

12/3

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015 • hometownlife.com



**GIRLS
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COURT**
SPORTS, B1

Hearing delayed in Wayne ax killing

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A competency hearing for a man charged with killing a Wayne man with an ax has been delayed until Dec. 8.

Jesse Wayne Gunderson, 26, is charged with first-degree murder in the death of Danny Dart, 58. The competency hearing, along with a probable

cause hearing, had been scheduled for Dec. 1 before Wayne 29th District Court Judge Laura Mack.

Gunderson is charged with using an ax to kill Dart, his step-grandfather, on Sept. 28 at Dart's home in



Gunderson

Wayne.

Arrested shortly after Dart was killed, Gunderson was remanded to jail following his arraignment. A not guilty plea was entered for Gunderson.

A retired Ford Motor Company employee, Dart was killed by a blow to the head with an ax while in the backyard of his home in the 4500 block of Chamberlain.

Gunderson was reported to have been staying at Dart's home for several weeks before Dart was killed. Dart and his wife, Gunderson's grandmother, had taken in Gunderson when he showed up unannounced at their home.

Prior to turning up at the Wayne home, Gunderson was reported to have been living in Fresno, Calif., and work at a

medical facility.

Gunderson later reported being unable to recall the attack on Dart.

If found competent to stand trial, Gunderson would next be scheduled for a preliminary examination.

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GRINDSTONE OFFERS SMOKED GOODNESS

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Asked about the menu at his new Grindstone Smokehouse Restaurant in Westland, James Raptoplous mentions the bacon that's cured and smoked in-house.

"It's a glob of yumminess. We make them into slices, grill and marinate them in maple syrup," Raptoplous said. "We call it pig candy. We hang it on a little clothesline and bring it to the table on that. It's like crack bacon."

If that's not enough bacon, Grindstone offers a slab of bacon grilled on the flat top and served basically as an entree.

"We serve it like a steak. It's literally a heart attack on a plate but it's perfect. It's so good, it literally melts in your mouth," Raptoplous said. "Bacon is not just for breakfast."

The smoker itself is actually in the parking lot of the Grindstone restaurant, on Wayne Road south of Ford. It's the former Beaver Creek, which Raptoplous operated for about 18 months as he prepared to close for several months to renovate the restaurant for a new concept.

The menu will feature ribs, brisket and other meats smoked over applewood. "We tested the smoker — there was a lot of smoke in the parking lot. The applewood gives a yummy flavor," he said. "It's a sweeter flavor. Hickory gives it more of an ashy flavor — people from Texas won't like this."

Since Beaver Creek closed at the end of August, work on redoing the entire restaurant has been more than a full-time job for Raptoplous, who has done a lot of the construction personally.

"Here," he responds when asked where he lives, adding



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

See EATERY, Page A2 James Raptoplous talks about his new restaurant, Grindstone Smokehouse in Westland.

More time to apply for Wayne council

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

With a second vacancy to be filled, the Wayne City Council has extended the deadline for applying to be appointed to a council seat.

Eight people had applied to be considered for the council vacancy that was created when Susan Rowe resigned after being elected mayor last month. On Tuesday, Councilman James Hawley, who had spent the past year serving as mayor, resigned from the council effective Friday.



Rowe

"I talked to the city clerk and he agreed that we would not need to go out for names again. We can draw from the names (to replace Hawley)," Rowe said.

Under the city charter, the council has 30 days to appoint someone to fill a council vacancy once the opening is created. The person appointed would serve until the next regular election — in this case, both vacancies would be filled until the November 2017 election.

Anyone interested in being considered for appointment to council needs to submit a letter of interest to the city clerk by 4:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7. Applicants must be residents for at least a year and owe no taxes or money to the city. Visit www.ci.wayne.mi.us for the full list of application requirements.

The council also called for a special council meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, to hold public interviews with candidates. The names of the existing eight applicants weren't released, despite a request from resident Ron Roberts to make the names public.

"We have never given the names out in the past. Once the times for interviews are confirmed, the names go on the website and on cable tele-

See COUNCIL, Page A2

Church organists unite for holiday concert

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Everyone is invited to begin the Christmas season Sunday, Dec. 6, with a musical treat courtesy of the Three Organists.

It's the second year that James Wagner, music director of First Congregational Church of Wayne, organist Richard Schneider of St. Mary's of Wayne Catholic Church and music director Curtis Mathison of First United

Methodist Church of Wayne are joining forces for an Advent/Christmas Vespers Concert.

"We had a good time last year and expanded it to include choirs, bell choirs and a vocal soloist," Wagner said.

There will also be a sing-along.

This year the concert, which begins at 4 p.m., will be held at the First United Methodist Church of Wayne, 3

See CONCERT, Page A2



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FILE PHOTO

First United Methodist Church of Wayne will host a concert featuring three local church organists at 4 p.m. Sunday.

CONCERT

Continued from Page A1

Towne Square in Wayne.

"We have one organ. When we do carol singing, one person will play the organ and one of us will play piano. They have a very nice piano at the Methodist church," Wagner said.

The program will feature advent songs, he said, then about half-way through switch over to Christmas

songs. "We'll have a little gospel music and some traditional Christmas songs," he said. With the musicians and choirs, Wagner said about 50 people will be participating in the concert.

The concert is offered at no charge, but a free-will offering will be taken to benefit a local food pantry.

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EATERY

Continued from Page A1

he takes a shower in Commerce Township. "One of my dreams in life was to have a family-friendly restaurant, but exciting," Raptoplous said. "When we were kids we went to Farrell's and went to a lot of Disney."

As with any remodeling project, the work turning Beaver Creek into the Grindstone wasn't without challenges.

"The new floor became my biggest nightmare. It had two different layers with wood over tile, then an epoxy paint over that," Raptoplous said. "There had been a flood and part of the floor was scraped. The floor is an one-and-quarter inches lower. I thought it would take two or three days for the floor — it took two weeks."

Along with the food, Grindstone will also feature live barrels of whiskey and bourbon. "We will be the only place in Michigan to tap our own whiskey barrels," he said. That allows the aging process to continue on the premises.

"We are trying to source everything in Michigan — we'd like to be 100 percent, but we can't with bourbon and whiskeys," he said.

About 86 people are currently on staff at Grindstone, which is getting open in plenty of time for holiday business.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The new Grindstone Smokehouse in Westland used to be Beaver Creek. It's all new after being closed for renovations.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Grindstone Smokehouse owner James Raptoplous did much of the construction remodeling the restaurant, like this booth, himself.

WESTLAND OBSERVER

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COUNCIL

Continued from Page A1

vision," Rowe said.

Councilman Christopher Sanders supported releasing the names of the applicants who met the earlier deadline. "There are some candi-

dates who might cancel or withdraw," Sanders said. "I don't think there is any legal requirement not to put the names out there."

City Attorney Keith Madden confirmed there was no legal reason for not releasing the names of the applicants. Sanders offered a motion to

make the names of the eight applicants public but it died from lack of support.

"Applying is not running. Some privacy is OK. It also can be inhibiting for people who might not feel they have a chance based on others on the list," Councilman Anthony Miller said. "It's

not the same process as running for office."

If people are interested in representing the community, Sanders said, people have a right to know their names.

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Three chances to see 'Nutcracker' this weekend

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Dancers from Angie Hahn's Academy of Dance in Livonia are going to be busy this weekend.

First, they'll team with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra and members of the Livonia Youth Symphony in a performance of *Excerpts from the Nutcracker Ballet* by Tchaikovsky on Saturday, Dec. 5, at Clarenceville High School.

The following day, the dancers will be back on the Clarenceville stage to perform their own version of the holiday classic.

First day

The Dec. 5 performance starts at 4 p.m. The popular concert is conducted by Maestro

IF YOU GO

Tickets for these performances are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under. The Louis Schmidt Auditorium at Clarenceville High School is located at 20155 Middlebelt in Livonia.

Volodymyr Shesiuk and features many dancers from the Angie Hahn academy performing popular dances of the *Nutcracker*.

The orchestra will perform other holiday favorites, including *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, *Fantasia on We Three Kings* by Bal-mages, *Carol of the Bells* by Yuri Lanyuk, *Festive Sounds of Hanukah* by Holcombe and finish with an audience sing-along to *Joy to the World*, *Deck the Halls*, *O Come All Ye Faithful* and clos-



COURTESY ANGIE HAHN'S ACADEMY OF DANCE
Dancers from Angie Hahn's Academy of Dance perform *The Nutcracker* three times this weekend.

ing with *Jingle Bells Forever*.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students ages 6 and older and adult students of any

age with school identification. For group tickets of 10 or more, call 313-538-2536.

Tickets are available at the Civic Center Li-

brary, Angie Hahn's Dance Academy at Joy Road and Newburgh Road and at the door.

Second day

Angie Hahn's dancers then take to the Clarenceville stage at noon and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, for the academy's 2015 production of *The Nutcracker*, which academy officials said contains much of the original choreography of Jacob Lascu, whose collaboration with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra resulted in a 23-year run of the ballet in Detroit.

A popular and often sold-out event, the Dance Detroit/DSO *Nutcracker* debuted in 1974 and welcomed audiences in three major downtown venues: Ford Auditorium, the Fox Theatre and Detroit Opera House.

Guest artists included principal dancers from ballet companies in New York and San Francisco and the American Ballet Theater.

Angie Hahn and Marie Rabey, faculty members at the academy, were affiliated with the DSO *Nutcracker* for many years, performing soloist and principal roles. Rabey also acted as ballet mistress for the production and, according to academy officials, got permission from Lascu to carry on in the preservation and teaching of his choreography.

Guest dancer, in the role of Cavalier, is Doug Baum from Complexions Dance Company in New York.

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MSU student from Livonia coordinating recycling meeting Monday

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Livonia resident Daniela Carter wants you to know recycling can make a difference in the health of the city's residents.

"It decreases water usage and water pollution," she said. "There are multiple benefits to recycling."

Carter, a graduate student at Michigan State University, approached the city earlier this year, seeking to see if there was an opportunity to complete her practicum through the city for her degree. She's now completing her practicum working under the Greenleaf Commission on Sustainability and through the Department of Public Works.

"Our ultimate goal is to build awareness about recycling," she said. "We are doing a pretty good



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia resident Daniela Carter believes recycling can make a difference in the health of the city's residents.

job in Livonia, compared to some other cities in Michigan, but still, we can always do more. We're just trying to teach people, a first step to building awareness ... how to recycle properly."

She'll discuss more benefits to recycling during a public meeting on the topic, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday in

the Livonia City Hall auditorium. The meeting will discuss current recycling trends, its benefits and what can be done to improve recycling.

It'll be the second meeting on recycling this year in the city. The Greenleaf Commission held a meeting this past summer on the topic, the same week the city council kicked around the idea of going to larger bins. That plan was scrapped after the council heard from many residents wanting to keep the smaller recycling bins.

The recycling meeting next week comes just as Livonia switches trash haulers from Waste Management to Rizzo this week. The switch will maintain the 18-gallon recycling bins residents currently use, though information at a later date will be available for residents wanting to

purchase 56-gallon recycling bins.

Carter said it's been shown in places that utilize larger recycling bins that recycling rates tend to increase, as well.

"It would definitely positively affect the recycling rates," she said. "There are studies that prove when bins are bigger, people recycle more."

'Why is this still an issue?'

Mike Shesterkin, who sits on the Greenleaf Commission, said he's worked with Carter the last few months and saw her work with public health and recycling was a unique approach that they saw as a great driver of conversation in Livonia.

"With Daniela's interest from a public health perspective, we began to see that there's a

way that draws a connection that raises awareness with people about the importance of recycling," he said. "Because it does affect the environment and ultimately, will affect public health."

Carter has a more global view on the topic than many others. She grew up in Serbia before coming to the United States and earning a bachelor's degree from Madonna University in Livonia, and also recently returned from an extended trip to Ghana doing community-based research on water and sanitation.

She said while some countries such as Ghana have lower recycling rates, seeing a nation such as the United States not be as high as it could be raises questions.

"You think that 'living over here, America has more resources, so why

aren't we doing better? Why is this still an issue?" she said.

Shesterkin said this discussion is worth having, including having one that shows the positive effects of reusing materials instead of disposing of them immediately.

"The truth is, it's all interrelated," he said. "So there's clearly connections here between what we do with these materials and if we just extract things from the Earth, use these materials and throw them away in the end, then we're losing the benefits we gained and lowering the effects and risks to public health."

"It goes beyond simply it's a good thing to do."

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Charge filed in GC armed robbery

Christina Marie Farris, 33, of Inkster was arraigned Nov. 29 on one charge of armed robbery stemming from a Nov. 25 case at the Shell gas station on Middlebelt in Garden City.



Farris

Farris' next court appearance will be 9 a.m. Monday, Dec. 7, in Garden City.

Teens identified as break-in suspects

Two teenagers are facing charges that they broke into a vacant Westland home several times — incidents caught on security video.

The suspects, ages 15 and 16, were identified as Livonia residents. Both were turned over to their parents pending charges in juvenile court.

Westland Police credited the identification of the suspects to several tips from the public. Video and photos of the incidents — taken from security camera the homeowner installed at the home in the 8400 block of Farmington Road after earlier break-ins — were released through the media.

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

Break-in

On Nov. 30, a resident in the 31000 block of Rush told police that she isn't living at the location and is losing the home to foreclosure. She said her former husband has been breaking into the garage and stealing items.

The woman told police that the ex-husband, a Belleville resident, was charged with breaking and entering under a warrant issued Nov. 19. She said the garage side door had been secured with a board nailed over it, but it was removed.

Reported missing were a plastic tote containing audio cassettes and a foot locker marked DPD containing police equipment. The foot locker belonged to the former husband, she said.

Warrant arrest

On Nov. 28, a resident in the 200 block of Gilman told police that about 5:30 p.m. she let the dog out the side door and saw a man standing just outside the door smoking a cigarette. She said she recognized the man, who had been doing odd jobs about the neighborhood.

When she spoke to him, she said the man asked her for money. She refused, she said, then the man became irate and started yelling. The woman showed officers a cell phone photo of the car the man had driven away in.

The officer located a vehicle matching the description provided by the resident parked on Kathryn. While looking at the vehicle, the officer was approached by another resident who told him

about a man who came to his home because his car ran out of gas.

The second resident told police that he didn't give the man any money but gave him a gas can. He also recognized the man from doing chores around the neighborhood.

The officer later spotted a man using a gas can filling the suspect car with gasoline. He gave the officer different stories about why he was in the area. The man was arrested on a warrant from New Baltimore and for driving with a suspended license.

Break-in

A woman told police she had been renting a home in the 100 block of Central and was moving out on Nov. 29. She said returned to make sure all of her items had been moved

and found the garage side door had been forced open. She said the glass in the door was broken and the door leading to the house was also forced open.

As she entered the house, the woman said she heard water running and discovered about 1 foot of standing water in the basement. Copper pipe valued at \$1,000 was later reported stolen by the homeowner. The new tenant reported being at the home the previous day but had not yet moved in.

Suspended license

A Detroit woman was arrested for driving with 10 license suspensions after being stopped for vehicle equipment violations early Nov. 27. She was also cited for marijuana possession.

LeAnne Rogers

WESTLAND COP CALLS

Larceny

On Nov. 23, a Belleville woman told police that she was shopping at Burlington Coat Factory, 35555 Warren Road, when she accidentally left her wallet in the seat of the shopping cart after loading her purchases into her car. She said she returned within about 15 minutes, but the wallet was gone and store employees told her nothing had been turned in.

The wallet contained a passport, debit/credit card, Social Security card, driver's license and \$56 in cash, the

woman reported.

Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 31000 block of Birchwood told police Nov. 28 that someone had stolen his vehicle registration and proof of insurance from his unlocked vehicle. He said he last saw the documents two days earlier.

Break-in

A resident in the 30000 block of Hiveley told police Nov. 23 that someone had broken a window at her home. She said she was meeting a friend, who arrived at the

house first and reported hearing a noise from the back of the home.

When he went to check, the friend said he saw an unknown person in a Carhartt jacket running away.

Vandalism

On Nov. 29, a Wayne woman told police that someone had smashed a window on her van while it was parked at John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette.

Hit and run

A resident in the 34000 block of Hazelwood told police

Nov. 26 that she was inside for about five minutes and returned to find a dent in the car, which is registered to her father. The damage was to the rear quarter panel of the car, which was parked in the street.

Bike found

On Nov. 30, a Canton resident told police that he had found a men's bicycle, which was damaged and couldn't be ridden, at Hunter and Gerontino.

LeAnne Rogers

Farmington police officers make first overdose save with Narcan

Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

Farmington Public Safety officers saved the life of a 57-year-old woman early Sunday morning with the use of Narcan after she overdosed on morphine and was barely breathing when they arrived.

This was the first time Farmington officers utilized Nar-

can — which can rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdose — since being required to carry it about a month ago, said Ted Wartham, deputy director of the Farmington Public Safety Department.

"The officers on the scene did an excellent job, both in their investigation to detect a possible opioid overdose, and

their success in administering not one but two doses of Naloxone, also known as Narcan," he said.

Wartham said the woman was unresponsive, and her pupils were fixed and dilated, when officers arrived shortly before 1:30 a.m. Family members had called police after finding her unconscious in a back bedroom. Police learned

that someone else in the household had prescription morphine and that it was suspected the woman had overdosed on it, either intentionally or accidentally.

After Narcan was sprayed into her nostrils, she gained consciousness right away and was alert by the time Community EMS arrived, Wartham said.



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Arts-craft show

Lutheran High-Westland hosts its "Winter Wonderland" arts and crafts show Friday and Saturday, Dec. 4-5, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Lutheran High, 33300 Cowan, in Westland.

The event features a large juried show of handcrafted items, lunch, a bake sale, face-painting and hourly door-prize drawings.

For more information, call 734-422-2090.

Scholarship program

The Distinguished Young Women Scholarship Program, the largest and oldest scholarship program for high school girls in the nation, hosts its program at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, at Wayne Memorial High School.

The central focus of Distinguished Young Women is, and always has been, to recognize and reward excellence in education. This year at the local level, nearly \$8,000 will be awarded in scholarship money. For more information about DYW, visit www.distinguishedyw.org.

Tickets are \$10 pre-sale (if they email wayne-westland@distinguishedyw.org to reserve) or \$12 at the door (students are \$8).

Christmas walk

The 27th annual Livonia Christmas Walk, sponsored by the Friends of Greenmead, will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5. The tour will feature five Livonia homes, the Simmons/Hill House and the A.J. Geer store. The walk begins at Greenmead. Tickets are \$10, (\$9 in advance) and are available at Greenmead Historical Park (20501 Newburgh), Livonia City Hall (Community Resources, 5th floor), all Livonia Public libraries and from any member of the

Quartet performs



SUBMITTED

The Aeolus Quartet performs at Fisher Elementary School in Redford Township at 9:30 a.m. and again at 10:20 a.m. Friday, Dec. 4. The program is presented by the Chamber Music Society of Detroit. Students listen to and interact extensively with the performers, at times singing, clapping and even stomping as they make a visceral connection with the music. Students will hear excerpts from classical and contemporary works by Haydn, Debussy, Schubert, Dvorak and William Bolcom, a Michigan-based composer.

Friends.

All proceeds benefit the restoration of Greenmead Historical Park. For more information, contact Greenmead at 248-477-7375.

Good morning, Redford

The Redford Chamber of Commerce sponsors the "Good Morning Redford" breakfast Tuesday, Dec. 8, with coffee at 7:30 a.m. and breakfast at 8 a.m., at Grace Lutheran Church, 25630 Grand River.

Cost is \$8 for members and \$16 for non-members. RSVP to the chamber office by calling 313-535-0960 or emailing aa@redford-chamber.org

Service of Remembrance

The R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes and Cremation Services of Livonia and Garden City will be holding their 25th annual Service of Remembrance Dec. 5-6 for those families who have lost a loved one during this last year and in the

years past.

At the service, family members will be invited to place an angel with their loved one's name on a tree where it will remain until after Jan. 1. A popular Children's Table is available for the kids to design their own angel ornament to help them express their feelings. Helpful thoughts on getting through the holidays after a loss will be given and a carol will be sung before all the names are read. Cookies and warm beverages can be enjoyed indoors following the Service.

» The service at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home-Livonia Chapel, 15451 Farmington Road (just north of Five Mile) will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5. Call 734-422-6720.

» The service at the Garden City Chapel, 31551 Ford Road (just west of Merriman) will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6. Call 734-425-9200.

Night in Bethlehem

Merriman Road Baptist Church sponsors "A

Night in Bethlehem," a hands-on experience that takes grandpas, grandmas, moms, dads, and kids on a sensory-rich Christmas adventure that fills them with more joy than you could pack in a million stockings.

Families will see, hear, taste, touch and smell the Bible-times town of Bethlehem. Through hands-on activities, games, stories and more, they'll experience firsthand the amazing impact of the miracle of Christmas.

The event takes place from 3-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and from 4-7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Merriman Road Baptist Church is located at 2055 Merriman in Garden City. Admission is free.

For more information, call 734-421-0472.

Widowed Friends

The Friends of Widowed Men and Women present the following events:

» Motor City Brass Band presents the Sounds of the Season at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Michael A. Guido Theater at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Tickets are now on sale. Discounted when purchased from Craig Strain at 1-586-924-6866.

» Celebrate New Year's Eve at the Joy Manor Banquet Center, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31. Cost is \$55 pre-paid includes Premium Buffet - Open bar, Champagne Toast at midnight. Doors open at 7 p.m. with dinner at 8 p.m. Dancing to Dr. Pocket. RSVP with check and get email by calling Marie Nagy at 734-728-6967 by Dec. 5.

» New Year's Eve Dinner/Dancing \$33 pre-paid includes appetizers, plated dinner, dessert, tax and tip. Cash bar. Music/Dancing by the Showcasemen. RSVP with check by Dec. 21

and get mailing address by calling Carol Olsen at 313-562-3080.

Christmas dinner

Angel House hosts its third annual Christmas dinner for low-income people from 6-9 p.m. Dec. 18, at the Livonia Senior Community Center, 15218 Farmington Road in Livonia.

Angel House is looking for donations of a food dish or a \$50 gift card to meet its goal of feeding 200 low-income people.

For more information, call 248-622-0359.

Photography club

Time/date: 6:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9.

Details: The December meeting of the 3D Photography Club will feature its annual holiday potluck dinner, with live music performed by members. There will also be photographic items available, including a special photo book sale, as well as a monthly club 3D image competition.

Everyone is invited to join the club at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, for the dinner, music, sale and to see award-winning 3D im-

ages. The meetings are free to attend, and visitors are always welcome. Stereo cameras, 3D movies and educational videos are available for members to borrow or rent. For more information, contact www.Detroit3D.org or call Dennis at 248-398-3591.

Youth association

The Westland Youth Athletic Association Annual General Membership Meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3.

The Westland Youth Athletic Association Compound is located at 6050 N. Farmington Road in Westland.

Livonia Town Club

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. to approximately 2 p.m. on 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. Enjoy informative speakers, bingo, a fashion show, music and more. Contact Vicki at 734-591-3254 for more information.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Wayne Masonic Temple Association, a Michigan non-profit corporation, shall be held at the office of the corporation at 37137 Palmer Rd., Westland, Michigan on the Tuesday December 8, 2015 at 6:00PM for the election of directors and such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

Published: November 29 & December 3, 2015

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CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION REGULAR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 16, 2015

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for December 16, 2015 has been cancelled due to the lack of agenda items

The next regularly scheduled Zoning Board of Appeals meeting will be held on January 20, 2016 in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI at 5:30 p.m.

Published: December 3, 2015

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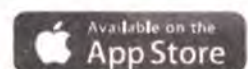


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Santaland Parade thrills crowd, ushers in holidays

"They're coming, they're coming!" said one little boy as Garden City's Santaland Parade kicked off Saturday morning. Yet, he was not the only one excited to see St. Nick and his helpers march through town. Some parade goers estimated the crowd to be one of the largest in the event's 55-year history.

Neither the marchers nor the spectators seemed to mind the cold as they cheered floats from a variety of civic groups from Garden City and beyond. The sun broke through the clouds just in time for Santa and his reindeer's arrival.

The parade marks the traditional start of the holiday season in Garden City. A local Business Expo was held at the Garden City Moose the same afternoon.



Garden City sisters Emma and Caroline Ditrack are bundled up for the 55th annual Santaland Parade held Saturday morning in Garden City.



The Garden City High School Marching Band performs.

TOM BEAUDOIN

TOM BEAUDOIN



Eager 5-year-old Liam Musuta and mom Mallory of Garden City enjoy this year's Santaland Parade as it heads down Middlebelt.

TOM BEAUDOIN



The U.S. Naval Sea Cadets Corps, James M. Hannan Division, based out of the Cambridge Center, proudly marched in this year's parade.

TOM BEAUDOIN




Cadets from Garden City High School Air Force Junior ROTC march in the Santaland Parade.

TOM BEAUDOIN



Sisters Ashley and Sara Trezil of Garden City visit with Santa at the end of the parade.

TOM BEAUDOIN



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

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Local footwear expert launching designer line

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

There are any number of high-end shoe designers who have exercised a great deal of influence on an infinite number of shoe buyers everywhere.

So which one induced Farmington-area native Meghan Cleary to leap feet-first into the shoe market?

None of them. No, Cleary's obsession with shoes got its start in a much tamer place: Kmart. And Cleary's mom, Ann, remembers the exact moment her daughter spotted — and insisted on buying — a pair of cheaply made, pale blue, espadrille sandal shoes, with embroidered flowers.

Her parents resisted as Meghan insisted she just had to have them, then figured, "What's the harm?"

"I absolutely wanted them," said Cleary, a 1989 graduate of Mercy High School. "I felt if I had them, my life would be different."

She was right. Cleary has ridden that childhood love for shoes from the aisles of Kmart to the red carpets of Hollywood as a leading expert on all things shoe-related.

Long journey

Along the way, she's spent some 10 years as a marketing executive in New York and California, has penned two books (*Shoe Are You?* and *The Perfect Fit: What Your Shoes Say About YOU*) and created a YouTube talk show (*Shoe Are You?*).

The last couple of years, Cleary has also written about celebrity shoes for *The Hollywood Reporter*.

For Cleary, all the success started with shoes.

"Shoes are the only thing we put on our bodies that have a physiological impact," Cleary said. "I see it over and over when women try on shoes they're not used to wearing. Their whole countenance changes. It's like a cross-section of psychology and fashion identity. It's fascinating."

The journey was long and a bit circuitous for Cleary, the daughter of Ann and Dennis Cleary. She grew up in the Farmington area, and got her bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of Michigan. She lived and worked in London for a year, then was the assistant editor for Wayne State University's alumni magazine.

TV work

She worked in New York as a marketing executive for 10 years, and wrote her first book. When it came out, she said, she started getting a lot of TV appearances to talk about shoes. For instance, she was asked to provide commentary in 2005, when the Northwestern University women's lacrosse team wore flip-flops to meet President George W. Bush.

"It looked really bizarre, because (President Bush) is there in this regular suit, and they looked like they were barefoot," Cleary re-



Farmington-area native Meghan Cleary has carved out an acclaimed career for herself as an expert on shoes.

"It's the aggregate of 1,000 women's desires about shoes. I wanted to take all that knowledge and put it into a shoe line. I wanted them to be fun to wear."

MEGHAN CLEARY

called.

She moved to Los Angeles in 2008 and, while doing the marketing thing during the day, she'd write and blog about (and shop for) shoes at night. She eventually turned the expertise into the gig with *The Hollywood Reporter*.

Not much of it has surprised her mother. It's a little surreal, maybe, but not entirely surprising.

"It's been unusual to see Meg on TV and writing books and having seminars and being so visible on social media," Ann Cleary said. "But we have always kept a matter-of-fact attitude about it. And what has grown to be a very fulfilling, interesting and challenging career for Meg has always seemed to have been a natural progression to us."

On her own

That progression is taking its next step this week, as Cleary launches her own shoe line, MeghanSAYS Shoes, on Nordstrom.com. The collection, she said, is "tightly edited" in "fun prints and fabrics," including floral gingham and denim.

Using a good deal of social media, Cleary took consumer feedback while developing the line. Cleary points out the shoes include six millimeters of foam (including a three-millimeter faux suede pillow in the ball), and are reasonably priced between \$98 for a ballet flat and \$168 for a high-heel mule.

"It's the aggregate of 1,000 women's desires about shoes," Cleary said. "I wanted to take all that knowledge and put it into a shoe line. I wanted them to be fun to wear."

Bridging the gap

As the female owner of a shoe line, Cleary will be jumping into a pool filled largely by men. According to Cleary, fewer than 10 footwear companies are run by women. Of course, she



Meghan Cleary's career has made her the "shoe expert to the stars," and here hobnobs with actress Melissa McCarthy and shoe designer Brian Atwood.



Meghan Cleary with her mom, Ann, in New York City.



Farmington-area native Meghan Cleary launches her own line of shoes this week.

didn't let that deter her. "I didn't become fully aware of that until I became a designer," Cleary said. "Like many things in my life, I thought, 'I want to do that,' so I'm going to do it."

That also comes as no surprise to her parents. They've shared in the journey, getting shoe samples and visiting their daughter's favorite places when they visit her in California. They once met actress/comedian Lily Tomlin on set once.

All of their daughter's success has inspired her family. "Not many people can achieve their dreams, but Meg did and is still doing that," Ann Cleary said. "I am very proud that Meg has kept well-grounded and true to her values and never forgets where she came from. Knowing Meg as we do, it was no surprise that she would do whatever she set her mind to."

Her mind is now set on launching the line this week. Is she ready? Doesn't really matter.

"I love getting into all the nit-picking details ... I'm learning so much right now," Cleary said. "Am I ready? I guess

we'll see. I try things, and if it works, it works. (But) I'm not really

afraid to fail."

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City of Livonia - 11/4/2015 Regular Meeting Synopsis

Present: Kritzman, Pastor, Meakin, Toy, Scheel, Nash, Brosnan
Absent: None

- #331-15 Approving the minutes of meeting held on 10/18/15 and correcting CR 323-15.
- #332-15 Approving the minutes of meeting held on 10/26/15.
- Public Hearing Announced - Monday, November 23, 2015 at 7PM-Petition 2015-09-01-08 submitted by Ashley Capital, LLC to rezone property on the south side of Schoolcraft Rd. Items were received and filed.
- #333-15 Approving the re-title of classification of City Librarian to Library Director.
- #334-15 Approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Wayne County for Clement Circle Pool.
- #335-15 Authorize purchase of 2 Cargo Vans for Water Maintenance - DPW.
- #336-15 Authorize the purchase of 4 Pick-up Trucks for Roads & Park Maintenance - DPW.
- #337-15 Authorize the purchase of 2 Water Service Trucks for Water Maintenance - DPW.
- #338-15 Authorize the purchase of 2 Pick-up Trucks for Water Maintenance - DPW.
- #339-15 Approve establishment of improvement bonds for Cade Meadows Site Condominiums
- #340-15 Approve a change order to Contract 15A for additional asphalt work done.
- #341-15 Amend/Revise SAD 230 to SAD429 (Sherwood Forest Estates Sub. Light Project)
- #342-15 Approve Petition 2015-09-08-14 to demolish existing hotel and construct new-17123 Laurel Park Drive.
- #343-15 Accept the bid of Etna Supply Co. for water meter end points.
- #344-15 Request the administration to supply a map of locations of churches in Livonia.
- #345-15 Authorize additional expenditure for engineering services for the Newburgh Road Reconstruction Project.
- #346-15 Accept the unit price bid of Hubbell, Roth and Clerk, Inc. for design and construction services-Eight Mile Road Water Main Extension.
- #347-15 Approve Petition 2015-07-02-13 submitted by Panamera Motors to operate a used auto dealership-35085 Plymouth Road.
- #348-15 Approve Petition 2015-09-02-14 submitted by Joseph Philips Architect, LLC on behalf of Merri-Bowl Lanes to expand existing food service operation and Class C liquor License.
- #349-15 Refer Petition 2015-09-08-13 submitted by Michigan Fuel Properties, LLC to remodel Mid-8 Plaza to the Committee of the Whole.
- #350-15 Accept Grand of Easement for a 10' wide public utility in connection with Kingston Terrace Condominium.
- #351-15 Schedule a Closed Committee of the Whole for pending litigation.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.
Full text of the official minutes available in the Office of the City Clerk.
Susan A. Hoff
Livonia City Clerk

Published: December 3, 2015

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Business Expo puts spotlight on Garden City

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Kelly Perkins, vice president of the Garden City Business Alliance, was a busy woman on Saturday, Nov. 28.

"We've got a lot of wonderful, unique gifts," she said of a Holiday Craft & Business Expo she chaired that afternoon. "Obviously, I'm hoping for the shoppers that will make it complete."

The Garden City Business Alliance and the Downtown Development Authority sponsored a Holiday Craft & Business Expo. The Expo featured wood-working, stained glass, photography, specialty food items, jewelry, handmade cards and gifts and more, with admission free of charge. Local businesses offered goods and ser-

vices at the Garden City Moose on Ford Road near Middlebelt.

Garden City resident Perkins noted it may take some time to establish the event from this, its first year. She liked the tie-in to Saturday morning's Santaland Parade. "It could be a really nice event for the community as we go forward," said Perkins, who owns Guardian Martial Arts and Fitness.

She noted that Saturday, Nov. 28, was also Small Business Saturday. At the Expo, there were several Garden City businesses that are GCBA members. "It's certainly serving the Garden City business-ees," Perkins said. "I'm just very grateful for the turnout and the support we've had from the vendors and the DDA."

Added Kerry Partin,

GCBA president, "Just another great event for the city. Being Small Business Saturday, that's a plus." He praised Perkins' organizing prowess, and in a later weekend email again thanked her and other volunteers, and noted the event's good outcome.

"I'm hoping it's going to be another success for the community and the business community," said Garden City's Partin on Saturday morning, who thanked the Moose and its representatives. "They've done a great job with us," said Partin, who also appreciates DDA help, including getting the word out through social media.

"Really, we have some unique stuff over there. A lot of people will be able to get a jump on their Christmas shopping," he said. Partin added new GCBA mem-

bers are welcome and can call him at 734-788-9319 for information.

The GCBA started in August 2014 and has held a Garden City Taste Fest, Trunk or Treat, and Chili Cookoff Afterburn. That last event has entertainment, music, food and dancing, Partin said.

At the Expo was Gail Merrifield of Garden City, selling Garden City Presbyterian Church's tote bags, table runners, hand-crocheted blankets and Christmas items. The church women's group and Sewing Hope contributed items, Merrifield said.

"A lot of traffic coming through here so far," she said Saturday. Merrifield also did some shopping: "I've already bought some jam," she said with a smile.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @248Julie



Kelly Perkins, vice president of the Garden City Business Alliance, takes a break with granddaughter Emma Goldhof, 3½, at the Expo Saturday, Nov. 28, at the Garden City Moose.

Beaumont events raise more than \$500,000 for charitable causes

In November, two Beaumont Health fundraising gala events helped raise over a half million dollars.

The Botsford Autumn Gala raised almost \$300,000 to help fund a planned expansion of Beaumont Hospital - Farmington Hills, formerly Botsford Hospital. And, \$235,000 was raised at the Wine for the Spirit, which will help fund heart and vascular programs at the former Oakwood hospitals, which are now also part of Beaumont Health.

The 10th annual Autumn Gala, a long-standing tradition of Beaumont Hospital - Farmington Hills, was held at the MGM Grand Detroit. The 20th annual Wine for the



The highlight of the Botsford Autumn Gala was when Paul LaCasse, D.O., MPH, received special recognition for the many years of leadership he has given to Beaumont Hospital - Farmington Hills. From left: David Walters, D.O., MPH; Dr. LaCasse; Gerson Cooper; and Raimundo Pastor, D.O.

Spirit, hosted by the former Oakwood Healthcare, was at The Henry Ford in Dearborn, offering guests the unique

opportunity to walk through history while supporting a great cause. Their combined attendance attracted more

than 1,275 philanthropic physicians, hospital leaders, business partners and friends.

"These events are critical to helping our communities by providing integral health care services and the necessary tools to provide compassionate and extraordinary care every day," said Margaret Cooney Casey, Beaumont Health's senior vice president and chief development officer. "We are only able to host these events year after year because of the kindness, generosity and philanthropy of our sponsors and friends."

Highlights of Wine for the Spirit included food and wine pairings from around the world, a "bier-

garten" featuring Michigan craft beer, a silent auction, a raffle drawing and a fine wine tasting room. Ron Moran of Ghafari Associates LLC served as event chair for the ninth year in a row.

The Autumn Gala included a silent auction, strolling hors d'oeuvres, a formal sit-down dinner and dancing, and was emceed by David Walters, D.O., MHA, chief medical officer, Beaumont Hospital - Farmington Hills, and senior vice president, Beaumont Health Physician Partners. Musical entertainment for both events was provided by the Rick Lieder Band.

The top sponsors of Wine for the Spirit included the Oakwood

executive team, Compass One Healthcare, Ford Motor Company Fund, HealthPlus of Michigan, Mainwaring Pathology Group, Anesthesia Associates of Ann Arbor, Team Health and Health-Rise Solutions among several others.

The Autumn Gala's lead sponsors included the Beaumont Hospital - Farmington Hills Medical Staff; Botsford Medical Imaging, P.C.; Drs. Phoebe and Harris Mainster, Surgery Specialists Inc.; Sodexo; Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine; Alrig USA LLC; Botsford Anesthesiologists P.C.; Farmington Emergency Medicine Associates; and Tanoury, Nauts, McKinney & Garbarino P.L.L.C.

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Shirt Box co-owners Rod Brown (left) and Ron Elks are partnering with Jackets for Jobs this holiday season.

The Shirt Box seeks dress coats, business apparel

Farmington Hills-based The Shirt Box is partnering with Jackets for Jobs this holiday season.

The clothing retailer hopes to collect gently used men's winter dress coats to help individuals headed back into the work force keep warm and look professional. The shop will also take donations of any other men's business apparel that meets the Jackets for Jobs donation requirements. All donations will be accepted through Dec. 31.

Jackets for Jobs is a Detroit-based, award-winning nonprofit organization that helps provide career skills training, employment etiquette and professional clothing to job seekers. The organization relies on clothing donations, such as those hosted by The Shirt Box, to ensure it has the inventory to appropriately dress its clients for work. During colder months, there is a great need for professional outerwear to complement business clothing as people travel to

and from job interviews and new employment positions.

"Confidence looks good on an individual, and it's always been my observation that when you look good, you feel good," said Alison Vaughn, founder and CEO of Jackets For Jobs. "When you're desperate for a job, you may not think about the subtleties that can make a difference during the interview process."

Clothing donations should meet Jackets for Jobs' guidelines: All clothing must be clean, dry-cleaned, washed or ironed and on a hanger, ensuring it will arrive at Jackets for Jobs without wrinkles. Clothing must be in good condition, with no stains, moth holes, buttons missing, rips or tears, or broken zippers. Clothing must be in current style and suitable for the workplace. Basic colors such as black, brown, navy, and white are in great demand, but others are welcome.

"I think we've all been there," said Ron Elkus,

founder and co-owner of The Shirt Box. "That point at which you're dressed in your suit, ready to head out and you have a decision to make. All you have is your everyday ski jacket to put on top of your professional suit, or do you choose to brave the weather and go without a coat? Through this drive, we hope to help eliminate these choices and help get people back in the workforce, warmly."

Please note: The Shirt Box is a drop-off center only. Anyone in need of business clothing due to unemployment should contact Jackets for Jobs directly.

Jackets for Jobs is a nonprofit organization that helps low-income women and men make the transition to work by providing professional business attire and career counseling. Since opening its doors in 2000, Jackets for Jobs has helped over 16,000 individuals with employment.

For more information, call 248-851-6770 or visit TheShirtBox.com.

Generosity, hard work yield Rotary school in Ghana village

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Children ages 4-6 in Guo, a village in Ghana, are going to school indoors now, thanks to the generosity and hard work of local Rotarians and their supporters.

The Rotary Clubs of Plymouth, Michigan, U.S.A., Guo Kindergarten School Block recently opened. It was in the works about three years, said organizer Jeanne Knopf DeRoche, a Plymouth Township resident and treasurer of the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M.

"They were going to school under a tree before that," Knopf DeRoche said of the Guo children. "They had a school, but no building."

She and 10 Windsor, Ontario-area Rotarians traveled to the Guo region Nov. 12-24 to see the school and work on other nearby projects. The Guo school idea started with the A.M. club in Plymouth, which sought help from the Rotary Club of Plymouth and its foundation.

"So the Noon Club paid for half the building," Knopf DeRoche said. Her club had three Celebrity Wait Night fundraisers and contributed \$12,500 for the school, with the Rotary Club of Plymouth supplying an additional \$12,500.

Ghana, in west Africa, also is benefiting from a Rotary District 6400 grant, which includes this area. The district grant of \$4,000, matched by the A.M. club, paid for desks, uniforms and supplies.

Knopf DeRoche also left money for paint at the Guo school "so it's not going to fall apart on us." The lead teacher requested playground equipment, including a merry-go-round and swing set.

"There's a guy in their little village that makes them," she said of the playground items, which were purchased there with district funds. Money is kept in a Ghanaian bank in a neighboring town monitored by a trusted Catholic priest.

Canadian assistance

The Rotary Club of Windsor 1918, one of several in that city, mentored the Plymouth A.M. Rotarians on their African project. The Canadians had international connections that made banking aspects easier, Knopf DeRoche explained.

The district grant also provided a computer, textbooks and supplemental Montessori textbooks "as requested by the lead teacher. It was fun going shopping in the capital," she said of Accra, Ghana's capital city.

Accra was hot, humid and subject to rolling electricity blackouts. Guo is northwest of Accra. "It took us three days to get home," Knopf DeRoche said of travel logistics.

The team of Rotarians and volunteers included spouses, with two from the 1918 Club, one from the Windsor Rose-land Club, Knopf DeRoche and 11 people total. They stayed in a guest house in the next village, Jirapa.

"We didn't all do everything together," she said.

The school in Guo is built and a source of great pride to locals and the Rotarians. Knopf DeRoche noted she saw another group of children in school under a tree on this trip.

"They have no junior highs," she said of a great need in Ghana, with the government under pressure to build junior highs, the highest level of free education in that country. High school requires payment.

"Now all these kids are headed to junior high. There's just not enough room," said Knopf DeRoche, who's concerned about ongoing need for preschool and early elementary education.

The Guo school took about



Jeanne Knopf DeRoche, treasurer and past president of the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., during her Nov. 12-24 visit with a group from Ghana. The Rotary Club of Plymouth also paid half the cost of the Guo school.



SUBMITTED
Plymouth Rotarians appreciate mentoring help from the Rotary Club of Windsor 1918 on the Ghana school project. This marker is at the school in Africa.



JULIE BROWN

"It was a great experience," Rotarian Jeanne Knopf DeRoche said of building the school and her recent trip to Ghana to see it. The school is built.



Rotarian Jeanne Knopf DeRoche (center) of Plymouth Township is happy to meet local Ghanaian children during the Nov. 12-24 visit.

a year and a half to build. "The villagers did as much work as they could before we brought in contractors," she said. The locals made mud bricks of good quality, as well as a thatched roof well-suited to local weather.

'Centuries of local knowledge'

"They're building on centuries of local knowledge," she said of that African knowledge and effort.

Dr. Godfrey Bacheyie, a Windsor pediatrician who's originally from Ghana, is a Rotarian from the 1918 Club. "We come in with his family's trust behind us," Knopf DeRoche said.

Bacheyie told the Rotarians to emphasize their hard work to raise the money; Westerners have a higher living standard and Bacheyie wanted the Africans to understand the

work the project entailed. "The people are so generous and grateful," he said. "The older people in particular understand how far you've come to be with them."

The Guo school will serve about 70 children, in three classrooms. The day Knopf DeRoche visited, some 30 extra children showed up who aren't enrolled. Dresses and shorts were provided for all children there that day.

"Guo has some other schools, but not for that age," she said. There's an elementary and even a junior high, which is unusual for that size community.

Knopf DeRoche was the only group member focused on the Guo school, with members working on five or six villages in the region.

She agreed it's difficult to see overwhelming need and, with others, asked, "What can

I do that's going to stay?" Their focus was on local and not Western ideas.

At the orphanage, for example, feeding babies nutritious meals means more than diapering. "It's not part of their culture to wear diapers," she said.

She saw AIDS prevention and awareness signs, her favorite. "A friend with AIDS is still a friend." She wondered about passing of babies at the orphanage and of their parents, but saw less HIV evidence than in South Africa, "where I saw whole villages where there are no parents."

The Guo lead teacher is also an administrator and was teaching for a colleague on maternity leave recently. "Nice young man. I don't think I've ever been hugged so tight when I told him I could get him a computer," Knopf DeRoche said.

For the future, "I'm ready to keep going." Rotarians will enjoy family time over the holidays and Knopf DeRoche will meet with Traci Sincok of the Northville Rotary to discuss future efforts internationally. Sincok is an assistant district governor for District 6400.

Knopf DeRoche is also talking to Canton Rotary about international work and noted the great benefits of working together. She visited A.M. Rotarian Tim Higgins at his local print shop on her return and said, "We just do good work. They're thanking me, but they're thanking all of us."

The group will return to Ghana in 2018 and Knopf DeRoche hopes more Americans can join in then. "It was a great experience," she said.

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GUEST COLUMN

Refugees represent choice between fear, freedom

In the wake of the recent attacks in France, Lebanon and other places around the world, our nation has become more fearful of accepting refugees from war-torn countries like Syria.

Candidates for higher office have used this fear to try to convince Americans that only one option lies before us: We cannot offer aid to the refugees attempting to escape the murderous regime of Bashar al-Assad and the terrorist organization known as ISIS lest we put ourselves in grave and imminent danger.

The facts tell a different story.

The United States relies on the most stringent refugee acceptance processes in the world — procedures more than 250,000 refu-



State Sen. David Knezek
GUEST COLUMNIST

gees have gone through since 9/11. This 18- to 24-month process is complete with health screenings, background checks and multiple face-to-face interviews conducted by the Department of Homeland Security and the FBI. Without question, we must continue to provide law enforcement with the tools they need to ensure they can fulfill our foremost responsibility: keeping Americans safe.

This vetting process — for all its rigor — is often times even longer for Syrian applications. Since civil war broke out in Syria in 2011, the

United States has admitted about 2,200 Syrian refugees. According to senior officials, only around 2 percent are “military-aged males” traveling with no companions. The vast majority of refugees are women, children and the elderly. But what about the screening process itself? Does it work?

Roughly 50 percent of those who have applied for refugee status in the United States have been rejected due to concerns flagged throughout the screening process or because screeners were not able to properly vet them with the information they had available. These law enforcement officials have and must be allowed to continue to do their jobs while keeping Americans safe.

These are the numbers and the factual reasons why we should not let fear motivate our decision making when it comes to accepting Syrian refugees. But there’s far more to it than that. Inscribed on the Statue of Liberty are the words: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

These refugees are attempting to escape a hell that few of us, thank God, will ever know. Their homes have been destroyed, their loved ones murdered, maimed and raped at the hands of either a brutal dictatorial regime desperately trying

to hold onto power or a medieval religious cult spreading its hateful doctrine through the countryside by the sword. We have a responsibility to humanity to care for and provide refuge to those searching for the shores of a free land.

President Ronald Reagan often referred to this nation as a “shining city upon a hill,” a beacon of light and hope for a weary world. In his farewell speech in the Oval Office, he said, “And if there had to be city walls, the walls had doors and the doors were open to anyone with the will and the heart to get here. That’s how I saw it and see it still.” Reagan was borrowing from John Winthrop, an early settler who came to the New World seeking refuge

and a place where he and his companions could live and worship free from oppression.

These refugees are seeking the very thing that Winthrop and our ancestors have sought from the earliest days of our great country. To turn our backs now would be decidedly un-American.

While some politicians want to boil this down to a wedge issue that can advance their own political agenda, there is so much more at stake. This is a test of our courage and our desire to keep the American spirit alive and to keep inclusiveness at the heart of all that we do. Have we lost that spirit? I hope not.

State Sen. David Knezek’s district includes Redford and Garden City.

LETTERS

Early present

Christmas has come early for Wayne County CEO Warren Evans and the commissioners who govern us taxpayers.

In addition, there are, I’m sure, some “elite” past employees and present who are also receiving their “forever free health care plan.”

Last week Detroit Channel 2 reported that

the Wayne County Commissioners and the CEO gave themselves a “forever free health care plan.” They were given this opportunity because of the consent agreement.

This allowed them to govern Wayne County out of the present financial mess (threat of bankruptcy). We, the taxpayers, are paying for that “free” benefit that they are now

receiving.

This occurred because of past egregious county policies, and it is still continuing. Meanwhile, over 5,000 Wayne County retirees are struggling to purchase their own health care plan. Mr. Evans and our county commissioners voted to eliminate health care benefits to retired Wayne County employees, many who are in their 70s and 80s.

Most of our Wayne County employees had to work 25, 30 or more years to achieve their right to a pension and health care benefit. Our Wayne County “elite” have achieved that goal in only a few years by being elected to a Wayne County commissioner position, or elected

to become CEO of Wayne County.

I remind our current public county officials that they should be serving the public and not servicing themselves. I hope the voters will remember those commissioners and this CEO when the next election comes up because what happened to us could happen to you when they seek your vote again in the next election cycle.

One last comment: Those of you who are looking for a career working in Wayne County should also look for other opportunities elsewhere, because you may lose your future as I did on Dec. 1, 2015.

Richard Gora
Retired Wayne County

Sheriff Sergeant

Truth about vehicle warranties

True or false: Until your vehicle is out of warranty, it must be serviced by the new car dealer or the factory warranty will be void. Although you may have answered “true,” the correct answer is “false.”

It’s the law that consumers can have routine repairs performed by their local independent repair shop or do the work themselves without affecting the warranty. The Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, enforced by the Federal Trade Commission, prohibits a manufacturer from voiding the vehicle warranty because service was done

by a non-dealer.

According to the FTC, “It’s illegal for a dealer to deny your warranty coverage simply because you had routine maintenance or repairs performed by someone else. Routine maintenance often includes oil changes, tire rotations, belt replacement, fluid checks and flushes, new brake pads and inspections.” It is also important to note that the “Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act makes it illegal for companies to void your warranty or deny coverage under the warranty simply because you used an aftermarket or recycled part.”

Rich White
executive director,
Car Care Council

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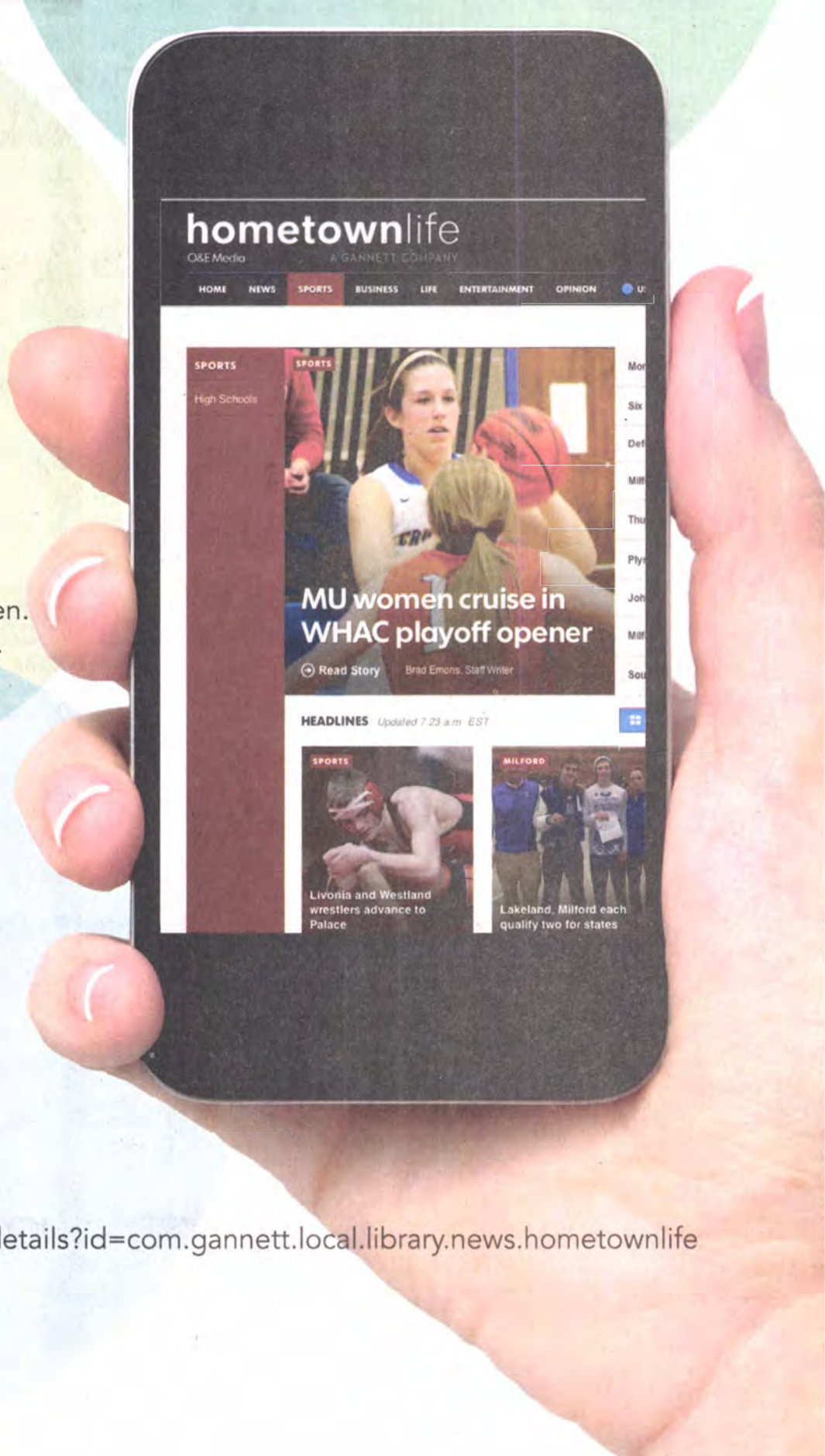
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COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Madonna mourns loss of Moore

Sports info director, 36, touched many lives

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Despite being taken away at the young age of 36, Patrick Moore's impact at Madonna University reached far and wide.

The school's sports information director since 2007, the

Redford resident died unexpectedly Sunday. Cause of death was a heart attack, according to a Madonna University press release.

"He was our one dependable guy is always what I said about him," Madonna athletic director Bryan Rizzo said. "No matter I needed to do, I could always count on him. Whenever I needed anything done game day, he'd be there. He



Moore

always put our students first. Putting Madonna first was always the most important thing to him. That's what I'll always think of."

Moore, always accessible and always accommodating, was the primary contact for all 11 of the Crusaders' intercollegiate sports while overseeing all communications for the department. He was the webmaster for MadonnaCrusader-

s.com. He also played a key role in athletic communications for the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference along with the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Moore became the first three-time winner of the WHAC's highest honor, The Mike Dean Sports Information Director of the Year, award in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

See MOORE, Page B4

Regretful omission

Livonia Stevenson senior cross country stand-out Andrew Bambach was mistakenly omitted from Sunday's first-team all-area boys cross country team story.

The senior's best race of the season was his 12th-place finish at KLAAs Kensington Conference Meet in a time of 16:29.6. His ninth-place finish in 16:40 led the Spartans to a first-place finish at the Wayne County Championships.

"Andrew had a solid senior season," said coach Chris Inch. "He was our number one runner in nearly every race. It is too bad we weren't able to get him qualified for the state meet. Andrew is a good cross country runner. He's an even better track athlete. I know he has some big goals for himself and his teammates this spring track season."



Bambach

GIRLS BASKETBALL OPENER



Livonia Franklin freshman guard Olivia Napier tries to dribble around Ladywood defenders Kate Roney (5) and Maggie Shirk (35) during Tuesday night's season opener.

Blazers in mid-season form in win over Pats

ED WRIGHT
Franklin guard Julee Perez looks for an open teammate to pass to Tuesday night.



Reppen's 11 steals spark victory

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

It was smooth sailing for Livonia Ladywood and rough sledding for Livonia Franklin during the two teams' season-opening showdown Tuesday night in the Patriots' gymnasium.

Energized by an 11-steal effort from Abbey Reppen and a share-the-ball offensive philosophy, the Blazers led

from the get-go before earning a 50-21 victory.

Ladywood roared to a 31-15 halftime lead against the young and scrappy Patriots before expanding its cushion to 47-21 with eight minutes to play.

"I was very pleased with the way the girls played tonight," said Ladywood head coach Amber Culloty. "A lot of

See OPENER, Page B4

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

New coach changing culture at Churchill

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Shaped by mini homework assignments, major volunteering projects and a completely new on-the-court system, the culture of the Livonia Churchill girls basketball program is evolving on a daily basis under first-year head coach K'Len Morris.

The Chargers' homework assignment — researching the meaning of "Ubuntu," an ancient southern African term that helped the 2007-08 Boston Celtics bond during their NBA championship run — has been

the least time-consuming of the tasks, but important all the same.

According to Wikipedia, the term means "defining oneself based on what is accomplished as a team" — a philosophy Morris encourages his players to embrace on and off the court. The volunteering concept — which has included working with special-needs children, visiting a young girl battling brain cancer and spending time with hospitalized veterans — has been educational and fulfilling for the Char-

See CHURCHILL, Page B4



Churchill's Payton Byron is guarded by Alivia Kondrath during a Monday afternoon practice drill.

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.

WYAA meeting announcement

The Westland Youth Athletic Association Annual General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Westland Youth Athletic Association Compound located at 6050 N. Farmington Road, Westland MI. 48185.

UM-Dearborn update

Several Observerland student-athletes are excelling for the University of Michigan-Dearborn men's and women's basketball teams during the early part of the 2015-16 season.

During the Wolverines' 60-45 loss to Lourdes on Nov. 24, Redford Union graduate Ashley Sandelin led UM-D with 11 points. A sophomore, Sandelin excelled at both ends of the court during her four-year varsity hoops career at RU, where she also played soccer.

Also excelling for the Lady Wolverines is Livonia Churchill graduate Natalie Spala, who scored 10 points in last week's 77-44 loss to Indiana University-South Bend. A college freshman, the sharp-shooting Spala led the Chargers in scoring last season.

Former Redford Thurston star Xavier Crofford is making a name for himself with the UM-D men's basketball team. The freshman led the Wolverines with 17 points in their 69-63 loss to Lourdes University.

Reporting results

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

The deadline for Sunday editions is Friday at 10 p.m. The deadline for Thursday editions is Tuesday at 10 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Spartans know what it takes to succeed

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Does momentum have a shelf life of eight months?

The Livonia Stevenson girls basketball team is about to find out.

Back in March, the Spartans capped an improvement-laced season by winning a Class A district championship after enduring a challenging regular season in the ultra-competitive KLAAC Central Division.

The feel-good effort can't do anything but help the Spartans as they get set to tip off their 2015-16 season this week.

"Toward the end of last season we were really coming together as a team, especially in the post," said senior co-captain Paige Ackman. "We have four returning post players, so that will definitely help us down low."

"I think the momentum and excitement we built up at the end of last year will carry over to this season," agreed Audrey Stahrr, who will share the captaincy responsibilities with Ackman. "We got better as the season went on last year and we have a lot of players back, so that will be a positive."

The No. 1 concern for the Spartans — at least during the early portion of the schedule — is lighting up the scoreboard, said Stevenson head coach Tim Newman.

"We lost Arryn Dochenetz to graduation and she is the one we turned to a lot last year when we needed a big basket," Newman said. "We're going to have to find another scorer, hopefully sooner than later."

Joining Ackman and Stahrr — both of whom are 6-foot post players — in the front-court mix will be 5-foot-9 Amanda Schultz, 6-footer Ashley Lupinski (who was sidelined most of last season by an injury) and 5-8 junior Kelly Newman, the daughter of Tim.

"It's a solid group of post players and they're all vying for a starting spot," said Newman. "They proved last year that



Pictured are Livonia Stevenson senior co-captains Paige Ackman (left) and Audrey Stahrr.



Junior guard Grace Lamerson looks to drive during a Monday practice drill.

they're good rebounders, but they have to develop a scorer's mentality."

Led by returning junior starters Grace Lamerson and Diane Senkowski, both of whom measure out at around 5-9, the Spartans' back-court is quick, long-armed and committed to playing lights-out defense.

"I'm very comfortable with our back-court," said Newman. "They've really been working on their shooting, so hopefully they can elevate their offense."

Joining Lamerson and Senkowski in the Spartans' three-guard set-up is expected to be sophomore Sarah Tanderys (5-3), who enjoyed a stellar season at the junior-varsity level last winter.

Providing valuable depth for Stevenson will be juniors Jackie Green, Hailey Gorsuch, Casey Baldwin, Kait Pense and sisters Brie and Alyssa Maas.

"They're definitely going to have to give us some quality minutes as the season goes on," Newman assured.

The KLAAC Central Division figures to be as tough as ever, with reigning champion Salem "the odds on favorite" to win it again, Newman forecasted.

"After Salem, there's Novi and Northville, and then the rest of us," he said. "I like playing in a competitive division like this because that's the only way you're going to get better."

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Zebras still young, but much improved

Talented transfers infuse hope into Wayne's program

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Wayne Memorial girls basketball team didn't just put last season's forgettable 0-20 season in the rear-view mirror, the Zebras fed it into a giant shredder.

Thanks to an infusion of high-profile transfers and the return of a trio of hustling contributors from the 2014-15 campaign, the near-future looks bright for the Zebras and second-year head coach Jarvis Mitchell.

"We're still young, but we're going to compete this year," said Mitchell, a former star player at Fairleigh Dickinson University. "The girls are working harder and learning more. I don't know if we'll be an overnight success, but we should be a lot better."

The three new additions who are expected to make the most immediate impact for Wayne are freshman Jeanae Terry, sophomore Camree Clegg, a transfer from Detroit Country Day, and junior Amara Chikwe, who transferred from Ann Arbor Huron.

"Jeanae has the kind of natural talent that makes a coach look forward to going to practice every day," said Mitchell. "She can play point guard or shooting guard, and play them both well. She's only a freshman, so she's going to make some freshman mistakes, but she's going to be really, really good."

"Camree can do everything, she's already had



Wayne's Adrianna Gonzales drives hard to the hoop during a game against Garden City last season.

four Division 1 offers. Along with being an absolute talent, she works as hard as anybody I've ever coached. She does something just about every day in practice that is exciting.

"Amara is a six-footer who has the ability to achieve the first triple-double at Wayne. She runs, jumps and shoots extremely well."

The starting line-up is expected to be filled out by freshman forward Lichail Gaines and senior captain Haley Scott, who is the team's lone returning starter.

"Haley is a leader; she's not afraid to do whatever it takes to make the team better," said Mitchell.

Among the key reserves for the Zebras are sophomore Victoria Scott, the sister of Haley, who give the team instant offense off the bench at the two-guard position; and junior Adrianna Gonzales, who can play either guard position smoothly.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Bigger, deeper Cougars eye rebound season

Garden City led by four-year varsity player Michalak

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

There is a lot to like about this year's version of the Garden City girls basketball team. "This is probably the most athletic team I've coached here," said Cougars head coach Michele Tyree. "Most of the girls are two- or three-sport athletes. "It's the biggest team I've had in a while, too — size-wise and in the number of players. We have some versatile players who we can move around." The Cougars travel as far as their five returning contributors take them. Leading the cast of returners is four-year varsity player Lindsey Michalak, who led the team in scoring and rebounding as a junior. "Lindsey will start the season at the point, but she can play the other guard spot, too," said Tyree. "She can take the ball to the basket and she

has a good outside shot as well. Her experience will help us." The role of 5-foot-10 senior post player Cassie Leleniewski is expected to expand this season, given that she is the Cougars' most-experienced post player. "She ran cross country this year, so she's in good shape," Tyree noted. "She has a nice touch on her shot." Garden City's scrappy defense will be spearheaded by senior Mikaela Smolar, a 5-4 high-energy guard. "Mikaela is very quick, very athletic," Tyree said. "I expect her to play a big role defensively." Senior sharp-shooter Amber Swisher is the Cougars' most-consistent three-point threat. "Amber has been working very hard on the defensive end, so she's becoming a more complete player," Tyree said of the three-year varsity performer. The last, but not least, returner is junior Alea Montgomery, who can attack the rim or square up for a jumper, depending on what the defense gives her.

"Alea was our second- or third-leading rebounder last year," Tyree said. "She made big strides toward the end of last season." The Cougars' first-year players are loaded with potential. Junior Brittany Radtke is a three-sport athlete who will provide consistency at the guard position, Tyree said. "Brittany is a very steady player who I have high expectations for," she said. Junior Kayley Hewer is primarily a perimeter player who knows how to get to the rim and finish. Junior Alicia Ascencio will give Garden City a "strong presence inside," Tyree emphasized. Juniors Alex Leleniewski (the younger sister of Cassie) and Tatum Spears are both talented players who Tyree is confident will take advantage of their opportunities to shine this season. Other key components include seniors Taneja Horne and Samantha Schwesing, both of whom played for the Cougars' JV team in 10th grade before sitting out last season.

ewright@hometownlife.com



TOM BEAUDOIN

Four-year varsity player Lindsey Michalak will play a huge role for Garden City's basketball team this winter.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Garden City's Tatum Spears drives hard to the basket during Tuesday night's game against Taylor Kennedy.

GIRLS HOOPS ROUNDUP

Kennedy trips up GC in overtime

Cougars' air-tight defensive effort not quite enough

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Defense reigned during Tuesday night's season debut featuring the Garden City and Taylor Kennedy girls basketball teams. Despite limiting the Eagles to just eight total points during the final three quarters of regulation play, the Cougars suffered a 30-24 overtime loss. "I thought our girls worked hard," said Garden City head coach Michele Tyree, whose team will return to action Friday at Livonia Franklin. "We out-rebounded them 44-19, which I didn't expect because they have a big girl who is pretty dominant down low." After taking a 13-8 lead in the first quarter, it appeared as if Kennedy was on the way to a productive night on the offensive end of the court. However, the hustling Cougars limited their guests to three points in the second quarter, four in the third and one in the fourth. Unfortunately for Garden City, it struggled putting the ball in the hoop as well, failing to score more than eight points in any of the five stanzas. Senior Lindsey Michalak led the Cougars with 10 points and six rebounds. Cassie Leleniewski added four points and nine boards. Alea Montgomery scored



TOM BEAUDOIN
Garden City's Mikaela Smolar eyes the rim during a first-half drive to the hoop Tuesday night.

just two points, but she collected a game-high 17 rebounds. **John Glenn victorious** The Rockets overcame a sluggish start with a sizzling final three quarters during Tuesday night's 57-29 victory over host Ann Arbor Skyline. John Glenn led just 12-11 after the opening stanza before outscoring Skyline 45-18 the rest of the way. Leading the way for John Glenn was sophomore Carly Loving, who registered 18 points and six rebounds. Also contributing strong numbers for the winners were Nadia Reed (12 points, four rebounds), Sharon Woodard (eight points, two boards), Kamih Stribling (seven points,

12 rebounds) and Taylor Robinson, who chipped in seven points and four caroms. **Hawks bury Spartans** Harrison had a flying start to a new season in girls basketball Tuesday with a 60-26 victory over visiting Livonia Stevenson. The Hawks were active in the open court and won the transition game, rolling to a 17-3 lead after one quarter and a 40-10 halftime margin. "We knew it was going to be a tough game, but we expected to play better than we did," said Stevenson head coach Tim Newman. "We just couldn't match up with them." Hailey Gorsuch and Audrey Stahrr scored four points each for the Spartans.

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Rockets' hopes soaring for big season

Defense and experience could carry John Glenn a long way

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Westland John Glenn girls basketball coach Derrick Jordan is optimistic heading into the 2015-16 season — and for good reason. Jordan will be strategizing for a team that is loaded with eight seniors. "I think our trademarks this year will be our defense and our experience," said Jordan, whose team finished just south of the .500 mark last season. "It's nice having so many players back because they know the offense and defense we run, and they trust each other. "We've looked really good in our scrimmages so far, so that is a good sign." The senior-laden rosters will be powered by final-year players Nadia Reed, a 5-foot-8 stretch forward, and Kimah Stribling, a 5-7 perimeter force. "Nadia can do pretty much everything we need her to do," said Jordan. "She can run our offense and she can defend the other team's best guards. "Kimah can shoot from the perimeter and she knows how to get to the hole off the dribble. I expect her to be one of our top scorers. She enjoys playing defense, too." First-year senior Taylor Robinson (5-10) gives the Rockets a strong rebounding presence around the rim.

Returning point guard Aireana Hassan is only a junior, but she has leadership skills beyond her years, Jordan raved. "She has great decision-making skills and she knows how to run the team," said Jordan. "She's an extension of me out there." The Rockets' front-court line-up will be fortified by the return of sophomore starter Carly Loving, who earned all-conference honors as a freshman while nearly averaging a double-double in scoring and rebounds. "I like Carly's tenacity around the basket," Jordan said. "She has a high basketball IQ, especially for such a young player. We need to get her more touches in our offense." Leading John Glenn's talented reserve unit will be 5-5 senior Sierra Moseley, who would probably be in the starting line-up if she wasn't recovering from a knee injury. Sophomore Sharon Woodard will be one of the first guards off the bench along with Kerri McCullough, who is a senior transfer student. "Both Sharon and Kerri will provide us with energy off the bench," Jordan noted. Senior Jasmine Williams (5-8) will allow Jordan to give rests to his starting front-court players.

ewright@hometownlife.com



ED WRIGHT

Three key players for John Glenn this season figure to be (from left) Sierra Moseley, Aireana Hassan and Nadia Reed.

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Clarenceville nearly doubles participation

Clarenceville varsity has new coach in Kristen Alsheskie

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

The girls basketball program at Livonia Clarenceville has taken a step forward this year with increased participation and the addition of a junior varsity team.

The Trojans also have a new coach in Kristen Alshes-

kie. She replaces Kelsey Irwin, who is now the Royal Oak JV coach.

Clarenceville, which had only a 10-member varsity last season, has nearly doubled its number of players to 18 overall and has enough for an eight-girl JV squad.

The Trojans will be led by senior co-captains A'Sha Whitaker and Kylee Hammond.

Sophomore guard Desarae Hartfiel and junior guard Emily Lazette also return, although the latter will play on the JV this season.

Clarenceville will be a

young team with half of its 10-player varsity being freshmen. They include guards Aiyana Allen, Myla Hoskins and Madison Jaber, forward Emily Schmidt and center Raven Redding.

The other new varsity players are junior forward Raquel Mance and senior guard Michaela Nesler.

"The starting five for each game will depend on the effort put in at each practice," Alsheskie said. "I have a strong group of players, and I am looking forward to watching them improve."

The Trojans, who were winless last season, will employ a half-court offense to start, but Alsheskie's hope is to develop a running game.

"The team has put in a lot of effort toward conditioning," she said. "I would like to see us be able to run consistent full-court transitions."

Alsheskie previously was the girls seventh- and eighth-grade coach at Clarenceville Middle School. A graduate of Western Michigan University, Alsheskie is a para-educator in the math intervention class at CMS.

Clarenceville began the season Tuesday with a 33-21 loss to Sacred Heart Academy and will play host to Wayne Memorial on Friday.

"This group has shown an extreme amount of dedication and a drive to want to improve," Alsheskie said. "I have a great feeling about these players working together as a team to overcome the challenges they have faced in the past as a basketball program."

BOYS HOCKEY

Franklin ices Lakeland to improve to 4-0

Stevenson blanks state-ranked Rochester, 3-0

The Livonia Franklin boys hockey team headed into the Thanksgiving break on a roll.

The Patriots improved to 4-0 overall with a 5-3 victory Nov. 25 over host White Lake Lakeland in a game played at Lakeland Ice Arena.

Franklin opened the first period with three straight goals.

Chase Wallis opened the scoring from Brendan Whitney and Nik Salisbury, followed by Max McCrory's goal from Brendan Nutting and Jack Engle. Trevor Lassaline then converted on a power play from Wallis with 3:36 left for a 3-0 lead.

But Travis Gragg got the Eagles (1-1-1) on the board with just 36 seconds left in the opening period to trim the deficit to 3-1.

Lakeland's Bryant Cohen then scored the next two goals in the second period, one on an unassisted shorthanded effort just 42 seconds into the period

and the other off an assist from Blake Kocsis at 10:37, to make it 3-3.

But the Patriots took the lead for keeps, getting a goal from Zack Nelson off an assist from Nutting with only 14 seconds left in the second.

Whitney then put it away off an assist from Wallis with 7:07 remaining in the third to give Franklin a two-goal cushion and the victory.

Franklin freshman goaltender Jake Penny, who made 27 saves, recorded his fourth straight victory.

Brandon Pomerleau had 29 saves for the Eagles.

"We're so happy to win four in a row," Franklin coach Dennis Gagnon said. "Thanksgiving holiday — the boys have four days off. We've been working hard the last month and it's good to get a little time off. Hopefully, we come back ready to rock."

Stevenson white-washes RU

Will Trage stopped all 18 shots he faced Saturday afternoon to lead Livonia Stevenson to a 3-0 victory over Rochester United in a game played at Wallace Ice Arena.



Stevenson's Alex Oquist is pictured during Friday night's game at Cranbrook.

JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Spartans, who out-shot RU 49-18, applied relentless pressure on Trevor Szafran, who was credited with 47 saves.

Spearheading the Spartans' offense was senior captain Ben Kowalske, who netted a pair of goals. Joe Alcantara also lit the lamp for the winners.

Nate Sudek dished out two assists while Shane Leonard and Nick Beers notched single

helpers for the Spartans.

Central scores 5-1 victory over South Lyon

Ian Smith scored two goals and added one assist Nov. 24 to propel Walled Lake Central (2-0) to a victory over South Lyon Unified (2-2) at Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

Ryan Sutcliffe, Cam Stevenson and Alex Kocoves each chipped in a goal and assist for

the Vikings, who led 3-0 after one period.

After a scoreless second period, South Lyon's Shane Agnello tallied a power-play goal from Garrett Wegh and Tony Paugh with 8:01 remaining to cut the deficit to 3-1.

But goals by Stevenson and Smith with 7:16 and 2:28, respectively, remaining sealed the victory for Central.

MOORE

Continued from Page B1

"I feel Pat was the backbone of game day and obviously the media coverage, public relations and everything," Madonna University volleyball and NAIA Hall of Fame coach Jerry Abraham said. "He was very close to the players and the teams. Just a real genuine guy that everybody liked. He's kind of been the right-hand man and just a real important part of the whole Madonna program."

Moore first got involved in athletics at MU as a student manager for the baseball team.

"I remember first meeting him and first reading a letter that he sent to the baseball office way back when," MU baseball coach Greg Haeger said. "It was a

long note that said he wanted to be a part of something. His business card was in there, very plain and simple business card, his name on it. It said, 'Patrick Moore' and a little quote that said, 'Good all-around guy' and for 18 years he totally proved he was better than just a good guy. He was a great guy."

Moore, a graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High, got his start in sports information as a freshman at Eastern Michigan University, where he held the role of baseball contact.

Moore transferred from EMU and worked for four years in the MU sports information office as a student and was the primary contact for the Crusaders' baseball team from 2000-03.

Along with his work in the SID office, Moore was the editor in chief of the *Madonna Herald*, the MU student newspaper, before earning a

bachelor of arts degree in journalism and public relations with honors from MU in 2003.

Moore was involved with planning and execution of the annual Blue and Gold Awards. He served on the Madonna Athletics Hall of Fame and Julie Martin Memorial Scholarship selection committees, as well as assisting Rizzo and assistant athletic director Noel Emenhiser with duties within the department.

"Madonna was his family and it's just not athletics — the whole school was," Haeger said. "What the school did for him and how he gave back to this place was genuine and priceless."

Madonna University men's soccer coach Mark Zathey was Moore's roommate and a close personal friend.

"He was very supportive of Madonna soccer and my

efforts to come back to men's soccer after being away for some time," Zathey said. "He put in an extraordinary amount of hours ... ultra-dedicated to the Madonna family."

Moore is survived by his father Dennis, mother Anne Hunsaker of Apache Junction, Ariz., and sister, Erin Moore Day, of Gilbert, Ariz. Visitation will be 3-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, including a prayer service at 6 p.m., at Fred Wood Funeral Home, 36100 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

A funeral Mass is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Madonna University gymnasium, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

"I'm still kind of processing the shock," Zathey said. "He's going to be missed for years to come. Tremendous asset to the university and just an all-around good guy."

OPENER

Continued from Page B1

the things we've been working on in practice we did well tonight. It's a long season, but it's nice to get off to a start like this."

The Blazers were led on the offensive end by Erika Selakowski, who poured in 19 points and grabbed 12 rebounds, and Maggie Shirik, who scored 17 points.

Reppen's dynamic defense also jumped off the stat page.

"We harp on defense, so for her to get 11 steals is awesome," said Culloty. The Patriot's opening-night struggles weren't surprising given that they graduated 10 seniors from last year's district runner-up squad, and the hosts started two freshmen — Olivia Napier and Hannah Strasser — both of whom showed flashes of brilliance.

"Although it wasn't always pretty tonight, I saw a lot of positive things that we can build on," said Franklin head coach Jim Milican. "I also saw some things we need to work on."

"What hurt us the most was turnovers — we probably had 35 to 40 — but we're going to keep a positive attitude and continue to work on getting better."

The Patriots were led in the scoring ledger by 6-foot junior Sarah Channey, who scored 11 points in her first varsity contest.

Strasser was fearless shooting from beyond the three-point arc, nailing three triples to finish with nine points.

"Another positive for us tonight was sophomore Hannah Nordstrom, who is an outstanding volleyball player, but had never played basketball before this season. The improvement we've seen since day one for her has been remarkable. She's going to do very, very well before this season is over."

The Blazers not only distributed the ball with pin-point precision, but they often finished possession with attacking drives to the hoop, which resulted in 40 free throw attempts.

"I think the best thing about this team is that the players are all unselfish," said Culloty. "That's the way they were during pre-season and it carried over tonight."

CHURHILL

Continued from Page B1

gers, Morris observed.

And the new way of doing things once the opening tip ascends toward the gymnasium ceiling is moving forward, but is still "a work in progress," admitted Morris, a former University of Michigan basketball player who once checked NBA superstar Steph Curry when both players were college freshmen.

"When I played, the coaches I played for always talked about giving back," Morris said, describing his emphasis on off-the-court activities. "As far as working with special-needs kids, I want the girls to appreciate the opportunities they have, and being around kids that will never have the opportunities they do is an important step."

"It's been fun to watch the

girls interact with the kids. They have really embraced it. I've even had a few players who have gone out on their own and looked for other volunteering opportunities. To see that is very, very rewarding."

The Chargers don't open their season until Dec. 8 — one week later than most metro-Detroit teams — which is a good thing considering four varsity players only have a handful of practices under their belt after helping Churchill's volleyball team advance to the Class A semifinals.

"The best word to describe our team right now is 'progress,'" said Morris. "What I'm doing is a little more advanced than what most high school teams do, so there is going to be some struggles early on. One day I'll see positive flashes, and the next day I won't. They're still trying to figure it out,

especially the volleyball girls who missed time.

"They're over-thinking a little bit now, which is expected. The more they do it, the less they'll be thinking and just playing instinctively."

With returning varsity starter Anne Yost, a junior, and first-year varsity player Gabby Carter, the Chargers are blessed with good size around the basket.

Among the perimeter standouts are the squad's only two seniors — Alivia Kondrath and Molly Pummill.

"I'm very excited to see what Anne will do this season," said Morris, who also coaches the 6-foot center's summer travel team. "Alivia and Molly have more varsity experience than anyone else on our team, so we're leaning on them for leadership."

"I love the way Gabby plays — she's physical and not afraid to get in there and

scrap. She's a workhorse." Morris also delivered high praise for junior forward Sam Zonca, one of the four volleyball players.

"Once she learns everything, Sam is going to be a big contributor," Morris said. "She's long, athletic and she has a good mid-range game."

Two freshmen made the varsity roster — Maria Targosz and Mary Claire Yost — due to their fearless approach to the game, Morris said.

"I like their toughness and the way they scrap for loose balls," Morris said of the two ninth-graders.

The Chargers' schedule is unforgiving, Morris noted. "We can't take any nights off," he added. "For instance, next week we play Salem and Novi with only one night off in between games. I'm trying to teach them how to love the competition and not be intimidated."

Tour six private homes during Livonia Christmas Walk



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A holiday town is set up on a window sill.

Get decorating ideas while exploring decked-out homes

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Every Santa Claus tells a story. Every ornament sparks a memory. And every Christmas village house and caroling figurine honors family ties.

Sharon and Giovanni Molinaro's home is decked out for Christmas with decorations that not only celebrate the season but continue family traditions.

"When you get your decorations out you think of the person you received them from," said Sharon Molinaro, showing off a collection of Byers' caroling figures on her fireplace mantel. "This particular grouping was given to my mother and father. They were on her mantel for a couple of decades and now they are here. That's even her greenery and lights. I tried to replicate what she did the best I can remember."

The Molinaro home is one of seven locations open for public tours during the 27th Annual Livonia Christmas Walk that benefits Greenmead, the community's historical village. The walk runs 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5. Tickets are \$9 in advance and are available at Livonia Civic Center Library and city hall, both located at Five Mile and Farmington Road; Greenmead, at Newburgh and Eight Mile; and from Friends of Greenmead members. Cost is \$10 on Dec. 5.

Ticket holders can tour six private homes and the Simmons/Hill house at Greenmead. Members of local Quaker chapters — the organization dedicated to historic preservation — decked out the Simmons/Hill house in a silver theme. Friends of Greenmead members took on one of the private homes as a Livonia Christmas Walk project.

"That's why we have six houses on the Walk this time," said Sue Poster, Friends president. "We had booked five and then someone at the last minute said, oh yes, I'll be on it. We said, how about next year and they said the house would be going up for sale. It's a historic home and we didn't know if we'd be able to get it again. We're going to go in and decorate. We have a team."

Poster said local florists decorated the homes for the event 27 years ago. Now homeowners work with a designated florist to create an arrangement that suits their decorating scheme.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The fireplace behind Sharon Molinaro is decorated with a collection of figurines — all carolers — that previously was owned by her late mother, Dorothy Hull.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

One of many Santa figures stands in the entry way of the Livonia home.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A lamplighter is one of Sharon Molinaro's favorite pieces on the fireplace mantel.

"We've had people take in mom's candlesticks and had them build an arrangement around them or in a basket."

Variety of themes

Gingerbread, trains, Christmas villages, Santa Claus figures, Disney characters, silver bells and nature decorate shelves, tabletops and entire rooms in some of the homes on the walk.

Rich and Carol Leonard decorated an outdoor shed and their remodeled kitchen in a gingerbread motif. A train circles overhead in the family room and four chipmunks placed throughout the home pay homage to the wildlife that visits a backyard feeder.

At the Casey household, a collection of silver bells welcome guests to the family room and a Department 56 village decorates the fireplace mantle. The dining room incorporates a passion for Disney and family needlepoint pieces. Santa Claus figures are gathered over sliding glass doors.

Santa Clauses of all sizes and shapes also figure into Molinaro's decorating scheme. They stand among greenery atop cabinets, share shelf space, and greet visitors near the front door.

"There are Santas everywhere. I continue to collect them," Molinaro said.

From mom

A near life-sized Santa holds his own lighted Christmas tree in the den, near the Department 56 snow village that belonged to her late mother, Dorothy Hull.

A spare bedroom is outfitted with her mother's furniture. A holiday picture hangs on the wall and a photo of John and Dorothy Hull sits on a dresser. Molinaro topped the windows with garland, decorated a small tree for the room and wrapped packages to display on the bed.

"I've got an ornament for each in their memory. They've got their names and the year they were born and the year they died," Molinaro said.

The Molinaros moved into their Livonia home after marrying last May. She is director of public relations for Glen Eden cemetery and he works in concrete construction. Each has grown children from previous marriages.

"My birthday is in December. I'm a December birthday girl," Molinaro said. "I love having my birthday in December. I love celebrating, and I've always loved decorating for Christmas."

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More than 130 artists show their work at Potters Market

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Katherine Eaton of Farmington Hills sewed Barbie doll clothes as a teenager and took up basket making and weaving as an adult.

But it wasn't until she began pottery classes 10 years ago at Oakland Community College with the late Charles Blosser, that she found her true artistic calling.

"I always wanted to do pottery. There's something about passing a potters' booth — you just can't pass it by," she said. She began selling clay pieces almost as soon as she learned how to make them, showing at festivals including Plymouth's Art in the Park, and Arts, Beats and Eats.

"Charlie said he liked my color combinations. They had a different look than everyone

else," she said. "I always wanted to do the Potters Market but there was no room."

Eaton got her chance to sell at Potters Market, a show that her former teacher started, when it moved from Madison Heights to Southfield last year. She and more than 130 potters will return for the 40th annual show, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6 at the Southfield Pavilion, 26000 Evergreen. Admission is free. No strollers are allowed. Admission is \$10 for preview night, 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3.

Shoppers will see thousands of pieces of pottery, including raku, stoneware, porcelain, and smoke-fired functional and decorative pieces, including tiles, tea pots, mugs, vases, tables, mirrors, picture frames, jewelry, Christmas

ornaments, sculptures, cooking and serving containers, and lawn decorations such as bird baths and bird houses. The event will include demonstrations, a cafe, and free parking. Each artist's works will be grouped together.

"We're able to put our whole selection on a shelving unit, so you can see the whole body of our work," said Eaton, who also shows her pottery at galleries in Berkley, Rochester Hills and Northville.

For the birds

One of her biggest sellers is a simple platter with an attachment to hold condiments. She also will sell wall pockets, bird baths, bird houses and other functional items.

Barbara Gibson of Livonia also will be back for her second



SUBMITTED

Pottery by Barbara Gibson of Livonia



Ceramic birds by Susan Fisher of Canton



SUBMITTED

Katherine Eaton of Farmington Hills will show everything from bird houses to wall pockets, along with serving pieces and decorative items.

See POTTERY, Page B7

GET OUT! CALENDAR

ANIMALS

DETROIT ZOO

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

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$14 for adults 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens 62 and older, and for children ages 2-14; children under 2 are free. Parking for cars and vans is \$5. Detroit Zoological Society members get free admission and parking

Contact: 248-541-5717

ARTS AND CRAFTS
NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

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

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

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

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

FILM

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 5-6

Location: 760 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: It's a Wonderful Life., \$3

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

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Dec. 4 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 5

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

Details: White Christmas, \$5

Contact: 313-898-1481; redfordtheatre.com

HISTORY

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for ages 6-17

Current exhibit: A Red Ryder Christmas Story draws its inspiration from the popular 1980s movie, *A Christmas Story*, in which the main character, Ralphie, longs for a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas. Red Ryder BB guns were sold by Daisy Manufacturing Company of Plymouth

Contact: 734-455-8940

LIGHTS

WAYNE COUNTY LIGHTFEST

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. Monday-Thurs-

day and 6-10 p.m. Friday-Sunday, through Dec. 31. Closed Dec. 25

Location: Enter at Hines Drive and Merriman in Westland and exit near Telegraph in Dearborn Heights

Details: Drive-through light show features nearly 50 lighted displays. Fee is \$5 per vehicle

Contact: parks.waynecounty.com; 734-261-1990

WILD LIGHTS

Time/Date: 5:30-9 p.m. Dec. 4-6, 11-13, 18-23 and 26-31

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward Ave., Royal Oak

Details: Admission is \$9 in advance and \$11 at the gate for ages 2 and older. Parking is \$6 per car. Features illuminated sculptures, holiday entertainment and activities, ice carving and arts and crafts. Buy tickets online at detroitzoo.org/events/wild-lights

Contact: 248-541-5717



SUBMITTED

Kenny Parker and his band wrap up the 2015 Blues@The Elks series, Dec. 8, in Plymouth.

MUSIC

BLUES@THE ELKS

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

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

Details: The Kenny Parker Band performs on Dec. 8. Bring your dancing shoes. \$5 donation

Contact: 734-453-1780

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12

Location: Friday concert at Wayne State University's Schaver Recital Hall, 480 W. Hancock, Detroit; Saturday concert at Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills

Details: The Julliard String Quartet performs; tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 for students at the Detroit concert and \$32-\$64 for adults and \$16-\$32 for students in Beverly Hills

Contact: 248-855-6070 or CMSDetroit.org



The Julliard String Quartet performs Dec. 12 in Beverly Hills.

CHRISTMAS POPS CONCERT/CANTATA

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 12

Location: St. Timothy Presbyterian Church, 16700 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Features popular Christmas songs sung by soloists and small groups, and *One Silent Night* by Pepper Choplin, sung by the combined choirs of St. Timothy and Kirk of Our Savior of Westland; Free, but donations will be accepted

Contact: 734 464-8844, sttimothy@sttimothypcusa.org

ITALIAN AMERICAN CHORALE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4

Location: American Club of Livonia, 39200 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Viviana Garabello directs the group in its first Christmas concert; free admission for concert only. An optional potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. costs \$2 per person. Participants should bring a favorite dish and dessert to share. RSVP by Dec. 2 to Ann at 734-437-9067 or Maria at 734-591-0263 for potluck

Contact: Viviana Garabello at 313-690-1093; gvivi81@gmail.com

JAZZ@THE ELKS

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

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

Details: \$10 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres

Contact: 734-453-1780 or email plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

MICHIGAN PHILHARMONIC

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

Location: Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman, Plymouth

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

Contact: michiganphil.org

SIMPLY DICKENS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 9

Location: Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: The group sings old world Christmas carols. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Doors will open at 6 p.m. giving visitors time to see the Museum's special exhibit, A Red Ryder Christmas Story, which runs through Jan. 17, 2016

Contact: plymouthhistory.org

TRINITY AND FRIENDS CHOIR

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Dec. 3-5

Location: Trinity Episcopal Church, 26880 LaMuera, Farmington Hills

Details: Rejoice! A Holiday Concert features music of Beethoven, Handel and more; tickets are \$10

Contact: trinityinthewoods.org

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

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

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Kitty Donohoe, Dec. 4, Thunderwude, Dec. 5, Danny Kroha, Dec. 11, Harper and the Midwest Kind, Dec. 13, Empty Chair Christmas Show, Dec. 18, Michigan Caroling Company, Dec. 18. Most tickets \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks accepted

Contact: 734-464-6302 for additional information

POTTERY

Continued from Page B6

year at Potters Market. She holds a master of fine arts degree from the University of Michigan and has made ceramics for 50 years.

"I quit the festivals about 10 years ago. I started getting tired of driving and setting it up," she said, adding that she "loved every minute" of the art festival circuit in earlier years.

Two years ago she attended the Potters Market in Madison Heights and was "blown away" by what she saw.

"I said, wow, I would love to do this show. I sent my stuff in and they said, sure. That was the first year at Southfield and it ran like clockwork."

Gibson, who enjoys drumming and making biscotti when she's not in her pottery studio at home, will sell a variety of functional and decorative items at the show.

"I've got outside stuff like bird feeders and big pots for plants and serving dishes," she said. "I love the little stuff and the big stuff. I have a passion for all of it."

Other local artists at the show include Leslie Greeneisen of Canton, an active member of the Village Potters Guild in Plymouth; Susan Fisher and Centurium Frost, both of Canton and both new to Potters Market; Carol Fitzpatrick of Farmington Hills, who also serves as the Potters Market co-chair; and David Albrecht of Farmington, who is known for ceramic sculpture.

Visit the Potters Market website at thepottersmarket.com



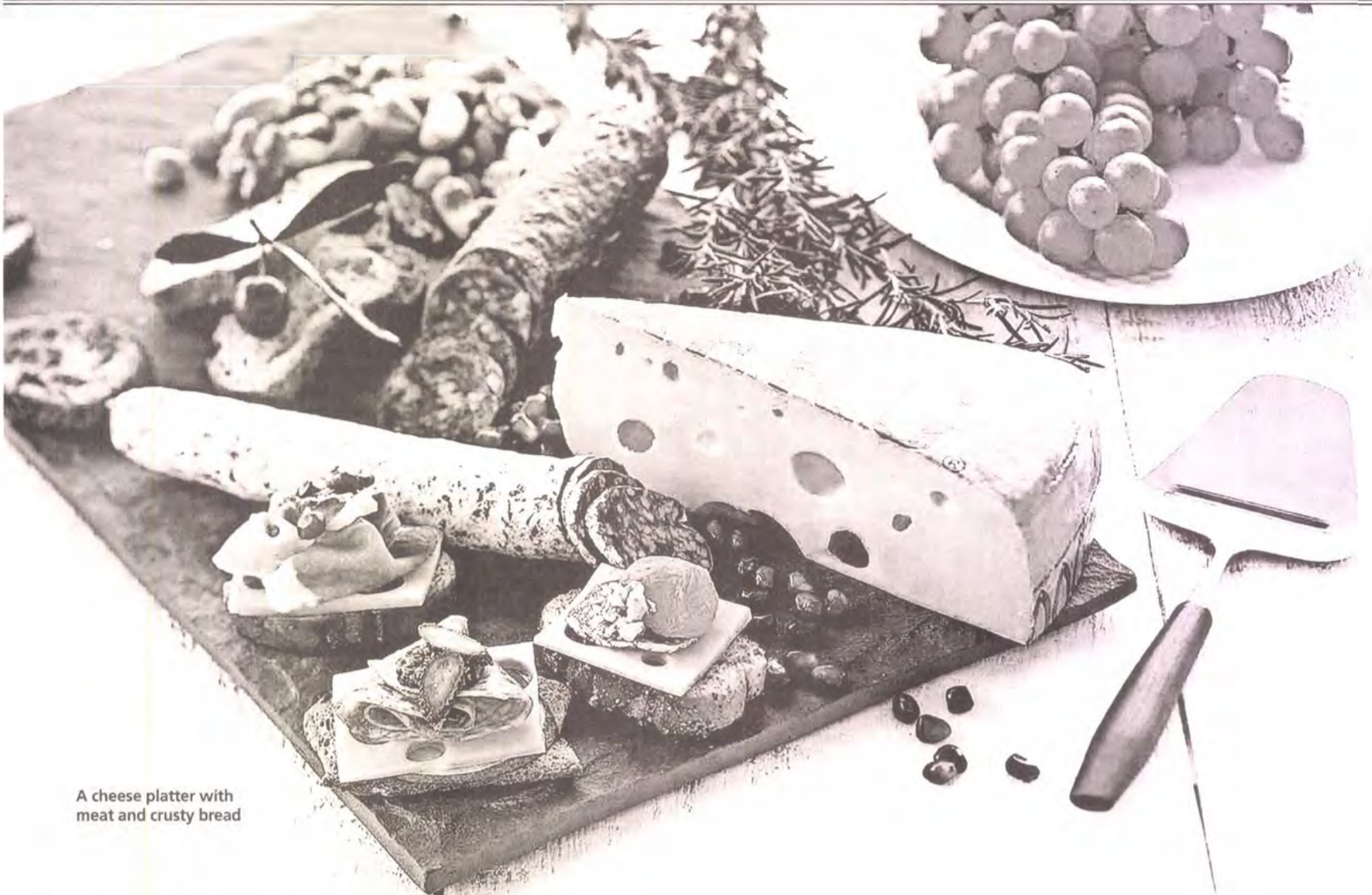
Ceramic sculpture by Dave Albrecht of Farmington

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A cheese platter with meat and crusty bread

This holiday season don't let a main dish hog all the glory. Instead let guests feast on a festive spread of small plates and sides.

Snack-size portions of a wide range of delicious dishes are the perfect solution for entertaining.

A large, heavy meal can leave guests feeling lethargic. Keep your party lively with lighter bites that guests can nibble on throughout the night. Another advantage of a small plate menu is that guests will appreciate the chance to sample many flavors without fear of over-indulging.

Get your party planning started with these tips:

» Keep dishes simple and put the focus on quality ingredients, such as naturally lactose and gluten-free Jarlsberg cheese. Best known for the classic wedge available in original and smoked flavors, Jarlsberg cheese offers a mild, mellow, nutty and delicious taste that is perfect for any cheese board and pairing with meats of your choice.

» Give traditional vegetable sides a special boost to make them party perfect. Basic asparagus gets a fresh twist with this Asparagus Tart, which blends savory Jarlsberg brand cheese and a pastry for a pretty presentation you can cut into squares before serving.

» Plan your menu with the clock in mind. Choose foods that will taste great for the duration of your party without drying out or losing flavor, such as this Tomato Gratin.

» Keep cold dishes chilled by setting the serving bowl inside a larger bowl filled with ice. Add some flair by tinting the ice or adding decorative accents.

» Use burners to keep the heat on warm dishes, or simply rotate in fresh batches periodically.

Give your holiday entertaining an extra boost this year with Jarlsberg Cheese's Great Holiday Giveaway, which runs through Dec. 31 and offers prizes for holiday entertaining, including a DSLR camera as the grand prize and weekly charcuterie party kits. Learn more and enter (once per day) at [Facebook.com/Jarlsbergusa](https://www.facebook.com/Jarlsbergusa), and find more holiday entertaining recipes at jarlsberg.com.

Courtesy of Family Features

Jarlsberg cheese gives small plates big flavor



ASPARAGUS TART

1 sheet frozen puff pastry, thawed
2 cups Jarlsberg cheese, shredded
1 pound asparagus
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves
salt and pepper

Heat oven to 400 F. Prepare baking sheet with parchment paper. Roll out puff pastry into 16-by-10-inch rectangle, trimming uneven edges. Place on baking sheet. With knife, lightly score pastry dough 1 inch from edges to mark rectangle. Using fork, pierce dough inside markings at ½-inch intervals. Bake until golden, about 15 minutes. Remove pastry shell from oven and sprinkle with shredded cheese. Trim asparagus spears to fit crosswise inside pastry shell. Arrange in single layer over cheese, alternating ends and tips. Brush with oil, sprinkle thyme leaves and season with salt and pepper. Bake until spears are tender, about 20 minutes.



TOMATO GRATIN

8 medium ripe tomatoes
¼ cup balsamic vinegar
½ cup extra-virgin olive oil
4 garlic cloves, sliced
4 sprigs fresh thyme (or 4 basil leaves, chopped)
salt and pepper, to taste
2 ounces toasted pine (pignoli) nuts
½ pound (8 ounces) grated Jarlsberg cheese

Heat oven to 350 F. Cut tomatoes in half. In bowl, whisk together vinegar, olive oil, garlic, thyme, salt and pepper; gently mix in tomatoes. Transfer to ovenproof dish, turning tomatoes cut side up before baking 15 minutes. When tomatoes are cool enough, remove skins before returning to baking dish. Sprinkle tomatoes with nuts and cheese. Return to oven and bake about 10 minutes, or until cheese turns golden and bubbly. Serve as bruschetta on sliced, toasted Italian bread or as a side dish to fish and meat.



GETTY IMAGES

SENSATIONAL PLATTERS

Platters featuring savory finger foods are a flavorful and easy solution for holiday entertaining. Simply assemble ingredients, such as those listed below, on a large wooden or slate board and serve. Get creative by adding fig spreads, fresh fruit or other nibbles you enjoy, and don't forget the toothpicks and napkins. Be sure to take the cheese out of the refrigerator at least an hour before serving to ensure that it is room temperature to bring out the ideal flavor. Never serve cheese cold.

- » Wedge or cubed Jarlsberg cheese
- » Assortment of whole grain crackers and crusty bread slices
- » Italian Genoa salami, coppa or your favorite charcuterie meats
- » Assorted olives, nuts and dried or fresh fruits



CHEESY MASHED POTATOES

4 large baking potatoes, peeled and cut
1 cup Jarlsberg cheese
1 cup milk
1 container sour cream
½ cup butter
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon ground black pepper

Heat oven to 350 F. Place potatoes in large pot of salted water and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover and simmer until tender. Drain and bring potatoes to food processor. In food processor, add cheese, milk, sour cream, butter, salt and pepper. Process all ingredients with potatoes until smooth. Pour mixture into baking pan and cover with tin foil. Bake 30 minutes. Uncover potatoes during last 10 minutes to allow browning.

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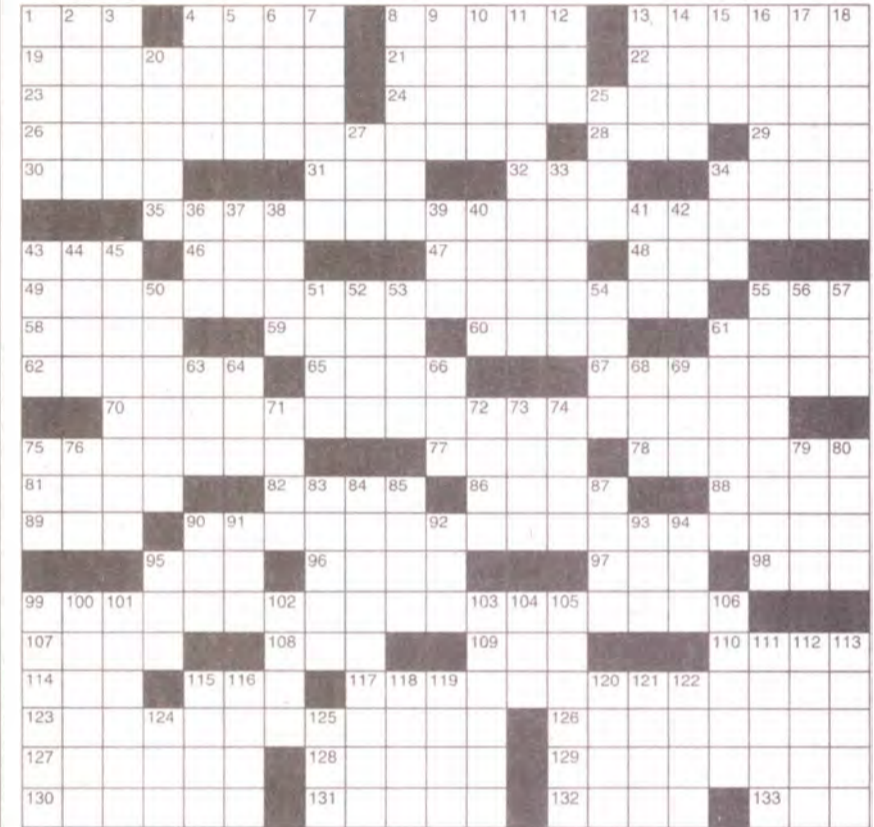
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Overbrim
 - 5 Lowercase letter with a dot
 - 11 Deg. for a future exec
 - 14 Be snoozing
 - 19 Magic incantation starter
 - 20 Add more criticism
 - 21 OPEC supply
 - 22 Big blood vessel
 - 23 Old Cougar carmaker, for short
 - 24 Sci-fi author Isaac
 - 25 Cry in a party card game
 - 26 Great fear
 - 27 Table in a dictionary
 - 31 Tension
 - 32 Pew, for one
 - 33 "Neon" tank fish
 - 37 Dessert akin to cobbler
 - 38 Smartphone buy
 - 41 It may be true-false
 - 44 Book with many maps
 - 48 Word in a Doris Day song title
 - 49 Oh-so-sentimental
 - 50 Big bother
 - 51 Chief Pontiac's people
 - 53 Wall St. manipulator
 - 55 "— Abner"
 - 56 Pro opposite
 - 57 Tidy
 - 58 Printed symphony, e.g.
 - 63 Twistable treat
 - 65 Dol, units
 - 67 Pantheon member
 - 68 Really happy
 - 69 Dunking site
 - 75 The Chiffons' "He's —"
 - 78 Ambience
 - 79 Hither and —
 - 80 Ship pole
 - 84 Jailor
 - 88 Flaky mineral
 - 91 U.S. 66, e.g.
 - 92 Rustic stopover
 - 93 Spam may be in it
 - 94 Plunder
 - 96 Period in history
 - 97 Cowgirl's rope
 - 100 Agenda, informally
 - 103 Concert Steinway, say
 - 105 The West Indies, e.g.
 - 108 Brainpower stats
 - 109 In need of medical care
 - 110 From that place
 - 111 Olds oldies
 - 113 Brain twister
 - 116 Theme of this puzzle
 - 122 Mark-leaving swordsman
 - 125 Utterance of amazement
 - 126 Time of mammoths
 - 127 Trails off
 - 128 Rack up, as debt
 - 129 Sense of self
 - 130 Earth orbits it
 - 131 "Dies —" (Latin hymn)
 - 132 Lions, Tigers and Bears
 - 133 Realty unit
 - 134 Seasonal mall figures
 - 135 Itty-bitty bits
 - DOWN**
 - 3 Often messing up
 - 4 Lehrer's old PBS partner
 - 5 Arches over
 - 6 Various items: Abbr.
 - 7 Et — (and others)
 - 8 Golf's "Champagne Tony"
 - 9 Plunders
 - 10 Visible
 - 11 Canadian cop
 - 12 Singer Crosby
 - 13 Matty or Felipe of the diamond
 - 14 Makes glum
 - 15 Actress Swit
 - 16 Previous to
 - 17 Theta lead-in
 - 18 Hip home
 - 28 Applied to
 - 29 Scull needs
 - 30 Suffix with Wyoming
 - 34 Scheme anew
 - 35 Shoot for, with "to"
 - 36 Fashioned
 - 38 Invasion through Nebraska
 - 40 Bear's foot
 - 42 Gillette — II razor
 - 43 Scarlett O'Hara's plantation
 - 44 Texas city
 - 45 Bad smell
 - 46 Had grub
 - 47 Goller Snead
 - 52 Sweetened
 - 54 Chicken cordon —
 - 59 Name for 130-Across
 - 60 In a lazy manner
 - 61 Camera type, for short
 - 62 "Cool" guys
 - 64 Honshu sashes
 - 66 130-Across is one
 - 70 "I'll take that as —"
 - 71 Emailed, e.g.
 - 72 Wish
 - 73 Onetime big name in PCs
 - 74 Hamburger toppings
 - 75 Demon, e.g.
 - 76 Dean of 102-Down books
 - 77 Composition conclusion
 - 81 Middle-school math class
 - 82 Gobs
 - 83 City near Lake Tahoe
 - 85 Ill. neighbor
 - 86 Egyptian symbol of life
 - 87 Minus: Abbr.
 - 89 El — (hero of Spain)
 - 90 Like Swiss mountains
 - 95 — Lankan
 - 98 Childish fit
 - 99 Affixes firmly
 - 101 Range of hearing
 - 102 Food intake
 - 104 "That pleases me"
 - 106 Agnus — (Mass part)
 - 107 Perfect-game feature
 - 112 Comic actor — Baron Cohen
 - 113 Makes uniform
 - 114 "Oops, sorry"
 - 115 Stubborn animals
 - 117 Caroling tune
 - 118 Full of energy
 - 119 Harry Potter, for one
 - 120 "... why — thou forsaken me?"
 - 121 Water, in Cuba
 - 122 Nose flap
 - 123 Indivisible
 - 124 LG rival



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702/4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

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

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

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

SNOWY WEATHER WORD SEARCH

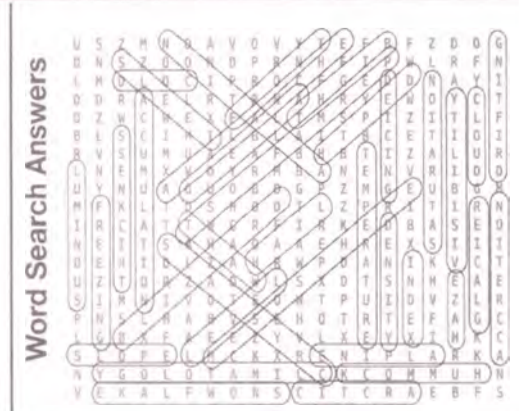
U S Z M N D A V O V Y T E F B F Z D O G
 D N S Z O O N D P R N H F I P W L R F N
 L M D L O C I P R O C F G E D D N A Y I
 D D R A E L R T R N A H R Y E W O Y C T
 O Z W C W E X F A L T M S P I Z I T L F
 B L S C I H T L B L A I T B C E T I O I
 R V S U M V A E A F B H B T I Z A L U R
 L N E M X V D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

WORDS

- ABLATION
- ACCRETION
- ACCUMULATION
- ALBEDO
- ALPINE
- ARCTIC
- AVALANCHE
- BIGHT
- BLIZZARD
- CLIMATOLOGY
- CLOUD
- COLD
- CRYSTALS
- DEICING
- DENSITY
- DEPTH
- DRIFTING
- FREEZING
- FRONT
- GLACIER
- HAIL
- HAZE
- HUMMOCK
- INDEX
- LEVEL
- LUMINOUS
- MESOSPHERE
- PERMAFROST
- SATURATION
- SLEET
- SLOPE
- SNOWFLAKE
- TEMPERATURE
- THAW
- THICKNESS
- VISIBILITY

Crossword Answers

TEEM	SMALL	MBA	SLEEP
ABRA	PILEON	OIL	AORTA
MERC	ASIMOV	UNO	DREAD
PRONUNCIATION	GUIDE		
STRESS	SEAT	TETRAS	
PIE	APP	WRITTEN	TEST
WORLD	DATLAS	SERA	SAPPY
ADO	OTTAWAS	ARB	LILL
CON	NEAT	MUSIC	SCORE
OREO	CTS	GOD	ELATED
BASKETBALL	COURT		
SOFINE	AIR	YON	SPAR
PRISON	WARDEN	MICA	RTE
INN	TIN	DESPOIL	LEON
RIATA	SKED	GRAND	PIANO
ISLAND	CHAIN	LOS	ILL
THENCE	REOS	ENIGMA	
THING	THAT	HAVE	KEYS
ZORRO	OOH	ICE	AGE
INCUR	EGO	THE	SUN
TEAMS	LOT	SANTAS	TADS



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