannah (16 points) and Molly (seven) - accounted for the bulk of the Chargers' offense in their 35-26 victory over visiting South Lyon Tuesday night.

Playing without star guard Natalie Spala (illness), the Chargers overcame 26 turnovers to lead throughout. They led 11-6 after one quarter, 14-10 at the break and 29-18 with eight minutes to play.

Raiders trip Blazers

North Farmington continues to produce positive results in girls basketball under the leadership of first-year varsity coach Jeff Simpson.

The Raiders won for the fifth time in six games Tuesday when they defeated host Livonia Ladywood, 39-28.

Senior guard Megan Car-



Stevenson guards Arryn Dochenetz (11) and Grace Lamerson force a turnover during a game last week. The Spartans dropped a 42-35 decision to John Glenn on Tuesday.

ter scored a game-high 20 points to lead North. Alexis-Stephens-Watts added eight and Kierra Crockett seven.

Crockett also had six rebounds and three steals for the Raiders, who led 20-14 at halftime and 30-21 after three quarters. Carter grabbed six rebounds while Faith Gam-mouh had four steals. Morgan Larkin and Erika Selakowski scored six points apiece for the Blazers (1-4).

Clarenceville falls

A'Sha Whittaker scored six points and Dawn Longoria in Livonia Clarenceville's 48-10 setback Tuesday to Dearborn Heights Crestwood.

Warriors roll

Lutheran Westland bolted to a 15-5 first-quarter lead and never looked back Monday night on the way to a 56-15 victory over Westside Christian.

Taylor Jones had a big night for the winners, notching a team-high 13 points on 5-of-8 shooting from the floor while hitting all three of her free throws. Rachel Redde-

man chipped in with 10 points. LW's defense was relentless, holding Westside Christian to just two second-half points.

Tigers outlast GC

Belleville used a 15-9 fourth-quarter run to clip Garden City, 46-40, Tuesday night. The game was tied at 31-all after three quarters.

Kelli McDaniel led the Cougars with 12 points and eight rebounds. Lindsey Michalak had 11 points.

Hawks topple Macomb

Julie St. John and Sam Golchuk proved to be a potent inside-outside combination for Huron Valley Lutheran Monday night as the Hawks crunched Macomb Christian, 58-33, in the MIAC Red opener for both teams. The victory evened the Hawks' overall ledger at 2-2.

Both St. John and Golchuk scored 24 points to lead HVL to the winner's circle.

Golchuk buried three three-point shots. Jenna Lovell added six points.

DAZZLING

Continued from Page B1

on their first few possessions, but I told our guys that might happen. You have to keep competing. I thought Nick Hitchcock and Sam Davidek did a nice job of at least moving him further from the basket in the second quarter."

John Glenn raced to a 21-8 lead after one quarter. Stevenson earned a moral victory, if nothing else, in the second stanza when it was outscored just 19-18, but the Rockets blew up for 42 points over the final 16 minutes and were never seriously threatened.

"One of our goals tonight was to get 20 points in a quarter, and we did that," said "Watts. "Another goal was to see if we could hold them to eight points or fewer in a quarter, and we did that. We got a little sloppy in the second quarter; I think we got a little too comfortable,

but after halftime we got the jitters out and just played."

Watts said his team has fully embraced his fast-paced style.

"We have athletes, so they need to get up and down the floor and express themselves," he said. "It's the style of basketball kids like to play. It's an up-and-down style, but it's controlled at the same time."

Senior guard Noah Campbell had a strong night for the Spartans, netting a game-high 20 points with an array of fearless drives and pull-up triples, in addition to swiping three steals. Sophomore guard Ian Knoph also played well, scoring six points.

Sophomore Daijon Parker's first varsity game was stellar as he yanked down a team-high nine boards. Senior forward Jamie Melchor also excelled for the winners, scoring 10 of his 12 points in the first half.

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HUDGENS

Continued from Page B1

petition in the summer is only going to make me a better player. It gives me a chance to showcase my skills."

Hudgens is a threat to light up the scoreboard from the perimeter. Last season he opened with 22- and 21-point scoring nights in the Eagles' first two games. He was also unfazed in Thurston's Class A regional semifinal contests against highly-regarded Detroit Pershing (2013) and Detroit Cass Tech (2014).

Hudgens said a valuable trait this year's Thurston team possesses is unselfishness.

"Everybody passes the ball; we don't have any ball hogs," he said.

A solid student (he carries a 2.7 grade-point average), Hudgens has his sights set on playing collegiate basketball someday.

PREP WRESTLING PREVIEW

Preiss takes over flourishing Wayne program

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

No one knows the "Wolfpack Way" better than two-time state-qualifier Jamie Preiss, which makes him an ideal choice to take over the reins of the Wayne Memorial wrestling program from former coach Steve Vasiloff, who resigned after accepting a teaching position in Saline.

Preiss, who advanced to the individual state finals for the Wolfpack in 2006 and 2007, will co-coach the team along with long-time assistant Jason Crothers.

"It's going pretty well so far," said Preiss, who accepted the position in July. "We've changed up practices a little bit which required some adjustments from the kids, but overall they've been great."

The Wolfpack opened its season with a split in a double-dual competition last week in Tecumseh, where they defeated Wyandotte before losing to Woodhaven.

"Overall, we did OK," Preiss said. "Honestly, we're exactly where I thought we'd be. We have a lot of things to work on, but the guys are working hard and making great strides."

Among Wayne's leaders in Preiss's debut season as coach

is senior Aaron Heinonen, a regional qualifier as a junior who is expected to provide consistent production at the 152-pound slot.

"Aaron is always in great position; he's hard for his opponent to move," said Preiss. "He's a physical, tough competitor."

Junior Jordan Mills, who will compete primarily at 145, epitomizes the toughness and dedication wrestling demands, Preiss said.

"He's one of those guys who has been there every day since day one," raved Preiss. "He was at all of our summer open rooms. He's really come out of nowhere to take on a leadership role and help my transition easier."

The Wolfpack's line-up will be bolstered by the return of 119-pound junior Jack DeJack, who will lead the team's contingent of lower-weight grapplers.

Like Mills, 189-pound senior Alexander James has grabbed a leadership role and run with it, Preiss said.

"This guy has a super skill set now because he has been at every workout and every practice," Preiss said. "He hasn't missed a session."

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BOYS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

New John Glenn coach likes his team's potential

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Strong returning nucleus welcomes Watts on board

Following a successful seven-year tenure as the head coach at Lansing Eastern, new Westland John Glenn boys basketball coach Rod Watts will bring a get-after-it mentality to the Rockets.

"I've really been emphasizing tough-nosed defense and playing an up-tempo offensive style," said Watts, who was hired during the off-season to replace long-time coach Dan Young. "I like my guys to be tenacious at both ends of the court."

Watts said the transition to a new coach is going well for everyone involved.

"There's always going to be an adjustment phase when the players have to get used to my style and I have to learn when they can do," he said. "They were used to playing one style for so long, so there is going to be a period when they're learning while they play."

The Rockets will be propelled by senior tri-captains Mychael Bradley, a 6-foot-4 wing player; 6-10 Michael Edwards, who is effective

wherever he is on the court, Watts said; and 6-foot guard Tyrikh Hunter, who is a lockdown defender, among other things.

"The best thing about Mychael is that he is very versatile," Watts said. "He can play the point and the wings; he shoots the ball well from the perimeter and he is a driver and slasher as well. He is a very cerebral player."

"Even though he is 6-10, Michael can play all over the court. He'll primarily be playing in the post, but he can step out and shoot the three. He's very athletic and a decent rebounder. What a lot of colleges like best about him is that he gets out and runs the floor well for a big man."

Hunter, a standout defensive back on the Rockets' football team this fall, is a strong combination guard who can play the point and the wing with equal effectiveness, Watts noted.

"Tyrikh is probably our most versatile player," said Watts. "He can play multiple positions and he plays them all well. He's another kid who is very cerebral; he knows how to play every position on the floor. We could put him at the four or five spots and he'd do well. He sets the tone for us."

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BOYS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Young Warriors ready to battle on the hardwood

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The loss of several key seniors from last year's ultra-successful squad will make it difficult – but far from impossible – for the 2014-15 Lutheran Westland boys basketball team to match or exceed last season's 13-8 mark.

"We lost some seniors and we're young, but we have some juniors and sophomores stepping up and doing a nice job filling the holes," said third-year head coach Jim Hoeft.

One of the juniors Hoeft speaks highly of is 6-foot point guard Brent Croft, who is doing a solid job filling the void left by the graduation of last year's starting point guard Nick Flannery.

"Brent is probably more of a two guard, but he's doing a good job of learning to play the point," said Hoeft. "He can score and distribute the ball, so he gives us



Lutheran Westland's Zach Burk takes the ball hard to the hole during Monday night's game against Westside Christian.

some versatility to the position."

The Warriors' backcourt was bolstered by

the return to basketball of senior Austin Olson, who didn't play the sport as a junior.

"Austin is extremely quick and he is our defensive stopper," praised Hoeft. "He's more of a

distributor and defender than a scorer, but he can score in transition."

Lutheran Westland's primary producer in the paint will be 6-3 senior Cleveland Tarp, who also excelled for the Warriors' football team.

"Cleveland is our big man in the middle," Hoeft shared. "He is a great leader on the floor for us and he's averaging around a double-double for us in points and rebounds."

Six-foot junior Zach Anger will give the Warriors a strong rebounding presence around the rim.

"Zach is doing a good job of learning how to use his body to get more rebounds," said Hoeft.

Sophomore Zach Burk will start at the small forward position, Hoeft revealed.

"Zach is a good shooter; he's a slasher-type," Hoeft elaborated. "He does a little bit of everything."

Sophomore Luke

Smith gives the Warriors a 6-2 power forward who can "score down low," Hoeft said.

Senior Noah Huffman (6-2) will provide some serious energy to the Warriors coming off the bench.

Sophomore Kyle Farley (5-10) will serve as a back-up point guard while sophomore Kory Barikmo will log a lot of minutes at forward despite his 5-11 stature.

Other key contributors are senior Alec Wixson, a 5-11 small forward; and juniors Robert Marshall (6-foot) and Ray Morrison (5-11), both of whom will bring some grittiness to the team in reserve roles.

The Warriors will be playing without their best all-around producer in senior Jacob Davenport, who suffered a season-ending knee injury during football season.

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PREP BOWLING PREVIEWS

Wayne girls primed to bowl over foes

John Glenn boys hope to keep rolling

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Wayne Memorial's nine-member girls bowling team hasn't rolled down victory lane yet, but that's only because the season is less than a week old.

Under the guidance of first-year head coach Jackie Martin, the Zebras opened their 2014-15 campaign with a tight loss to Waterford Kettering in a match held at 300 Bowl in Waterford.

It was no surprise that the Zebras' strong effort was paced by junior Christina O'Harris, who posted scores of 200 and 202 to notch a couple points for Wayne.

"Christina is a very strong bowler," said Martin, who works a dual role as a teacher and counselor at Wayne Memorial. "She averaged in the 190s or high 180s last year, and she's started this year well."

The Zebras also received a lift from freshman Kayla Thompson, who averaged 189.5 with games of 178 and 201. Thompson also provided an ESPN Top 10 Plays-caliber highlight when she converted the incredibly difficult 4-7-9-10 split.

Shaelyn Wojewski, a junior, opened strong with a 199 game before finishing with a 160.

"Shaelyn is getting better and better," noted

Martin, who also praised the progress made by senior Amy Hoch.

John Glenn boys outlook

Under the guidance of third-year head coach Ron Staples, the Rockets are aiming toward a return to the state meet following a wildly successful 2013-14 campaign.

The Rockets will be led by senior state individual qualifier Nick Bell, who will receive ample support from juniors Dante Fischer and Damien Strohschein, and sophomore Jared Stevens.

"We lost three starters from last year's state-qualifying team, and they will be hard to replace," admitted Staples. "Our motto has always been, 'Next Man Up'. It will come down to spare shooting and making adjustments to the lane conditions as they start break down."

"We will make no excuses and we will be ready to compete. Our league is tough, so there are really no nights off."

Top new-comers for the Rockets are Zack Croft, Jake Preiss, Brian Martin, Matt Essa, Kyle McCarthy, Jon Schaber, Tyler Riblett, Zach Grad, Aaron Tatum, Ryan Clark, Nicholas Strohschein and Nick Braley.

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BOYS HOOPS ROUNDUP

Redford Union topples GC, 56-46

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Senior guard Jerrime Koger pumped in a game-high 22 points to lead Redford Union to a 56-46 victory over Garden City Tuesday night in the Panthers' gymnasium.

The victory improved RU's record to 1-3 while GC slipped to 0-3.

Fifteen of Koger's points came in the decisive first half when the hosts built a 23-17 lead. Keyon Thomas added 11 points for RU, which repelled a late Cougar surge that tightened the score to two points with just a few minutes left.

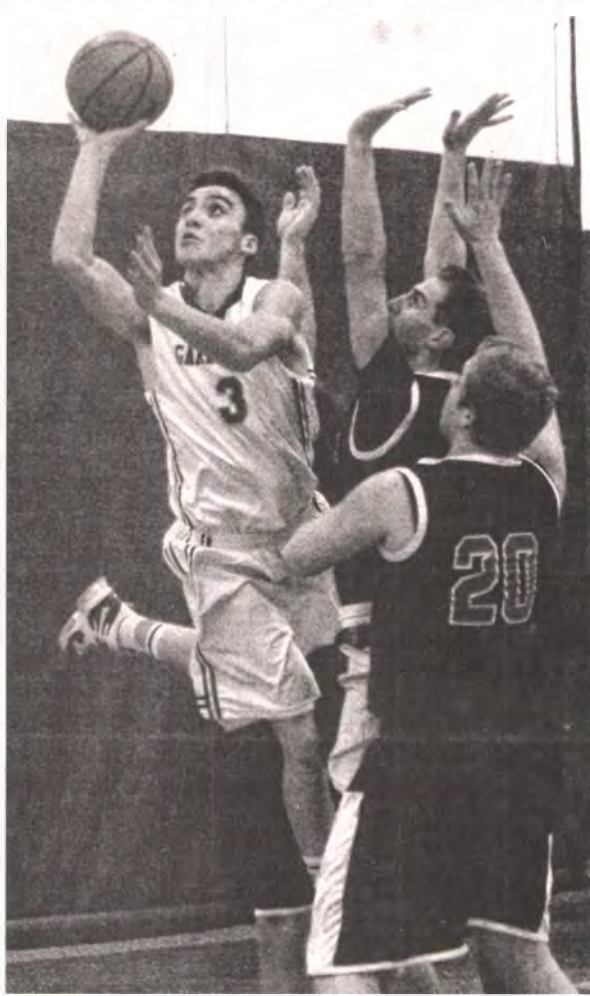
"We cut their lead from 10 or 12 to two in the fourth quarter, but Thomas hit a three to get it up to five and then we couldn't get any closer," said GC head coach Ron Pummill. "I thought we did a good job on Koger in the second half."

"They beat us on the boards pretty bad. We played really hard in the first quarter, but we couldn't get anything going in the second quarter [when the Cougars scored just four points]."

Travis Kidd led the Cougars with 13 points. Travis Trigg added 12 and Robbie Moyers pumped in eight.

Churchill wins again

Jon Hovermale scored 24 points Tuesday night to lead Livonia Churchill to a 51-42 home victory over South Lyon. Churchill is now 4-0 while the Lions dropped to 0-2. Eleven of Hover-



Garden City's Travis Trigg drives to the basket during a game last week against Livonia Churchill.

male's points came in the pivotal third quarter when the Chargers outscored the Lions 15-9.

Jerod Davis added six points and four rebounds for Churchill. South Lyon was led by Anton Stupin's 10 points.

"Jonny Hovermale carried us in the third quarter," said Churchill head coach Jim Solak. "South Lyon locked him down in the fourth quarter, but we had five or six other guys step up. It was a nice win."

Mustangs outrace Pats

Northville used a 20-6 third-quarter explosion to run away with a 62-40 victory over visiting Livonia Franklin Tuesday night.

Charles Keith paced the Patriots with 12 points and four rebounds. Sophomore guard Johnny Cantrell contributed six points and three assists.

The Mustangs, who led 32-17 at the half, shot

a blistering 50 percent from two-point range while knocking down eight of their 19 triple tries.

Franklin shot just 36 percent from the field and connected on just three of 10 three-point attempts.

Warriors fall

Lutheran Westland dropped a 54-39 decision to visiting Detroit Westside Christian Monday night. The loss dropped the Warriors to 1-2 while Westside improved to 2-2.

Westside surged to a 12-5 lead after one quarter before carrying a 27-20 lead into the break. The winners seized control of the contest by outscoring their hosts 19-7 during the pivotal third quarter.

"We had a rough first half, dealing with their back-court pressure," said LW head coach Jim Hoeft. "We committed a lot of unforced errors, too."

"We came out a little sluggish in the second half. Their ball-handling abilities and athleticism were a little too much for us tonight. However, I'm proud of my guys; they worked hard. These non-conference games will definitely get us ready for the rest of our season and our conference schedule."

Cleveland Tarp led the Warriors with 14 points, five blocks and 11 rebounds. Noah Huffman also had a fine night, netting 13 points. Zach Burk and Luke Smith both yanked down seven rebounds for the Warriors, who made just 4 of 18 free-throw attempts.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1686G, Public Hearing for Proposed Mechanical Amusement Devices License Establishment, AirTime Trampoline and Game Park, 36901 Warren Road, Parcel #030-99-0003-717, Marwan Hachem

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 6, 2015.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: December 18, 2014

LO-00022445 3x3



PUBLIC NOTICE MINUTES OF REDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2014

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

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

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

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk
Charter Township of Redford

Publish: December 18, 2014

LO-00022486 3x2.5

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of Wayne, Michigan will hold its regular meetings which are on the first and third Tuesdays of each month on the following dates during the calendar year of 2015 at the Wayne Activity and Banquet Center, 35000 Sims Avenue, Wayne, Michigan at 8:00 p.m. unless otherwise posted:

January 6 & 20, February 3 & 17, March 3 & 17, April 7 & 21, May 5 & 19, June 2 & 16, July 7 & 21, August 4* & 18, September 1 & 15, October 6 & 20, November 3* & 17 and December 1 & 15

Proposed minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Wayne City Hall, 3355 South Wayne Road, Wayne, Michigan 48184, not more than eight business days after the date of said meeting and approved minutes will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, at the same location not more than five business days after the meeting at which the minutes are approved. This notice is in compliance with Act 267 of Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.

* These meeting dates fall on a scheduled election day and may be changed to the day before the elections of August 3, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. and November 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. upon approval of the City Council.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 18, 2014

LO-00022456 3x3



CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, January 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on a request to renovate and expand the existing gasoline service station at the property located at 30247 and 30259 Ford Road. Gasoline service stations are a special land use in the C-3 General Business District.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

Publish: December 18, 2014

LO-00022485 3x3

Home Builders Association lauds Michigan's top industry leaders

The Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan (HBA) announced its 2014 Industry Leadership Award honorees. Awards were presented on Dec. 3 at the association's Awards Night and Holiday Celebration held at The Diamond Center at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi. Nearly 300 members and guests attended the event, a clear indication that the economy has improved for local builders, land developers, remodelers and suppliers to the home construction industry.

"These individuals and companies are pillars of the regional home building industry. Their accomplishments are making a positive impact on our industry and enhancing our communities," said Michael Stoskopf, CEO of the HBA. "It is our honor to acknowledge them."

Award honorees include:
2014 HBA President - Paul Aragona, Aragona Properties
Hall of Fame - John Scaccia, Scaccia Builders



Paul Aragona



Thomas M. Walsh

Builder of the Year - Frank Mocerri, Mocerri Custom Homes

Young Builder of the Year - Eric Konieczny, Clearview Homes

Developer of the Year - Dominic J. Mocerri, Mocerri Companies

Development of the Year - Pinnacle in Oakland Township by Mocerri

Samuel Kreis Award For Distinguished Service To The Building Industry - Dennis P. Dickstein, Real Estate One

Distinguished Service To The Housing Industry - Arthur Szliter, in memoriam, Artea Homes

Distinguished Service To Government - U.S. Rep. Candice Miller

Thomas Ricketts Award To The Region's Outstanding Building Official - Thomas M. Walsh, City of Novi

Distinguished Service For Urban Home Building - Tim O'Brien, O'Brien Construction

Don Maillou Memorial Award In Banking - Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

Distinguished Service to HBA's Professional Women In Building Council - Cindy Maxwell-Philips, Lighting Resources of Michigan

Professional Women In Building Council - Barb Baker, Transitions Remodeling

Remodeler of the Year - Tim Capaldi, Capaldi Building

Distinguished Service To The Remodeling Industry - Kyle Hunt, Remodel Your Marketing

Subcontractor Of The Year - Riemer Floors

Associate of the Year - Mary Olk, Designer Interiors

Professional Services to the Building Industry - Norman Hyman, Strobl & Sharp, P.C.

Recognition Award: Outstanding Service - Ernest Martyniuk, Consumers Energy

Recognition Award: Design of a Public Memorial - Michael J. Gordon, R.A., Moiseev/Gordon Associates

New Home Sales Professional of the Year - Grace Evola, MJC Companies

New Home Sales Manager of the Year - Frank Munaco, MJC Companies

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, the Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan (HBA) and the Apartment Association of Michigan (AAM) are trade associations representing 800 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multi-family residential construction industry. HBA is affiliated with the Home Builders Association of Michigan in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C.

Check law, warranties on solar panel installation

Q: I live in a subdivision and I want to consider setting up solar panels on my property. The subdivision restrictions say that I need to get permission from the association. What do you think I should do for starters?

A: First, you should check your local laws, including your municipal ordinances, regarding the installation of solar panels. Second, you should review your subdivision's architectural guidelines and determine what kind of approval you need to get from the association. Third, you should ensure that your property is protected during the installation with adequate warranties given by the installer once you get approval. Fourth, make sure you work with your roofing company to maintain the warranty that may be in place; and, fifth, see if there is any state requirement regarding solar rights. Michigan does not have solar rights provisions and does not specifically discuss these issues in regard to community associations, or, for that matter, individuals.

Q: We have a large community run by our cooperative and there are some social clubs in the community. I am on the board of the cooperative and am somewhat concerned about there being some confusion about potential liability for the social clubs. Do you have any suggestions?

A: It is important to make and record a clear distinction between any social club and the cooperative. You need to be able to show that the clubs in your community are not sponsored by the cooperative or operated by it. The cooperative needs to be able to show a separation of operations and finances. Ideally, to minimize a cooperative's liability, the club should become properly incorporated as its own entity, adopt its own bylaws, maintain separate financial records and add separate bank accounts, and the cooperative should require yearly documentation regarding the independence of that club from that of the cooperative, including the club's legal name, current bylaws, membership lists, insurance, licenses, proposed activities, and an annual certification by the club acknowledging compliance with all legal and tax requirements.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com.



Robert Meisner

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales seminars held locally

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures. Such sessions are held locally for homeowners.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional

information.

Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update.

Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-11, near Trenton Road.

If you have any questions

or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Seminar held locally each Tuesday, Thursday

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and at 2 p.m. each Thursday at various locations throughout the metropolitan region.

RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96 in Livonia.

Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Send Real Estate Briefs to Julie Brown, presentation editor/Real Estate editor, at jcbrown@hometownlife.com or 29725 Hudson Drive, Novi, MI 48377. Items run on a space available basis on the Real Estate page. Publication is not guaranteed.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 25-29, 2014, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	SALES PRICE
42544 Beechwood Dr	\$199,000
43135 Calais Ct	\$230,000
1588 Centennial Dr	\$470,000
43805 Cherry Grove Ct E	\$182,000
300 Cherry Stone Dr	\$138,000
42745 Colling Dr	\$205,000
382 Constitution St	\$190,000
8165 Endicott Ln	\$640,000
44638 Fair Oaks Dr	\$228,000
4333 Forest Bridge Dr	\$273,000
4407 Forest Bridge Dr	\$236,000
43449 Fredericksburg St	\$162,000
1676 Glenshire Dr	\$218,000
42317 Gloria Dr	\$145,000
47924 Jake Ln	\$427,000
46530 Killarney Cir	\$250,000
47443 Madison Rd	\$390,000
8122 Newbury Ct S	\$640,000
44321 Nowland Dr	\$260,000
47488 Pembroke Dr	\$143,000
41569 Singh Dr	\$345,000
42658 Somers Dr	\$180,000
3319 Wall St	\$287,000
48578 Wildrose Dr	\$325,000
1232 Wildwood Ln	\$219,000
6350 Winter Dr	\$210,000

LIVONIA	SALES PRICE
15221 Adams Ct	\$167,000
33117 Allen St	\$170,000
9537 Arcola St	\$126,000
9904 Auburndale St	\$160,000
29559 Barkley St	\$141,000
27668 Bennett St	\$155,000
14906 Brookfield St	\$190,000
17590 Dolores St	\$40,000
35810 Dover St	\$166,000
37486 Eagle Dr	\$273,000
28251 Five Mile Rd	\$40,000
11038 Flamingo St	\$131,000
9622 Garden St	\$141,000
28932 Grandon St	\$142,000
9023 Laurel St	\$148,000
15595 Liverpool St	\$224,000
10000 Loveland St	\$163,000
39174 Lyndon St	\$170,000
16545 Middlebelt Rd	\$43,000
9997 Milburn St	\$137,000
17782 Parklane St	\$252,000
29229 Perth St	\$170,000
29602 Ravine Dr	\$166,000
9907 Roseland St	\$58,000
31408 Scone St	\$170,000
29173 Westfield St	\$134,000

PLYMOUTH	SALES PRICE
46260 Barrington Rd	\$286,000
607 Burroughs St	\$374,000
13500 Cambridge Ct	\$323,000
41244 Crestwood Dr	\$220,000
243 E Ann Arbor Trl	\$125,000
40145 E Ann Arbor Trl	\$150,000
40777 Five Mile Rd	\$158,000
49964 Fuller Ct	\$539,000
420 Irvin St	\$389,000
9073 Mayflower Dr	\$246,000
40104 Newport Dr	\$106,000
9095 Northern Ave	\$166,000
42253 Old Pond Cir	\$129,000
1199 S Sheldon Rd	\$60,000
1066 Sutherland St	\$213,000
12403 Woodgate Dr	\$126,000

WESTLAND	SALES PRICE
1116 Abbey Ct	\$160,000
1620 Ackley Ave	\$92,000
1943 Ackley Ave	\$24,000
1627 Ashby St	\$85,000
889 Autumn Ridge Dr	\$173,000
34759 Block	\$143,000
157 Carson Dr	\$105,000
31239 Cooley Blvd	\$127,000
6531 Deerhurst Dr	\$110,000
1155 Easley Dr	\$115,000
36260 Farragut Ave	\$54,000
37548 Lang Ct	\$122,000
8537 N Hubbard St	\$143,000
7668 Ritz Ave	\$129,000
7812 Rivergate Dr	\$85,000
690 Superior Pkwy	\$104,000
35551 Thames St	\$84,000
312 Van Sull St	\$110,000
817 Van Sull St	\$75,000
7881 Whispering Willow	\$130,000
1954 Wilshire St	\$120,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 4-8, 2014, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	SALES PRICE
18604 Devonshire St	\$300,000
22940 Nottingham Dr	\$576,000
18201 Saxon Dr	\$348,000
31829 Sheridan Dr	\$265,000

BIRMINGHAM	SALES PRICE
550 Chester St	\$980,000
615 Chester St	\$1,040,000
444 Chester St Unit 7	\$137,000
932 Davis Ave	\$239,000
1225 Derby Rd # 8	\$106,000
2010 Hazel St	\$495,000
713 Maple Hill Ln	\$485,000
727 Maple Hill Ln	\$495,000
757 N Old Woodward Ave	\$217,000
450 Oak Ave # 100	\$152,000
660 Smith Ave	\$575,000
863 Southfield Rd	\$720,000
1823 Southfield Rd	\$180,000
111 Willits St Unit 38	\$750,000

COMMERCER TOWNSHIP	SALES PRICE
2293 Brigantine	\$75,000
2989 Gabriel Dr	\$130,000
5450 Huron Hills Dr	\$378,000
530 Muskoka	\$96,000
5690 Pickbourne St	\$42,000
5675 Strawberry Cir	\$60,000
1680 Trace Hollow Dr	\$307,000
421 Whippoorwill Way	\$158,000

FARMINGTON	SALES PRICE
36847 Brittany Hill Dr	\$232,000
36996 Brittany Hill Dr	\$252,000
32037 Leelane	\$158,000
22780 Maple Ave	\$100,000
22930 Maple Ave	\$205,000
33254 Tall Oaks Ct	\$190,000
23016 Warner St	\$170,000
23081 Warner St	\$157,000

FARMINGTON HILLS	SALES PRICE
27920 Berrywood Ln	\$53,000
28021 Brandywine Rd	\$190,000
32425 Dohany Dr	\$280,000
29270 Glen Oaks Blvd W	\$125,000
28401 Green Willow St	\$215,000
32979 Hargrove Ct	\$295,000
23940 Haynes St	\$263,000

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

	NMLS#		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.
1SPMortgage	138501	(313) 215-1766	3.625	0.125	2.875	0.125
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	138560	(734) 459-0782	3.625	0.125	2.875	0
AFI Financial	2431	(810) 568-4424	3.625	0	2.875	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.75	0	2.875	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4.125	0	3.25	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4	0	3.125	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.75	0	2.875	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.625	0.375	2.875	0
Group One Mortgage	107718	(248) 282-1602	3.875	0	3.375	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.25	0

Above information available as of 12/12/14 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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FREE FREE FREE

NO RENT TIL Feb 1st 2015!
\$198 moves you in!**
Homes starting as low as \$959/month!

3 bedroom, 2 bath, all appliances including washer/dryer & central AC
 4 bedroom, 2 bath homes also available
HURRY these homes are going fast!

Call Sun Homes today, (888) 448-3061
 Or apply on line at www.4northville.com
 South Lyon Schools!
 Office hours M-F 9a-5p Sat 9a-1p
 Offer expires 12/31/2014 EHO
 **On Select Homes
 **Some restrictions apply

\$198 MOVES YOU IN!

Free rent until Feb. 1st 2015

MOVE IN READY HOMES IN CANTON
 3 bedroom / 2 bath with all appliances including washer/dryer
Homes starting at \$699
 Call us today!
(888) 272-3099
 Academy/Westpoint
 42021 Old Michigan Ave. • Canton
 *Offer valid on select homes only.
 Expires 12/31/2014 WAC EHO
www.academywestpoint.com

HOMES

apartments.com
HomeFinder.com

Duplexes & Townhouses

WESTLAND Holiday Park
 Townhouse Co-op for Sale. 2 br/1.5 bath, hardwood floors, nice quiet neighborhood. \$29,000. Call 772-221-1964

Lots & Acreage Vacant

FENTON - 8 Acres, wooded. Parked. 850 ft on black top, driveway, 400ft deep. \$95,000. 248-767-9233

Cemetery Lots

Oakland Hills Memorial Cemetery Novi, MI. 72 Burial sites for Sale. \$1800 each - Buy One Get One Free. Must pay title transfer Approx. \$100. Call Tom at 248-674-1245

SERVICES

hometownlife.com

Apartment For Rent

FARMINGTON HILLS
MAPLE RIDGE APTS.
 Spacious 1 & 2 bdms, 2 baths, c/a, \$570-\$660, w/ special. 50% off 1st 3 mos. with approved credit. 248.473.5180

WESTLAND
Hickory Woods Apts.
NEWLY UPDATED
 1 Bdrm-\$575
 2 Bdrms-\$675
 • Pool
 • Fitness Center
Heat & Water Included
 (734) 729-6520
 *Short term leases available.
 AT2363288

WESTLAND GREENWOOD VILLA
 Our 2 bedroom apartment/ townhouse waiting list will be open from 1/12/15 through 1/16/15.
 Call for info
734-261-3200

Condos & Townhouses

Farmington Hills - very nice 2 br. 1 ba. whr/dryer in unit, private balcony, woods & stream views. \$565. 248-418-1729

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted - General

COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
 Plaster Repair. All jobs welcomed! Lic/Ins. Free Est. 30 yrs. exp. Mark: 313-363-6738

Plaster & Drywall Repairs
 Repairs 20 yr exp. fully ins. Ken 313.903.0273

Paint Decorating Paper

PAINTING BY ROBERT
 • Wallpaper Removal • Int
 • Ext • Plaster/Drywall Repair
 • Staining, 25 yrs exp. Free est. 248-349-7499, 734-464-8147

FRONT DESK POSITION
 For small Livonia dental office. Experience necessary. Ability to assist with basic clinical duties preferred. Send resume to info@softendental.com or fax to: 734-427-9700

Help Wanted - Medical

Compassionate
 The Right Choice in Home Health Care
 We believe in our Employees First and get great results because of great people. We pursue the greatest possible impact in every interaction, every minute of every day.
 We are currently hiring skilled home care professionals:
 • RNs • PTs • OTs
 • Home Health Aides
 Full time and contingent positions available. Previous experience in a home health care setting preferred; a passion for senior citizens a must.
 Please send resume to jobs@corsocare.com or call (810) 534-5157 for more details.

Food - Beverage

WAITSTAFF FOR BREAKFAST
 5 days or PT. Apply in person: Northville Crossing Restaurant, 18900 Northville Rd. Northville.

WANT TO CLEAN OUT YOUR HOUSE?
 Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and let the Classifieds DO YOUR WORK!
800-579-7355

Help Wanted - General

NOW HIRING!
 We are currently taking applications for an energetic:
 • Cake Decorator:
 Must have experience
 • Perishable Foods Receiver
 Please apply in person at:
 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia
 Or send resume/salary history:
livoniamarket@yahoo.com

NVH Specialist:
 Develop all aspects of production to identify noise, vibration, and harshness ("NVH") engineering solutions for an automotive component manufacturer. Employer: Johnson Electric North America, Inc. Location: Plymouth, MI. Mail CV (no calls or emails) to Johnson Electric North America, Inc. ATTN: Ella Guidugli 47660 Halyard Dr. Plymouth, MI 48170

Help Wanted - Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT
 Needed for busy Canton practice MUST have dental assisting experience. Ability to assist with basic clinical duties preferred. Send resume to: janice@dentdentists.com

DENTAL ASSISTANT
 Want to love coming to work?
 Farmington Hills dental office seeks Assistant with eye for detail and great work ethic. Exp valued but not required. 248-426-0011

Royal Dalton English Fine Bone China
 100 pieces Romance Collection Twelve setting additional complimentary pieces \$1,500
 Mikasa Maxima Fine China
 Dishwasher and microwave safe 12 place setting plus 7 accessories pieces \$500
 Waterford Crystal Daily Shannon
 8-10oz Goblet 4 wine flutes 2 champagne flutes, \$500
 Call 810.623.2840

STICKLEY QUEEN BED, LFB, Quartersawn white oak, color 54, Harvey Ellis Design, never used still in box. \$2600. 586-232-4165

Cash in with Classifieds
800-579-SELL

SEEKING: Multi-Media Sales Representative

michigan.com
 A GANNETT COMPANY

The Observer & Eccentric, part of michigan.com, a Gannett Company, is seeking a Multi-Media Sales Representative for our Milford/Highland/White Lake territory, and Westland-Wayne/Garden City territory who will be responsible for developing relationships and consulting with clients while providing an opportunity to contribute to the long-term success of a high growth and progressive company. Our ideal candidate will be an innovative, result driven, high energy, creative sales representative with the ability to think strategically and to assist clients by developing strategic, multi-media advertising campaigns.

Must be able to manage multiple priorities, requests, programs and be dedicated to exceptional customer service. Develop new business and grow market share by using a variety of customer centric sales programs and audience solutions. Make solid marketing presentations that sell the value, provide customer centric audience solutions and close the sale.

If you are seeking a position that will allow you to be a strategic seller working with a multi-platform, market leading team in a culture that thrives on creating and executing big ideas that provide solutions to benefit the prosperity of customers, then we encourage you to apply today to join our team!

Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree in marketing, advertising or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- 3+ years of related experience is required.
- A strong understanding of digital media platforms to include search engine marketing, social media, online display, mobile & other digital solutions.
- Documented record of success in a goal-oriented, highly accountable environment.
- Ability to conduct a needs assessment, identify marketing and advertising solutions for clients, develop proposals and experience in delivering sales presentations.
- Technical proficiency in Microsoft Office especially PowerPoint and Excel.
- Experience with CRM technology, Salesforce.com preferred

This opportunity offers competitive compensation and benefits package including 401(k), health, dental, three weeks paid vacation, and more. If you meet the above criteria, we encourage you to apply for this position at: <http://bit.ly/1vmiEhu>. EOE

CONTACT US AT:
 800-579-7355
www.hometownlife.com
ocads@hometownlife.com
DEADLINE:
 Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday
 Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

NEWSPAPER POLICY
 All advertising published in this newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department: Observer & Eccentric Media)
 615 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226
 866-887-2737.
 We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order.
 Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper & only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.
 Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears & reporting any errors immediately. The Newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after the FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first insertion will be credited.
 Publishers Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72).
 Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage & support an affirmative advertising & marketing program in which there are no barriers.
DISCLAIMER: All classified ads are subject to the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from our Advertising Dept. All ads are subject to approval before publication. Observer & Eccentric Media reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, classify or cancel any ad at any time. Errors must be reported in the first day of publication. Observer & Eccentric Media shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from an error in or omission of an advertisement. No refunds for early cancellation of order.

Sports Utility

GMC ACADIA 2010
 FWD SLT, Lthr. Bose stereo system, loaded! \$19,000
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
 734-453-2500

GMC TERRAIN 2010
 FWD, 4 dr., SLE-1, back up camera, privacy glass. \$13,000
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
 734-453-2500

GMC TERRAIN 2011
 FWD, 4 dr., SLE-1, 42k, 1 owner, extra clean! \$17,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
 734-453-2500

BUY & SELL

hometownlife.com

Appliances

Whirlpool washer & dryer. Cabrio models, electric dryer and top load washer. Runs perfect, extra clean, tons of options, like new condition - only 2 years old! \$750 for both, sold as set only. (517)262-9630

Bicycles

HUFFY Mens 26" 10 Speed Bike \$125
 White Kitchendia H.D. mixer \$225. Nikon Still film \$100
 Canon Rebel camera \$200
 Regal Bread machine \$25. 734-455-4029

Exercise Fitness Equip

BowFlex For Sale
 TreadClimber TC10
 \$1300.00, never used. Disassembling required. Call between 1pm-5pm. (248)542-1193

Misc. For Sale

NOVI Carpenter tools avail for sale. Good Condition. Call 248-896-2119

Season firewood For sale

\$65.00 a cord, plus delivery can be set up (586)907-8025
paulcarter260@gmail.com

Musical Instruments

Kawai Studio Piano UT6
 Ebony satin finish in very good shape appraised at \$2500. Needs tuning. Asking \$2100
 734.718.4156

Kurzweil Piano Keyboard & Lab Series Keyboard Amp
 Both rare American made. Like new condition. Includes accessories. 313-531-7475
mflair@me.com

WHEELS

cars.com

Autos Trucks Parts & Service

Cargo Van items (fits Ford, Chevy, Dodge) 4 Cabinets steel /plastic/Bulk head/Loader rack back bumper w/roll hitch. All or Part. 080 313.382.2319

Trucks for Sale

Ford 1989 F-150 Custom PU 88,770K 1 owner not running repair/restoration. Plus tire/wheel \$950 248.477.7889

FORD RANGER 2008
 Sport Ext. Cab, RWD, 66K. Certified. \$15,876.
NORTH BROS.
 855-967-9680

GMC SIERRA 2010
 Crew Cab, short box, 4x4, SLE, ABS, traction control. \$23,000
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
 734-453-2500

4 Wheel Drive

FORD F-150 XLT 2009
 Ext Cab, 4x4, 1 Owner, only 62k miles! \$22,988
NORTH BROS.
 855-967-9680

Sports Utility

GMC ACADIA 2010
 FWD SLT, Lthr. Bose stereo system, loaded! \$19,000
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
 734-453-2500

GMC TERRAIN 2010
 FWD, 4 dr., SLE-1, back up camera, privacy glass. \$13,000
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
 734-453-2500

GMC TERRAIN 2011
 FWD, 4 dr., SLE-1, 42k, 1 owner, extra clean! \$17,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
 734-453-2500

Auction Sales

ESTATE AUCTION
 Sat - Dec 20th - 7pm
 Plymouth Community Center
 525 Farmer, Plymouth, MI
 Antiques & Collectible Furniture, Glassware
 Collectible Toys, Tools, Pocket Watches, Musical Items.
 Cash/MC/Visa
 Bank Debit Cards
 No Checks
 Doors Open 5pm
 Joe Carli,
 Professional Auction Service
 734.451.7444
www.jcauctionservices.com

Garage/Moving Sales

Roman Forum Restaurant
 41601 Ford Road, Canton
CLOSING DEC 31. Selling smallwares, dishes, glasses, tables, chairs, Christmas decorations, and more.
 Photos at romanforum.us.
 Call for showings
 734-981-2030.

Household Goods

Kirby Vacuum Sentria 2
 Latest 2014 with all attachments. Also floor shampooer. Great Holiday gift. Like New Condition. List price \$2,500. Set \$750
 313.515.3330, or 313.543.3336

Royal Dalton English Fine Bone China
 100 pieces Romance Collection Twelve setting additional complimentary pieces \$1,500
 Mikasa Maxima Fine China
 Dishwasher and microwave safe 12 place setting plus 7 accessories pieces \$500
 Waterford Crystal Daily Shannon
 8-10oz Goblet 4 wine flutes, 2 champagne flutes, \$500
 Call 810.623.2840

Wanted to Buy

CASH PAID OR CONSIGNMENT for Vintage, Antique and Other Valuable Items. Single Items to storage units to entire estates and estate sales. Professional, courteous, fair, honest, discreet older gentleman. I drive to you. Coins, costume and fine jewelry, knock knocks, military, collections, books, toys, stereos, instruments, spheramora, clothing, Christmas, more. References: Richard, BSE, MBA (248)795-0262
richard.preston48@yahoo.com

WANTED: Old Fishing Tackle & related items. Successful Deer Hunter Patches.
 Call Bill: (734) 890-1047

Airplanes

SELL YOUR CAR FOR ONLY \$30.99!

Are you looking to sell your used vehicle and would like to reach over 140,000 potential buyers and have it a nationwide website to even widen the opportunity of selling it?

Then Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Newsletters is the place to advertise it!

Package includes:
 • Ad in all 13 community newspapers for 2 weeks
 • 14 days on cars.com
 • Extra \$5 add a photo
 *4 line minimum (\$2.00 for each additional line).

Sports Utility

GMC ACADIA 2010
 FWD SLT, Lthr. Bose stereo system, loaded! \$19,000
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
 734-453-2500

GMC TERRAIN 2010
 FWD, 4 dr., SLE-1, back up camera, privacy glass. \$13,000
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 734-453-2500

GMC TERRAIN 2011
 FWD, 4 dr., SLE-1, 42k, 1 owner, extra clean! \$17,995
BOB JEANNOTTE
BUICK, GMC
 734-453-2500

RENTALS

apartments.com
HomeFinder.com

Move in for as low as \$399 PLUS FREE RENT until February 2015!

RENTALS starting at \$799 for 3 bed, 2 bath ESTATES homes.
 All appliances including washer & dryer.
 4377 Old Plank Road Milford
248-778-4009
www.childslake.com

WESTLAND 2br with garage \$550 Monthly w/ option to Buy. Call 734-516-4581

Looking to Buy A New Car? Need to Sell the old one first?

Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and let the Classifieds Sell it For You!
800-579-7355

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

RENTALS

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800-579-7355

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Need some extra space?

Placing a classified ad is an easy and affordable way to clean out your clutter by presenting your unwanted items to hundreds of potential buyers. What are you waiting for? Contact us today and start turning the stuff you don't want into something you do want: **CASH!**

Get things moving with O&E Media classifieds!

800-579-7355
hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric Media
 A GANNETT COMPANY

Need a Hand With Your To-Do List?

Find professional home improvement services providers in O&E Media's Classified Services section every week!

To advertise your home improvement services, contact us at: 800-579-7355

Observer & Eccentric Media
 A GANNETT COMPANY

RELIGION CALENDAR

DECEMBER BREAKFAST
Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21
Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk, juice; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children, 2-10. Santa Claus will visit
Contact: 734-425-4421

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 24 and 9:30 a.m. Dec. 25
Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: Family service on Christmas Eve; free gifts for children and visitors
Contact: 734-968-3523

CONCERT
Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21
Location: The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary, 18200 Merriman, Livonia
Details: Holy Land Christmas Concerts includes carols and hymns
Contact: 734-422-0010; saintmaria@livonia

LIVING NATIVITY
Time/Date: 6-9 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 20-21
Location: Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: In addition to the stable scene set up on the church lawn, carolers will sing and refreshments will be served
Contact: 734-464-6722

NEW YEAR'S EVE
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 31
Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Details: Worship service
Contact: 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

JANUARY FITNESS CLASSES
Time/Date: 10-11 a.m., Monday, Jan. 12-March 30
Location: St. John Neumann, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: John Mason, a certified personal fitness trainer, teaches this 10-week class that includes yoga-oriented flexibility moves, stretching, strength training and abdominal and back exercises. Cost is \$70, with a portion of proceeds going to the church
Contact: 734-455-5910

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY
Men's Bible study
Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.
Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township
Contact: John Shulenberger at 734-464-9491

Our Lady of Loretto
Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday
Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township
Details: Scripture study
Contact: 313-534-9000

CLOTHING BANK
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. last Saturday of the month
Location: Canton Christian Fellowship, 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton
Details: No documentation needed
Contact: info@cantoncf.org

FAMILY MEAL
Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday
Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills
Details: Free meal
Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

MOMS
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May
Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners
Contact: Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel
Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays
Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford
Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.
Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE
Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday
Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.
Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER
St. Edith Church
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday
Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through back.
Details: Music, singing, prayer
Contact: Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri at 734-464-8906

St. Michael Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday
Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton
Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.
Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

SINGLES
Detroit World Outreach
Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday
Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304
Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.
Contact: The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org

First Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: 7-7:15 p.m., social time; 7:30 p.m., announcements; 7:30-8:30 p.m., program; 8:30-9 p.m. ice cream social, Thursdays.
Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville
Details: Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5
Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant
Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday
Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia
Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.
Contact: 313-534-0399

SONG CIRCLE
Congregation Beth Ahm
Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat
Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in translation as well as the original Hebrew.
Contact: 248-737-1931 or email nancyellen879@att.net.

Passages
 Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

View Online
www.hometownlife.com

How to reach us:
 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

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

BRIMHALL, Leland M.
 Age 83, of Novi, died December 14, 2014. Leland is the loving father of Susan Suomi, Marilee Cullen, Wanda Brimhall, Angela (Daniel) Clingan, and Jon Brimhall (d. 2007). Beloved grandfather of 13 and several great-grandchildren. Leland will be privately interred at Rozetta Cemetery in Henderson County, Illinois. heenev-sundquist.com



HEILMANN, GERHARD MAX
 Died peacefully in his sleep on December 11, 2014 surrounded by his family in Gardendale Alabama. Max as he was known to his friends and family was born on January 29, 2014 in Berlin Germany and immigrated to the United States in December 1960 making his home in Livonia MI with his wife Ruth. He enjoyed the outdoors, camping and his beloved garden. Max and Ruth traveled the world after his retirement from Detroit Diesel making trips to Europe, the Panama Canal and the Caribbean. He is survived by his wife, his children Michael (Maureen), Andrew (Annette) and Dorothy Obara. He was very proud of his six grandchildren Lindsay, Dana, Hans, "The Girl" Tori, Grace and Grant who called him "Opa". Max is at rest and his family will have a memorial service in Hollywood, Florida on December 27, 2014. Donations may be made in his honor at the National Parkinson Foundation, www.parkinson.org on his honor page.



JOHNSON, BETTY
 December 12, 2014, age 105 (and 3/4), of Plymouth. Beloved wife of the late Bill. Loving mother of Sharlene Finnegan, Pat Rucker, Jim Johnson and the late Ron Johnson. Betty is also survived by 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandson. Betty and Bill moved to Plymouth in 1939, raised their family here and retired to Traverse City in 1971. Bill passed away at the Plymouth Medilodge Nursing Home in 2003. Betty was a very active lady who enjoyed crocheting, sewing, gardening, and spending time with friends and family. She will always be remembered for her kindness and giving spirit. The family will gather with friends to celebrate her life on Thursday, December 18 from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. at the Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Memorials may be made to Star Manor Nursing Home-Activity Department, 520 W. Main Northville, MI 48167. To share a memory, please visit Vermeulenfuneralhome.com

GRAVES, JOANN LUTRINGER
 Age 73, died on December 10, 2014 at McLaren Northern Michigan hospital surrounded by her family. She was born in Jamaica, New York, and grew up in New Canaan, Connecticut. She received her master's in math from Marymount College in Tarrytown, N.Y., and spent many years teaching in France. Joann met and later married James Graves in July 12, 1969. They raised their family in Farmington Hills, Michigan, and in June 2013, moved up to Boyne City to enjoy the beauty of Northern Michigan. Joann is survived by her husband, James; daughters, Suzanne (Graves) Millican of Grosse Pointe Woods and Pamela Graves of Boyne City; and three grandchildren, Tony, Kathrine and Elizabeth Millican. The family requests, in lieu of flowers, a donation to the American Cancer Society. A memorial service took place at 9 a.m. on Thursday, December 11, at the First Presbyterian Church in Harbor Springs, with another memorial service planned for 2 p.m. Saturday, December 20, at St. Alexander's Church in Farmington Hills.



In Memoriam

ROBERT (BOB) AMES
 February 8, 1935 - December 18, 2013
 You are so loved and missed by your family and friends. God now has you in his safe keeping. You will remain in our hearts forever, and be loved for all time.
 CHRIS, DEBBIE, BOBBY & TINA

May the memory of your loved one...
 ...bring you peace.

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 memory at 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 For Thursday Publication/Tuesday 9:30 a.m. prior

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

SUPPORT
Apostolic Christian Church
Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily
Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia
Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.
Contact: 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

Connection Church
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday
Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton
Details: Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free
Contact: Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

Detroit World Outreach
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday
Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202
Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems
Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

» **Farmington Hills Baptist Church**
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August
Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills
Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group
Contact: 248-433-1011

» **Merriman Road Baptist Church**
Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday
Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City
Details: Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations
Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

» **Fireside Church of God**
Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Fireside Adult Day Ministry activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center
Contact: 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; www.firesidecho-

g.org; or email to adm@firesidecho.org

» **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday
Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available
Contact: 734-421-8451

» **St. Thomas a' Becket Church**
Time/Date: Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group 7 p.m. Thursday
Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton
Details: Take Off Pounds Sensibly
Contact: Margaret at 734-838-0322

» **Unity of Livonia**
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday
Location: 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia
Details: Overeaters Anonymous
Contact: 248-559-7722; www.oa.org for additional information

» **Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church**
Time/Date: 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/desserts)
Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township
Details: Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free.
Contact: Child care, 248-374-7400; www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate

THRIFT STORE
St. James Presbyterian
Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford
Contact: 313-534-7730 for additional information

Way of Life Christian Church
Time/Date: 2-3:30 p.m. third Saturday from October through May
Location: 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth
Details: Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives.
Contact: 734-637-7618

TOUR
Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to noon first Sunday of the month
Location: The Solanus Casey Center, a Capuchin ministry, at 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit
Details: Led by Capuchin friar Larry Webber, the director of the Solanus Casey Center, the tour focuses on the spirituality and holiness of Father Solanus, a humble Capuchin friar credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. No reservations are needed, although the center requests an advance phone call for groups of five or more. No cost for the tour, although donations are accepted.
Contact: 313-579-2100, Ext. 149; www.solanuscenter.org

WORSHIP
 » **Adat Shalom Synagogue**
Time/Date: 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Sunday; and 6 p.m. weekdays
Location: 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills
Contact: 248-851-5100

» **Bethlehem Lutheran Church**
Time/Date: 10 a.m. Sunday service
Location: 35300 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills
Contact: pastor Terry Miller at tshelton@mi.rr.com; 248-478-6520

» **Congregation Bet Chaverim**
Time/Date: Services are held 7 p.m. the third Friday of the month
Location: At the shared facilities of Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge, Canton
Details: Reformed Jewish Congregation with Rabbi Peter Gluck and Cantorial soloist Robin Liberatore
Contact: www.facebook.com/betchaverim or email to betchaverim@yahoo.com

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 452-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD CHURCH 40000 Six Mile Road Northville, MI 48168 248-374-7400 Sunday Worship Services 8 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11 a.m. 4 different music styles from classic to modern www.wardchurch.org</p>	<p>CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200 Mass Schedule: First Friday Mass 7:00 p.m. Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</p> <p><i>A Church for Seasoned Saints</i></p> <p>OPEN ARMS CHURCH</p> <p>Worship: Sunday 10:30 am Wednesday 7 pm</p> <p>Pastor Grady Jensen & Music Minister Abe Fazzini</p> <p>33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Merriman Across from Joe's Produce 248.471.5282 Church As You Remember It!</p>
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For Information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-926-2219 or e-mail: ssare@michigan.com

Make your meal a holiday hit



Impress guests with three courses, starting with duck

Memorable holiday dining always comes down to the mouthwatering meals served by the host.

This season, impress family and friends with three traditional courses that many guests have come to expect at a holiday gathering: a juicy bird, a hearty side and a sweet ending. Featuring flavor-packed herbs, spices and the freshest ingredients, these recipes allow you to serve up the very best of the season to those you love.

— Courtesy of Family Features

CREAMY SCALLOPED POTATOES

Prep time: 45 minutes
Servings: 14

2 ½ pounds Yukon gold potatoes, scrubbed
¼ cup butter
¼ cup chopped onion
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 ½ cups 2 percent milk
1 cup Daisy Sour Cream
1 ½ cups shredded Asiago cheese
½ teaspoon paprika

Butter 11-by-7-inch (2 quart) baking dish and set aside. Slice potatoes to ½-inch-thick circles. Place potatoes in large saucepan or Dutch oven; add water to cover by 1 inch. Cook until tender and cool slightly. Heat oven to 350°F. In 2 ½-quart saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Add onion; cook 1 minute. Stir in flour and salt. Cook until mixture bubbles. Gradually stir in milk and cook until mixture boils. Reduce heat to low. Stir in sour cream and cheese. Cook on low until cheese is melted, stirring constantly. Layer half of potatoes in baking dish. Pour half the sauce over potatoes. Repeat with remaining potatoes and sauce. Sprinkle potatoes with paprika. Bake for 30–35 minutes or until bubbly and top starts to brown. For more recipes, visit www.daisybrand.com.

CRISPY ROAST DUCK WITH GIBLET GRAVY

Servings: 8

2 whole ducks (5 pounds each), thawed if frozen
2 cups chicken broth
1 cup water
1 onion, unpeeled and quartered
2 large carrots, cut into ½-inch chunks
2 small sprigs fresh sage
1 large bay leaf
1 teaspoon dried thyme leaves
½ teaspoon black peppercorns
¼ cup dry vermouth or dry white wine
¼ cup all-purpose flour
Salt and pepper, to taste

Remove giblets and orange sauce packets from ducks and reserve for another use. Rinse ducks; pat dry with paper towels. Place breast sides up on rack in large shallow roasting pan. Roast according to package directions. Place remaining duck giblets and necks in large saucepan. Add broth, water, onion, carrots, sage sprigs, bay leaf, thyme and peppercorns. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat; simmer gently uncovered 1 hour. Strain broth; set aside giblets and discard remaining solids. If broth measures less than 2 cups add water to equal 2 cups. Remove roast ducks from oven and transfer to rack of broiler pan. Preheat broiler. Pour off and reserve drippings from roasting pan. Add vermouth to pan and cook over medium high heat, stirring constantly with wooden spoon, until mixture is reduced by about half, 2–3 minutes. Spoon off ¼ cup fat from reserved drippings; transfer to medium saucepan. Add flour; cook, stirring constantly, over medium heat 1 minute. Add 2 cups strained duck broth and wine mixture to saucepan. Add drippings to saucepan. Cook, stirring frequently, until gravy thickens. Chop reserved giblets and add to gravy. Simmer 3 minutes. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Broil ducks 5–6 inches from heat source until skin is well browned and crispy, 6–8 minutes. Cut each duck into quarters and transfer to serving plates. Pass gravy separately. Garnish with sage sprigs, if desired. For more recipes, visit www.mapleleafarms.com.

BROWN SUGAR PECAN PIE

Prep time: 35 minutes
Chill time: 1 1/2 hours or overnight
Bake time: 15–20 minutes
Cook time: 40–45 minutes
Servings: 8

Crust:
1 cup all-purpose flour
½ cup (2 ounces) ground pecans
½ teaspoon salt
½ cup vegetable shortening, cold
1 egg yolk
3–4 tablespoons ice water, divided
2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice

Filling:
3 eggs
1 cup packed dark brown sugar
½ cup sugar
½ cup butter, melted
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup pecan halves

To make crust, mix flour, nuts and salt in large bowl. Cut in shortening with pastry blender until pieces are size of small peas. Mix egg yolk, 3 tablespoons ice water and lemon juice in small bowl. Add to flour mixture, 1 tablespoon at a time, stirring lightly and tossing with fork until moistened and dough just holds together. Add remaining ice water, if needed. Gather dough and shape into 1-inch-thick disk. Refrigerate, wrapped in plastic wrap, 1 hour or overnight. Heat oven to 425°F. Roll out dough on lightly floured surface, rolling from center to edge, to form 12-inch circle. Fold into quarters; ease and unfold into 9-inch pie plate. Press pastry gently against bottom and sides of pie plate, easing out any air. Trim edge leaving 1/2-inch overhang. Fold overhang under; flute edge. Refrigerate, covered, at least 30 minutes. Line pie crust with aluminum foil; fill with pie weights. Bake in oven until pastry is set, 8–10 minutes. Remove foil and weights; pierce pastry all over with fork. Bake until pastry is golden brown, 5–7 minutes longer. Cool completely on wire rack. Heat oven to 350°F. Beat eggs, brown sugar, sugar, butter, vanilla and salt in medium bowl until well blended. Arrange pecan halves evenly in bottom of pie crust. Carefully pour egg mixture over pecans. Bake in center of 350°F oven until knife inserted midway between center and edge of pie comes out clean, 40–45 minutes. Cool on wire rack. Note: Pastry dough can be made in food processor. Also, ground almonds, walnuts or hazelnuts can be substituted for pecans. For more recipes, visit www.IncredibleEgg.org.

Grinder opens up new world of coffee for the senses

My mission: to quickly enter and leave with only a box of Chemex coffee filters.

I navigated successfully through the sensory minefield at the local Whole Foods store. Past the bakery with loaves of fresh bread, the salad bar and prepared foods — the coffee aisle was in sight. But the beer case located strategically between me and the coffee was my downfall.

The description on the bottle was the bullet that kept me from successfully completing my mission. It started with “Dedicated to Brewers & Roasters.” Further into the description were these words: “... Allegro Coffee Porter joins two of the world’s best brewed beverages ...” Need I say more? Mission failed.

Before I got into more trouble I left the beer case behind and headed down the aisle to pick up the coffee filters. This time, in my way were two gentlemen standing in front of the Chemex display. The customer was slinging rapid-fire questions at the store employee about the Chemex brewer. The employee, an admitted tea drinker, was struggling. My mission was about to fail on a second front, for this no longer was going to be the quick trip I had envisioned.



Dan Dean

“That is a great way to brew coffee, you will not be disappointed,” I said, breaking into the conversation. The store employee, relieved of his struggles, quickly dispatched himself to safer grounds. And my new-found coffee friend and I spent the next few minutes discussing the Chemex.

It is a simple coffee brewer, a glass vessel that uses unique heavy filters (20–30 percent heavier than other filters) in a cone shape. Ground coffee is placed into the filter and hot water is manually poured over the grounds. It is an elegant-looking device — a hand-blown glass version resides in the Museum of Modern Art in New York — and is relatively inexpensive (under \$40) when compared to the single-served brewers popular today.

I answered his questions, gave suggestions on brewing and we went our separate ways.

Before I got to the checkout counter, I started to have my regrets. Not that I gave him bad information, but about the most important point that I believe I did not stress enough.



The author’s trusty 20-year-old grinder. Fifty shakes for an eight-cup Chemex helps give the beans a more consistent grind.

My coffee friend had mentioned that he was at an establishment that had served coffee in the Chemex, and he liked it so much — that was what brought him searching and asking about the Chemex. And while I mentioned that he should purchase a grinder, I am not sure I drove home the importance of freshly-ground coffee.

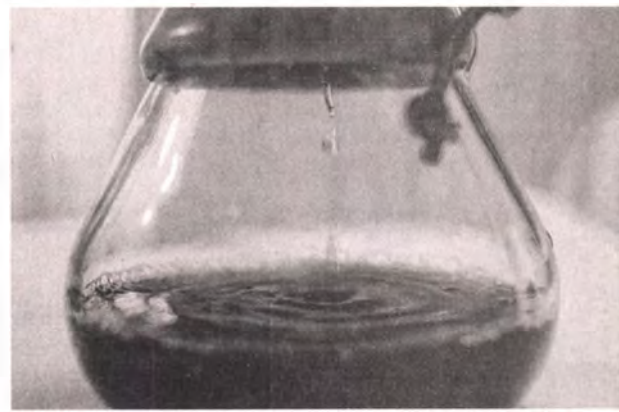
Buy a grinder

Part of our conversation centered around the type of grind to use, as he mentioned he was purchasing a bag of coffee and had it ground for percolator.

In my view, he would be far better off buying a \$20 blade grinder and brewing his coffee in any

device, than putting pre-ground coffee into a Chemex. Yes, the Chemex is a wonderful way to brew coffee, I use one just about every day. But I would bet that the taste of the coffee that sent him on his journey to find the Chemex had more to do with what went into the Chemex, than the Chemex itself.

For anybody who wants to take their coffee drinking experience to another level, the place to start is with a grinder. Purchase whole bean coffee and grind it just before brewing. Whether you use a \$200 single-serve brewer or any of the many versions of the Mr. Coffee-type automatic brewers, a percolator or French press it



PHOTOS BY DAN DEAN

Brewed coffee drips into the bottom portion of the glass Chemex. Before spending money on cool brewing devices, the author suggests purchasing a grinder first.

really does not matter — fresh ground coffee put into any of those devices will make a noticeable difference in taste over pre-ground coffee.

I believe coffee is a journey. For some, their piece de résistance is a polystyrene cup from Speedway. Others, like the gentleman at Whole Foods, a certain cup of coffee stirred an appetite to further that journey. And while his purchase of the brewer that stirred something in him, is admirable, the key element to further his coffee experience should start with a grinder.

The grinder is the ticket that sets the journey in motion. You will notice an incredible boost in the flavor of whatever coffee you brew, in whatever it is

you use to brew it in. And like thousands of others who have discovered the wonderful variety coffee can offer in the cup, you will soon be searching for more. From there, you might find yourself using fresh filtered water; locating and purchasing fresh-roasted coffee beans, whether from an online source or a local roaster; then moving onto the multitude of manual brewing devices where you can control all the elements of the process.

Grind away and let your journey begin.

Dan Dean is a former coffee shop owner and assistant managing editor for Observer & Eccentric. He can be reached at ddean@hometownlife.com.

Schoolcraft College dance benefits DAV cause

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Leave it to a college honors society to combine music, dancing, a documentary film, a research exhibit and an online fundraising campaign all into one event — and all for a good cause.

"Swing into Service" will get guests on their feet, dancing to the sounds of the Rhythm Society Orchestra, Friday, Dec. 19, at Schoolcraft College, and at the same time will raise awareness of disabled veterans and the potential use of 3D printing to make prosthetics.

"We're expecting all ages and it's a family-friendly atmosphere," said McKenzie Hayes, a Plymouth resident and president of the Omicron Iota chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Schoolcraft College.

"There will be something for everyone. If you don't like dancing, there will be chairs and tables and beautiful refreshments. And the band is huge ... the crème de la crème of swing bands. They're reminiscent of Glenn Miller. They play 1940s music.

"It's a fun way to spend the night. We hope to see as many people there as possible. One hundred percent of the proceeds go to Disabled American Veterans (DAV)."

Doors will open at 7 p.m. and swing dance lessons will be available from 7:15-8 p.m. when the dancing begins, in the DiPonio Room at the VisTa-Tech center on Schoolcraft College's main campus, 18600



The Rhythm Society Orchestra will perform Friday, Dec. 19, at Schoolcraft College.

Haggerty, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Participants will learn an East Coast swing dance and a modern swing dance, according to Hayes. Four swing dance teachers will be on hand throughout the evening.

"I've been swing dancing for six years and some of our officers and members love to do it," Hayes said.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, or \$20 at the door. Attire is semi-formal or vintage. For tickets, call the Schoolcraft College Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.

Exploring 3D printing

The Phi Theta Kappa, an international honors society

for two-year colleges, is raising donations online through GoFundMe in conjunction with the dance. All proceeds from the crowd-funding campaign and Swing into Service will help the DAV buy vans to drive veterans to and from doctor appointments.

The funding campaign and benefit dance both grew out of a research project the Omicron Iota chapter undertook to maintain its five-star standing with the international Phi Theta Kappa. The international group chooses a theme every two years for its member chapters to use as a guide for research into an honors study topic. Chapters that take the



Phi Theta Kappa, an honor society at Schoolcraft College, will donate all proceeds from its Swing into Service dance on Friday, Dec. 19, to the Disabled American Veterans.

challenge are more likely to maintain four- and five-star reputations. The topic this year is "frontiers and the spirit of exploration."

"We chose frontiers in the medical and scientific world. My team and the members did research and narrowed the topic to 3D printed prostheses," said Hayes, who is working toward an associate's degree in science. Part of the challenge includes taking an action based on the research. The Schoolcraft team chose the swing dance and crowd-funding campaign and reached out to the DAV as a beneficiary. An exhibit at the dance will

explain the group's research and a film about 3D printing will screen in the Presentation Room at the Center.

"We've learned that 3D printing, compared to manufactured prostheses, are less expensive and more comfortable and more customized for the best fit," Hayes said, adding that it may be the "wave of the future."

The Omicron Iota chapter has 300 members. All have grade point averages of 3.5 or better and take at least 12 credits per semester.

To donate online, visit GoFundMe.com/SwingIntoService.

Fun and learning: Improv show raises funds for Detroit Creativity Project



Cass Tech High School students perform at the Detroit Improv Festival in August. They studied improvisation through a 10-week class offered by the Detroit Creativity Project. An improv show Tuesday, Dec. 23, at Go! Comedy in Ferndale, with Second City alumni Tim Robinson, Sam Richardson, Marc Evan Jackson and others, will help raise funds for the Project.

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Marc Evan Jackson spent only three years in Detroit while working with The Second City theater in the late 1990s, but it was enough for him to consider the Motor City as home.

Jackson and his wife, Beth Hagenlocker, a former Farmington Hills resident, now live in southern California, but continue to make an impact on the City's youth through a program that brings free 10-week improvisation courses to Detroit schools.

Jackson and Hagenlocker co-founded The Detroit Creativity Project in 2011 because they were concerned about budget cuts to arts curricula in Detroit schools. The Project, a

nonprofit organization with 501(c)3 status, has trained approximately 800 middle school and high school students since then, teaching them the art of creating unscripted scenes and sketches on the spot.

"We're looking to expand," said Hagenlocker, a veterinarian who recently sold her practice to concentrate on nonprofit organizations. "Our goal for 2015 is to add 200 new students in five new schools. And by the end of 2015, what we'd like to see instead of 300 kids a year, is 600. And the next year after that, 1,000. It's very doable."

Funding the cause

Proceeds from the Holiday Improv Project, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23, at Go! Comedy Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine



Rico Bruce Wade (left) and his students from Bates Academy in Detroit have fun at the Detroit Improv Festival in August. They learned the art of improvisation through the Detroit Creativity Project.

Mile, Ferndale, will benefit the Detroit Creativity Project.

Seasoned improvisers Tim Robinson (*Saturday Night Live*, *Late Night With Seth Meyers*), Sam Richardson, (*Veep*, *We're the Millers*), Marc Evan Jackson, (*22 Jump Street*, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, *The Thrilling Adventure Hour*), Phred Brown, musical director for Bruno Mars, and Margaret Edwartowski, executive director of Arts and Y Arts in Detroit, will take the stage for an hour of long-form improvisation. They'll take a suggestion from the audience and run with it, creating multiple scenes.

Jackson said the audience can expect a "high-energy, super fun night."

"Two days before Christmas we get together and goof around. It's one of my favorite nights of the year. It's just great friends doing a reunion,

trying to make each other laugh, doing a long-form improv show. I guarantee that it will be funny and weird."

Both Jackson and Hagenlocker hope the audience also sees improvisation as a valuable vehicle for teaching critical thinking and communication skills, building confidence and teamwork.

Arts education

Hagenlocker, who worked in community development in Wayne County before earning her veterinary degree, said the arts have always been important to her. She attended Kingswood School in Bloomfield Hills, which had an "arts and crafts underpinning."

"I've been a weaver and have had a loom since I was 14," she said. "Every place I've lived I've done something in the arts. I'd say for me, the importance is the creative

outlet and the chance to express your ideas and share something you've created with other people."

She added that the Detroit Creativity Project not only gives students an outlet for artistic expression, but also reinforces communication and team-building skills.

Jackson recommends that everyone try improvising. Improv students learn to listen carefully to each other, work as a team, and say yes to each other's ideas.

"Eventually you find yourself saying yes to things, embracing things," he said. "You're more confident and more interesting."

Tickets for the Holiday Improv Project are \$25 at www.gocomedy.net. Visit www.detroitcreativityproject.org for more about the Detroit Creativity Project.

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking
Wildlife art: The Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition — a collection of images from the world's largest and most prestigious wildlife photography competition — runs through March 23, 2015, and is free with zoo admission. It features 100 images from winners of the 2013 competition.
Contact: 248-541-5717

ARTS AND CRAFTS
CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through Jan. 9, 2015
Location: The Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Michigan Weavers Guild exhibit
Contact: 248-473-1859

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2-31, 2015; opening reception is 6-9 p.m. Jan. 2
Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: "Between Landscape and Place" is a solo show by painter John Dempsey
Contact: 248-344-0497

COMEDY

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 19-20
Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Andy Pitz; \$12 for show only or \$25 with dinner, Thursday; \$16 show only, \$29 with dinner, Friday-Saturday
Contact: 734-261-0555; catchthefunny.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 18-19, and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20
Location: Fourth and Troy streets in downtown Royal Oak
Details: Mike Baldwin; tickets \$18
Contact: 248-542-9900; info@ComedyCastle.com

FILM

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, and 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19
Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth
Details: Christmas Vacation, admission \$3
Also playing: The Polar Express, 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 20-21
Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE



See light sculptures while walking through Wild Lights at the Detroit Zoo. Or drive by sculptures at Wayne County's Lightfest on Hines Drive in Westland.

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Dec. 19 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 20
Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Avenue in Detroit
Details: White Christmas, \$5; Santa visits the theater — bring your camera
Contact: 313-898-1481

HISTORY
DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Dec. 28
Location: Second floor in the Community Gallery at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit
Details: Fourteen stained glass windows that were installed at the original St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center, built in 1929 and closed in 2005 in Farmington Hills, are on display. Admission is free
Contact: 313-833-7935

KELSEY MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Dec. 21
Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor
Details: The exhibit, "Pearls of Wisdom: The Arts of Islam at the University of Michigan," consists of 82 artifacts, including ceramics, glass, metal, textiles, paintings, illuminated manuscripts and wood
Contact: 734-764-9304

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday, through Jan. 11, 2015
Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth
Details: 'Twas the Night Before Christmas exhibit features scenes from stories and movies, such as Elf, Polar Express and A Christmas Carol. Santa visits every Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17
Contact: 734-455-8940

HOLIDAY LIGHTS LIGHTFEST

Time/Date: Lightfest hours 6-10 p.m. Friday-Sunday, through Dec. 31, excluding Dec. 25
Location: Along four miles of Hines Drive; enter at 7651 Merriman, between Warren Road and Ann Arbor Trail, in Westland
Details: Drive by 55 holiday light displays; admission is \$5 per car.
Contact: 734-261-1990; parks.waynecounty.com

WILD LIGHTS

Time/Date: 5:30-9 p.m. Dec. 18-23 and 26-31
Location: The Detroit Zoo, I-696 service drive at Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak
Details: The event includes photos with Santa Paws, carousel rides, The Polar Express 4-D Experience, ice carving, arts and crafts. Admission for ages 2 and older is \$8 in advance and \$10 at the gate; parking is \$6 per car. Buy tickets online at www.detroitzoo.org/events/wild-lights, at Detroit Zoo main admissions, or Kroger stores
Contact: 248-541-5717

MAGIC
VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: Aaron Radatz, a Dearborn native, will present a one-man show of family-friendly magic and comedy with a holiday flavor. Radatz, now based in Las Vegas, Nev., served an apprenticeship with Harry Blackstone Jr., and has toured internationally. Tickets are \$18-\$24
Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillage-theater.org

MUSIC
BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m.; show runs 7-9:30 p.m., third Thursday of the month
Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: Ten open mic spots will be available on Saturday, Dec. 20. The featured group is The Sorenson Family. \$5 at the door.
Contact: scludwig@aol.com or 734-453-0869

COMMUNITY SING

Time/Date: 4-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21
Location: Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth
Details: Jerry Smith, director of music ministries at Plymouth's First Presbyterian Church, will lead the singing in this event, sponsored by Heartbeat of Plymouth, a collaboration of churches. Refreshments will served from 5-6 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St., in downtown Plymouth
Contact: 734-453-6464

FARMINGTON COMMUNITY CHORUS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 19-20
Location: Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills
Details: "35 Years of Holiday Cheer" will feature Christmas favorites from the past 35 years. Tickets in advance are \$12; at the door, \$15
Contact: farmingtonchorus.com

JAZZ@THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month
Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: On Tuesday, Dec. 30, Judie Cochill will perform with the Ron Kischuk Trio. \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres
Contact: 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

JAZZ CAFE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Dec. 28
Location: Music Hall Center for Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit
Details: Phredley Brown, instrumentalist, and Bruno Mars musical director and vocalist, perform along with Alesha Nicole, and longtime friend and drummer, Paul Loos, arranger and director for the drum line at Lake Orion High School. Tickets are \$10
Contact: 313-887-8501; ticketmaster.com

PLYMOUTH ORATORIO SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Jan. 5, 2015
Location: First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, Plymouth Township
Details: Rehearsals begin for the Society's 29th season. Experienced singers are welcome. The group will perform Dixit Dominus by Vivaldi and Solemn Vespers by Mozart on May 3, 2015
Contact: 734-455-8353; plymouth-oratoriosociety.org

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.
Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Finvarra's Wren annual Winter Solstice Celebration, Dec. 19. Open Stage, Dec. 30 and Jan. 6, 2015; Billy Strings and Don Julin, Jan. 9, 2015. Most tickets \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted.
Contact: 734-464-6302 for additional information

THEATER
EMERGENT ARTS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 21
Location: The Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti
Details: Two holiday one-act plays include No Room at The Big Sleep Inn by Tim Henning and The Office Party by Paul Bianchi. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$12 seniors and students with I.D., available at the door by cash or check, or online at www.emergentarts.com
Contact: 734-985-0875 for pay-at-the-door reservations



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Saugatuck Brewery Tap Takeover
 Fri., Jan. 9
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