

# WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

2015

## Not much enthusiasm for road proposal

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

The poor condition of Michigan roads has been the subject of a lot of talk, but until recently not much legislative action.

Now in May, voters will be asked to raise state sale tax to 7 percent through a constitutional amendment, with the increase earmarked for transportation and roads.

By their comments, local officials aren't particularly impressed with the Legislature's solution of tossing the question back to voters.

"Although I understand saying that 'politics is the art of compromise,' I really think

that the state legislators failed to do their jobs on this one," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "It seems as if pragmatism is taking a backseat to ideology. To put another costly election on the municipalities, gamble on a vote and potentially losing another construction season just doesn't seem like leadership to me."

This solution could also cause confusion for voters in cities like Westland that are potentially seeking local road millages next year to address neighborhood streets, Wild added.

The proposal would generate an additional \$1.3 billion for transportation purposes. The new revenues would be

available beginning in the 2016 construction season and would be available sooner than either of the previous House and Senate proposals.

"I think the Legislature should have done their jobs and taken care of it. They threw it back at taxpayers," Wayne Interim City Manager David Murphy said. "We elect them to do a job. They should do it or go to part time."

Murphy also had the same question asked by Garden City City Manager Robert Muery.

"I am interested in learning what happens if the voters do not approve the increased tax. I have not heard the Plan B,



FILE PHOTO

Local officials aren't showing a lot of enthusiasm for the proposal to fix Michigan's roads.

See **ROADS**, Page A2



In a photo earlier this year state Sen. Glenn Anderson shows off his Heroes of Breast Cancer Award he received from the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

## ANDERSON LOOKS BACK AT STATE SERVICE

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

As he ends his career in the Michigan legislature, Glenn Anderson recalls that he always had an interest in public service.

"My grandmother took me to political speeches when I was 6 years old. I never imagined I'd run for public office," said Anderson. "It

was really (Senator) Bobby Kennedy who got me impassioned on public service."

With the end of 2014, Anderson finishes his last term in the state Senate - he's term-limited. He ran for the senate in 2006 after serving three terms in the state House. Anderson was elected state representative in 2000 after having served on the Westland City Council since

1991.

"Eileen (DeHart) was term-limited (as state representative) and a lot of people encouraged me to run," said Anderson, a Westland Democrat.

After being elected three times and term-limited himself, Anderson ran for state Senate in 2006 unseating incumbent Laura Toy to represent the 6th District in-

cluding Westland, Livonia, Redford and Garden City.

### Successes

When asked about what he views as important legislation during his tenure, Anderson mentions a recently approved law on cyber bullying and notes he has been working on bullying laws

See **ANDERSON**, Page A2

## Second armed robbery suspect sought

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

One person is in custody and a warrant has been issued for a second suspect in the Dec. 21 armed robbery of a security guard at a Westland apartment complex.

Westland Police reported that a tip from the public helped locate the suspects' vehicle. A search warrant was executed and one suspect was arrested.

Rebecca Olsen has been arraigned on charges of armed robbery and illegal use of a financial transaction device. A not guilty plea was entered at her arraignment in Westland 18th District Court. She is being held in lieu of \$750,000 cash bond.

A warrant was issued for the arrest of Justin Landry on charges of armed robbery and felony firearm.

Police had released surveillance photos of two suspects reported to be using a credit card stolen from the security guard, who was working at Woodland Villa Apartments. The stolen credit card was reported to have been used at the Speedway gas station at Cherry Hill and Newburgh a short time after the robbery was reported.

The security guard told police that a male and two females had stolen his wallet, credit cards and cellphone at gunpoint while he sat in his vehicle. The apartment complex is located north of Warren Road and west off Central City Parkway.

Anyone with information about Landry's whereabouts is asked to call Westland Police at 734-722-9600.



Landry



Olsen

## W-W fills 2 administrative, supervisory positions

The Wayne-Westland school board has approved the appointment of two veteran employees to supervisory positions.

Angela Szalai of Livonia has been tapped to serve as assistant principal at Stevenson Middle School in Westland, while Kurt Miles of Fenton has made supervisor of transportation.

Szalai has been with the

school district since 2008, working as a math intervention specialist. She also worked as a fourth-grade teacher at the Academy of Southfield and as a fifth- and eighth-grade teacher in the Taylor Public Schools.

She has a bachelor of science degree in elementary education in math and science from Eastern Michigan University and two

master of arts degrees in education in curriculum and instruction and administration and supervision from the University of Phoenix.

A Wayne-Westland graduate, Szalai told the school board she looks "forward to going home."

"I was a Stevenson Saint," she said. "I look forward to being a part of a team of amazing staff,

teachers, students and parents."

Miles was the director of transportation in the Plymouth-Canton school district before joining Wayne-Westland this year. He joined Plymouth-Canton in 1990 and worked as a mechanic, fleet service manager, transportation coordinator,

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## WAYNE COP CALLS

## Break-in

Police responded to an alarm call at Albert's Home Furnishings, 32344 W. Michigan Ave., just after 12:30 a.m. Dec. 14. Arriving at the business, officers found there was heavy damage to the steel entry door knob and dead bolt lock at the adjoining building at 32328 W. Michigan Ave.

A pick axe, single bit axe and a work glove were found on the floor under the damaged wall. Some large boxes had been moved to access the wall, the store owner said, but nothing had been stolen.

## Break-in

Ten gold dollars, a safe, \$38 in assorted currency and a gold ring were reported stolen from an apartment at Newberry Square, 35240 W. Michigan Ave., Dec. 16. One resident of the

apartment told police he locked the apartment door when he left but not the deadbolt.

The second resident arrived while police were there and told them the other resident has a habit of leaving the apartment door unlocked.

## Larceny

A resident in the 5000 block of Treadwell told police Dec. 18 that someone had stolen a package that had been left on her front porch by UPS Dec. 3. She said the package contained Urban Decay make-up valued at \$47.

## Break-in

On Dec. 19, a resident in the 4000 block of Edmund told police that someone had stolen a white gold Jesus pendant, a white gold and diamond Miche watch, a black leather Pelle Pelle leather jacket and a black Gucci belt with a silver buckle

valued at \$1,540 stolen along with \$750 in cash.

The resident said he discovered the items missing when he came home on his lunch break. The door had been locked, he said, but a window was left open.

## Larceny from a vehicle

A bottle of vodka and a portable Disney television, valued at \$130, were reported stolen from a vehicle parked in the 5300 block of Moore Dec. 21. The owner said she was unsure if she had locked the vehicle and found it had been searched after it was parked overnight.

Police recovered a hand warmer from the vehicle which the owner said didn't belong to her. A back pack was also retrieved from a nearby park after a witness noticed it.

—By LeAnne Rogers

## At the Fox



"It was the opportunity of a lifetime" — that is how choir director Mary Melonio described the performance Dec. 19 by St. Damian Children's Choir at the Fox Theatre. The choir performed before the 8 p.m. show of Cirque Dreams Holidaze. "They were fabulous," Melonio said. "A group of 153 from St. Damian's and St. Theodore's churches came out to support the children."

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## ANDERSON

Continued from Page A1

since 2005.

"I sponsored a breast cancer awareness license plate—the revenue will go to the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program," said Anderson. "It provides screening and treatment for the uninsured and underinsured. Bills can save lives hopefully."

Other efforts were more behind-the-scenes, Anderson said, like language to give veterans in-state tuition rates at Michigan college and universities. He cited the Grand Bargain which got Detroit through its bankruptcy.

Anderson served on what began as a strictly Republican Healthy Michigan-Medicaid Expansion workgroup. "The Medicaid expansion affects most people. In the long run, health care will be a boon and increase the bottom line," he said.

He is also proud of his voting record — 1,2651 votes cast during his time

in the legislature for 98.6 percent.

"My dad had cancer and I went to spend time with him. My mom had a quadruple bypass. My brother passed away," said Anderson. "There were a lot of life things over 14 years. You are elected to represent people."

## Disappointments

Disappointments for Anderson over the years have included right-to-work laws, insurance prohibitions on abortion even in cases of rape or incest, using appropriations to reverse laws enacted through voter initiatives and elimination of the cap on charter/cyber schools which has hurt public school funding.

"There are lots of things I thought could really have an impact on the state. Being in the minority all my years in the house and senate made it very difficult," said Anderson. "It is much more partisan. It's what are you willing to trade? It's not based on good public policy."

Anderson has proven himself to be a true servant of the people who unquestionably put the needs of his constituents first, said Garden City Manager/Police Chief Robert Muery.

"From his time on city council in Westland through his tenure as a state representative and state senator, he has proven through actions that he is a caring politician who does listen to the people," Muery said. "When you look at his track record, you see a genuine concern for environmental issues."

Anderson has also been at the forefront on legislative action for state government transparency, protecting children, especially in the areas of bullying and cyberbullying, and improvements to consumer protection, said Muery.

A Tennessee native who was raised on his father's tobacco farm, Anderson moved to Dearborn at age 14. He moved to Westland after marrying his wife Gail, a lifelong Westland resident and John Glenn High

School graduate, in 1977.

The couple has two children, Melissa, 34, who lives in Livonia and son Kyle, 28, who lives in Indiana, along with two grandchildren.

"After Kyle was born, Gail stayed at home. She kept things on an even keel," said Anderson, 60, who worked for Ford at the Wayne Assembly Plant 28 years before he retired.

"As mayor and a father, I have always appreciated the effort Glenn has shown to balance his family and public commitments," said Westland Mayor William Wild.

While Anderson, who unsuccessfully challenged John Conyers for Congress two years ago, said he doesn't have any set plans for the future, he adds he thinks he has at least another few years of service left in him.

"Sen. Anderson will be missed but I do not think for a moment we have heard the last from Glenn," said Muery.

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## ROADS

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but maybe I missed it," Muery said.

"Do they have a Plan B?" Murphy said.

In fact, at this point there actually is no Plan B. The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments calls it an all-or-nothing vote.

The constitutional amendment focuses on three issues:

» Beginning Oct. 1, 2015, the sales tax rate will be increased from 6 percent to 7 percent;  
» At the same time,

gasoline and diesel fuel used would be exempt from the sales tax;

» State school-aid funds could no longer be used to fund universities. That fund could be used to fund public career and technical education programs and scholarships for students attending public community colleges or public career and technical education programs

Current estimates project \$130 million of the sales tax increase would go to the Comprehensive Transportation Fund that primarily focuses on transit issues

and \$1.165 billion will go into the road fund.

It's expected that the sales tax increase would generate approximately \$250 million per year for cities and villages and \$450 million per year for county road agencies, while the final \$450 million is retained for state roads.

School aid is expected to see a boost of \$300 million and constitutional revenue sharing is expected to see an additional \$95 million per year.

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## POSITIONS

Continued from Page A1

dinator and transportation supervisor before becoming the director.

"I really look forward to getting started," he said. "I've met some really nice people and want to assist Sherice (Roark, transportation director) in providing safe transportation for the students. I spent many years with Plymouth-Canton and I look forward to many years with Wayne-Westland."

—By Sue Mason

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# FREE CHRISTMAS DINNER IS AGAIN WELL RECEIVED

By Sue Buck  
Staff Writer

Although there was a new location for a popular free Christmas Day dinner, the traditional loving sentiments carried over.

The Christmas Day dinner held for more than 10 years at the St. Dunstan Parish in Garden City was incorporated on the site of the new St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, also in Garden City.

In June, both St. Dunstan and St. Raphael Parishes closed to become St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in the former St. Raphael Parish.

Organizers Judy and Bruce Larry along with volunteers held the event this year in the St. Raphael School gym building located at 31530 Beechwood, west of Merriman, in Garden City.

"It went well," said Judy Larry.

The parish group has provided a turkey dinner every year, complete with all the fixings. They took over the dinner responsibilities years ago from John and Mary Surge.

"We are trying to make the new church our home," Larry said. "We are getting acclimated."

The mission of the dinner hasn't changed. The dinner is provided to individuals who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day, those people who don't have families nearby. It is not meant for families.

Larry said that about 110 people were served by at least 20 volunteers. About half of the number served were repeats from last year.

"It was a wonderful dinner of turkey and all the trimmings," Larry said. "We have never turned anyone away."

The full sit-down dinner included turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, salad, rolls, butter and an assortment of desserts. There was enough food for guests to take home.

News of the free dinner has circulated through the years. Larry said that this year, guests came from as far away as Fowlerville as well as Detroit and Canton Township.

Guests were treated royally and all who attended received a special surprise gift to take with them.

Larry said that they were exhausted after the event. But, their exhaustion was filled with the pleasure of having helped.

## Santa Claus

Santa is much anticipated whether young or old in Garden City.

Larry couldn't praise enough the new Santa who came to spread cheer at the Christmas dinner. This year's Santa was Bob Squires, who with his wife, Pat Squires, were church members who Larry knew when they were all members of St. Dunstan Parish.

Larry laughed at Bob Squires' fun loving approach as he mingled with the guests during dinner while spreading cheer. "He did a great job passing out gifts," Larry said. "He is very gregarious."

Long-time resident Squires, who is also a member of the Garden City Downtown Development Authority, is getting around Garden City in his somewhat new costumed role. Besides being the Santa Claus at the new parish, Squires has also played Santa Claus at the annual Senior Christmas Party at the Maplewood Community Center.

An added treat was Robin Beck, an area singer, who called and



Joi Matney of Garden City and Ryan Radwan of Canton serve the guests for Christmas dinner at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Garden City.

TOM BEAUDOIN



Volunteers Samantha Tushaus, Liz Santeiu, John Santeiu IV, sisters Wren and Clare Powaser and Keri Santeiu sing "Frosty the Snowman" at the Christmas dinner.

THOMAS BEAUDOIN



Darlene Burckick of Dearborn Heights, Dorothy Jennings of Detroit and Joan Kachinosky of Redford enjoy Christmas caroling before dinner is served.

TOM BEAUDOIN

offered to entertain the guests. "She read about the dinner in the newspaper," Larry said.

It was a generous

offer Larry couldn't refuse.

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Christmas dinner is served with a smile by Debbie Kianast of Plymouth.

TOM BEAUDOIN



Debbie Piesczak of Westland checks out the many desserts at the free Christmas dinner served at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

TOM BEAUDOIN



Volunteers Diane Pietras, Denise Everly, Judy "O" and Greg Miller take a moment for a photo before the Christmas dinner is served at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Garden City.

TOM BEAUDOIN

## INVITATION TO BID BID NO. T2 - Teacher and Lab Computers FOR LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education ("Owner") will receive firm, sealed Bid Proposals for all labor, materials, equipment and all other services to complete the Teacher and Lab Computer bid package.

Bid Documents can be obtained on or after December 22, 2014 from ARC (1009 W. Maple Road Clawson, Michigan 48017, phone: 248.288.5600), and will only be available through electronic downloads. If hard copies of documents are needed, they will be printed at the bidder's expense.

Bid documents will be available to view only free of charge from the PlanWell Enterprise System on-line by accessing the website at: [https://order.e-arc.com/arcEOC/x\\_project.asp?de=B73CF51C-0CDE-4139-8A41-2657941400D0](https://order.e-arc.com/arcEOC/x_project.asp?de=B73CF51C-0CDE-4139-8A41-2657941400D0)

Sealed bids labeled, "BID NO. T2 - Teacher and Lab Computers" are due by 11:00 a.m. on the 15th 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. *Bid Proposals received after the due date will not be considered or accepted.*

A pre-bid walk through has been scheduled for January 6, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. at the Administration Building Conference Room A, located at 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154. This pre-bid meeting is not mandatory, but is highly recommended.

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.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part; to award the Contract 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 Owner.

Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the bid form and signed by the bidder. Three (3) 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

"BID NO. T2 - Teacher and Lab Computers"

Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to the Livonia Public Schools: Rob Greager, Project Manager, Barton Malow Company: [rob.greager@bartonmalow.com](mailto:rob.greager@bartonmalow.com)

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# Three new board members join Livonia Community Foundation

By Jill Halpin  
Correspondent

John Walsh, who just ended a six-year run in the state House, will join two others as new members of the board of directors of the Livonia Community Foundation.

Along with Walsh, Sam Caramagno, a long-time Livonia resident and Paul Seewald, former head of the Livonia Junior Athletic League, will begin their new roles today (Jan. 1) on the foundation, a fund that supports charitable cultural, historical, educational and recreational institutions within the community.

For Walsh, the appointment represents a return to his roots.

A Livonia resident for almost 40 years, Walsh and his wife Janice are the parents of two children: a daughter who is a sophomore at Michigan State University and a son who is a sophomore at Detroit Catholic Central High



Caramagno Seewald



Walsh

School in Novi.

"I'm just happy to have the opportunity to get back to volunteering and giving back to the community," he said. "The Livonia Community Foundation has done a great job over history in supporting worthy causes."

Walsh said his experience in fundraising, as well as his experiences in Lansing, where he became a statewide name when working Detroit's "Grand Bargain," a legislative package that sent \$195 million to the city of Detroit from the state after pensions were cut, should prove helpful in his new role.

"I'm looking forward to raising money and identifying needs within

the community," he said.

For Caramagno, a district manager with Waste

Management Inc., the appointment complements his role working with the city as a corporate citizen.

"I'm really excited about the chance to help find opportunities to support needs within the community," Caramagno said.

A resident of the community since 1977, Caramagno and his wife Molly have two children, students at Holmes Middle School and Stevenson High School.

"This is such a great community, and the foundation plays a large role in keeping it that way," he added.

Vast experience running youth sports in Livonia will help Seewald in his new role.

"I have a solid understanding of the needs of nonprofits in the city as well as a good knowledge of the Livonia community and its makeup," Seewald said.

Seewald, who works at Alpha Stamping, has lived in the community for more than 20 years with his wife, Janet. The couple has raised three children, two grown and one attending college locally.

"Livonia is a warm community," Seewald said. "It's a great place to work and a great place to live. I think the Community Foundation does a really good job of bringing the community together."

## Fund at more than \$1 million

The Livonia Community Foundation was started in 1995 for the purpose of building and administering an endowment fund, as well as seeking contributions to grow the fund to support and foster Livonia's own cultural, historical,

educational and charitable needs, according to Foundation President Brian Meakin.

Following its first full year, the endowment had a balance of \$32,000 in December 1996. It grew to \$386,000 in December 2001. The balance currently stands at "over \$1 million and growing," Meakin said.

Funds are raised through corporate donations as well as donations from private citizens seeking to support the community, he said. "The fund enriches the community - everything from the Livonia Symphony to youth athletics and many more of the charitable organizations throughout Livonia," Meakin said.

He said he is confident that the new appointees will be assets to the Foundation.

"They all bring a collective knowledge from their backgrounds that will benefit our entire community," he said.

## Detroit Zoo cares for rescued lizards

The Detroit Zoo is caring for eight lizards that were among 343 confiscated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in September. The Sahara spiny-tailed (*Uromastix geyri*) and mastigure (*Uromastix dispar*) lizards were being smuggled into the United States from Mali when they were intercepted.

According to the USFWS, the lizards were poached from the wild and destined for the pet trade. Due to the inhumane methods used to ship the animals and the conditions they were held in prior to their arrival in the United States, 200 of them died while in expert care within a few weeks of being seized.

The Detroit Zoological Society (DZS) agreed to provide a home for four of each species; the remaining surviving lizards were distributed to other zoological institutions.

"These eight lizards represent a global crisis in wildlife trafficking. Many individual animals die in situations like this, and the impacts on wild populations can be catastrophic," said Scott Carter, DZS chief life sciences officer. "We are happy to be able to provide great care and permanent sanctuary for these lizards, and to help bring attention to this important wildlife issue."

The lizards arrived in late November in poor condition and are receiving daily care and observation in quarantine, which will likely last for six months or longer. Once out of quarantine, the lizards will be seen at the Holden Reptile Conservation Center.

## New norm: Adapting to changes in the investment world

As we enter 2015, I want to take this opportunity to thank readers for the privilege and honor of assisting with your financial issues. I have been involved in the financial world for more than 30 years and I believe it is a privilege that people ask me for advice and guidance. It is something that I take seriously.

We live in a time of much uncertainty and change. I wish I could say that 2015 will be different, but I can't.



Rick Bloom  
MONEY MATTERS

There will be numerous twists and turns throughout the next year.

The new norm is everything is constantly changing. However, as investors, one thing never changes. Investors with a game plan, a strategy and a commitment to follow them will be successful over

the long run. This is true today, it was true 10 years ago, 50 years ago and will be true in the future.

Investors must learn to adapt. In today's world, there is no other choice. For example, a few years ago when one retired and applied for Social Security, there was an option to have a check sent or to have it directly deposited into an account. Today, there is no option. The money is going to be directly deposited into your ac-

count.

I recognize change is difficult and sometimes not for the better. However, as we enter 2015, it is important to take a pledge to embrace change. Ignoring the changing financial environment may buy some short-term comfort, but it will cause long-term pain.

In 2015, we will have to adapt to all sorts of changes. Whether it's tax laws or a new world crisis, rest assured the new year will present new challenges and

new opportunities.

I wish all a happy, healthy and prosperous new year. I look forward to the opportunity of guiding readers through the ever-changing and uncertain financial world that we live in.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, email [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

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# 2015 PLYMOUTH ICE FESTIVAL



Sisters Isabella and Emerson Kalakay of Howell visited last year's Plymouth Ice Festival with their mom, Danielle Kalakay.

## Festival Helped Artists Carve A Revival

The Plymouth Ice Festival has strengthened culinary education programs and helped revive the art of ice carving in Michigan over the last three decades, according to a veteran carver and instructor.

Richard Teeple, now retired from Henry Ford Community College, where he taught in the culinary arts program for more than 30 years, has said "there's no question" the festival has been a boost to his school and to ice carving in general.

"Many of my students over the last 30 years have gotten their start there and they have opened up very successful ice-carving businesses," said Teeple, who still advises at HFCC.

The 2015 edition of the Plymouth Ice Festival, the 33rd annual, is Friday through Sunday, Jan. 9-11, at Kellogg Park and nearby downtown streets. It will feature more than 100 ice sculptures, team and individual competitions, entertainment, refreshments, wintertime sports and more.

Teeple said the art of ice carving "was dying" at the time the festival began in the 1980s and that by providing a venue for student carvers and the expensive raw materials — blocks of ice — the show in Plymouth helped bring it back.

"It was one of the reasons why Henry Ford has invested so much time and money into developing an ice program, was because of the ice festival," Teeple said.

The college went on to build top ice-carving teams that would tour a dozen or so cities, in other states and even other countries, every year, he said.

"You could always count on getting experience" at the Plymouth show, he said.

Schools that will be represented this year include Henry Ford, Oakland Community College and Macomb Community College.

Individual collegiate competition will take place Saturday, Jan. 10, with team competition Sunday, Jan. 11, both in Kellogg Park.

Teeple said that since the festival's early days, decorative ice carvings have expanded into functional pieces such as serving trays, punch bowls and "shot luges."

"Ice carving has really evolved," he said.

Another way to measure the growth in popularity of ice carving, he said, is the increasing use of carvings at weddings, parties and corporate events and in television commercials.

Sculptures of corporate logos have also become much more common, he said.

## Plymouth Tradition Returns As Ice Festival Opens

Kellogg Park and the streets of downtown Plymouth will host the 33rd annual Plymouth Ice Festival, long the largest free ice festival in Michigan, beginning Friday, Jan. 9, through Sunday, Jan. 11.

The 2015 event will feature the annual collegiate ice carving competition, sponsored by Genysis Credit Union. Student carvers will compete in one of two carving contests: the individual contest on Jan. 10 and the team competition on Jan. 11.

The individual competition, beginning at 9 a.m. Jan. 10, will give students three hours to carve their sculptures. The team competition, starting at 8 a.m. Jan. 11, will have teammates working together on their carvings. Winners will be announced and receive trophies each day at 1 p.m.

The festival is also reprising the popular Dueling Chainsaws event at

7 p.m. Jan. 10 in Kellogg Park. Carvers are each given 15 minutes, one block of ice and their chainsaws to create their carvings as the audience watches.

The festival will also offer interactive sculptures — good for posing for "selfies" — and winter sports-themed activities, such as a test of hockey skills, sponsored by Health Alliance Plan, and the Blue Care Network Cross-Country Skiing Zone, presented by Sun and Snow. The latter will feature professionals who will explain the gear, help visitors get the equipment on and set them off on the park's cross-country skiing trail.

The "fire and ice" towers will also return to Kellogg Park on Jan. 10 and Jan. 11, with the lighting of the towers scheduled for about 7:30 p.m. each evening.

In conjunction with the ice festival, the E.G. Nick's on Forest will be opening its party lot for beer, drink specials, live music and the outdoor bar made of ice. The party lot will be open 7 p.m. to midnight on Jan. 9 and Jan. 10.

Sponsors of the 2015 festival include HAP, Metro Detroit GMC Buick Dealers, Ally Financial, Johnson Controls, Genysis Credit Union, St. John Providence Health System, the U.S. Army, the Boston Beer Company, Blue Care Network, Fox 2 News and radio station 93.9 The River.

Ice festival hours are 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Jan. 9, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Jan. 10 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 11. The festival website is [plymouthicefestival.com](http://plymouthicefestival.com).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Opening ceremony and ribbon cutting, Friday, Jan. 9, 7 p.m.

The official opening of the 2015 Plymouth Ice Festival. City of Plymouth commission members will be in attendance to help cut the ribbon on the 2015 event.

Dueling Chainsaws, Saturday, Jan. 10, 7 p.m.

Back by popular demand, the Dueling chainsaws competition. In this great competition ice carvers are given 15 minutes, one block and their chainsaws to create some of the most amazing ice carvings.

Genysis Credit Union College Carving Competitions

The 2015 Plymouth Ice Festival partners with local colleges and universities to produce the 33rd annual college carving competition in Kellogg Park.

Watch live carving by talented college student participants as they compete to win a place on the podium in their sculpture category. All judging is done by experienced and professional judges.

- Saturday, Jan. 10 — College Individual Carving Competition, 9 a.m. to noon, awards at 1 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 11 — College Team Carving Competition, 8 a.m. to noon, awards at 1 p.m.

HAP and the Detroit Red Wings are teaming up for some hockey fun.

Visitors can shoot a slap shot and see how accurate their wrist shot can be in the Warming Station next to Kellogg Park.

Interactive Ice Sculptures

Get your picture taken with some of the most amazing ice creations around! Make sure you see them all! There are a number of opportunities to take a "selfie" with some remarkable and unique ice sculptures!

Community Financial Main Stage

The Community Financial Main Stage features live entertainment, awards ceremonies, presentations and music throughout the weekend of the festival.

Reyka Vodka presents Fire and Ice

See two basic elements of the world light up the night sky in downtown Plymouth. Fire and ice are combined to create a dazzling display on Friday, Jan. 9, and Saturday, Jan. 10. Towers are lit at approximately 7:30 p.m. each evening and will burn for approximately two hours.

Blue Care Network of Michigan Cross Country Zone presented by Sun and Snow Sports

Visitors have the opportunity to try cross-country skiing. Seasoned professionals will demonstrate and explain the gear and theory of cross-country skiing — and then give the kids chance to try it for themselves. This feature is open during all open hours of the event.

Warming Station

Visitors can warm up in style at the Warming Station under The Gathering directly across from Kellogg Park. The Warming Station features The Detroit Red Wings interactive games, local vendors and businesses, product demonstrations, a sitting area to take a load off your feet and (most importantly) lots of heat. The Warming Station is open during all of the official open hours of the event.

Wintertime Festival Food

Visitors can enjoy festival favorites like elephant ears, popcorn, roasted almonds and hot chocolate. All food sales on-site can be enjoyed in the warmth of the DTE Energy Hot Spot — tables and chairs are provided all weekend long. Looking for a meal indoors? There are many options within downtown Plymouth — from fine dining to a quick bite, candy, cookies and ice cream. Check out [www.downtownplymouth.org](http://www.downtownplymouth.org) for a complete restaurant listing.

Plymouth Historical Museum two for one admission

Travel back in time through the Plymouth community's example of the American Experience. Learn how the growth of American industry, the advent of the railroad and the invention of the automobile changed America's small towns, especially Plymouth, Michigan. <http://www.plymouthhistory.org>

Party Lot at EG Nick's on Forest Ave. presented by Labatt Blue, Svedka Vodka

The Party Lot takes place at E.G. Nick's in downtown Plymouth, featuring beer, drink specials, and live music. The Party Lot will be open Friday, Jan. 9, 7 p.m. to midnight, with live band Randy Brock; Saturday, Jan. 10, 7 p.m. to midnight, featuring Smoke and Mirrors.



The interactive sculptures let these youngsters find a nice, cool seat at the 2014 Plymouth Ice Festival.

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# Answers to Common Ice Festival Questions

The answers to some commonly asked questions about the Plymouth Ice Festival, the oldest and largest continuously running ice carving event in America:

## HOW AND WHY DID THE EVENT BEGIN?

Scott Lorenz, son of the owner of the Plymouth Mayflower Hotel, came up with the idea after visiting a similar event in Japan. The event was established to fill a void in the post-holiday retail slowdown. (Hotel, restaurant and retail business takes a nosedive immediately after the holiday season.)

The concept was to create an event that was so unique that it would draw large numbers of people to Plymouth in the hope that they would also shop and eat. With an average annual attendance of more than 500,000, the event has exceeded expectations of the festival's founders.

## HOW DID THE ART OF ICE CARVING START?

As the story goes, once upon a time a czarina in Russia was enamored with a local man who was in love with a woman from his village. As was the custom of the day, the man went to the czarina to get her permission to wed the woman he loved. The czarina was not pleased by the request and decided to show her displeasure by agreeing to let the couple wed only if they would spend their wedding night in a castle made of ice. She was sure this would cool their passion for each other and/or ruin their wedding night.

Much to her surprise, love won out and the couple agreed to her condition. The czarina had her army cut blocks of ice from Lake Baikal and build a house of ice complete with furnishings including tables, chairs and a bed for the newlyweds. The couple married, spent their wedding night in the house of ice and lived happily ever after. However, word spread about the strange house of ice and eventually people from all over Russia and Europe visited the site to gaze at the first ice castle. It was so popular that it was recreated as a tourist attraction for many years to come.



Youngsters have a chance to learn about cross-country skiing, courtesy Sun & Snow.

## HOW DID THE ART OF ICE CARVING SPREAD?

Hearing about the unusual use of ice from countrymen who had traveled to Russia to see the famous ice castle, a French chef developed the idea of carving serving bowls of ice to keep perishable foods from spoiling and to decorate the table of the king. This idea may have been a necessity because, at the time, spoiled food or illness from a dinner could cost the chef his head in a guillotine. The French carried the art with them to the Orient and today the Japanese are the finest and most prolific carvers in the world.

## WHO CARVES THE ICE STATUES AT THE PLYMOUTH ICE FESTIVAL?

Professional ice carvers, chefs, culinary instructors and culinary art students from the area and across the country have carved the displays. The professional chef carvers, amateur carvers and student carvers all compete in the team and individual carving competitions.

## WHO FUNDS THE EVENT?

The event is funded by donations, corporate sponsorships and various fundraisers. All the monies collected go to the presentation of the event.

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO PRESENT THE EVENT?

Organizers figure it costs some \$75,000 to fund the Plymouth Ice Festival.

## WHO BENEFITS FROM THE EVENT?

The entire business community of Plymouth benefits from the presentation of the ice festival. This event has become one of the single busiest retail and restaurant weeks of the year. Many businesses in the community rely heavily on the business it generates to make ends meet in the two to three slow months that follow the holiday season. The event also creates numerous jobs for young people in the community and, most importantly, garners more than \$1 million annually in local, regional, national and international publicity for the city of Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

Culinary art students at area community colleges and trade high schools who need to acquire ice-carving skills to enhance their education benefit from the event. Money donated to their club is used to purchase blocks of ice for them to practice on and carving tools. Students who compete in the competitions benefit from the experience and the instruction that is given to them by the educators and professional carvers before, during and after each event.



Venerable local ice carver, Ted Wakar, works in the rain Friday night.







Creepy trash bin lids at Livonia Spree.



Almost, Plymouth High School varsity football player.



Brad Wurfel and 2-year-old son Logan take a spin on the new I-96 freeway before the crowds show up.



Brenda Dziedzic of Garden City, in full butterfly regalia, speaks to elementary students about butterflies.



Waiting for the circus in Plymouth.



Plymouth Fall Festival.



Fall rain.



Plymouth Fall Festival



Santa holds a cat named The Naked.



Husband pretends to be helping put away Christmas decorations.

## YEAR (IN)STAGRAM REVIEW

**Photos by Bill Bresler**

Staff Photographer

Staff Photographer Bill Bresler uses the Instagram social media app to make quick, direct photographs of what he sees. The photos are posted immediately on Instagram and shared with Facebook. While some of the photos are made while on assignment, he's always looking for photos that will look good as an Instagram. These photos were made in the *Observer & Eccentric* communities during 2014.

"My Instagrams are often photos that are secondary to a news story or found while I'm between assignments," Bresler said. "They are usually a little different, with a twist. Plus, they must fit the square format. I'm not above making a ridiculous selfie, either."

He uses the lo-fi filter, which adds higher contrast, saturation and a photographic film-like black border. Sometimes the photos are black and white. Bresler sometimes uses the Hipstamatic app with a tintype filter, to make photographs that mimic the look of photos made 150 years ago. Those photos are then posted on his Instagram feed.

While many of the photos are made with an iPhone, Bresler uploads photos made with his professional cameras to the phone and adds those to his Instagram feed.

Bresler teaches photography at Madonna University. Many of his current and former students are Instagram friends. "It's a good way to stay in touch using photographs instead of words," he said.

To view his feed, use the phone app or Instagram website and search @bbresler.



Canton High School graduation selfie.



Lunch with Elvis in Westland.



Buster Wurm of Westland at Mud Day in Hines Park.



Clown balloon vendor with Kelly-Miller Circus in Plymouth.



Madonna University photo class



The view during the dome painting project, looking straight up in the St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church basilica.



Bee in back of Westland Library.



## BUSINESS MILESTONES

### Livonia Health Center holds grand re-opening and open house

The University of Michigan Livonia Health Center will hold a grand re-opening and open house 12:30-2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at its newly renovated offices at 20321 Farmington Road just south of Eight Mile Road.

Livonia Family Medicine is accepting new patients of all ages. Attendees will be able to meet Livonia's newest family physicians, book appointments, tour the facility, enjoy refreshments and enter a drawing to win two tickets to the Michigan vs. Michigan State basketball game on Feb. 17 at the Crisler Center.

For more information, visit [www.uofmhealth.org/livoniahealthcenter](http://www.uofmhealth.org/livoniahealthcenter) or call 248-473-4300.

### Hypnotherapist offers free pilot program

Westland hypnotherapist Heidi Wolfe, who is working on her certification, will offer free hypnosis pilot programs for weight loss, smoking cessation, etc. in her home at 7 p.m. week-nights and 9:30 a.m. weekends Jan. 5 through Feb. 28. Participant availability will determine the schedule. A material fee of \$20 applies to each four-session program, but the sessions themselves are free. Contact her at [talk2me@heidi-wolfe.com](mailto:talk2me@heidi-wolfe.com) or 734-788-6478.

### PSI Repair Services makes "2014 Best and Brightest Companies to Work For" List

PSI Repair Services Inc. of Livonia, a subsidiary of Phillips Service Industries and industrial component repair service, has been selected to the 2014 Best and Brightest Companies to Work For list by the National Association for Business Resources.

The winning companies were assessed by an independent research firm, which reviewed a number of key measures relative to other nationally recognized winners. They include compensation, benefits and employee solutions; employee enrichment, engagement and retention; employee education and development; recruitment, selection and orientation; employee achievement and recognition; communication and shared vision; diversity and inclusion; work-life balance; community initiatives; and strategic company performance.

Established in 1967, PSI Repair Services offers repair and engineering services for electronics, hydraulics, robotics and precision mechanical assemblies in a wide range of industries and markets.

### Community Financial Credit Union donates to area schools

Plymouth-based Community Financial Credit Union donated \$25,500 in 2014 for educational programs and supplies to benefit students in eight school districts, including the Livonia Public Schools Education Foundation, the Northville Educational Foundation and the Novi Education Foundation through its Community Shares program.

Started in 1999, Community Shares is a program where Community Financial donates to school projects, functions and foundations. The credit union runs this program in the communities it serves in southeast Michigan and northern Michigan.

## New digs suit Wild Bill's owner just fine

By Greg Mullin  
Staff Writer

Wild Bill's Tobacco owner Mike Mammo just couldn't leave Westland.

"At first, the CEO of Wild Bill's chose the location when we started here," Mammo said.

"After I worked here for two years, I loved the city, the customers, the



Mammo

city officials and the way I was treated. I was supposed to go to Canton and open a cigar bar there, but I loved Westland so much, I decided to just expand and stay here in Westland in a larger location."

Wild Bill's Westland location originally opened in November 2011 at 1939 N. Wayne Road. A few months ago, the store was relocated to a larger, 6,000-square-foot location in the same shopping plaza at 35501 Ford Road.

"It took us a year to put this together and we started here in July of this year," Mammo said. "I love it. My customers are very, very happy. I'm very excited about it. It's doing very, very well."

The store features a spacious bar area with a full liquor license where customers can sit, smoke, watch TV and chat.

"You can hear your friend or partner here when you are talking to them — we do not play loud music. It's nice, relaxing music," Mammo said. "They can watch TV. It's very spacious, beautiful furniture, very comfortable, a staff that will go out of their way to please the



A customer enjoys a cigar in Wild Bill Tobacco's bar, which has several TVs and a relaxed atmosphere.



Owner Mike Mammo refers to his 6,000-square-foot store as the Walmart of tobacco stores.

customer.

"So when they're here, they are just having the time of their lives."

Mammo refers to his retail store as the Walmart of smoke shops.

"We have every kind of cigarettes, loose to-

bacco, cigars, butane, glass pipes, all kinds of electronic cigarettes," Mammo said. "We are the largest electronic

cigarette store in the area — we have 63 counters of electronic cigarette products. ... I can very comfortably say I have the largest selection of that product in the entire area."

With a 900-square-foot humidor, customers can find almost any cigar at reasonable prices, Mammo said.

"Whatever my customers are looking for, chances are that I have it," he said. "And if I don't, I can make it available in a week."

"We beat anybody's price; we will not be undersold by anybody."

Other amenities include private lockers for customers and a private room for special occasions.

For more information, call Wild Bill's Tobacco at 734-895-8041.

[gmullin@hometownlife.com](mailto:gmullin@hometownlife.com)



Kathy Hurt of Zeal Credit Union helps one of the young shoppers at Walmart.



Credit Union volunteers Marie Marleau and Bryan Feldpausch help a young family during checkout at Walmart.

## Zeal Credit Union staffers help kids shop for Christmas

Five staffers from Livonia-based Zeal Credit Union recently helped children Christmas shop during The Guidance Center's "Power of 10" holiday event at the Walmart in Southgate.

"To see the happy faces of children celebrate a Christmas they might not have had otherwise, made us feel like we were receiving gifts ourselves," said Nicole Baker, marketing specialist for Zeal Credit Union. "It was an honor to help."

Thanks to a small group of donors, 118 children were each given a \$100 Walmart gift card to buy whatever they wanted. The children started the morning by having a nutritious breakfast,

compliments of Walmart. Then volunteers, including five credit union staff, accompanied the children around the store until they used the balance of their card.

Once the children completed their checkout, they sat down to write or draw a thank-you letter to the special donors of this event.

One child wanted to spend a majority of his gift card on a Christmas tree for his family. Walmart donated the tree so the boy could spend the gift card on himself.

"This was our first year to participate, and we look forward to helping again," added Baker. "The Guidance Center and Walmart staff were tremendous."



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## OUR VIEW

# New year offers reset chance for leaders

New year. New calendar. New decisions. And new decision makers.

As we (eventually) replace the old calendar with one highlighting 2015, we flip the proverbial page, turn over a new leaf. Start anew. The new year traditionally has been a time when people push the reset button. Take whatever happened the previous year – the triumphs and frustrations – put it behind them and forge ahead. New year's resolutions are a chance to set a new course instead of replaying scenarios of years past.

It's not just in personal life where the new year brings about a reset. Government is much the same way. It's happening right now in the state Legislature. All those issues that representatives and senators were talking about? Well if they didn't pass it before Christmas, you're out of luck – or, depending on your point of view, lucky.

Our elected officials in Lansing sent 244 bills passed in the past month to Gov. Rick Snyder, seeking a signature. They passed road funding measures, what likely was the most important issue facing residents right now. But instead of wrapping things up with a comprehensive plan like many residents hoped, legislators passed the buck to the incoming officials with a statewide ballot measure to increase the sales tax to help fund roads.

There's no reset on the highways in the state for 2015. If it passes, road funding will wait until at least 2016 before drivers can see any results.

While there was some movement on improving the state's infrastructure, there were plenty more bills that couldn't muster the support of both legislative chambers to add to those other 244 measures. There the medical marijuana bills that would have allowed, in part, for the sale of food infused with marijuana as an alternative to smoking it, plus local regulation of dispensaries; the Religious Freedom Restoration Act; timing of the Oakland County executive election; and how electoral college votes are allocated.

Those last three died without action, reportedly to help garner support for the road package. All three appear partisan in nature and surely best left to consideration – if at all – during the main session, when voters have more recourse for legislative decisions.

Same goes for passage of a bill to expand the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, which legislators couldn't agree upon about whom it should include. Term limits, teacher evaluations, resale of event tickets and parole reform are all among the issues discussed, but never finalized.

We've said previously the lame-duck legislative session – the three weeks elected officials deliberate between the election and the end of their term – should be limited in scope and used to wrap up issues debated earlier in the year. Instead, the lame-duck session traditionally has been used to push through pet projects and partisan issues with less chance of public recourse. Such actions have taken place regardless of which political party is in control.

But if legislators can wait until December to take action on various bills, the issue most likely can wait until the new session. There's a slew of new legislators heading to Lansing. Most of our local communities have either a senator or representative who wasn't in the position two months ago. We elected these people for a reason – to govern. To make decisions in the best interests of everyone in the state, to set policies that continue to drive the region and state down its path of recovery.

Our elected legislators have the reset button already pressed. There are two years before the next state House election. Our leaders need to take advantage of the fresh start, get to work now, avoid partisan headaches of years past and don't wait to make the controversial, tough decisions.

That's what the new year is all about: a fresh start and a chance to avoid mistakes that have made our legislators often unpopular in the first place.



FILE PHOTO

State legislators approved a package of bills focused on improving roads during the lame-duck session. Part of the plan calls for voter approval in a statewide special election next May, pushing any relief further down the road.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What is your New year's resolution?

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



"My resolution is to appreciate all the blessings I have and get a few more."

**Allyson Bettis**  
Garden City



"I didn't make one this year."

**Sarak Bockstanz**  
Westland



"My resolution is to lose weight."

**Breann Kasputis**  
Westland



"To make more oney, lose weight and get more organized."

**Kelly Maciejewski**  
Garden City



"To lose weight and work less."

**Tom Wilhelmsen**



"I haven't even thought about it."

**Fred Bonello**



"I don't know because I don't normally make one."

**Jeremy Bruckner**



"To eat healthier – less desserts."

**Ashley Brunning**



"No resolutions. I break them all the time, so no."

**Patti Abdalla**  
Livonia



"Get good enough grades to get into law school."

**Ariana Parr**  
Livonia



"Probably (get things done) at home."

**Nancy Knight**  
Livonia



"I'm working out on a regular basis."

**Lance La Burdy**  
Livonia

## LETTERS

### LPS asleep at switch?

Regarding the Dec. 21 O&E article, "Livonia school board seeks public input on budget cuts":

What was not included in the O&E article:

Fund balance/equity: Dr. Liepa says "he isn't sure" when LPS had a 5-10 percent fund balance. He may also not be aware that a 15-20 percent fund balance is recommended by Michigan School Business Officials (MSBO). <http://msbo.org/sites/default/files/FundBalInfo.pdf>

BOE member Ms. Burton states "she doesn't want the fund equity to drop below the \$772,000" in a June 27, 2014, O&E article. A \$800,000 fund balance with \$146.5 million in expenses is 0.5 percent. That's acceptable to the board of education?

Enrollment decline: A five-year decline of 1,374 from 2009 to 2014. A 2,994 decline from 2003 to 2014, per Michigan State. And LPS is just now noticing that they have to take some action?

Asleep at the switch? <https://www.mischoldata.org/DistrictSchoolProfiles/StudentInformation/StudentCounts/StudentCount.aspx>

Contracted Security: LPS spent \$856,288 for contracted security in 2014, per LPS published bill payments. From 2011 to 2014, \$3.3 million was spent with multiple vendors, including the City of Livonia. And Dr. Liepa can only save \$70,000? Exactly what are all these security expenditures for? What reductions are expected from all the security upgrades included in the Bond?

It's disappointing that O&E blindly prints whatever LPS tell them to. I encourage residents to attend the Jan. 15 and Jan. 20 meetings to make informed decisions.

**Michael Masalin**  
Livonia

### Cuba decision is right one

I was very glad to hear the announcement regarding the normalization of relations with Cuba.

I was born in the year 1963 and that arrangement has con-

tinued through my life. I learned about it in elementary and high school as subject matter.

I also believe that the original intention of the arrangement did not turn out as intended. Obama's decision to change the relationship with Cuba to make it more open and inviting is a wise one and one to which I fully agree.

Not only will this engagement process allow the Cuban people the opportunity to interact with the world in such a way as to allow them to encounter and work with democracy without being in conflict with it but it will allow a broader expression of democracy in the United States.

It is effective to pursue one's goals without having to take the time to thwart someone else. It is a great drain. As it happens, a small group of politically minded individuals, whether by intent or having been swept up in circumstances, took advantage of and exploited the situation between Cuba and the United States.

I am looking forward to the opportunities of possible widened trade relations with the island nation. I await their own actions, in a positive and constructive manner, to help build a better Americas community.

Many of my friends and family are very happy and relieved to see this set of circumstances be put in motion.

**Alfred Brock**  
Wayne

### Pave the way for good jobs, roads

Looking back into Michigan's rich history, our state has always been at the forefront in promoting "good roads." In fact, the early "Good Roads Movement" that swept America in the early 1900s had its most aggressive beginnings in Michigan. John S. Haggerty (yes, our Haggerty Road) was one of the movement's initial proponents. He championed concrete roadways (M-1, Woodward Avenue, the first mile of concrete highway, between Six and Seven Mile Roads, in the United States) became Michigan's Secretary of State for two terms campaigning as "Good Roads Haggerty." No

one can question the hard economic fact that having dependable roadway infrastructure helps local communities build jobs and commerce.

Livonians know first-hand the important role that good roads play in our community. Remember, we voted with our own money in approving the special millage for such purposes. This coming May, we will be asked to vote on a 1-percent sales tax increase (from 6 percent to 7 percent) to pay for a massive roadway infrastructure program as well as funds for related economic activities. While the wording of the ballot proposal has yet to be finalized, *Observer* readers should begin the process of informing themselves about the proposal and its finer points and be prepared to vote on the special election day.

As an election worker, I have observed that early-year special elections produce very low voter turnouts. This time, for Michigan and Livonia's futures, we all need to fully research all of the issues related to the proposal and to turn out in full-force. Let's do all that we can to help "Pave the Way for Good Roads and Jobs in Michigan."

**Joe Neussendorfer**  
Livonia

### Holiday Shoppe a success

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) wrapped up our 4th annual Holiday Shoppe on Dec. 14.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to making it another great success. We owe many thanks to the *Observer* for awesome advertising and press coverage; to Bill Joyner for the great visibility to the community in Musings; our vendors for the unique products; and our supporters who came and shopped.

Our thanks also to Mark Canvasser, our landlord, who continues to support the arts by giving us the opportunity to be in our wonderful location. And we would like to wish everyone for a great holiday and a happy and healthy new year.

**Virginia Bosak, chairman**  
The VAAL Holiday Shoppe Committee

# OBSERVER

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# Slavens reflects on six years in state House

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

State Rep. Dian Slavens has ended her six-year stint in the state House, confident she did her best to fight for working-class and struggling families, public education and a 21st District she chose to call home.

"It has been a wonderful experience," said Slavens, a term-limited Democrat.

Going forward, she hasn't decided what political office, if any, she might seek after she lost her state Senate 7th District campaign to Republican incumbent Patrick Colbeck in November.

"It's still too early," she said, occasionally pausing to greet well-wishers during an interview with the *Observer* inside the Bigby Coffee shop at Ford and Canton Center roads.

Slavens remains a popular political figure in Canton, where she actually won more votes than Colbeck before he pulled ahead in Livonia and Northville and Plymouth townships.



State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, addresses her supporters while she was still in office. She served six years in the state House.

## Slavens commended

Slavens will be replaced by first-time candidate Kristy Pagan, who called Slavens a mentor and lauded her legislative service.

"I am honored to follow in her footsteps and have the opportunity to be a voice for Canton children, families and seniors," Pagan said. "As I went door to door during my campaign, I often heard from Canton residents that they wanted me to continue the good work Rep. Slavens has done for the people of Canton, particularly by supporting public education."

Pagan commended Slavens for her personal contact with constituents and vowed to continue listening to 21st District residents.

Steven Sneiderman, the lone Democrat on the Canton Township Board of Trustees, said Slavens fought hard in Lansing, even though she faced an uphill battle against a Republican majority.

"She was someone who fought tirelessly for the rights, goals and economic benefit of her constituents," said Sneiderman, also president of the Canton Democratic Club. "It was unfortunate that she was in office during a time when she was constantly in the minority party, because in other circumstances she would have been in the leadership of our Legislature."

"I look forward to her continued leadership in our community," he added.

## Legislative work

Slavens, who served three consecutive two-year terms, said she is proud of her involvement in the following:

» She was among a bipartisan caucus that

pushed a successful smoking ban in Michigan restaurants and bars. Though many bars fought the law, Slavens said she "really didn't get a lot of push-back" from most constituents.

» She fought to end lifetime health care benefits for state legislators, saying she set aside her own political ego even as Republicans took up the issue and got it passed.

"It was costing the state millions of dollars a year," Slavens said.

» She described herself as proud she co-sponsored a bill ushering in insurance coverage for autism therapy and treatment. "It was really hard to see children not getting proper treatment," she said.

» Slavens said she worked alongside Republicans for passage of legislation giving foster parents more rights in an effort to strengthen families.

» She sought to become a strong voice for public education and said she still believes Michigan should revisit possibly placing a cap on the number of charter schools and cyber

schools, saying they siphon money from public schools.

## Working-class roots

Slavens' political views may well be traced to her upbringing in Madison Heights, where she was one of four children from a working-class family. Her father worked as a pipe fitter, while her mother stayed home to care for the children.

Slavens studied at Oakland Community College and became a respiratory therapist who worked at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. She married husband Mark, a Wayne County Circuit judge, in 1986, and has three children – Dany, 36, Patrick, 26, and Molly, 24 – and a grandson Evan, 7.

Slavens said she and her husband chose to move to Canton in 1988.

"We moved here because of the schools," she said.

She became involved in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and gravitated toward politics after she saw friends leaving Michigan to find jobs elsewhere.

## Difference maker

"I just thought that instead of complaining, I would try to make a difference," she said.

Slavens was successful in her first bid for public office and was twice re-elected to the state House.

Despite leaving office, she still talks of unfinished business. She believes lawmakers should be banned from becoming lobbyists until they have been out of office for two years. She supports efforts to properly fund public education and said lawmakers must continue to fight for better roads and more jobs. She hopes struggling families aren't forgotten by Lansing.

Slavens has no regrets for the six years she represented the 21st District, which includes most of Canton, Belleville and Van Buren Township. It's clear by those who greet her in the coffee shop that she still has her share of supporters.

"This is a great community," she said.

dclem@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @CantonObserver

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

### AEROBICS CLASSES

**Time/date:** 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7.

**Location:** Angel House, 28441 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

**Details:** Body and Spirit aerobics class for all fitness levels. All proceeds help Angel House take a stand against all domestic violence. Cost is \$20 a month or \$6 a session for walk-ins. Bring floor/yoga mat and hand weights (optional).

**Contact:** 313-443-7256.

### LIVONIA NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS

**Time/date:** 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13.

**Location:** Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia

**Details:** Livonia author Penny McCusker will be the guest speaker at the January meeting of Livonia Neighbors and Friends. Currently she is writing novels for Harlequin, including *Mad about Max and Noah and the Stork*. She sold her first novel in 1997. Livonia Neighbors and Friends, a women's club, is open to women who live/work in Livonia and its surrounding communities. General meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month, September through May. Special activity groups continue to meet

year round.

**Contact:** <http://livonianeighborsandfriends.tripod.com>

### 3D PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB MEETING

**Time/date:** 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14.

**Location:** Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, just south of Five Mile Road.

**Details:** See great 3D images, and learn how to make your own 3D pictures. Meetings include a 3D program, refreshment break, and a competition among members. Stereo cameras, 3D movies and educational videos are available for members to rent. The Jan. 14 meeting will feature 3D images from stereo clubs around the world. Also, members can win free photo items in our "Freebie"

drawing. A 3D image competition will conclude the evening's events. The meetings are free to attend, and visitors are always welcome.

**Contact:** [www.Detroit3D.org](http://www.Detroit3D.org), or call Dennis at 248-398-3591.

### CONCERT

**Time/date:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17.

**Location:** Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia

**Details:** Mitch and Jesse Manns and Dean Rutledge will be in concert in the lower level of Timothy Lutheran Church. Tickets are \$10 per person.

**Contact:** 734-427-2290

### DEMOLAY MEETING

**Time/date:** 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 19.

**Location:** Wayne Masonic

Lodge, 37137 Palmer, west of Wayne Road, Westland.

**Details:** The lodge is holding an informational day for Michigan DeMolay, a youth movement for men ages 12-21. The day will be a meet-and-greet with video games and board games.

**Contact:** For more information, contact Ray Lemons at 734-552-3125 or [Raymond.Lemons@gmail.com](mailto:Raymond.Lemons@gmail.com).

### ONGOING

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS' SUPPORT GROUP

**Time/date:** 5:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

**Location:** The Angel House, 28441 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

**Contact:** 734-524-0720.

### SENIOR CITIZEN BOARD GAMES

**Time/date:** 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Location:** The Angel House, 28441 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

**Details:** Cost is \$5 per person. Angel House uses the money to give \$50 gift cards to a family in need weekly. Donations are also accepted via [www.theangelhouse.org](http://www.theangelhouse.org).

**Contact:** 734-524-0380.

### FRIENDS OF ELOISE

**Time/date:** 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the months of February, April, June, September and November.

**Location:** Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

**Contact:** Pat Ibbotson at 734-331-9291 or [pibbotso@aol.com](mailto:pibbotso@aol.com).



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## GIRLS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

## John Glenn soars over Titans

Gammouh paces N. Farmington's romp; Stars outshine RU

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn's girls basketball team got back on the winning track Saturday afternoon with a 51-42 triumph at Southgate Anderson.

Junior Sierra Moseley led the Rockets' offensive attack with 17 points. Junior Nadia

Reed chipped in with 13 points while freshman post player Carly Loving added 10 points and Alexis Gardner had seven. Lauren Jackman led the Titans with 24 points.

## Raiders win

Faith Gammouh scored 23 points to lead North Farmington to a 53-13 victory over River Rouge. The victory improved the Raiders' record to 7-1.

## RU toppled

Despite strong performances from senior Renee

Reed and junior Cliffangela Stafford, Redford Union dropped a 48-37 decision to visiting St. Catherine of Siena Academy on Dec. 18.

The loss dropped the Panthers to 0-6.

Reed pumped in 16 points while Stafford pulled down a team-high 14 rebounds.

The Stars led 13-9 after one quarter and 27-19 at the half. The visitors extended their advantage to 37-25 after three



Moseley



Reed

quarters.

The Panthers return to action following the holiday break when they travel to Dearborn Heights Robichaud on Jan. 6 before hosting Dearborn Heights Annapolis on Jan. 9. Both games are slated to tip off at 7 p.m.

On Jan. 13, RU will travel to Redford Thurston for the first of its 2015 two-game set against the rival Eagles.

## AD responds

The Sunday story about Canton, Plymouth and Salem varsity volleyball coaches leaving at the end of the season should have included a comment from Assistant Principal for Activities and Athletics at Plymouth High School, Kyle Meteyer: "We understand that it appears odd that all three resigned at the same time, but all resigned for unrelated personal reasons," he wrote in an email to the Observer when asked about the resignations.

## Livonia parkrun

Several outstanding times were posted by area distance runners at Saturday's Livonia parkrun, a fun and weekly 5K event held several Saturdays at Bicentennial Park in Livonia.

Among the competitors last week were 12 first-time parkrun participants and nine personal-best times recorded.

Adam Fogg, representing the QE2 Track Club, was the first male finisher, crossing the line in 19 minutes, 31 seconds. He was followed by Miles Clisham (20:11) and Alexander Brauer (20:18).

The current standings in the men's annual points competition are Lynn Boven (2,362 points), Sam Bailo (2,066) and Robert Hyde (1,964).

Megan Boyak was the first female finisher (13th overall) as she posted a time of 25:23. The second- and third-placers were Bobbie Clisham (25:48) and Sandy Clisham (27:31).

The current standings in the women's annual points competition have Kim Zamora leading the way with 2,307 points, followed by Jennifer Greve (1,617) and Jennifer Leight (1,473).

The following runners registered the best age-group scores: Fogg (15-17) was graded 71.31 percent; Miles Clisham (11-14) was graded 70.27 percent; and Pierce Clisham (11-14) was graded 69.7 percent for his eighth-place overall time of 21:57.

## Whalers stung

Stephen Pierog's goal at 4:17 of the second period proved to be the game-winner as the Sarnia Sting defeated the Plymouth Whalers, 3-1, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Sunday afternoon before 2,770 at RBC Centre in Sarnia.

Sunday's game was the first for both teams after the Christmas break.

Besides Pierog's seventh of the year, the Sting (18-13-1-2) also received goals from Brandon Lindberg (career-high 12th of the year) and Zachary Core (first of the season). Sting goaltender Taylor Dupuis was named the game's first star after stopping 29 of 30 Plymouth shots.

Victor Crus Rydberg scored the lone Plymouth goal, his third of the season, in the second period. Rydberg has a goal and five assists in five games since returning from injury, starting with three assists on Dec. 12 in London.

The loss dropped Plymouth's record to 11-20-2-1.

## PROFESSIONAL BOAT RACING



Garden City native Jeff Krischano has steered power boats to several off-shore championships over the past 15 years.

SUBMITTED

## WATER ROCKET

Garden City native Krischano picking up championships in waves



Garden City native Jeff Krischano is interviewed after winning a powerboat race earlier this year.

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

If Jeff Krischano's parents would have owned a pontoon boat during the mid-1980s, this may be a story describing how the Garden City native evolved into a championship bass fisherman.

But the Krischanos owned a speed boat, and it wasn't long before their teen-aged son discovered that he liked the adrenaline rush that came with traveling rapidly over water.

"It was just a 19-foot aluminum ski boat — one you'd see parked in a lot of driveways in Garden City back in the day," Krischano recounted last week from his home in Minneapolis. "My friends and I used to put it on the trailer and take it to Belleville Lake. It didn't go real fast, but I found out quickly that I liked the feeling of speed on the water."

Once Krischano witnessed his first in-person powerboat race in Key West, Fla., he was hooked on the idea of trading his spectator status for one of participant.

"After I saw my first off-shore race, I said, 'This is something I have to do,'" he recalled. "So to make a long story short, I bought a boat, started practicing and I started winning some races."

In 2001, Krischano met NHL stars Kevin and Derian Hatcher, who shared his passion for powerboat racing. But the Hatchers couldn't race due to stipulations in their professional hockey contracts, so they brought Krischano on board to drive their boat.

The Hatchers called their team "Let's Play Racing" and it didn't take long to see they weren't messing around when

See KRISCHANO, Page B3

## SALEM ELKS INVITATIONAL

## Trojans march to holiday wrestling championship

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Four gold-medal wrestlers powered Monroe's first-place finish at Saturday's Salem Elks Tournament that was attended by 15 teams.

The Trojans accumulated 216 points to out-distance runner-up Greenville (160.5 points) and third-place Ypsilanti Lincoln (141).

The host Rocks placed fourth with 127 points, followed by Chippewa Valley (126), Livonia Franklin (116.5) and Livonia Churchill (106).

Other Observerland representatives included Westland

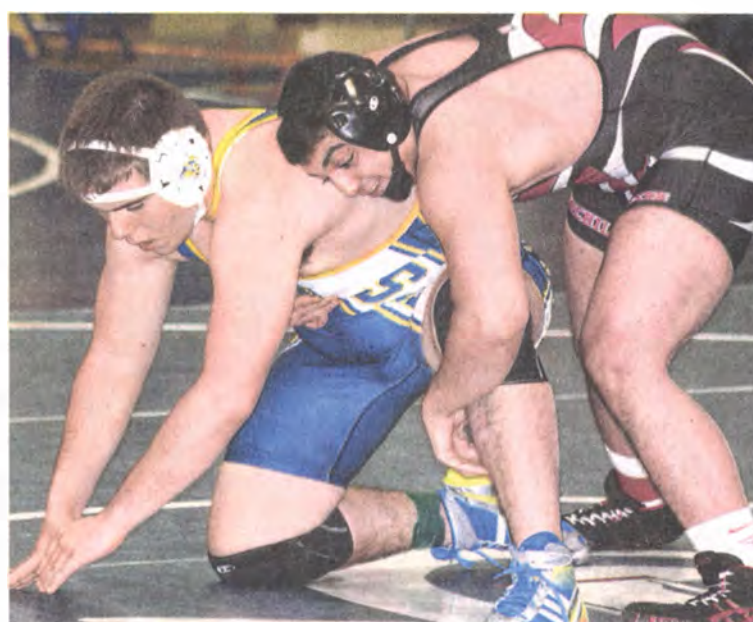
John Glenn (11th place with 64 points), Garden City (14th place with 32.5) and Redford Thurston, which placed 15th with 14 points.

A couple of little fellas — 103-pound Neil Antrassian and 112-pound Carl Antrassian — got the Trojans rolling by winning their respective weight classes.

Monroe also generated first-place points from Logan DiCarlo (145) and 171-pound Tyler Hammack.

The Rocks were bolstered by the strong showing of weight-class titleists Caleb McCabe (152) and 215-pound

See SALEM ELKS, Page B3



Livonia Churchill's Baker Hadwan battles Saline's George Lancaster in a second-round 215-pound match Saturday at Salem.

ED WRIGHT



## ALL-AREA GIRLS SWIMMING

# Local elite prep swimmers high on quality, low on times

## FIRST TEAM INDIVIDUALS

**Kathleen McGee, 200 free, Mercy:** She was a four-year standout in freestyle events and will be a member of the Michigan State swim team



McGee

next year. She has been a perennial all-area choice in this event.

At the Division 1 state meet, McGee was eighth in the 200 free and ninth in the 100

and she was the Catholic League runner-up in both. In the Oakland County meet, McGee finished third in the 500 free and fourth in the 200.

"Kathleen has been one of the more versatile girls we have," coach Shannon Dunworth said. "She swims everything."

"She's transitioning to shorter races as she goes off to college and that's why she swam the events she did at state and did so well in them."

"I think the 200 free is always going to be Kathleen's strongest event. She sets the standard every day of training for the whole group."

**Maddy Loniewski, 200 IM, Mercy:** She is another multiple-year selection for all-area honors and a four-year standout for the Marlins. She will continue



Loniewski

her swim career next year at Georgetown University.

Loniewski is the Catholic League champion in the IM and breaststroke. She was second

in Oakland County and third in the D1 state meet in the IM. As a breaststroker, she also finished third in the county and 11th in the state.

"Maddy has been our most dependable, accomplished swimmer for the last four years," Dunworth said. "She has always been at the top of the state."

"She was a state champion in 2012 and has swum all three relays in addition to different events at the state meet."

"I think her best strength is the end of her races. She's extremely competitive and willing to suffer to do her best."

**Roxanne Griffore, 50 free, Mercy:** She also had an outstanding, four-year career, which included winning the 2013 state title in the 50 free.



Griffore

She will enroll at Purdue University and compete for the Boilermakers next year.

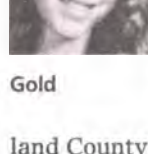
She is the Oakland County champion in the 50 free. She was second in the Catholic League and fourth in the state. Her best time (23.75) qualifies her for All-America consideration.

Griffore also won the 100 free at the league meet, finished second in the county and placed seventh in the state.

"She's a pure sprinter," Dunworth said. "She swims the shortest events, but she does all the work the other kids do. She spends just as much time in the pool and weight room. She has the talent of a sprinter and the work ethic of a 500 freestyler."

"I take great pride in Roxanne's progression and success, being a state champion last year and again this year in the medley relay. All of these kids are eager to please but none more so than she is."

**Erin Gold, diving, N. Farmington:** She earned the highest score of any Observerland diver with a 371.40 tally in the OAA White Division meet, placing fourth behind three West Bloomfield girls.



Gold

She missed the first half of the season with an injury and was unable to dive at the Oakland County meet. Gold was a Division 2 state qualifier and just missed getting into the semifinal round.

"The season Erin put together was pretty amazing," coach Mike Harfoot said. "In the first half of the year, she

was not able to be on the board at all. To come back in the middle of the season and do the kind of things she did by the end was amazing."

"She works on her craft the year round. She enjoys the sport and works really hard at it. The sky is the limit for her if she can stay healthy and stay on the board."

**Elaina Skellett, 100 fly, Mercy:** The sophomore standout is the Catholic League champion in the butterfly. She also finished fourth in Oak-



Skellett

land County and fifth in the D1 state meet. Her best of 55.79 is an automatic All-America time.

Skellett also excels in the backstroke, finishing second at the league and state meets and third in the county.

"As well as she has done and as competitive as she is, I think Elaina is really just beginning to scratch the surface of her potential," Dunworth said.

"She's a no-nonsense girl. She looks you in the eye and does exactly what you ask her to do. She really responds."

"She wants every ounce of input you give her and she applies it immediately. She's marvelous."

**Emily Brunett, 100 free, Harrison:** Brunett, who will swim for Michigan State next



Brunett

year, was one of the top swimmers in the Division 2 state meet, finishing third in the 500 free and sixth in the 200.

She has the area's best time in the 100 free at 52.37. She was the runner-up in the 50 and 100 free in the OAA Red Division and also was fifth in the butterfly at the Oakland County meet.

"Emily personifies everything remarkable about a student-athlete," coach Roxanne Kiger said. "She's conscientious, hard-working, competitive, intelligent, teachable and a person who does not quit and will not give up."

"She's the swimmer every coach wants in practice, because she'll take whatever you throw at her and give her all to make it. And should she miss the mark, it doesn't stop her from coming back the next day for more, usually with a smile on her face!"

"She sets the standard on our team for what being a Hawk swimmer entails from the weight room to the pool to being one of the leaders on the deck during a meet."

"She's not afraid to set high goals for herself and she doesn't allow short-term success or failure to lessen her resolve in meeting those long-term goals."

**Ellyse Conn, 500 free, Mercy:** She is the Catholic League and Oakland County champion in the 500 free and was third



Conn

in the state meet with her best time (4:56.77), which qualifies for All-America consideration.

The junior is a standout in the IM, too, finishing second in the league and fifth in the state. Conn also was third in the butterfly at the county meet.

"At the high school level, they really don't have the events that suit her best," Dunworth said. "We changed her events this year, so she could swim some of the longer races. It turned out to be a windfall for her."

"I'm excited for next year when we have another year of training, because she pretty much came out of nowhere in that event (500)."

"Ellyse is one determined and competitive girl. She's one of those who will passionately give you everything she has every day in practice and meets as well."

**Katie Minnich, 100 back, Mercy:** She had an outstanding finish to her freshman season, winning the D1 state championship in the backstroke with an automatic All-America time. She is the Catholic League and Oakland County

## ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS SWIMMING &amp; DIVING INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

**200 freestyle:** 1. Kathleen McGee, senior, Mercy; 2. Emma Bradley, junior, North Farmington.

**200 individual medley:** 1. Maddy Loniewski, senior, Mercy; 2. Katie Xu, sophomore, Salem.

**50 freestyle:** 1. Roxanne Griffore, senior, Mercy; 2. Brenna Erickson, senior, Livonia Stevenson.

**One-meter diving:** Erin Gold, sophomore, North Farmington; 2. Jessica Weak, sophomore, Stevenson.

**100 butterfly:** 1. Elaina Skellett, sophomore, Mercy; 2. Lisa Zhang, junior, Salem.

**100 freestyle:** 1. Emily Brunett, senior, Farmington Harrison; 2. Rachel Arceri, junior, Stevenson.

**500 freestyle:** 1. Ellyse Conn, junior, Mercy; 2. Claire Green, senior, Canton.

**100 backstroke:** 1. Katie Minnich, freshman, Mercy; 2. Hannah Chao, sophomore, North Farmington.

**100 breaststroke:** 1. Linda Zhang, junior, Salem; 2. Rebecca Arakelian, senior, Stevenson.

## FIRST TEAM RELAYS

**200 medley:** Farmington Hills Mercy (lr. Katie Minnich, sr. Maddy Loniewski, soph. Elaina Skellett, sr. Roxanne Griffore).

**200 freestyle:** Farmington Hills Mercy (sr. Roxanne Griffore, sr. Maddy Loniewski, jr. Ellyse Conn, sr. Kathleen McGee).

**400 freestyle:** Farmington Hills Mercy (sr. Kathleen McGee, sr. Roxanne Griffore, soph. Elaina Skellett, sr. Maddy Loniewski).

## SECOND TEAM RELAYS

**200 medley:** Salem (soph. Holly Rowe, jr. Linda Zhang, soph. Katie Xu, jr. Lisa Zhang).

**200 freestyle:** Livonia Stevenson (sr. Brenna Erickson, jr. Rachel Arceri, jr. Sara Bowen, sr. Rebecca Arakelian).

**400 freestyle:** Salem (jr. Lisa Zhang, sr. Stephanie Solterman, jr. Patricia Freitag, jr. Linda Zhang).

## COACH OF THE YEAR

Mike Harfoot, North Farmington

champion in this event, too.

Minnich was third in the county and 12th in the state in the 200 IM. She also placed second in the 100 butterfly at the league meet.

"I was really excited to hear Katie was coming to Mercy," Dunworth said.

"She was a very accomplished girl prior to getting here. She got faster because of how committed she was to delivering what you asked of her."

"She started the year injured and we hoped she would get back to her former self. She surpassed my expectations and hers. To be a Division 1 state champion as a freshman was far more than I could have expected."

**Linda Zhang, 100 breast, Salem:** The talented, versatile Zhang finished fourth in the 100 breaststroke at the D1 state finals with a time of

1:05.49 — taking all-state honors in the event for the third straight time.

The junior also tallied her third consecutive all-state showing in the 200 individual medley (fourth, 2:05.84) and 200-medley relay (eighth, 1:49.68). Her best time in the former was 2:04.68.

Other honors included setting Salem records in the 100 breaststroke (1:04.76) and four other events while garnering All-America consideration in the 100 breast and 200 IM.

"Linda has excelled as a swimmer and a student with the ability to motivate and encourage her teammates," coach Chuck Olson said, adding that she has been selected as one of the 2015 team's co-captains.

## FIRST TEAM RELAYS

**200 medley, Mercy:** Minnich, Loniewski, Skellett and Griffore won the Division 1 state championship, achieved All-America status and set a school record (1:44.64) in the state-meet prelims. They went 1:45.00 the next day to win the state title.

"We were hoping to be able to swim that relay this year at the state meet that way," Dunworth said. "Fortunately, we were able to do that."

"When you have the best backstroker in the state leading off, one of the top breaststrokers and the defending state champion in the 50 free on the end of it, you're clearly excited any time that relay gets to swim."

**200 freestyle, Mercy:** Griffore, Loniewski, Conn and McGee won the Oakland County championship with an area-best and automatic All-America time of 1:36.63.

"That relay is always fun for us because we have a 50 freestyler and a 500 freestyler on it," Dunworth said.

"It's amazing to watch the shortest-race and longest-race kids work together, because they don't get to train together

very often. To make All-America is icing on the cake."

**400 freestyle, Mercy:** McGee, Griffore, Skellett and Loniewski swam the area's best time of 3:30.10 at the Catholic League meet, finishing second to Birmingham Marian's Division 2 state championship team.

"We weren't blessed with a large number of sprinters this year and I think that relay showed the diversity of our kids," Dunworth said. "There were very few just 100 free swimmers on there."

## SECOND TEAM INDIVIDUALS

**Emma Bradley, 200 free, N. Farmington:** She is the OAA White Division champion in the 200 and 500 freestyle. She is the Oakland County and



Bradley

Division 2 state runner-up in the 500. She also placed fifth in the 200 free at the county meet and 10th at the state meet.

Bradley played a major role in the Raiders winning the OAA White championship for the second straight year and, having won the Blue Division in 2012, their third consecutive title.

"Emma made great strides at the end of her sophomore year from the league meet to the state meet," Harfoot said. "She took that big step from good to great. Emma had fantastic season from start to finish this year."

"She did a lot of extra work in the off-season. She swam year round and worked with a personal trainer to gain strength and flexibility."

"About the only event Emma didn't swim was the 100 breast. She's a really talented kid and a pleasure to coach."

**Katie Xu, 200 IM, Salem:** The sophomore proved to be another instrumental and versatile performer for the Rocks and won one of the team's



Xu

Most Improved Swimmer awards.

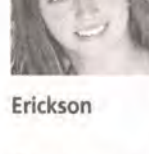
In addition to being strong in the 200 IM all season (her best time was 2:11.04), Xu finished eighth

in the backstroke at the D1 finals (58.51), good for an all-state medal. Her best time in that event was 58.43. She also was part of the all-state (eighth place) 200 medley relay.

Holder of a 4.0 grade-point average, Xu also was part of Salem's record 200 medley relay team.

"Katie had another successful season and improved her performances in all events," Olson said. "She is admired by her teammates with her practice (work ethic) and competitive nature."

**Brenna Erickson, 50 free, Stevenson:** She was a four-year senior captain for the Spartans.



Erickson

"Not only did Brenna have a very good senior year, but she has had a very good career at Stevenson."

Stevenson coach Greg Phill said, "Brenna will be missed very much."

**Jessica Weak, diving, Stevenson:** A second-year diver for the Spartans, she is a two-time diving MVP and was the 2014 Wayne County diving champion.



Weak

"With two years left in high school, I expect great things from Jessica," Phill said.

**Lisa Zhang, 100 fly, Salem:** The junior picked up where she left off, finishing seventh at the D1 state finals in the 100 butterfly (56.54), fourth in the 100 backstroke (1:05.49) and contributing to the eighth-place 200 medley relay. She earned all-state honors in all three events.

A 4.0 student, Zhang holds Salem varsity records in the 50 freestyle (24.39) and 100 fly.

Other honors included setting or sharing Salem records in the 100 backstroke (her best time was 56.93), 100 freestyle (53.36), 200 medley relay, 200 free relay and 400 free relay.

"Lisa has been a great example of the student-athlete and the success that can be achieved with hard work and dedication," Olson said.

She has been selected as one of the 2015 team's co-captains.

**Rachel Arceri, 100 free, Stevenson:** Arceri, a junior, overcame health issues to



Arceri

register several stellar times.

"Rachel had a very tumultuous season, dealing with a back injury; she proved how tough she really is," Phill said.

"We look forward to having her back for her senior year."

**Claire Green, 500 free, Canton:** The senior captain began her career the way she



Green

started it — qualifying for the Division 1 state meet.

Green was an all-state finalist in the 500 for the second time in her excellent career (seventh, 5:06.89) and earned team MVP honors for the second time, helping the Chiefs to the KLAA South Division championship.

She has committed to swim at Florida Atlantic University, an NCAA Division I school.

"Claire has had an excellent swimming career at Canton High School," coach Ed Weber said. "Her nearly perfect attendance and hard work ethic have been a great role model for other teammates to emulate."

"She has the ability to swim multiple strokes and is always trying to do her best."

**Hannah Chao, 100 back, N. Farmington:** She is the OAA White champion in the back-



Chao

stroke. She went 58.31 in that meet to break the record (58.56) she set last year at the D2 state meet.

Subsequently, she broke her own record again by going 57.66 in the state prelims and finishing seventh in Division 2.

Chao also was 10th in Oakland County in that event. In the 50 free, she finished second in the league, 12th in the county and 13th in the state.

"She's one of the better backstrokers in the state as a sophomore," Harfoot said. "She's a really hard worker and another pleasant kid to coach. She listens to what she has to do and her hard work paid off at the end of the year."

"I look for Hannah to keep working hard on her backstroke. When you get to the top-end speed, it's hard to shave time, but she's always looking to get faster and improve."

**Rebecca Arakelian, 100 breast, Stevenson:** A senior with two years of high school swimming, she was voted the Spartans' most valuable swimmer.



Arakelian

"Rebecca is not only a very good swimmer, but she is also a very hard worker," Phill said.

"Rebecca is going to be missed very much. Stevenson's loss will be Northern Michigan (University's) gain."

## SECOND TEAM RELAYS

**200 medley, Salem:** Sophomore Molly Rowe, Linda Zhang, Xu and Lisa Zhang garnered all-state honors in the 200 medley relay, finishing eighth with a time of 1:49.68.

It was the second year in a row that the relay team earned such accolades and the quartet also



finished second at the Kensington Conference meet for honors there and set a Salem team record (1:48.48, set at the

See ALL-AREA, Page B3



## ALL-AREA

Continued from Page B2

state prelims).

"Molly has had two years at Salem that have shown she enjoys all aspects of practice and competition with her teammates," Olson said.

Rowe, who carries a 4.0 grade-point average, is another versatile performer for the Rocks. She came in fifth at the conference meet in the 100 backstroke.

**200 freestyle, Stevenson:** The foursome of Erickson, Arceri, Sara Bowen and Arakelian broke a school record this fall that was set 18 years ago.

"We will be losing two of



Bowen

these girls to graduation, so we'll have some pretty big shoes to fill," Phill said.

**400 free-style, Salem:** The Zhang twins, along with senior Stephanie Solterman and junior Patricia Freitag, qualified for the D1 state finals and placed 12th with a time of 3:36.32. They also set a new Salem school record.

Solterman, one of the 2014 captains and owner of a 3.8 grade-point average, won Salem's Rachel Maurer Award for leadership, academic and athletic achievement.

She capped off her varsity career by also qualifying in



Solterman



Freitag

the 100 backstroke (finishing 12th) and with the 200 free relay. "She had an outstanding four years at Salem," Olson said.

Freitag, who holds a 4.0 GPA, was named one of Salem's Most Improved Swimmers and will be a captain in 2015. Also at the D1 finals, she came in ninth in the 100 backstroke, just missing all-state status.

"Patricia continues to improve her times in all swimming events, with qualifying

times in the 100 fly, 500 free and 100 backstroke," Olson said.

**COACH OF THE YEAR Mike Harfoot, N. Farmington:** He led the Raiders to a second straight OAA White Division championship and the school's third league title in a row. North also won the OAA Blue Division in 2012.



Harfoot

The Raiders finished 12th in the Division 2 state meet with 62 points. They had individual standouts such as Emma Bradley and Hannah Chao, but their success was the result of many individual contributions.

"We had talked before the season that our strength was going to be our depth, having three or four strong swimmers in every event, and it proved to be the case come the end of the season," Harfoot said.

"We work as a team and we all work together for the goal of winning a championship. You can't win with one or two swimmers. We had 36 varsity entries (at the division meet) and scored 34.

"We did a real nice job of getting as many people into the finals and scoring as many points as we could. The more swimmers you have in the finals, the harder it is for other teams to get in and score."

## GIRLS BEST SWIM TIMES

**200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY**

Farmington Hills Mercy 1:44.64

Salem 1:48.48

North Farmington 1:50.31

Livonia Stevenson 1:53.22

Farmington Harrison 1:53.40

**200 FREESTYLE**

Kathleen McGee (Mercy) 1:53.42

Emily Brunett (Harrison) 1:53.44

Emma Bradley (N. Farmington) 1:53.92

Kendall Golt (Mercy) 1:54.45

Ellyse Conn (Mercy) 1:55.09

Rachel Arceri (Stevenson) 1:55.78

Addy de Tassanyi (Mercy) 1:56.12

Allison Lennig (Plymouth) 1:56.55

Maddy Loniewski (Mercy) 1:57.06

Claire Green (Canton) 1:57.22

**200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY**

Linda Zhang (Salem) 2:04.68

Maddy Loniewski (Mercy) 2:05.04

Rebecca Arakelian (Stevenson) 2:07.15

Ellyse Conn (Mercy) 2:07.27

Katie Minnich (Mercy) 2:07.65

Katie Xu (Salem) 2:11.04

Addy de Tassanyi (Mercy) 2:11.60

Michaela Bargardi (Mercy) 2:11.62

Claire Green (Canton) 2:12.06

Liza Zhang (Salem) 2:13.20

**50 FREESTYLE**

Roxanne Griffore (Mercy) 23.75

Emily Brunett (Harrison) 24.10

Lisa Zhang (Salem) 24.39

Brenna Erickson (Stevenson) 24.61

Hannah Chao (N. Farmington) 24.66

Katie Romero (Harrison) 24.74

Summer Edwards (N. Farmington) 24.76

Linda Zhang (Salem) 24.80

Maddy Loniewski (Mercy) 24.93

Katy Kouvaris (Mercy) 25.05

**ONE-METER DIVING**

Erin Gold (N. Farmington) 371.40

Jessica Weak (Stevenson) 363.30

Alexa Rybicki (Mercy) 349.95

Camille Burt (Salem) 348.76

Megan McKeehan (Plymouth) 334.60

Kelly Shroobree (N. Farmington) 332.90

Sydney Grenier (Churchill) 330.90

Samantha Ellis (Stevenson) 297.40

Skylar Tisko (Mercy) 296.95

Carina Wright (N. Farmington) 292.70

**100 BUTTERFLY**

Alaina Skellett (Mercy) 55.79

Lisa Zhang (Salem) 56.54

Ellyse Conn (Mercy) 57.22

Linda Zhang (Salem) 57.28

Michaela Bargardi (Mercy) 58.67

Katie Minnich (Mercy) 58.69

Emily Brunett (Harrison) 59.06

Annika Gidley (N. Farmington) 59.24

Roxanne Griffore (Mercy) 59.37

Patricia Freitag (Salem) 59.94

**100 FREESTYLE**

Emily Brunett (Harrison) 52.37

Roxanne Griffore (Mercy) 52.40

Kathleen McGee (Mercy) 52.57

Rachel Arceri (Stevenson) 53.26

Lisa Zhang (Salem) 53.36

Brenna Erickson (Stevenson) 53.40

Linda Zhang (Salem) 54.00

Allison Lennig (Plymouth) 54.05

Maddy Loniewski (Mercy) 54.10

Erin Judd (Mercy) 54.60

**500 FREESTYLE**

Ellyse Conn (Mercy) 4:56.77

Claire Green (Canton) 5:02.45

Emma Bradley (N. Farmington) 5:02.95

Emily Brunett (Harrison) 5:03.09

Kathleen McGee (Mercy) 5:06.42

Addy de Tassanyi (Mercy) 5:07.27

Merril Froyne (Stevenson) 5:07.44

Patricia Freitag (Salem) 5:16.75

**200 FREESTYLE RELAY**

Farmington Hills Mercy 1:36.63

Livonia Stevenson 1:37.81

North Farmington 1:38.87

Farmington Harrison 1:39.32

Salem 1:41.95

**100 BACKSTROKE**

Katie Minnich (Mercy) 55.06

Alaina Skellett (Mercy) 56.25

Lisa Zhang (Mercy) 56.93

Hannah Chao (N. Farmington) 57.66

Patricia Freitag (Salem) 58.19

Ellyse Conn (Mercy) 58.36

Katie Xu (Salem) 58.43

Stephanie Solterman (Salem) 58.52

Addy de Tassanyi (Mercy) 58.75

Michaela Bargardi (Mercy) 59.16

**100 BREASTSTROKE**

Linda Zhang (Salem) 1:04.76

Rebecca Arakelian (Stevenson) 1:06.38

Maddy Loniewski (Mercy) 1:06.80

Grace Xu (Harrison) 1:08.15

Julia Borri (Harrison) 1:08.86

Emily Hagan (Canton) 1:09.98

Monica Rzepka (Ladywood) 1:09.34

Mya Loniewski (Mercy) 1:09.38

Jensen Pecora (Mercy) 1:09.54

**400 FREESTYLE RELAY**

Farmington Hills Mercy 3:30.10

Salem 3:34.31

Livonia Stevenson 3:34.47

Farmington Harrison 3:40.36

North Farmington 3:43.24

## KRISCHANO

Continued from Page B1

it came to winning.

The partnership proved to be a hat-trick as the trio went on to capture a string of off-shore championships and podium finishes.

In 2003, Krischano steered the Hatchers' boat to an AP-BA Offshore World Championship.

"There is nothing quite like the feeling of going 100 miles an hour or more in one of these boats," said Krischano, when asked about the adrenaline rush that accompanies his passion. "It's different from car racing in that most of the surfaces the cars race on are very similar, but when you're racing on the water, no two courses are the same because of the unpredictability of the waves."

Although his racing career was flourishing, Krischano wasn't ready to make it a full-time, year-round gig, so he established himself in a dry-land field as well.

He currently works as the managing director of Minneapolis-based Pilot IT, a highly-

respected consulting firm.

From 2007-10, Krischano took a break from racing to focus on his slower-paced interests, but he returned in 2011 with a splash.

"When I came back, I moved into a new, faster class of boats," he said. "It was like going from the boats you see in 'Miami Vice' to driving an Indy car.

"The extreme tunnel boats I drive now are the fastest-turning and most nimble power boats in the world. They can go from zero to 60 (miles per hour) in approximateley three seconds and they reach speeds over over 100. The drivers incur more 'G' forces in a turn than any other racing machine on the planet."

Despite the downtime, Krischano didn't lose his winning touch. His recent titles include 2011 Twin City Power Boat Association Rookie of the Year, 2012 American Powerboat Racing Superleague Rookie of the Year and 2013 and 2014 APBA National High Point Champion.

Success hasn't come without a few high-speed spills, Krischano added.

"This past summer was pretty uneventful, but in 2013



Jeff Krischano steers the NHL Hatcher brothers' 'Let's Play' off-shore boat during a race sometime around 2005.

I rolled a couple times and had a collision," he said. "Every other year we have to become certified in escaping the capsule; it's kind of like being a Navy pilot. You have to unbuckle the belt, take a

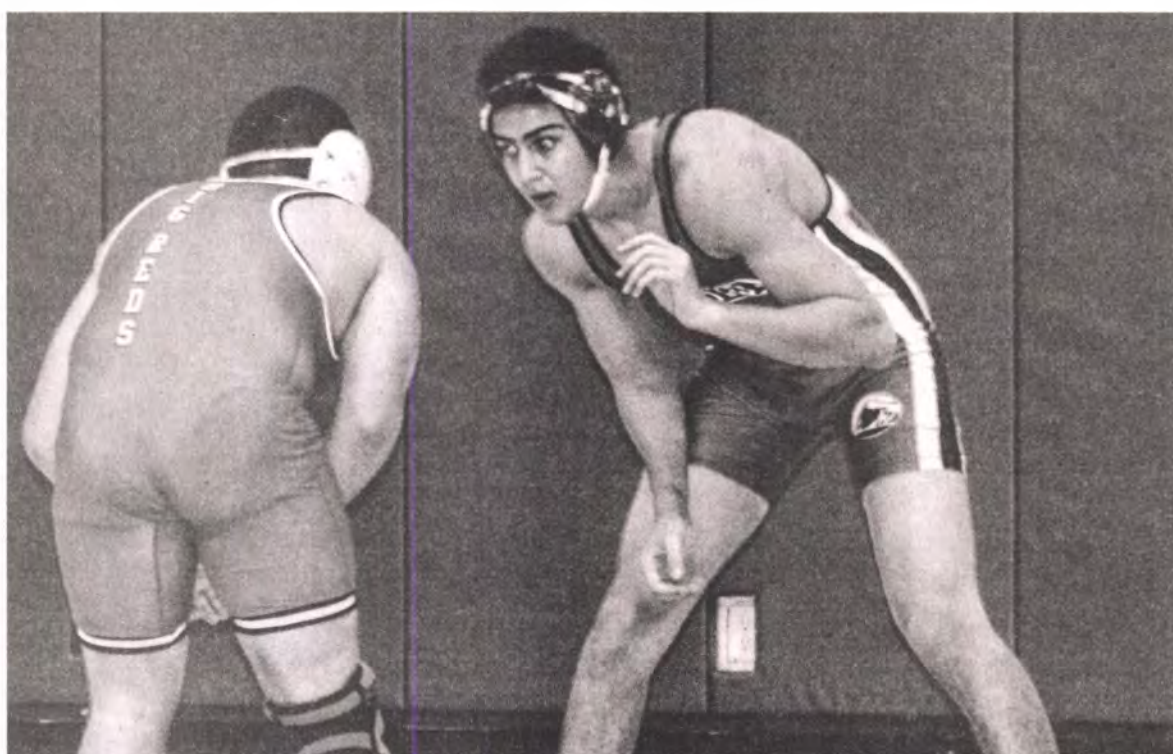
couple breathes from your air mask and swim out while submerged. You learn pretty quickly that you'd better not panic."

Krischano said he doesn't see an end in sight to his rac-

ing days.

"I feel good, my fitness level is pretty high and I still get a rush from doing it," he said.

ewright@hometownlife.com



ED WRIGHT

Salem's Caleb McCabe (facing camera) edged Chippewa Valley's Jacob Browning, 7-5, in the 152-pound final Saturday morning in Rocks' gym.

## SALEM ELKS

Continued from Page B1

champion Mitchell Gross, whose 3-0 day was capped with an exclamation-point 4-2 decision over Churchill's Baker Hadwan in the final bout. The Patriots' strong effort was energized by first-place finishers Nick Robertson (135) and Nathan Atienza (140). Robertson doubled-up Chippewa Valley's Michael Solomon, 8-4, in the title match while Atienza nipped Dearborn's Youssef Danaoui, 6-5.

John Glenn's Anthony Gibson dominated the 125-pound bracket by pinning his first two foes - Saline's Chris Birchmeier and Greenville's Dren Barmut - be-

fore blanking Dundee's Jimmy Lloyd, 7-0, in the gold-medal match.

**SALEM ELKS TOURNAMENT**

**Dec. 27 at Salem High School**

**FINAL STANDINGS:** 1. Monroe, 216 points; 2. Greenville, 160.5; 3. Ypsi Lincoln, 141; 4. Salem, 127; 5. Chippewa Valley, 126; 6. Lincoln Park, 105.5; 7. Livonia Churchill, 106; 8. Lincoln Park, 105.5; 9. Saline, 77; 10. Dundee, 72.5; 11. Westland John Glenn, 64; 12. Dearborn Fordson, 60; 13. Dearborn, 47; 14. Garden City, 32.5; 15. Redford Thurston, 14.

**103 pounds:** 1. Neil Antrassian (MON) won by tech. fall, 19-4, over Isaac Lefler (WIG); 3. Mojahid Ahmed (DF) pinned Zach Hallcock (G), in 4:43; 5. Nate Gaubatz (S) pinned Matt Martin (YL) in 2:50.

**112:** 1. Carl Antrassian (MON) dec. Danny Poupore (SAL), 9-8; 3. Kyle Boxeth (SAL) dec. Stephen Hilliker (G), 6-3; 5. Josh Mussen (LC) won by major dec., 8-0, over Kade Lewis (YL).

**119:** 1. Kevin Fuller (SAL) pinned Ethan Englehart (LC) in 3:33; 3. Alex Budge (G) won by injury default over Cam Shaughnessey (S); 5. Tyler Costello (LP) dec. Brendan Berezny (YL), 5-3.

**125:** 1. Anthony Gibson (WIG) dec. Jimmy Lloyd (DU), 7-0; 3. Dren Bartrum (G) pinned Jordan Hagar (MON), in 4:55; 5. Chris Cosgrove (LP) pinned Jalen Freeman (YL) in 4:40.

**130:** 1. Abe Ajami (DF) dec. Tate Jeffrey (G), 10-7; 3. Zac Bellaire (DU) dec. Ali Arab (GC), 8-1; 5. Adam Ross (LF) won in triple-OT over Mike Bloxson (MON).

**135:** 1. Nick Robertson (LF) dec. Michael Solomon (CV), 8-4; 3. Rodney Miracle (LP) dec. Jeremy Nelson (LF), 7-6;

5. Jon Baker (MON) dec. Ryan Desbrough (DU), 11-5.

**140:** 1. Nathan Atienza (LF) dec. Youssef Danaoui (DBN), 6-5; 3. Jon Price (CV) dec. Austin McCarty (YL), 5-3; 5. Trevor Anderson (LP) dec. Andrew Lapins (RT), 9-6.

**145:** 1. Logan Dicarlo (MON) dec. Kendall Freeman (YL), 7-2; 3. Collin Smith (LF) dec. Noah Huber (CV), 10-5; 5. Jaylen Carter (LP), won by major dec., 15-7, over Brendan Bergstresser (GC).

**152:** 1. Caleb McCabe (S) dec. Jacob Browning (CV), 7-5; 3. Chase Gardner (LC) pinned Kyle Reinhart (DU) in 2:23; 5. Cody Wilcox (G) dec. Garrett Galinis (SAL), 9-4.

**160:** 1. Tristan Sajna (CV) dec. Travis Labell (MON), 3-4; 3. Quinn Chapman (LP) pinned Amir Naser (DF) in 1:52; 5. Taylor Schofield (G) pinned Julio Abdellatif (YL) in 4:13.

**171:** 1. Tyler Hammack (MON) dec. Steven Slattery (SAL), 3-0; 3. Joe Burger (G) dec. Mitchell Retting (LF), 7-4; 5. Vinny Dollard (CV) dec. Logan Beaudoin (WIG), 6-2.

**189:** 1. Devin Burnison (YL) dec. Jamil Jomaa (DBN), 6-5; 3. Roy Foster (S) dec. Jalen Goudlock (CV), 4-2; 5. Jonathon Brown (MON) pinned Colin Englehart (LC) in 4:31.

**215:** 1. Mitchell Gross (S) dec. Baker Hadwan (LC), 4-2; 3. Joe Fortin (LF) dec. Zack Kramer (MON), 7-1; 5. DeCarlos Vigil (YL) dec. Zach Holder (G), 4-1.

**285:** 1. Cole Antcliff (G) pinned Jake Mercieca (LC) in 3:50; 3. Keith Matthews (MON) pinned Blake Johnson (LP) in 4:38; 5. Jacob Eby (YL) pinned Tyler Moore (S) in 59 seconds.

## Whitney's big night leads Franklin ickers to win

Junior chalks up six points in Pats' 8-2 triumph

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Junior captain Brendan Whitney saturated the score book with three goals and three assists to lead Livonia Franklin's hockey team to an 8-2 victory over host Utica in a non-conference match-up played last week.

Chase Wallis also had a productive evening for the Patriots, netting two goals and a pair of helpers. Trevor Lassaline finished off the net-stuffing extravaganza for the winners by pumping home three goals to go along with one assist.

Also providing offensive punch to Franklin's attack were Justin Makowski (two assists), Zack Nelson (goal) and Kolby Dewhirst and Nick Salisbury, who contributed one assist each.

Brian Hubbard notched his second

straight victory between the pipes by stopping 12 Chieftain shots.

There weren't many dull moments for Utica goalie Mason Waldrip, who turned away 40 shots in the loss.

"[Waldrip] had several 'How'd he do that?' saves to keep the game from being a mercy," Franklin head coach Dennis Gagnon added.

Gagnon said the trip to Macomb County for the Patriots was efficient and beneficial.

"We came out to the east-side the past couple of games and got to work on some things, get everybody a chance to earn playing time, and had success," Gagnon noted. "I was happy for Nelly, who got his second goal of the year after being stopped on his last 15 shots or so.

"And what can I say about the 'Whits' line? They were very productive in a game that they should and need to be."

Franklin returns to action on Jan. 3 when they travel to the Farmington Civic Arena to face Farmington United in a game slated to face off at 7:45 p.m.

ewright@hometownlife.com



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Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4	0	3.25	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4	0	3.25	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	3.75	0	3	0
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## SEEKING: Multi-Media Sales Representative

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

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

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

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

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

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eads@hometownlife.com

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Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday  
Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

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615 W. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226

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## RN, LPN or MA

with DERMATOLOGY EXPERIENCE preferred, for a growing dermatology practice in Ann Arbor/ Plymouth area. Full-time, excellent pay & benefits. Email or Fax resume: [azderm@aol.com](mailto:azderm@aol.com) 734-996-8767

## Help Wanted - Medical

## RN, LPN or MA

with DERMATOLOGY EXPERIENCE preferred, for a growing dermatology practice in Ann Arbor/ Plymouth area. Full-time, excellent pay & benefits. Email or Fax resume: [azderm@aol.com](mailto:azderm@aol.com) 734-996-8767

## Card of Thanks

PRAYER: Pray 9 Hail Marys for 9 days. On the 9th day make 3 wishes & publish this prayer. Your wishes will be granted.-M

## Sports Utility

BUICK ENCLAVE 2012 FWD, leather, heated seats, Black Metallic. \$22,000 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC 734-453-2500

CHEVY EQUINOX 2011 FWD, 4 dr, 2 LT, heated leather seats, ABS, power sunroof, too much to list! \$17,000 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC 734-453-2500

ESCAPE 2012 XLT, MP3 comp, 4x4 steering wheel controls \$13,988. NORTH BROS. 855-667-9860

GMC ACADIA 2010 FWD SLT1, Liver, Bose stereo system, loaded! \$19,000 BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC 734-453-2500

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

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

FRIGIDAIRE LARGE FREEZERS NICE WHITE LIKE NEW. VERY CLEAN MUST GO. \$250. 248-820-1768

HOSPITAL MEDICAL EQUIP

ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR: Atlanta JR. Compact, 3 pcs take apart, portable, new battery, late model! excellent condition, Holiday Special reduced to \$450/obo. Hank: 313.543.3336 313.515.3330

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HOSPITAL MEDICAL EQUIP

ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR: Atlanta JR. Compact, 3 pcs take apart, portable, new battery, late model! excellent condition, Holiday Special reduced to \$450/obo. Hank: 313.543.3336 313.515.3330

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## Misc. For Sale

Season firewood For sale \$65.00 a cord, plus delivery can be set up (586)907-8025 paulkarey260@gmail.com

## Sporting Goods

Davison Gun & Knife Show Sun Jan. 11, 9-3p Kott Mall, 8425 Davison Rd. Info 969-798-0709.

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CASH PAID OR CONSIGNMENT For Vintage, Antique and Other Valuable Items. Single items to storage units to entire estates and estate sales. Professional, courteous, fair, honest, discreet older gentlemen. I drive to you. Coins, costumes and fine jewelry, knick knacks, military, collections, books, toys, stereos, instruments, ephemera, clothing, Christmas, more. References: Richard, BSE, MBA. (248)795-0362 richard.preston48@yahoo.com

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# Challenging fun for ALL ages

## Thursday

### PUZZLE CORNER

#### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

##### ACROSS

- 1 Codgers' queries
- 4 S&L customer
- 8 Like Beethoven
- 12 Aussie jumper
- 13 Trevi Fountain coin
- 14 All-embracing
- 15 Together again
- 17 Aphrodite's child
- 18 Ess molding
- 19 Post-sneeze word
- 20 Scale
- 23 Shinto or Zen (abbr.)
- 24 Without value
- 25 Leaves (2 wds.)
- 29 Green parrot
- 30 Cools one's heels
- 32 Numerical prefix
- 33 Water source
- 35 66 and I-80

##### DOWN

- 36 Dramatic section
- 37 Peanut butter choice
- 39 Houston pro
- 42 Gas or tel.
- 43 Feng —
- 44 Discontinue (2 wds.)
- 48 Sweet wine
- 49 Mine and thine
- 50 A Gershwin
- 51 Walkman brand
- 52 "— went thataway!"
- 53 Piano part
- 1 Do the wrong thing
- 2 Tend the garden
- 3 —wester
- 4 Set straight
- 5 Issued a summons
- 6 Hudson Bay tribe

##### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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- 7 Skosh
- 8 — on (ponders)
- 9 Gael republic
- 10 Hubbubs

- 11 Parker who played Boone
- 16 Carolers' rendition
- 19 More than asks
- 20 Pharaoh's amulet
- 21 Chop —
- 22 Decked out
- 23 Road hazard
- 25 Morsel
- 26 Dog in "Beetle Bailey"
- 27 Fume
- 28 Mackerel or bass
- 30 Baylor University site
- 31 Diligent insect
- 34 Unusual thing
- 35 Cattle-call reward
- 37 Prolonged gaze
- 38 Young girl
- 39 Deadly snakes
- 40 Frighten a fly
- 41 Chance to play
- 42 Nope (hyph.)
- 44 Greenhouse purchase
- 45 Fix a squeak
- 46 Suffix for forfeit
- 47 Label

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
			18					19		
20	21	22				23				
24					25			26	27	28
29			30	31				32		
33			34					35		
			36				37	38		
39	40	41				42				
43					44			45	46	47
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

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

## SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

##### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

##### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

## ADOPTION WORD SEARCH

##### WORDS

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

##### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

##### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

JANUARY  
CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17

**Location:** Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, Livonia

**Details:** Mitch and Jesse Manns perform with Dean Rutledge. Mitch Manns has performed with bluegrass, oldie and country bands and Jesse Manns developed his personal guitar style after listening to Chet Atkins, Hank Garland and Jeff Back. Rutledge, a 40-year veteran of the Detroit folk scene, has worked as a soloist and as a member of the New Christy Minstrels. Tickets are \$10 per person

**Contact:** 734-427-2290

## FITNESS CLASSES

**Time/Date:** 10-11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 12-March 30

**Location:** St. John Neumann, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

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

**Contact:** 734-455-5910

## POMEGRANATE GUILD

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11

**Location:** Prentis Apartment Community Room, located on 10 Mile, east of Greenfield, Oak Park

**Details:** Jan Jacobs will preview her March workshop project, the creation of a denim quilt. The Pomegranate Guild of South-eastern Michigan studies and creates Judaic needlework

**Contact:** Judy Galperin at 248-661-5337

## WORLD SABBATH

**Time/Date:** 4-6 p.m. Jan. 25

**Location:** Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Celebrate peace and religious diversity through this interfaith experience of music, dance and prayer. Afterglow follows the service

**Contact:** 248-851-5100

## FEBRUARY

## OPEN HOUSE

**Time/Date:** Noon to 2 p.m. Feb. 1

**Location:** St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison, Livonia

**Details:** Open house for preschool through grade eight

**Contact:** 734-425-4420

## ONGOING

## CLASSES/STUDY

## Men's Bible study

**Time/Date:** Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

**Location:** Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

**Contact:** John Shulenberger at 734-464-9491

## Our Lady of Loretto

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

**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township

**Details:** Scripture study

**Contact:** 313-534-9000

## CLOTHING BANK

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. last Saturday of the month

**Location:** Canton Christian Fellowship, 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton

**Details:** No documentation needed

**Contact:** info@cantoncf.org

## FAMILY MEAL

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

**Location:** Salvation Army, 27500 Shiwawasee, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Free meal

**Contact:** 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

## MOMS

## Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May

**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners

**Contact:** Ethan Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

**Dunning Park Bible Chapel**

**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

**Location:** 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

**Details:** MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

**Contact:** Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

## PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

**Details:** All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.

**Contact:** 313-563-0162

## PRAYER

## St. Edith Church

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through back.

**Details:** Music, singing, prayer

**Contact:** Grace at 734-464-1896, Shirley at 734-464-3656 or Geri at 734-464-8906

## St. Michael Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday

**Location:** 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

**Details:** Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

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

## SINGLES

## Detroit World Outreach

**Time/Date:** 4-6 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304

**Details:** Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.

**Contact:** The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwwo.org

## First Presbyterian Church

**Time/Date:** 7-7:15 p.m., social time; 7:30 p.m., announcements; 7:30-8:30 p.m., program; 8:30-9 p.m. ice cream social, Thursdays.

**Location:** 200 E. Main St., Northville

**Details:** Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5

**Contact:** 248-349-0911 or visit [www.singleplace.org](http://www.singleplace.org)

## Steve's Family Restaurant

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

**Location:** 15800 Middlebelt, 14 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

**Details:** Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.

**Contact:** 313-534-0399

## SONG CIRCLE

## Congregation Beth Ahm

**Time/Date:** Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat

**Location:** 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in translation as well as the original Hebrew.

**Contact:** 248-737-1931 or email [nancyellen879@att.net](mailto:nancyellen879@att.net)

## SUPPORT

## Apostolic Christian Church

**Time/Date:** 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily

**Location:** 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

**Details:** Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.

**Contact:** 734-261-9000; [www.woodhaven-retirement.com](http://www.woodhaven-retirement.com)

## Connection Church

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday

**Location:** 3855 Sheldon, Canton

**Details:** Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free

**Contact:** Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

## Detroit World Outreach

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202

**Details:** Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems

**Contact:** 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

## Farmington Hills Baptist Church

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

**Location:** 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills

**Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

**Contact:** 248-433-1011

## Merriman Road Baptist Church

**Time/Date:** 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

**Location:** 2055 Merriman, Garden City

**Details:** Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations

**Contact:** [www.metrofibrogroup.com](http://www.metrofibrogroup.com); or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

## Fireside Church of God

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

**Location:** 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

**Details:** Fireside Adult Day Ministry activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center

**Contact:** 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; [www.firesidechog.org](http://www.firesidechog.org); or email to [adm@firesidechog.org](mailto:adm@firesidechog.org)

## St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to noon Saturday

**Location:** 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

**Details:** A weekly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available

**Contact:** 734-421-8451

## St. Thomas a' Becket Church

**Time/Date:** Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 555 S. Lilley, Canton

**Details:** Take Off Pounds Sensibly

**Contact:** Margaret at 734-838-0322

## Unity of Livonia

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday

**Location:** 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

**Details:** Overeaters Anonymous

**Contact:** 248-559-7722; [www.oa.org](http://www.oa.org) for additional information

## Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/desserts)

**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

**Details:** Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free.

**Contact:** Child care, 248-374-7400; [www.celebraterecovery.com](http://www.celebraterecovery.com) and [www.wardchurch.org](http://www.wardchurch.org) celebrate

## THRIFT STORE

## St. James Presbyterian

**Location:** 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

**Contact:** 313-534-7730 for additional information

## Way of Life Christian Church

**Time/Date:** 2-3:30 p.m. third Saturday from October through May

**Location:** 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth

**Details:** Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives.

**Contact:** 734-637-7618

## TOUR

**Time/Date:** 10:30 a.m. to noon first Sunday of the month

**Location:** The Solanus Casey Center, a Capuchin ministry, at 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit

**Details:** Led by Capuchin friar Larry Webber, the director of the Solanus Casey Center, the tour focuses on the spirituality and holiness of Father Solanus, a humble Capuchin friar credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. No reservations are needed, although the center requests an advance phone call for groups of five or more. No cost for the tour, although donations are accepted.

**Contact:** 313-579-2100, Ext. 149; [www.solanuscenter.org](http://www.solanuscenter.org)

## WORSHIP

## Adat Shalom Synagogue

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Sunday; and 6 p.m. weekdays

**Location:** 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

**Contact:** 248-851-5100

## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. Sunday service

**Location:** 35300 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills

**Contact:** pastor Terry Miller at [tshelton@mi.rr.com](mailto:tshelton@mi.rr.com); 248-478-6520

## Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services; 9:45 a.m. Sunday school and youth and adult Bible classes

**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia

**Contact:** 734-522-6830

## Congregation Bet Chaverim

**Time/Date:** Services are held 7 p.m. the third Friday of the month

**Location:** At the shared facilities of Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge, Canton

**Details:** Reformed Jewish Congregation with Rabbi Peter Gluck and Cantorial soloist Robin Liberatore

**Contact:** [www.Facebook.com/betchaverim](http://www.Facebook.com/betchaverim) or email to [betchaverim@yahoo.com](mailto:betchaverim@yahoo.com)

## Due Season Christian Church

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. Sunday, with 7:15 p.m. Tuesday Bible study

**Location:** Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, in Livonia

**Details:** Nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church services.

**Contact:** 248-960-8063 or visit [www.DueSeason.org](http://www.DueSeason.org)

## Faith Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. Sunday; learning hour is at 9 a.m. for all ages

**Location:** 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia

**Contact:** Visit [www.livon-faith.org](http://www.livon-faith.org)

## Faith Community Wesleyan Church

**Time/Date:** Prayer service, 9 a.m., worship service, 11 a.m., Sunday school, 12:30 p.m., contemporary service, 1:30 p.m., Bible study, 6 p.m., Sundays

**Location:** 14560 Merriman, Livonia

**Contact:** pastor Roger Wright at 313-682-7491

## Garden City Presbyterian Church

**Time/Date:** Adult Bible study at 8:15 a.m.; traditional worship service, youth Sunday school and child care at 10 a.m. Large print order of service is available. Refreshments in the church fellowship hall immediately after service. Elevator and handicap parking

**Location:** Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Road

**Contact:** 734-421-7620

## Good Hope Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 9:30 a.m. Sunday school followed by 10:30 a.m. worship service with Communion each Sunday; Bible study 10 a.m. Wednesday

**Location:** 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

**Contact:** 734-427-3660

## Grace Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. traditional Sunday service and 10:30 a.m. contemporary; Sunday school and adult Bible study at 9:15 a.m.

**Location:** 46001 Warren Road, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton Township

**Contact:** 734-637-8160

## His Church Anglican

**Time/Date:** 7:45 a.m. at Trinity and 10 a.m. at Madonna University

**Location:** Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia, and Kresge Hall on the Madonna University campus, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia

**Contact:** [www.HisChurchAnglican.org](http://www.HisChurchAnglican.org); 248-442-0HCA

## Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Faith Forum; 10 a.m. Sunday school; 7:30 p.m. Wednesday worship in the chapel.

**Location:** 30650 Six Mile, Livonia

nia

**Contact:** 734-427-1414

## Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday

**Location:** 9600 Leverne, west of Beech Daly, north off West Chicago Road, Redford



# Livonia band, Royale, ranked on two top song lists of 2014

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Jacob Peetz and Frank Ritz were high school students with a handful of local music gigs under their belts when they began recording songs together in March.

By December, the Livonia duo, collaborating under the name, Royale, had released their first CD with a show at The Pike Room in Pontiac, added St. Andrews Hall in Detroit to their growing performance resume and welcomed two new members to the band.

Their debut album, *Abbey's Art*, recently was ranked fourth on a list of 10 top albums of 2014 by songlyrics.com. And their tune, *Anything*, this week took the ninth spot on the top 15 songs played on the Homeboy Show on 89X FM.

"It's all very exciting. 2014 was a huge year for us, but 2015 is going to be even bigger," said Peetz, a drummer who co-founded the band when he was a sophomore at Livonia Stevenson High School and Ritz, songwriter and guitarist, was in 10th grade at Livonia Churchill.

"Being listed on songlyrics.com top 10 albums is a huge honor and surprise for us. We are super excited to see the album getting recognition. We put a lot of time and effort into it."

## The Pike Room

When the *Observer* first caught up with the pair in July,

Peetz and Ritz were preparing to headline The Pike Room for the first time and were working hard to finish recording. Now that the CD has been released for download — and will soon be available in hard copy at Royale's shows — the band is looking ahead to its next gig.

It opens for Mike Mains & The Branches, 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, at The Pike Room, inside the Crofoot, 1 South Saginaw, Pontiac. Advance tickets are \$10 at thecrofoot.com, and \$12 at the door.

"We've been playing almost every week. We're trying to keep that going," Peetz said. "The CD release party was extremely fun. It was the best crowd we've ever had at The Pike Room. It was awesome that a lot of people showed up."

## Remembering a friend

*Abbey's Art*, a 12-song CD, is dedicated to Abbey Olenczuk, a friend of Peetz who died in May. Booklet artwork for the CD is from Olenczuk's collection of work.

"Abbey Olenczuk and I dated for a little bit in high school and were very good friends," Peetz said. "She always held a special place in my heart, but unfortunately we weren't talking much before her passing. We dedicated the album to Abbey out of love and in the hopes that it would be a way for people to remember her forever, especially us. We are also using it as an opportunity to get people to see her artwork which is a big part of her legacy."



Livonia-based band, Royale, recently released its first CD.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



The title of Royale's first CD pays tribute to a friend, Abbey Olenczuk, who died last May.



Royale's first CD, "Abbey's Art," honors Abbey Olenczuk.

The CD is the result of three years worth of songwriting, with the best tunes making it into the recording studio. Peetz and Ritz finished recording in November, and new band members Louis Scola of Trenton and Robert Thompson of Livonia have played the songs in live performances.

"It's easier and more comfortable now when we're playing on stage. We don't need to fill in sound that was missing," Peetz said. "Louis plays guitar, trumpet and piano and was in the first band we ever played a live show with. We immediately hit it off. Robert, who plays bass has been a longtime

friend of Frank. He didn't play bass before. He played a little guitar. Frank gave him the bass and her learned it in three months."

Download the new CD at [withcheese.bandcamp.com/](http://withcheese.bandcamp.com/) and keep track of Royale's appearances at [facebook.com/royalemichigan](http://facebook.com/royalemichigan).

## 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 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

**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; closed on holidays

**Location:** Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

**Details:** Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild displays a variety of fiber art including: tapestries, wearable art, textiles, fiber paper, baskets, sculpture and surface design

**Contact:** 734-394-5300; [canton-villageattheater.org](http://canton-villageattheater.org)

#### NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

**Time/Date:** Noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2-31; opening reception is 6-9 p.m. Jan. 2

**Location:** 215 W. Cady, Northville

**Details:** "Between Landscape and Place" is a solo show by painter John Dempsey

**Contact:** 248-344-0497

### COMEDY

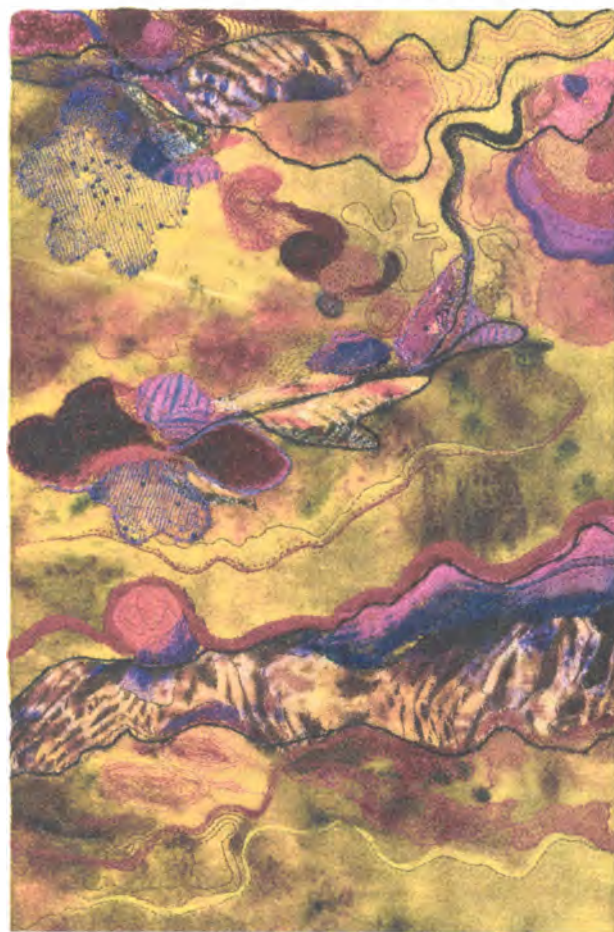
#### JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

**Time/Date:** 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 2-3

**Location:** 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

**Details:** Mike Stanley; \$16 show only, \$29 with dinner

**Open mic:** Each comedian gets five minutes of stage time. Open



SUBMITTED

Desert Flowers, a felted collage by Anne Flora, is on display with other fiber works through Jan. 7 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

mic begins at 8 p.m. every Tuesday. Call the box office Tuesday through Thursday, to get on the performer list

**Contact:** 734-261-0555; [catchthefunny.com](http://catchthefunny.com)

#### MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2; 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3

**Location:** Fourth and Troy streets in downtown Royal Oak

**Details:** Rob Little; tickets \$18

**Contact:** 248-542-9900; [info@ComedyCastle.com](mailto:info@ComedyCastle.com)

### FILM

#### PENN THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, and Thursday, Jan. 8; 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 3-4

**Location:** 760 Penniman, Plymouth

**Details:** *The Judge*; admission \$3

**Contact:** 734-453-0870; [www.penntheatre.com](http://www.penntheatre.com)

#### REDFORD THEATRE

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Jan. 9; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Jan. 10

**Location:** 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Avenue in

Detroit

**Details:** *All About Eve*, \$5

**Contact:** 313-898-1481

### HISTORY

#### KELSEY MUSEUM

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2; 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 3-4

**Location:** 434 State St., Ann Arbor

**Details:** For the first time, the Kelsey Museum is open during the holiday season when University of Michigan buildings normally are closed. Themed, one-hour gallery tours are 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

**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

### MUSIC

#### BLUES@THE ELKS

**Time/Date:** 7-10 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month

**Location:** Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

**Details:** \$5 donation

**Contact:** 734-453-1780

#### CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17

**Location:** Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills

**Details:** Violin legend Gidon Kremer and pianist Daniil Trifonov perform works by Mozart, Schubert, and the 20th-century Russian composer, Mieczyslaw Weinberg. Tickets are \$30-\$60; students with ID pay \$15-\$30

**Contact:** 248-855-6070; [ChamberMusicDetroit.org](http://ChamberMusicDetroit.org)

#### JAZZ CAFE

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. starting Saturday, Jan. 17

**Location:** Jazz Cafe at Music Hall Center for Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit

**Details:** Perfect 10 fundraiser benefits the Michigan Humane Society and celebrates the 10-year anniversary of MOTORCITYBLOG. Bands include Yum, The Ill Itches, War Horses, Pewter Club, Amino Acids, Electric Lion Sound Wave Experiment, and more. \$10 at the door, \$20 VIP access

**Contact:** 313-887-8501

#### MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

**Time/Date:** 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11

**Location:** The Inn at St. John's Chapel, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth

**Details:** "Miniature Masterpieces," will include *Divertimento K.136/125a* by Mozart, *Brandenburg Concerto No. 4* by Bach, *Suite for Violin, Piano & Small Orchestra* by Lou Harrison and *Peninsula Suite* by Nancy Bloomer Deussen. \$30 general admission; \$25 for seniors, 62 and over, and \$10 for students with ID

**Contact:** [michiganphil.org](http://michiganphil.org)

#### PLYMOUTH ORATORIO SOCIETY

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Jan. 5

**Location:** First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, Plymouth Township

**Details:** Rehearsals begin for the Society's 29th season. Experienced singers are welcome. The group will perform *Dixit Dominus* by Vivaldi and *Solemn Vespers* by Mozart on May 3

**Contact:** 734-455-8353; [plymouthoratoriosociety.org](http://plymouthoratoriosociety.org)



SUBMITTED

A watercolor by Betty Felts of Three Cities Art Club

## Art groups offer critique session, kids' class, open studio

Three Cities Art Club will try a group approach for its annual critique of members' works.

The free session runs 7-9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5, in the lower level meeting rooms at Canton Township Hall, 1150 Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Light refreshments will be served.

The public will get a chance to watch the critique process as club members submit unfinished pieces for review. Artists will talk about their art and the specific assistance they need to finish their projects. The critique committee will take into consideration whether the artist is striving for realism or an abstract/ethereal style in offering helpful suggestions.

Allen Brooks will focus on composition, Doreen Lawton will provide insights into use of color, Liz Gullikson will look at how value, also known as tone, can be used to create focal points of interest, and Kay Masini will talk about the use of rhythm and how repeated patterns can be used to strategically move the viewer's eye throughout the work of art. As moderator, Marilyn Meredith will explore texture and offer suggestions not covered by other committee members.

For more information, call Meredith at 313-231-3939 or visit [www.threecitiesartclub.org](http://www.threecitiesartclub.org).

### In Livonia

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia will offer "Kids Paint Watercolor," a four-week class for ages 10-14, that runs 4:30-6 p.m. Thursday, beginning Jan. 22, at the Association, 37653 Five Mile, Livonia.

Instructor Jennifer Helner, who has a bachelor of fine arts degree from Wayne State University, will introduce the tools, paints and techniques of watercolor. Students will create several new and completed projects. The tuition is \$50. A \$20 materials fee is due at the first class. Registration deadline is Jan. 15.

Other classes for adults include watercolor, acrylics, portrait and gesture drawing, mastering color and experimental painting. A 12-week "open studio" also will be offered from 12:30-3:30 p.m. beginning Thursday, Jan. 8. The open studio allows artists to work side by side on individual projects without a teacher present. Cost is \$5 per session. No registration is required.

To register or for more information, call 734-838-1204 or visit [vaalart.org](http://vaalart.org).





Sugar Cookie Party Mix

## Keep snacks simple to help pull off the perfect party

Whether you're planning your first party or you're a seasoned host, throwing a successful bash relies on creativity and a solid plan.

"Pick one or two elements of your gathering that you personalize and keep the rest simple," advises DIY and entertaining expert Brit Morin of Brit + Co. "With a few clever ideas in your back pocket, you can pull off the perfect party."

Make your event the highlight of the holiday season with Brit's simple tips:

» **Show your style.** Are you going for traditional decor, cocktail chic or colorful and kid-friendly? Find or create a pattern and repeat it throughout your party elements. If you go with something simple like triangles, use triangles in your decorative garlands, invites, table settings and more. Add an unexpected accent by trimming your counter-tops, bookshelves or chair legs with patterned tape to match your theme.

» **DIY with confidence.** Don't be intimidated by a little DIY. Make your own centerpiece by filling a rustic bucket with striped lollipops or candy canes, or a glass hurricane vase with pine cones or berries. Repurpose an old sweater to create a decorative cover for glass jars filled with snacks.

» **Time-saving treats.** Simple, delicious recipes are a life-saver. Select easy-to-prepare dishes like cheese trays, veggie plates and crowd-pleasing snacks such as Chex Party Mix, which you can make to match nearly any theme or flavor combination. The best part — most recipes can be made in just 15 minutes in the microwave and some are 100 percent gluten-free.

» **End with a bang.** Leave your guests with a

### SUGAR COOKIE PARTY MIX

6 cups Rice Chex cereal  
¼ cup butter or margarine  
¼ cup granulated sugar  
2 tablespoons corn syrup  
2 teaspoons pure vanilla  
¼ cup powdered sugar  
1 ounce white baking chocolate or ¼ cup vanilla milk chips  
1-2 teaspoons colored edible glitter or sugar sprinkles

Measure cereal into large microwaveable bowl. Line cookie sheet with waxed paper or foil. In 2-cup microwaveable measuring cup, microwave butter uncovered on high 30 seconds or until melted. Add sugar and corn syrup; microwave uncovered on high 30 seconds, until mixture is heated and can be stirred smoothly. Stir in vanilla. Pour over cereal, stirring until evenly coated. Microwave uncovered on high 2 minutes, stirring after 1 minute. Sprinkle with powdered sugar; mix well. Spread on waxed paper or foil. Microwave white chocolate on high 30 seconds or until it can be stirred smoothly; drizzle over top. Sprinkle with edible glitter or sprinkles.

**Tip:** For an easy and even way to apply the powdered sugar, pour sugar into a large freezer zip-type bag. After removing the cooked snack mix from the microwave, let stand in bowl 1 to 2 minutes to cool, then pour into bag and shake.

**Serving size:** Calories 120 (calories from fat 35); total fat 4g (saturated fat 2 1/2g, trans fat 0g); cholesterol 10mg; sodium 140mg; total carbohydrate 20g (dietary fiber 0g, sugars 9g); protein 1g

lasting impression and send them home with a travel kit. Create a bag with travel essentials like ear plugs, headache medicine, bottled water and snacks to enjoy during long car rides or layovers.

For more recipes and tips for creating the perfect party with Chex, visit [www.chex.com](http://www.chex.com).



### BROWN SUGAR SPICE PARTY MIX

Servings: 14

6 cups Vanilla Chex cereal  
½ cup whole roasted almonds  
½ cup whole roasted cashews  
2 tablespoons butter or margarine  
¼ cup packed brown sugar  
2 tablespoons dark corn syrup  
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon  
1 teaspoon ground ginger  
½ cup gluten-free yogurt-covered cranberries or yogurt-covered raisins

Measure cereal and nuts into large microwaveable bowl; set aside. In 2-cup microwaveable measuring cup, microwave butter on high 30 seconds; stir and microwave 30 seconds longer or until butter is melted. Stir in brown sugar, corn syrup and spices. Heat until boiling, about 30 seconds. Pour over cereal mixture, stirring until evenly coated.

Microwave uncovered on high about 3 minutes, stirring every minute, until mixture is glazed. Cool 5 minutes; stir in cranberries. Spread on waxed paper to cool. Store in airtight container.

**Tip:** If you have a hard time finding roasted cashews and almonds separately, you can just use 1 cup mixed nuts instead. Any nut will be very tasty in this sweet and spicy mix.

**Serving size:** Calories 150 (calories from fat 80); total fat 9g (saturated fat 2 1/2g, trans fat 0g); cholesterol 0mg; sodium 170mg; total carbohydrate 14g (dietary fiber 1g, sugars 10g); protein 2g



### FAVORITE CHICKEN NUGGETS

Servings: 25

3 cups Corn Chex cereal  
½ cup grated Parmesan cheese  
½ teaspoon salt  
½ teaspoon seasoned salt  
½ teaspoon paprika  
½ teaspoon garlic powder  
3 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted  
1 tablespoon milk  
1 pound boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-by-1-inch pieces

Heat oven to 400°F. Line cookie sheet with foil. Crush cereal. To easily crush cereal, place in plastic bag or between sheets of waxed paper, and crush with rolling pin. In medium bowl, stir together crushed cereal, cheese, salt, seasoned salt, paprika and garlic powder. In small bowl, stir together melted butter and milk. Dip chicken into butter mixture, then roll in cereal mixture to coat evenly. Place on cookie sheet. Bake 9 minutes; turn nuggets over. Bake about 8 minutes longer or until coating is light golden brown and chicken is no longer pink in center.

**Tip:** Coating the chunks is a snap when you work quickly with one fork in each hand. Drop the chunks in the butter; turn to coat, then lift into crumbs with one fork. Use the other hand (and fork) to turn and coat in the crumbs.

**Serving size:** Calories 60 (calories from fat 25); total fat 2 1/2g (saturated fat 1 1/2g, trans fat 0g); cholesterol 15mg; sodium 160mg; total carbohydrate 3g (dietary fiber 0g, sugars 0g); protein 5g



### HONEY-PEANUT BUTTER BARS

Servings: 24

6 cups Honey Nut Chex cereal  
½ cup honey-roasted peanuts  
½ cup honey or light corn syrup  
¼ cup sugar  
½ cup creamy peanut butter  
¼ cup dark chocolate chips

Butter 9- or 8-inch square pan. In large bowl, mix cereal and peanuts; set aside. In 3-quart saucepan, heat honey and sugar just to boiling over medium heat, stirring constantly. Remove from heat; stir in peanut butter until smooth. Pour over cereal mixture in bowl; stir gently until evenly coated. Press firmly in pan. Cool 15 minutes.

In small microwaveable bowl, microwave chocolate chips uncovered on High 30 to 60 seconds, stirring every 15 seconds, until melted and smooth. Drizzle over top of bars. Let stand at room temperature at least 30 minutes until chocolate is set. For bars, cut into 4 rows by 6 rows. Store loosely covered at room temperature.

**Tip:** Don't like sticky? Cleanup is easy when you spray the measuring cup with cooking spray before adding honey. It will slip right out!

**Serving size:** Calories 130 (calories from fat 45); total fat 5g (saturated fat 1g, trans fat 0g); cholesterol 0mg; sodium 115mg; total carbohydrate 20g (dietary fiber 1g, sugars 13g); protein 3g



### CHEX LEMON BUDDIES

Servings: 24

9 cups Rice Chex cereal  
1 ½ cups white vanilla baking chips  
¼ cup butter or margarine  
4 teaspoons grated lemon peel  
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice  
2 cups powdered sugar

Into large bowl, measure cereal; set aside. In 1-quart microwaveable bowl, microwave chips, butter, lemon peel and juice uncovered on high 1 minute; stir. Microwave about 30 seconds longer or until mixture can be stirred smoothly. Pour mixture over cereal, stirring until evenly coated. Pour into 2-gallon resealable food-storage plastic bag. Add powdered sugar. Seal bag; gently shake until well coated. Spread on waxed paper or foil to cool. Store in airtight container.

**Variation:** Stir in chopped dried tropical fruits, coconut or macadamia nuts after coating the cereal mixture with powdered sugar.

**Serving size:** Calories 160 (calories from fat 45); total fat 5g (saturated fat 4g, trans fat 0g); cholesterol 5mg; sodium 135mg; total carbohydrate 26g (dietary fiber 0g, sugars 18g); protein 1g