

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2014 • hometownlife.com



Westland continues work in Norwayne

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Work to make more improvements to Norwayne – through renovation and demolition – has been approved the Westland City Council.

The renovation comes through a contract not to exceed \$36,706 awarded for architecture services for housing the Dorsey Center in a former elementary school or officially, the Jefferson-Barns Community Vitality Center Project.

Wyandotte-based Sidock Group was the lowest bidder

on the project. The firm also supplied architectural services for the city on a new state of the art fire station, which is expected to open in early 2015.

Named after former councilwoman and state legislator Justine Barns, Jefferson-Barns School was closed in 2010. The city and Wayne-Westland Schools recently entered into an agreement for the conversion of the school into a community center.

Much larger than the current Dorsey Center, the renovated building will house Westland's Community Development

Department, the Nankin Transit Authority, the Norwayne Boxing Club, a Westland Police Department mini-station, library, gym and other spaces that will be occupied by local nonprofit organizations and community groups.

The council also awarded contracts to demolish nine vacant, blighted properties in Norwayne. Community Development Director Joanne Campbell said that all of the properties had deteriorated beyond being rehabilitated.

The bids were divided between Leadhead Construction, which will demolish seven

properties for \$36,480, and Berkshire Development, which will demolish two properties for \$17,450.

The properties that will be demolished are at 33810 Casco Court, 2612 Cascade, 31502 Alpena, 31808 Shiawassee, 32321 Kalamazoo, 33385-87 Belding, 2018-20-22-24 Edgerton and 32459-61 Muskegon.

Funds for the demolition will come from the city's Community Development Block Grant Section 108 Loan Program.

Constructed in 1942, the Norwayne neighborhood is Westland's oldest subdivision.

It was erected during World War II to house the employees of the Willow Run Bomber Plant and during its peak was home to more than 20,000 residents.

On July 9, 2013, the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior listed the Norwayne Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places, which is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation.

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



Alan Knight plays Bach on the organ. The former organist at the church has Parkinson's disease, but the tremors cease when he plays.

Organ lends to Christmas joy

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Over the Christmas holidays, the music during services at Ss. Simon and Jude Catholic Church will have richer sound, thanks a contest won by a parishioner.

Carol Simkow wrote a short essay to win the loan of an organ from Evola Music in Canton for a month through early January.

"I'm in love with the organ. I take lessons at Evola. We have no organ at the church," Simkow said. "It's a matter of money."

Located on Palmer, Ss. Simon and Jude parish is 55 years old. The church was expanded to its current size 25 years ago.

"We built a bigger church; we wanted to get an organ," Simkow said, adding the expansion is igloo-shaped with a ceiling made for organ music.

The church has a grand piano, but Simkow said that isn't same as having an organ.

"If you're an old-fashioned Catholic, the organ is everything – there is no service without an organ," Simkow said.

See ORGAN, Page A2



Although the organ is electronic, the controls are similar to that of a traditional pipe organ.

Police release photos of robbery suspect



WESTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
Westland Police are trying identify this man, in connection with the robbery of a security guard at an apartment complex.



WESTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
A second photo of a suspect in an armed robbery in Westland.

Westland Police have released a photograph of a suspect in connection with the armed robbery of a security guard working at Woodland Villa Apartment Complex.

The security guard reported being robbed at gunpoint while seated in his vehicle Dec. 21. The apartment complex is located north of Warren Road and west off Central City Parkway.

The security guard told police that a male and two females had stolen his wallet, credit cards and cell phone.

Westland Police investigated and found one of the stolen credit cards had been used at the Speedway gas station at Cherry Hill and Newburgh shortly after the robbery.

Surveillance footage from the gas station provided two photographs of the male suspect which were released by the police.

Anyone with information about the suspects is asked to call Westland Police Sgt. Ron Buckley at 734-467-3194.

—By LeAnne Rogers

DEAR SANTA ...

Writing a letter to Santa is among the numerous traditions of the Christmas season. Youngsters have been writing Dear Santa letters for many years, attesting to their being nice, offering a wish list of toys and greetings to Mrs. Claus and the elves and inquiries about Rudolph and the reindeer.

And it also has become a holiday tradition of printing a few of the letters written by youngsters from our community. Of course, we cleared it with the Big Guy and assured him we would print the letters as they were written.

We agreed. Letters to Santa are written from the hearts of the children. Their thoughts, their creativity, their hints as to where they live are what make this holiday a delightful time. We hope you will take the time to read these letters. We did and so did Santa.

Dear Santa,

I'm lonely without my brother so one thing I will love is for my brother to come home and live with us and not get in trouble all the time but Santa the only thin that can make me happy is my for my brother to come home.

Love, Luciana Hensley, 9
Westland

Dear Santa,

My name is Jayden. This year I was very good. I would like a new dirt bike. And a surf board. Because I have a new dirt track. And my gg lives by the beach. If your elves are not too busy I would also like: a Hot Wheels Plymouth Super Bird.

Love, Jayden Hall, 8
Westland

Dear Santa,

My name is Andrew. This year I have been very good. What I would most like for Christmas this year is a control helicopter and a baseball because I can make the helicopter fly and I love baseball. If your elves are not too busy I would also like a ipad because my grandma has one and she has some cool games on it.

Love Andrew Morse, 8
Westland

P.S. I will leave you some milk and cookies on Christmas Eve

Dear Santa,

Thank you for giving me

See LETTERS, Page A2



PRICE: \$1

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA
hometownlife.com
A GANNETT COMPANY

© The Observer & Eccentric
Volume 50 • Number 63

Home Delivery: (866) 887-2737 | Return Address: 29725 Hudson Dr., Novi MI 48377

INDEX

Business	A7	Homes	B4	Services	B4
Crossword Puzzle	B5	Jobs	B4	Sports	B1
Entertainment	B7	Obituaries	B6	Wheels	B4
Food	B8	Opinion	A12		

Holiday Shopping Made Easier

Rates as low as 4.49% APR*

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL

right here right for you
www.cfcu.org
(877) 937-2328

*Subject to credit application and approval. Annual Percentage Rate (APR) may vary and is dependent on individual credit history and other factors. Stated rate includes .25% discount with automatic transfer from Community Financial checking account. Maximum loan amount \$3,000. Maximum term is 12 months. Not available for refinance of existing Community Financial loan, offer expires 12/31/14. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Lender. ©2014 Community Financial

Federal suit against city over arrest dismissed

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

A lawsuit filed in federal court against the city of Livonia regarding an arrest made this summer has been thrown out, according to the city's law department.

In a memo addressed to city council, city attorney Don Knapp said a lawsuit filed by Keith Hammons in U.S. District Court against the city had been dismissed. The suit alleged the city's police department wrongfully arrested him in July 2013, violating his Fourth Amendment rights.

The arrest stemmed from an investigation into several car thefts from Tennyson Chevrolet, 32570 Plymouth, that had taken place around that time. Working on a task force with surrounding police departments, officers located some of the missing cars being driven in the area and spoke to their occupants. Those driving the missing vehicles identified a person who made the keys available in exchange for cash.

Police contacted the dealership and employees there confirmed the information provided by the car drivers matched the description of an employ-

ee. Livonia police were dispatched to the dealership and arrested him.

But because witnesses did not follow up with investigators and did not appear likely to appear for trial, the case was dismissed and Hammons was not prosecuted.

He later filed suit in federal court, saying there was not enough probable cause to arrest him and that his constitutional rights had been violated.

U.S. District Judge Patrick Duggan dismissed the suit, Knapp said, saying there had been enough evidence for an arrest, even though charges were never pursued. The appeals period has

since expired, with no appeal filed with U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

"Although Mr. Hammons insisted he was innocent of the charges, the Constitution does not require that only the guilty be arrested," Knapp wrote. "U.S. District Court Judge Patrick Duggan concluded, after reviewing the investigative file and Mr. Hammons' testimony, that the officers had probable cause to arrest."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com | 734-678-6728
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

Seniors surprise first-graders with gift of books

During the holidays, people look forward to traditions – baking cookies with grandma, trimming the tree as a family or attending festive parties with friends. At Botsford Commons Senior Community in Farmington Hills, the Giving Tree has become a holiday tradition with staff, families and residents. Now in its third year, it's a hand's down favorite.

Seventy-eight first-grade students from Botsford Elementary in Livonia recently visited Botsford Commons, all looking forward to singing holiday favorites and entertaining the residents. Little did the children know, but the residents and staff had been working hard for months, collaborating with their teachers, to make sure every first-grade student received brand-new books that would interest them and be at their current reading level.

The residents and staff watched while Santa counted down, "three, two, one" and the students all unwrapped their books simultaneously. The screams and yells from the excited kids brought tears to the eyes of the staff and residents. "It was such a joy to see," said Margaret Lightner, president and CEO of Botsford

Commons. "We were all involved in their joy; enjoying that moment with the students was amazing. They loved their gifts and it was beautiful to see the residents' faces light up – watching the kids in that moment was a gift to us all."

The event is organized through the Fullness of Life department at Botsford Commons. This year's event was led by Barb Smith. Christmas trees are decorated with envelopes, each one labeled with a student's name. The staff, residents and families are excited to fill the envelopes with donations.

Reading has connected Botsford Commons seniors and these Clarenceville School District students for seven years, thanks to a popular reading program called "Botsford Buddies." Every month, the children read to the residents, improving their literacy skills and building bonds along the way.

First-grade teacher Maureen O'Leary said, "In all my years of teaching, this event was the most incredible thing I have ever experienced. One of my students last year opened her gift of books, hugged them and never put them down. This gift put her on the road to reading."



Here comes Santa. The Botsford Elementary first-graders were thrilled to see him.

The children carried their books home, stored safely in

dry cloth grocery bags, donated by Senior Helpers, Resi-

dential Home Health and Kroger.

we buy
gold
top prices
paid

Golden Gifts Jewelers
PROUDLY SERVING LIVONIA SINCE 1986
A Licensed Buyer
33300 West Six Mile Road • Livonia
At the Corner of Six Mile & Farmington
734.525.4555
Mon.-Wed. & Fri. 10-6; Thurs. 10-8 Sat. 10-5

ST. MARY MERCY MEDICAL GROUP
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

Flu Season is here

Let us help you and your family stay healthy.
Flu season is as predictable as the falling leaves and dropping temperatures. St. Mary Mercy Medical Group is ready to help you make it through as healthy as possible.

Don't wait.
Start by getting your flu shot. And if you feel sick, St. Mary Mercy Medical Group not only offers quick treatment of seasonal flu, we also treat sore throats, ear infections, fractures and complex medical conditions. Sick today, seen today and on the road to good health.

Livonia 734-655-8200 • Farmington Hills 734-655-8220 • Livonia Campus 734-655-1618

Welcome Dr. Irby-Johnson
The St. Mary Mercy Medical Group would like to extend a warm welcome to NiJuanna Irby-Johnson, MD. She joins our medical group of over 25 primary care and specialty physicians as an internal medicine physician. She has more than 10 years of experience in adult primary care, preventative care and management of chronic disease.
Dr. Irby-Johnson received her medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine and is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

stmarymercy.org/smmmg

The ABC's of fire extinguishers at home and away

We have talked about fire extinguishers in your home in previous articles. We have discussed the classes of fire: ordinary combustibles (Class A), flammable liquids (Class B) and energized electrical equipment (Class C). We have discussed the operation of portable fire extinguishers by remembering the word "PASS" - PULL the pin, AIM the nozzle at the base of the flame, SQUEEZE the handles together to activate, and SWEEP from side to side at the base of the flames until the fire is out. All fire extinguishers must operate in this manner.

Today, let's take a look at the fire extinguishers you may find in your workplace, restaurants you frequent or places you shop at.

Fire extinguishers should be in a visible, accessible and unobstructed location and either hung on a wall or placed in a cabinet no higher than five feet from the floor. Signs and labels may be required to increase visibility, and the cabinets should not be locked. They should also be at each exit door or exit stairway. You should always be within 75 feet of travel distance of a fire extinguisher from any location within a building. They should be in areas where flammable liquids are stored or used, and in areas involving cooking operations.

Fire extinguishers in buildings should be inspected annually to ensure they are fully operable. Many citizens ask me about servicing their home fire extinguishers, and here is my answer. First, if it comes with a gauge, check to make sure the needle is in the green. If the fire extinguisher cost you less than \$30, it is probably disposable and can be discarded in the garbage when used. If it cost more, it probably has a metal top, instead of



Shadd
Whitehead

the plastic top on the cheaper, disposable units. If you want it checked or recharged, look in the phone book under "fire extinguishers" and you can easily find a place that will service your fire extinguisher there.

In your home, you are free from the inspections so fire extinguishers are not required. I do recommend them, though. You should get one rated for the main three classes of fire, so an A-B-C rated fire extinguisher is the choice to make. Since most fires are cooking-related, a great place to keep one is in or near the kitchen. It does not have to be kept in plain sight, but cooks should know where it is kept so they can grab it quickly in the case of an unwanted kitchen fire. And it should not be kept directly above the stove or next to it, as flames may hamper your ability to get to it when needed.

Other great locations for fire extinguishers include having one in the basement, since you typically have your furnace, hot water heater and electrical panel down there. Many of us also store flammable liquids there, such as paints, stains and oils. Garages also make sense as all of our gasoline and gas/oil mixes, along with oils and flammable sprays are stored there.

Next time you are out at a restaurant, taking in a movie or shopping, or at work, check the location of fire extinguishers. When you get home, check yours out and discuss it with your family.

Shadd Whitehead is the chief of Livonia Fire & Rescue.

Livonia

Retail fraud reported

Livonia police were called Saturday evening to Walmart, 29555 Plymouth, on the report of a retail fraud suspect who had been detained.

Employees told police they saw the suspect go to the toy department and select several items with no regard to price. The suspect then went to the self scan area and did not scan several items. The suspect tried to leave but was stopped by store employees and detained until police arrived and made an arrest.

Purse taken at store

A woman came into the police station Saturday evening to report her purse had been taken while at Walmart, 29574 Seven Mile.

She told police she set her purse down in her cart while at the store when there were a lot of people around. Later, she discovered the purse, which contained some bank cards, her driver's license and a Sam's Club card, was missing. She said she did not see anyone take the purse.

Vehicle egged

A resident who lives in the 14500 block of Ruff came in to the police station Friday afternoon to report his vehicle had been damaged.

The man said he went out to his truck that morning and saw it had been egged sometime before 8 a.m. He washed off the egg, but found there was some damage left to the vehicle. The patrol desk had gotten several reports of egged vehicles in that neighborhood, but no official police reports were filed. No sus-

POLICE BRIEFS

pect information was available.

Car broken into

An area resident came into the police station Friday morning to report damage to his vehicle done at the Livonia Elks Club, 31117 Plymouth.

The man said he locked his vehicle and went inside the club. When he came out, he found the door lock had been damaged, apparently using a punch type tool, and his vehicle was ransacked. He found an iPad missing from his car. It appeared the lock had been tampered with.

Westland

Larceny

A Detroit resident told police Dec. 15 that someone had punched the door lock of his truck and stolen the stereo while he was parked at the Willow Creek Apartments, 37794 Willow Creek. The dashboard was also reported to be damaged.

Vandalism

On Dec. 15, a resident of the Riverbend Apartments, 31097 Warren Road, told police that overnight someone had hit his 2011 Chevrolet Malibu. The officer noted damage to the front grill and passenger side bumper of the car.

Larceny from a vehicle

A Garden City woman told police she left the Dollar General store, 8208 N. Merriam, Dec. 15 and discovered the catalytic converter had been stolen from her 2001 Oldsmobile minivan.

Fraud

On Dec. 18, a Westland woman told police that she had discovered someone had made a fraudulent charge of \$275 at a Walmart in Anderson, S.C.

Larceny

A resident on Dec. 15 told police that someone had stolen five packages delivered by UPS to an apartment at the Landings, 6660 Lakeview. She said she was notified of the delivery but the packages were gone when she returned home.

The missing packages were reported to contain a purse, a child's bag and other merchandise valued at \$650.

A resident at Hunters Pointe Condominiums, in the 6300 block of Hunters Pointe told police Dec. 11 that someone had stolen a package left by UPS on her front porch. She said the package contained six shirts and six pairs of pants valued at \$94.

On Dec. 18, a resident in the 6900 block of Central City told police she had recently purchased a cell phone charger and vitamins from Amazon. She was expecting delivery to her home, she said, but instead discovered two opened boxes on the front porch.

UPS reported her packages had been delivered but the boxes had addresses from two apartments of the Landings Apartments.

- Compiled by David Veselenak and LeAnne Rogers from reports filed with the Livonia and Westland Police Departments.

Information sought in tire slashings

The Wayne Police Department is seeking information about several incidents of damage to vehicles that occurred Dec. 20-21.

The incidents occurred in

several different neighborhoods throughout the city.

"All the incidents involved (punctured) tires. It was all over the city," said Wayne Police Sgt. Matthew Spunar.

Anyone with any information about these incidents is asked to contact the Wayne Police Department at 734-721-1414.

Your Destination for Winter Fun!



FREE PARKING
In the Compuware garage
Mon - Fri 11am - 6pm
with skating admission

- Family Outings
- Private Ice Parties
- Field Trips
- Birthday Parties
- Group Rates
- Skate Rentals
- Convenient Adjacent Parking
- Open 7 Days Including Holidays

HOURS:
Mon.-Thurs.....11am - 10 pm
Friday.....11am - Midnight
Saturday.....10 am - Midnight
Sunday.....Noon - 8 pm



The Rink
CAMPUS MARTIUS PARK

800 Woodward Avenue
3 Blocks North of Jefferson
Located in Detroit's Meeting Place,
Across from the Compuware Building and Hard Rock Cafe.

For reservations & further info,
call 313-963-9393

LO-0000221593

Allie Brothers Uniforms

Your Year Round Carhartt Headquarters

Treat Yourself To Warm Essentials





Shop Local!
No shipping fees!

Quantity Discounts Available

20295 Middlebelt Road • Livonia, Michigan 48152
3 Blocks South of 8 Mile
248-477-4434

Store Hours:
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 9 am - 5:30 pm
Thurs 9-8 • Sat 9-1
Closed Sunday

LO-000022579

YAM invites military veterans to celebrate VE Day at bomber plant site rich in history

The Yankee Air Museum is inviting World War II veterans to be its special guests for a visit to the site of its next home on Friday, May 8, 2015, the 70th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day.

The museum has acquired the final assembly and roll-off portion of the historic World War II B-24 bomber plant and is giving everyone the opportunity to share in its rebirth. The structure at Willow Run will be undergoing restoration and outfitting in the coming years.

Museum officials want everyone to share the excitement in the next chapter of this storied place and are extending a special welcome to World War II service and home front Veterans.

"Yankee Air Museum is known for making history accessible in a very big way," said Kevin Walsh, Executive Director. "Each year we have several big events open and at no cost to the public. This is colossal, and we want everyone to bond with the building and be part of shaping



the next great destination in the region."

Walsh said the sheer expanse of the bomber plant gives rise to the imagination and amazement of the accomplishments of the Greatest Generation. While the museum is just entering the next phase of fundraising to restore and furnish the building, Walsh said the experience of being inside the

cavernous space while under construction helps people visualize the possibilities and then become part of something fundamentally important to America.

"The 70th anniversary of VE Day is the perfect opportunity for the public to visit, for the first time, the future home of the museum," said Ray Hunter, chairman of the board of the Yankee Air

Museum. "The building is an historical artifact of the war that was waged on the home front. The planes that rolled off the assembly line here were Ford Motor Co. products. These Liberators became the largest part of the vast air armada that claimed supremacy over the skies of Europe leading to the demise of the enemy."

Hunter said that the manufacturing capacity of the Willow Run bomber plant was attributable to the innovations made possible by Detroit's automotive industry and the women who

worked there. Hunter added that the entry of women en masse into the American workforce changed the war effort, the nation and the world.

"We want this commemoration of VE Day to honor the veterans who fought for us and the women who stood behind them, building the armaments and aircraft that they relied on to win the war," said Alison Beatty, a University of Michigan graduate student who portrays Rosie the Riveter for the museum. "I'm so proud that the original Rosie the Riveter worked here at Willow Run. She was joined by hundreds of thousands of women across the country who waged war from the home front. They made a difference."

Beatty, Hunter and Walsh are encouraging the public to turn out on May 8 for veterans.

Visit www.yankeeairmuseum.org.

YANKEE AIR MUSEUM
The Yankee Air Museum plans to turn the final assembly and roll-off portion of the historic Willow Run bomber plant into the National Museum of Aviation and Technology at Historic Willow Run.

ABSTRACT WAYNE COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2014-36 December 16, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 8:00 p.m. at the Wayne Activity & Banquet Center, 35000 Sims Ave. All members present. Moment of silence held for June Sansom, Dorothy Budd, Guy Laraway and Hilda Areeda. APPROVED: minutes of reg. mtg. of Dec. 2; site plan #2014-05 H&F Auto at 31827 Michigan; Anthony Miller to vacant position on City Council; call public hearing on 1/20/15 for CDBG; deletion of Chapter 280 - Festival Commission, Plumbing Code Board; Electrical Appeals Board; Employee Suggestion Board; 2014 Police JAG Grand; annual Wayne County Permits; first reading of Chapter 656.08 Assault & Battery; repeal of 656.06; 656.07 & 656.09; first reading of Chapter 210.11 (b) Mechanical Amusement Devices; reappointment of Bruce Foulk, Terry Shenk and Willie Coleman to the Board of Review. Adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 25, 2014 LO-000022583 2x3

GREAT LAKES DERMATOLOGY
MICHAEL R. COHEN, D.O.
Board Certified Dermatologist

Specializing in Diseases w the Skin, Hair & Nails

Invites you to visit and receive the care you deserve.

- Skin Cancer
- Moles
- Psoriasis
- Acne
- Eczema
- Warts
- Hair Loss
- Much More

Botox
Accepting New Patients • All Ages

Call for Appointment 248-324-2222 Evening appts. available
Lewis Medical Office Centre, 39475 Lewis Drive, Suite 150, Novi, Michigan 48377
- greatlakesderm@yahoo.com

LO-000022583

PHYSICAL MEDICINE and REHABILITATION
in Your Neighborhood

General | Spinal Cord Injury | Traumatic Brain Injury

University Physician Group is proud to announce the latest addition to the physical medicine and rehabilitation team.

Cassandra Johnson, ANP-BC
Adult nurse practitioner specializing in spinal cord injury.

Appointments: 313-745-4600
NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

University Physician Group
Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan
Novi Center
42005 W. 12 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48377

pmr-rim.med.wayne.edu | upgdocs.org | [f](#) [t](#)

Great last minute gifts
Starting at \$50. Stop in today for details.

Annual sale ends soon!

FREE in-store sharpening of your Cutco knives **WITHIN 24 HOURS***
*Some exclusions may apply.

Free gift wrapping!

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
11-6	10-8	10-8	10-6	Closed	10-7	10-6

CUTCO KITCHEN

43215 Grand River Ave., Novi, MI | 248-679-1538



Ella Hart, winner of the 7-8 age division, loves December because she gets to see family and friends on Christmas.



Gabby Wiwigacz, 12, likes to help and give to others in December. She won the 11-12 age division.



Kailey Flynn, 10, of Johnson Upper Elementary in Westland, enjoys December because she gets to be a singing angel in her church's live nativity and help remind people what Christmas is all about.



The winners with Mrs. Claus and Santa, Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey and Ken Stempien from Friends of the Wilson Barn, co-sponsor of the essay contest.

KIDS WRITE WHY DECEMBER IS SPECIAL TO THEM

Mischa Lyle, 10, a student at Riley Upper Elementary School in Livonia, was the grand-prize winner in the 27th annual "December is Special to Me Because..." Essay Contest sponsored by the Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation and the Friends of the Wilson Barn.

"December is special to me because it's a time of caring and sharing, friends and family, peace and love," Mischa wrote. "December is a symbol of how we should live all year long."

She received \$100 and an award certificate for her winning essay.

More than 80 boys and girls ages 5-12 participated in the contest, writing in 25 words or fewer why December is special to them.

In addition to the grand-prize winner, a winner was chosen in each of four age divisions: 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12. The winner of each age division received \$25 and an award certificate.

The winners and their families assisted Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey, Santa and Mrs. Claus with the City Tree Light-

ing on Dec. 2.

Following are the winners of the various age divisions and their essays:

» **Summer Xedos**, 6, a student at Hoover Elementary in Livonia: "December is special to me because my family spends time together. Last year we made Christmas figures out of clay. I felt happy."

» **Ella Hart**, 8, of Kennedy Elementary in Livonia: "December is special to me because I get to see family and friends on Christmas and spend time with them. I love to wake up with my cousins, they are special."

» **Kailey Flynn**, 10, of Johnson Upper Elementary in Westland: "December is special to me because I get to be a singing angel at my church's live nativity. It will make people joyful and remember what Christmas is all about!"

» **Gabby Wiwigacz**, 12, of Emerson Middle School in Livonia: "December is special to me because it is time to help and give to others. By helping others it makes me feel grateful."



Mischa Lyle, 10, a student at Riley Upper Elementary School in Livonia, shows her award certificate for being selected the grand-prize winner of the essay contest.



Summer Xedos, winner of the 5-6 age group, gets her picture taken with Mrs. Claus and Santa.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

ETD Services opens new office

ETD Services, specializing in staffing solutions, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Dec. 19 at its new location at 33300 Five Mile, Suite 204, Livonia.

Livonia man wins stock shares in soda company

Lawrence Lampron of Livonia has won 1,000 shares in common stock in Reed's Inc., a natural soda company in the U.S. Lampron also wins a case of Reed's Ginger Brew, Reed's Moscow Mule copper mugs and other company swag.

As part of Reed's 25th anniversary year, the company hosted a "25 Years of Ginger Love" contest on its Facebook page. Reed's had nearly 734,000 entries in the sweepstakes that asked fans to "like" the page. Everyone who entered received a \$5 coupon in the Reed's e-commerce. The contest ended Dec. 1.

Chris Reed, founder and CEO of Reed's Inc. started the beverage company to share his passion about ginger's incredible flavor and healthy properties.

For the remainder of the year, Reed's will host other contests and giveaways.

Schostak Restaurants promotes buy-local at 66 Applebee's

Livonia-based TEAM Schostak Family Restaurants is celebrating the buy-local movement with the addition of many Michigan-based food and drink vendors at its 66 Applebee's restaurants throughout the state. Friends and families can gift a true Michigan dining experience with an Applebee's gift card. For every \$50 purchased in gift cards, TSFR's Applebee's will give a free \$10 bonus gift card. The special holiday gift card deal will run through Jan. 1.

Wright & Filippis rebrands offices statewide

Wright & Filippis of Rochester Hills, the nation's largest family-owned provider of prosthetics, orthotics, custom mobility solutions and accessibility solutions, is undergoing a statewide office rebranding.

All Michigan locations undergoing changes, including the one at 29100 Plymouth Road in Livonia, will feature new signs and logos. Changes across the state include new exterior window displays, renovated waiting areas and product displays.

Additionally, the company recently launched a new website design which featured new branding, a streamlined view of the four core business lines, better navigation menus, easy-to-read content, detailed staff profiles, and better visuals of all services and products provided.

How to submit information

It is simple to be included on our Strictly Business page. Email information about events, grand openings, staff changes with photos, and requests to receive a Q&A form to fill out for a business profile to editor Karen Smith at ksmith@hometownlife.com.

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

Year-long effort makes Christmas magical

O&E: How hard is it to get ready for Christmas? How early do you have to start planning?

Santa: Oh it's very hard. After Christmas, Mrs. Claus and I take a couple of weeks off for a well-earned vacation. Then, we gather all the elves to start planning for Christmas next year!

Why do you only check the list twice? Does anyone else proof-read it first?

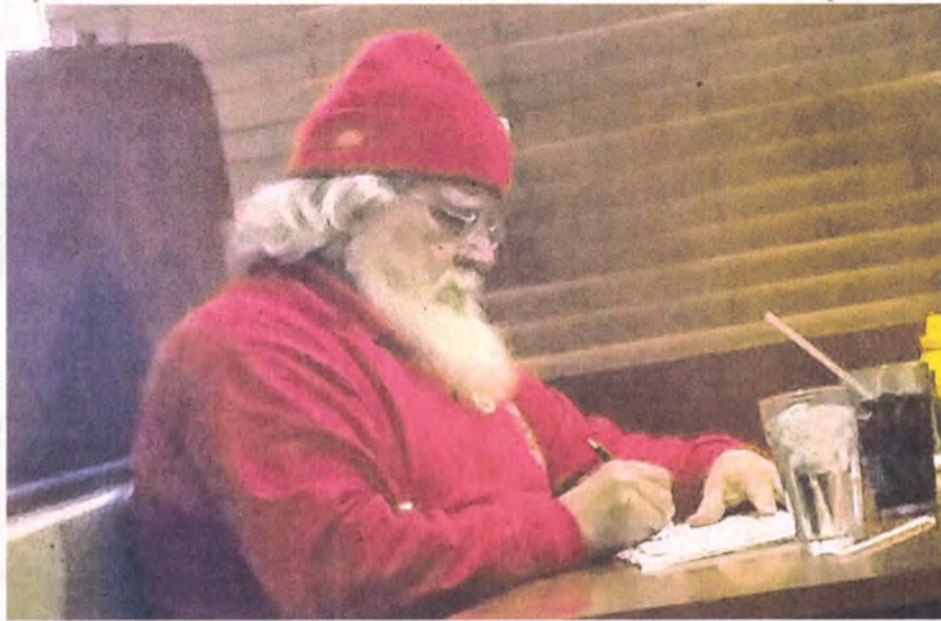
Santa: I only have to check it twice because, well, I know you have heard of Bernard, my head elf? He is an overseer of all the other elves. So when I get the list, he and the other elves have already looked at it many times. It certainly makes my job easier! Ho, ho, ho.

Do you get frequent flier miles?

Santa: Oh no, I don't get frequent flier miles! Ho, ho, ho. It's my sled and reindeer, so I don't have to worry about that sort of thing!

How did you get started in the Santa business?

Santa: Well, the Santa



Santa, in casual dress, was caught checking his list at a local restaurant.

ANGIE KHALAF

business is all about giving to others and not worrying about getting back. I have always been a giving person, so I fit right in!

What do you like best about being Santa?

Santa: What I like best is all the smiles on all the boys and girls when they

come and see me and especially on Christmas morn, when they open their presents.

What's the biggest challenge?

Santa: The biggest challenge is always trying to make sure that every child everywhere receives a much de-

served gift.

What's the worst part?

Santa: I think the worst part is when a child is sick and not feeling well!

Do you like all those cookies or do you like some variety, maybe some vegetables or

SANTA BUSINESS

Name of Business: Santa's Workshop
Location: North Pole
Owners: Santa and Mrs. Claus
Years in Business: Too many to count
Employees: Many, many elves
Contact: By letter and mailed to Santa Claus, care of the North Pole

crackers and cheese?

Santa: Of course, I am partial to milk and cookies, hee, hee, hee; but I do like vegetables and crackers and cheese, too! That's how I keep such a "round" belly! Ho, ho, ho!

Have you and the elves gone high-tech and created a database to keep track of everyone in the world?

Santa: Oh, yes! What with the smart phones and, of course, all of the elfin dolls around the world, I know what "everyone" is doing in a moment's notice!

Merry Christmas!

Preventive measures can be opportunities

I recently came across some sobering photos demonstrating serious dental decay that can result if people don't brush their teeth. Of course, it's pretty well known that a simple thing like brushing can have a huge impact. These pictures got me thinking about lots of other ways that a little effort now can prevent big problems later. An old adage puts it bluntly: "An ounce of prevention



Clarity Patton Newhouse
A SUNNY NOTE

is worth a pound of cure."

Our lives are full of small tasks that can be boring, uncomfortable or inconvenient, like exercising, balancing check-books and so forth. This is especially true when we'd rather be doing

something, or anything, else.

However, if we stop thinking of preventative measures as obligations and instead see them as opportunities to progress, they become much easier to accomplish. As with so many things in life, our attitude makes all the difference.

Today let's tackle some little things before they become big things — and have a sunny day!

Clarity

P.S. "In essence, if we want to direct our lives, we must take control of our consistent actions. It's not what we do once in a while that shapes our lives, but what we do consistently."

Anthony Robbins

P.P.S. You can read more Sunny Notes at www.SunnyNotes.com and new readers can subscribe at www.JoinSunnyNotes.com. I appreciate your feedback and I hope Sunny Notes

brighten your day.

Clarity Patton Newhouse is president of Sunny Media Group Inc., located at 39209 Six Mile, Suite 165, Livonia. She writes "A Sunny Note" to brighten the day with encouraging insights for business and life. "A Sunny Note" also is published online at ASunnyNote.com for readers across America and beyond. To reach her, call 734-855-4728 or find her on Facebook at facebook.com/sunnynotes.

Oakwood Hospital-Wayne is 2013 Top Performer

Oakwood Hospital-Wayne (OH-Wayne) has been recognized as a 2013 Top Performer on Key Quality Measures® by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of health care organizations in the United States.

OH-Wayne was recognized as part of The Joint Commission's 2014 annual report *America's Hospitals: Improving Quality and Safety*, for attaining and sustaining excellence in accountability measure performance for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia and surgical care. OH-Wayne is in the top 37 percent of accredited hospitals within the U.S. to achieve the 2013 Top Performer distinction.

"We have made it a top priority to address patient safety and quality health care to the community by improving upon our evidence-based care processes," said Eric Widner, division president, Oakwood Hospital-Wayne.

The Top Performer program recognizes hospitals for improving performance on evidence-based interven-

tions that increase the chances of healthy outcomes for patients with certain conditions, including heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, surgical care, children's asthma, stroke, venous thromboembolism and perinatal care, as well as for inpatient psychiatric services and immunizations.

To be a 2013 Top Performer, hospitals had to meet three performance criteria based on 2013 accountability measure data, including:

» Achieving cumulative performance of 95 percent or above across all reported accountability measures;

» Achieving performance of 95 percent or above on each and every reported accountability measure where there were at least 30 denominator cases; and

» Having at least one core measure set that had a composite rate of 95 percent or above, and (within that measure set) all applicable individual accountability measures had a performance rate of 95 percent or above.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Maureen Flanagan of Livonia is the new Vice President, Commercial Banking, for Level One Bank.

Flanagan joins Level One's growing team of commercial lenders in Farmington Hills. Her primary focus will be on expanding Level One's Asset Based Lending capabilities in order to provide more client friendly solutions, including owner occupied real estate loans, SBA loans, and international capabilities. Additionally, Flanagan will be tasked with building new business relationships and managing existing client

relationships, serving small and middle market businesses in Michigan.

Prior to joining Level One, Flanagan was Vice President of Middle Market banking at a regional bank in Detroit. She has more than 25 years of experience in the banking industry, with expertise spanning a variety of areas, including credit, underwriting, operations, business banking and asset based lending.

Flanagan has a bachelor's degree in managerial economics and finance from The University of Michigan Dearborn.



Rehabilitation Physicians, PC

Relieving Pain and Restoring Lives

Contact us for more information

248-893-3200

Livonia

Farmington Hills

Novi

RehabilitationPhysicians.com

Huge sale going on now at Varsity Lincoln of Novi

By Greg Mullin
Staff Writer

Varsity Lincoln of Novi is clearing the lot with a huge year-end sale going on now. More than 150 Certified Pre-Owned Lincolns are on-site, ready to drive off the lot for as low as \$12,995.

Varsity Lincoln is the highest volume dealer in the nation. The dealership has held this honor for 17 consecutive years. It offers a newly remodeled showroom, indoor delivery area and service reception aisle.

This year, Varsity Lincoln celebrated its 20th anniversary and won six prestigious automotive awards: the Triple Crown Award, Lincoln Leaders of Excellence, President's Award, Ford One Hundred Club, CPO Sales Leadership and Premier Club.

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

- » Friday, Dec. 26, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- » Saturday, Dec. 27, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- » Monday, Dec. 29, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

"I have the MKS and I love, love, love the technology in it," said Lincoln MKS owner Latanya Tarleton, a Varsity Lincoln customer for 16 years. "I get the best service here. I never have to worry about anything."

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

- » A meticulous 200-point inspection by factory-trained technicians
- » A 6-year/100,000-mile comprehensive warranty coverage
- » Complimentary 24/7 roadside assistance

"The warranty is key. With Certified Pre-Owned, you get the best from Varsity Lincoln," Law said. Certified Pre-Owned financing is available for as low as 0.9% APR.**

"Leasing or buying from the number one dealer in the country gives you the best selection, price and service," said Jere Law, Varsity Lincoln's General Sales Manager and Pre-Owned Director. "Our dealership is ready to assist customers with anything,



A 2009 Lincoln MKS Ultimate FWD is one of more than 150 Certified Pre-Owned Lincolns on-site at Varsity Lincoln of Novi.

COURTESY OF VARSITY LINCOLN

whether it is special financing or a specific request. We can handle every unique situation."

This dealership provides The Varsity Lincoln Advantage. Varsity Lincoln team members are selected based upon their unwavering focus on customer care and satisfaction.

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

Jason Towe told us why he got a Lincoln: "I definitely love the comfort and the sportiness of the Lincoln. The cost was a big factor for me — it was actually cheaper than my last car I owned — and I feel I'm getting a better quality car for what I'm paying!"

"There are numerous benefits of purchasing a Certified Pre-Owned, including the outstanding warranty that comes with the vehicles," Law said. "The 100,000-mile, free bumper-to-bumper warranty that comes alongside all Certified Pre-Owned purchases is better than a new car warranty! Additionally, any time the vehicle is in for a service visit, you can receive a loaner for no

cost, exclusively at Varsity Lincoln!"

"Loaded with features, a Lincoln will satisfy any customer," Law said. "Certified Pre-Owned vehicles not only provide peace of mind on the road, but also provide a combination of sportiness and luxury. Benefits include FWD or AWD, EcoBoost, Navigation, Bluetooth, SYNC, an adaptive suspension, a panoramic roof, and heated and cooled seats for comfort, just to name a few.

"Drivers will also enjoy peace of mind from knowing that Lincoln vehicles will hold their value. Any depreciation has already been taken on by the previous owner. Plus, ad-

vanced styling and dependability add to a Lincoln vehicle's value.

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

*Based on 11/2014 Total New Retail Sales, Pre-Owned Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction per Lincoln Sales Report.

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

HOLIDEALES ALL DECEMBER

AT BILL AND ROD'S APPLIANCES AND MATTRESSES

BILL AND ROD'S KITCHEN APPLIANCES MAKE HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING EASIER

Holiday Sale Pricing!

In-Store Financing Available. See store for Details.

LIMITED TIME OFFER!

Serta
perfect sleeper

HOT BUY

Queen Pillow Top Mattress
AS LOW AS
\$599

LIMIT 2 PER CUSTOMER

Featuring Cool Twist™ Gel Memory Foam

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

from all of us at Bill & Rod's Appliances and Mattresses

MAYTAG

POWER PERFORMANCE SAVINGS

Receive Up to \$350 MasterCard® prepaid card by mail when you purchase select Maytag® laundry pairs.

Offer valid Now thru 12/31/2014

See Store for Details

KitchenAid

INVITATION TO SAVINGS

Save on appliances that complete your kitchen with this exclusive invitation

Receive up to
\$1250

MasterCard Prepaid Card by mail with purchase of select KitchenAid® Brand appliances.

Offer expires 12/31/2014 See store for details.

Bill & Rod's
APPLIANCES & MATTRESSES
Honest and Dependable Since 1963

Quality Factory Trained Technicians
www.billandrodsappliance.com
15870 Middlebelt Road
North of Five Mile • Livonia

BRAND SOURCE Expert Whirlpool KitchenAid MAYTAG

SALES • SERVICE • PARTS
734-425-5040

DISCOVER MasterCard VISA f t YouTube

VARSITY LINCOLN

49251 Grand River at Wixom Rd. • Novi, MI 48393
(800) 240-8730 | VarsityLincoln.com

**#1 Certified Pre-Owned
 Lincoln Dealer in the Nation.
 Find Out Why!^**

**LINCOLN
 CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED**

**Huge Lincoln Certified
 Pre-Owned Sale!
 Incredible Savings.**

- Meticulous 200-point inspection by factory trained technicians
- 6-year / 100,000-mile comprehensive warranty coverage
- Complimentary 24/7 roadside assistance

2013 Lincoln MKS FWD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Heated Mirrors
- Only 22,531 miles

NOW ONLY \$22,995+

STK #: 39372

2013 Lincoln MKZ AWD

Certified!

- Premium Sound System
- Heated Seats
- Only 15,538 miles

NOW ONLY \$29,995+

STK #: 39413

2013 Lincoln MKS FWD

Certified!

- Heated/Cooled Seats
- Security System
- Only 32,825 miles

NOW ONLY \$23,995+

STK #: 39375

2010 Lincoln MKS AWD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Leather Seating
- Only 55,760 miles

NOW ONLY \$18,995+

STK #: 39361

2012 Lincoln MKZ FWD

Certified!

- Rear Parking Aid
- Heated Mirrors
- Only 9,975 miles

NOW ONLY \$19,995+

STK #: 39465

2012 Lincoln MKZ FWD

Certified!

- Heated Mirrors
- Premium Sound System
- Only 14,901 miles

NOW ONLY \$32,995+

STK #: 39326

2012 Lincoln MKT EcoBoost AWD

Certified!

- Heated Front Seats
- Back-Up Camera
- Only 29,597 miles

NOW ONLY \$31,995+

STK #: 39378

2011 Lincoln MKS AWD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Heated Mirrors
- Only 34,036 miles

NOW ONLY \$21,995+

STK #: 39290

2011 Lincoln MKS AWD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Heated Mirrors
- Only 34,036 miles

NOW ONLY \$21,995+

STK #: 39290

2013 Lincoln MKS FWD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Heated/Cooled Seats
- Only 24,755 miles

NOW ONLY \$24,995+

STK #: 39417

*Financing
 as low as
0.9%
 APR!**

Varsity Lincoln's
**Certified Pre-Owned
 Sale Continues!**

No Santa. No Presents. JUST GREAT DEALS.

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Heated/Cooled Seats
- Only 43,779 miles

NOW ONLY \$16,995+

STK #: 39377

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Heated/Cooled Seats
- Only 15,025 miles

NOW ONLY \$21,995+

STK #: 39411

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Heated/Cooled Seats
- Only 15,025 miles

NOW ONLY \$21,995+

STK #: 39411

2010 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate AWD

Certified!

- Mirror Memory
- Heated/Cooled Seats
- Only 51,400 miles

NOW ONLY \$15,995+

STK #: 39190

2012 Lincoln MKT EcoBoost AWD

Certified!

- Leather Seating
- Rear Parking Aid
- Only 53,957 miles

NOW ONLY \$27,995+

STK #: 39404

2012 Lincoln MKT EcoBoost AWD

Certified!

- Leather Seating
- Rear Parking Aid
- Only 53,957 miles

NOW ONLY \$27,995+

STK #: 39404

2012 Lincoln Navigator L Ultimate 4WD

Certified!

- Leather Seating
- Navigation
- Only 39,021 miles

NOW ONLY \$41,995+

STK #: 39220

2011 Lincoln Navigator L Ultimate 4WD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Seat Memory
- Only 45,361 miles

NOW ONLY \$38,995+

STK #: 38705

2011 Lincoln Navigator L Ultimate 4WD

Certified!

- Navigation
- Seat Memory
- Only 45,361 miles

NOW ONLY \$38,995+

STK #: 38705

2013 Lincoln MKX Ultimate AWD

Certified!

- Heated/Cooled Seats
- Heated Mirrors
- Only 11,890 miles

NOW ONLY \$33,995+

STK #: 38933

2012 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD

Certified!

- Heated/Cooled Seats
- Navigation
- Only 44,778 miles

NOW ONLY \$16,995+

STK #: 38767

2012 Lincoln MKS Ultimate AWD

Certified!

- Heated Mirrors
- Heated/Cooled Seats
- Only 36,993 miles

NOW ONLY \$21,995+

STK #: 38806



**Event
 Hours:**

Friday 12/26/14 8:30am-6pm • Saturday 12/27/14 8:30am-5pm

Monday 12/29/14 8:30am-9pm



*Based on 11/2014 Total Certified Pre-Owned Sales and Service Customer Satisfaction per Lincoln Sales Report. ^As low as 0.9% APR for up to 48 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details. *Price does not include tax, title, license and dealer fees due at point of purchase. Inventory and pricing subject to change. See Varsity Lincoln for details. Offers end 12/31/14.

How to teach investors about investing – not in a contest

A few weeks ago, I received a call from someone I know in the financial world asking me if I would participate in a contest. The prizes were nice, but nothing to write home about.

My initial reaction was, why not? It would be fun. But then I heard what the contest entailed. They were giving 10 advisers \$250,000 in play money to see which adviser made the most money over a six-month period.

The rules stated that trading would be allowed in any listed security. The trades would be done online so others could see how the mon-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

ey was being invested.

The company stated the goal was to try to get more people involved in investing and teach people the fundamentals. These are wonderful goals and ones that I support, but I told the company that I would not participate.

My reason was not that I was worried whether I would win or lose. Rather, I thought it sent the wrong message to investors. If one of the goals is to teach

people about investing, having a contest where the goal is to make as much money as possible over a six-month period doesn't teach the right lesson. If someone had a six-month goal for his/her money, I would tell them to avoid the stock market and to invest in such things as CDs. I recognize that this is not a very sexy investment, but it is the prudent one.

The contest, however, tends to perpetuate the unfortunate belief that investing is equivalent to gambling, which it is not. Investing is for the long run and certainly is not a game.

Had I entered the contest, I would have

tried to win, which means I would have thrown out pretty much all the rules of investing and taken on more of a gambler's mentality.

I would have rejected the proven principal that it is time in the market that's important, not timing the market. If I had entered the contest, considering the goal was only six months, timing the market would have been much more important than time in the market. That is the exact opposite of what an investor ought to be thinking.

There's no doubt these types of contests are fun, but they should not be used to teach

people about investing. Investors need to learn that investing is not gambling and that six months is a relatively immaterial time frame for investors to judge whether an investment is worthwhile.

Another problem I have with the contest is that it encourages unnecessary risk taking. As investors, the goal is to have a portfolio that matches your goals and objectives and risk tolerance level as well.

Contests, such as the one I was offered, encourage unnecessary risk taking. If you lose half your money in any given day in a contest, no big deal. However, if

you're talking about someone's portfolio and someone's retirement, losing 50 percent of their money is a big deal.

I love the idea of teaching investors about investing and encouraging more people to get involved. However, I do not believe that investment contests, although fun, accomplish that goal.

Good luck.

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

Salvation Army Thrift Stores welcome year-end donations

As the new year approaches, The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center is seeking year-end donations at the nonprofit's 34 metro Detroit family thrift stores. Now through Dec. 31, patrons are invited to drop off their gently used clothing, linens, home goods and more to receive a 2014 tax receipt.

"As we reflect upon the year, many of us will be seeking ways to give

back to the community," said Merle Miller, administrator of The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan ARC. "By donating your gently-used goods to The Salvation Army family thrift stores, you're helping provide hope to men and women struggling with substance abuse."

Completely self-funded, the ARC operates two voluntary, 6-month residential rehabilitation centers for men and women that draw their

working budgets from the revenue of the nonprofit's 34 thrift stores.

"Donating at The Salvation Army thrift stores is super easy," said Jacquelyn Idzior, director of operations at The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan ARC. "Each of our stores has a conveniently located donation center with drive-up access, so patrons don't even need to get out of their car."

Contributions of gently used clothing, linen,

household appliances, furniture, toys, shoes, purses and house wares are accepted at all Salvation Army thrift store donation centers. Nearby thrift stores include: 532 Highland Road, Highland, 248-887-3047; 730 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake, 248-669-1443; 9434 Highland Road, White Lake; and 3600 Plymouth Road, Livonia, 734-425-7573.

For specific hours of local Salvation Army thrift store donation center, visit www.salarmythrift.com.

Community members will also have the option of donating to the ARC at multiple remote drop-off

locations in partnership with Gardner-White Furniture. Donations will be accepted at each of Gardner-White's metro Detroit locations during normal business hours, now through the end of the year. Gardner-White Furniture has a store at 39453 Ford, Canton, 734-844-3190. For more information, visit www.gardner-white.com.

All donations to The Salvation Army are tax deductible. Donate before Jan. 1, 2015 to receive a tax receipt that can be applied towards 2014 taxes. Salvation Army thrift stores will be open until midnight on Dec. 31 for last min-

ute 2014 tax year contributions.

Salvation Army thrift store shoppers will also have a chance to usher in the new year with great deals and a new wardrobe during The Salvation Army's annual New Year's Day sale. All 34 metro Detroit Salvation Army thrift store locations will offer 50 percent off clothing, as well as hourly spot sales across several departments, from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 1.

For more information on the ARC and to find a Salvation Army thrift store near you, visit www.salarmythrift.com or call 313-965-7760.

Barton Malow Company	Livonia BP #2 Riley and Emerson
----------------------	------------------------------------

SECTION 00100
Advertisement to Bid

- Livonia Public Schools (the "Owner") requests Bid Proposals for the renovations of Emerson Middle School and Riley Upper Elementary School for Bid Package No. 2. Bid Proposals will be received:
 - By delivery or mail by **12:00 p.m.** local time on **January 15, 2015** (the "Due Date").
 - To the attention of:

Livonia Public Schools
Attention: Lisa Abbey
15125 Farmington Rd.
Livonia, MI 48154
- Proposals must be sealed with Bidder's name on the outside of the envelope and designated as follows:

Sealed Proposal
Livonia Public Schools 2013 Bond Issue
Bid Package No. 2 - Riley Upper Elementary School and Emerson Middle School
Bid Category: _____
Contractor Name, Address, Phone Number, email address
- Proposals shall be based on the requirements set forth in the Bidding Documents: **Bid Package #2 - Renovation to Riley Upper Elementary School and Emerson Middle School**
- Accepted Bidders will be required, as a condition precedent to award of Contract, to furnish, satisfactory Performance Bond and Payment Bond and Certificates of Insurance as required in the Project Manual
- Unless otherwise specifically set forth, this Project is subject to state sales and/or use taxes and Bidder is required to include such taxes in its Bid Proposal.
- Barton Malow Company has been contracted by the Owner in the capacity of CM for the Project, and shall act as representative of the Owner to the extent required/allowed under its Owner contract. Hereafter Barton Malow Company shall be referred to as the "CM".
- Bid Proposals received on or before the Due Date will be publically opened and read aloud at a public meeting held at the Livonia Public School Board Office (15125 Farmington Rd. Livonia, MI 48154) on January 15, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. by Livonia Public Schools. **The Owner shall not open, consider, or accept a Bid Proposal that is received after the Due Date specified for Bid submission in this Advertisement for Bids.**
- Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after December 17, 2014. Examination and distribution will be made at: **ARC Troy/Clawson office, 1009 W. Maple Road, Clawson MI 48017. Phone: 248-288-5600.** Bidders may download electronic documents from ARC at no charge. Bidders may purchase paper documents directly from ARC. Please contact ARC at the number listed above or email Michigan.troy@arc.com to obtain bid documents.
- A pre-bid conference and site visit/tour will be held for all trades at Riley Upper Elementary School (15555 Henry Ruff St, Livonia, MI 48154) on December 22, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. All Bidders are responsible for attendance at the pre-bid conference. Pre-bid conference minutes will be distributed to all attendees and invited bidders. Information disclosed in the pre-bid conference minutes will be considered part of the Bidding and Contract Documents.
- All requests for information (RFIs) and substitution requests are to be submitted by **4:00 p.m. on January 6, 2015.** All RFIs and substitution requests received after that time cannot be guaranteed to be answered or approved before the Due Date. Please contact Stephanie Hachey, stephanie.hachey@bartonmalow.com.

PROJECT MANUAL	00100-1	Issue Date: December 15, 2014
----------------	---------	-------------------------------

SECTION 00100 - Advertisement to Bid
Barton Malow Company

	Livonia BP #2 Riley and Emerson
--	------------------------------------

- Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by CM. Bidders will be required to submit with their Bid Proposals a Bid Security by a qualified surety authorized to do business in the state where the Project is located. Bidders shall not withdraw Bid Proposals for a period of ninety (90) Days after Due Date for receipt of Bid Proposals.
- The successful Bidder(s) will be required to enter into an agreement with **Livonia Public Schools** on the Agreement Form identified in the Project Manual.
- All Bid Proposals shall be accompanied by the sworn statement included in Section 00410 of the Project Manual, in accordance with MCL 380.1267, disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner(s) or any employee of the Bidder and any member of the school board or the superintendent of the school district and certifying that the Bidder is not Iran-linked business. Bid Proposals that do not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement shall not be accepted. All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement attached. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.
- The Owner is not liable for any delivery or postal delays. Bid Proposals received after the Due Date will not be opened, accepted or considered.
- Livonia Public Schools' Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, to waive any irregularities therein, or to award the contract to other than the low Bidder, in its sole and absolute discretion. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.
- Owner shall have the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to determine if the proposed substitution is equivalent.

BARTON MALOW COMPANY
Stephanie Hachey
Project Manager

END OF SECTION 00100

PROJECT MANUAL	00100-2	Issue Date: December 15, 2014
----------------	---------	-------------------------------

SECTION 00100 - Advertisement to Bid
Publish: 12/21/14

CITY OF WESTLAND
SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
MTG. 25 12/15/14

Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Bryant, Coleman, Hammons, Johnson, Kehrler, Reeves
227: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 12/1/14.
- Bid for Norway Demolition to Leadhead Construction; amt. \$36,480 & Berkshire Development; amt. \$17,450.
- Bid for Architectural Services at Jefferson Barns to Sidock Group, amt. not to exceed \$36,706.
- Bid for Animal Control Slide In for FD to American Aluminum Accessories; amt. \$7,981.95.
- Adopted Manpower Budget Amendment 2015-04: Increase Patrol Officers 4.
- Adopted Resolution for NSP Disposition of 2057 Alberta, 33438 Bendon Ct., & 33438 Ontonagon.
- Adopted Prepared Resolution to approve Wayne Co. Annual Permit A-15073.
- Adopted Prepared Resolution to approve Wayne Co. Annual Permit A-15128.
- Adopted Prepared Resolution to approve Wayne Co. Annual Permit A-15158.
- Adopted Prep. Res. approving State of Michigan Annual Permit for work within MDOT Right-of-Way within the City of Westland.
- Appr. Amended Fee Schedule to add Parks & Rec. rental fees.
- Appr. revisions to the Council Policies & Procedures effective 1-1-2015.
228: Appr. Rev. Site Plan for prop. free-standing cooler addition, 220 S. Wayne Rd. w/ contingencies.
229: Appr. prop. land division; PID #042-03-0865-303, -304, -305, -306, ne corner of Marquette & Hanlon w/contingencies.
230: Appr. Appr'd Officials & Mayor's Ofc. Pay Plan 1/1/15 thru 12/31/15.
231: Appr. City Clerk's Pay/Benefit Pkg. 1/1/15 thru 12/31/15.
232: Appr. Deputy City Clerk's Pay/Benefit Pkg. 1/1/15 thru 12/31/15.
233: Appr. checklist: \$2,985,931.67.
Mtg. adj. at 8:11 p.m.
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout Eileen DeHart-Schoof, CMC
Council President City Clerk
Publish: December 25, 2014.

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
15125 FARMINGTON ROAD
LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474
(734) 744-2500

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of **sealed bids** for the purchase of

Lighting Project
Coolidge Elementary School

Sealed bids will be received until **10:00 a.m. on the 21ST day of January, 2015**, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, at which time, all bids will be publicly opened and read. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. **Pre-bid walk through appointments available upon request at Coolidge Elementary. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified. Oral, telephone, fax, or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. All vendors are invited to attend opening.**

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award to other than the low bidder: to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals. Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled **DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids** OR Buy4Michigan Website, www.buy4michigan.com. Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Public Schools Board, the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or the Livonia Public Schools Director of Business Services, Wayne RESA Board or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized affidavit of compliance- Iran Economics Sanctions act of 2012. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement attached. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.**

A bid bond executed by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company acceptable to the owner, or a cashier's check in the amount of 5% of the sum of the proposal payable to Livonia Public Schools shall be submitted with each proposal in excess of \$23,100.00.

Prices bid are to be **F.O.B. Livonia, Michigan**. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.

Any bid submitted will be binding for sixty (60) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid form are to be addressed to the attention of:

Nick Armelagos
Administrator of Finance
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154-5474
"Lighting Project - Coolidge"

One (1) copy of the bid form should be retained for your files.
Any questions **regarding bid specifications** should be referred to the Livonia Public Schools, Wayne Roberts, Maintenance Supervisor, wroberts@livoniapublicschools.org, 734.744.2500, x42151, between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Publish: December, 21, 2014

Westland swears in 7 police officers, promotes 6

The Westland City Council chambers was full last week as family and friends gathered for the promotion of several veteran Westland police officers and the swearing-in of new hires.

The Westland Police Department inducted seven new officers, promoted three veteran officers to sergeant, and three more to lieutenant.

The hirings and promotions come on the heels of three retirements and the awarding of a \$500,000 federal COPS grant, which will fund the four new officers.

The new hires include two individuals who were formerly involved in the Westland Police Department. Jennifer Boljesic is a former Westland Police Service Aide and the daughter of a father with 36 years of experience in law enforcement. Robert Schurig started with the Westland Police Department at age 16 as a Westland Police Explorer and left his job as an officer in Auburn Hills to join Westland.

The new hires also include a Marine veteran and veteran officers from other departments.

John Halaas served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1995-99, and was recalled for Operation Enduring Freedom in 2002. He also completed another tour in Iraq after joining the reserves in 2004. Halaas is also a former Pittsfield Township police officer.

Jason Nevell formerly served with the Detroit

Police Department and won the 2010 Detroit Police Officer of the Year Award. He also has received a lifesaving award on two occasions.

Kristopher Richardson, a lifelong Garden City resident, recently retired from the Detroit Police Department after 20 years of service after serving on a variety of units.

Rodney Donald is another second generation officer whose father served with the Garden City Police Department. Donald graduated from Brevard College with a degree in criminal justice. While at Brevard, he was a star running back for the football team.

Ed Pawlowski has been working as a cadet for the Dearborn Heights Police Department and graduated from the Wayne County Regional Police Academy in May 2014.

"I am proud to welcome these highly qualified police officers to Westland," said Mayor William Wild. "Our community looks forward to their service and dedication to the residents."

Officers Jerry Farrar, Christopher Gazdecki, and Timothy Liess also were promoted to sergeant. Farrar has 14 years of police experience, including nine with Westland. Gazdecki has served the past 14 years with Westland after starting his career in Detroit. And Liess is another Westland veteran who also completed two tours of duty in Iraq,

working Counter-Terrorism Operations with the U.S. Navy Seals.

Officers Kyle Dawley, Randy Thivierge, and Jason Blanchard all received promotions to lieutenant.

Dawley has served Westland for the past decade in a variety of roles, including the Detective Patrol Division, Detective Bureau and the Special Investigations Unit. Thivierge has nearly 20 years of experience in law enforcement and was an original member of the perimeter Rifle Team. He currently leads the Firearms Program for Westland. And Blanchard began his law enforcement career in 1994 and was hired by Westland in 1995. He has been assigned to the Patrol Division.

"Our promoted officers have displayed leadership and a commitment to protecting and serving our community that deserves recognition," Wild said. "We look forward to your continued service, and as you can see by this packed house, our community appreciates all the great work you have done so far."

"I am very proud of what this department has accomplished in the past five years and what we intend to complete over the next five years," Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik added. "These Officers will be fine additions to our department and these supervisors are true leaders who will help take us to the next step."



CITY OF WESTLAND
Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik and Mayor William Wild stand with promoted officers Jerry Farrar, Christopher Gazdecki, Timothy Liess, Kyle Dawley, Randy Thivierge and Jason Blanchard.



CITY OF WESTLAND
Newly hired police officers Jennifer Boljesic, Robert Schurig, John Halaas, Jason Nevell, Kristopher Richardson, Rodney Donald and Ed Pawlowski are congratulated by Westland Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik and Mayor William Wild.

BEVERAGE AND SNACK VENDING AT LIVONIA COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN
33000 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE
LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154

Sealed proposals will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until 2:00 P.M., Eastern Daylight Time, on January 27, 2015 at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the bidder. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late bids will be returned unopened.

Instructions to Bidders and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info Proposals must be submitted on the forms found on the MITN website.

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

All proposals shall be sealed in opaque envelopes, plainly marked with: **Beverage and Snack Vending at Livonia Community Recreation Center, name of bidder and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.**

No bidder may withdraw his proposal within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening thereof.

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

Jack E. Kirksey
Mayor, City of Livonia

Publish: December 25, 2014

LO-000225347 3x5

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 15125 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474 (734) 744-2500

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of:

Heart Rate Monitor Bid for the 2014-2015 School Year (See Attached Specifications)

Sealed bids will be received until 10:30 a.m. on the 21st day of January, 2015, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, at which time, all bids will be publicly opened and read. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified. Oral, telephone, fax, or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. All vendors are invited to attend opening.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2014-2015 school year, open bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, www.buy4michigan.com. Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Public School Board of Education, Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or the Director of Business Services, Wayne RESA Board or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized affidavit of compliance- Iran Economics Sanctions act of 2012. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement attached. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.

A bid bond executed by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company acceptable to the owner, or a cashier's check in the amount of 5% of the sum of the proposal payable to Livonia Public Schools shall be submitted with each proposal in excess of \$23,100.00.

Prices bid are to be F.O.B. Livonia, Michigan. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.

Any bid submitted will be binding for sixty (60) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid form are to be addressed to the attention of:

Nick Armelagos
Administrator of Finance
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154-5474
"Heart Rate Monitor Bid"

One (1) copy of the bid form should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to the Livonia Public Schools, Sheryl Archibald, Elementary Programs, sarchiba2@livoniapublicschools.org, 734.744.2500, X42435, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Publish: December 25, 2014, December 28, 2014

LO-000225372 3x5

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 15125 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474 (734) 744-2511

Carol M White Physical Education Program (PEP) Grant Services Request for Proposal

Livonia Public Schools has been awarded the Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) grant from the US Department of Education. Funding is currently approved through September 30, 2015 with anticipated additional funding through September 30, 2016.

Livonia Public Schools is seeking proposals from qualified applicants with federal grant experience to assist the district in three main areas: coordination of physical education professional development opportunities for staff, evaluation services of the already existing programs put in place, and expertise in compiling the annual and final grant performance reports for Washington. All qualified applicants will review the attached Grant Requirements and complete the attached Bid Proposal forms.

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled District, Purchasing Bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, www.buy4michigan.com.

Sealed bids will be received until 10:00 a.m. on the 6th day of January, 2015, at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, at which time, all bids, will be publicly opened and read. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified. Oral, telephone, fax, or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. All vendors are invited to attend opening.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

All bidders must complete the following disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.1267 and attach this information to the bid. The bid proposal will be accompanied by a sworn statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Public Schools Board, the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or the Livonia Public Schools Director of Business Services, Wayne RESA Board or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. The District will not accept a bid proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized affidavit of compliance- Iran Economics Sanctions act of 2012. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement attached. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.

Any bid submitted will be binding for sixty (60) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid form are to be addressed to the attention of:

Nick Armelagos
Administrator of Finance
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154-5474

"Carol M White Physical Education Program (PEP) Grant Services"

One (1) copy of the bid form should be retained for your files.

Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to the Livonia Public Schools: Alison Smith, Grant Supervisor, asmith34@livoniapublicschools.org

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Publish: December 25 & 28, 2014

LO-000225376 3x5.5

OUR VIEWS

Have faith in making peace on Earth real

As we celebrate another Christmas, wars and terrorism continue to make peace on Earth still a wistful and somewhat distant hope.

Nevertheless, the fact that we live in a country where, yes, even satanists can set up a controversial display at the state Capitol speaks to the U.S. being a country where tolerance is epitomized.

Throughout the metro area, tolerance morphs into the recognition that this holiday season is celebrated religiously and culturally by groups outside of Christianity. Not only is that multiplicity to be celebrated, the values embedded in those celebrations should be recognized as well.

For Jews, Hanukkah began Dec. 16 and ran through Dec. 24. Known as the Festival of Lights, it commemorates the occasion when one bottle of oil, enough for only one night, was used to keep the menorah burning for eight days for the re-dedication of the Holy Temple after it was desecrated.

Once we get past the lights and glittery packages, the holidays are about family, friends, home and love.

The celebration of Kwanzaa, from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1, is a celebration of family, community and culture in the African-American and Pan-African community. Values celebrated include the dignity of people, the well-being of families and the health of the environment.

For Christians, the year end time has been appropriated to celebrate the birth of Jesus, a savior who came to the world not as a great king, but as a baby born to humble parents in a stable. The circumstances of Jesus' birth give profound weight to his later message of love and human kindness.

Pilgrims in early America thought the meaning of Jesus' birth so immense that they banned the frivolity of feasting and gift giving on Dec. 25 as somehow not in keeping with the day's importance.

But that dignity and well-being celebrated throughout the world still faces challenges. The very site of Christ's birth has been a place of contention and violence. Even here in the world's most prosperous country, many are in need as the economy slowly recovers.

Local charities report a decline in contributions and an increase in requests for help.

The Arab American and Chaldean Council, as part of its twice-monthly Pantry of Plenty food distribution program, provided more than 1,500 meals for needy residents Christmas Eve.

The Christmas dinner, which will be available for pick-up starting at 10:30 a.m. at the ACC Youth Recreation and Leadership Center, 62 W. Seven Mile in Detroit, is made possible through donors and the ACC's partnership with Forgotten Harvest.

We must resolve to do more throughout our communities. Each year we rouse ourselves during the holiday season to listen to the better angels of our nature. We reach out to others during this special time and promise to carry our concern forward into the new year. Sometimes we do and sometimes we get caught up again in our own too busy lives.

Perhaps we expect too much of the holidays for the world and for ourselves. It is probably better to remember the holidays' small gifts through all the rush, including the rewards of an outpouring of charity.

For most of us, once we get past the colored lights and glittery packages, the holidays are about family, friends, home and love. As in the song that Judy Garland first sang so plaintively in *Meet Me in St. Louis*, we all long to be together "if the fates allow."

We know that separations will come, troubles will come, but through the simple gifts of family, friends and faith, we can determine our own fate.



The circumstances of Jesus' birth give profound weight to his later message of love and human kindness.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What was the best Christmas present you ever received?

We asked this question in Livonia, Redford, Wayne, Westland and Garden City.



"A set of the Harry Potter books from England."

Lisa Kivonen
Livonia



"Mine was a puppy."

Kristin Mandernach
Livonia



"An iPod Touch."

Morgan Mandernach
Livonia



"Having my son home from Iraq."

Pat Sexton
Northville



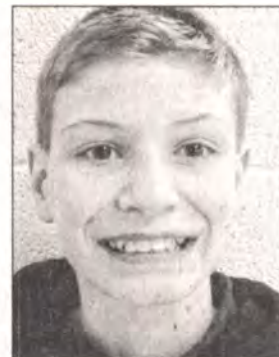
"My best Christmas present was when my fiance proposed to me."

Krystal Bain
Garden City



"It was the year my brother got me a paper clip holder. His smile made it the best."

Mitchell Russelburg
Garden City



"The best ... object was a table and the true joy of receiving the table."

Colin Arian
Garden City



"My favorite Christmas present is doing things with my family."

Vicki Cochrane
Garden City



"My phone. It's an Android LG 3 Optimus."

Brian Wright
Wayne



"My favorite was an Optimus Prime toy I got when I was 7 years old."

Cody Markland
Wayne



"My grandchildren's make ornaments for me every year. I do love those the most."

Joan Shoemaker
Wayne



"The Hostess Buffet. It had silverware and plates. I thought I'd never get it."

Abbie Scott
Wayne



"A Barbie doll. They painted her nails and put in earrings."

Olivia Birch
Westland



"When I got a pair of Ugg boots."

Madison Carroll
Westland



"Having my family at the dinner for Christmas. That's the present for me."

Sharon Eby
Westland



"Having my grandchild's first Christmas was the best."

Lecia LaFortune
Westland



"When I was about 8 ... when I got my first iPod."

Jocelyn Smith



"I would say tickets to see Justin Timberlake."

Jessica Wimmer



"My grandkids, I guess. I see them everyday. I wouldn't be without them."

Bill Charlton



"A Nerf gun."

Jason McComb

'INSPIRED' PCAC EXHIBIT FEATURES LOCAL ARTISTS

More than 100 people attended the opening reception for "Inspired," the Plymouth Community Arts Council's first December open juried exhibit.

PCAC officials said the open show will become an annual December event.

Artists 18 and older were invited to submit two-dimensional artwork with a subject that inspires the artist. Over 26 artists submitted 50 pieces of work that will be displayed at the PCAC through the end of December.

Regular gallery hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., during all public events and by appointment by emailing lisa@plymoutharts.com. The PCAC is located at 774 N. Sheldon Road in Plymouth. Artists from all over

the southeast Michigan area responded to the Call For Entries with most from Plymouth, Canton, Northville and

Livonia. A variety of media is represented in the collection, including pen & ink, pastels, water-color, oil and acrylic.

Art in the exhibit, all original, is for sale ranging in price from \$50-\$4,000.



SUBMITTED

Westland municipal workers and American Federation of County, State and Municipal Employees Local 1602 members Randy Rohraff, Steve Misiak, Ian Smith and Mitch Weimer handle the union's adopt-a-family program.

City workers help families at holiday

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Three Westland families will be having a brighter Christmas this year after being adopted by Westland city workers.

The adopt-a-family program is an annual effort by members of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1602 which represents staff at the Department of Public Services, city hall and the Dorsey Center.

"We don't have as much money to work with as we used to because we have less people. We have less than 50 members - it had been 120 members," said Steve Misiak, a Local 1602 steward and executive board member.

The adopt-a-family program is funded through donations from members, the union,

50/50 raffles and casual day contributions from inside employees. The union has sponsored the program for about 20 years.

This year, the local is spending about \$1,000 to provide clothing, toys and food to the adopted families. One family has eight children, the second three children and the third is a single person in a difficult situation after her husband died.

Misiak, along with other Local 1602 members gets lists of clothing needs and sizes for the adopted family, then goes shopping joined by co-workers Ian Smith, Randy Rohraff and Mitch Weimer. Misiak gets a discount through his wife, who works at Meijer.

"The employees at Meijer help us with the shopping, that's been a big plus for us," said Misiak. "They shop with

us. If they can't do it, they send someone else to help pick bargains. We stretch the money as far as we can."

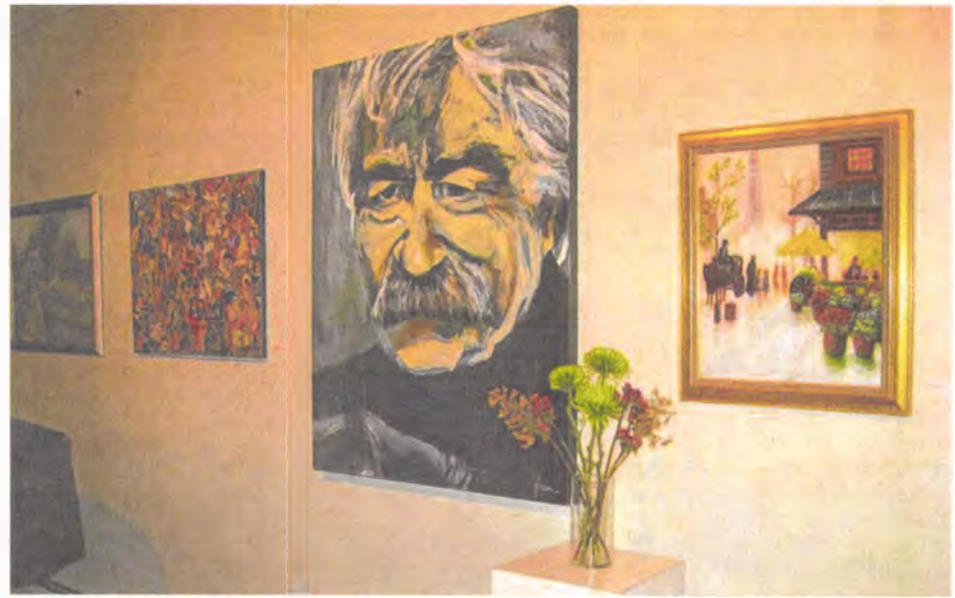
Along with clothing, the union provides each family with a ham purchased from Norman's Market on Wayne Road, which donates a turkey for each family.

"They have helped us for years. If there is any money left, we give them gift cards for Norman's," said Misiak, adding a variety of canned goods are also provided.

The union gets names of families needing assistance through the Dorsey Center and the city housing program.

"We make sure they aren't getting help elsewhere. They are all Westland residents and always have been," said Misiak.

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



PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

The work of Jan Brown is part of the Plymouth Community Arts Council's "Inspired" exhibit.

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, L.L.C. 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

LO-000023739 3x3

CITY OF WAYNE PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Wayne will hold two (2) PUBLIC HEARINGS as listed below to consider the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for eligible activities for the 2015-2016 program year.

Hearing #1: Planning Commission - Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.

Hearing #2: City Council - Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 8:00 P.M.

Both hearings will be held in the Wayne Activity and Banquet Center (WABC) 35000 Sims Avenue, Wayne, MI 48184. As the allocation amount is not yet available, planning is proceeding based on the current program year (2014-2015) allocation of \$121,923.00. The proposed activities and estimated amounts are as follows:

Code Enforcement, Police	\$ 100,000.00
Public Services, Senior Citizens	\$ 15,000.00
Community Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 4,000.00
Administration	\$ 2,923.00
Total	\$ 121,923.00

Final funding decisions by the City Council are also subject to U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations, as administered by the County of Wayne. Inquiries: Peter J. McInerney, Community Development Director (734) 419-0118.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 25, 2014

LO-000023291 3x3



Check these Local Businesses offering Great Values and ready to serve you...enjoy!

Amantea RESTAURANT
ITALIAN AMERICAN CUISINE
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 4-10 pm, Fri.-Sat. 4-11 pm, Sun. Open at 12:30 pm

\$10 OFF
The purchase of any 2 regular priced entrees and 2 beverages
Valid Sun - Thursdays. May not be combined w/other offers or used on holidays. Must present coupon. Exp. Jan. 15, 2015

LET US COOK FOR YOUR NEXT GET TOGETHER.
32777 W. Warren • Garden City
Just East of Venoy
amantearestaurant.com
734-421-1510

Celebrating Our
GRAND REOPENING

Sunday Breakfast
Every Sunday • 9am-noon
We've received rave reviews!

New Year's Eve Dinner
Wed., Dec. 31
Prime Rib Dinner, Baked Potato, Fresh Vegetable & Salad.
12 Oz. \$14.99 • 16oz. \$18.99
Live Music • \$2 Off Bottles of Wine
7:30pm the Johnny Manning Band back by popular demand
Reservations Recommended

Paint & Pour
Mon., Jan. 5
Create a masterpiece while enjoying specials on our great selection of wine. Register at www.thepaintandpour.com

Saugatuck Brewery Tap Takeover
Fri., Jan. 9
Enjoy a variety of Saugatuck Craft Beers. Try a favorite or sample a few. Learn more about Craft Beers from our Brewery Rep.

Trivia Night
Join us on Tuesdays • 7:30pm

The Big Game Tailgate Party
Sun., Feb. 1st
call for details

36000 Seven Mile • Livonia • Bet. Farmington & Newburgh Roads
248.473.1300
Book Your Holiday Party Today!

G. Subu's LEATHER BOTTLE
Restaurant • Bar • Banquet Facility

Now Taking Reservations...

New Years Eve Dinner Menu
4-10 pm

Appetizers
Shrimp Cocktail
Calamari
Stuffed Mushrooms
Malibu Breaded Coconut Shrimp

Entrees*
Filet Mignon
Surf & Turf
Lobster Feast
Jumbo Shrimp
New York Strip
Roast Prime Rib of Beef
Veal Marsala
Chicken Piccata
Broiled Salmon
Whitefish

*All Entrees Include 1 Side and Soup or Salad

Assorted Desserts

Live Entertainment
6-10 pm

248-474-2420
20300 Farmington Rd., Just S. of 8 Mile • Livonia

Don't be left behind...Call 866-887-2737 today to learn more about advertising in Out on the Town!



This New Year arrives with a specially made hor d'oeuvre feast.
 Select from an outstanding array of meats, seafood and pastas, or order something new for your New Year's Party
 • Sushi Appetizer Tray for your Guests!
 Everyone at Joe's Wishes you a Very Happy & Healthy New Year!

Holiday Hours: Sun. 9am-6pm, Mon. & Tue. 9am-9pm, Wed. (New Year's Eve) 9am-6pm, Thur. (New Year's Day) 9am-5pm, Fri. & Sat. 9am-9pm
 33152 W. SEVEN MILE RD • LIVONIA, MI
 Prices valid from 12-26-14 to 12-31-14 while Supplies Last.

JOE'S PRODUCE 248.477.4333
 JOE'S MEAT & SEAFOOD 248.477.4323

ORGANIC PRODUCE SPECIALS

Avocado 2/\$3	Baby Carrots 2/\$3
Celery 2/\$3	Collard Greens 2/\$3

PRODUCE

Joe's Fresh Squeezed Florida Orange Juice \$6.99 1/2 Gal Squeezed Fresh Daily	Spanish Darling Clementines \$4.99 5 lb box	California Haas Avocado 5/\$5	Dole Golden Ripe Whole or Cored Pineapple \$2.99 ea	California Head Lettuce 79¢ head	Fresh Tart & Juicy Limes 3/99¢
--	--	---	--	---	--

Joe's Meat & Seafood

Entrees to Go Italian Chicken Cutlet \$3.99 lb	Entrees to Go Bacon Muenster or Apple Cherry Stuffed Chicken \$4.99 lb Save \$1.00	Premium Fresh - All Natural Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast \$2.49 lb Save \$1.50	North American Lobster Tails Small 4 oz \$5.99 ea Save \$2.00	Alaskan Red King Crab Legs 20/24 ct \$14.99 lb Save \$4.00
USDA Premium Choice Angus NY Strip, Porterhouse, or T-Bones \$9.99 lb Save \$3.00	Breakfast Sale Breakfast Links or Bulk \$3.99 lb Save \$1.00	Whole Fryers \$1.49 lb Save 50¢	Large 9 oz \$15.99 ea Save \$2.00	9/12 ct \$20.99 lb Save \$4.00
Fresh - Housemade Sausage Polish or Sweet Italian \$3.99 lb Save \$1.00	Jalapeno or Pecanwood Bacon Country Bacon \$6.99 lb Save \$2.00	Entrees to Go Italian Meatballs \$5.99 lb Save \$1.00	EZ Peel Shrimp X-Large (26-30 ct) \$8.99 lb Save \$3.00	Housemade Entrees to Go Seasoned Catfish Mesquite, Cajun or Bronzed \$7.99 lb Save \$1.00
			Jumbo (16-20 ct) \$10.99 lb Save \$3.00	

DELI

Boar's Head Tavern Ham \$8.49 lb Save \$2.50	Beemster Gouda \$2 OFF All Varieties	Dietz & Watson Buffalo Chicken Breast \$7.99 lb Save \$4.00	Dearborn Thuringer \$7.99 lb Save \$2.00	Sahlen's Roasted Turkey \$7.49 lb Save \$2.50
Boar's Head Ovengold Turkey \$8.49 lb Save \$2.50	Dietz & Watson Homestyle Turkey Breast \$8.49 lb Save \$3.50	Celebrity Goat Cheese \$1 OFF All Flavors	Yancey's Fancy Artisan Cheese \$1 OFF All Varieties	Denmarks Creamy Havarti \$8.99 lb Save \$2.00
Boar's Head Everroast Chicken \$7.99 lb Save \$3.00	Dietz & Watson London Broil Roast Beef \$9.99 lb Save \$5.00	Dearborn Brown Sugar Ham \$5.99 lb Save \$2.00	Sahlen's Smokehouse Ham \$5.99 lb Save \$3.00	Old Tyme Monterey Jack Cheese \$5.99 lb Save \$2.00

GROCERY

PASTRY

CAFE

Lays or Doritos Chips Excludes Baked and Tortilla 2/\$5	Chuck & Dave's Chips and Salsa 2/\$5	Sabra Hummus 2/\$5	Yoders Dips 16 oz 2/\$3	Yoders Shredded Cheeses 2/\$4	ORDER YOUR HOLIDAY PIES TODAY	TRIPLE CHOCOLATE CAKE \$17.99 6" \$27.99 8"	JOE'S FRESH BAKED 10" CHERRY PIE \$12.99	Joe's Fresh Roasted Coffee Flavor of the Week: Mistletoe Mocha Mint \$8.99 lb Save \$1.00
					EGG NOG CREME BRULEE \$2.49	ZUCCHINI PINEAPPLE BREAD \$7.99 large	Beautiful Gourmet Gift Baskets \$19.99 Starting At	Germack Motown Mix \$11.99 tub
							Chocolove Candy Bars \$3.79 ea	

Everyday GOURMET

Chef's Feature
Chicken Tikka w/ Basmati Rice

Meatballs BBQ or Swedish Save \$1.00 \$7.99 lb	Chicken Wings Buffalo, BBQ or Plain Save \$1.00 \$7.99 lb	Joe's Party Dips Buffalo Chicken, Krab, Spinach Bacon Ranch Save \$1.00 \$5.99 lb	Buffalo Chicken Pasta Salad Save \$1.00 \$4.99 lb
---	--	--	--

Joe's Gourmet CATERING & EVENTS
 Happy New Year!
 Just engaged? We specialize in catering the perfect reception for your special day! Fabulous cuisine, professional staff, customized wedding cakes and favors, the perfect floral centerpieces and bouquets. Call today to meet with our event planner and visit us on The Knot! www.joesgourmetcatering.com
 Joe's is the answer to all your wedding needs.
 Visit us at www.joesgourmetcatering.com or call Laura at 248-477-4333 x226

Part of bread
 248-477-4311 Hours: Tues-Sun 8-6 • Closed Mon.

DELICIOUS BROWNIES 2/\$3 Plain & Walnut	HONEY ALMOND SCONES \$1.49
CHOCOLATE CHERRY BREAD \$3.99	CHALLAH BREAD \$2.99

WINE CELLAR

Don't Forget to Pick Up Your Holiday Champagne!

Meiomi Pinot Noir \$17.99 btl	Wente Riva Ranch Chardonnay \$13.99 btl
Leelanau Select Harvest Riesling \$9.99 btl	Menage A Trois Midnight \$8.99 btl
Stag's Leap Cabernet Sauvigno \$44.99 btl	

LIVONIA FRANKLIN HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT



Redford Thurston's Quran Kennedy hits the floor with Salem's Kenny Topolovec in pursuit of a loose ball during Monday night's game.

ED WRIGHT

Ladywood cagers upended

Kalisa Williams scored 13 points, while Camaryia Williams added 12 points, 12 rebounds and eight steals to lift Muskegon Reeths-Puffer (4-1) to a lopsided 57-23 opening round victory Friday over Livonia Ladywood (1-5) in the Muskegon Area Hall of Fame Girls Basketball Tournament. Brooke Larabee added nine points and 12 rebounds for the victorious Rockets, who led 23-8 at halftime and 37-18 after three quarters. Junior Aliya Grandison and sophomore Maggie Shirk each tallied six points for the Blazers, who were scheduled to face host Muskegon in the consolation final Saturday.

RU boys hoops team wins

Redford Union's boys basketball team upended Dearborn High, 53-46, in a Western Wayne Athletic Conference contest played Friday night.

The victory improved the Panthers' record to 2-3 heading into the holiday break. Jerrime Koger led the winners with 21 points. It was his second straight game with 20-plus points and the third time this season he's exceeded the 20-point plateau. Keyon Thomas continued his strong play for RU with 12 points and 12 rebounds.

'HOOP'Y HOLIDAYS!

Thurston runs by Salem with third-quarter explosion

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The message delivered in the Redford Thurston boys basketball team's locker room during halftime of Monday night's compelling match-up against Salem was simple and direct. Oh, it was also very well-received. "Coach (Brian Bates) told us we needed to box out better, run

the court better and get going on defense," said Eagles senior guard Rickey Hudgens, whose team faced a 31-28 deficit during intermission of the opening game of the four-team Livonia Franklin Holiday Tournament. Thurston responded to Bates' challenge with flying colors as it mounted a game-changing 21-3 second-half run that turned a one-point Eagles advantage with two minutes left in the

third quarter into a 63-44 cushion just over four minutes later. Thurston ultimately finished off the Rocks, 79-64, to improve to 5-0 and earn a berth in Tuesday's championship game against Walled Lake Western. The Warriors upended the host Patriots, 56-33. Salem were set to face Franklin in Tuesday's third-place game. "I got after the guys a little

bit at halftime," Bates said, smiling. "I told them they had to play with more intensity and that they had to be in good position on defense because Salem is a well-coached team and I knew they were going to be where they were supposed to be. The guys came out in the second half and played like they were capable of playing." Thurston 6-foot-5 senior post player Isiah Crofford powered the rally as he scored 18 of his 24 points during the final 16

See THURSTON, Page B3

Warriors too tall an order for Patriots

Walled Lake Western's size, athleticism topple gutsy Franklin

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer



Franklin's Johnny Cantrell slices through the Walled Lake Western defense Monday night.

Grittiness, scrappiness and wall-to-wall hustle will only take you so far when your tallest player is 6-foot-2 and you're playing a team with as much hops as Walled Lake Western. Such was the dilemma facing modest-sized (at best) Livonia Franklin during the nightcap of the holiday tournament it hosted Monday night. Bouncing around the rim like they were on pogo sticks, the Warriors jumped to a 22-3 lead before eventually booking a 56-33 victory. The loss dropped the Patriots to 0-5 and reserved them a spot in Tuesday's consolation game against Salem, which lost to Redford Thurston,

79-64. Seniors Marcus Bailey and Jerald Booker did most of the damage for Western as they each pumped in 15 points despite sitting for long stretches of the second half once the game got out of hand. Senior forward Charles Keith and sophomore guard Johnny Cantrell led the Patriots with eight points each. Western took a lot of the drama out of the contest during the first eight minutes, when it surged to a 22-3 lead. Franklin didn't help itself by making just 4-of-14 free-throw attempts and turning the ball over 22 times. "We came out a little flat tonight and we didn't execute like we need to given our size

disadvantage," Franklin head coach Jeremy Rheault said. "We know our window to get a good shot is so small and our time is limited, which is why we have to execute better." "I thought we gave a good effort after we got through that first-quarter melee, but we fell behind way too quickly." Franklin played the entire game without the services of talented junior guard Denzel Adams and most of the game without 6-4 forward Jackie Hughes, who suffered a first-quarter head injury. The guys who did play got after it, particularly Nick Curtis, who hounded the Warriors' bigger, quicker guards, and Joe

See PATRIOTS, Page B3

Zebra bowlers win

The Wayne Memorial girls bowling team struck down Salem, 23-7, in a match held Dec. 17 at Super Bowl in Canton. The two teams split the Baker games as the Rocks captured the first, 149-124, before the Zebras rebounded to take the second, 175-151. Individual game leaders for the victorious Zebras were Christina O'Harris, who rolled games of 166 and 177; Shayla Wojewski (150 and 167); Kayla Thompson (147 and 157) and Gabby Charon, who tallied scores of 145 and 168. Hayley Gilbert recorded a 142 in her only game, while Amy Hoch delivered a 125.

Tractors plow Trojans boys cagers

Dearborn Fordson knocked off Livonia Clarenceville, 68-32, in a boys basketball game played Friday night. The Trojans were led by Jermell Johnson, who scored 17 points, and Mitch Kubiak, who scored seven in a reserve role.

PREP WRESTLING

John Glenn matmen split pair in Brighton

Sophomore Siemasz the catalyst for Rockets' fine showing

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn's young but resilient wrestling team traveled Dec. 17 to Brighton, where it split with a pair of matches against heavyweight opponents. The Rockets, whose lineup was depleted somewhat by injuries and a flu bug, opened the night with a 44-33 setback to defending Division 3 state champion Dundee before bouncing back to upend Wyandotte Roosevelt, 54-23.



Westland John Glenn sophomore John Siemasz went 2-0 for the Rockets in their pair of matches on Dec. 17.

JAMES SPEEN

Sophomore John Siemasz was perhaps the team's MVP on the

night as he notched wins at 119 pounds (against Dundee's Zac

Bellair) and at 125 (against Wyandotte's Aaron Young. In the other matches, the hosts - who are currently ranked No. 1 in Division 1 - knocked off Dundee, 38-22, and Wyandotte, 73-3. In addition to Siemasz, John Glenn's non-void winners against Dundee were 135-pound Payton Beneteau, who pinned Austin Bodine in 69 seconds; 215-pound Nate Irvine, who registered a dramatic overtime fall against Gabe Heisermer; and heavyweight Avery Casae, who pinned Logan Grey in 3:31. The comfortable victory over the Bears was spearheaded by 103-pound Michael Mars' second-round pin of Mike Clark and Beneteau's down-to-the-wire 5-3

See WRESTLING, Page B3

Panthers bring cheer to Toys For Tots

By Alice Walters
Correspondent

Redford Union's varsity and junior varsity cheerleading squads hosted and performed Dec. 5 in the "Holiday Cheers to You Showcase," which benefited Toys for Tots.

The cheer teams participated with approximately 300 entrants to raise contributions for Toys for Tots in the Redford Township area.

Toys for Tots is a program orchestrated by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve with the mission "to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less-fortunate youngsters."

Participating cheer teams performed holiday routines to a packed crowd at Hilbert Middle School in Redford Township. Individual cheerleaders competed for awards in jumping and tumbling. Jefferson Pom and Northeast Pom from Midland won the award for top donations.

J Cheer-Clovers varsity from Southfield captured the



Members of the Redford Union cheerleading squads pose with toys that will be distributed to less-fortunate children.

ALICE WALTERS

Spirit Award by sporting uniforms accompanied by elf hats

that certainly captured the holiday spirit.

The success of the event has grown each year and 25

community teams performed this year.

The Eastern Michigan University Dance Team amazed the crowd and cheer athletes in a benefit performance that opened the showcase.

Redford Union's 40 varsity and junior varsity cheerleaders prepared event set-up at Hilbert Middle School with event organizer and RU cheer coach Permmella Harris, who emphasized that community events like the showcase are a core component of team-building, community awareness and leadership development in the training program for the high school cheerleaders at Redford Union.

"We train and mentor the girls to give their best in all areas of their lives," Harris said.

"Giving back and helping others is an important part of increasing the girls' understanding of their role in the community."

Harris is in her fourth year coaching at RU.

Golden Nuggets



The Nuggets captured the championship in the Plymouth-Canton Community Educational Basketball League's Boys A (seventh- and eighth-grade) division Dec. 13 by upending the Bucks, 69-50, in the title game held at West Middle School. Team members include (front row, from left) Ethan Farrugia, Arul Srivastava, Hamza Tqbal and Mihar Javkar and (back row, from left) Abhimannu Deshpande, assistant coach Shaine Keyandwy, Joe Watson, Liam Radomski, Mihir Joshi, head coach Caden Farrugia and Karan Parikh.

PREP HOCKEY

Patriots thrash St. Clair Shores, 6-0

By Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Franklin's resurgent hockey team made another loud statement Saturday night when it out-skated host St. Clair Shores Unified, 6-0, at the St. Clair Shores Civic Arena.

The victory improved the Patriots' record to 4-3-1.

Franklin led 1-0 after a tightly-contested first period before shifting into high gear in the second period when it took a 4-0 lead.

Chase Wallis and Brendan Whitney were the winners' primary catalysts, as they both

booked two goals and two assists.

Justin Makowski and Jonny Parkinson chipped in two assists apiece. Joining the goal-scoring parade were Trevor Lassaline and Cory Linsner, who were assisted by Kolby Dewhirst, Nic Anderson and Jack Ores.

Brian Hubbard registered the shutout between the pipes by turning away 15 Unified shots, including two breakaway chances. Jenna Pleva made 57 saves for SCS.

"We had a little fun tonight, that's for sure," Franklin head coach Dennis Gagnon said. "Quinn Shine, Jack Ores

and Jonny Parkinson played well at the defensive end, which helped us keep Justin Makowski and Kolby Dewhirst fresh and ready as needed.

"Cory Linsner notched his first goal of the season, which was great to see, and Nic Anderson had a solid game, which isn't easy at this level when you're a freshman."

"Jaret Evans also played well on the back end and Brian Hubbard made some spectacular saves and is really starting to come into his own as a bona fide goaltender that we can count on."

ewright@hometownlife.com

PREP BOYS HOCKEY

Grandville grinds out win over Canton icers

Chiefs score early, then run out of steam against Bulldogs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Playing against a Grandville team that traveled from the west side of the state and then played Friday night, Canton's varsity boys hockey team came out Saturday afternoon with an edge.

The Chiefs quickly grabbed a 1-0 lead at Arctic Edge Arena when forward Cooper Rice took a feed from linemate Nick Harwell and snapped the puck past Bulldogs netminder Myles Maden.

That was all the Chiefs would get however, as Grandville slowly but surely took control of the game and earned a 4-1 victory. The Bulldogs, who routed Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard 9-3 on Friday night, improved to 8-1-0, while Canton dropped to 3-5-2.

"Grandville played last night, long trip, I'm sure they were a little jet-lagged, so to speak, at the start of the game," Canton head coach Brad Barath said about his team's quick start. "But they picked it up at the end of the game and we didn't. We went the wrong way."

Grandville tied things up at 1-1 with 5:22 left in the first period, when for-

ward Noah Weigle scored against Canton workhorse goalie Nick Borg, who once again was brilliant in a losing effort. Setting up Weigle's goal were forwards Mitchell Parsons and Brandon Rozema.

The ice started tilting more and more as the game continued, with the Bulldogs ultimately taking a 2-1 lead when forward Eric Neitzel one-timed defenseman Thomas Breazeale's pass with just over 11 minutes left in the second.

Borg kept the Chiefs within a goal when he stood on his head during an extended five-on-three Grandville power play. He made a handful of big stops.

"The goals that were scored weren't his fault," Barath said. "Just defensive breakdowns, bad communication and they took advantage of it."

Early in the final period, Borg stoned the Bulldogs during yet another power play.

But Grandville scored just seconds after the penalty expired, when forward Zach Vanderwel's cross-crease pass was slammed home by forward Jake Baum, all alone at the left post for the tap-in.

Vanderwel and

Baum hooked up again with 6:18 remaining for the game's final goal as Baum collected his second of the day.

Barath said he was hopeful that his team would come out with more of a purpose after being embarrassed 7-1 Wednesday by Romeo.

After a solid opening period, things got away from the Chiefs, however.

"I guess it's a step in the right direction after what happened against Romeo," Barath said.

As for going up against non-conference teams that the Chiefs rarely play, Barath said, "If anything, it should fire them up a little bit more to play these teams, especially Grandville, a team who's a perennial state championship contender. They're a good team, they grind."

Now the Chiefs have a few weeks to get recharged for the second half of the schedule, which resumes Jan. 14 against Plymouth.

"We're kind of in a slump right now," Barath said. "Guys are banged up, guys are tired, guys are hurt; it's just part of the season."

"You got to get over it, get through it. We got 25 days until our next game to get healthy."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Crusaders fall short in upset bid, 70-66

Duncan tallies 24 in loss to IU-East

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

It was a golden opportunity to knock off a top 25 team.

But the Madonna University men's basketball team came up just short Saturday afternoon as visiting Indiana University-East, ranked No. 18 in the latest NAIA Division II coaches poll, pulled out a 70-66 win to improve to 12-2 overall.

Senior guard Shaun Duncan, playing only his third game after transferring from Wayne County Community College, led the Crusaders for the second straight outing with a game-high 24 points.

But it couldn't prevent the MU from falling to 6-9 overall.

What led to the Crusaders' undoing was a poor offensive performance in the first half. MU shot only 22.9 percent (8-of-35) from the field and went scoreless for 4:48 as Red Wolves led by as many as 15 and took a 36-25 lead into the dressing room at halftime.

"The ball was sticking, we weren't really moving it, so we were shooting shots instead of getting each other open," MU coach Noel Emehiser said. "Any time you can go that part of the game without scoring, it's going to hurt you, whether it comes back to bite you

at the end or the moment. It got us at the end, when you consider everything."

The 6-foot-1 Duncan, however, tallied 14 of his game-high 24 in the first half to keep the Crusaders within striking distance.

And eventually the Crusaders clawed their way back, taking their first lead of the second half with 6:10 remaining on Duncan's triple.

With just 1:17 to go, Duncan's layup gave MU a 66-64 advantage, but IU-East took the lead for good on Tyler Fangman's 3-pointer from the corner with 1:06 left on the clock for a 67-66 advantage.

On the ensuing possession, Duncan appeared to draw contact on a drive to the basket, but missed a layup with 35 seconds left. He fouled Jacob Claypool with 27 seconds to go and the 6-2 freshman guard made both free throws to put IU-East up by three, 69-66.

The Crusaders then missed a pair of triple tries, one by Khalil Malone (eight points, six assists) and the other by Duncan, during the final 12 seconds.

Huston Clark's free throw with 1.9 seconds remaining sealed the win for IU-East.

MU, which also got 10 points from senior center Donald Owens and seven off the bench

from sophomore Chris Dierker (Salem), regained its shooting touch in the second half, going 13-of-28 from the floor.

Madonna, however, made just 4-of-22 from 3-point range (18.2 percent), but the Crusaders kept it close by making 20-of-24 free throws (83.3 percent).

"I thought we played closer to what we wanted in the second half," Emehiser said. "We continued to defend. We moved the ball a lot better and got shots we wanted, got to the rim, got to the free-throw line a lot better. But in the end, they made one more play than we did."

Fangman paced IU-East with 14 points, while Clark added 11 points and 11 rebounds. Brad Hunt contributed 10 points.

The Crusaders, who stand 2-5 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, return to action at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, in Fort Wayne against Indiana Tech in the first of three straight WHAC road games.

To make the WHAC playoffs, MU will have to finish in the top eight of the 12-team conference.

"There's a lot of time," Emehiser said. "The goal is to get better every day, take one game at a time. We hope to have a chance to position ourselves to play in the (WHAC) tournament and playing our best ball when that time comes."

bemons@hometownlife.com

CROSSROADS CEILI SHOW FUSES SCOTTISH AND IRISH MUSIC

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Mick Gavin's annual Crossroads Ceili holiday show will take on a Scottish brogue this year.

"I think it's going to be the best ceili ever," said Gavin, a Redford resident who plays and teaches fiddle. "We'll explore some of our connections between the Irish and the Scots, musical traditions. We have a lot in common."

That includes the notion of a ceili, (pronounced kay-lee) a social gathering with music and dance.

During the upcoming two-day festival of Irish song and dance, Gavin and his Crossroads Ceili members, sons Michael and Sean, Kelsey Lutz, Colleen Shanks, and Siobhan McKinney, will share the stage with musicians from the MacLeod and Rankin families of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, who will play Scottish tunes. Each band will play a set and then join forces for an Irish-Scottish musical fusion. Megan Holton from the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance and Caitlin Nelson from O'Hare School of Irish Dance also will perform, along with Eileen Plunkett on vocals.

The shows are at 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 26-27, at The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$15, available through ticketmaster.com or The Ark, 734-761-1800. A dinner-show combination ticket is available for \$25 and includes dinner at Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Make reservations through The Ark or by calling Conor O'Neill's at 734-665-2968.

"Over the years we've had famous players come in, but now we have a powerhouse of musicians right here in Detroit and Windsor," Gavin explained his choice of guest artists this year. "The music of Ireland is so strong here in Detroit and of course the Scots have been very strong with their music in Windsor."

Similar music, traditions

Sarah Rankin plays fiddle and step dances. Her brother Cameron, and Marion MacLeod both play piano. MacLeod's brother, Kenneth, is a fiddler. At The Ark, they'll perform together as a quartet and then with Gavin's group.

"They are going to give us a run for our money because they are very good and I'm delighted to have them," said Gavin, who created the annual holiday show 18 years ago. "We don't know what we'll play yet with these young Scots. Our music is the same structure, but different sounding, with a different accent."

"We're compatible in songs, music and culture. They have the same type of songs, the same type of Christmas puddings, and the language was



Musicians from the MacLeod and Rankin families of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, will team up to play with Crossroads Ceili, Dec. 26-27 at The Ark in Ann Arbor. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Mick Gavin (center) of Redford plays fiddle at a gig in Saginaw. Gavin created the Crossroads Ceili holiday show 18 years ago.

identical over the years until the scholars and people changed it," Gavin said, listing similarities. "We play a lot of Scottish tunes in Ireland and they play a lot of Irish tunes in Scotland."

Gavin said the music differs in authorship. Much of Scottish music was composed by professional composers, many of whom created songs for the aristocracy. Much of the old Irish music "comes from the people," although Ireland also had its own tradition of composed music. Traveling harpists often performed and composed pieces for gentry in the 16th and 17th centuries.

"They had a separate horse to carry his harp and an entourage of horses came with it. It was a big occasion and they would have roasted a deer in the great room. It was a big compliment to have a harper compose a tune," Gavin said.

"But the music we play for a ceili — set dancing and polka and reel — they came from musicians here and there down from the ages. They didn't come from a book."

Gavin's band includes flute, penny whistle, banjo, harp, piano, Irish pipes and fiddles. He's considering at least one set with fiddles only for the show.

"When we're all together, we're almost going to have 10 (musicians). Plus we'll invite up a few more."

Gavin said the holiday show attracts 350-400 Celtic music lovers to each performance and has nearly sold out in the past. A few years ago a line of 200 fans waited outside the venue.

"We get a big crowd," Gavin said. "This is going to be the ultimate ceili. This is a great cultural experience."



Sean Gavin, who grew up in Redford, will play Irish pipes at Crossroads Ceili's holiday show.



Crossroads Ceili's holiday show includes performances by the Maid of Erin and her court. That's Megan Holton (right) from the Ardan Academy of Irish Dance, Caitlin Nelson from O'Hare School of Irish Dance, and Eileen Plunkett, a vocalist.

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

GALLERY@VT

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public events, through Jan. 7, 2015; closed on holidays
Location: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild display a wide variety of fiber art in-



Aaron Radatz performs magic Dec. 27 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

cluding: tapestries, wearable art, textiles, fiber paper, baskets, sculpture and surface design
Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillage-theater.org

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

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday through December
Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth



Ron Kischuck will perform Dec. 30 at Jazz @ The Elks in Plymouth.

Details: "Inspired," is a show of 2-dimensional work by more than 26 artists
Contact: 734-416-4278

COMEDY

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Time/Date: 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 26-27
Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Dave Williamson; \$16 show only, \$29 with dinner
Contact: 734-261-0555; catchthefunny.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26; 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27
Location: Fourth and Troy streets in downtown Royal Oak
Details: David Dyer; tickets \$18
Contact: 248-542-9900; info@ComedyCastle.com

FILM

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26; 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 27-28
Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth
Details: *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*; admission \$3

Coming up: *The Judge*, 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2 and Thursday, Jan. 8; 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 3-4
Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penn-theatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Jan. 9, 2015 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Jan. 10, 2015
Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Avenue in Detroit
Details: *All About Eve*, \$5
Contact: 313-898-1481

HISTORY

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Dec. 28
Location: Second floor in the Community Gallery at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit
Details: Fourteen stained glass windows that were installed at the original St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center, built in 1929 and closed in 2005 in Farmington Hills, are on display. Admission is free
Contact: 313-833-7935

KELSEY MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 27-28; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Dec. 30-31; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, 2015; 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 3-4, 2015
Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor
Details: For the first time, the Kelsey Museum will be open during the holiday season when University of Michigan buildings normally are closed. Themed, one-hour gallery tours will be offered on select days at 2 p.m. Tours are free. Call for specific themes and dates
Contact: 734-764-9304

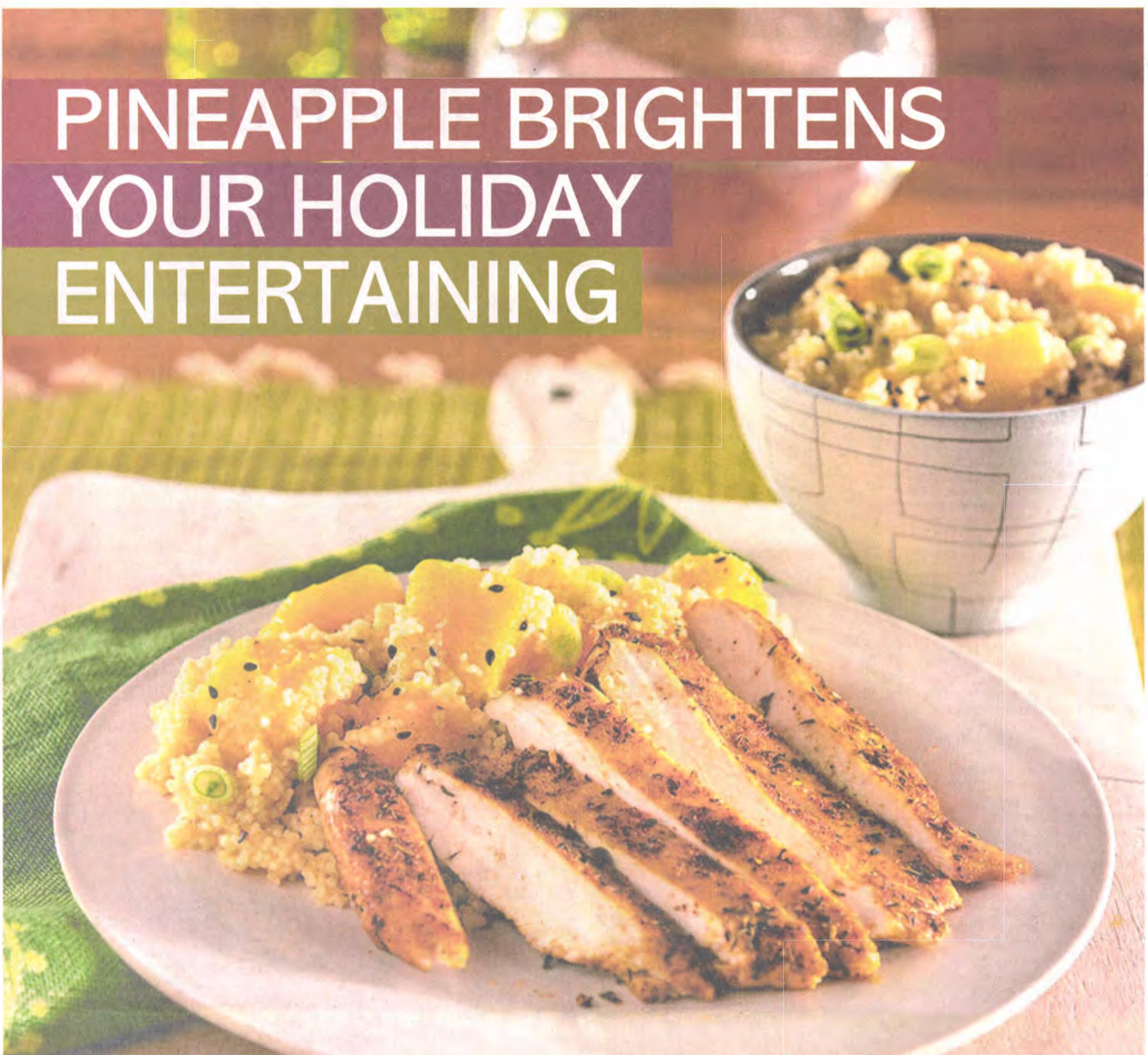
PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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.wayne-county.com

PINEAPPLE BRIGHTENS YOUR HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING



Celebrate the holiday season by serving unique dishes and drinks that burst with flavor.

The holiday hostess has a lot on her plate. But preparing for the big event doesn't have to be a challenge — this holiday, focus on special dishes and refreshing cocktails guests will remember for years to come. Use these tips to make your holiday events shine:

» Shake it up — From cool drinks, like the Pineapple Upside Down Mocktail, to delicious tropical twists on classic martinis, punches and warm ciders, pineapple juice can shake things up this season. It also is a good source of vitamins A, C and E.

» Captivating courses — To celebrate the season, serve up recipes for delicious entrees, small plates and desserts that bring a taste of the tropics to any occasion. Start guests off with a Holiday Kale Salad and then serve them juicy Jamaican Chicken & Couscous, followed by divine Pineapple Pumpkin Pie.

» Party planner extraordinaire — Looking for bright ideas on how to turn your next party into paradise? Visit dole.com/sunshine/holidayrecipes to find refreshing new ways to make your party the event of the season, from eye-catching invitations to delightful decor tips.

Courtesy of Family Features

JAMAICAN CHICKEN & COUSCOUS

Servings: 4

2 tablespoons dry Jamaican seasoning
1 tablespoon curry powder
4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
1 cup canned pineapple juice
½ cup water
1 package (5.6 ounces) toasted pine nut couscous mix
1 ½ cups Dole Frozen Mango Chunks, thawed
½ cup green onion, sliced
1 tablespoon lime juice
2 teaspoons black sesame seeds

Combine Jamaican seasoning and curry powder in small bowl. Place each chicken breast between 2 sheets of plastic wrap and pound (with meat mallet) to ¼-inch thickness. Remove wrap. Brush both sides of chicken pieces with 1 tablespoon oil and sprinkle both sides with curry mixture. Cook chicken in oil over medium-high heat, 3 to 4 minutes per side or until brown and no longer pink in center. Meanwhile, stir together juice, water and pine nut seasoning mixture from package in medium saucepan; bring to boil. Stir in couscous; remove from heat. Let stand, covered, 5 minutes or until liquid is absorbed. Fluff with fork. Stir in mango chunks, green onions and lime juice. Cut chicken in ½-inch slices and serve over couscous mixture. Sprinkle with sesame seeds.



PINEAPPLE PUMPKIN PIE

Servings: 6

1 can (8 ounces) crushed pineapple
1 ½ cups canned pineapple juice
1 envelope unflavored gelatin
1 ½ teaspoons granulated Sucralose sweetener or sugar
1 cup canned pumpkin pie mix
1 cup thawed whipped topping
1 (9-inch) low-fat graham cracker pie crust
Ground cinnamon, optional

Drain pineapple well; reserve juice. Combine reserved juice with pineapple juice in measuring cup. Add water to make 2 cups. Combine juice mixture and gelatin in saucepan. Let stand 1 minute. Stir over low heat until completely dissolved. Stir in sweetener. Pour into bowl. Chill just until starts to set, about 1 hour. Fold in pineapple, pumpkin and whipped topping. Pour into graham cracker crust. Chill 5 hours or overnight. Serve with whipped topping and ground cinnamon, if desired.



PINEAPPLE UPSIDE DOWN MOCKTAIL

Servings: 2 (½-cup)

1 cup canned pineapple juice, chilled
1 tablespoon caramel sauce
Ginger ale, chilled
2 teaspoons grenadine syrup
Brown or turbinado sugar and maraschino cherries, optional garnish

Wet just the rim of a martini glass with a little water; dip rim in brown sugar or turbinado sugar for added garnish. Combine pineapple juice and caramel sauce in shaker over ice. Shake vigorously; strain into martini glasses or other favorite glasses. Top off with ginger ale. Slowly pour in grenadine. Garnish with cherry, if desired. Note: For alcoholic variation, combine 3 ounces cake-flavored vodka or vanilla vodka, 1 ounce Frangelico or amaretto liqueur, and 6 ounces canned pineapple juice in shaker over ice. Shake vigorously; strain into martini glasses. Slowly pour in grenadine; garnish with cherry, if desired.



HOLIDAY KALE SALAD

Servings: 4

1 package (4.5 ounces) Dole Baby Kale and Greens
2 ripe firm pears, halved, cored and sliced
½ cup red onion, thinly sliced
¼ cup dried cranberries
¼ cup pistachios, chopped
¼ cup olive oil
¼ cup canned pineapple juice
1 teaspoon minced garlic
½ teaspoon ground ginger
Salt and ground black pepper, to taste

Combine salad blend, pears, red onion, cranberries and pistachios in large bowl. Whisk together olive oil, pineapple juice, garlic and ginger in small bowl. Add salt and pepper to taste. Pour over salad mixture; toss to evenly coat.