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Shop small in downtown Wayne Nov. 28

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

For those holiday shoppers not into the Black Friday competitive shopping scene, Wayne Main Street is offering an alternative on Small Business Saturday Nov. 28.

"It's similar to what we did last year but with a couple of changes," said Wayne Main

Street Executive Director Lindsey Wooten. "For a first year and never having done it before, we had 50 shoppers last year. We felt pretty good. We will be a lot busier this year."

Small Business Saturday will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be Shop Small Passports, a scavenger hunt, multiple door prize drawings, a

gift wrapping station and a group of carolers to perform around downtown is in the works.

Last year, Main Street kicked off Small Business Saturday with a breakfast at a local coney island. This year, the Shop Small Passports will be handed out 10 a.m. to noon at Biggy Coffee on 35545 W. Michigan Avenue.

"Biggy is a new business. Who doesn't want to start their day with coffee?" said Wooten. "We will pass out tote bags and passports there."

There are at least 16 businesses participating in Small Business Saturday. Shoppers take their passports to be stamped at participating business and those who visit eight making at least one purchase

are eligible to enter the door prize drawings. There will also be some special activities at business only for those with passports.

"We have a much larger mix of businesses signed up this year. You can pick from all the businesses on the list," said Wooten. "The businesses are

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Wayne County Lightfest opens with a bang.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fireworks, music highlight county Lightfest opening

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Melanie Kowynia of Westland has been going to the Wayne County Lightfest opening since her daughter, Emalie, was 3 years old.

Despite the fact Emalie is now 14, Melanie saw no reason to stop what has become a great family tradition. So she

grabbed her young niece and nephew and there she was Thursday, watching Wayne County Executive Warren Evans help Santa throw the switch on the 2015 Lightfest.

"I think it's awesome," Melanie said. "It brings family and friends out together. It reminds us that we're all one

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Steven Thomas of Livonia entertains with his tenor saxophone.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Wayne County Executive Warren Evans helps Santa Claus throw the switch to illuminate Lightfest.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cities share tower for meter reading

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

An agreement that allows sharing of a cell tower to facilitate new remotely read water meters has been approved by the Wayne City Council.

"Westland has agreed to provide access to their tower for us to install an antenna and base station for our new water meter system," said Wayne-Westland Department of Public Services Director Ramzi El-Gharib.

Westland recently installed the new tower at Middlebelt and Annapolis as part of the new meter program. The cities will split the \$24,000 installation cost as well as ongoing maintenance fees which El-Gharib said would be \$1,000-\$2,000 annually.

"This will read meters in the south part of Wayne. The agreement is for 20 years which is the useful life of the meters," said El-Gharib. "Our meter system is similar to Westland."

In September, the council

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Santa arrives Dec. 5 at Wayne Museum

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Instead of a parade, Wayne residents can kick off the holiday season with a Holiday Night at the Museum.

The free community event is scheduled for 6-7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Wayne Historical Museum.

"It will include the Christmas tree lighting, Santa will arrive in a fire truck," said Wayne Rotarian John VanStipdonk, whose wife, Lois, will ride with Santa Claus as 2015 Diamond of the Community Award winner. That award comes with the honor of getting to officially light the holiday tree. Santa Claus will receive the key to the city.

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SMALL

Continued from Page A1

all over the city. We are trying our best to provide maps - not everyone will know where all the businesses are. Last year, we got shoppers from Wyandotte."

The scavenger hunt will involve taking cell phone photos of particular items around downtown Wayne. The full instructions will be included with the tote bag.

From noon to 3 p.m., shoppers can turn in

their Shop Small Passport to enter the prize drawings. There will be hot chocolate and a gift wrapping station, a suggestion that came from last year's event.

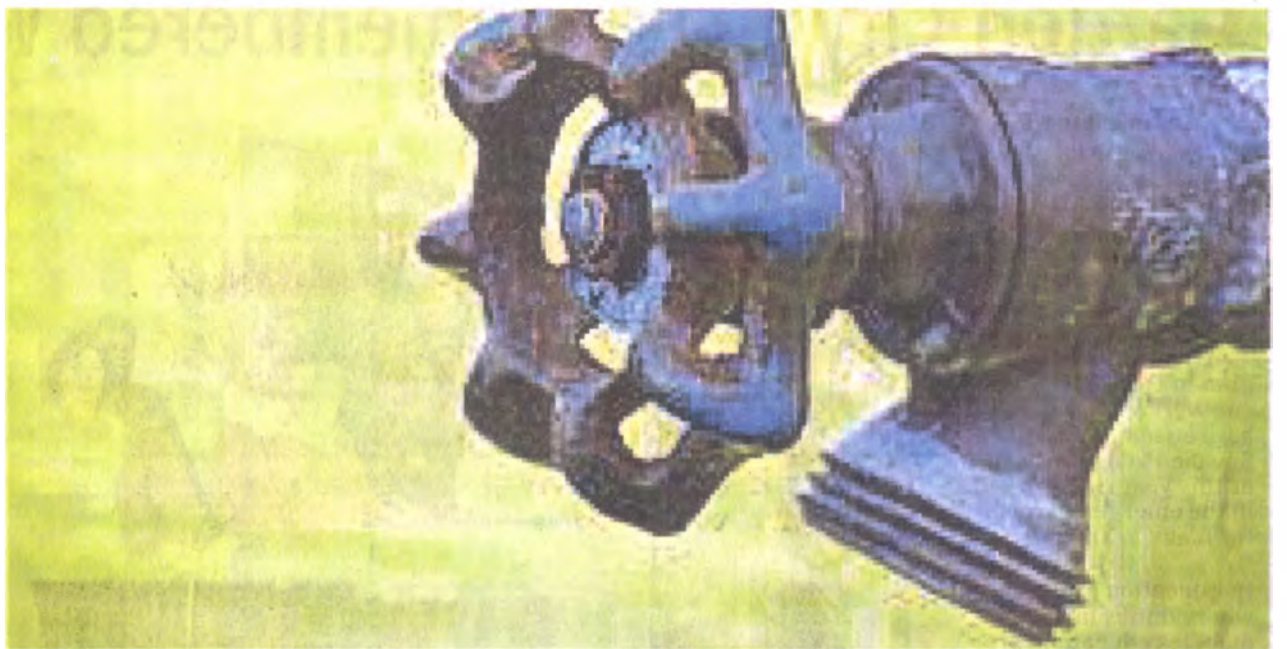
There will also be \$5 chair massages to help shoppers relax after a busy day of holiday shopping. All door prize winners will be announced at 3 p.m..

For more information, visit www.downtownwayne.org or call (734) 629-6822.

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FILE PHOTO



FILE PHOTO

Water usage data will be transmitted to city hall where it will electronically populate the accounts of water customers.

WATER

Continued from Page A1

had accepted a \$2.5 million bid from Etna Supply, the contractor providing the meters and remote readers which will be installed at all Wayne homes and businesses. The same firm is

currently providing new meters and readers city-wide in Westland in a two-year \$10 million project.

El-Gharib had commented earlier that the new meters, which send frequent readings digitally to cell towers and to the city for billing, are state-of-the-art. The same type of systems are

already in use in many communities, including Livonia.

The Advanced Meter Readers come with a 20-year warranty on accuracy. The units measure and record water usage using digital technology communicated through a low radio frequency network similar to those used in pagers.

The AMRs will transmit water usage data to towers which will then transmit this data directly to city hall where it will electronically populate the accounts of water customers for billing.

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SANTA

Continued from Page A1

The museum, recently decorated for the holidays by members of the Wayne Garden Club, will be open for hot chocolate, coffee and cookies but most importantly, for youngsters to visit with Santa Claus. Parents are welcome to bring their own cameras for photos.

"We'll have kids' activities like pony rides, a petting zoo and face painting," said VanStipdonk.

The Wayne Memorial High School Marching Band is scheduled to perform. "There will be more of an opportunity to hear the band (than in the parade). They will be performing right in front of the museum," Van-



FILE PHOTO

Santa Claus is coming to town.

Stipdonk said. "There will absolutely be more time for socializing. I think it will be a much more intimate affair."

Wayne Rotary sponsored the annual Christmas parade for many years — an evening lighted parade for the past two years. The club was forced to regroup this year when city offi-

cialists expressed safety concerns about not having enough police officers to handle such a large event.

VanStipdonk credited City Manager Lisa Noceri with getting an alternate holiday celebration organized in Wayne.

"Lisa and the (Wayne Police) Chief (Alan Maciagi) had to make a difficult decision and not have the parade," said VanStipdonk. "Lisa also chaired the committee to put this together, so good for her."

With the city's short staffing due to financial constraints, VanStipdonk said the city can still have a holiday celebration but needed to figure out what is affordable.

"The city is in a position where we have to look at everything. We're not trying to take good things away," said Noceri.

rini.

Along with Rotary, other event sponsors include the City of Wayne, Wayne Main Street, the Wayne Chamber of Commerce, the Wayne Goodfellows, the Westland Area Jaycees, the Wayne Beautification Committee, the Wayne Garden Club and the Wayne Historical Museum.

"We're dealing with the reality that we have. As soon as I put the word out, all of the groups have been stepping up," said Noceri. "As soon as we announced we would not be able to do the parade, donations started coming. We're still getting them. We had to set up an account."

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Garden City nurse remembered with marble bench

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A new carved marble bench is now in place outside the main entrance to Garden City Hospital, a memorial to a longtime nurse.

After joining the hospital in 1967, Doris Wilcox worked there until her retirement in 2012. She died at age 76 earlier this year. She worked in the emergency room for many years, later in the hospital's Community Education programs where duties included diabetes education, prostate exams and dispensing flu shots.

"I got my (late) husband a flu shot. He could hardly walk. Doris came out to the car to give him the flu shot," said Kathleen Urban, director of rehabilitation. "She was using two canes at that point. My husband (Larry) appreciated it so much. Doris cared so much and always went that extra mile. She was a sweet lady."

Urban and other former co-workers gathered recently for the dedication of the memorial bench. Donated by Wilcox's three children, the bench has a scene of the Maine coast with a lighthouse — two of the children live in Maine —



A bench remembering Doris Wilcox, Garden City Hospital nurse for 46 years.

Friends and former co-workers gathered to dedicate a marble bench in front of Garden City Hospital honoring the late Doris Wilcox, a nurse at the hospital for 46 years.

and a photograph of Wilcox.

"Doris didn't want a memorial service — she was so humble. Her kids got together and wanted to do something," said Urban.

For those who knew Wilcox, she is described most often as kind and dedicated, with a great sense of humor.

A lifelong Garden

City resident, Wilcox grew up in the city, living at her childhood home until she married her husband, Melvin. The couple moved to a home on Block where she raised her family and lived the rest of her life.

Earning her R.N. at the Henry Ford Hospital School of Nursing, Wilcox received the 2012

Athena Award recognizing her professional excellence and leadership.

Wilcox also was involved in the community outside nursing, volunteering in both Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Norah Fix, a retired nurse, worked closely with Wilcox at the hospital and also in Scouting. The two nurses volun-

teered their services at a Girl Scout camping trip with their daughters, Fix recalled. The women spent the night sleeping in a tent only to discover belatedly that as nurses they were actually provided with a cabin.

Wilcox is survived by her children Eric, K. Aspen and Mikella (Todd Steele), six grandchildren, a sister and many

other family and friends.

As her family wrote in her death notice, "She was beloved by all who had the pleasure of meeting her and there will be a void for many that that is impossible to replace."

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Tail Wagger's sponsors holiday pet food assistance

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

The community is encouraged to help fill the pantry by dropping off food and/or supplies for both dogs and cats to the Tail Waggers office, 28402 Five Mile, in Livonia (between Middlebelt and Inkster).



The goal is to collect enough food so that dogs and cats in the communi-

ty can have a little something special under the tree for them this holiday season. Tail Wagger's welcomes gift cards to Petsmart, Petco, Target, Meijer and Walmart.

The Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance Program gives temporary assistance to pet owners so their animals can stay with the family they have grown to love.

"The goal of the Pantry 4 Paws program is to help eliminate additional financial stress on a family during the holiday

season and to ensure the animals of the community are being fed and not going to sleep hungry at night," founder Laura Zain said.

Local businesses are also encouraged to become a collection point for the Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance Program, along with an invitation to the area Scouts, church groups, youth groups, schools etc. that are in need of a special project. All col-

lection points will be given a sign, personalized flier, collection bin and exposure on the Tail Wagger's 1990 website.

Families in need of pet food assistance can confidentially contact the Tail Wagger's office at 734-855-4077 at tailwaggers.1990@yahoo.com. While no income verification is necessary, the Pantry 4 Paws program does have a short application and requirements that are discussed with

each pet owner upon their first visit to pick up food. All calls will be kept confidential and arrangements to pick up food must be made in advance.

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

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WAYNE-WESTLAND SCHOOLS
 Keith Martinez, a third-grade student at Edison Elementary School, recently helped coordinate the fourth annual Pennies for Patient campaign at the school.

Knezek honored with Excellence in Education award

Two Michigan lawmakers will receive Excellence in Education Awards at the 15th annual AT&T/MACUL/MVU Student Technology Showcase at 9:15 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, in the State Capitol Building Rotunda in Lansing.

State Rep. Bradford Jacobsen, R-Oxford, and state Sen. David Knezek, D-Dearborn Heights, will be recognized for their dedication to improving the Michigan educational system.

The awards are presented by AT&T, the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) and Michigan Virtual University (MVU).

"Sen. Knezek and Rep. Jacobsen are determined



Knezek

advocates for the needs of Michigan learners," said Mark Smith, MACUL executive director.

"We are pleased to honor their achievements and offer our support for their leadership on behalf of teachers and students across the state."

Knezek is a Dearborn Heights native representing the 5th Senate District which includes Dearborn Heights, Detroit, Garden City, Inkster, and Redford Township.

After becoming the youngest member of the 2013-14 House Demo-

cratic Caucus at the age of 26, he was recognized as a Legislator of the Year for his work on tuition reform. He serves as chairman of the Senate Democratic Caucus and is an advocate for Michigan students, seniors, working families, and veterans.

The AT&T/MACUL/MVU Student Technology Showcase will feature technology displays from 30-plus schools statewide during three separate sessions. Exhibits will be set up in the halls of the Capitol so that students can provide legislators with hands-on demonstrations to show how technology is being used in the classroom to enhance learning.

State program helps fifth-grade students prepare for emergencies

The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division is offering elementary schools across the state an opportunity to enroll their fifth-graders in the Student Tools for Emergency Planning program. Known as STEP, this classroom curriculum enables teachers to prepare students for various emergencies, including tornadoes, flooding and storms.

"Fifth-graders who participate in the STEP program will learn important and potentially life-saving knowledge about emergency preparedness," said Capt. Chris A. Kelenske, deputy state director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and commander of the MSP/EMHSD. "Students then take that knowledge home and share it with family and friends, making their communities better prepared for an emergency or disaster."

The STEP program provides teachers with emergency preparedness materials at no cost to the school, including instructor guides, copies of student handouts and starter emergency supply kits for each student. The basic lesson includes one hour of instruction, but teachers have the option of expanding the lessons to include eight

hours of material. STEP curriculum can be taught by teachers, school officials, first responders or volunteers.

Last year, teachers from 103 schools statewide signed-up to participate in the STEP program and taught the curriculum to more than 6,400 students. This year, Michigan's emergency management professionals hope to educate at least 8,000 fifth-graders statewide.

STEP is sponsored by the MSP/EMHSD and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. It is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Seeking a cure: Students collect pennies for cancer charity

Students at Edison Elementary once again proved that every penny adds up.

For the fourth year, the students participated in Pennies for Patients, a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

The school raised

\$1,230.57 to help cure leukemia, lymphoma and Hodgkin's disease.

Students filled individual coin boxes at home then poured their money into classroom boxes to participate in a school-wide contest.

Teacher Michelle Paul's kindergarten class won

a free lunch from Olive Garden for bringing in the most donations.

Along with the money raised, Pennies for Patients is also a service program that actively involves students and teaches the importance of helping others.

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Turkey Trot a food boon for Goodfellows

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The Livonia Goodfellows do a lot for the local community while meeting their motto, "No Child Without a Christmas."

Hundreds of runners gave the Goodfellows a hand recently, signing up for the annual Livonia Turkey Trot, sponsored Nov. 7 by the Livonia Parks & Recreation Department.

All proceeds and nonperishable food donations brought in by the event will be used to help the Goodfellows meet their mission. In addition to more than 19 cases of canned goods, the annual event raised more than \$3,100 for the Goodfellows.

"Some bring big bags with quite a lot of food, others bring a can or two," said Livonia Goodfellows President Bill Heaton. "It comes at the right time as we start our holiday preparations, and we certainly appreciate it."

The annual event drew 533 participants and could be considered a huge success, according to Scott Spahr, fitness & wellness coordinator for the parks and recreation department.

"We had fantastic weather, you couldn't beat the weather," Spahr said. "We are very fortunate to live in a community that gives so much."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich



An enthusiastic crowd of runners leaves the starting line at the 2015 Turkey Trot, sponsored by the Livonia Parks & Recreation Department.

SUBMITTED

Ask Dr. Stewart

Dr. James Stewart offers treatment for sleep apnea and chronic snoring from his practice in Livonia, MI. Today he answers a question about the link between sleep apnea and high blood pressure.

SLEEP APNEA AND HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

Dear Dr. Stewart: Is it true that sleep apnea can raise blood pressure?

Dr. Stewart: Yes. Sleep apnea causes a patient to stop breathing for brief periods during the night. Once you stop breathing, the brain becomes deprived of oxygen. In a desperate bid for more oxygen, the body begins moving blood as quickly as possible through your body to deliver oxygen to the brain. The sudden rush can raise blood pressure during the night and tends to carry over to the daytime when the patient is awake.

Also known as hypertension, elevated blood pressure can increase the risk of stroke and heart attack. There is evidence however that blood pressure can be lowered when sleep apnea is treated.

If you have questions about your sleep difficulties then contact Dr. Stewart's Sleep Better Michigan practice.

Call 734.425.4400 or Visit www.sleepbettermichigan.com

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Goodfellows (from left) Bob Johnson, Steven Fry and Bill Heaton with some of the donations from the Turkey Trot.

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Wish you were here



Chris and Phil Riedy of Livonia were in Tampa last week, and took their Livonia Observer with them. Chris attended the national conference for Respiratory Care. The couple stayed two extra days and traveled to Clearwater, where they took this photo.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Webb hours

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

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

Livonia Town Club

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. to approximately 2 p.m., the fourth Thursday of each month from September through May.

Details: December's program features David Passalacqua, musician/accordion player. It's a nonprofit women's organization bringing together women for social interaction. Come and enjoy informative speakers, bingo, a fashion

show, music and more. Contact Vicki at 734-591-3254 for more information.

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 setup is 9 a.m. on the day of the show, and complimentary coffee and doughnuts 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.

Collectors show

A collectors show including Star Wars, Star Trek, lunch boxes, non-sport cards, G.I. Joes, 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 sale. For more information, contact livoniayouthchoir@gmail.com

Holiday reunion

The 31st annual holiday reunion for retirees and former employees of Wayne County General Hospital will be held Tuesday, Dec. 8, from 5-8 p.m. 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 or questions, contact Dennis Abraham at 734-721-2917 or email fightingirish316@glob-al.net.

Library offers more eBooks

In addition to Download Destination (an eBook collection that the library added back in 2011) the Livonia Public Library and more than 40 other libraries throughout the state of Michigan are offering even more eBooks and eAudiobooks to their communities.

Using their library card, patrons can quickly browse, click, and enjoy thousands of new titles at <https://tln.odilo.us/#index> or from the library's website, <http://livonia.lib.mi.us/>

The eBook management platform, powered by ODILo, features bestselling and popular fiction and non-fiction titles from all of the large leading publishers, midlist publishers, small and independent publishers and self-publishers, along with locally-created content. "Thanks to The Li-



COURTESY LIVONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Livonia Public Library and more than 40 other libraries throughout the state of Michigan are offering even more eBooks and eAudiobooks to their communities.

brary Network (TLN) our patrons reap the benefit of easily accessing a variety of digital content (or eContent) such as eBooks, eAudiobooks, streaming videos, etc. at a much lower cost to us," said Livonia Library Director Toni

LaPorte. Readers can choose their own lending period of 7, 14 or 21 days, and there are never any late fees - as titles automatically expire and return to the library collection.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

DECEMBER 31, 2015

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*One per person, while supplies last.

Lincoln MKX: A sophisticated, luxury crossover

The 2016 Lincoln MKX is on sale now at Jack Demmer Lincoln, where customers benefit from the "Demmer Difference."

The all-new 2016 MKX is a larger, more sophisticated midsize luxury crossover than the one it replaces. It has a more refined interior, additional technology features and a unique premium sound system.

And it is hit with customers as this first-time buyer from Ontario can attest as he writes on Cars.com: "I love everything about this car, the ride, the interior, the looks it gets, the sound system with 19 speakers is incredible. Very quiet interior, very comfortable seating front and back. ... I give it a full 5 stars."



LINCOLN MOTOR CO.

The 2016 Lincoln MKX is on sale now at Jack Demmer Lincoln.

Exterior

The MKX bears strong resemblance to the smaller MKC, but its greater size affords it some better proportions. The front features the now-familiar winged Lincoln grille appearing on every new model, along with some attractive detailing to the headlights. Prominent fenders front and rear stretch back to a full-width LED tail lamp assembly.

Interior

The upgraded interior features available 22-way adjustable front seats that can automatically shift position to help alleviate muscle fatigue by selectively inflating and deflating one of 11 air bladders. The optional seats also feature a power thigh extender and a four-way power head restraint.

The dashboard has a mix of buttons and switches, but most notable is the absence of a traditional shifter. Lincoln has fitted the MKX with a push-button gear selector. Unlike the cur-

rent MKX, there are no more touch-sensitive panels for any controls; everything gets dedicated buttons and knobs. The multimedia system's touch-screen resides in the center console as before and now features improved smartphone and Internet connectivity via the MyLincoln Mobile app, which allows the driver to start, lock, unlock, locate and remote-start the car.

The Black Label trim has been extended to the MKX as well, with four different themes available on the top-level interior package. These include two new designer interior packages: one based on a horse-racing theme, the other on 1920s Paris. The MKX also features two optional sound systems by high-end home theater system maker Revel, a 13-speaker system and a top-line 19-speaker Ultima system standard in the top Black Label trim, and optional on the lesser Reserve trim. The 13-



LINCOLN MOTOR CO.

Lincoln has fitted the MKX with a push-button gear selector.

speaker system is available on the Reserve and Select trims. The Revel system uses a proprietary surround-sound technology, offers three listening modes and a 20-channel amplifier.

Under the hood

The standard engine in the MKX is a 3.7-liter

V-6 making 300 horsepower, mated to a six-speed automatic transmission and driving the front wheels. All-wheel drive is optional. If you seek more power, a 330-hp, 2.7-liter EcoBoost V-6 engine is available. Lincoln Drive Control is optional, allowing the driver to select between

Normal, Comfort and Sport modes.

Safety

The new MKX features a host of electronic safety aids, including the usual list of an adaptive cruise control with automatic full-stop braking, lane-keeping assist, a blind spot information

system, cross-traffic alert and a 360-degree camera that can be activated while parking. The front camera is actually mounted on an articulated mount that pops out from behind the Lincoln star badge in the grille. A full suite of sonar sensors provide front-, rear- and side-vehicle sensing systems, automatic parallel and perpendicular parking, and a system that even pulls the crossover out of a parking spot as well.

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For more information, call 800-306-8674 or go to demmerlincoln.net.

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* All payments are based on A/Z plan, plus tax, title and plates, 10,500 annual miles allowed for all leases. Lease renewal included. Lincoln MKX requires Lincoln MKX Lease to Lincoln MKX lease. Lincoln MKS includes Owner Loyalty incentive. Residency restrictions apply. Security deposit is waived with approved credit through Lincoln AFS. Taxes, title, and document fees are due at signing. Non A/Z plan payments slightly higher. Price is subject to change. Lincoln MKS Program ends 11-30-15. All other programs end by 1-4-16

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OPENING

Continued from Page A1

community."

After Livonia resident Steven Thomas warmed up the crowd by wailing on his saxophone, Santa Claus came to the stage to the screams and delights of the young children in the crowd of thousands who gathered.

Evans, noting the 4.5-mile long stretch of Christmas light displays, which includes more than 100,000 lights, said it might be the longest such display in the country.

"I don't think there's a longer one in the nation," Evans said. "I think I have more fun with this than anybody."

Melissa Soronen of Plymouth doesn't usually come to the kickoff, but

Thursday was different, and she was glad to be there.

"We don't usually come, but a family friend invited us," Soronen said. "We're excited about it."

Unlike Soronen, Tawnya Slocum of Romulus comes every year.

"My kids love seeing their friends, and they love the lights," Slocum said. "The kids absolutely love it."

The Wayne County Lightfest runs through Dec. 31. It's open Monday-Thursday from 7-10 p.m.; and Friday-Sunday from 6-10 p.m. Drivers should enter Hines Drive from Merriman Road between Ann Arbor Trail and Warren in Westland. There is a \$5 fee per vehicle for the Lightfest which is closed on Christmas Day, Dec. 25.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Apparently, Santa Claus parked the sleigh and reindeer and took a county truck.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eight-year-old Andria Ridley enjoys a big doughnut and a cup of hot chocolate before the festivities begin. She attended the opening of the Wayne County Lightfest with her parents, Alex and Jesse Ridley, 2-year-old brother Aiden Ridley and her grandmother, Terri Ridley. They are from Livonia.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Santa Claus made his usual entrance and spent time with the kids.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jay and Monica Suarez watch the fireworks display.

INVITATION TO BID BID NUMBER T4 COMMUNITY ROOMS A/V FOR LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education ("Owner") will receive firm, sealed bid proposals for all labor, materials, equipment and all other services to complete the T4 Community Rooms A/V bid package.

Electronic downloads of the bid documents can be obtained on or after November 18, 2015 by filling out the form at j.mp/CommunityRoomRFP. If hard copies of the documents are needed, they will be printed at the bidder's expense. Request hard copies by calling (248) 436-5846 or emailing kevin.colbert@bartonmalow.com.

Sealed bids labeled "BID NO. T4 - Community Rooms A/V" are due by 11:00 a.m. on the 9th day of December, 2015 at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. All vendors are invited to attend opening. *Bid Proposals received after the due date will not be considered or accepted.* Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.

There will be no Pre-Bid Meeting. Questions pertaining to this request for proposal should be submitted by 12:00 p.m. November 30, 2015 to rob.greager@bartonmalow.com or kevin.colbert@bartonmalow.com.

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

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

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

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

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. Three (3) signed copies of the bid form are to be addressed to the attention of:

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

"BID NO. T4 - Community Rooms A/V"

VAAL turns classroom into Holiday Shoppe

Anyone looking for a special gift this season won't want to miss what's

happening at the Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL).

VAAL is once again changing their year-round classroom into an exciting and unique Holiday Shoppe. Offered will be one-of-a-kind holiday gifts created by area artisans. This juried event features pottery, fiber, hand blown glass, jewelry and other accessories, wood items, clothing, ornaments, framed and unframed art and much more. There will be items in every price range.

The public is invited to a gala grand opening reception being held Thursday, Dec. 3, from 6-8 p.m. Visitors can enjoy refreshments, meet some of the artists and be the first to see the selection of gifts for everyone on your list. There is no charge for this event.

The Holiday Shoppe will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily starting Friday, Dec. 4, through Sunday, Dec. 13.

For more information call 734-838-1204 or go to www.vaalart.org.

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Put family loans in writing, estate documents

Q: I have an estate planning question that I hope you can help me with. I am a widow with three adult children. In my will, I leave everything equally to my three children. About 10 years ago, I loaned my youngest son \$50,000 to start a business. Nothing was in writing, but he had agreed to pay me back within five years. His business went belly up and, obviously, I was never repaid. My first question is when I pass away, what happens to that loan? Does it automatically get discharged or does it come out of my son's share? I think to be fair to my other children, it should come out of his share. Is there anything I



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

need to do to make sure this happens?

A: The loan that you made to your son would typically be treated as an asset of the estate. What normally would happen upon death is that the discharge of the loan to your son would be part of his distribution. For example, if upon death the value of your estate, including that outstanding debt, was \$150,000 and thus, each child would be entitled to a \$50,000 distribution upon

your death, then instead of getting \$50,000 as an inheritance, his inheritance would be the discharge of the debt.

However, the problem in your case is the fact that there is nothing in writing. If your son says that it was a gift and not a loan, it could cause all sorts of problems within the family. Fights like this can get very nasty and that is not something anyone would want upon their death. Because of this, I believe a change in your estate planning documents is needed.

What I recommend is that you amend your estate planning documents and specifically set forth what you want to happen to the outstanding

debt upon your death. By you putting it in your will, it should eliminate any potential for disputes within the family. The key for you is to make sure your wishes are clearly stated.

In a loan situation, it is important to have something in writing so that the parties to the agreement understand if there is interest or not, if there are periodic payments on the loan or one lump sum payment. The bottom line — you put things in writing so both parties understand what they are getting into.

Loans within families have great potential to cause problems. If you do make loans within the family, even if you have a loan document in writ-

ing, you need to address it in your estate planning documents. In addition, it is also important that you have some process to document if and when the loan is repaid. After all, if the loan is repaid and is not properly documented, that also can cause problems.

Loaning money to family and friends is a wonderful gesture and can really make a difference in someone's life. However, as part of the process to make sure that a good gesture doesn't cause all sorts of other problems, it is important to document the terms of the deal.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser.

Guide to Employment

To place your ad here contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 1-800-579-7355

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Help Wanted - General

Field Service Tech Full-Time
Will be dispatched to various calls in the Metro-Detroit area to repair Toshiba copiers. Salary + monthly Bonus + company car, cell phone & Laptop + health benefits + paid time off.
Apply in person:
Millennium Business Systems
33140 Industrial Rd., Livonia

Help Wanted - General

GOLF STARTER
Private Country Club Part Time/PM and Weekends
Call Bob for an application appointment:
248-851-4339

Help Wanted - General

GROUP HOME MANAGER
Wayne County Seeking manager with experience in a group home with disability consumers.
Requirements Include:
• CLS Training
• Recipient Rights
• CPR & First Aid Certification
• 2 Years Experience
Full Time w/Benefits
ENHANCE, INC.
248-477-5209
Email resume to: shetman@enhance-inc.com

Help Wanted - General

INSIDE SALES SPECIALIST
Inspec, Inc. in Canton, Michigan is looking for a full-time inside sales specialist who is an assertive self-starter with excellent written and verbal communication skills and 5 years' experience in catalog customer sales. The candidate will be responsible for interaction with active and prospective customers via phone and email; creating and processing quotations along with documentation of interactions in company database. They must also meet established quotas and sales goals. Knowledge of measurement services and equipment is preferred along with a two-year associates degree. We offer a competitive wage and benefits package in a team oriented work environment.
Send resume and salary requirements to resumes@inspec-inc.com
InspeC

Help Wanted - General

IT Site Coordinator
Dietronik, Inc. has an opening for an IT Site Coordinator at its facility in Auburn Hills, Michigan.
Job duties include:
1. Provide IT oversight for all local IT services and manage assigned IT resources to ensure a high-availability environment.
2. Manage IT operational processes to ensure compliance and meeting internal performance measurement.
3. Manage the 7X24 IT operations organization.
4. Analyze complex technical problems and implement solutions appropriate corrective actions based on root cause analysis.
5. Ensure compliance for all corporate IT standards, policies and processes.
6. Manage IT projects based on PMI project management methodologies.
7. Direct and conduct control design approvals, equipment reviews, validation and installation.
8. Manage local IT Infrastructure life-cycle from design through deployment and decommissioning hardware/software.
9. Provide direction, coaching, motivation, and performance reviews for staff members.
10. Coordinate desktop support and Customer Care Center operations.
11. Coordinate the implementation and support of plant floor applications.
12. Evaluate and optimize IT support processes based on ITIL framework.
Position requires Bachelors degree, a 3 or 4 year bachelors degree is acceptable, in Information Technology, Computer Science or foreign equivalent education, and 2 years experience in each of the following:
1. Supervising local IT support for a manufacturing facility.
2. Providing Level 1 support for a 7X24 IT operations.
3. Administration for MS Lync, MS Exchange and VM server environments.
4. Managing site Data Center operations, including: data management, preventative maintenance, capacity planning, performance management and disaster recovery.
5. Providing Level 1 support for IT Oracle EBS, MES (Shop-Floor systems), Maximo, PLM and PeopleSoft systems.
6. Implementing MES Control Systems (PLC, CNC, and PC based controls).
Experience may be obtained concurrently.
Applicants should send their resumes to Dietronik, Inc. 1987 Taylor Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326, ATTN: Paige Mark

Help Wanted - General

Manufacturing:
Expanding Manufacturing Company in Livonia is currently recruiting for the following full-time positions:
• Production Press Operators
• Robotic Technicians
• Customer Service Rep w/GM experience
• Accounts Payable Clerk
• Cost Estimator
• Various Management
• Engineering Positions
Interested parties should mail, email or fax resume to:
QUALITY METALCRAFT
33355 Glendale Livonia, MI 48150
Fax: 734-469-5248
Email: careers@qualitymetalcraft.com
Candidates should have automotive manufacturing experience preferred.

Help Wanted - General

SENIOR COMPUTER SYSTEM ANALYST
EBAI seeks Sr. Comp Sys Anal. Analyze science, eng. business & other data processing problems to implement & improve embedded comp sys. Rqmts: 4 yrs exp in rel occupation + technologies: Statistical Stfw, C, Visual Studio; integrated development environment IDE stfw, Linux, UNIX, Flowchart Stfw, UML; Regression testing, Static analysis & Sys Testing Stfw. Job location: Farmington Hills, MI
Resume to: Elekrobit@AutomotiveAmericas Inc
22745 - 29th Drive SE Ste 200 Bothell WA 98021. Job ref # KP005.

Help Wanted - General

TELLER Part-Time
Processing transactions & offering products that enhance member's financial needs. Outgoing personality, exceptional communication skills & sales & service driven. Exp'd applicants need only apply. Cover letter & resume. **Attn: VP of Sales & Service**
36525 Plymouth Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

Help Wanted - General

WAREHOUSE / ADMIN
MJS PACKAGING 130 Year Old Company in Livonia, MI with stable work environment has immediate opening for a full-time individual with good communication skills and clerical experience. Applicant must possess a working knowledge of MS Outlook and a basic knowledge of MS Excel and Word. Experience with setting shipping/receiving appointments and shipping/order processing is preferred. We offer a competitive salary and benefits package. Email resumes to: resumes@mjspackaging.com

Help Wanted - General

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Part time position at property management/development firm in Livonia. Minimum 1-2 years experience. Multi-task, computer, emphasis on accounts receivables, data entry. Email resume to: marge@germanomgt.com

Help Wanted - General

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/DIRECT CARE WORKER
Rewarding positions serving persons with special needs in their homes or in group homes. Must be 18. Paid training. Hiring in: Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti, Brighton, Milford, Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, Northville/Canton areas.
QUEST inc
QUEST inc
Email resume: bellconquest@questserv.org
Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor 734-239-9015
South Lyon: 248-573-5023
Novi/Wixom 248-946-4425
New Hudson: 248-437-7535

Help Wanted - General

WAREHOUSE STAFF
MJS PACKAGING 130 Year Old Company in Livonia, MI with stable work environment has immediate opening for a full time warehouse position. Applicant should possess forklift, receiving and order processing skills. Must also have good communication, organizational and mathematical skills and be able to lift up to 70 lbs. Previous experience with a warehouse management system is preferred. We offer a competitive wage and benefits package. Please email resumes to: resumes@mjspackaging.com

Help Wanted - General

PLUMBER
with at least 3 years of field experience or Licensed journeyman. Valid driver's license and reliable transportation. Send resume and work history/experience to: resume_hr_department@yahoo.com

Help Wanted - General

REAL ESTATE SALES OPPORTUNITY
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• Work Your Own Schedule
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• Health/Life/Disability/Retirement
• Full Time Support Staff
Real Estate One
PAT RYAN, REALTOR (734) 591-9200 PatRyan@RealEstateOne.com

Help Wanted - General

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Help Wanted - General

MAINTENANCE TECH
Needed for Wixom area townhomes. 2 yrs. exp. in multi-family repairs & snow plowing a must. Competitive salary and benefits. EOE
Fax resume to **MNC**
248-553-4570

Help Wanted - General

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Help Wanted - General

HOUSEKEEPERS
For Day Shift, Part Time and Full Time. Must be friendly, outgoing, and enjoy working with the elderly. Experience preferred. High School Diploma or GED required.
Apply in person at: 1014 E. Grand River Ave Brighton MI
Or email resume to: hrcaretelbrighton@gmail.com
You'll Want to Work Here!
Caretel
Dive of Brighton

Help Wanted - General

JANITORIAL
Howell, Brighton, Wixom, Novi, Farmington Mon-Fri & weekend availability 20-25 hrs/wk. \$9.50/hr. www.usserico.com or fax resume to: 248-926-9595
U.S. SERVIC, INC.
WE ARE AN EOE EMPLOYER

Help Wanted - General

JANITORIAL
Part-Time Evening Positions in Livonia & Farmington areas. Starting at \$8.50/hour. Apply online at: usservico.com or fax resume 248-926-9595
U.S. SERVIC, INC.

Help Wanted - General

O&E Media Classifieds Work Hard!
Direct Support Professional Needed to assist and support individuals to live in their homes as independently as possible by assisting with recreation, daily living needs, transportation and other duties/ services. Positions available in Canton/ Westland Area. Contact: 734-722-4580 Ext #19 or apply on-line www.ahscoserv.com/

Help Wanted - General

TEAM CLEANERS
DIRECT HIRE- IMMEDIATE START \$9-\$11/HR BASED ON EXP. WEEKLY PAY CALL 248-598-5255 OR APPLY AT WWW.SABERSTAFFINGSERVICES.COM

Help Wanted - Engineer

Industrial Engineer
In Auburn Hills, Michigan. Design, develop, test and evaluate integrated systems for industrial applications. Design, test and calculate mechanical components for heavy machinery including shafts, coupling, bearing life cycle, selection of gear motor, chain and sprocket by using FEA static stress analysis, frame analysis and tolerance calculation.
Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering or its foreign educational equivalent required. Requires a minimum of one year of experience as a (Senior) Industrial Engineer in the position offered or in a similar industrial engineering position for the engineering, design and manufacturing of heavy electrical product.
Send resume, cover letter for job code 6360170 to: Shannon Smith HR Administrator FATA Automation, Inc. 2333 E. Walton Blvd. Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Help Wanted - Medical

Front Desk/Admissions
TEAM REHABILITATION PHYSICAL THERAPY
Front Desk/Admissions
Team Rehabilitation has full-time and part-time Front Desk Admissions positions at our new Northville clinic. Team Rehab is a growing company, offering competitive salary, an excellent benefit package and bonuses.
Apply online at: www.team-rehab.com

Front Desk/Admissions
TEAM REHABILITATION PHYSICAL THERAPY
Front Desk/Admissions
Team Rehabilitation has openings for full-time and part-time Front Desk admissions positions at our Farmington Hills clinic. Team Rehab is a growing company offering competitive salary, excellent benefit package & bonuses.
Apply online at: www.team-rehab.com

Help Wanted - Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Needed for a very busy dental practice in Novi. Contact Cyndi at: 248-465-6310

Help Wanted - Medical

ORTHODONTIC ASSISTANT
Experience in chairside assisting preferred. Hrs: Mon-Wed, 8-5. No Weekends or Evenings!
Email resume to: kensingtonorthodontics@hotmail.com or Fax: 248-684-4713

Help Wanted - Medical

ADMINISTRATIVE/ MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Medical office seeks exp'd. medical receptionist
Must have strong computer and medical insurance knowledge. Full-time/excellent pay and benefits including 401K. No weekends/no evenings!
Ann Arbor area. a2derm@aol.com

Help Wanted - Medical

BILLER/CODER CERTIFIED IN GASTROENTEROLOGY
2 yrs. minimum exp. for busy Gastroenterology office in Farmington Hills. Fax or email resume: 248-471-8904 info@sogadocs.com

Help Wanted - Medical

DIETARY AIDE
Short-term rehab Experience preferred. Email resume to: ycelevings@novwellness.com

Help Wanted - Medical

Direct Care Workers
For residential group living and semi-independent living program serving people with traumatic brain injuries. Direct care workers assist with activities of daily living, personal care, home maintenance, cooking, scheduling, transportation, and social activities.
Skills Needed: Excellent communication and written skills, valid Michigan driver's license, proof of valid auto no fault car insurance, and reliable transportation. A physical, drug test, and background check will be completed on all applicants. Benefits include: After 90 days, paid combined time off, health benefits. Please email resume to: powers@dignitasinc.com or via fax to (248) 919-4026

Help Wanted - Medical

RN, LPN or MA
Dermatology practice in Ann Arbor/Phymouth area is seeking motivated RN, LPN or MA
Dermatology exp'd, preferred. Salary determined by exp. & knowledge. Excellent benefit package including 401K. No Weekends/No Evenings. a2derm@aol.com

Help Wanted - Medical

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

The shock of Nov. 22, 1963, remembered

Diane K. Bert
Correspondent

By Nov. 22, 1963, the American public had spent almost 1,000 days getting to know the Kennedys, admiring Jackie's sense of fashion, her project to restore and bringing fine arts to the White House. They eagerly absorbed the latest news and photos of Caroline and John John.

During their days in the White House, a new tone was set with the arts and artists featured there blending with politicians, artists and entertainers. The building which became the Kennedy Center was initiated.

When their newborn premature baby, Patrick Bouvier Kennedy, died in August of 1963, the nation mourned. Americans were fond of Caroline and John John and all of their activities, although Jackie shielded them from publicity. Photos of their times in Hyannis Port, Mass., with their family pets were very popular.

Jackie's restoration of the decor and furnishings of the public rooms of the White House made fascinating news. Millions watched as she conducted a television tour in February 1962. She said, "Everything in the White House must have a reason for being there. It would be a sacrilege to



FREDERICK L. SHIPPEY VISUAL MATERIALS COLLECTION, BENTLEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

It was a proud moment in American history when John Kennedy stood on the steps of the Michigan Union in Ann Arbor and announced the founding of the Peace Corps.

merely redecorate it. It must be restored. The White House is a place to celebrate American culture, history, and achievement."

With this background of interest, admiration, and affection the breaking news that the President had been shot in Dallas brought alarm and dread to the population. People gathered at radio and television sets yearning for more news and hoping the news would be good. The Kennedys were beloved and respected in a way difficult

for future generations to understand.

Mary Sanders, 17, a senior now at Seaholm High School, mentions, "We learned about the assassination and the affection Americans had for the Kennedys but I didn't go through the experience."

Barbara Russell remembers being a student at Seaholm and hearing the news. She saw a male teacher walking down the hall crying. "That scared me," she remembers. "We didn't know what would happen next. Then

silence prevailed."

At Michigan State University in East Lansing, Ed Pugh approached his class as usual and found that it had been canceled. He proceeded to a dormitory area to watch events as they occurred on television. "There were far fewer TV's then, a large group of students assembled, there was complete quiet and disbelief that it could happen."

Another MSU student remembered, "We walked around the campus like Zombies. I went

to church."

"In Port Huron, we were sent home from school. Everything stopped. My father gave quotes to the papers mentioning that this was not a coup. There would be an orderly transition. The nation mourned together," Mary Gholz explained.

Greg Burry was returning from a hunting trip. "We had the car radio on constantly. We spent the whole weekend in a haze. We were stunned. We watched TV all week."

"It was the loss of a dream instilled in us by our young, vibrant President. He gave us new ideas and hopes and dreams. The dream turned into a nightmare," is the memory of Jody Brooks.

Coco Siewert was teaching third grade in New York. She remembers, "We were not told until the end of the school day. The administrators decided it would be best for the families to deal with this tragedy. We had a gut reaction of fear and sadness. How could such a terrible thing happen? They were our royalty. I remember the iconic photos of John John playing under his father's desk and his salute as the funeral cortege moved by."

Another person mentions that the whole week was like a funeral in the family.

Dianne Bostic-Robinson remembers, "We all adored the Kennedy clan. Jack and Jackie were a magical team, young and vibrant. I remember vividly how shocked we all were. We cried. He influenced what I became. His speech, 'Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country' was important to me. It was a rallying cry for me and others in my generation throughout the United States."

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Fraud reported

A resident who lives in the 16500 block of Farmington came into the police station Wednesday to report a fraud that could have resulted in a loss of several hundred dollars.

She said she received a call from someone claiming to be from the Wayne County Sheriff's Office stating there were

two warrants out for her arrest and that she needed to pay the Wayne County Court to have the warrants cleared. The resident went to Kroger on Five Mile and purchased two rechargeable gift cards totaling \$1,500. Later, she felt uneasy about the call and contacted the sheriff's office. The investigator told her to file a police report with her local

POLICE BRIEFS

agency.

Wallet stolen

A resident came into the police station Thursday afternoon to report his wallet stolen from the MerriBowl, 30950 Five Mile.

He said he was at the bowling alley two days before when he left his wallet in his jacket pocket and left the coat on his bowling bag. He then

went to snack bar. Later, when he left the bowling alley, he found the wallet missing. He contacted the bowling alley, but they said they did not have his wallet.

Computer stolen from vehicle

A resident came in Tuesday night to report her laptop computer stolen from her vehicle while it was at Villa Ma-

rie's, 15131 Newburgh. She said she parked her car and went inside for a few minutes, leaving the car unlocked. She returned to find her laptop computer missing from the passenger side seat.

—Compiled by David Veselenak from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department.

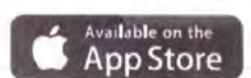


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Holmes student diagnosed with whooping cough

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Livonia Public Schools officials sent a letter home with students at Holmes Middle School Wednesday letting them know a student had been diagnosed with pertussis.

The condition, more commonly known as whooping cough, can be spread through sneezing

and coughing. The letter served as a reminder for parents to check their children's immunization records.

"We are working closely with the Wayne County Department of Public Health; and although Wayne County protocol does not require we sanitize rooms, we are taking these steps as an extra precaution,"

school officials said in the letter. "... If your child is not fully protected against pertussis, please contact your doctor to have them immunized."

According to the letter, pertussis, in its early stage, can resemble a cold and include sneezing, runny nose, mild dry cough and low-grade fever. Later, those in-

fectured may experience more concerning "coughing spells" that can last for more than a minute and result in a lack of oxygen. At the end of a spell, the child may make a high pitched "whooping" sound as they try to catch their breath. This is how the disease got its name.

The time between exposure to the bacteria

and disease symptoms is usually between 7 - 10 days; in rare cases, it can take as long as 3 weeks, the letter read.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control point out whooping cough can cause adults or teens to have severe coughing that leads to vomiting or broken ribs, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. They can

be hospitalized for pneumonia and miss weeks of work or school. The CDC urges parents to make sure their children are vaccinated against the disease; and also ask a doctor or pediatrician.

Parents of children at Holmes Middle School who have questions are asked to call the Wayne County Health Department at 734-727-7078.

5K walk/run focuses on military, vets

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

On a beautiful sunny day, the first Veterans 5K walk/run in Westland's Central City Park drew over 200 participants.

"It was a great event. It exceeded all of our expectations for a first-year run," said Jim Hart, president of the Westland Area Jaycees which sponsored the event. The walk/run extended into the neighborhood along Carlson and Marquette before returning to the park on a certified and timed 5K route.

The event wasn't just about getting some exercise — it was a fundraiser and a chance to see members of the military running in cadence.

For \$25, participants in the 5K received a long sleeve event shirt, commemorative number bib, and finishers got a dog tag.

"We managed to raise nearly \$10,000 in total funds which will be dispersed some time in December to Veterans Haven and a few other local veterans groups," said Hart, an Army veteran.

The race was led by the 952nd Quartermaster Company, a U.S. Army Reserve Unit out of Livonia, led by Capt. Mitchell Vaughan.

"They gave many people the first opportunity to see an Army unit run and sing cadence, while veterans smiled and remembered their days doing the same many years ago," said Hart.

When not running, the Army set up a number of fun activities to suit all ages, including a football toss, pull-up bars and more.

There was also a Future Soldiers run which was led by Staff Sgt. Steven Carroll of the Westland Recruiting Station, who also served on the 5K committee since February along with Sgt. Brennen LaPere.

The event also drew other military-related groups:

» The Freedom Cen-



U.S. Army recruiting staff members turned out for the Veterans 5K in Westland.

Future Soldiers from the Westland Recruiting Station at the Veterans 5K Walk/Run.



Army Staff Sgt. Steven Carroll from the Westland Recruiting Center finishing the Veterans 5K.



Sea Cadets helped out at the Veterans 5K Walk/Run in Westland handing out dog tags to finishers.



Westland Area Jaycee Shawn Harshaw coming across the finishing line at the Veterans 5K.

Members of the 952nd Quartermaster Company running in the Veterans 5K hosted by the Westland Area Jaycees.

ter, a unique, privately funded hospitality center for members of the armed forces traveling through Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

» Camp Liberty, which provides inclusive outdoor recreation programs that aid in the reintegration of U.S. military service members, veterans, and their families, with an emphasis on assisting those with post-traumatic

stress and traumatic brain injuries. camp-liberty.org.

» The U.S. Army Recruiting Station.

» Local Sea Cadets were on hand to pass out the dog tags to the walk/run finishers.

» Veterans Haven. <http://www.vetshaveninfo.org/haven.htm>

Working with a committee of Jaycees, local recruiters and the Westland Mayor's Office, Hart said the event was a huge success.

"It's moments like this that make all the evenings and planning time worthwhile. The Westland Area Jaycees are committed to our home-

town heroes and this is one way we can work to do something for them," said Hart. "I am proud to be a veteran, a Westland Area Jaycee and a resi-

dent of the All-American City."

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

CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE

AGENDA
Zoning Board of Appeals
December 8, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.
Livonia City Hall - Auditorium (1st Floor)
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI
(734) 466 2259

APPEAL CASE 2015-10-56 (Tabled on October 27, 2015): MKO Real Estate, LLC, 27472 Schoenherr, Ste. 140, Warren, MI 48088, on behalf of Lessee St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia, MI 48154, seeking to erect two wall signs upon property located on the north side of Five Mile (36622) between Levan and Williams, resulting in excess number of signs and sign area.

APPEAL CASE 2015-10-58 (Tabled on October 27, 2015): Joseph and Cindy Rivet, west side of Ellen (15619) between Edgewood and Roycroft, seeking to erect a four (4) foot tall open picket style fence upon a corner lot, resulting in the fence not aligning with any other fence on adjoining property and the fence being located in the front yard, which is not allowed.

APPEAL CASE 2015-12-62: Toebeck Realty Corporation, 9986 Manchester Road, St. Louis, MO 63122, on behalf of Lessee Panda Restaurant Group, 1683 Walnut Grove, Rosemead, CA 91770, seeking to erect a one (1) story restaurant within a multi-tenant commercial retail center upon property located on the west side of Middlebelt (13701) between Schoolcraft and Industrial, resulting in deficient number of parking spaces. Note: This site was before the Zoning Board of Appeals previously with Case #2014-01-11 where it was granted a deficiency of 62 parking spaces.

APPEAL CASE 2015-12-63: Toebeck Realty Corporation, 9986 Manchester Road, St. Louis, MO 63122, on behalf of Lessee Panda Restaurant Group, 1683 Walnut Grove, Rosemead, CA 91770, seeking to erect three (3) wall signs, directional sign, menu board sign and identification ground sign upon property located on the west side of Middlebelt (13701) between Schoolcraft and Industrial, resulting in excess number of wall signs, wall sign area, directional and menu board sign that are excess in area and the identification ground sign is not allowed based on other non-conforming ground signs which required previous approval for this multi-tenant retail site by the Zoning Board.

APPEAL CASE 2015-12-65: Kingston Terrace Condominiums, 9403 Lamont, Livonia, MI 48150, seeking to erect two (2) ground signs upon property located on the west side of Middlebelt (9723-10033) between Orangelawn and Robert, resulting in excess number of ground signs

Public Comments may be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals Office at 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154 - all comments must include name, address and signature.

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A BROWNFIELD PLAN FOR PROPERTIES LOCATED AT OR NEAR 36601 FORD ROAD, CITY OF WESTLAND, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN REFERRED TO AS THE FORD ROAD PROPERTIES BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF WESTLAND:

The Westland City Council, at its regular meeting on Monday, November 16, 2015, set a public hearing to be held on December 7, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in Council Chambers located at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan 48185 to consider the adoption of a resolution approving a Brownfield Plan (the "Plan") for certain parcels of land at or near 36601 Ford Road, City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan (the "Property"), pursuant to and in accordance with Public Act 381 of 1996, as amended.

A copy of the proposed Plan is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the City of Westland Clerk's Office, Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan 48185.

All aspects of the Plan are open for discussion at the public hearing. All interested persons desiring to address the City Council shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Plan.

This communication serves as notice of the City's intent to consider approval of the Plan for the Property.

Published: November 22, 2015

LC-0000264188 3x4.5

CITY OF LIVONIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 5 YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG)

The City of Livonia will hold two Public Hearings: Thursday, December 3, 2015, 7 p.m.; Tuesday, December 15, 2015, 7 p.m. Both hearings will be held at the Livonia Housing Commission, 10800 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48150. The purpose of these public hearings is to obtain the views of citizens concerning the housing, homeless and community development needs of the City, which will be considered for inclusion into the Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan and five year Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan, required by federal regulations in order for the City to receive CDBG funds, is used to determine which activities the City will fund with CDBG Grant money over the next five years. Eligible activities must meet one of the three national objectives - 1) benefit low and moderate income persons, 2) aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight, or 3) meet a particularly urgent community development needs.

Persons unable to attend the official public hearings and who wish to comment can do so by submitting their comments in writing to Tracey Emmanuel, Community Development Supervisor, 10800 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48150. Copies of materials to be discussed are available for review between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Housing Commission's Community Development Office located at 10800 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48150. Upon request, special accommodations will be made to persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting by contacting temmanuel@ci.livonia.mi.us. Ten business days advance notice is required. The Consolidated Plan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on or about May 16, 2016.

James M. Inglis, Housing Director
Jack Kirksey, Mayor

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FRIDAY

sales event

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SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN FORD DEALERS

Lease a 2016 Ford Fusion SE FWD for

\$159 Per month lease

For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees¹

\$859 Cash Due at Signing

EPA-estimated rating of 22 city/34 highway MPG²



This Vehicle Features:

2.5L Duratec® I-4 engine • AdvanceTrac® with Electronic Stability Control • SYNC® with MyFord® Voice-Activated Communications and Entertainment System³ • SecuriCode™ • Keyless-Entry Keypad • SiriusXM Satellite Radio⁴ • Upgraded Heated Exterior Mirrors with Signal Indicator and Puddle Lamps

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\$139 Per month lease

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EPA-estimated rating of 26 city/36 highway MPG²



This Vehicle Features:

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Lease a 2015 Ford Edge SE FWD for

\$249 Per month lease

For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees¹

\$1,319 Cash Due at Signing

EPA-estimated rating of 20 city/30 highway MPG²



This Vehicle Features:

Twin-Scroll 2.0L EcoBoost® I-4 engine • SYNC®³ Rear View Camera • Remote Keyless Entry System MyKey® • Electric Power-Assisted Steering • AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™ (RSC®) • Outside air temperature gauge

Lease a 2016 Ford Explorer XLT FWD for

\$299 Per month lease

For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees¹

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HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Penn takes reins of GC's program

Former Cougar player excited about opportunity

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Once a Cougar, always a Cougar — a phrase that fits new Garden City varsity baseball coach Matt Penn to a "T".

On Monday, Penn was officially announced as the successor to longtime Cougars head coach Steve Herman, who coached baseball at the high

school in some capacity for over 20 years.

Herman stepped down from his diamond duties after being promoted to an assistant principal position at the high school.

That opened the door for Penn, who played for Herman before graduating in 2002.

Penn, who is an assistant manager at a local restaurant, also serves as the defensive coordinator for the Garden City varsity football team.

"This is a very exciting opportunity for me," said Penn, who

was a catcher and corner infielder during his high school career. "There is a great baseball tradition here at Garden City and I'm going to make sure it stays strong."

Penn said he is still in the process on building a staff.

"I plan on having a total of five coaches at the varsity and junior varsity levels," he said. "As soon as I have the staff set up, I want to meet with the players and let them know our expectations."

Herman built a perennial

winner at Garden City, which shared the Western Wayne Athletic Conference Blue Division championship with Belleville last spring. The Cougars were 15-7 overall and 8-2 in the division.

"Just like a lot of smaller towns, baseball has a great tradition in Garden City," said Penn. "From the little leagues on up, it's something a lot of people look forward to playing and watching. I'm excited about having a chance to continue the great tradition at the high school."

Churchill looking for players from 1978 team

Livonia Churchill High School is looking for players from its 1978 undefeated varsity football team. The team will be honored at the annual athletic induction ceremony, which is set for March 23, 2016.

If you were a member of this team, please email Athletic Director Marc Hage at mhage@livoniapublicschools.org for all of the details.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Churchill pushes Romeo to the limit

Milana's 43 kills ends Chargers' season

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Livonia Churchill nearly turned Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena on its ear Thursday night in its MHSAA Class A volleyball semifinal against defending champion Romeo.

The underdog Chargers certainly brought their 'A' game, but ultimately succumbed to Miss Volleyball Gia Milana's 'A-plus' effort as the Bulldogs survived in five sets, 23-25, 25-13, 20-25, 25-16, 15-10.

Milana, a 6-foot-2 senior headed to Maryland, finished the night with an astounding 43 kills to offset the gritty performance of the Chargers, who bowed out with a 35-20 record.

Churchill trailed early in the fifth and deciding set, but pulled even at 8-8 on a rare Milana miss-hit into the net. But the Chargers missed a serve and then followed with an attacking error and never got closer than two to the rest of the set as Romeo pulled out the one-hour, 42-minute match.

"I played her in club. I know Gia, she's a great player, but that didn't mean anything to us," said Churchill's 5-8 senior outside hitter and setter Rayna Yetts, who starred with 24 kills and 12 assists. "We were going to fight no matter what. And I'm really proud of my team. I thought we really fought back."

Milana, who hit at a .373 clip, got support from 5-10 junior



Churchill's Brianna Fulton (middle) and Annie Yost (right) team up for the block against Romeo's Miss Volleyball Gia Milana.

See CHURCHILL, Page B2

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

Trio of stars lead Patriots to win

Pair of seniors combine for 10 points in 8-2 romp

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The "Chase" was on for the Livonia Franklin hockey team during Wednesday night's season-opening 8-2 victory over visiting Bay Area.

For that matter, so were the "Brendan" and the "Trevor".

Powered by senior forward Chase Wallis's four goals, and a combined eight points for senior captain Brendan Whitney and junior Trevor Lassaline, the Patriots rolled to a decisive triumph over the Thunder at Eddie Edgar Arena.

Wallis put up Wayne Gretzky-esque numbers — four goals and one assists — while

See HOCKEY, Page B3



Livonia Franklin sophomore Nic Anderson (right) battles a Bay Area Thunder player for the puck during Wednesday's season-opening victory at Eddie Edgar Arena.

Holes-in-one

The following holes-in-one were registered at Redford Township's Glenhurst Golf Course over the past month:

» On Oct. 7, Westland resident Dave McMullen aced the 146-yard 17th hole using a seven iron. It was the first career hole-in-one for McMullen, who has been golfing for 43 years. He shot a 45 for the round.

» On Oct. 25, Cindy Grote knocked her tee shot in the cup on the 99-yard fourth hole. She used a five iron for her first hole-in-one in her 20 years of golf. Grote is a resident of Redford Township.

» On Oct. 26, Redford Township resident Pete Williams notched an ace on the 120-yard fourth hole using a pitching wedge. Williams, who has been playing golf for 45 years, shot a 46 for the nine-hole round. It was his first career ace.

» On Nov. 3, Northville resident Lee Free-land aced the 189-yard second hole using a three wood. It was the first career ace for Williams, who fired a solid round of 38.

MU men's cagers upended

The Madonna University men's basketball team dropped its first true Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference road game of the season Wednesday night, falling 74-67 at Siena Heights.

The loss dropped MU to 3-6 overall and 1-2 in the WHAC. Zak Lewis led Madonna with 13 points while Chris Dierker added 11 points and a team-best eight rebounds. Muhammed Zahr scored seven point while recording four assists in the setback.

Reporting results

Local high school athletic coaches are encouraged to report results of their team's contests to sports editor Ed Wright at 734-578-2767 or ewright@hometownlife.com.



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HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY PREVIEW

Spartans ready for another shot at title

Defending Division 2 runner-up Stevenson led by 13 returnees

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

It only takes a few minutes of watching a Livonia Stevenson hockey practice to realize the Spartans mean business.

Whether it's ripping shots at their goalies from point-blank range or skating through a conditioning drill, the Spartans take their sport seriously — which is one reason why Stevenson is a perennial contender for a state title.

Last year, the Spartans came just one win from earning a Division 2 crown as they lost in the state-championship game to Birmingham Brother Rice — the team they will open the 2015-16 against on Saturday night.

"This is a hard-working bunch; very dedicated and very much willing to do the things that are asked of them," said Stevenson head coach David Mitchell. "We have introduced some new concepts and will continue to evolve as a program, but for the most part will continue to do what has worked well with our program."

"We will focus on daily improvements, we will focus on the 'controllable' attributes, such as effort and attitude. It's a demanding program and culture — not because of the coaches and staff, but because that is what the players expect from themselves and each other. As coaches, we could not be more proud of this group already, even before we play our first game, and that should speak volumes."

The Spartans are loaded with difference-making players, including senior captain Ben Kowalske and returning



A Livonia Stevenson player rifles a shot at the net during a Friday afternoon shooting drill. The Spartans opened their season Saturday night against Birmingham Brother Rice.

ED WRIGHT

"Dream Team" goal-tender Cullen Barber, who was named the high school goalie of the year last season.

Serving as assistant captains for the Spartans will be seniors Adam Olson, Alec Allen (both of whom are defensemen), forward Shane Leonard and Barber.

"I think we're jelling really well so far," said Kowalske, who is serving his second year as a member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association's

prestigious Student Advisory Council. "We don't really have a stud, but we have a lot of teamwork and guys working hard and working together."

"It's easy to go out there with guys who you are good friends with on and off the ice."

Of the 24 Stevenson skaters, 13 are returning from last year's memorable run to Compuware Arena.

In addition to the captains, key returning contributors include senior

forwards Nick Beers, Joe Alcantara and Nate Sudek and senior defenseman Zach Finzel.

Mitchell's staff includes Jay Thompson, Brett Rosbury, Kyle Zagata, Craig Peterson and Rick Smalley.

The Spartans will open the home portion of their schedule Wednesday against Livonia Churchill. The opening face-off is set for 6 p.m. at Eddie Edgar Arena.

ewright@hometownlife.com

CHURCHILL

Continued from Page B1

Jodie Kelly, who added 14 kills with a .464 hitting percentage.

Yet the Chargers were able to hold their own defensively, getting double-digits digs from Yetts (14), Alyssa Facione (14) and Megan Gendjar (11).

"That's kind of our blue-collar approach," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said. "We just go out and play and compete on every point and we just give ourselves a chance."

Churchill let the Milana get her fair share of attempts, but it concentrated on stopping Romeo's five players.

"Our game plan was when Gia was in the back row, that's when we score the most," Yetts said. "Yes, she's still an offensive option while she's in back row, but we have a greater chance to score. When she's in the front row, we side-out fast and we make it happen."

Yetts set the tone during the first set with eight kills, a block and an ace serve.

"Anybody who comes into the season this far is going to play with everything they have," Romeo coach Stacy Williams said. "We knew (Yetts) was going to hit the ball. I would have liked us to respond a little bit better to the way that she hit the ball. It wasn't anything we hadn't seen all season. I think we were just playing timid and didn't respond the way we needed to."

Romeo, however, rebounded in the second set, but Churchill answered in the third as Annie Yost, the 6-2 middle hitter, had four of her 11 kills to put the Bulldogs on the brink of elimination.

"They did a good job putting up a defense against us and their libero (Facione) was really, really good," Milana said. "Once we got in a rhythm, it was just us playing against ourselves. We had too many errors, we made dumb plays, but once we got in a flow, it was a lot easier to pull out."

In the fourth set, Romeo regained the momentum and took control from the start before closing it out on a Milana kill, one of her 12 during the set.

"They were a good team, but nothing we haven't seen all year," Milana said of the Chargers. "We came in with too much confidence, so we took them a little too lightly."



Churchill's Annabelle Dunn (7) goes on the attack against Romeo's Breanna Olley (8) and Payton Klein (3).

AL LASSEN | MICHIGAN.COM

Milana, who also led the Bulldogs with 18 digs, added three more kills along with Kelly in the fifth set to help close out the match.

"We've had a lot of five-setters this season," Williams said. "We've been on the good side of the five sets, so that's a good thing. We just had a hard time getting our flow going and playing together. They got a little fire in them and started believing they could win. For most of the match, we were playing not to lose. You can't do that. Once we started playing to win and started scoring some more points ... thankfully, we came out on the

good end."

Setter Brianna Fulton contributed a team-high 22 assists, while Samantha Zonca added 10 kills for the Bulldogs, who advanced to the championship match against Novi, which defeated Grand Rapids Christian in three sets.

"We had moments when we played very well and there were moments where we just didn't," Grenier said. "You wish you string some better runs there, it just didn't happen. Give Romeo some credit. I'm sure they pushed that issue as well."

Grenier, the school's all-time win-



Churchill's Rayna Yetts (right) blocks the attempt by Romeo's Payton Klein in Thursday's Class A semifinal.

AL LASSEN | MICHIGAN.COM

ningest coach in his 20th season, couldn't have been more pleased with his team's showing.

"It's their togetherness and they're a great team, just a bunch of hard-working kids," he said. "Real proud of them."

But in the end, Milana's thunderous attacks were just too much to overcome for the Chargers.

"She was Miss Volleyball for a reason," Williams said. "She's a go-to player when we need her, gets kills when we need them. You got to go with your big gun when you're down and have to win the match."

Yetts, the team's lone senior, will be missed. But she will miss her teammates as well.

"We were the Cinderella team," the senior said. "No one thought we could do it. We didn't even believe in ourselves in the beginning of the season. We didn't even think we'd be here. But we kind of pushed that aside and we just played. We played for each other, we didn't play for anything else. We didn't play to prove ourselves. We just played. We went out there and played like we always played. We just played our hardest."

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Comets repeat as Super Bowl champions



The Westland Comets varsity football team won its second consecutive Super Bowl on Nov. 15 when it defeated the Dearborn Heights Redskins. The Comets outscored their competition 273-44 and registered four shut-outs. "The coaching staff and young men were very dedicated and relentless in the pursuit of team victories," said head coach Pat O'Connell.

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY PREVIEW

Seasoned Patriots look to continue resurgence

13 returning seniors give Franklin a bright outlook

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

With 13 seniors returning from last season's resurgent season, Livonia Franklin's hockey team has its sights set on a bountiful 2015-16 campaign.

After a few years of struggling to reach double-digit victories, the Patriots turned things around last season by carving out an 11-12-3 record, which included a pair of ties against Livonia Stevenson, which had mashed Franklin in recent years.

The Patriots' returning seniors include leading scorers Chase Wallis (44 points) and Brendan Whitney (41 points).

"We're a veteran team and the guys are familiar with our system and philosophy, which helps," said head coach Dennis Gagnon. "I'm looking forward to an exciting and fun year."

The Patriots' new-found prominence in high school hockey circles was reflected in its three all-state selections from last season: Whitney and the graduated Justin Makowski and Matt Monendo.

"It was nice to receive a lot of respect from our peers; that meant a lot to us," said Gagnon, referring to the three all-staters. "Hopefully, we can keep it going."



Livonia Franklin captain Brendan Whitney (right) prepares to take a face-off against Bay Area Wednesday night.

ED WRIGHT

Whitney returns as a rare second-year captain. Talented and hard-working, the senior forward dished out four assists and scored a goal in his team's 8-2 triumph over Bay Area on Wednesday.

"Brendan is a great team leader," said Gagnon. "He was a great leader as

a junior. He's a four-point-plus student and just an all-around good kid. He's a competitor who leads by example. He works so hard that he pulls the rest of the guys with him."

Protecting the net for the Patriots this winter will be freshman Jake Penny, who joins the program after excel-

ling at the AAA level, and senior Brian Hubbard.

"High school hockey needs more kids to come over from AAA and AA like Jake," noted Gagnon. "Once they see how cool it is to play in front of a big crowd, and seeing their buddies every day in school ... there's nothing else like it."

Earning the opportunity to wear the "A" on their jerseys are returning standouts Trevor Lassaline, Johnny Parkinson, Brendan Nutting and Wallis, all of whom played key roles in last season's success.

"We're expecting a lot out of those four guys, both on the ice and with leadership," Gagnon said. "Honestly, though, everybody on our team is worthy of wearing the 'A'; it was extremely hard to choose."

Franklin's unit of blue-liners will be powered by senior Jack Engle, who is "one of the best players in the area," in Gagnon's estimation. "Jack is a force."

Senior Cory Linsner is a grade-A penalty killer, among other things, for the Patriots.

Two Patriots — sophomores Trevor VanVliet and Quentin Smythe — are making the jump from team managers to on-the-ice contributors this winter.

The team's coaching staff — Gagnon, Jymy Harms, Tyler Morrison and Steve Piccoli — was fortified by the addition of Dan Phelps, who was named the American College Hockey Association's 2014-15 coach of the year.



Churchill's Spencer Kovas (right) handles puck against Farmington Unified.

JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

Chargers clip Flyers in opener

Churchill registers dazzling debut, wins 4-0

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

It was a great start to a new hockey season Friday night for sophomore forward Tyler Haydu and his Livonia Churchill teammates.

Haydu led the way with three points as the Chargers opened with a 4-0 win over Farmington Hills Unified in the annual Metro High School Invitational.

It was the first high school game for Haydu, a former travel player and champion with Belle Tire who had a goal and two assists at Novi Ice Arena.

"I'm very happy to get the first win under our belts," Haydu said. "Hopefully, we can get a lot more like that and I can keep getting points."

Churchill controlled the puck for a good part of the game and kept the pressure on the Unified defense and goalie Thomas Bacon.

John Doyle and Jordan Venegoni each had one goal and one assist for the Chargers, who led 2-0 after one period.

"We were passing the puck and moving our feet," Haydu said. "We had some good puck movement and were getting a lot of shots on net. We didn't want to let up too much. We didn't want to let them back in the game."

"We wanted to make sure they didn't get any goals back on us and we got that shutout for our goalie (junior Andrew Broyles)."

Venegoni opened the scoring five



Churchill's Josh Friend looks to make a pass.

JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

minutes into the game, with help from Haydu and Doyle.

Churchill got a big goal from senior Nolan Cioch with just 1:05 remaining in the first period to make it 2-0.

"I think it was a good ending to that period, because it was a reminder we needed to refocus once we came back in the locker room and try to have an even better second period," Churchill coach Jason Reynolds said. "In years past, we've had some issues with that second-period slump. We've really come in focused this year. We need to make every period count and play right to the end."

"They could have taken the rest of that minute-five off and they didn't. They kept playing and it paid off for us."

Reynolds had praise for the line

consisting of Cioch, Conor Burdette and Josh Friend, who assisted on the goal.

"Nolan is a senior working with two sophomores," he said. "For some seniors, that might be an issue, but Nolan embraces it."

"Clearly, you can see it out on the ice. They enjoy working together. Hopefully, that translates into more success in games to come."

Churchill added a third goal in the first minute of the second period, from Doyle, and Haydu picked up his second assist.

Haydu nets goal

The score stayed 3-0 for the next 28 minutes until Haydu scored the final goal off a nice crossing pass in front of the net from Venegoni.

"Tyler is a very special player," Reynolds said. "We're lucky to pick him up as a new player. Even as a sophomore, he's just a dynamite athlete. Just watching the good things he does on the ice, he gets the boys excited and motivates them to step up their games."

Broyles didn't have a lot of work to do, but he made every save and continued a personal history of playing well in the tournament.

"This has to be one of Drew's favorite events," Reynolds said. "He had a stellar Metro Invite last year. He knows what it's all about and understands the pressure."

"He's coming in with a lot more composure, as well as confidence. I expect him to have a big season. He expects big things from himself. He's going to be an integral part of our success this year."

HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

Whitney contributed four helpers and a goal. Lassaline had a marvelous season debut as well, adding three assists.

"I liked our effort tonight," said Franklin head coach Dennis Gagnon, whose team was set to travel to western Michigan this weekend for a pair

of games against Muskegon Mona Shores and East Kentwood. "We tied Bay Area last year in an 11-round shootout."

"They're a good team, so it was nice to be able to come out on top. It's a good way to start the season."

The game's outcome was never in doubt after the hosts blew open a 7-1 lead mid-way through the second period.

In addition to Wallis and Whitney, Cory Linsner, Trevor VanVliet and

Jack Ores tallied net-finders for the Patriots.

Notching single assists were Jonathan Parkinson, Zack Nelson and Jarret Evans.

Franklin was bolstered in the back end by freshman goalie Jake Penny, who was making his high school debut after several years of playing AAA-level hockey.

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PREP PROFILE

Churchill's Wozniak wears the 'C' well

Junior defenseman enjoys physicality hockey offers

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Joe Wozniak's on-the-ice "checking" account rises every time the Livonia Churchill defenseman laces up his skates.

"I've always like the physical part of hockey; I like the hitting, the checking, the physicality of it," said Wozniak's whose sharp blue-line skills have earned him the distinction of captain for the 2015-16 Chargers.

Wozniak began skating soon after he learned how to walk — "I probably started when I was two or three," he remembered — and his close-to-year-round dedication to polishing his hockey skills never grow tiresome.

During the fall, he excels for the Elite Brigade, which competes in the Kensington Valley league, while during the spring and summer he joins his Churchill teammates in high school leagues in the area.

"I never get tired of it," he admitted. "I have this growing passion for the sport. I always want to get better."

An assistant captain for the Chargers as a sophomore, Wozniak said one of the things he likes best about high school hockey is the support the team receives from its robust student-cheering section.

"We all look forward to playing for them when we're home," he said. "The better we play and the more we start jelling as a team, the more fans we get."

With just four seniors on the roster this season, the bulk of the Chargers' team is made up of juniors like Wozniak and sophomores.

"We also added four freshmen," he said. "I have been very impressed by how hard the younger players we have on the team are working, and how hard they worked over the summer. I'm excited for the season to start."

A solid all-around student-athlete, Wozniak has carved out a 3.1 grade-point average. He hopes to someday play either baseball or hockey at the next level.

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Junior defenseman Joe Wozniak has earned the title of captain for Livonia Churchill's hockey team this season.

ED WRIGHT

COLLEGE SIGNING

Dietz taking lane skills to Youngstown State

John Glenn senior likes everything about Ohio university

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

From its proximity to its up-and-coming bowling program, Youngstown State University proved to be as appealing to Westland John Glenn senior bowler Emily Dietz as a pocket-crashing strike.

With family, friends and teammates looking on, Dietz signed a letter of intent to attend YSU earlier this month.

"Most importantly, Youngstown offered everything I wanted academically," said Dietz, who carries a 4.08 cumulative grade-point average. "And it's away, but it's not a crazy distance (a three-hour drive). I'm close to my family, so I can come home if I want to."

"Plus, I like that I get a chance to bowl for a brand new Division I program with a new coach. They've been a club team — and a pretty successful one — but they're moving to NCAA Division I next year. When I talked to



Westland John Glenn senior bowler is pictured with her parents, Michael and Linda, as she signs a letter of intent to compete for Youngstown State beginning in 2016.

the new coach, she was very relatable and I got along well with her." Dietz was also fond of the medium-sized campus Youngstown State offers.

"It's the perfect size; you can walk to classes, but it's still big enough to give it that college feel," she said. Dietz, who ultimately wants to be-

come a medical research scientist, started bowling when she was 6 years old in a youth league offered by Canton's Super Bowl.

"My parents tell me I naturally picked it up," she said. "I was dancing at the time I came to Glenn, but I decided to switch to bowling and I've loved it."

Dietz, who has a state title among her credits, chiseled out a solid 201 average as a junior for the Rockets.

"When I step up to lane, I shut everything else out," she said. "I focus on what I know how to do, because I've done it a million times before. I've learned that you can't over-think up there; you just let your body do what it's done so many times before."

During the high school season, which kicked off last week, Dietz practices three times a week. She also competes in a travel league during the summer.

Dietz is the daughter of Michael and Linda Dietz of Westland.

She is one of three current Rockets who will be competing in college next year. The other two are Julia Huren and Ashley Kolb.

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CLASS D VOLLEYBALL SEMIFINAL

THE END OF THE LINE

PCA Eagles start match strong, but can't fend off more-experienced Tigers

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Five years ago, Plymouth Christian Academy's championship hopes were crushed by Battle Creek St. Philip.

It was déjà vu Thursday at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek, as the hometown Tigers roared back from an early deficit to defeat the Eagles 3-1 in a Class D semifinal volleyball thriller.

St. Philip bounced back after PCA won 26-24 in the opening set; the Tigers grabbed 25-23, 25-16 and 28-26 victories the rest of the way to advance to Saturday's title tilt.

The "been here, done that" experience is something PCA junior setter Jessica Paulson said might have been a factor to the outcome.

"I just think they know how to push it mentally, they've been here so many years in a row," Paulson said, referring to the Tigers winning nine straight titles. "I think that's a huge push behind them that we have not experienced."

Tough to stop

PCA head coach D.J. Kellogg concurred.

"They have a lot of experience, obviously they've been in this arena before," Kellogg said. "They're a great defensive team. Abby (McKinzie) is a good hitter and tough to defend."

"We weren't quite getting the blocks up where we wanted them to be."

McKinzie was a major thorn in PCA's side with 25 kills and 17 digs. Also a St. Philip standout was senior outside hitter Morgan Luoma, with 14 kills and 27 digs.

"They're a good serve receive team, obviously, so we weren't able to keep them out of system as we would have liked," Kellogg said. "Tough match; the girls fought hard."

Kellogg, whose first season at the PCA helm ended with a stellar 35-6-1 record, said the loss was disappointing, but he "thought there was a chance to get this far. I knew we had the girls to do it. It was more about taking each game as it comes and each point as it comes. Let the result speak for itself. This is the first game, the first set, we've even lost in the postseason."



PCA players (from left) Grace Kellogg and Melissa Paige Perkey go up for the block Thursday against a Battle Creek St. Philip player.

His coaching counterpart, Vicky Groat praised the Eagles for making it a touch-and-go match pretty much throughout. Only the third set did not go to the wire.

"That's the beauty of the game; you got to play," Groat said. "We could be in the other room, a play here or there."

"But PCA is an amazing team and we're fortunate enough to be moving forward. We've been surviving a lot in the playoffs and we survived another one."

Groat was talking about how, at Kellogg Arena, postgame interviews are conducted in adjacent rooms — with the

winning team in one room and the losing squad next door.

PCA showed the fans in "Cereal City" that St. Philip (46-16-2) would have to scrap to get to another Class D final by taking the opening set, 26-24.

The Tigers led 24-23, but the Eagles tied the set on a trademark PCA play — junior setter Jessica Paulson to junior outside hitter Olivia Mady for the spike.

Paulson then served two points to close the win.

Unable to close

PCA nearly pulled out the second set, taking a 23-21 lead late with Mady serv-

ing. But the Tigers garnered the point and then Haley McKenna sealed the victory with three service points.

"We maybe weren't as aggressive as we needed to be" in closing out the set, Kellogg said. "I think if we're giving them easy balls, it's a tough team to do that against because they're going to send them back at us."

That rally stunned the Eagles, who struggled early in the third set, falling behind 10-4 following three successive aces by Kameron Haley.

"Yeah, it was a rough start (to the third set)," Kellogg said. "I think the energy was down. They just couldn't seem to find that rhythm that we've kind of kept all season."

"(The Tigers) did a good job of serving and getting us out of that rhythm. We started making a run at the end, but at that point the gap was too big."

Several points were given away by off-the-mark PCA sets or hits and the Tigers eventually built an insurmountable 21-9 edge.

"They're a great serve receive team," Mady said. "But at the same time, we weren't hitting the correct spots."

Yet PCA showed its mettle in the fourth set, going up 16-10 and later having a 24-23 lead with a chance to extend the match to a tiebreaker.

Unfortunately, McKinzie evened the set with a spike and the game continued back-and-forth until a tip by Luoma closed out the match.

Future is bright

Despite the defeat, several PCA players said they plan on a 2016 return to Kellogg Arena. The team's lone senior is middle blocker Melissa Paige Perkey.

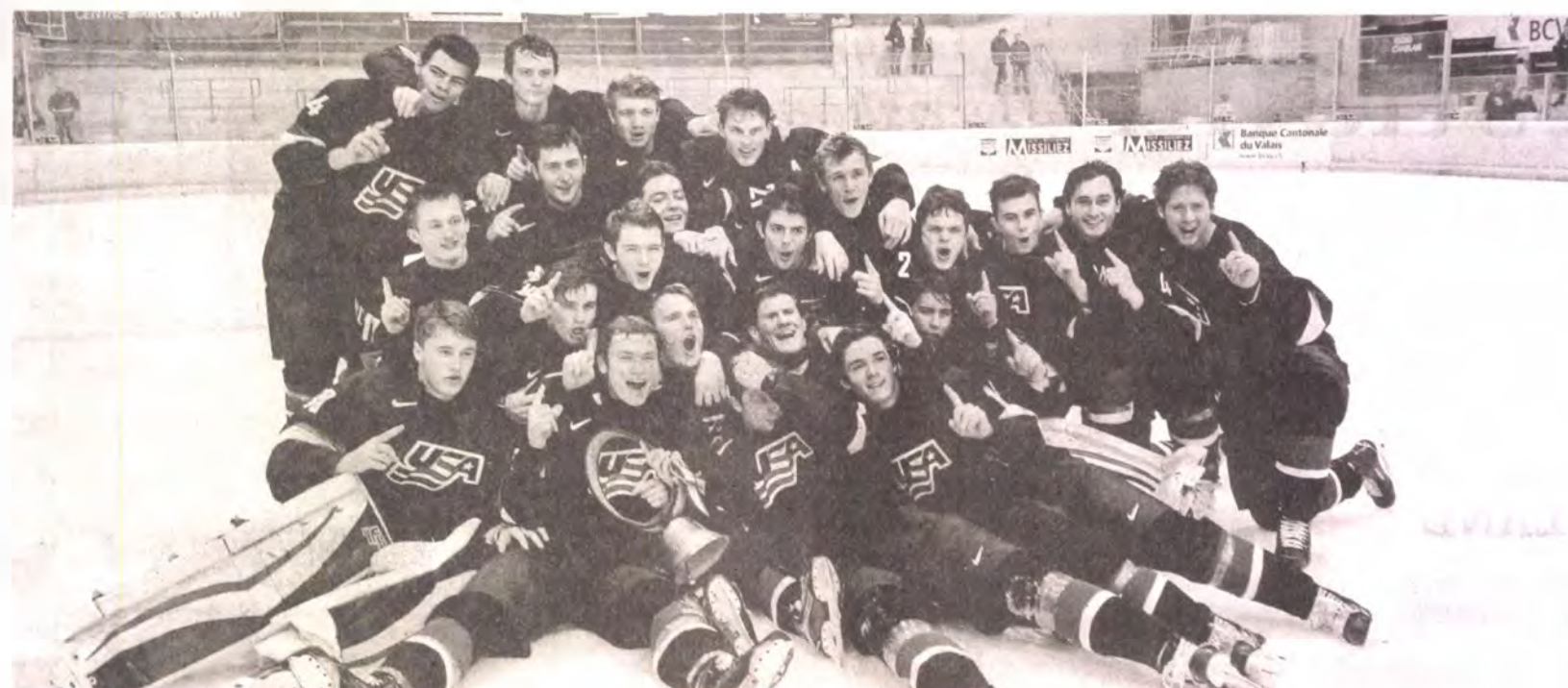
"For sure, I definitely think we'll come back here next year and hopefully win," said Paulson, who had 41 assists — many to hard-hitting outside hitters Mady (23 kills, 11 digs) and sophomore Grace Kellogg (nine kills, 27 digs).

Other PCA contributors included sophomore right-side hitter Robin Albert (five kills, 11 digs), junior middle blocker Aliyah Pries (three digs, two blocks), junior libero Divna Roi (16 digs) and Perkey (three kills, two digs).

"I think we did a really good job and we played as hard as we could," Roi said. "And with a young team, only one senior, I think we did a really good job keeping our emotions in check. Pushing until the end and not playing selfishly."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

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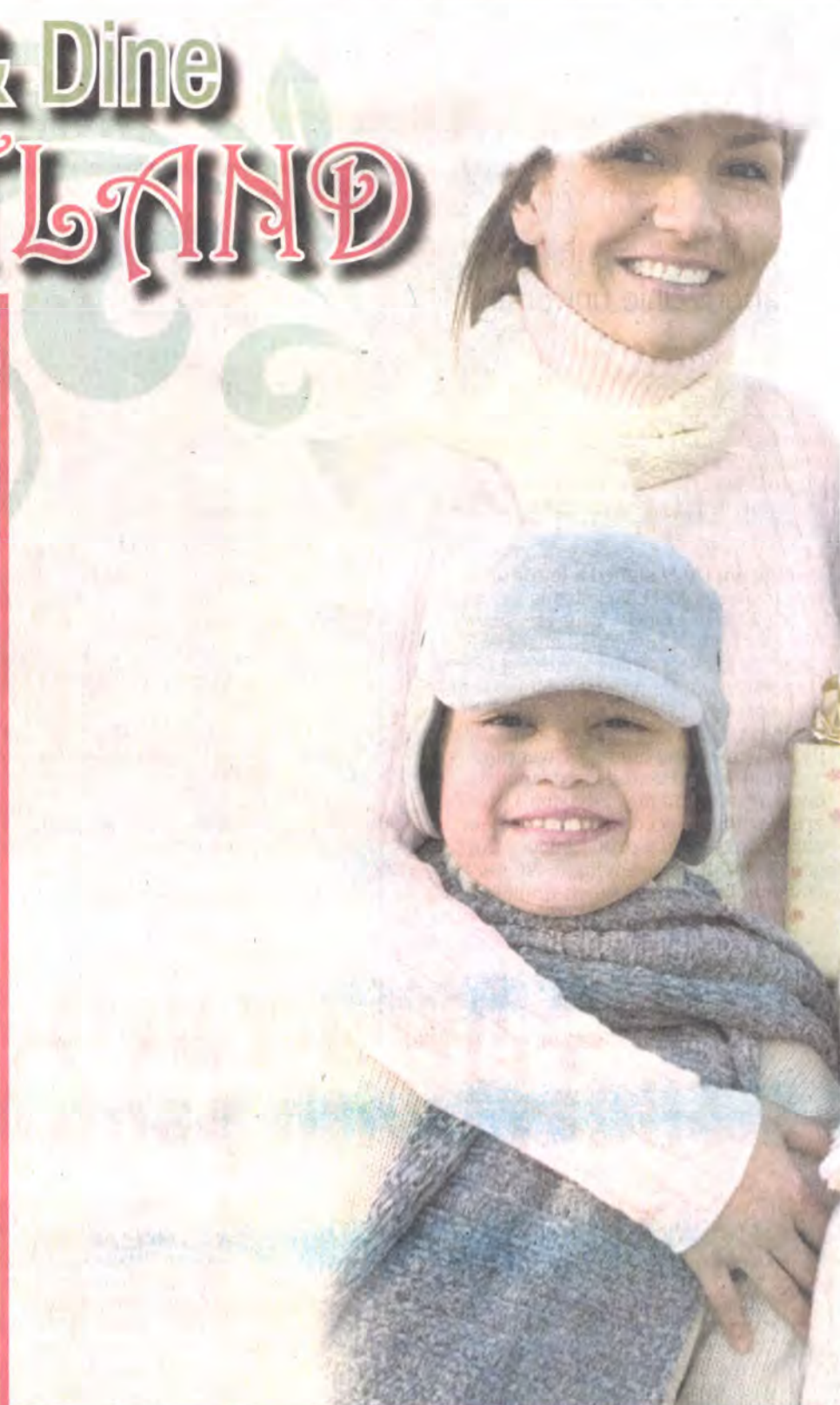
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- 10:10 a.m. – Firing Line**
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- 10:30 a.m. – Nankin Hardware**
35101 Ford Rd, Westland, MI 48185
- 10:50 a.m. – Ken's Country Produce**
37182 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185
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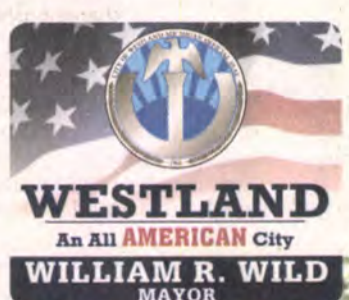


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A Tail Wagger's 1990 volunteer helps load the Pantry 4 Paws shelves with donated pet food.



Tail Wagger's 1990 volunteers unload a delivery from a distributor. The food bags inside are damaged or partially used. They are taped and added to the pantry.

Wish hungry pets a 'happy holiday' with pantry donation

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Make sure to remember your furry friends when donating food for hungry families this holiday season.

"We are feeding in excess of 100 animals a month. One family might have three or four. Some people are taking care of outdoor strays and they'll reach out to us. We help them, too," said Laura Zain, founder of Tail Wagger's 1990 in Livonia. "We have people drive in from Macomb County. People come from Wayne, Oakland, Washtenaw and Livingston counties."

Pantry 4 Paws is different from most other area pet food programs because it doesn't require proof of low income.

The organization has kicked off its holiday collection for Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance, its year-round food distribution program that helps pet owners in financial need continue to feed and care for their animals at home. Zain is collecting food and supplies for dogs and cats, and gift cards that can be used at Petco, PetSmart, Target, Meijer and Walmart, at the Tail Wagger's office, 28402 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster Road. Zain also encourages local churches, schools and Scout groups to consider holding pet food drives and offers businesses the bins, fliers, and signs needed to become a Tail Wagger's pet food collection site.

"We just had a donation come in from Purina — cases of dog collars. We want to make sure everyone has a collar on their animal. When we get stuff like that, we love handing it out," she said. "We do Christmas stockings and will start making them up to give to people for their pets. We try to make the holiday special, especially if they have kids. Kids like to give presents to their pets."

All income levels

Pantry 4 Paws is different from most other area pet food programs because it doesn't require proof of low income.

"If a family with an animal is challenged, it doesn't matter what the challenge is. They can come in and get pet food. Let's say someone in the \$100,000 salary range becomes unemployed. That doesn't mean they can't come in to take the edge off."

She said higher income earners likely would not qualify for food at other area pet food programs, even if they suddenly became unemployed or went on disability.

"Because of whatever happens in their daily life, that doesn't mean a dog should go hungry. When people come to us from more affluent areas they appreciate the fact that they don't have to qualify. We're not income-bearing."

Zain said Pantry 4 Paws is a means of promoting good pet ownership, in addition to dis-

tributing food. It gives Tail Wagger's a chance to educate pantry participants about the importance of vaccinating and spay and neutering pets. Zain encourages pantry clients to set goals for pet wellness and offers low-cost vaccination and spay/neuter services.

"Their pet health care and wellness starts because they walked into the door to get pet food. We'll talk with them about when was the last time their animal had vaccinations."

Keeping pets healthy

She expects clients to make an effort in vaccinating their pets if they want to continue to receive pet food. She has dropped some clients or given them "a strong talking to" when they fail to keep their animals healthy. Or if she discovers they are breeding animals, selling dogs or pantry food.

Pantry 4 Paws volunteers keep detailed notes on each animal, including the pet food brand it receives. They try to offer it the same brand each pickup and accommodate special dietary needs and allergies. Zain said financially-strapped pet owners tend to feed their animals hot dogs, bread soaked in chicken broth, table scraps and dollar store pet foods if they can't afford higher quality kibble or canned goods.

"We tend to get them on a more consistent diet ... on good food," she said. "The biggest thing is to treat people with respect and dignity and not judge them based on their hardship. We load them up with food so they don't need to come back every week."

To learn more about Tail Wagger's 1990, its pantry, vaccination and spay/neuter wellness programs, and upcoming Santa photo events, visit tailwaggers1990.org or 734-855-4077.



THINKSTOCK

MORE PET FOOD PANTRIES

» Michigan Humane Society Pet Food Bank: A valid driver's license and proof of low income, such as a Bridge Card, WIC, Social Security Disability, Medicaid card, or Family Independence Program is required to join the program. Food is distributed noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at MHS's three shelters, 900 N. Newburgh in Westland, 7401 Chrysler Drive, Detroit, and 3600 W. Auburn, Rochester Hills. Clients may pick up food weekly.

» Humane Society of Huron Valley Bountiful Bowls: Must be a Washtenaw County or Plymouth resident. Proof of unemployment, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, Social Security Benefits, WIC, food assistance, or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, is required. Clients can't acquire more animals while participating in Bountiful Bowls. HSHV will feed up to five animals per client. The food, which is distributed via buckets, is intended to be temporary and supplemental. Monthly food pickup is noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, at the shelter, 3100 Cherry Hill Road, Ann Arbor.

» Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue, Inc., Full Bowls, Full Bellies Pet Food Program: Potential clients fill out an application and must agree not to breed their pets nor tether and chain their dog 24/7. They also agree to maintain healthy living conditions for their pets and provide fresh water. If accepted, a Waggin' Tails representative contacts them about pickup location and time. The organization, which is based in Northville, has pet food collection bins at Petco, 43465 Ford Road, Canton, and While Foods, 3135 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor. Visit waggingtailsdogrescue.org to download an application or email questions to FullBowlsFullBellies@yahoo.com.

» New Beginnings Animal Rescue Pet Food Pantry: The Royal Oak-based cat shelter offers food for both cats and dogs as temporary, supplemental assistance. It runs a bucket-style program that feeds up to five pets per participating household on a monthly basis. Recipients agree not to breed animals while on the program. Potential clients can download an application from nbarmichigan.org or fill one out in person during food distribution hours, noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, except holidays and holiday weekends. The shelter is located at 2502 Rochester Road, Royal Oak. Check its Facebook page for locations of "snow cat" food collection bins at area businesses.

Heed safety: Halloween is over but a monster remains in your home

In the days preceding Halloween the little children stop by my house to hear stories about my childhood growing up in the forest of northern Canada, and the tales of Pudgy the Bear, and about living in the belly of a large moose for a month during a huge winter storm.

I love to tell them to keep an eye out for the man with no head who comes around on Halloween night. He usually hides behind a large tree in the neighborhood. On that special night they gladly receive a handful of candy and some will tell me that they had seen this man with no head and didn't bother him. Others don't want to talk anymore about him. It turns out to be a night that no child ever forgets. We all remember Halloween.

For you adults I want to talk about a monster by the name "Carbon Monoxide" who makes his appearance at this



Joe Gagnon
APPLIANCE DOCTOR

time of year. This guy is invisible and you can't smell him. He's around when you purchase a barbecue or portable gas generator and other products and his appearance can prove to be deadly. I do believe he is cuddled up in the corner of your furnace right now just waiting to come out at the proper time. It is estimated that some 2,500 people die each year and those all are needless deaths, all caused by "Mr. Carbon Monoxide."

A few years ago, a lady in Ann Arbor named Trudy Ritter was listening to a talk show and followed the advice on purchasing some carbon monoxide detectors and installed as per the directions. A few

days later, she called a heating company to check her furnaces because these detectors all were screaming throughout the house. She had holes in the heat exchangers of both furnaces which were quickly replaced with new furnaces. She tells everyone this story today and claims that the talk show saved her life. And my dear reader, I do hope that this column might do just that for you, SAVE YOUR LIFE.

After five years

I am going to give you hard facts in hopes of waking up that brain in your head to the point of taking action instead of just thinking about it. If your furnace is more than five years old, your furnace should be checked for appearance of Mr. Carbon Monoxide. It is quite possible he will take you away and he usually sneaks up on you while you are sound asleep. You could prevent this

happening with the purchase of a carbon monoxide detector. Every time you get into your vehicle and you snap on your seat belt, think about a detector. I know the message will eventually get through. From five years on, get the furnace checked every year and ask for verification from the heating company.

Some of the furnace manufacturers simply do give you the quality you deserve but that's not new in this world we live in today. An example of this theory recently exposed itself. The big name Carrier settled a class action lawsuit on furnaces. Since 1989, they produced more than three million furnaces with an inferior material in the heat exchanger. The furnaces had several different names, such as Bryant, Payne, and Day & Night. This settlement reached all the way into Canada as well. They are not the only manu-

facturer to make a cheap heat exchanger for a furnace and hence we now are aware why a furnace should be checked annually after that five-year mark.

I hear many talk show hosts telling people they don't want to scare them and I don't like that statement. I want to scare you, not joke around like I do with the kids. I would love to have you cut out this column and send it every loved one in your family. Tell others about it and you also may play a role in saving the life of someone else. Remember that Mr. Carbon Monoxide can't be seen and it's just not your time to go because you didn't take action now. Stay tuned.

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

Save family photos in archival albums, digital files

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

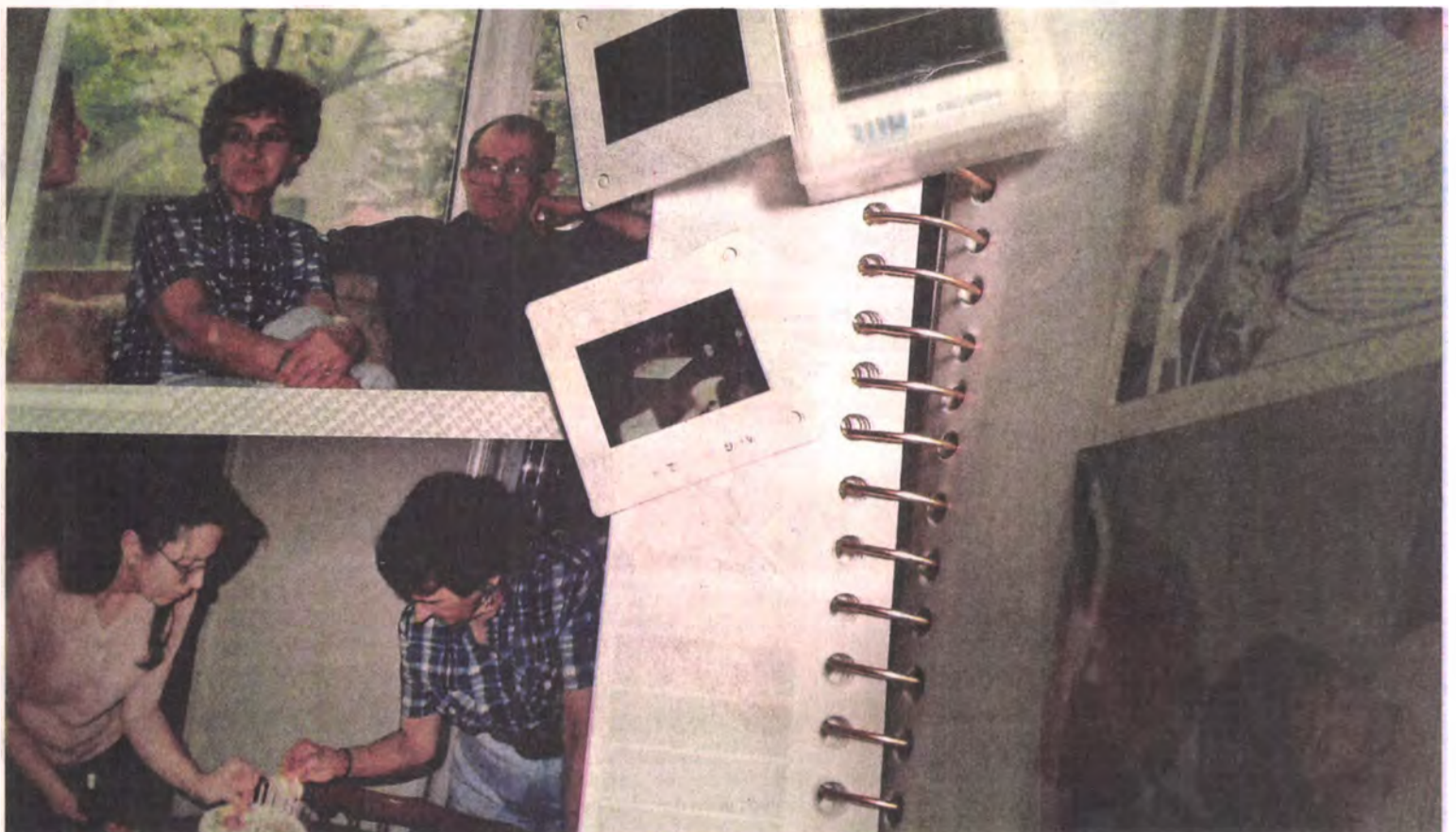
Thanksgiving Day is the perfect time to reminisce over photo albums, slides and videos — and to assess the wear and tear of those family artifacts.

"Color pictures will lose their color over time because they deteriorate with light and heat. The whole picture fades," said Derek Blount, vice president and program director of the Birmingham-based Oakland County Genealogy Society. "The emulsion is organic material and deteriorates with time. Unfortunately most people don't think about it until it's too late. And then it's lost."

Disappearing color on old photos is just one of the problems do-it-yourself family historians face as they preserve treasured mementos. Rob Hoffman, owner of Priceless Photo Preservation in Ann Arbor, will talk about the top 10 preservation mistakes and how to avoid them, when he addresses the group, 7-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 5500 N. Adams, Troy. He'll also explain where to begin organizing and archiving. The presentation is free.

"He'll talk about the things you can do by yourself and about the things his company can do. It involves slides, videos, DVD types and VHS tapes and how to archive things that are analog into digital," Blount said. "You can also put them on the hard drive of your computer, too. We'll talk about the different formats for photographs, jpg and tiff."

Blount has preserved a lot of his own photos and recommends that do-it-yourselfers



Preserve photos and slides by converting them to digital files. If storing prints, use archival boxes or albums.

SUBMITTED

get a computer printer that incorporates a scanner that can adjust sharpness, color and for photo size.

"A lot of the pictures are not the same size. Remember we had 3-by-5s and then they went to 4-by-6? If you go back to the 1950s and '60s there were 3-by-3." Changing family photos to a digital format can be time consuming because each is scanned separately.

"I've got four to five boxes of pictures my family sends me. I've got to go through them and figure out who the people

are. I'll put them on CD-ROM and distribute them to the family."

Blount said slides, videos and film can be more challenging to convert to digital files at home. He suggests taking Super 8 film and videos, no matter what size, to professionals, although dual DVD-VHS recorders can copy VHS tapes onto DVD.

Slide scanners cost less than \$100 and up, but slides must be scanned one at a time.

"If you have to do it in a bulk fashion, it's going to cost

you," Blount said, adding that equipment capable of scanning several slides at once can cost from \$500-\$1,000.

His other preservation tips:

- » Don't glue photos into scrapbooks
- » Don't use albums that contain vinyl
- » Don't store photos in an area that's too hot or humid
- » Scan documents, such as marriage licenses and birth certificates into a computer and download to a CD-ROM. Send a copy to another family member, just in case the origi-

nal disc is lost or destroyed

- » Use albums and containers made for archiving
- » If you're feeling overwhelmed by the amount of photos, sides, videos and films that must be saved as digital files, start with the most fragile items first

For more about the Oakland County Genealogy Society, visit ocgsmi.org or email Blount at djblount@sbcbglobal.net.

Visit Western Wayne County Genealogical Society at wwcgs.org.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Holiday Boutique

The Livonia Garden Club holds its holiday boutique 9:30-11:30 a.m. Dec. 5 at the Civic Park Senior Center, Five Mile and Farmington Road, Livonia. For more information, visit livoniagardenclub.org or email lccpresident@yahoo.com.

Wreaths

Create a grapevine wreath or holiday gifts using materials found in nature, 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at the Nature Center in Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, between 11 Mile and 10 Mile, Farmington Hills. The program is open to all ages and costs \$10 per person or \$30 per family of four. Children's nature

crafts also will be available. Register online at <https://recreg.fhgov.gov> or at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. For more information, call Ashlie Smith at 248-477-1135 or email asmith@fhgov.com.

English Gardens

» Make a holiday porch pot, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 3. The fee is \$5 in addition to the cost of materials purchased at the store. Participants leave with the porch pot they've created.

» Make a candle centerpiece, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. Cost is \$24.99 and includes all materials.

» Make a terrarium snow scene, 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12. Cost is \$24.99.

Pre-registration is required for all workshops. Visit EnglishGardens.com. Classes are held at all locations, including these local stores: 155 Maple at Jackson, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road at Outer Drive, Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, 248-851-7506.

WESTLAND GOODFELLOWS

**"2015-
No Child
Without a
Christmas"**

The Westland Goodfellows is holding a toy and food drive. Donations of toys, hats & gloves, and non-perishable food items can be dropped off at any of the following locations. All donated items will be distributed to Westland families this Christmas.

Donation boxes available November 1 to December 4th, 2015

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Check out the well-equipped 2015 Nissan Sentra

cars.com

The Nissan Sentra compact sedan comes with four-cylinder power and a choice of a manual or automatic transmission. It is available at Nissan of Canton, 42175 Michigan Ave. Competitors include the Chevrolet Cruze, Ford Focus, Honda Civic, Hyundai Elantra and Toyota Corolla.

New for 2015

New standard features include automatic headlights, a USB port, cruise control, Bluetooth connectivity and steering-wheel audio controls.

Exterior highlights

- » 16-inch wheels; 16- or 17-inch alloy wheels available
- » Available fog lights
- » Available spoiler
- » Available power moonroof

Interior highlights

- » Seats five
- » Fabric upholstery; leather with front seat heaters available
- » 60/40-split folding rear seat
- » Tilt/telescoping steering wheel
- » Two 12-volt power outlets
- » Remote keyless entry
- » Bluetooth connectivity
- » Available Nissan-Connect multimedia system with 5-inch screen
- » Available navigation system
- » Available Easy-Fill Tire Alert system that honks the horn when tire is filled to correct pressure
- » Available Bose premium stereo
- » Available dual-zone automatic climate control

Under the hood

- » 130-horsepower, 1.8-liter four-cylinder engine
- » Six-speed manual transmission



The Nissan Sentra is available at Nissan of Canton, 42175 Michigan Ave.

COURTESY OF NISSAN OF CANTON



The Nissan Sentra features a tilt/telescoping steering wheel.

COURTESY OF NISSAN OF CANTON



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The Nissan Sentra has six airbags and an available backup camera.



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BIRTH

KEATON LAWRENCE NORTH

Keaton Lawrence North was born Oct. 17, 2015, at Beaumont Hospital - Farmington Hills. He joins his parents, Karl and Andrea North, and his sister, Elyse, 2, at home in Plymouth. Proud grandparents are Karl and Nilda North of Westland, Larry and Cynda Clark of Kennewick, Wash., and Suzann Magers of Plymouth.



Keaton Lawrence North

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ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

Russell and Marcella (McKenzie) Wellday of Westland marked their 50th wedding anniversary Oct 2. They were married in 1965 at Ss. Simon & Jude Catholic Church in Westland. The couple has five children, Bernadine (Steve Seder) Wellday, Kristine (Russell) Brothers, Russ II (Beth) Wellday, Kathleen (Pat) Avery, and Hugh (Terri) Wellday. They also have 24 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, with another great-grandchild on the way. Russell retired from Chrysler in 2001 after more than 33 years with the company. Marcella



Marcella and Russell Wellday of Westland

SUBMITTED

was the organist at Ss. Simon & Jude Catholic Church for many years. One of their favorite activities is viewing fall color changes in northern Michigan, while stopping at casinos along the

way. The Welldays celebrated their milestone anniversary by renewing their vows in a ceremony attended by their loved ones.

ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

Tony and Mary Ann (Horton) Shaieb of Farmington Hills will mark their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 24. The couple married in 1965 at Our Lady of Redemption Church. Their children are Katie (Rob) Bovitz of Canton, Sharon (Doug) La Gore of Brighton, Tony (Kim) Shaieb of South Lyon, Steve (Jessica) Shaieb of Ann Arbor, and Nick (Elizabeth) Shaieb of South Lyon. They also have 11 grandchildren. Tony retired from the automotive supply industry six years ago. Mary Ann is employed by Modern OBGYN. The Shaiebs enjoy boating, golfing, swimming, walking, crossword puzzles and spending time with their children and grandchildren. They plan to celebrate their anniversary with family and friends.



Mary Ann and Tony Shaieb of Farmington Hills

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Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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BLOKER

BETTY JUNE KERNS

Betty was born March 15, 1926 in Greenfield, Ohio to Bonnie Lavon (Ballentine) Kerns and George Howard Kerns. She was raised in southern Ohio and attended the Ohio State University where she graduated in 1947 with a degree in Home Economics. In June 1947 she married Raymond E Bloker of Lindsay Ohio and they settled in Detroit Michigan. Betty taught Home Economics in the Grosse Pointe MI school system until she became a full-time homemaker with her first child in 1950. A mother of three, Betty raised her children in Bay Village, OH, Olmstead Falls OH and finally in Birmingham MI where Betty and Ray lived for 40 years. During that time Betty was active in Alpha Chi Omega and other volunteer work and in the late 1960s/early 1970s she returned to school to earn her Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling. Betty taught Assertiveness Training at the Birmingham Community Center and conducted therapy groups out of her home in the 1970s. In 1992 Betty and Ray bought a condominium in Naples Florida where they enjoyed golf, and Betty enjoyed tennis as well. They loved socializing with their friends and had 20 years of great times in Naples. Betty was a hole-in-one golfer and both she and Ray were avid bridge players, achieving the rank of Life Master from the ACBL organization. They enjoyed traveling to bridge tournaments as well as traveling to Europe and the Northwest and California to visit their children. Betty learned to downhill ski as an adult, and continued until her mid-70s, enjoying family ski trips with her children and grandchildren. She was an avid investor and loved to read her WSJ everyday. In 2012 Betty and Ray moved to Gainesville, FL where they lived at The Village. Subsequent to Ray's passing in 2012, Betty moved to the Memory Unit at Harbor Chase where she was a beloved resident, always notable for her sweet demeanor and beautiful smile. She enjoyed dancing until near the very end of her life and could not hear music without moving to the beat. Betty is survived by daughter Sherry Bloker, daughter Sue Kelman (Mark), son Ray E Bloker III (Judy), and grandsons Brett Kelman and David Friedlander and granddaughter Lane Kelman. Memorial services will be held on Christmas Eve at the National Cemetery in Bushnell FL, where Betty will be laid to rest with Ray, a distinguished veteran of WWII. In lieu of flowers please send donations in Betty's name to the Alzheimer's Association at alz.org. Arrangements by Forest Meadows Funeral Home, Gainesville, FL 352-378-2528



KEENER, BARRY E.

Age 53, of Novi, formerly of Livonia. Passed away November 16, 2015. Share condolences at casterlinefuneralhome.com.



CLARK, JOHN W.

89, slipped away peacefully Monday, November 2, 2015, at his home in Redwood City, California. Born and raised in Detroit, MI, John was a longtime resident of Birmingham and Troy, MI, retiring to Hilton Head, South Carolina and Sebring, Florida, with his summer residency in Desbarats, Ontario, Canada. He recently moved to California to be closer to his daughters and granddaughter, after his wife of 58 years, Marjorie, passed away. He is survived by his brother, James; three daughters, Deborah, Rebecca, and Jennifer; three grandchildren, Jeremy, Sophia, and Wesley; and five great-grandchildren. Possessed of a great sense of humor that tended more towards silliness than sarcasm, he loved Laurel and Hardy, Mr. Magoo, and Peanuts. Quiet and intense, a man of few words, he was the quintessential do-it-yourself guy. John believed strongly in giving back to the community. He dedicated thousands of volunteer hours to the Troy School District Board of Education, the Troy Parks and Recreation Department, the Sun 'n Lake of Sebring Improvement District, and the Florida Hospital, among many others. John served proudly in the U.S. Navy during WWII, then completed his education at the University of Michigan (BSME 1949 & MSE 1950). A mechanical engineer, John held multiple positions at Chevrolet and GM, even working on an early prototype of the electric car in the late 70s/early 80s! Educator, master craftsman and builder, private pilot, prodigious reader, crossword puzzle aficionado, golfer, naturalist, American Civil War buff, card shark, dedicated walker, world traveler, lover of ice cream and life-with profound gratitude and the deepest admiration, respect, and love, fare thee well...dad, grandpa, John. You will be missed. The family will hold a memorial next summer in Desbarats. Suggested donations to Doctors Without Borders or the Wounded Warrior Project.



LOEFFLER, GEORGE

Age 96 of Plymouth passed away on November 19, 2015. Beloved husband of the late Elaine. Loving father of Marcia Ridings, Donald (Janice), Lynn (Lynn) Gregg, and Nancy (Robert) Sornson. Proud grandfather of Karen (Brad) Brunner, Allison (Kurt) Thompson, Christopher and Kelly Gregg, Rebecca, Matthew, Alicia and Molly Sornson. Great grandfather of Mark, George and Thomas Brunner, Caroline, Leah and Sydney Thompson. George was a graduate of Detroit Technical University, WWII Army Air Corp Veteran and owner of George Loeffler Hardware in Livonia for over 40 years. Funeral Service Sunday 4 p.m. at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. The family will gather for visitation with friends Sunday 2-4 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Lutheran Church, 25630 Grand River Ave., Redford, MI 48240. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

ROWLANDS, MORRIS J. "DUKE"

92 of Cambria Wisconsin, died October 27, 2015 in his home in Palm Harbor, Florida. Duke was born on June 4, 1923, the son of Morris J. and Marjorie Morris Rowlands. He was the great-grand grandson of one of the first Welsh settlers of Cambria, John R. Rowlands. Duke attended the University of Wisconsin and graduated from the College of Engineering in May of 1945 with honors. Duke started his 37 year career at Ford Motor Company in October 1945, where he met and soon married Pat. Duke's success with Ford kept them moving around the country resulting in 11 transfers between 1952 and 1968. The final move was to Detroit where he finished his career as National Sales Manager for Ford Motor Company Parts and Service Division. Upon retirement he and Pat spent their winters at Innisbrook, Florida and summers in Michigan enjoying Orchard Lake Country Club. This meant year round golf for Duke ... along with some boisterous gin games with friends ... nothing could be better. As a good friend from Ford put it, he was an incredible friend to so many, a valued Ford associate and an inspiration to a very large fan club! His even bigger accomplishment was his devotion and love for his family, particularly his wife, Pat. Throughout his entire life he was an incredibly strong and determined man with great integrity, profound sound judgment and a high personal and business moral ethic that inspired all that knew him. Duke was known for his great sense of humor, great wit and ability to light up a room. He was "a character" but he was also "a man of great character". Duke is survived by his loving wife Pat, his children Marcie (Peter) Hill, Mark (Phyllis) Rowlands, four grand children, a great grand daughter, three half sisters Pat Beske, Sue (James) Mohr and Catherine Mitchell, nieces, nephews and other near relatives and very dear friends. Duke is preceded in death by his parents, sister, Phyllis Williams and brother-in-law Tom Williams, sister, Shirley Rowlands. Memorial donations can be made to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.



EVANS, ROOSEVELT

On November 16, Roosevelt Evans of Detroit, joined his wife of fifty-three years, Calante Felder-Evans, who preceded him in death one year and one month prior. An alumni from Northwestern High School, pro ball player and war-time veteran, he was best known as Mr. Evans of Evans Brothers Market, a neighborhood favorite in the 6 mile/Livernois business district for more than three decades. Mr. Evans will be missed by many, especially his children Michael, Jeffery, Dorian and Rhonda. Funeral arrangements will be handled by Swanson's Funeral Home with services to be held at Hartford Memorial Baptist Church on November 23. Photo Mr & Mrs Evans 1994 daughter's wedding. Photo 1951 Roosevelt Evans Northwestern Yearbook- Spade Recipient.



ENGAGEMENT



Anthony Crowley II and Jamie Pickard

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PICKARD-CROWLEY

Jamie Marissa Pickard and Anthony Frank Crowley II announce

their engagement. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Christopher and Pamela Pickard of Livonia. Her fiancé's

parents are Julieta and Tony Crowley of Taylor. A September 2016 wedding is planned in Traverse City.

ENGAGEMENT



Kevin List and Katherine Demyan

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DEMYAN-LIST

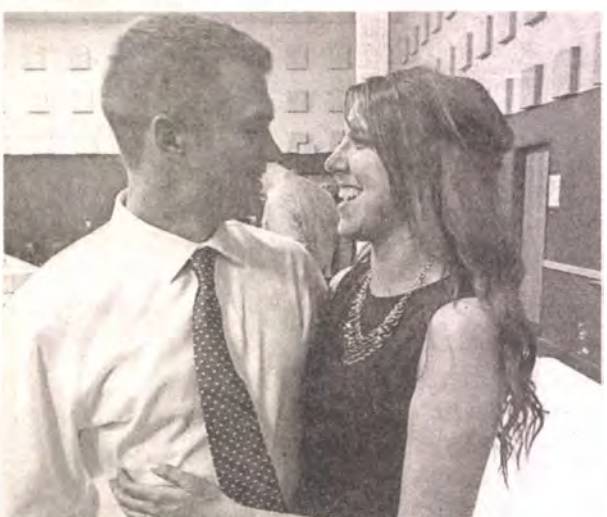
Katherine Demyan and Kevin List announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Mary Demyan of Linthicum, Md., graduated from Anne Arundel Community College in 2012

with an associate degree in nursing. She is employed as a registered school nurse. Her fiancé, son of Bradley and Diane List of Farmington Hills, graduated in 2005 from North Farmington High School, and in 2010 from Western Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in special education. He is employed as a special education teacher with Carroll County Public Schools in Maryland. A July 2016 wedding is planned in Towson, Md.

ENGAGEMENT

BUTTERMORE-CHRISTENBERRY

Carissa Jean Buttermore and Aaron Michael Christenberry announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of Cliff and Denise Buttermore of Canton, attended Grace College in Winona Lake, Ind. She teaches first grade in Warsaw Community Schools. Her fiancé, son of Wayne and Sharon Christenberry of Warsaw, Ind., also attended Grace College. A June 2016 wedding is planned in Livonia.



Aaron Christenberry and Carissa Buttermore

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New Area Agency on Aging program helps seniors at home

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

If you're visiting an elderly loved over Thanksgiving weekend, Area Agency on Aging 1-B suggests you keep in mind these "red flags" that may indicate they need help at home.

» Notable changes in person's weight, appearance, odor or other personal grooming habits

» Abundance of expired/spoiled foods in the refrigerator

» Numerous duplicate food items in the pantry or freezer

» Dead or dying plants and/or unkempt pets

» Nicks, dents, dings and scratches on the car

» Piles of unopened mail and/or unclaimed newspaper deliveries

» Excessive overdue bill notices in the mail

» Neglected lawn care and/or exterior home maintenance

» Cluttered, dirty living spaces

» Changes in mood, behavior or personality

"I think these 10 flags are common indicators that some-

thing is changing. These are some things to look out for," said Tina Abbate Marzolf, CEO of Area Agency on Aging 1-B. "If you're coming to see mom once or twice a year, you may think mom is fine. This (red flag list) may open your eyes to new information."

She suggests taking the list along as a reminder when visiting an elderly loved one.

"At least know it well enough to know if something is changing at mom's house," she said, adding that it may be time to hire help for the senior citizen at home.

A new program launched in July by the nonprofit AAA 1-B may help address many of those needs. SameAddress, a social enterprise program, offers seniors a range of assistance, including personal care, home safety improvements, medical monitoring, emergency response, transportation, household tasks, help with tax forms and bill paying, estate planning, social visits, meals and more. As a social enterprise, all of its profits are returned to AAA-1B to help senior citizens in financial need.



When gathering for the holidays, take note of any changes in an elderly loved one's health and household.

Under one umbrella

"Our clients are in the private pay sector," said Garry Cole, SameAddress spokesman. "There are a lot of services available to seniors, but the marketplace can be difficult to navigate. SameAddress is a one-source solutions for seniors to stay safe and independent at home."

Cole said seniors or their caregivers can place one call to SameAddress to line up assessments, care plans and the services. The more than 30 services are priced separately and clients select the services they need.

"We have some clients that just need their lawn mowed. It depends on the level of service and type they need."

A senior concierge service is available for \$49.50 monthly. It enables the client to talk with a SameAddress representative 24/7.

Marzolf said AAA-1B has taken more than 600 phone inquiries about the program since it started. It has conducted 95 assessments and is working with 50 clients in their homes.

"Often people will say mom needs to leave home so she can go where she can get everything she needs. Let us give mom that same assistance in her home," Marzolf said. "At Area Agency on Aging we really do work to maintain senior independence and dignity in spite of the aging process."

She hopes SameAddress will expand to other federally and state-supported Area Agency on Aging programs across the country.

For more information, visit sameaddress.com or call 866-736-4671. Area Agency on Aging 1-B, based in Southfield, services residents, age 60 and over, in Oakland, Macomb, Livingston, St. Clair and Washtenaw counties.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Seeks volunteers

Huron Valley Ambulance, a member of Emergent Health Partners, is recruiting for its volunteer team. Individuals can train for a variety of volunteer positions, including emergency medical responder at special events or to assist with community education, awareness programs, or administrative tasks. Volunteers may serve in Washtenaw, western Wayne or southwest Oakland counties, as well as volunteer at University of Michigan football games and other large events in southeast and south central Michigan. An information meeting is set for 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2016, at Emergent Health Partners/Huron Valley Ambulance Headquarters, 1200 State Circle, Ann Arbor. 734-477-6782

Turner Town Project

Jennifer Wakenell of Livonia displays her Turner Town Project, a collection of dollhouses with accompanying story-

boards that depict the day-to-day challenges of a girl with Turner syndrome and nonverbal learning disorders, through November at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. The project offers suggestions for dealing with both medical and academic obstacles and aims to raise awareness of the disease, which can impact kidneys, thyroid and cardiac functioning and cause learning disorders. Library hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday. 734-466-2491

Ongoing

Ab-Anon

Twelve-step program and weekly group to help those suffering with eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, and exercise compulsion is held 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, at the Friendship Circle, 6892 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. An Ab-Anon meeting group is available for

families and loved ones, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, also at the Friendship Circle. For more information, contact Mindy at 248-672-9776.

Amputee support

The Amputee Support Group meets 2-3 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month in Classroom #1 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-2837 for more information.

Aquatic classes

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch and 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch. Visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Bipolar support

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance meets 6-7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday at Lincoln Behavioral Services Center, 14500 Sheldon, Suite 160B, Plymouth. It is accessed through the Plymouth Executive Park driveway north of M-14. Meetings open to families. Call Nancy at 734-536-3457 for directions.

Blood pressure

Garden City Hospital offers free blood pressure testing, lipid panel (\$15) testing, 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 2, in the main lobby of the hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. No registration is required. For more information, call 734-458-4330.

Breast cancer support

Meets from 6:30-8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile

(use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-1100 or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Choir therapy

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan extend an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends, to participate in singing. Call Len McCulloch at 248-474-2763, Ext. 22, or visit www.therapychoirs.org for additional information.

CPAP/BIPAP

The Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan offers a free CPAP/BIPAP mask fitting clinic, 5-6 p.m. each Wednesday at 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland. Most insurances cover new supplies. No appointment needed. For more information, call 734-458-7251.

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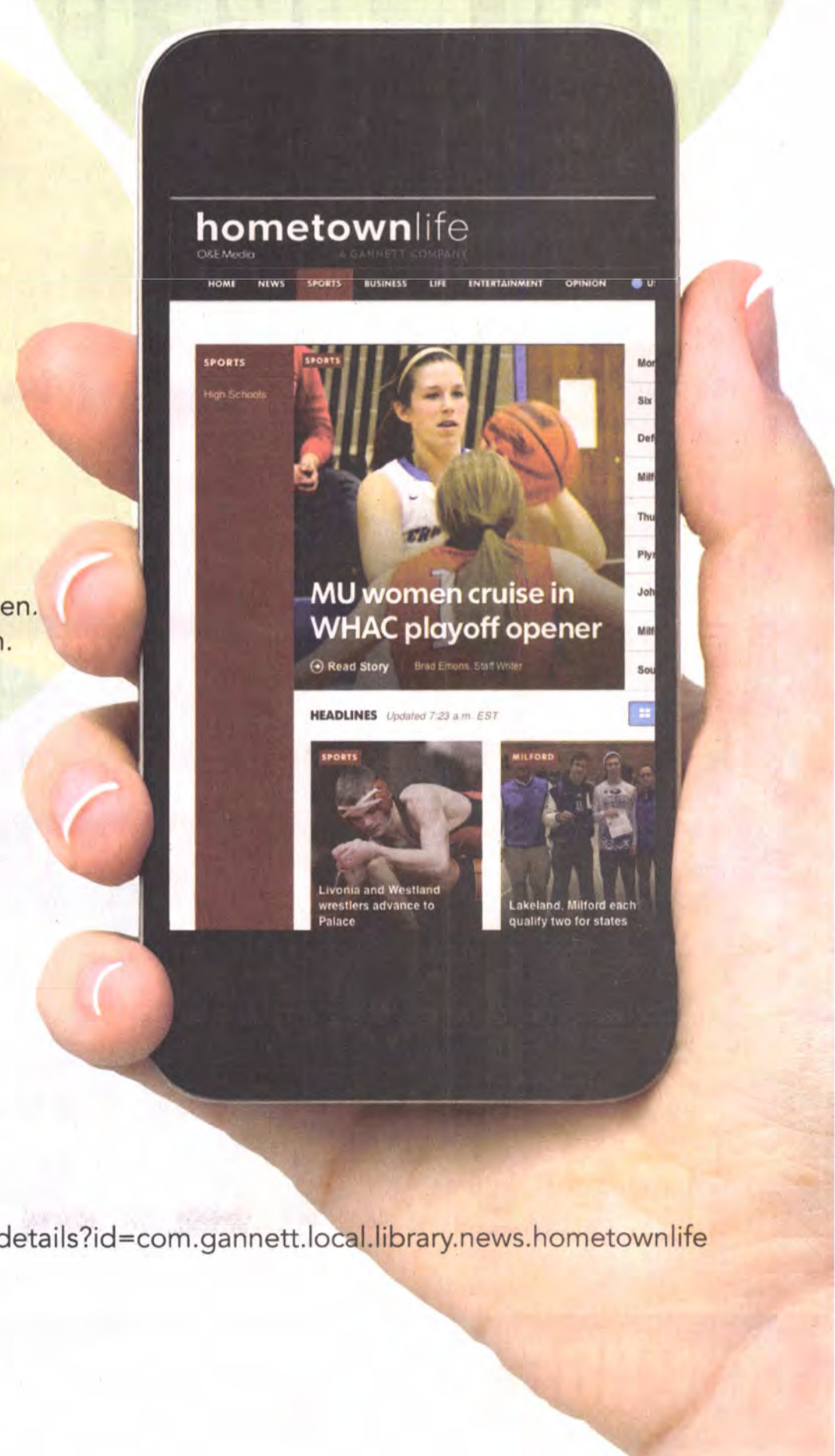
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