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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015 • hometownlife.com



THANKSGIVING MEAL MADE EASY

FOOD, B7

Rowe sworn in as first female mayor

LeAnne Rogers
 Staff Writer

When she was sworn in three times as a Wayne city councilwoman, Susan Rowe had the ceremonial oath of office administered by her husband Ed.

Being sworn in as Wayne's first female mayor, Rowe made a change and asked Wayne 29th District Court Judge Laura Mack to do the honors.

"I told Laura once that if I was ever elected mayor, I would ask her to swear me in," Rowe said.

"It's a proud day for the City of Wayne. I'm happy to administer the oath," Mack said.

There was a standing-room only crowd Tuesday for the ceremonial swearing in of Rowe and councilmembers Anthony Miller, Tom Porter, John Rhaesa and Christopher Sanders. The meeting was held in the council chambers to which council meetings recently returned after a long absence as major structural damage to the roof was repaired.

"I thank all of you who voted — I wish more voters came

See **MAYOR**, Page A2



"I will reach out to those who run and put aside the campaign rhetoric to be what we can be — a great place to work, play and live."

SUSAN ROWE
 Wayne city mayor

SUBMITTED
 New Wayne Mayor Susan Rowe (right), the city's first female mayor, is sworn in by 29th District Court Judge Laura Mack.

Leaving council after 22 years



Albert Damitio (center), finishing up a 22-year career as a Wayne City councilman, was joined by his wife Sue and other family at a council meeting.

SUBMITTED

Albert Damitio is most proud of Wayne Library

LeAnne Rogers
 Staff Writer

Having served 22 years on the Wayne City Council, Albert Damitio was unable to run again in the recent election due to the term limits added to the city charter in 2014.

"I don't know if I would have run again without term limits. The decision was made for me a year ago. I can't tell you for sure if I would have run," said Damitio, 66. "I would like to have seen it finished with a balanced budget — we're not there yet. We have important (labor) negotiations coming up with all the contracts up at the end of June."

In a telling recollection, Damitio said he originally ran for council in 1983 because he was concerned how city fi-



Outgoing Wayne City Councilman Albert Damitio (left) was honored for 22 years of service by State Rep. Robert Kosowski, D-Westland.

SUBMITTED

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Top pay granted for new deputy city clerk

LeAnne Rogers
 Staff Writer

Top scale wages for Westland's new deputy city clerk were approved by the city council Monday.

Susan Hoff has been serving as Livonia City Clerk for the past year and is scheduled to join the Westland staff Nov. 30. The current full salary for the position is nearly \$82,000 annually.

Hoff will work initially with current City Clerk Eileen DeHart Schoof, who didn't seek reelection and will retire at the end of the year. Newly elected City Clerk Richard LeBlanc, currently a Wayne County commissioner, will take office Jan. 1.



Hoff

"Normally, you don't come in right at 100 percent. No offense to Richard but the new clerk doesn't have a lot of experience in the clerk business," said Schoof, supporting the 100-percent pay level for Hoff. "She has vast experience. With the work that she will do, she will be worth more than 100 percent."

Hoff has served as city clerk the past year after being appointed to the position late in 2014 and has worked in the clerk's office in some capacity the past 14 years in Livonia. She replaced former clerk Terry Marecki, who left the post after she was elected to the Wayne County Commission in 2014.

LeBlanc, who also served on the Wayne-Westland school board, Westland City Council and a state representative, began looking for a deputy after Schoof's long-time deputy clerk Tina Stanke resigned last summer.

Elected in 2003, Schoof took office as Westland's first elected city clerk in 2004. Before being elected clerk, Schoof had served in the state legislature and on the Westland City Council.

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W-W Salvation Army sets yule goal at \$180,000

Julie Brown
 Staff Writer

This year's Wayne-Westland Salvation Army Red Kettle drive is kicking off with a fundraising goal of \$180,000.

"We didn't quite make it last year," said Envoy Jim

Hulett of 2014, in which the Wayne-Westland corps was about \$8,000 short, requiring some cuts.

"I think we can do it," he said of this year's effort. Businesses have allowed Red Kettles "for the most part. And the city's been real good to us,"

allowing in-the-street ringing.

Bell ringers will be at Wayne and Warren roads by Westland Shopping Center in the street collecting the weekend after Thanksgiving and the two weekends before Christmas. That's also on tap Christmas Eve, said Hulett,

noting in-the-street collecting is canceled if weather turns dangerous with snow or ice.

"We don't put people out there if there's a risk," he said. The Salvation Army also never collects on Sunday as it's

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KETTLES

Continued from Page A1

the Christian Sabbath. Volunteer bell ringers are needed. Hulett said to visit www.ringbell.org and enter the ZIP code where you want to ring. You can also click on the city.

"They don't cost us anything," he said of volunteer bell ringers. "They usually know peo-

ple," such as through local service clubs whose members support the endeavor.

He's hired about the same number of paid bell ringers, and noted an improving job market means they have less availability to ring. "But they're not able to come out as



Hulett

frequently because they have other jobs now," Wayne resident Hulett said.

Closer to Christmas, a Toy Shop will be set up at the corps on Venoy in Westland and parents will shop for their children there. "More importantly, it goes to operate us all year," he said of Christmas fundraising, between 70-80 percent of the corps budget.

Checks payable to the Salvation Army are wel-

come at 2300 S. Venoy, Westland, MI 48186. Hulett said it's helpful to put "Wayne-Westland" in the check memo line.

The corps is on Venoy south of Palmer, and volunteer coordinator Patricia Meacham's the go-to person for volunteering. Call 734-722-3660 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and ask for Meacham if you have issues with volunteering at www.ringbell.org. (The

office closes noon to 1 p.m. weekdays for lunch.)

The corps also has a "virtual kettle" mobile app for donations at waynewestlandsa.org. The office has fliers with information on Christmas endeavors.

There's an Angel Tree at Westland Shopping Center, with tags for gifts to buy for a child. That Angel Tree will be at the mall through Dec. 14, Hulett said.

"If we have a volunteer there, we do pretty well," he said of the Angel Tree.

Hulett agreed working-class people often are generous in supporting the Salvation Army, especially if they've lost a job. "Now they're working. They're a little more sensitive to people who may be in tough situations," he added.

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MAYOR

Continued from Page A1

out," said Rowe, who later officially resigned her council seat. "We will work as a team. I will reach out to those who run and put aside the campaign rhetoric to be what we can be — a great place to work, play and live."

Unopposed in seeking a second four-year term

on council, Rhaesa had the oath of office administered by State Rep. Robert Kosowski, D-Westland, with his father John A. Rhaesa holding the Bible.

Elected to a two-year at-large term after being appointed to fill a council vacancy, Miller was sworn in by his sister Deborah Ann Archer. Later in the meeting, Miller was elected mayor pro-tem when Rowe broke a tie in voting for

Miller and Rhaesa.

Porter, a first-time councilmember like Sanders, was sworn in by Michael Smith, vice president of UAW Local 900.

Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Vonda Evans administered the oath of office to Sanders. "He must be great for me to get up and drive all the way out here," Evans said.

A UAW committee man at Ford, Sanders had sent out invitations to a large number of guests and was hosting a reception following the council meeting.

With Rowe's resignation from council accepted, Clerk Matthew Miller said the city charter requires council to appoint a replacement with-



Submitted. New Wayne Councilman Christopher Sanders and Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Vonda Evans, who administered the oath of office.



Submitted. State Rep. Robert Kosowski, D-Westland, administers the oath of office to Wayne Councilman John Rhaesa as his father John A. Rhaesa holds the Bible.

goals for the city. The applicants should include their contact information and the ward in which they live, although the appointment is for an at-large seat until the next election.

Miller noted appli-

cants must be a city resident in good standing — that means not in arrears to the city for back taxes, water bills or other debts. The deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30 at the clerk's office.

in 30 days.

Anyone interested in being considered for appointment to council is submit a letter of interest with qualifications and

DAMITIO

Continued from Page A1

nances were being handled — specifically regarding Newberry Square and city reserve funds. That first stint on council continued through 1995 and after a 10-year break, Damitio was elected again in 2005.

"Our kids were in high school and I was coaching hockey at Wayne," Damitio said.

Looking back over his council career, Damitio said he is most proud of the Wayne Library.

"I'm glad we were able to build a public library. We used state grants but

I made the suggestion to fund it with DDA (Downtown Development Authority) funds," Damitio said. "It was fully paid for when it was built."

A native of Detroit's east side, Damitio moved to Wayne after marrying his wife Sue, a lifelong Wayne resident, 43 years ago. The couple has three children and nine grandchildren.

"It would have been tempting to stay on council and finish it (the balanced budget). My wife is pleased (that he didn't run)," Damitio said. "Local politics are the most important. People are touched more by local government than the state or federal govern-

ment."

And residents touch the elected officials. Damitio recalled recently the support he received from the community during his battle with cancer.

"Four and a half years ago, I dropped off petitions to run for council and went to the University of Michigan Hospital for surgery on stage three melanoma in my leg," he said. "Then I went again today to see the oncologist. I remain cancer free. I appreciated the support and the cards. I can't thank people enough."

Skip Monit, who served on council with Damitio for the past four

years, said, "Thank you. Your service has been incredible. I can't thank you enough as a citizen. You've always done what you felt is right for the city."

Now that he has ended his time on council, it won't be all driving the grandkids around. A retired Chrysler engineering supervisor, Damitio is chairman of the annual Friends project, which fixes up a home for a resident needing assistance. He is also active at St. Mary of Wayne Catholic Church, serving on the parish and finance councils along with helping weekly at the church's John Bolden Food Pantry.

WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Dr. Anil Kumar and his wife Marjorie Kumar, with friends



From left to right, first row: Congresswomen Brenda Lawrence, State Rep. Kinty Pagan. Second row: State Rep. Christine Greg, State House Minority Leader Tim Grimm



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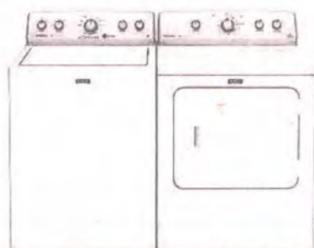
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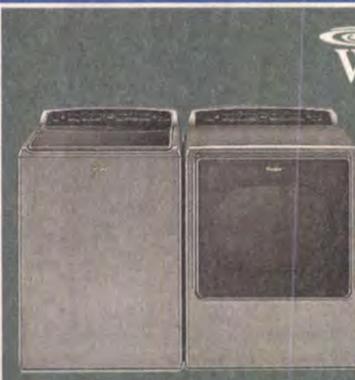
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WESTLAND COP CALLS

Larceny

A resident at the Big Trees Trailer Park, 28433 Joy, told police Nov. 14 that the previous day someone had stolen a television antenna and a bicycle valued at \$300. The resident, 93, said she had been away and had left her trailer locked.

Larceny from a vehicle

On Nov. 15, a resident in the 30000 block of Avondale told

police that the previous day someone had ransacked his car, which had been left unlocked. A backpack containing a laptop computer valued at \$1,000, headphones, work documents with personal information and his birth certificate had been stolen.

Fraud

On Nov. 15, a Miami, Florida, man told police that he lost his wallet while at Buffalo Wild Wings, 6677 N. Wayne

Road. He said that he searched the building and parking lot but wasn't able to locate the wallet, which contained \$500, identification, a debit/credit card and other personal items.

The man reported the wallet lost at about 7:15 p.m. He called police at 8 p.m. to report someone had used his credit card at a Sears store. The exact amount spent and the location in Michigan wasn't available at the time.

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 30000 block of Hiveley told police that overnight Nov. 15 someone had searched their vehicle. The passenger door was partially open in the morning as were the glovebox and center console. Reported missing were a pair of glasses, loose change and two stadium chairs.

The resident reported finding a garage door opener, cell

phone charger and eyeglasses case that didn't belong to him in the driveway.

Vandalism

Overnight Nov. 10, a resident in the 30000 block of Beechnut told police that someone had punctured both passenger-side tires and scratched the driver's side of the vehicle, from the trunk lid to the front quarter panel.

LeAnne Rogers

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

Golf cart stolen

On Nov. 13, a golf cart was reported stolen from the baseball maintenance building in City Park. The golf cart, valued at \$10,000, was last seen the day before and was owned by the maintenance company hired by the city to maintain the ballfields.

The door on the building had been pried open and the golf cart taken out through a bay door. The maintenance company employee was reported to have taken the key to the golf cart with him.

A second golf cart was reported stolen two and a half months earlier in the same manner. A city employee told

police the new replacement cart had been delivered the previous day but was stored elsewhere.

Stolen car

On Nov. 16, a resident in the 6400 block of Dillon told police that about four months earlier he had answered an advertisement on craigslist to buy a 2009 Buick Enclave.

The resident told police he had gone to a home in Detroit and paid \$2,500 for the vehicle. He said the vehicle had a bad transmission and engine that were removed, so the car was towed to his home.

A few days later, the resident said he contacted the Secretary of State and found

the vehicle was stolen with a counterfeit title. After contacting Detroit police, he said he was told he needed to wait three months because the title might be in the process of being cleared.

When contacted a second time, the man said the Secretary of State again listed the vehicle as stolen. The resident had disassembled the front end and the pieces were inside the car. There was a key in the ignition and the interior filled with boxes and parts.

The resident told the officer he was angry about the situation with the vehicle and had destroyed the interior of the car by pouring oil on the seats and cutting them. Detroit Po-

lice were being notified that the vehicle had been recovered.

Harassment

A resident in the 29000 block of Winter told police Nov. 16 that her son, a Grosse Pointe man, had been harassing her for several days. The son owns the home where the woman is living but had moved out a year earlier and was letting her live there.

The woman said her son recently contacted her to tell her she has to move out and later texted her that she had better not be at the house when he arrives. The officer told the woman that it was a civil matter that would have to be han-

dled through the eviction process. She didn't wish to prosecute her son, the woman said, but wanted to make a report.

License plate stolen

On Nov. 15, a resident in the 28000 block of James told police that just after 4 p.m. his wife went out on the porch to smoke and noticed their neighbor squatting behind their vehicle, which was parked in the street in front of the neighbor's home.

The resident and the neighbor exchanged some words, then returned to their homes. Later in the day, they found the license plate missing from the vehicle.

LeAnne Rogers

WAYNE COP CALLS

Break-in

Two 55-inch flat screen TVs, a 32-inch flat screen TV, a Nintendo Wii, a Playstation 3, an Xbox and miscellaneous jewelry valued at \$28,500 were reported stolen from a home in the 3800 block of Gloria on Nov. 16.

The homeowner told police she had locked the doors when she left at 8:30 a.m. but had forgotten to set the security alarm. She said when her son arrived home from school at about 2:30 p.m., he noticed a door had been forced open and the home had been ransacked.

Larceny

The owner of a home in the 5100 block of S. Hubbard told police Oct. 24 that someone had stolen the air conditioning unit valued at \$1,000. The owner is a Canton man and doesn't live at the home. He told police he last saw the air conditioning unit Oct. 22.

Stolen vehicle

A resident in the 4800 block of Mildred told police she left her 2006 Ford Fusion running to warm up at about 6:15 a.m. Nov. 11. The car was in driveway while the resident was

inside her living room with her husband. She said they heard a loud revving noise, then a second revving noise — apparently the vehicle being driven away.

Attempted break-in

Police were called to the a home in the 5100 block of Niagara on Nov. 15 after the homeowner reported finding scratch marks on his garage door just below the door knob. The officer noted the marks appeared to be from a flat head screw driver. The suspect wasn't able to gain entry into the garage.

Break-in

A resident in the 4000 block of Columbus told police Nov. 16 that she arrived home the previous day find the front window of her home open. She said the only thing missing were a bottle of Hydrocodone and a bottle of Diazepam, both which had been recently been filled at a pharmacy.

The resident told police she filed a police report after contacting her doctor, who was requiring a police report before writing a replacement prescription. The officer noted the woman later said she

had contacted Michigan State Police, who had advised her to file a report with the local police department.

Community meeting

Wayne Police Chief Alan Maciag's monthly community meeting has been moved to Thursday, Dec. 7, due to the holidays. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Wayne Police Department on Michigan Avenue east of Howe. Everyone is welcome.

LeAnne Rogers

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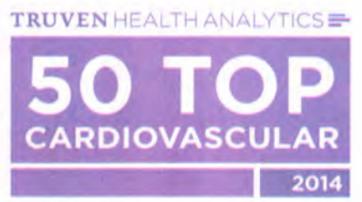
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STJOHN PROVIDENCE Believe in better

John Glenn High grad named chief flight instructor

The Eagle Flight Centre has named Ed St. Antoine, a mentor and six-year veteran with the company, as its new chief flight instructor.

St. Antoine replaces Chris Sorenson, who has become the manager of training standards and safety for the company.

Tom Trumbull, president of the Eagle Flight Centre, cites St. Antoine's passion for aviation and teaching as qualities that a good flight instructor should possess.

"Ed has shown a true desire to make a difference at our organization and with our students," Trumbull said. "He has a way of infusing confidence in our students, which is something that all good pilots need."

St. Antoine grew up in Westland and graduated from John Glenn High School in 2006. He has been employed at the Eagle Flight Centre for the past six years in



Ed St. Antoine has been named the new chief flight instructor at the Eagle Flight Center.

various roles. He is an FAA Gold Seal instructor and most recently served as the assistant chief flight instructor for the past three years.

St. Antoine's primary responsibilities will include maintaining a high standard of safety and

training at the Eagle Flight Centre for its students in the aviation program at EMU. He will serve as an advisor to both students and instructors, and will perform the final stage checks (practice check rides) that students must

take before they go on their actual check ride (the last ride of their flight training).

St. Antoine said he was inspired to become a pilot after learning about the Aviation Flight Technology Program while attending EMU. He grad-

uated from EMU in 2011 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Aviation Flight Technology, and is currently working on his Masters of Aeronautical Science degree with a specialization in Unmanned Aerospace Systems. St. Antoine expects

to complete his masters degree in April of 2016.

"I think achieving something big, like becoming a pilot, helps students build a level of confidence in themselves that will flow into all areas of their lives," St. Antoine said. "I am very excited to take on this new challenge and help our students achieve their dream of becoming a pilot."

The Eagle Flight Centre has been a partner with Eastern Michigan University since 2006, and conducts all of the ground and flight operations for EMU at the historic Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti.

The aviation program offers a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Flight Technology, a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Management and a Dispatch Certification. For more information, visit emich.edu/aviation/programs.

2015 Festival of Arts hailed as 'big success' by organizers

Organizers are calling the 2015 Festival of the Arts cultural event, sponsored by Rotary Club of Westland and other generous businesses, a "big success."

The show, at Westland Shopping Center featured "outstanding fine art and entertainment," organizers said, donated by Jay D. Kilgus of Piano Pleasures, Livonia Symphony Orchestra, Harmony Town Chorus, Dance Academy of Westland, Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Pastors of Praise from Praise Baptist Church, Irish Dance Center, Gaby Brooks and Livonia Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Those attending saw over 100 pieces of fine art created by members

of Three Cities Art Club. Many attendees bought hanging art and many of the matted prints, pottery, coasters, note cards and magnets.

The Mayor's "Wild About Art" award went to Three Cities Art Club President and event Chairperson Marilyn Meredith for her acrylic Red Bodice (ode to Corot), which was also selected by Rotary Club of Westland's president, Paul Motz.

Meredith was awarded \$200 (\$100 from Westland Mayor Bill Wild and \$100 donated by Dr. Amanda Apflablat of Michigan Chiropractic Clinic), two award certificates and two ribbons. Michigan Senator Hopgood selected an acrylic titled Caseville, Return



SUBMITTED "Red Bodice, ode to Corot" acrylic by Marilyn Meredith of Canton was selected by Mayor William Wild for the Wild About Art award and by Paul Motz, president of Rotary club of Westland.

from Charity Island by Lonnie Haines, garnering her a \$100 cash prize donated by Michigan

Chiropractic Clinic, an award certificate and a ribbon. Westland Shopping

Center General Manger Gerry Wheeler selected an airbrush work titled Rabbi by Jon Lange, who also received a \$100 cash prize donated by Michigan Chiropractic Clinic, award certificate and ribbon.

In the Popular Vote competition, First Place was won by Cathy Vettese for her colored pencil piece titled Celebration, which received the most votes by attendees. Vettese received a cash prize and gift cards from Canton's Showroom of Elegance, Westland's Red Lobster and Westland's Longhorn Steakhouse. Second place was a tie between Susann Smith's acrylic Teddy on a Hot Day and Jon Lange's airbrush Rabbi, with each artist receiv-

ing a cash prize and gift cards from Westland's Red Lobster and Westland's Longhorn Steakhouse.

Cash prizes were donated by Ari-El Enterprises Inc. a commercial real estate company located in Southfield.

The public is welcome to attend all of Three Cities Art Club events free. The next event will be Monday, Dec. 7, at a meeting room in the lower level of Canton Township Hall, located at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. The program will be presented by the Ecuador Indigenous School of Arts Foundation. Their program will include information about the Intercontinental, Indigenous, Millenarian and Ancestral Art.

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Be a survivor.

Praveena

Praveena Vellanki sensed something was wrong but she didn't say anything - it was too difficult to open up about such a private matter. She held in her fears and silently worried. In time, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and quickly began treatment at St. Mary Mercy Livonia. Four years later, after eight cycles of chemotherapy, surgery and radiation - a treatment plan spanning 16 months - Praveena is cancer-free. She is once again volunteering at her Temple and cooking for family and friends. She credits the care team who stood by her during her toughest days.

Be a survivor. Be Remarkable.

Be Remarkable.

stmarymercy.org

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Webb hours

Wayne County Commissioner Diane Webb (D-District 8) will be conducting her monthly district office hours at 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 23, at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. This meeting will allow constituents the opportunity to sit down and meet with Commissioner Webb to discuss matters of concern within the community.



Webb

"I am always grateful in having the opportunity to meet with my constituents from Livonia and listen closely to their concerns and assist them in any way that I can," Webb said. "This setting provides an opportunity for constituents to meet face-to-face with elected officials and have some input in the operation of county government."

If citizens are unable to make her monthly office meetings in Livonia, they can contact Commissioner Webb's office at 313-224-0930 during normal business hours, or email her at dwebb1@wayne-county.com. Messages will be returned the next business day.

General county information or contact information to

other county offices can be found on the county website at www.waynecounty.com.

Grandma's treasures

Treasures from Grandma's Attic, estate, craft and flea market items will be available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Alexander Blue House, 20501 Newburgh, in Livonia. There's no admission or parking fee; proceeds benefit Greenmead Historical Park. For more information, call 248-477-7375.

Collectors show

A collectors show including Star Wars, Star Trek, lunch boxes, non-sport cards, G.I. Joe's, hot wheels, comic books, music items, movie posters, games, DVDs, beer signs, models, Hallmark and other items takes place Sunday, Nov. 29, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Livonia Elks, 3117 Plymouth Road (just east of Merriman).

For more information, call Jacquie or Joe at 586-329-8213.

Winter concert

The Livonia Youth Choir presents "A Festive Night of Song," its winter concert set for 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile (near Inkster) in Livonia. Tickets are \$5 each; the event will be followed by the choir's bake

Fabulous at the Fox



COURTESY ST. DAMIAN SCHOOL

The St. Damian School choir was back on stage at the Fox Theatre in Detroit, performing before the matinee show of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" on Sunday, Nov. 15. It was the second straight year the choir — this time featuring 16 singers — performed at the Fox Theatre. They had been practicing since school started in September. Choir director Mary Melino said, "They were fabulous, as always."

For more information, contact livoniayouthchoir@gmail.com

Train Show

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club is sponsoring a buy and swap Railroadiana Train Show noon to 4 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 29, at the Ss. Simon and Jude Church Social Hall, 32500 Palmer, west of Merriman, Westland.

There will be approximately 100 dealer tables available. The cost is \$10 for an 8-foot table. Dealer set up is 9 a.m. on the day of the show, and

complimentary coffee and donuts will be available for dealers until 10:30 a.m. Food also will be available. Admission is \$2 per person and \$4 per family. Parking is free.

For more information or table reservations, call Bob at 734-728-1247 or Norm at 734-595-8327.

Holiday reunion

The 31st annual holiday reunion for retirees and former employees of Wayne County General Hospital will be held from 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, in the private party room at the Hibachi Grill Supreme Buffet, 6539 N. Wayne Road in Westland. A gratuity will be added to the bill. For more information, contact Dennis Abraham at 734-721-2917 or fightingirish316@global.net.

Spaghetti Dinner

The Dyer Senior Center in Westland is holding its monthly spaghetti dinner from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and dessert for \$8 for adults, \$4 for children age 12 and under. Children age 3 and under are free.

The center will hold its monthly game night at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12.

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

Group seeks to protect the feet of the homeless

Staff at Neighborhood Service Organization's (NSO) Homeless Recovery Services know firsthand the winter months are brutal on the feet of homeless individuals who often have no choice but to wear threadbare shoes that provide little to no warmth or protection from freezing Michigan temperatures.

That is why, through the end of November, the 60-year-old nonprofit will hold two initiatives aimed at combating frostbite, infection and other serious foot issues of its homeless consumers.

Coinciding with National Hunger and Homelessness

Awareness Week (Nov. 14-22), NSO is hosting an inaugural "Sock It To Me" sock drive.

Launching today and running through Nov. 30, marked bins will be stationed at Level One Bank Headquarters, located at 32991 Hamilton Ct. in Farmington Hills, and Behavioral Health Professionals Inc., located at 1333 Brewery Park, Ste. 300 in Detroit where the public can drop off new socks for homeless men and women served by NSO.

"To a homeless or underserved individual, winter is not only difficult to get through, but also deadly. In supporting the needs of the area's home-

less, an often overlooked need is socks," NSO President and CEO Sheilah P. Clay said. "I am grateful to our partners Level One Bank and Behavioral Health Professionals Inc. for participating and strongly encourage everyone to pick up a package of new socks for someone in need while they shop for the holidays."

"Level One Bank is happy to support the great work NSO is doing to help our neighbors in need," said Patrick J. Fehring, president and CEO of Level One Bank. "As a local bank, we know we play a vital role in giving back to the communities we serve, especially dur-

ing this time of year."

From 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24, NSO's crisis support center for the chronically homeless, the Tumaini Center (3430 Third Ave., Detroit), will be home to the ninth annual Our Hearts to Your Soles event. That evening, Henry Ford physician Dr. David Katcherian and volunteers will provide consumers with much-needed shoes, socks, foot examinations and care.

"Members of Detroit's homeless population spend countless hours walking from place to place, often with inadequate, dirty socks and poorly fitting shoes," Clay said. "Hav-

ing clean, dry socks and the proper shoes can mean the difference between life and death for those on the streets."

NSO works to end, not just manage, homelessness and to give consumers a second chance to transform their lives. It is the only 24-hour, seven-days-a-week organization serving homeless people who have nowhere else to go due to behavioral difficulties, mental illness or physical challenges.

For more information or to make a donation in support of NSO's Homeless Recovery Services, call 313-961-4890 or visit nso-mi.org/donate.php.

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St. Mary Mercy surgery center opening soon

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Patients requiring outpatient surgery at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia may need to double check where they're going to check in.

The hospital has opened its new outpatient surgery center in the Mendelson Professional Building, with procedures already on the calendar.

The surgery center, located on the second floor of the building at 36622 Five Mile, has three operating room suites, two procedure rooms and 19 private patient recovery rooms. The \$6.9 million center will utilize state-of-the-art equipment, as well as wireless technology for both patients and their visitors at the center.

It was a move that was badly needed, said Fiona Jubenville, the hospital's director of surgical ser-

vices.

"We are at capacity in the main operating room," she said. "We had to do this for our patients."

Originally, procedures were set to begin this week in the new facility. After some delays came up, the center is now expected to begin procedures Nov. 18.

The surgery center is something that could not have come together without several people playing roles, said hospital CEO David Spivey at a ribbon cutting and blessing that took place Oct. 23.

"This is the culmination of something we've been planning for a number of years," he said. "It was like a godsend to be able to put this together."

Third component to open

The surgery center, the third component of the building that's opened



David Spivey, CEO and president, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, says a few words before Mayor Jack Kirksey cuts the ribbon.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

up, comes after the building was newly built over the last few years. The site had remained vacant for many years before the hospital and the private practice decided to

transform the corner into a medical facility.

"This was an empty, vacant Frank's Nursery and Crafts for a long time," said Dan West, president of the Livonia

Chamber of Commerce. "I know for the city leadership team, it was troubling to try and figure out what to do with the site." The surgery center is

the latest addition to the facility to open up. The Mendelson Kornblum Orthopedic and Spine Specialists practice, which had its offices in the hospital across the street, opened its new facility in August, and the Lakes Urgent care also recently opened.

The Michigan Bariatric Institute is the next entity to move into the building.

Mayor Jack Kirksey said it's been unbelievable to see how much the hospital has gone from a community hospital to the medical center it has become today.

"I just can't believe all of the progress that has been made, how well it has been done, how well it has been planned," he said. "They are really, really a very viable part of this community."

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

Government's new retirement plan has pros and cons

The government has just introduced its new retirement vehicle, known as myRA. The new plan is geared toward low-income individuals who do not have access to a retirement plan through their employer. Like most government programs, there are pros and cons. The key for you is to decide if this program is for you. First, let me go through the basics.

myRA is similar to a Roth IRA in the fact that you're contributing after-tax money and all the income earned in the account grows tax-free. In addition, the eligibility



Rick Bloom

MONEY MATTERS

rules for myRA are the same as a Roth IRA. If you are single and you have less than \$131,000 in income or if you're married and your joint income is below \$193,000, then you are eligible to make the contribution. If you are under 50, your contribution maximum is \$5,500; if you are 50 and over, you can contribute up to \$6,500. As in a Roth IRA, you can always withdraw your original

contribution without penalty and the money is eligible to be rolled over into a Roth IRA.

What makes the myRA different than other retirement vehicles is that there is only one investment option within this plan. The entire contribution is invested into a U.S. treasury fund, which is basically the same as the G Fund in the Government's Thrift Savings Plan. Because the money is invested only in federally insured obligations, there is no risk of default. In addition, the myRA plan has no fees or commissions and there is no minimum

to start the plan. Also, you can contribute to this plan in a number of different ways, such as automatic withdrawals from your checking account or even a payroll deduction.

One other unique aspect of the myRA is the fact that if the account grows to more than \$15,000, the money must be transferred into a traditional Roth IRA through a mutual fund company or a brokerage house. In addition, the money in a myRA can be in the account for no longer than 30 years.

The obvious pros are the facts that there are

no costs or fees, the money is guaranteed by the U.S. government, there is no minimum to start a plan and contributions can be withdrawn at any time. However, the plan does have its downside and to me it is the fact that there is only one investment option.

When it comes to investing, particularly for those who are investing for the long term, I believe you have to have some equities in your portfolio. I recognize that the stock funds go up and down, but over the long run they perform much better than U.S. treasury obligations.

I would prefer investors look at a traditional Roth IRA offered by brokerage houses. Many companies such as TD Ameritrade, Fidelity and Schwab offer very low cost Roth IRAs. I believe opening a Roth IRA with a brokerage house or a mutual fund company, where you have more investment options, is one that most people should consider.

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

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **December 10th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

Golf Course Maintenance

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Devin J. Adams
Controller

Published: November 19, 2015

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

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

PEP Grant - Fitness Equipment Bid for the 2015-2016 School Year (See Attached Specifications)

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2015-2016 school year, open bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, www.buy4michigan.com. Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

Sealed bids marked **PEP Grant-Fitness Equipment Bid** will be received until **10:00 a.m. on the 30th day of November, 2015, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan**. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. **Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.**

The Bid Opening will take place at **10:00 a.m. on the 30th day of November, 2015**, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

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

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance - Iran Economic Sanctions Act. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.**

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

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet and all sheets must be returned for the bid. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days.

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.

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

Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid package are to be addressed to the attention of:

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

"PEP Grant - Fitness Equipment Bid"

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Sheryl Archibald, 734.744.2500, ext. 42435, sarchiba2@livoniapublicschools.org, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Published: November 19, 2015

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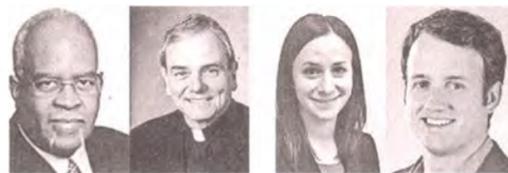
UDM lauds 4 leaders Nov. 22

The University of Detroit Mercy's College of Business Administration will honor four business men and women at the Business Leadership Awards ceremony in November. They are George Barnes Jr., the Rev. E. William Beauchamp, Cassandra Moran and Michael Ilitch III.

Barnes is a local Beverly Hills resident, Moran a Birmingham resident and Ilitch a Royal Oak resident. Beauchamp lives in Portland, Ore.

Lifetime Achievement Awards will be presented to George Barnes Jr., president of Heritage Optical and Vision Center, and the Rev. E. William Beauchamp, a UDM alumnus who is a former president of the University of Portland.

Barnes founded Detroit-based Heritage Optical Center, Inc. in 1975 and was Michigan's first full-service optical dispensary owned by an African American. Heritage Vision Plans was founded in 1991 and today has a network of more



George Barnes Jr. and the Rev. E. William Beauchamp

Cassandra Moran and Michael Ilitch III

than 20,000 locations providing eye care benefits to people across all 50 states.

During his 10 years as president of University of Portland, Beauchamp oversaw the establishment of hundreds of scholarships, the renovation or construction of many buildings and established innovative programs and initiatives, according to a university press release.

Rising Star Awards will be presented to two UDM alumni in earlier stages of their careers: Cassandra Moran of PricewaterhouseCoopers and Michael Ilitch III of Little Caesar Enterprises. Moran has been with PwC since 2008 and

is an assurance manager. Ilitch works in the Operations Department of his family's company Little Caesars Enterprises, Inc.; he was a Realtor prior to that.

The recipients were chosen in recognition of their professional accomplishments, community service and their embodiment of the Jesuit and Mercy values.

The ceremony will be Sunday, Nov. 22, at 11 a.m. at the Detroit Golf Club, 17911 Hamilton Road in Detroit. For more information, contact College of Business Administration Assistant to the Dean LySandra Hill at 313-993-1204 or hillcl@udmercy.edu.

Program targets veteran-friendly jobs

Nearly 1,000 good-paying jobs are ready to be filled by veterans at companies throughout Michigan that recognize and respect their military skills, training and experience.

Gov. Rick Snyder joined Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Director Jeff Barnes during MVA's Veteran-Friendly Employer Awards and Recognition Breakfast, held at Michigan State University. Together, they announced the 2015 Veteran-Friendly Employer rankings and recognized the state's top companies dedicated to veteran employment.

Through MVA's Veteran-Friendly Employer program, veterans

can choose from job opportunities in a variety of industries and can more easily identify the state's 37 veteran-friendly employers committed to hiring and supporting veteran talent in their workforces. The program also recognizes organizations for their dedication to recruiting, hiring, training and maintaining veteran talent.

Thirty-seven organizations earned either bronze-, silver- or gold-level status as determined by their commitment to connect with and hire veteran talent. The full list is now available on MichiganVeterans.com/certifiedveterfriendlyemployers. For the first time in

the program's history, three organizations were certified gold-level Veteran-Friendly employers. General Motors, the first organization to earn the gold-level certification, knows its ongoing efforts to hire and train veterans are just one way the company can say "thank you" to Michigan's veterans.

Quicken Loans and Whirlpool Corporation were also honored as 2015 gold-level Veteran-Friendly Employers.

Six organizations were honored as 2015 silver-level employers, including Cooper Standard, DTE Energy, Michigan Department of Transportation, Prestige Group, Roush Enterprises and Verizon.

Donated church quilts 'like bringing love into their homes'

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Sharing love is key for staff and volunteers at Inkster-based Starfish Family Services.

Of quilts made by Geneva Presbyterian Church members, Starfish's Cheryl Majeske said, "We give them to families who may not have resources to buy blankets. It really means a lot to our families. It's like bringing love into their homes," added Westland resident Majeske.

She came to Geneva Church in Canton for the first worship service Sunday, Nov. 15, in which 29 quilts were arranged around the sanctuary and nearby. Majeske, who grew up in Livonia and graduated from Livonia Stevenson High School in 2003, added, "This supports our Adopt a Family program."

Starfish staffers buy toys along with items like toilet paper not covered by government-issued Bridge cards for Adopt a Family. "But they're so thankful for it. That's where the need is," Majeske said of the quilts.

Susan Powers of Wayne, Adopt a Family coordinator for Starfish, was at Geneva's second service that Sunday to speak and say thanks. At the first service, Majeske, an Eastern Michigan University graduate with a bachelor's degree



LEFT: Charlene Jones (left) and Cheryl Sprague (center) of Canton's Geneva Presbyterian Church show handmade quilts to a grateful Cheryl Majeske of Starfish Family Services. Westland resident Majeske was at Sunday's first service to accept 29 quilts from Geneva, the sixth year of the church project and the third year that quilts have gone to Starfish. RIGHT: Church member Grace Morgan made this festive quilt.



JULIE BROWN

in communications, noted Starfish serves about 10,000 families a year.

"When these quilts are going into their home, you are going into their home as well," she said. "It's a blanket but it's really a blanket of love."

The agency's youth shelter has received Geneva blankets, which comfort runaway teens, she said at worship. "We can't do any of this we do in the community without your support," added

Majeske. Said church member Charlene Jones of Canton, who coordinates the program with Cheryl Sprague, "We've been doing this six years."

About 12 from the church, mainly women, participate, she said. The Nov. 15 donation included 25 full-size quilts and four baby-sized.

"I think it's amazing," Jones, a registered nurse with IHA Primary Pediatrics in Ann Arbor, said of

the ongoing project. "I think it is so cool just to see how it all comes together. It's just wonderful."

Added Jones, "I think it's fun and it's rewarding. Being that we can help people is the whole goal."

She tips her hat to Sprague, a Canton resident in office management at Xigma Engineering Services in Lincoln Park, and others who made the quilts. A recent session had a community

member not affiliated with Geneva attend to pitch in.

Starfish's Majeske, who is the volunteer resource specialist, told worshippers that clients may, with a quilt donated, then be able to put gas in the car or pay a DTE bill.

"It might be people who live around the block from you," she said after worship. Starfish also has facilities at Ford and Canton Center roads and at Sheldon Road and

Michigan Avenue. "We look forward to it," Majeske said of Starfish and the quilts, which they've received the past three years from Geneva. "It's different to get something that's made with love."

Job loss and other financial issues often impact local families, she noted. "It's just so special. They take ownership of those," she added of quilts that go to kids.

Majeske urged church members to consider volunteering with Starfish Family Services, which could be reading or tutoring. "When you live here, this is your community. These are your people," she said.

She often visits houses of worship to accept gifts to help needy people. "We have a big Jewish community presence which is wonderful," Majeske said. "We have one common goal and that's that we want to support our neighbors. We all come together to support each other."

That can include time, money and/or advocacy, she added.

Agency programs include: early childhood education, parenting programs, mental health services and youth services. To learn about volunteering or other support, call 734-728-3400. Starfish is online at www.starfishonline.org.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com

Retired general helps veterans navigate their way to benefits

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Carol Ann Fausone is a woman on a mission — getting the word out to U.S. military veterans on their benefits.

"They jump to the top of my list of things to do," the retired U.S. Air Force brigadier general said of veterans who plead for help. "I don't know why we're not communicating better."

Fausone, a Canton resident, was in the Air Force from 1977 to 2011, including Reserves duty. She spoke Nov. 13 at Plymouth Rotary on "Taking Care of Our American Heroes."

Fausone noted the 240th anniversary of the U.S. Marine Corps, as well as the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War start and the 70th year of the end of World War II combat. She presented commemorative pins to six Vietnam-era service men at the Rotary meeting: William D'Emilio Jr., Arthur Butler, Ed Schulz, Win Schrader Jr., Kirk Kohn and Arthur Gulick.

In introducing Fausone, Plymouth Rotarian Dave Willett said, "She is dedicated, she is determined." Willett told of a veteran getting his Purple Heart at the Northville Fourth of July observance with Fausone's help and that many present were tearful.

'Didn't as a nation' welcome veterans

"We didn't as a nation do a very good job" welcoming Vietnam veterans home, said Fausone, who has a nursing background and was at the Pentagon during the 9/11 attacks. "Congratulations again and thank you for your service."

She covered some details of U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs benefits, noting a dishonorable discharge precludes benefits. "Days, weeks don't go by when I get a call saying, 'This veteran needs help,'" she said.

The DD-214 form is critical to obtaining benefits, Fausone said, adding the 800-MICH-VET toll-free number representatives can help with getting a copy. "You don't have to be boots on the ground to be in that era," she said of benefits available to Vietnam-era service personnel.

Military training doesn't count toward active duty, she said. Fausone urges veterans to safely store important papers, such as marriage licenses, children's birth certificates and adoption papers.

"You do need a legible copy," she said in answering a question, noting forms do not need to be embossed.

Michigan has no active duty bases and Fau-



JULIE BROWN

Carol Ann Fausone presented commemorative pins to six men who served during the Vietnam era: William D'Emilio Jr., Arthur Butler, Ed Schulz, Win Schrader Jr., Kirk Kohn and Arthur Gulick.

son said our state is second highest in National Guard members being called to active duty. She said peacetime service personnel of 1975-90 have limits on their benefits.

"You can't be buried in a national cemetery," she said of such veterans. "And that's very sad."

Of one veteran she helped, Fausone said, "We got him in under the wire. He will get service for life" through the VA.

She praised the Ann

Arbor VA facility, one of five in our state. Fausone noted service-related illnesses associated with Agent Orange exposure, including cancers and Parkinson's disease.

"That's one of the things I do the quickest," she said of helping such personnel, mostly men. "We need to act very swiftly. I do this all around the country."

She also touched on unemployment issues, which may be related to

post-traumatic stress disorder and/or traumatic brain injury of veterans. "This duty these days, it's very difficult," she told Rotarians and guests.

Public often unaware of issues

She hears from the public, "Aren't we out of Afghanistan? Aren't we out of Iraq?" I don't think it's on a lot of people's radar," she said of military personnel.

She acknowledged the need to improve VA benefits administration and urged Rotarians to help.

"Get the word out to your veterans in your community," Fausone said. She was able to get one family a check for \$27,000 for medication covered by the VA they had been paying out of pocket.

"It never hurts to ask the questions," Fausone said. She can be reached at [legalhelpforveterans.com](mailto:general@legalhelpforveterans.com). Her phone number is 800-693-4800. The website is www.legalhelpforveterans.com. (Due to volume, email is preferred for correspondence, the website notes.)

"Female veterans are having even a harder time right now," she said, due to their caring for children. Children aren't allowed in many homeless shelters; it took Fausone more than eight months to get a group of eight women placed. A kind property owner allowed them to stay and she's grateful for that.

"Hire a veteran," she urged the audience in conclusion.

The veterans honored Nov. 13 at Rotary also received commendations from President Barack Obama and U.S. Rep. Dave Trott.

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Audiologist featured Dec. 2 at 'Lunch and Learn'

The Maplewood Senior Department will be hosting a *Lunch and Learn* one-hour workshop pertaining to hearing problems in senior citizens. Hearing problems can be serious, and the most important thing a person can do is to seek professional advice. About one-third of Americans between the ages of 65 and 74 have hearing problems. About half the people who are 85 and older have hearing loss.

The speaker, Maria Rowe, received her bachelor's degrees in linguistics from the University of Michigan in 1990, and Michigan State University in audiology and speech science in 1995. In 1999, she completed her master's degree in speech and audiology from Michigan State University. She then began her career as a medically based clinical audiologist in 1999, all while completing her doctorate in audiology from The University of Florida.

The event is free and open to the public at the Maplewood Center, 31735 Maplewood in Garden City from 12:15-1:15 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2. Lunch is not provided. Seniors can purchase a lunch for \$2.25 or bring in a sack lunch. Seniors who wish to eat a hot lunch must make a reservation 24 hours in advance by calling -734-793-1974.

For more information, call The Senior Department at 734-793-1870

OUR VIEWS

Ending stigma of mental illness long overdue

In October, a couple of "Out of the Darkness" Community Walks were held locally, one at Kensington Metropark and another the same weekend at the Nankin Mills area in Westland. The focus was suicide prevention.

"The stigma's still there," said Westland area resident Pamela Riley, who lost her son to suicide in 2011 at age 29. She chaired the Westland walk.

Riley said the medical community "doesn't know how to treat people with mental illness. People don't understand mental illness." She favors better training for health care personnel, along with reaching out to those with mental illness, "to help them know there's resources, they're not alone."

Added Riley, "There's no shame in being sick."

Beverly Hills resident Anne Perry chaired the walk at Kensington for Metro Detroit/Oakland/Livingston. She lost friend Mark Heller to suicide in January 2007.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (www.afsp.org) came together to present the walks, also held elsewhere in Michigan and beyond. "It's getting some more attention as it should," said Perry. "We're talking about getting to the root of that."

She worked on resources for veterans, teens and the LGBT community for the "Out of the Darkness" walk she chaired. "It's nice that it's growing for people. It's bittersweet," Perry said of walk participants.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention has extensive information online, including what to do if you're worried about a loved one. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is available 24/7 at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) for emergencies.

KNOW THE SIGNS

Talk

- If a person talks about:
- » Killing themselves;
 - » Having no reason to live;
 - » Being a burden to others;
 - » Feeling trapped;
 - » Unbearable pain.

Behavior

- » A person's suicide risk is greater if a behavior is new or has increased, especially if it's related to a painful event, loss, or change.
- » Increased use of alcohol or drugs.
- » Looking for a way to kill themselves, such as searching online for materials or

means.

- » Acting recklessly.
- » Withdrawing from activities.
- » Isolating from family and friends.
- » Sleeping too much or too little.
- » Visiting or calling people to say goodbye.
- » Giving away prized possessions.
- » Aggression.

Mood

- People who are considering suicide often display one or more of the following moods.
- » Depression.
 - » Loss of interest.
 - » Rage.
 - » Irritability.
 - » Humiliation.
 - » Anxiety.

"Out of the Darkness" walk organizer Riley noted it's crucial for those suffering to talk about their experiences "and to reach out for help, that it's OK."

The National Alliance on Mental Illness Helpline is also available at 800-950-6264 Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time. NAMI is online at www.nami.org and also lists extensive resources.

NAMI leaders and other mental health advocates recently applauded the passage of HR 2646 comprehensive mental health reform legislation by the U.S. House of Representatives Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Health, late in the evening of Wednesday, Nov. 4.

NAMI's website notes, "The bill will move next to the full committee while the U.S. Senate will be working on parallel legislation, S. 1945, introduced

by Senators Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) and Bill Cassidy (R-La.)"

Better mental health treatment, and prevention of suicide and suffering, is something government leaders of all parties and persuasions can agree on. Let's encourage passage of this, along with efforts and advocacy to address regional and local mental health concerns, such as incarcerated people with mental illness.

The *Observer & Eccentric* applauds the grassroots efforts of the "Out of the Darkness" walk organizers, turning their pain into something useful. As we enter the busy holiday season, let's pause to think of those who feel alone and hurting.

Let's reach out to them in their hour of need with all the help we can give. Even a kind word can mean so much.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Volunteer thank you

I would like to thank the six volunteers who came to the area outside of the Garden City Public Library on Nov. 3 to pull up the dead annual flowers, cut down the perennials, and rake up every-

thing.

The six people are Millie Tyszkiewicz, Lynn Cox and Janet Smith of the Garden City Library Board, Patricia Collins (Garden City homeowner) and her son Steven Kleczynski, and my husband Paul Bailey.

Paul was cutting down some of the perennials with his string trimmer but it stopped working, and Lynn Cox volunteered to go to her home to get her trimmer which she brought back and proceeded to cut down many perennials. Thanks, Lynn, for this extra effort.

I'd also like to give a special thanks to Steven Kleczynski, who arrived early and did much of the work, and also thank Paul Bailey who came back several days later with his new string trimmer to get down the rest of the perennials. Everyone

was a great help in this annual fall clean-up of the flower beds.

Nancy Bailey
Garden City Library Board

Ban fracking

Michigan is proudly known as the Great Lake State. It has one-fifth of the world's fresh water.

People who are enduring a drought (like California) know how very precious water is. It is easy to take anything for granted when we have so much of it. We have drinking fountains in every public building. They are handy quenching our thirst and for

locating the bathrooms.

There are many drilling companies that think it is their right to destroy this very precious natural resource. I'm talking about the fracking companies. Hydraulic fracturing is a process where extremely toxic chemicals are blasted into the earth in order to break up shale. This process is done with such force that it causes an earthquake. The toxins from this blast and from the broken shale seeps up into our well water.

The companies who profit from this irresponsible method of gas ex-

traction buy commercials that tell us it is safe. They lie. Many cities have already banned this process and Michigan has an army of volunteers who are collecting signatures to get this banned in Michigan. I am one of them.

Our bodies are 60 percent water and fresh drinking water sustains our lives. It is our responsibility to protect it now and for future generations. For more information, go to the website www.LetsBanFrackingInMichigan.org

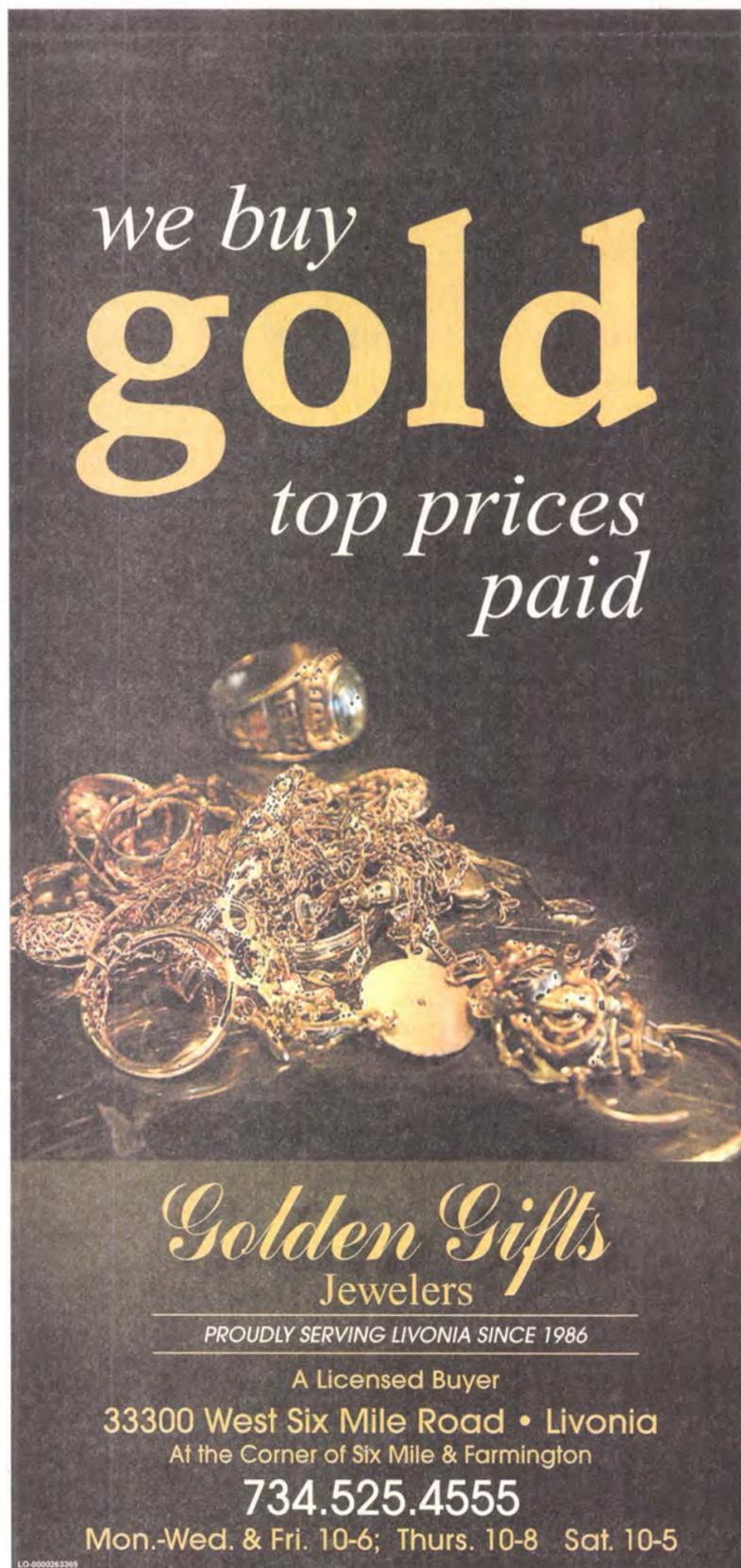
Colleen Crossey
Novi

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DIVISION 2 SEMIFINAL PREVIEW

Patriots' next test: No. 1 King

Crusaders will provide toughest challenge yet for Franklin

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

When you advance as deep into the post-season as Livonia Franklin's football team has this fall, you know you're eventually going to come face-to-face with a Goliath.

That time has arrived for the 9-3 Patriots, whose next test will come in a Division 2 semifinal clash Saturday at 1 p.m. at Dearborn High School against Detroit Martin Luther King, which is 12-0, ranked No. 1 and

loaded with Division 1 college recruits.

The winner of Saturday's showdown will advance to the Nov. 27 D2 state final set for 1 p.m. at Ford Field against the winner of the Lowell-Walled Lake Western match-up.

"King has a lot of very good athletes; they're a very explosive team," said Franklin head coach Chris Kelbert, whose Patriots have outscored their previous two opponents 73-6 over the last five quarters.

"We're going to have to try to limit their big plays and make them drive the field.

"They're the No. 1-ranked team in the state for a reason. We're going to have to play a very good, strong football game."

See SEMIFINAL, Page B3



Chris Kelbert, pictured after the Patriots' opening-round playoff victory over Farmington, has led Franklin to its first state semifinal berth since 1975.

MU soccer run ends

The magical run by the Madonna University men's soccer team came to a heartbreaking end on Saturday (Nov. 14) as a pair of second half goals by host and No. 10-ranked Northwestern Ohio ended Madonna's season in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference championship final at Racers Stadium by a 2-1 final.

The Crusaders came into the tournament as the WHAC's eighth seed, the last side to make the annual league summit and upset then No. 3-ranked and reigning national champion Davenport as well as fourth seed Aquinas to even advance to the league championship, a feat that has not happened in program history.

The match was even as UNOH led 6-3 in shots on goal while Marcel Schmid made four saves and Liam Davies from UNOH made one while being aided by his defense.

MU had a golden opportunity extinguished in the 37th minute when Amadou Cisse had a wide open net after Davies came some 30 yards off of his line and misplayed the ball at his feet before UNOH defender headed out Cisse's shot to keep the match scoreless.

Nico Gonzalez broke the 0-0 affair at the 38:49 mark with his second goal of the season. Gonzalez came down the left side of the field and weaved through a host of UNOH defenders before freezing Davies and getting his shot to sneak inside the right post for a 1-0 match.

Both sides had chances coming out of intermission but UNOH did not capitalize on its chances until the 62:57 mark when Josh Scully was able to get a shot past Schmid to knot the game at 1-1.

The Racers put up, what held as the match winning tally, in the 83rd minute when Carlos Garces' shot deflected twice inside the box to elude the reach of Schmid to give UNOH a 2-1 lead.

The Crusaders could not get another shot off on Davies and fell by the 2-1 final.

The match was the final in the Madonna careers for Tom Ashmore, John Boudreau, Nick Peper, James Robinson II and Colin Wilden.

Fuller thriving at Adrian

Former Redford Thurston football standout Damon Fuller has excelled during his first two seasons at Adrian University.

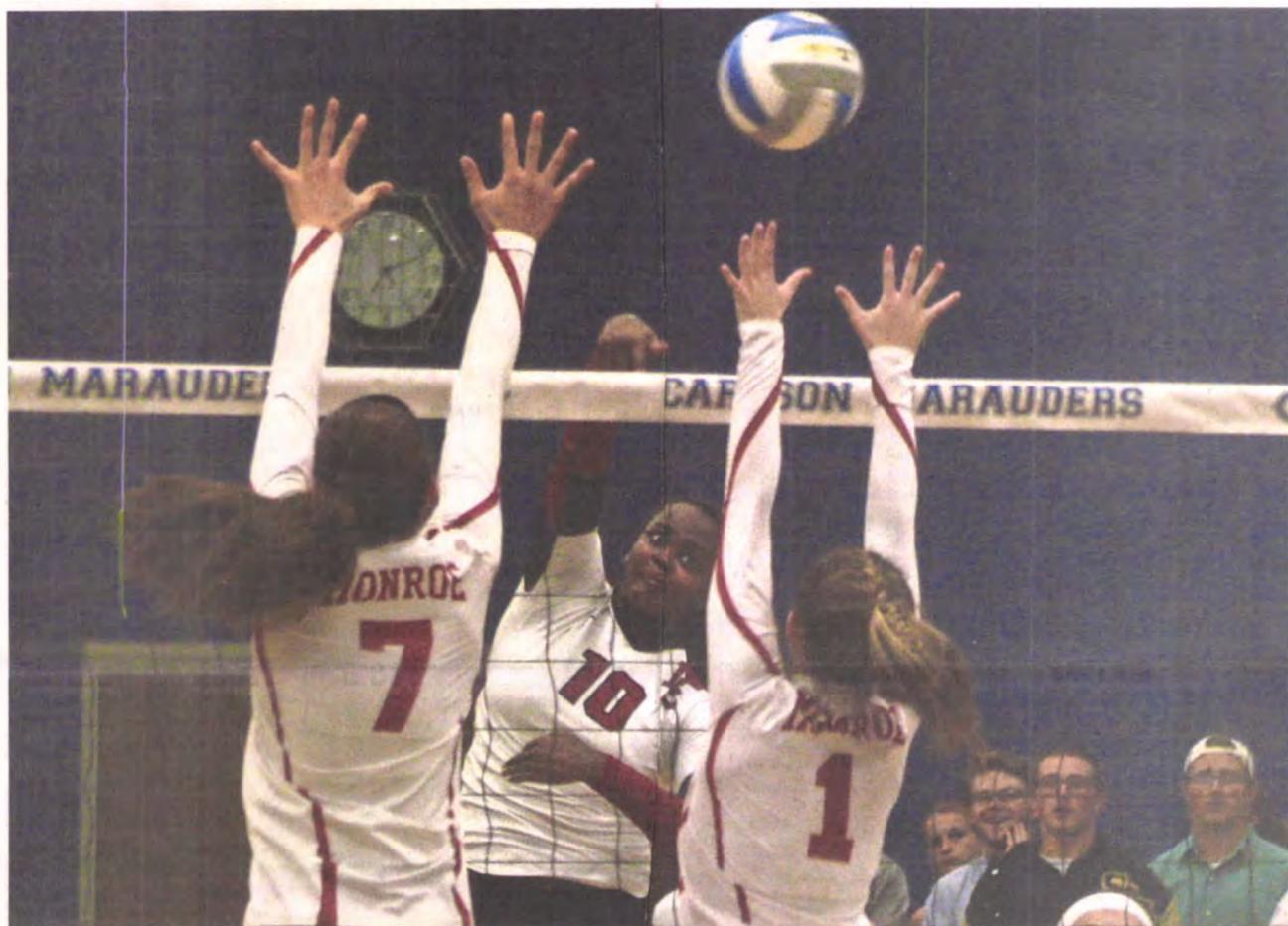
Heading into the Nov. 14 game, Fuller had racked up 51 tackles — 16.5 of which were behind the line of scrimmage — eight-and-a-half sacks and an interception. Fuller

Last year as a freshman, Fuller earned second team All-MIAA honors after registering 31 solo tackles and 27 assists. He finished the 2014 season as the Bulldogs' third-leading tackler behind seniors Charles Fleck and Juwan King while recording at least three tackles in 10 of the Bulldogs' 11 games.

It didn't take Fuller long to acclimate to the next level as he had four solo tackles in his college debut against De fiance.



VOLLEYBALL CLASS A QUARTERFINAL



Churchill Rayna Yetts splits a Monroe double block to register a kill Tuesday night.

ED WRIGHT

BLOCK THIS!

Chargers are Battle Creek-bound after impressive win over Monroe

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

As soon as tech-savvy fans of the Livonia Churchill volleyball team were finished taking cell-phone photos of the euphoric post-match scene that unfolded in the middle of the Gibraltar Carlson High School gymnasium Tuesday night, they probably started plugging the address of Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena into their GPS's.

Kellogg Arena, which is the mecca of Michigan high school volleyball, is the next stop for the Chargers after they sidelined Monroe in three straight heart-pounding sets, 26-24, 25-21 and 25-21, to advance to Thursday's 5:30 p.m. Class A state semifinal match-up against Romeo.

It was an "all-for-won" performance by the Chargers, who

See CHARGERS, Page B4



Churchill's Rayna Yetts (10) and Alyssa Facione react excitedly to a pivotal kill by teammate Samantha Zonca (back to camera).

ED WRIGHT

VOLLEYBALL CLASS B QUARTERFINALS

Martians sideline Ladywood in four sets

Goodrich outlasts gutsy Blazers to advance to 'Final Four'

Mike Rosenbaum
Correspondent

With two never-say-die teams squaring off on the volleyball court Tuesday night, it wasn't surprising that the Livonia Ladywood-Goodrich match was competitive down to the last point. In the end, Ladywood battled Goodrich through four tough sets before falling to the seventh-ranked Martians in a Class B quarterfinal contest, played at Clawson.

The first three sets were almost as close as possible, with Goodrich taking the first two, 25-23 and 25-22, before the Blazers rallied to win the third

game, 27-25. Ladywood trailed late in the final set, 20-19, but couldn't score again, as the Martians punched their ticket to the state semifinals with a 25-19 victory.

"Every set was tight and could've gone either way, especially the first two," said Ladywood coach Peter Lau. "What I think I'm the most proud of is, after dropping the first two, we didn't give up, and came back and won the third set. And if we could've forced a game five — who knows? At that point it's a race to 15. It boiled down to one or two points every single set."

Both of the first two sets

featured numerous lead changes, but the second set was more disappointing for Ladywood, which led by two to five points much of the way. The Blazers expanded their lead to 16-9 with a three-point run featuring a Kayla March kill and two service points from Abbi Laurentius, but Goodrich went on a 13-3 run to establish just its second lead of the game, 22-19.

Haley Moores then brought the Blazers back to within 22-21 on consecutive kills. Goodrich's Madison Becker and March exchanged spikes, leaving the

See LADYWOOD, Page B3



Ladywood's Sophia Dunn puts up a soft set during a match earlier this season.

TOM BEAUDOIN

DIVISION 2 FOOTBALL SEMIFINAL: FRANKLIN VS. KING

Patriots' captains reflect on sensational season

Franklin's turn-around unprecedented in recent history

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Everyone loves an inspiring, feel-good underdog story — even employees at local pizza places.

"A few guys on our team went out the other night for pizza and the waiter recognized us as (Livonia) Franklin football players," said Patriot senior captain Ryan Tracy. "He gave us all a coupon for a free pizza the next time we came in."

"When we go to 7-11, people we don't even know will congratulate us and ask us who we're playing next, stuff like that. It's been awesome."

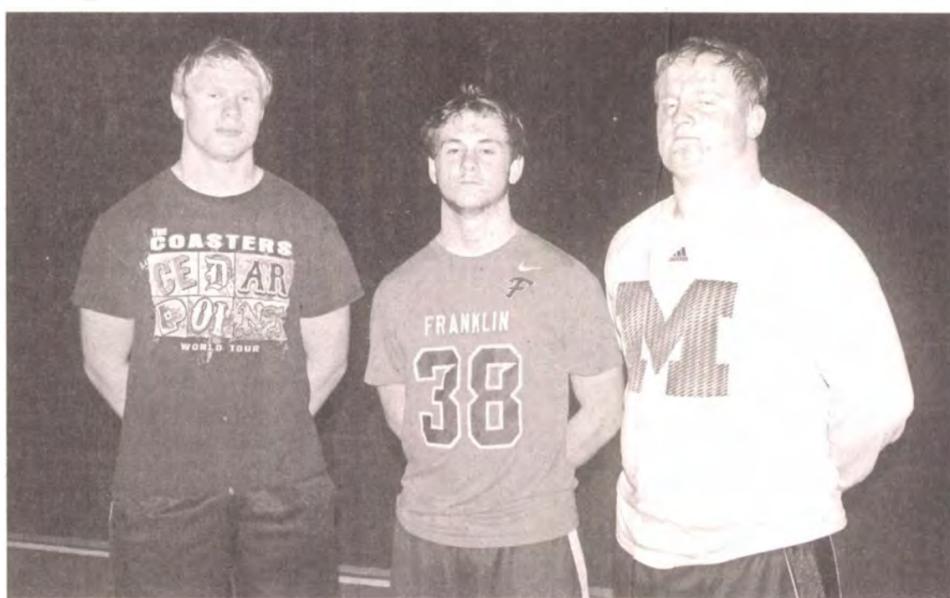
In case you haven't heard, Franklin's football program is in the midst of one of the most stunning one-year turnarounds in recent Michigan high school football history, improving from 2-7 in 2014 to 9-3 this fall — and all the way to Saturday's Division 2 semifinal round match-up against No. 1-ranked Detroit Martin Luther King.

With the exception of Franklin, all eight teams still alive in the Division 1 and 2 playoffs won at least six games in 2014 — evidence of how rare the feat is that the Patriots have pulled off.

"It all comes down to hard work," said Franklin head coach Chris Kelbert. "When this team practices, it practices hard. We're a physical-practicing team and I think it has paid off in the way we're playing right now."

The community-wide attention the Franklin players have garnered over the past month has been earned the old-fashioned way — with a ferocious appetite for hard work and a blue-collar mentality that reflects the school's bordering neighborhoods.

"It all started during our



Livonia Franklin football captains (from left) Josh Retting, Chris Nehasil and Ryan Tracy have all played instrumental roles in the Patriots' remarkable season, as has fourth captain Rob Erwin, who was attending his brother's police academy graduation ceremony.

off-season workouts," Tracy revealed. "We came up with the phrase 'Draw the line,' meaning we were going to stop all the losing seasons right now."

Prior to this season, Franklin had not made a post-season appearance since 2010, when it finished 7-3, so there were no late-season varsity call-ups for current senior captains Tracy, Josh Retting and Rob Erwin to get them acclimated to the higher intensity level.

"Except for sitting in the stands, we had never seen a playoff game, so we weren't really sure how to prepare for this," said Retting. "We just knew we had to work hard and play like we do every other game."

The Patriots' team-bonding chemistry got rolling during a summer pool party at the Retting household, Nehasil said.

"First of all, Josh's parents were very nice to invite the whole team over," Nehasil said, smiling. "I mean, that's a lot of people. But that's when you could feel we were all coming



Livonia Franklin senior captain Rob Erwin breaks off a huge gain during the Patriots' 41-13 victory over Royal Oak.

together." Although Franklin started the season 2-3 — all three losses came against playoff teams — the Patriot players gained a measure of confi-

dence, even in defeat — particularly in their 49-39 season-opening setback to Livonia Stevenson

Franklin trailed 35-10 at one point against the Spartans, but

rallied to close its deficit to 35-32 mid-way through the fourth quarter.

"Obviously, we knew going into that game that Stevenson had a good team, so we kind of knew after that game that we could compete at a pretty high level," said Retting. "We made a lot of mistakes early in that game that got us down, but we didn't give up."

Following a Week 6 homecoming night rout of Wayne Memorial, the Patriots improved to 3-3 heading into a monumental home game against Livonia Churchill, which was 4-2 and riding a wave of momentum after defeating state-ranked Canton.

"What I remember most about that game was that we had a great week of practice lead up to it," Nehasil said.

"We knew we had to win that game to make the playoffs; we think we'd get in at 5-4," Tracy added. "There's always a lot of tension heading into that game anyway, but it seemed like there was even more this year. It was the 'Game of the Week' and radio station 95.5 was there. It was a great atmosphere."

"We started out slow and fell behind, but then we started rolling."

The Patriots won 43-27 and haven't lost since.

The postseason clincher came on Oct. 29 when Franklin upended Royal Oak 41-13 to up its record to 6-3.

"The bus ride home from that game was crazy," Tracy shared. "We were singing, chanting. I mean, to go from 2-7 to the playoffs is something."

While the Patriots admit that continuing its roll against King won't be easy, anything is possible — a lesson they've forged for the past several weeks.

"The most important thing we have to do as captains," Nehasil said, "is to get everybody to believe we can win the game. It's kind of an us-against-the-world atmosphere in the locker room."

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Sky's the limit for Westland Meteors



ERIKA SAXTON

The Westland Meteors' junior-varsity football team recently completed an amazing season that saw them finish 8-0 in their league's regular-season standings. Included in the eight wins was a victory over their arch-rivals, the Westland Comets. The team, which is made up of 11- and 12-year-old athletes (including one girl) suffered its only loss in its league's Super Bowl. On Friday, the Meteors are traveling to Tennessee for a national tournament.

MADONNA SPORTS ROUNDUP

Crusader spikers advance to NAIA tournament

The 23rd-ranked Madonna University volleyball team punched its ticket to the NAIA National Championship for the 15th time in the 29-year history of the program on Nov. 14 as the Crusaders downed Cornerstone by a 3-1 final in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference semifinals to secure the league's second automatic bid at Tam-o-Shanter.

With its appearance in the WHAC finals against regular-season champion Lourdes, MU was assured of its place in the field of 36.

The appearance is the fourth straight for Madonna and marks the 12th time since the Crusaders joined the WHAC in 1997 that MU will appear in the national summit. The opening-round selection is MU's third since the NAIA went to the format for the 2008 season.

Madonna had to overcome a cold first set in the four-set win over Cornerstone (18-25, 25-22, 25-22, 25-16) to advance to the finals. Karlie Kelly and Nicole Oestrike led Madonna with 15 kills each to go along with 10 from Miranda Fuerst. A total of five Crusaders reached double figures in digs, led by Breanna Geile with 23. Deanna



Madonna volleyball players react after their huge victory.

Krumholz, Payton Maxheimer and Spencer Stokes each tallied 17 digs to go along with 11 from Oestrike who registered her second straight double-her. Stokes quarterbacked the MU offense with 37 assists in the victory.

MU hit just .040 percent in set one, making 11 errors in the opening frame before rebound-

ing with 13 kills and just five miscues in the second set for the 25-22 win. Set three was much like set two as MU hit CU .271 to .236 to win by a matching 25-22 final. The Crusaders had little trouble in set four as the Golden Eagles hit just .048 in a 25-16 final.

Assured of its bid by virtue of Lourdes' win over Indiana

Tech in the other semifinal, Madonna came out with nothing to lose in the finals and suffered tough 25-23 and 25-22 losses in sets one and two before stumbling in set three, falling by a 25-15 final for a 3-0 loss. Kelly paced Madonna with nine kills while Katie Breault and Oestrike added eight each in the loss. Geile had 14 digs while Stokes added 26 more assists as MU fell to Lourdes for the third time this season.

The Crusaders will learn their postseason destination on Monday before swinging back into action Nov. 21 at one of 12 campus sites around the nation. The winner of each opening round match travels to Sioux City, Iowa, for the NAIA National Championship final site at the Tyson Center.

Men's hoops

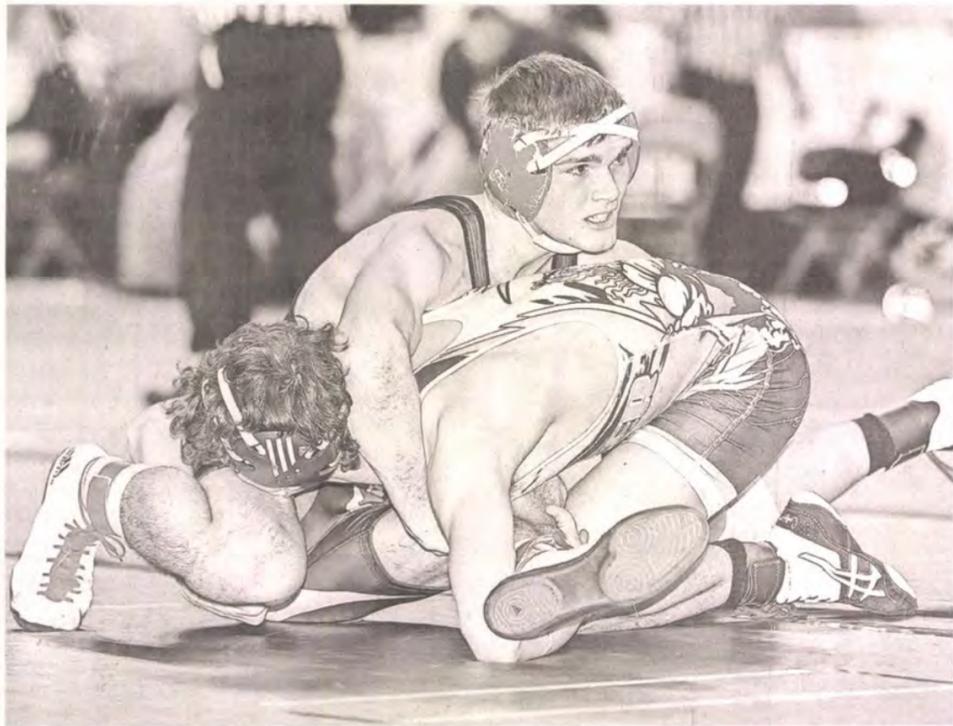
A pair of cold-shooting spells from the floor were too much to overcome for the Madonna University men's basketball team in an 81-72 setback to Marygrove in Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference action on Sunday at the Activities Center. The loss snapped Madonna's three-game winning streak.

Zak Lewis led Madonna with

a career-best 18 points while Khalil Malone added 12 and Chris Dierker chipped in with 10 points and 15 rebounds in the loss. The two sides were almost identical on the box score except in the shooting percentage as Marygrove shot 43.7 percent (31-of-71) while MU was just 27-of-75 for a 34.7 clip. Marygrove made three more 3-pointers than Madonna, which proved to be the difference in the game.

Marygrove opened the game on a 7-0 run before a Dierker jumper got Madonna on the board with 17:37 left in the first half. MU trailed, 20-10, with 11:25 to go before going on a 9-2 run over the ensuing three-and-a-half minutes to cut its deficit to three, 22-19, following a jumper from Clarke Lamb. Marygrove then went on a 10-0 run to take a 13 point lead with just over five minutes to play and eventually led 41-25 at intermission.

Coming out of the break the Mustangs pushed their lead out to 18, 50-32, with 15:19 to play but the Crusaders went on a 13-4 run over the next 3:07 sparked by four points from Nick Owens and a basket from Dean Kolstad.



Chase Gardner nearly missed out on placing at this past March's MHSAA individual state meet.

DOUG BARGERSTOCK

PREP PROFILE

Gardner taking mat skills half way around world

Churchill senior invited to compete in 2016 Down Under Games

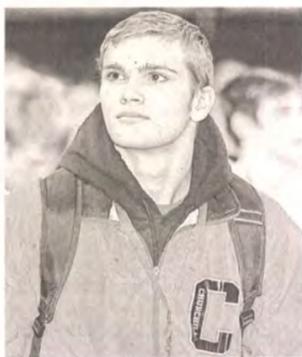
Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill senior Chase Gardner's high-caliber wrestling skills have earned him a trip to the Outback — and we're not talking about the popular steak house known for its bloomin' onions.

Following a sensational junior season for the Chargers, during which he qualified for the MHSAA Division 1 individual state meet, and a productive summer, which included a medal-winning performance at the Junior Olympics in Virginia Beach, Va., Gardner was invited to the 2016 Down Under Games, which will be held at a variety of venues along the Gold Coast of Australia.

During the past 27 years, the Down Under Games have given thousands of athletes from around the world — including former NFL stars Jake "The Snake" Plummer and Ahman Green — an opportunity to compete against their international peers with the breath-taking beauty of Australia serving as a back-drop.

In addition to wrestling, the sports menu for the 2016 event will include football, cross



DOUG BARGERSTOCK

Livonia Churchill senior wrestler Chase Gardner has been selected to compete in the 2016 Down Under Games in Australia.

country, golf, track and field, basketball and volleyball.

Gardner's adrenaline started to flow at an accelerated rate as soon as he opened the invitation he received in the mail about a month ago.

"To be invited to compete against a lot of the best athletes in the world is exciting," he said. "The furthest I've traveled is California, so I'm looking forward to seeing another part of the world."

Gardner has excelled on the wrestling mats since he first tried the sport as a seventh-grader.

"It's one of the most-competitive sports and there's a lot of emotion involved," Gardner said, when asked about his passion for wrestling. "It's one of the only sports that is one-on-one and you can't count on teammates to help you. The better athlete usually wins; there's no luck involved."

Gardner is an outstanding all-around student-athlete. He owns a 3.47 cumulative grade-point average, is captain of this year's Churchill wrestling team and is the Chargers' reigning MVP.

Given the monumental cost of next summer's trip, Gardner is currently in fundraising mode. Among the projects he has set up is selling "Down Under Sports" shirts (a portion of each sale will go toward his trip) and visiting area businesses in search of sponsorship support.

If you are interested in sponsoring Gardner's trip, you are encouraged to send an email to his mom, Kathy, at KathyGardner@wlcisd.org.

ewright@hometownlife.com

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Target on back just fine with Ocelots

Schoolcraft men take charge in second half, up record to 5-0

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

After a glorious season that ended short of an NJCAA championship, Schoolcraft men's basketball players Dre Black and Davon Taylor don't mind the extra scrutiny that comes with being ranked No. 1 in the preseason polls.

And after five games, including Saturday's 82-68 win over visiting Cuyahoga Community College, Schoolcraft is living up to that billing with a 5-0 record.

"It's ... based on what we did last year," said Black, a sophomore guard and Westland John Glenn alum who scored 10 points Saturday. "We got players to come in and they gave us the ranking this year. But we really do deserve it (No. 1 ranking)."

"We know teams are going to be gunning for us; we got a target on our backs. That's well-known. But it's better than losing and to be chasing after someone."

Taylor, who played for Canton during his high school career, said that the team "added some new pieces. We're doing a lot better this year and we're looking to go to nationals again."

Schoolcraft second-year head coach Abe Mashhour said the entire squad doesn't mind the challenge of being the No. 1 team and is motivated to "stay where they are. Our front line does a very, very good job on the boards and our guards are getting better as well."

Keying the win over the Chargers was sophomore guard JaChristian Biles, with 19 points and nine rebounds.

Chipping in 15 points was sophomore guard Tyler Johnson. Also in double figures were sophomore forward Anthony Wartley-Fritz and

Black. Sharing team honors with Biles in rebounding was Wartley-Fritz (nine), while Black added seven boards.

In order to remain undefeated, Schoolcraft needed to get its offense untracked in the second half against the Chargers. The Ocelots only shot 34.4 percent before intermission (11-of-32), not making life all that tough for Cuyahoga players, according to Mashhour.

"We were taking one shot off of one or two passes (in first half, which ended 31-31)," he said. "We really weren't making Cuyahoga defend and rotate defensively."

After intermission, more players got involved on the attack and the Ocelots starting connecting more often (16-of-34, 47 percent).

Now the Ocelots go on a stretch where most of the games will be played on the road. Mashhour noted it will be a good test. "We'll see how resilient they are, as you know, it's different when you're on the road," he said.

Lady Ocelots roll

Also off to a fast start to the season is Schoolcraft's women's basketball team.

Earlier Saturday, the host Lady Ocelots jumped out to a 29-14 lead after one quarter and blitzed Cuyahoga 71-51.

Schoolcraft (4-0) was paced by guard T'era Nesbitt, who scored 26 points.

Helping the cause with a 13-point game was guard Ashley Bland (Wayne Memorial), while guard Rainy McCune chipped in nine.

Elise Tolbert (Birmingham Seaholm) and Phoenix Douthat scored seven and six points, respectively.

An indication of the team's depth was the play of freshman guard and Salem alum Jamyra Wilson, who scored four points and had five steals in 15 minutes of playing time.

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NJCAA DIVISION I TOURNAMENT

Early ouster for SC kickers

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The pool turned out to be too deep for the Schoolcraft College women's soccer team.

It remains to be seen if the same will hold true for the college's men's soccer squad — which opened pool play Tuesday afternoon against ASA New York in the NJCAA Division I tournament in Axton, Va.

The season ended abruptly for the Lady Ocelots, however, outscored 5-0 in two defeats in Pool D. The women's tournament is taking place in Melbourne, Fla. Monday, Schoolcraft

dropped a 3-0 decision to Butler and followed that up Tuesday with a 2-0 loss at the hands of Darton State.

With the two losses, the conference champion Lady Ocelots — spearheaded all season by standout forward Shae van Gassen — ended the year with a 16-3-0 record.

After Jenna Wade put Darton State on the board in the 11th minute Tuesday, with an unassisted goal, Schoolcraft's van Gassen hit the left post on a penalty kick six minutes later.

Adding an insurance goal against Schoolcraft during the second half was Maggie VanHusan.

SEMIFINAL

Continued from Page B1

The Crusaders have outscored their 12 foes 378-128 — impressive considering they've faced highly-ranked Detroit Cass Tech and Detroit East English twice, and Warren DeLaSalle and University of Detroit Jesuit once each.

King's offense is engineered by quarterback Armani Posey, whose favorite target is speedy Donnie Corley.

The Crusaders' productive ground game is spearheaded by 5-foot-9, 200-pound Martell Pettaway, whose has made a verbal commitment to West Virginia, and Kevin Willis.

"Offensively, they're very balanced," Kelbert said. "But their big plays usually come in the passing game. Defensively, they're sound across the board."

"We're going to have to go in and play the best game we possibly can and give everything we have. Hopefully, we can catch them off guard a little bit

and put them in a situation they're not used to being in."

The Patriots' offense has been a juggernaut throughout the season, piling up 490 points thanks in large part to a finely-tuned running game led by junior running back Jacob Clark and senior quarterback Denzel Adams.

Following the blocking of its bull-doing offensive line — Joe Fortin, Jax Gasaway, Josh Retting, Daniel Domzalski and Robert Madley — the pair have combined for over 400 yards rushing the past two play-off games.

Kelbert had high praise for his current offensive line.

"As a group, I'd say this is the best offensive line I've ever coached," he said. "I've had some great individual linemen, but as a unit, this is the best one, for sure."

"We're not 6-4, 250 across the line, but we have some big, strong, physical kids who know how to block."

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LADYWOOD

Continued from Page B1

Martians with a 23-22 edge. At that point, however, a Moores serve went long, and then Abby Francis ended the game with a kill for Goodrich.

The third set mainly involved Ladywood punching and Goodrich counterpunching. The Blazers rolled to an 11-5 lead, led by co-captains Moores (two kills plus ace) and March (one kill, three service points).

The Martians then rallied with a 9-2 run to take a 14-13 edge. The set swung back and forth until a four-point Ladywood run — including two kills by Moores, one by March and a block-kill by Natasha Stzelewicz — gave the Blazers a 21-18 advantage.

Ladywood moved to the brink of victory when a March spike made it 24-21, but Goodrich rallied to tie the set at 24. Kills by March and Goodrich's Bethany Schultz left the game knotted at 25. Goodrich then mishandled a March tip, and then knocked a

ball into the net to give the Blazers a two-point victory.

Ladywood took a 4-3 lead in the fourth set before an 11-4 run gave the Martians a 14-8 advantage. But the Blazers had one final run left. Moores scored on a kill, and then she won six consecutive service points, including two service winners. March had two kills during the run, while Stzelewicz added a pair of key blocks, helping the Blazers take a 15-14 edge.

Goodrich moved back on top and led 20-17 before a Madeline Hudson kill, and a service point win for March, trimmed the gap to 20-19. The Martians then scored the game's final five points to wrap up the match.

Despite giving favored Goodrich all it could handle, Lau wasn't claiming any moral victories after the match.

"All these girls are natural competitors," he explained. "This loss is going to be hard on them because of how competitive they are. But I know overall, they left it on the court ... just a little bit too short at the end."

Entering Tuesday's contest,

Ladywood had won five consecutive tournament matches, all by 3-0 scores, to gain district and regional titles.

"The momentum was there" throughout Ladywood's tournament run, Lau said.

"What I was proud of was the overall camaraderie and support that all the girls had on the court, as well as off the court. And that's probably the most important part of being a team, is being supportive, regardless of how much playing time you're seeing on the court."

With a young roster that included three juniors, one sophomore and four freshmen, the future seems bright for Ladywood, despite losing seniors Moores and March.

"We're going to miss our two seniors who have been leaders, not only this year, but their entire tenure — they're four-year varsity players — and best of luck to them," Lau said. "I feel bad for them, it would've been nice if they went out in a bang, in terms of (getting to) Battle Creek (for the Final Four). But quarterfinals, Elite Eight, it's nothing to sneeze at."

DIVISION 1 FOOTBALL PREVIEW

FOOTBALL WORLDS COLLIDE

Five things to watch for in Canton-Cass Tech semi-final

Evan Paputa
Correspondent

Things are beginning to feel eerily similar to 2005 for the Canton Chiefs football team.

After knocking off top-ranked Saline in dominating fashion for their first regional championship crown since 2006, the Chiefs (10-2) are headed to the Division 1 state semifinals for only the third time in school history. The first time (2005), they won and headed to Ford Field for the state championship game.

Awaiting Canton in the semi-final at 1 p.m. Saturday at Troy Athens High School, just like in 2005, is perennial power Detroit Cass Tech (10-2).

The Technicians won back-to-back Division 1 state championships in 2011-12 and have reached the semifinals for the sixth year in a row.

Canton and Cass Tech really are the clash of opposite worlds. Canton is content with milking the clock and running a play a minute, while Cass Tech enjoys an up-tempo, spread offense and has speed at just about every skill position.

Here are five things to watch for in the Canton-Cass Tech semifinal:

Line of scrimmage

Canton has gone against good offensive linemen before, but never an offensive line quite like the one it will face Saturday. Michigan verbal commit Michael Onwenu (6-foot-4, 365 pounds) anchors the unit that paves the way for running back Tim Cheatem.

Sophomore Aaron Jackson is expected to get his first start at quarterback for Cass Tech. Starter Rodney Hall (fractured ankle) left Cass Tech's regional



A team effort helped Canton defeat Saline and the same will be needed if the Chiefs are to get past Cass Tech. On this play, Jared Stephens (middle) carries the ball with fellow running backs Jakob Wickens (left) and Markus Sanders providing blocking help. Handing the ball off to start the play was quarterback Jake O'Donnell.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

final game against Macomb Dakota in the fourth quarter with the injury.

Indiana State verbal commit Alvin Clemons (6-3, 285), Jordan Reid (6-5, 295), Ostell Martin (6-5, 325), and Toledo verbal commit Edrick Matthews (6-3, 285) all have gotten the attention of college coaches and each has multiple Division I offers.

Canton will be at a size disadvantage at every position, but Thomas Evely, Ali Mashhour, Jake McKinnon and Jake Warner will go toe-to-toe with Cass Tech's offensive line. If they can generate a pass rush similar to the one against Saline and get pressure on the quarterback, it will take some pressure off of the Canton secondary.

Linebackers Jake Stephan, Jalen Cochran and Lou Baechler will need to help in creating pressure against the Technicians' offensive line.

Canton run game

The Canton running game has done its job in each of the first three playoff games. Markus Sanders, Jared Stephens and Jakob Wickens are a three-headed monster that has proven to be hard for opponents to figure out and stop.

Now that Canton has reached the semifinals, it is rewarded by playing a team that has not seen a style of play like Canton's all season.

Despite its defensive line's size, Cass Tech's success will hinge on finding a way to stop Canton's rushing attack from gaining momentum out of its traditional wing-T formation.

Stopping the Canton run game takes commitment, discipline and consistency. Not only will Cass Tech have to dedicate a good portion of its week to studying the wing-T formation, it will need to execute on every play.

If Cass Tech takes plays off and misses an assignment, one of the Canton backs will be running for 20 yards or more at a time, which adds up.

Blocking Onwenu

It's been tough sledding for offensive lines that have had to match up with Onwenu as a defensive tackle. Onwenu will be tasked with hitting and wrapping up Canton's 5-7 running back, Sanders, on every play he runs up the gut.

If Sanders can't fool the Technicians big man, the Chiefs will have to run away from Onwenu to generate offense.

Whichever of Canton's offensive linemen will be faced with blocking Onwenu, they better buckle up their chinstrap and fasten their seat belt for 48 minutes of hitting.

Ben Phillips, Devin Obrec, Josh Dunn, David Gunnis and Michael Maes have been up to the challenge all year of getting

good pad level to drive defensive linemen back. Helping them in their efforts will be tight ends Jesse Warner and Brennan Pelland.

Chiefs secondary

Cass Tech junior wide receiver Donovan Peoples-Jones is a household name in the recruiting world. With offers from Ohio State, Alabama, Florida, Michigan and Michigan State, he is dubbed as a five-star recruit (the highest ranking) and poses several threats with his 6-foot-2 frame.

Peoples-Jones has the ability to catch a simple screen pass and take it 80 yards with his speed or go get a one-on-one jump ball with his strength.

Colin Troup and Eddie Lang have gotten the bulk of playing time this season at cornerback for Canton. Whichever corner is tasked with matching up with Peoples-Jones, he will have a target on his back all day. Safeties Micah Rinke and Stephens will have to overplay to help when needed on Peoples-Jones.

Weather

Saturday will mark the sixth straight year Cass Tech has played in the semifinals at Troy Athens. It enters the weekend with a 2-3 record in those games, with the common denominator in the Technicians' losses being cold, blustery weather that slowed their offensive production through the air.

If Saturday's conditions include wind and chilly temperatures (forecast high of 37 degrees, wind and precipitation expected), the Chiefs will benefit on both sides of the ball.

The Canton offense doesn't rely on passing the ball 20 times, so it won't matter to the Chiefs.

On the other hand, Cass Tech's history in the semifinals has shown that it struggles to play the spread-you-out, speedy style when conditions are not favorable.

USA HOCKEY

Happy homecoming for NTDP U18s

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Fresh off a victorious run at the Five Nations Tournament in Switzerland, the U.S. National Team Development Program Under-18 team returned home for a pair of weekend games and didn't miss a beat.

On Friday, the NTDP U18s blanked Youngstown, 3-0, in a United States Hockey League match-up before more than 1,600 at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth. Luke Martin, Clayton Keller and Joey Anderson found the back of the Youngstown net, while U18 goaltender Jake Oettinger stopped all 20 shots he faced.

The U18s kept the momentum going Saturday against Niagara University, when Keller's goal at 1:37 of overtime lifted the home team to a 3-2 victory before nearly 1,300 fans.

Keller stick-handled up the middle in on Purple Eagles goalie Guillaume Therien, going five-hole with his low shot and then thrusting his arms into the air in celebration as the crowd roared its approval.

"It was an outstanding play," U18 head coach Danton Cole said. "Clayton has a knack. If you look at most of our overtime games, he seems to have a hand in winning the game."

Cole said his team (14-3-1) dug deep for extra energy to play the back-to-back games, coming off the heels of the overseas tourney — where Team USA reeled off four wins in four games, outscoring opponents by a combined 19-6.

"The hard part coming back is the time change and the energy (level)," Cole said. "They did a great job; they could have wilted tonight a little bit. That was a tough game against an older, stronger team, but they kept skating and working and did a great job."

Early jump

Getting things started in the first period was the U18 power play. With teams skating four-on-three, Ryan Lindgren slid a pass from the left faceoff circle to forward Kieffer Bellows in the opposite circle for a one-time blast.

Bellows rang his shot in off the post with 6:26 to play in the period to put Team USA up, 1-0.

Niagara drew even at 11:13 of the second period. The puck



NTDP U-18 players mob each other after Clayton Keller's overtime winner against Niagara at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

caromed in front of goaltender Joseph Woll and chipping it home while falling down was Luke Edwards.

Undaunted, the U18s regained the lead in the final minute of the middle period.

With an odd-man rush, Grant McPhee threaded a perfect pass from the right wing over to the streaking Trent Frederic, who snapped a shot from the left circle. Frederic's blast cleanly beat Therien, who took over from Joe O'Brien midway through the second.

The U18s were called for a penalty on the same play, but fought it off with help from Woll, who snagged a hard shot taken by Matt Chiarantano from the left point.

That lead held up until late in the third period, when Edwards poked in the rebound of Stanislav Dzakhov's snap shot taken from the top of the right circle.

"What I really liked was at the end of regulation our guys talking on the bench, 'Hey, let's have some confidence, let's go out and get the next shot,'" Cole said. "They were real upbeat; there wasn't much for Chris (Luongo) and I to say on the bench."

"They had it and went out and finished her off."

Five Nations recap

According to Cole, the winning experience at the Five Nations Tournament — not to mention playing four games in five days — is something his team can benefit from all season.

"It's the beginning of the second year (in the NTDP), getting over there and playing Finland, Sweden, the Czechs and Swiss it's nice to get a barometer of where you're at," Cole said. "You know you've

made progress through the spring and summer through workouts and then the first part of the USHL and college schedule.

"We felt pretty good about it and there's still a lot of stuff to work on but, hey, we won all four games and we'll keep going forward."

Team USA opened the tourney Nov. 4 with a 3-1 victory over the Czech Republic. Scoring were Bellows, Keller and Bloomfield Hills native Will Lockwood.

"We were in their zone for at least 40 seconds moving the puck around," Lockwood said, describing his insurance goal. "Ryan Lindgren took a shot from the point and the puck was just sitting there. I was at the top of the circle, skated in, dove and put the puck in the net to give a two-goal cushion for our team. A pretty exciting goal."

One day later, Frederic scored with 32 seconds to play for the winner in a 4-3 victory over Sweden. Also scoring for the U18s were Anderson, McPhee and Bellows.

Nov. 7 against Finland, a two-goal effort by Keller keyed a 5-2 victory. Scoring were Lindgren, James Sanchez and Anderson.

That all led to the finale, a 7-0 romp Nov. 8 over Switzerland.

Earning the shutout with 16 stops was Spall, while Bellows and Keller spearheaded the offense with two goals each.

According to Lockwood, who said putting on the USA colors every day is a "true honor," the Five Nations Tournament was a great experience, on and off the ice.

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CHARGERS

Continued from Page B1

were uplifted at one point or another by every player who stepped on the court.

If the Bulldogs are looking for a weak spot in Churchill's fine-tuned volleyball machine, they made need a high-powered magnifying glass to find one.

"I can't describe this feeling right now; it feels so great," said junior outside hitter Sam Zonca, who contributed 13 kills. "Right from the start of this tournament, I knew we could do this. It's just unbelievable. We're living the dream right now."

With just one player in the rotation who stands 6-feet tall, the Chargers don't look menacing filing off the bus.

But once the first serve cuts through the air, they're OMG! good.

Churchill's trademark is its court-covering defense, which frustrates even the most high-powered hitters.

Case in point: With the Chargers leading Tuesday's opening set 25-24, junior libero Alyssa Facione and senior all-around star Rayna Yetts spliced together back-to-back jaw-dropping digs before Brianna Fulton finished off the Trojans with a soft tip into a vacant space in their defense.

"I can remember about five points like that," said Churchill head coach Mark Grenier. "That's what we do — play great defense and give ourselves a chance to win every point."

Facione was a thorn in the Trojans' side all night, notching a team-high 19 digs, a couple of which ricocheted around the beams in the gym's ceiling before falling unpredictably toward the court and onto her ready-to-pass forearms.

"Those big plays are exciting because they help us keep the momentum going," said Facione, whose positive personality keeps the Chargers pumped up in good times and bad. "This is so exciting because we've worked so hard for it."

"I felt like this team had the chemistry right from the start of the season. Every game we seem to improve just a little bit. It's so exciting to see the improvement."

With Madilyn Darling and Rosie Rae sidelined by in-

juries, Yetts was the lone senior on the court for the Chargers Tuesday night — and she delivered a performance that reflects the level of player she has become. Yetts registered a triple-double, with 19 kills, 12 assists and 16 digs.

"When you have not only a player like Rayna, but a leader like Rayna, you're very fortunate — both as a coach and as a teammate," said Grenier. "She has instilled a lot of positive things in these kids and they're all buying in to what she's telling them."

One of the team's youngsters is first-year varsity standout Annabelle Dunn, who combines with junior Anne Yost to give the Chargers a dynamic duo in the middle of the net.

The only sophomore to see significant minutes, Dunn provided several key blocks and a handful of momentum-securing kills.

"I was shaking the entire first game, but I love playing in big matches like this," said Dunn. "It's more fun when you play against good competition, and Monroe was definitely good competition."

"They kept coming at us. They kept us on our toes. We really had to move around our defense and our blocking. We stepped up and kept the energy going."

The middle set was a tension-packed face-off that neither team could get a secure grip on until late. Trailing 18-17, the Chargers drew even when Yetts two-handed a shot into an empty corner.

With Facione at the service line, Churchill unleashed a decisive 5-0 run, that was energized by three Zonca kills and an ace by the only Charger wearing pink.

Monroe drew to withing 24-21 before Zonca ended the set with a blazing put-down.

The Trojans kept the heat on in the third stanza, trailing just 22-21 after Anna Tartarian delivered a kill.

However, the Chargers ran the table to win 25-21.

Once the match-ending point touched the floor, members of the Chargers' student cheering section flooded onto the court, cell phones in hand, GPS's ready to guide them to the volleyball mecca.

ewright@hometownlife.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

ADVENT CELEBRATION

Time/Date: 4:30 p.m. live nativity, 6 p.m. concert and story, Sunday, Nov. 29

Location: Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville

Details: Live nativity with sheep, donkeys and alpacas; cookies and hot cocoa, Christmas story and performance by Northville Backbeat, a boys' a capella group

Contact: 248-348-7600

ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21

Location: Sts. Peter & Paul Romanian Orthodox Church Banquet Hall, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights

Details: Juried show will include handmade products from more than 40 artisans, a bake sale, door prizes, 50/50 raffle, and foods including Romanian favorites such as stuffed cabbage, cornmeal and cheese soufflé, and chicken soup, made by women in the parish. Admission is \$2 per person, which includes entry into a raffle

Contact: Deb at 248-946-0173

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Contact: 313-532-8655; 734-968-3523

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Nov. 23

Location: Trinity In the Woods Episcopal Church, 268809 La-Muera, Farmington Hills

Details: Farmington area interfaith service with combined choir. Persons interested in participating in the choir must come to 6:30 p.m. rehearsal. An offering of non-perishable foods and money will be collected for St. Alexander's Food Pantry and Neighborhood House

Contact: Rachael Rose at rrose1031@gmail.com

DECEMBER

ADVENT SERVICES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 2, 9, 16

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: The theme for meditations is "Advent Means Coming"

Contact: 313-532-8655; 734-968-3523

BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICK

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 5

Location: The Solanus Casey Center, 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit

Details: Continental breakfast with St. Nicholas is \$12.95 for adults, \$10.95 for children, 3-12, and free for children 2 and under. Includes breakfast, a visit with St. Nick and other activities. Proceeds benefit the Solanus Casey Center, a part of the Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order

Contact: 313-579-2100, ext. 191

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5

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

Details: Includes 30-40 vendors and crafters with homemade items, raffles and lunch for purchase. Proceeds will fund youth trip to World Youth Day in Poland. Admission is \$2

Contact: Sara at 734-417-1405; sara17king@gmail.com

WOMEN'S EVENT

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4

Location: Crossroads Church, at Sacred Heart Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: A Cup of Christmas Tea - A night of tea, carols, crafts, and fun for women and girls, ages 8 and up. Event is free but reservations are requested. RSVP by Sunday, Nov. 29 at crossroadsnow.org and click on the "get involved"

Contact: 248-890-5718

ONGOING

CLASSES/STUDY

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

Faith Community Wesleyan

Time/Date: 4-5 p.m. every Saturday

Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: This informal class includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one

Contact: pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

EXERCISE

Time/Date: 6:45-7:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia

Details: Instructor Wendy Motta, a seven-year Zumba practitioner, teaches Zumba through drop-in classes. Each costs \$3. Participants should bring water, a towel and wear athletic shoes. For more information, email Motta through zumba.com

Contact: 313-408-3364

FAMILY MEAL

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

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

Time/Date: Arabic service, 3-4 p.m. first Tuesday of the month; English service, 3-4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month

Location: The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of Saint Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia

Details: The service includes prayers of petition and intercession, hymns, Scripture readings and the anointing of the sick. Offertory candles are available for a free will offering in the vestibule of the church.

Contact: Rev. George Shalhoub at 734-422-0010 or email Stacey Badeen at sbadeen@tbsosm.com

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: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday

Location: Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows

Contact: Parish office at 734-464-1223

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

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

Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

RECYCLING

RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Shoppers browse tables of homemade arts and crafts at the annual show presented by The Ladies Auxiliary of Sts. Peter & Paul Romanian Orthodox Church, in Dearborn Heights.

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. third Saturday of the month

Location: 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth

Details: Recycle your cell phones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPods, iPads, tablets, eReaders on the third Saturday of each month. Use the doors on east side of church.

Contact: Lynn Hapman at 734-466-9023

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach

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

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304

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

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

First Presbyterian Church

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

Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: Single Place Ministry; cost is \$5

Contact: 248-349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

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

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

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

Contact: 313-534-0399

SONG CIRCLE

Congregation Beth Ahm

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

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

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

Contact: 248-737-1931 or email 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

Connection Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday

Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton

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

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

Detroit World Outreach

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

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems

Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

» Farmington Hills Baptist Church

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

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

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

Contact: 248-433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

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

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations

Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

Fireside Church of God

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

Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

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

Contact: 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; www.firesidechog.org; or email to adm@firesidechog.org

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Saturday

Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: A twice-monthly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available

Contact: 734-421-8451

St. Thomas a' Becket Church

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

Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton

Details: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Contact: Margaret at 734-838-

0322

Unity of Livonia

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

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

Details: Overeaters Anonymous

Contact: 248-559-7722; www.oa.org for additional information

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

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

Contact: Child care, 248-374-7400; www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate

THRIFT STORE

St. James Presbyterian

Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

Contact: 313-534-7730 for additional information

Way of Life Christian Church

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

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

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

Contact: 734-637-7618

TOUR

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. to noon

first Sunday of the month

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

Details: Led by Capuchin friar Larry Webber, the director of the Solanus Casey Center, the tour focuses on the spirituality and holiness of Father Solanus, a humble Capuchin friar credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel.

Contact: 313-579-2100, Ext. 149; www.solanuscenter.org

WORSHIP

Adat Shalom Synagogue

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

Location: 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Contact: 248-851-5100

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 or email to 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

Faith Community

Winners of 2015 Remodelers Design Awards announced

The Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan and its NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council have announced the 2015 Remodelers Design Awards honorees. This is the first year the design contest was held. It was open to HBA members, who were invited to submit entries in the six categories shown below.

A total of 21 remodeling projects located in Southeastern Michigan were entered. "We are pleased at the response for our first contest," said Lenox Bowman, council chairperson, of P & B Finishers Inc. "We look forward to involving more builders and remodelers during the coming years."

Awards will be presented Dec. 9 at the HBA's Awards Night and Holiday Celebration to be held at The Diamond Center at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi. Nearly 300 members and guests are expected to attend the event, which will also feature presentation of HBA's industry awards.

"Remodeling is an important segment of the residential construction industry," said Michael Stoskopf, CEO of the HBA. "We are proud of our Remodelers Design Awards winners and we look forward to honoring their achievement."

2015 Remodelers Design Awards honorees include:

Basement Remodel

Gold award - **Compo Builders** for a home in Northville.

Silver award - **Finished Basements Plus** for a home in Novi.

Bath Remodel

Gold award - **Templeton Building** for a home in Birmingham.

Silver award - **Transitions Remodeling and co-entrant Jena Anastasio** for a home in Canton.

Exterior Remodel

Gold award - **Capaldi Building and co-entrants Design Team Plus Architects, Soulliere Companies and Desai Nasr Consulting Engineering** for a home in Bloomfield Township.



SUBMITTED
Silver award kudos for Whole House Remodel went to Legacy Custom Homes.



SUBMITTED
The DemNet Silver Award Specialty Room in Northville is shown here.

Kitchen Remodel

Gold award - **Cole Wagner Cabinetry** for a home in Pleasant Ridge.

Silver award - **Barb Burnham and co-entrant Kellett Construction** for a home in Metamora.

Specialty Room

Gold award - **Casadei LLC and co-entrant Trisha Gallagher** for a home in Oakland Township.

Silver award - **DemNet**

Technologies for a home in Northville.

Whole House Remodel

Gold award - **Transitions Remodeling and co-entrant Dean McQuade** for a home in Canton.

Silver award - **Legacy Custom Homes and co-entrant Alexander C. Bogaerts & Associates, Inc.** for a home in West Bloomfield.

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, the Home Builders Association of Southeast-

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

Squatter dilemma: Contact officials

Q: We have some squatters on our property and the police don't seem to want to do anything about it. Our lawyer told us that under existing landlord-tenant law, the use of force or threat of force by an owner may constitute unlawful interference with the possessory interest and may entitle the tenant to recover the actual amount of damages or \$200 whichever is greater. What can we do with this squatter?

A: Effective Sept. 24, 2014, it is now a criminal offense to occupy a dwelling if the person hasn't, at any time during the period of occupancy, had the owner's consent for an agreed-upon consideration. This applies to the illegal occupancy of a single-family dwelling, or one or both units in a two-family dwelling. A first offense is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 per dwelling unit occupied or imprisonment of not more than 180 days, or both. A second or subsequent offense is a felony punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per dwelling unit occupied or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both. You should notify your local police department and/or the prosecutor for your area.

Q: My tenant died who lived alone and has failed to provide me with contact information for his heirs. No estate has been started through the Probate Court and no one has come to claim his possessions. What recourse do I have besides a lawsuit?

A: Under Public Act 127 of 2013, there is a limit on the right of a tenant's heirs to begin an action to recover damages to one year from the date the landlord engaged in forcible entry or unlawful interference; i.e., it eliminates the right of an heir to file an action within one year of discovery of the landlord's unlawful conduct if in fact you go in a forcible enter or unlawfully interfere with the tenant's personal property. You should rather go to court before taking possession of the property, clearing out the decedant's personal belongings and renting the property to a new tenant to ensure that the leasehold is over.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

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

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

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

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

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

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of June 29 to July 2, 2015, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

16260 Amherst Ave \$260,000
16905 Buckingham Ave \$305,000
16195 Madeline Ln \$255,000
21543 Meadow Ln \$463,000
16187 Wetherby St \$315,000

BIRMINGHAM

976 Bird Ave \$700,000
517 Catalpa Dr \$275,000
759 Hazelwood St \$720,000
1759 Henrietta St \$367,000
517 W Old Woodward Ave \$375,000
633 N Old Woodward Ave \$265,000
2237 Pembroke Rd \$260,000
1736 S Eton St \$234,000
111 Willits St # 301 \$700,000

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

5310 Hollow Dr \$300,000
3150 E Bradford Dr \$334,000
162 E Hickory Grove Rd \$200,000
5677 Kingsmill Dr \$280,000
524 Newburne Pointe \$215,000
5733 Raven Rd \$318,000
1064 Top View Rd \$485,000
100 W Hickory Grove Rd # D1 \$73,000
2618 Warwick Dr \$253,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

2753 Bradway Blvd \$519,000
351 Marlborough Dr \$206,000
7445 Paddle Wheel Ct \$610,000
7480 Saint Auburn Dr \$250,000
2387 Steeles Pl \$215,000
2562 Sequoia Ct \$730,000
3566 South Blvd \$305,000
1660 South Hill Cir \$157,000
1350 Timberview Trl \$305,000
5100 Vincennes Ct \$479,000

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP

2425 Bevin Ct \$292,000
3759 Canute Rd \$181,000
10417 Cooley Lake Rd \$140,000
3881 Cove Cir \$674,000
3563 Cranberry Dr \$348,000
5415 Inverary Ln \$440,000
4344 Marcello Dr \$261,000
3136 Massena St \$135,000
4452 Racewood Dr \$289,000
3795 Ranya Dr \$425,000
5680 Starwood Dr \$260,000
1566 Trace Hollow Dr \$315,000
5282 Vineyard St \$478,000

FARMINGTON

35558 Lark Harbor Ct \$220,000
33218 Meadowlark St \$125,000
34012 Moore Dr \$175,000
33130 Slocum Dr \$130,000

FARMINGTON HILLS

22680 Albion Ave \$114,000
31850 Allison Dr \$170,000
29136 Aranel St \$210,000
33715 Bernadine Dr \$235,000
38629 Brandmill \$145,000
25242 Bridlepath Ln \$335,000
21115 Collingham Ave \$30,000

29452 Geraldine Rd \$105,000
34071 Gloucester Cir \$270,000
23424 Larkshire St \$170,000
24492 Martel Dr \$200,000
29946 Mayfair Dr \$310,000
28317 New Castle Rd \$200,000
36290 Parklane Cir \$250,000
21223 Rensselaer St \$53,000
31291 Stonegate Ct \$325,000
29476 Strathmore Dr \$349,000
22674 Vacci Ln \$78,000
27620 W Echo Vly \$235,000
26822 Westmeath Ct \$200,000
26190 Westmeath St \$200,000

FRANKLIN

24741 Tudor Ln \$245,000

HIGHLAND

2337 Dean Dr \$129,000
3388 High Knoll Dr \$317,000
1789 La Salle Blvd \$256,000
2634 Lynch \$247,000

MILFORD

312 1st St \$320,000
3360 Alta Vista Dr \$223,000
1139 Atlantic St \$430,000
520 East St \$172,000
1003 General Motors Rd \$205,000
3081 Granda Vista Dr \$166,000
10777 Healden Ave \$430,000
740 Knolls Landing Dr \$317,000
299 Napa Valley Dr \$352,000
1675 Ring O Kerry \$350,000
1546 S Millford Rd \$207,000
1450 W Maple Rd \$65,000

NOVI

24479 Bashian Dr \$120,000
41396 Belden Cir \$202,000

51123 Brompton \$296,000
39975 Burton Ct \$300,000
28411 Carlton Way Dr \$210,000
30802 Centennial Dr \$182,000
22319 Chase Dr \$370,000
22837 Cranbrooke Dr \$136,000
44532 Midway Dr \$365,000
24674 Olde Orchard St \$115,000
24724 Olde Orchard St \$102,000
21591 Shadybrook Dr \$261,000
23675 Stonehenge Blvd \$105,000

SOUTH LYON

24985 Camage Ln \$73,000
23599 Millwood \$415,000
24890 Ravine Dr \$60,000
24867 Valleywood Dr \$286,000
58750 Winnowing Cir N \$73,000
58917 Winnowing Cir S \$90,000
24830 Winnowing Ct \$59,000
24877 Winnowing Ct \$103,000

SOUTHFIELD

28260 Aberdeen St \$53,000
28479 Aberdeen St \$66,000
26258 Franklin Pointe Dr \$68,000
20082 Rodeo Ct \$122,000
25479 Saint James \$116,000
15999 W 11 Mile Rd #17 \$25,000

WHITE LAKE

31 Allison Ln \$283,000
661 Oxhill Ct \$148,000
5186 Sandy Ridge Dr \$350,000
8446 Strada Ct \$190,000
1150 Sugden Rd \$190,000
8760 Trenton Dr \$274,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 20-24, 2015, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

CANTON

43556 Abbey Cir \$290,000
7715 Admiralty Dr \$285,000
47590 Adriana Ct \$395,000
6985 Ardley Dr \$217,000
4681 Artley St \$95,000
45415 Augusta Dr \$376,000
46004 Bartlett Dr \$250,000
7380 Burgundy St \$222,000
42279 Chase Dr \$320,000
41480 Conner Creek Dr \$255,000
3969 Cornerstone Dr \$140,000
41880 Coventry Way \$197,000
46892 Creeks Bend \$205,000
3902 Elizabeth Ave \$143,000
7622 Embassy Dr \$263,000
622 Filmore St \$300,000
47113 Glastonbury Dr \$350,000
40457 Glen Eagle Ln \$157,000
43108 Hanford Rd \$250,000
6917 Harvard Ln \$75,000
39848 Hillary Dr \$155,000
4467 Hunters Cir W \$110,000
39846 John Dr \$141,000
42738 Lilley Pointe Dr \$89,000
43630 Lotus Dr \$210,000
43537 Lynnwood Ct \$159,000
8334 Mannington Rd \$290,000
45647 N Stonewood Rd \$160,000
49592 Potomac Rd \$265,000

3431 Riverside Dr \$227,000
44196 Sheridan St \$245,000
7735 Thornwood St \$420,000
1221 W Crystal Cir \$195,000
48103 W Oxford Ln \$495,000
44094 Westminster Way \$230,000

GARDEN CITY

31437 Balmoral St \$87,000
29635 Barton St \$113,000
30714 Barton St \$116,000
28673 Block St \$125,000
32118 Cambridge St \$94,000
29538 Chester St \$90,000
486 Deering St \$95,000
6407 Henry Huff Rd \$116,000
32440 James St \$115,000
29417 Meadow Ln \$93,000
33210 Rosslyn Ave \$50,000
32216 Rush St \$114,000

LIVONIA

34117 E Mile Rd \$150,000
36634 Angelina Cir \$131,000
9544 Arcola St \$134,000
14257 Arcola St \$147,000
14942 Auburndale St \$128,000
9812 Camden St \$150,000
35238 Curtis Rd \$333,000
31802 Delaware St \$155,000
9100 E Bassett Ct \$180,000
9961 E Clements Cir \$140,000
15075 Ellen Dr \$183,000
30516 Hillcrest St \$145,000
17538 Hillcrest St \$175,000
8925 Hubbard St \$110,000
36719 Kingsbury St \$180,000
27901 Long St \$130,000
9828 Loveland St \$157,000
28555 Lyndall St \$142,000
38790 Mason St \$166,000

9829 Mayfield St \$165,000
9615 Merriman Rd \$98,000
38801 Northfield Ave \$204,000
32954 Oakley St \$160,000
33925 Pondview Cir \$72,000
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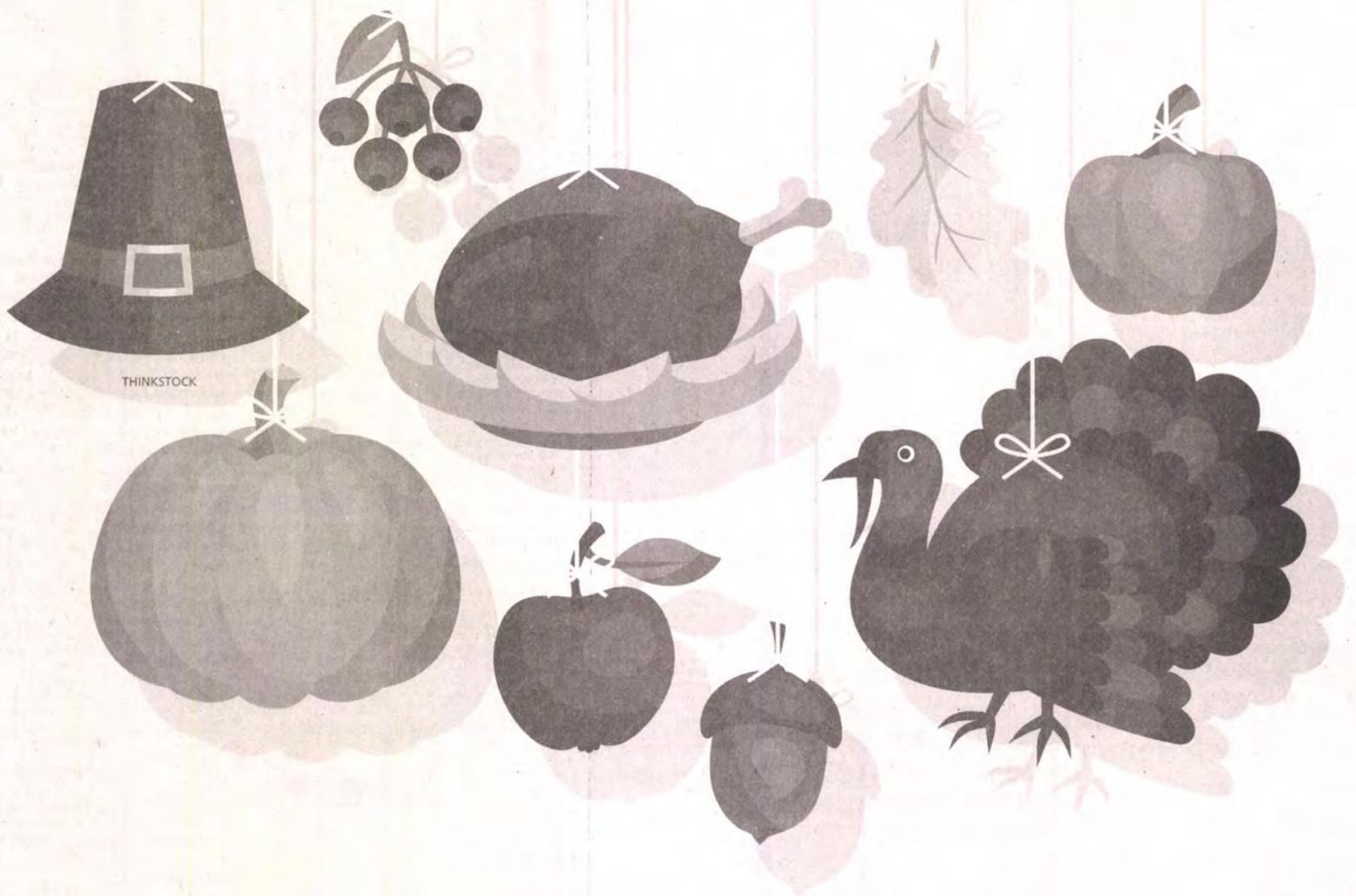
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TIPS FOR AN EASY THANKSGIVING MEAL

Food. Friends. Family. Football. Thanksgiving would be incomplete without any of them, but the most important is the holiday feast your family and friends have gathered to enjoy while the game plays in the background. Serving up a full holiday spread — from turkey to dessert — that is sure to bring everyone back for years to come is easy with these tips for every stage of the meal.

— *Courtesy of Family Features*

Turkey Day Tips

The sight of a beautifully cooked, golden brown bird being brought to the table is one of the most memorable moments of any Thanksgiving gathering. Follow these tips to prepare the perfect centerpiece for your holiday meal:

Thawing your turkey

» For every 5 pounds in weight, thaw in original wrapper for 24 hours in the refrigerator. Thaw faster by covering with cold water in the sink and soaking approximately 30 minutes per pound.

» Refrigerate as soon as thawed or cook immediately. For best quality, do not refreeze uncooked turkey.

Roasting the bird

» Baste with extra virgin olive oil.
» Place breast-side-up on rack in shallow roasting pan. Cook in 325 F oven.
» For an unstuffed turkey, place a stalk or two of celery, seasonings, a cut-up onion and a handful of parsley in the cavity to keep it moist.

» Lay "tent" of foil loosely over turkey to prevent over-browning.
» Turkey is done when meat thermometer is 180 F or when the red stem on the pop-up thermometer rises.

» For easier carving, let turkey stand at room temperature for at least 20 minutes.

Other methods

» Grilled: Grill 15-18 minutes per pound. Air in grill must be between 225-300 F.

» Deep Fat Fried: Cook 3-5 minutes per pound in 350 F oil.

» Smoked: Cook 20-30 minutes per pound. Air in smoker must be between 225-300 F.

» Microwaved: Cook 9-10 minutes per pound on medium power. Rotate during cooking.

Delicious sides

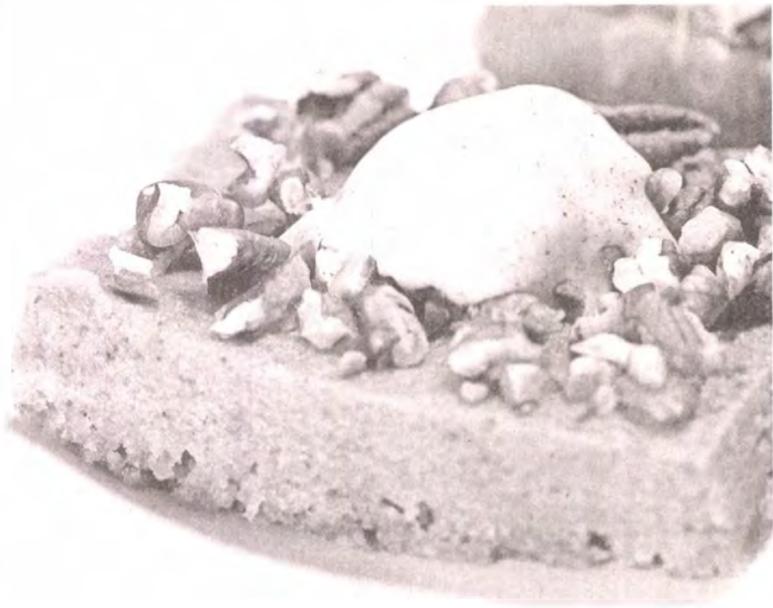
Although the turkey takes center stage on Thanksgiving, surrounding the centerpiece with a variety of delicious side dishes can take your turkey day to the next level. Here are a few popular sides to round out your table:

» Potatoes: Mashed potatoes and gravy are always a holiday hit, but other serving options, such as roasted potatoes, scalloped potatoes or sweet potatoes, can add variety to a favorite traditional dish.

» Fruits and vegetables: From green bean casserole and cranberry sauce to roasted vegetables, corn pudding, candied yams and butternut squash, no table is full without a variety of fruits and veggies to choose from.

» Noodles: Outside of a traditional potato side, many turkey day tables offer pasta-based sides, such as homemade turkey noodles, macaroni and cheese or pasta salad.

» Bread: No Thanksgiving meal can be complete without cornbread, rolls or biscuits — which also can be used to make miniature turkey sandwiches after the meal is over — and a holiday classic, stuffing.



PUMPKIN PIE SQUARES WITH CINNAMON SUGAR YOGURT TOPPING

Total time: 1 hour, 20 minutes
Servings: 16

Crust:

1 cup graham cracker crumbs
½ cup old-fashioned oats
¼ cup brown sugar
¼ cup butter, melted
2 tablespoons low-fat milk
cooking spray

Filling:

2 cups canned pumpkin
2 eggs
¼ cup sugar
¼ cup low-fat vanilla yogurt

½ cup low-fat milk
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon pumpkin spice
¼ teaspoon salt
½ cup pecans, chopped

Topping:

2 tablespoons sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup plain nonfat yogurt

Heat oven to 350 F. In large bowl, mix together graham cracker crumbs, oats, brown sugar, butter and milk. Press into thin layer in a 9-by-13-inch pan greased with

cooking spray. Bake for 10 minutes.

While crust is baking, in another bowl, beat together pumpkin through salt. Pour over crust and bake for 40 minutes or until set. Sprinkle pecans over filling and bake another 10-15 minutes or until center is set. Cool slightly in pan.

Mix together sugar and cinnamon. Mix in yogurt. Top each square with 1 tablespoon yogurt topping.

From farm table

Pair Pumpkin Pie Squares with Cinnamon Sugar Yogurt Topping with a glass of milk for a tasty twist on a holiday favorite. From fourth-generation dairy farmers — Ryan and Susan Anglin and their sons, Cody and Casey, of Triple A Farms in Bentonville, Ark. — this savory dessert, featured in *The Dairy Good Cookbook*, is sure to become a tradition in your family, just as it is in the Anglin family. For more recipes, visit MidwestDairy.com.

Decadent dessert

With rich, creamy, delicious flavors in every bite, Sorghum Pecan Praline Cheesecake will leave everyone at your table satisfied. Luscious sorghum syrup, which is naturally high in fiber, iron and protein, surrounds, captures and complements the decadent cheesecake and praline pecan topping. Find more satisfying recipes using sorghum that will keep your taste buds tingling all season long, visit sorghumcheckoff.com.

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03-2015

Plymouth native Sarah Lenore is 'Transparent' in new album

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

SARAH LENORE

When she lived in Michigan, Sarah Lenore sang in local musicals, at sporting events and opened for a few big name country singers.

Now the Plymouth native is singing to the world.

Earlier this month she released an independent album, her second in 11 years. *Transparent*, with 16 of the 48 songs Lenore has written and recorded, has been in the works since July, when she split with Cash Money Records.

"I'm enjoying doing this myself. It feels good to do it myself, said the 27-year-old pop singer in a phone interview Tuesday from Miami, Fla., where she lives and records.

"Here I am packaging up eBay CDs that have been sold. I'm licking the envelopes and signing the photographs. You don't need a major label these days. You can do it a million different ways through social media. We were finally able to put out a record with no management, no label and it's been the best feeling ever. I have a lot of people around me, supporting me."

Although Lenore says she has been blessed with "good opportunities" and luck in her career, she has faced at least a few delays and setbacks along the way. The album title underscores that notion.

"To me that means something translucent, something you see right through, to the core, the heart and soul and blood sweat and tears in making this album. I want to be super open and free and honest. There's even a song about the music industry on it," she said, adding that she was hesitant at first about including it. "But it's the truth. It (the industry) isn't all flowers and butterflies. It's been tough, but all the work was worth it. I'm making a living by singing."

Always singing

It's a career she chose when she was a child. Lenore never took singing lessons, but learned how to project her voice while performing in local musicals. Her father, Brian Wiercioch, a truck driver, found auditions for his daughter. Her mother, Susan Wiercioch, the latchkey program teacher at Our Lady of Good Counsel, drove her daughter to them.

"We didn't have money for head shots and lessons. I was the only girl with no professional photos. I had a snapshot from my mom," said Lenore, who later dropped her surname in favor of her middle name.

The humble trappings never held her back. When she was 8 years old and a student at Our Lady of Good Counsel, she was cast in the lead child role in *Show Boat*, which starred Tom Bosley, at Masonic Temple in Detroit.

"It was the best experience of my life. I did 88 shows at Masonic Temple."

At 14 she dropped acting to concentrate on singing. She recruited mu-



The cover of Sarah Lenore's new album

SUBMITTED

sicians for a band, started writing songs and learned to play guitar.

"My voice always had a twang when I sang. Back in the day I thought it was cool to be the pop country girl."

Nashville-bound

She attended Mercy High School for two years while taking home school classes, and graduated at 16. Lenore started music theory classes at Eastern Michigan University, but three years later left Michigan for Nashville, Tenn.

"My parents are so supportive. They helped me pack my Ford Escort and sent me off with \$400," she said. "I had a Craigslist roommate."

Lenore made a living singing on songwriters' demo recordings and host-

essing occasionally in restaurants, while trying to distinguish herself from hundreds of other young, female singers in Nashville. She got a big break in 2008 when she auditioned for *America's Got Talent*, earning a ticket to the live show in Las Vegas, Nev., and leaving it as a semi-finalist.

The experience helped her to network with movers and shakers in the industry and led her to Miami, where she signed a contract with Cash Money Records, which also produces Nicky Minaj, and Lil' Wayne.

"It is the most successful hip hop label in the world. I thought I'd be so different that it would be the best thing ever. I was so different that it was hard. They didn't know what to do with an

artist like me," Lenore said. "I was treated like a princess. If this was a hobby I'd stay for a lifetime, but it's not a hobby. I eat, drink and sleep music."

Now working with producer Jose Luis Pagan, she's had the opportunity to sing and co-write with top Latin artists. She even sings a song in Spanish on *Transparent*. The album is available for download at iTunes, Spotify.com and other digital music distribution sites. It's available in hard copy from cdbaby.com.

Watch Lenore in her own reality show, *Imperfectly Perfect*, on YouTube and Vimeo. Follow her on Twitter at @sarahlenore.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through March 1

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 2-13; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking

Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibit: The show runs Nov. 20-June 1, 2016 and features 100 images dramatically displayed as illuminated large-format color transparencies. Free with Zoo admission

Wild Lights: 5:30-9 p.m. Nov. 20-22, 27-29 and Dec. 4-6, 11-13, 18-23 and 26-31. Admission is \$9 in advance and \$11 at the gate for ages 2 and older. Parking is \$6 per car. Features illuminated sculptures, holiday entertainment and activities, ice carving and arts and crafts. Buy tickets online at detroitzoo.org/events/wild-lights

Contact: 248-541-5717

ARTS AND CRAFTS

COSTICK CENTER

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21

Location: 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The Michigan Weavers Guild holds its Winter Market, with such works as wearable accessories, framed wall pieces, home décor objects, sculpture, and jewelry available for purchase. Admission is free. The Guild also will exhibit works through Jan. 8, 2016 in the Costick Center's City Gallery. Hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Contact: 248-473-1859

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Exhibit hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, through Dec. 12

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Small Works," an all-media juried art exhibit consists of 120 pieces that are no larger than 12-by-12 inches. A Northville Camera Club exhibit is located in the lower gallery.

Contact: 248-344-0497 or www.NorthvilleArtHouse.org

VILLAGE POTTERS GUILD

Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19; 11 a.m. to 7



Kate Patterson wraps up this year's Jazz@The Elks series, Nov. 24, in Plymouth.

SUBMITTED

p.m. Friday, Nov. 20; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21; and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22

Location: 326 N. Main, behind the Crossings Restaurant, in Plymouth.

Details: Annual Holiday Sale includes functional and decorative pottery created by 25 members of the Guild. Shoppers will find mugs, ornaments, tiles, dinnerware, vases, jewelry and platters ranging from \$4-\$200

Contact: 734-207-8807; villagepottersguild.org

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday and during public performances, through Nov. 29

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "Sky/Ground" features abstract landscapes from above and below by artist Leslie Sobel, who uses a combination of scientific imaging, including satellite and photomicrographs, computer code and maps to create her work

Contact: cantonvillagetheater.org; 734-394-5308

FILM

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 20-21 and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22

Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: *A Walk in the Woods*, \$3

Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Nov. 20 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Nov. 21

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

Details: *Miracle on 34th Street*, \$5

Contact: 313-898-1481; redfordtheatre.com

HISTORY

KELSEY MUSEUM

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Nov. 29

Location: 434 State St., Ann Arbor

Details: "Passionate Curiosities: Collecting in Egypt & the Near East, 1880s-1950s," focuses on the individuals who helped to build the Kelsey Museum collection

Contact: 734-764-9304

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages

6-17.

Contact: 734-455-8940

MUSIC

ARAB AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Nov. 20

Location: 13624 Michigan Ave., Dearborn

Details: Ara Topouzian and Mal Barsamian perform Armenian folk music; \$10 for museum members and \$15 for the general public

Contact: www.bit.ly/AANMaramal

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: 7 p.m. open mic performers, singer/songwriter Kenny Lang at 8 p.m., followed by more open mic. Julie Bengtsson hosts the event. Open mic performers sign up from 6:15-6:40 p.m. Admission is \$5 and proceeds will benefit Plymouth Goodfellows

Contact: plymoutharts.com

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: Bring your dancing shoes. \$5 donation

Contact: 734-453-1780

JAZZ@THE ELKS

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

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

Details: Kate Patterson and Friends, with Patterson on vocals, Chuck Shemetaro on keyboard, Ray Tini on bass, and Bill Cairo on drums, performs Nov. 24. \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres

Contact: 734-453-1780 or email plymouth-elks1780@yahoo.com

JAZZ CAFE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 27

Location: Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit

Details: Grammy-nominated jazz trumpeter

See GET OUT!, Page B11

GET OUT!

Continued from Page B10

Russell Gunn and his quartet, featuring Grammy-winning vocalist Dionne Farris; tickets are \$20-\$30

Contact: 313-887-8501; ticketmaster.com

MAMA'S COFFEEHOUSE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21

Location: Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills

Details: Annie and Rod Capps; \$15 general admission, \$13 for students and seniors

Contact: mamascoffeehouse.org

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

Time/Date: 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10

Location: Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Holiday Pops with the Phil features a variety of seasonal tunes, including the Hallelujah Chorus at the 8 p.m. performance, and a sing-along of Christmas carols. Tickets are \$30 general admission, \$25 for seniors, age 25 and up, and \$10 for students with ID

Contact: michiganphil.org

THERAPY CHOIRS OF MICHIGAN

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2

Location: Woodhaven Retirement Community, 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

Details: The TCM singers consist of individuals with special needs, volunteers and friends. The group will sing holiday songs at this free concert

Contact: 248-474-2763, ext. 222; therapychoirs.org

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Around the House - A Variety Show, Nov. 20, Cold Tone Harvest with The Whiskey Charmers, Nov. 21, Open Stage, Dec. 1, Kitty Donohoe, Dec. 4, Thunderwude, Dec. 5, Danny Kroha, Dec. 11, Harper and the Midwest Kind, Dec. 12, Empty Chair Christmas Show, Dec. 13, Michigan Caroling Company, Dec. 18. Most tickets \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted

Contact: 734-464-6302 for additional information

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Nov. 28

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Motor City Soul, a seven-piece band, plays hits from The Four Tops, Temptations, Smokey Robinson & The Miracles, Rick James, Prince, Michael Jackson and more. Tickets are \$15

Contact: 734-394-5300; cantonvillage-theater.org



Motor City Soul performs Nov. 28 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.



The Michigan Weavers Guild holds its Winter Market, Nov. 21 in Farmington Hills



'The Shark Surfer' by Thomas Peschak is among the works on display beginning Nov. 20 at the Detroit Zoo's Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition.



Dionne Farris and Russell Gunn perform at Jazz Cafe, Nov. 27, at Music Hall in Detroit.



SPECIAL EVENTS

AMERICA'S THANKSGIVING PARADE

Time/Date: 8:50 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 26

Location: Starts at the corner of Woodward Ave. and Kirby in downtown Detroit and ends at Congress, just south of Campus Martius Park

Details: 89th annual parade features floats, bands, balloons, big heads and more. Comedian Tim Allen is grand marshal. Other celebrities will include U.S. national soccer team members, Willie Horton, former Detroit Tigers left fielder, 2015 Miss Michigan Emily Kieliszewski, 2016 Miss Michigan Susie Leica, and more. WDIV-TV Local 4 and News/Talk 760 WJR will broadcast live from the parade. Grandstand tickets start at \$40

Contact: theparade.org

AUTHOR SIGNING, DISCUSSION

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6

Location: Barnes & Noble, 17111 Hagerly, at Six Mile, Northville

Details: Bob Larivee Sr., author of *Hot Rod Detroit: A Complete History of Hot Rodding in the Motor City*, signs books and talks about the sport of hot rodding

Contact: 248-348-0696

HOLIDAY SHOPPING EXPO

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13

Location: Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Shop more than 60 vendors, crafters and area businesses for toys, jewelry, candles, clothing, holiday displays, greeting cards, makeup and more. Food and refreshments available for purchase. Admission free

Contact: fhgov.com

THEATER

FARMINGTON PLAYERS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5 and 11, and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 5-6

Location: 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

ton Hills

Details: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; tickets are \$18 and \$20

Contact: farmingtonplayers.org

PLAYERS GUILD OF DEARBORN

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Nov. 20-21, 27-28 and Dec. 4-5 and 2:30 p.m. Nov. 22, 29 and Dec. 6

Location: 21730 Madison, Dearborn

Details: *White Christmas*, featuring Denise Kowalewski-Tucker of Livonia in the role of Martha Watson. Tickets are \$20 with a \$2 discount for student with valid ID

Contact: 313-561-TKTS; playersguildof-dearborn.org

SPOTLIGHT PLAYERS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Nov. 20-21; 2 p.m. Nov. 22

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

Details: In *Almost, Maine*, the residents of a town in Maine fall in and out of

love in the strangest ways. Tickets are: \$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors and students, available online, at the theater box office 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Friday, and one hour before show time at the door

Contact: cantonvillage-theater.org; 734-394-5300

TWO MUSES

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 20-21, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22

Location: In the theater at West Bloomfield Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 6800 Orchard Lake Road

Details: *The Light in the Piazza* tells the story of Clara, who falls in love with an Italian man in a Florentine piazza. Her mother must decide whether she will reveal truths about her daughter that could destroy the romance. General admission advance tickets are \$23 for adults, and \$21 for students and senior citizens, age 62 and over. Tickets are \$2 more at the door

Contact: twomusetheatre.org; 248-850-9919

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EDUCATION

Canton foundation continues scholarship tradition

By Brad Kadmon

When Canton Community Foundation officials held their annual scholarship luncheon last week, they had a message: The foundation is committed to providing financial support for students who will be attending college in the next few years. The foundation has a long history of providing financial support for students who will be attending college in the next few years. The foundation has a long history of providing financial support for students who will be attending college in the next few years.

Small start

The program started with a small group of students who were attending college in the next few years. The foundation has a long history of providing financial support for students who will be attending college in the next few years.

ON CAMPUS

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Get the Varsity Advantage! Varsity Lincoln of Novi is celebrating with a HUGE Certified Pre-Owned vehicle sales event. More than 100 Certified Pre-Owned vehicles are on-site and ready to go. Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln vehicles are available for as little as \$17,995.+

Right now, Varsity Lincoln is offering a Complimentary Maintenance Plan for Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln vehicles. This includes an oil change, tire rotation and multi-point inspection every 7,500 miles for 1 year/15,000 miles.*

Varsity Lincoln is number one in pre-owned sales globally. Come find out why. An astounding 540 Certified Pre-Owned vehicles were delivered in 2014 at Varsity Lincoln.

The dealership has held the honor of highest volume sales dealer globally since 1997.* Varsity offers a newly remodeled showroom, indoor delivery area and service reception aisle. Varsity Lincoln works to make their customers feel number one.

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

Visit Varsity Lincoln for the 3-day event to get these deals:

» 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19

» 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20

» 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21

"Certified Pre-Owned has a wonderful warranty...it goes up to 100,000 miles on the warranty," said long-time Varsity customer John Kilby.

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

» A meticulous, 200-point inspection by factory-trained technicians

» 6-year/100,000-mile comprehensive warranty coverage



Certified Pre-Owned 2014 Lincoln MKZ Ultimate FWD.

Varsity Lincoln

» Complimentary 24/7 roadside assistance

"To get a Certified Pre-Owned that comes with warranty, definitely get quality checked, that's important, especially with two girls in college," said five-time customer Julie Wilk.

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

at Varsity Lincoln!"

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

"Leasing or buying from the number one dealer in the country gives you the best selection, price and service," Law said. "Our dealership is ready to assist customers with anything, whether it is special financing or a specific request. We can handle every unique situation."

"Loaded with features, a Lincoln will satisfy any customer," Law explained. "Certified Pre-Owned vehicles not only provide peace of mind on the road, but also provide a combination of sportiness and luxury. Benefits include FWD

or AWD, EcoBoost, Navigation, Bluetooth, SYNC, an adaptive suspension, a panoramic roof, and heated and cooled seats for comfort, just to name a few," Law said. "Drivers will also enjoy peace of mind from knowing that Lincoln vehicles will hold their value," Law said. "Any depreciation has already been taken on by the previous owner. Plus, advanced styling and dependability add to a Lincoln vehicle's value."

"If you want a really nice experience with a dealership go to Varsity...I see the difference," said first time customer Loretta Mackenroth.

This dealership provides The Varsity Lincoln Advantage. Varsity Lincoln team members are selected based upon their unwavering focus

on customer care and satisfaction.

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

*Based on 10/2015 Total Certified Pre-Owned Lincoln Sales Report.

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+Subject to availability. See Varsity Lincoln for details.

^Offer ends 11/30/15. See Varsity Lincoln service advisor for details.



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