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OBSERVER

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015 • hometownlife.com

Millennials join Wayne City Council

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

In a fairly smooth process, the Wayne Council has gone with a focus on younger candidates to fill two vacancies.

After interviewing seven candidates at a special meeting Thursday, the council voted to appoint Ryan Gabriel, 25, next week, and Richard Sutton IV, 24, to serve on the council until Novem-

ber 2017.

Other than Jacob Johnson, 22, Gabriel and Sutton were the youngest candidates who applied for the council vacancies. The other candidates included former councilman David James; Robert Boertje, who ran for mayor against Rowe in November; former Planning Commis-



Gabriel



Sutton

sion member Ernestine Carter; and Michael Smith, vice president of UAW Local 900 at the Ford Wayne Assembly Plant.

Gabriel and Sutton both grew up in Wayne. A mortgage banker with Quicken Loans, Gabriel earned a finance degree from Oakland University and lived outside Wayne for

four years.

"I moved back. I see a lot of opportunity in the community. We have an opportunity to grow and thrive," said Gabriel, who is single. "I can relate to millennials. I want to see the city flourish. I like being involved."

Working at Quicken has allowed him to become involved in the community, Gabriel said, something he didn't really

See COUNCIL, Page A2



Magician Joshua Wilde entertains Olivia and Jared with feats of prestidigitation.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Winter Market a weekday winner in Westland

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Joan Payzent of Westland was glad to shop Thursday, Dec. 10, at Westland's All-American Winter Market.

"I love the market," she said during the afternoon hours. She'd bought two loaves of multigrain whole wheat bread, a regular purchase.

"I tell everybody about the bread," Payzent said. "I truly love the market. Looking forward to spring."

Spring may be a ways off, but Thursday was a great day for the indoor Winter Market at the city facility on Carlson south of Ford. Payzent also praised the Woolly Tumblers made in Garden City by residents Linda and Mike Sparkman.

"And I love mine. They do a great job," Payzent said of the Sparkmans. They've done the Woolly Tumblers, to reduce clothes-drying time, for about two years.

"They're made from Michigan sheep's wool," Linda Sparkman said in between customers. "They can cut your drying time up to half. They also soften your clothes."

The couple also sells magnets to attach to the sides of the dryer area, which attract positive ions, she said. "I feel like it might be picking up," Sparkman said of the Winter Market, which was also held in mid-November. "We're seeing repeat customers. I think Westland's going to pick up."

Brookellen Swope, president and CEO of the Westland Chamber of Commerce, was on the job that afternoon. The city of Westland market is run by the Westland chamber.

Thursday was the final day until next May, Swope said. "A lot of our vendors saw a demand for it," she said of the Winter Market, citing holiday gifts such as jams, jewelry and crafts.

"And of course desserts like our cheesecake," Swope added.

Farmhouse Market of Farmington had tempting cheesecakes for sale that afternoon, with staffer Reina Brouwers of Livonia manning the table. Its owner is Michael Bradford.

"He brought out Peppermint, Eggnog, Rumchata and today he threw in Cranberry," Brouwers said of owner Bradford. The 4-Pack Petites of Raspberry, Traditional (plain), Chocolate and Caramel sell well.

A Pumpkin cheesecake introduced in

See MARKET, Page A2

Carnival, Santa visit reinforce learning at Burger Baylor

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Burger Baylor School was glad to welcome Santa and Mrs. Claus, along with other guests, on Wednesday, Dec. 9, for its "Under the Big Top" carnival.

Burger Baylor serves students in preschool through high school who have autism. The Garden City school district facility serves all of Wayne County.

"This is my quiet time," a relaxing Santa Claus said at noon in the lobby of the school, which has 160 students. He'd earlier visited with Burger Baylor students, with more to come.

In the gym, the circus theme continued with snacks and entertainment. One man juggling a bowling ball, bowling pin and eating an apple drew applause and cheers. An entertainer on stilts drew applause as did a unicyclist.

"We try to visualize for our special learners to get them engaged," said Colleen Polin of Plymouth, special events chair. She's a former teacher at the school who retired in June 2014 after 38 years and stays involved.

In the lobby, a large Christmas tree included stuffed monkeys that students were to win as prizes. Paper crowns on the walls represented classrooms "that we recognize the originality in all of us," Polin said.

Adjectives like "tremendous" and "stupendous" over the clowns helped the students learn.

'Engage the kids'

"We have some low-key games to engage the kids," said Polin, pointing to a guessing game for the number of animal crackers in a jar. Garden City Kiwanis volunteers were on hand, dressed as clowns and serving hot



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Face painting helps set the mood for the show.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mark wears a balloon hat that bears resemblance to a certain reindeer.

dogs that day.

Sponsors of "Under the Big Top" included the Noella and Jack Russo Family Foundation, which presented a smart board for learning that day and has supported the school for over 20 years. The Westland Signal Seekers Radio Club (www.michigansignalseekers.org) was also a sponsor, as was the Garden City Kiwanis.

Scott Paschen of Livonia, radio club president, was on hand for "Under the Big Top." His club donated \$1,500. "We had some extra money from our air show," said Paschen, who retired from the Livonia Police Department about five years ago.

He learned more about autism as a school resource officer. Paschen,

Polin and all there that day wore bright red T-shirts emblazoned with "Under the Big Top."

Polin thanked the volunteers. "We do it for the kids. You can't put a price on a memory," she said. "It's just a pleasure to do this for this kids. It's really a reflection of being a part of a group."

The red T-shirts came at 11:30 p.m. the night before, and organizers, including Polin, appreciate staff help getting shirts out to students. "All these people worked as a team, the Burger staff," Polin said at the assembly.

See CARNIVAL, Page A4



JULIE BROWN

Patricia and Dennis Ducher of Westland sell seasonal craft items at the Winter Market Dec. 10.



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Police: Missing toys taken by mistake

The Westland Police Department received a telephone call regarding the theft of the Toys for Tots donation boxes.

Surprisingly, the phone call came from the person that was in possession of the boxes.

The caller, whose unnamed agency was responsible for picking up other similar looking charity boxes, discovered that her workers had also mistakenly picked up the Toys for Tots boxes.

Despite the caller being very forthcoming, the Westland Police Department conducted an investigation into the incident. After reviewing all the evidence it has been determined that there was no criminal intent involved, and the Westland Police Department will not be pursuing criminal charges.

Arrangements are being made to return the donation boxes to their original locations.

MARKET

Continued from Page A1

October also does well, Brouwers said. "The Peppermint, I sold a lot last week," she added of a market in Royal Oak.

"I love it," she said of the Winter Market. "The people, the vendors, the atmosphere. The customers are great."

Nearby with craft items were Patricia and Dennis Ducher of Westland, in business about four years and newcomers this past summer to the Westland market.

"It's a little soon in the day for me to give an opinion," Patricia Ducher said of sales. She noted good weather Thursday helped.

Ducher does some indoor craft shows, but not other markets. At their table were custom shadow boxes with theme designs, which can include personal items.

Sheila Hershberger of Ypsilanti was there with her Delice Patisserie of baked goods. "My fellow vendor mentioned this market," said Hersh-



Sheila Hershberger of Ypsilanti with her Delice Patisserie baked goods at the Winter Market Dec. 10.



Linda and Mike Sparkman of Garden City with their Woolly Tumblers, which reduce clothes drying time.

berger, in business about seven months. "I thought I'd try it."

She had croissants and Danish as well as Basque cakes, named for a region in France. She has a lemon curd-filled variety as well as one with chocolate ganache and cherry jam.

"I do really well there," Hershberger said of Ypsilanti's market.

"Everybody has different preferences," making it tough to pick a top seller. She's excited about an offer to supply a cafe in Ypsilanti.

Westland chamber staffer Mary Vellardita, who handles membership and marketing, hoped for some shopping time.

"Stocking stuffers," Vellardita said. "Get some jams and jellies to stock

up for the winter."

Vellardita noted the chamber and city first did a November and December market in 2014.

"It's almost like there's a family of vendors and shoppers," she said. "To extend it makes everyone happy."

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COUNCIL

Continued from Page A1

do while trying to move ahead on his professional goals.

As with all of the council applicants, Gabriel said the city's finances were a primary concern. He also mentioned housing values and morale, including the overall view of the city particularly by outsiders, and making the community attractive.

"If you find a concern, you have got to find a way to improve it," he said. "We need more community involvement. People being happy with where they live helps the community. When people feel good about their homes, they are keeping it nice and neat. We need more beautification."

Having bought their home two years ago, Sutton said that he and his wife believe in being active in the community.

"The community is ready for a change and I want to help with that. I live and work here," said Sutton, a paramedic in the Beaumont Oakwood Hospital emergency room. "I know how truly great the city was and what the council has done to restore that greatness."

The timing is right for the city to achieve its great potential again, he said. One goal is to attract a more diverse tax base, Sutton said.

"The city has to pay for the type of city you want to live in. Most people would say the budget is the most important issue," Sutton said. "I'd say neighborhoods and the crime that is

prevalent. We need a strong neighborhood watch and neighbors talking to each other."

After the interviews, council members were asked to name their top three picks of the candidates. Gabriel was on everyone's list and appointed on a unanimous vote to replace Rowe.

Sutton and Smith had each been listed by three council members. A motion to appoint Sutton was approved on a split vote with opposing votes from councilmen Tom Porter and John Rhaesa.

The appointment of Gabriel and Sutton will provide a perspective from a generation not represented on council recently. One question asked of the candidates was whether they would like to see Wayne, with its traditional downtown business district, become

more like a Plymouth or Royal Oak with their vibrant walkable main streets.

"I want to thank all the candidates and all of you who came to the meeting," Mayor Susan Rowe said. "I think we have some very good prospects. We will keep all of your names. We will need people for (upcoming) task forces."

One council vacancy was the unexpired term created after Rowe gave up her council seat midway through a four-year term when elected mayor. The second vacancy was created when James Hawley resigned from council after a year serving as mayor. The seats would be filled at the general election in 2017.

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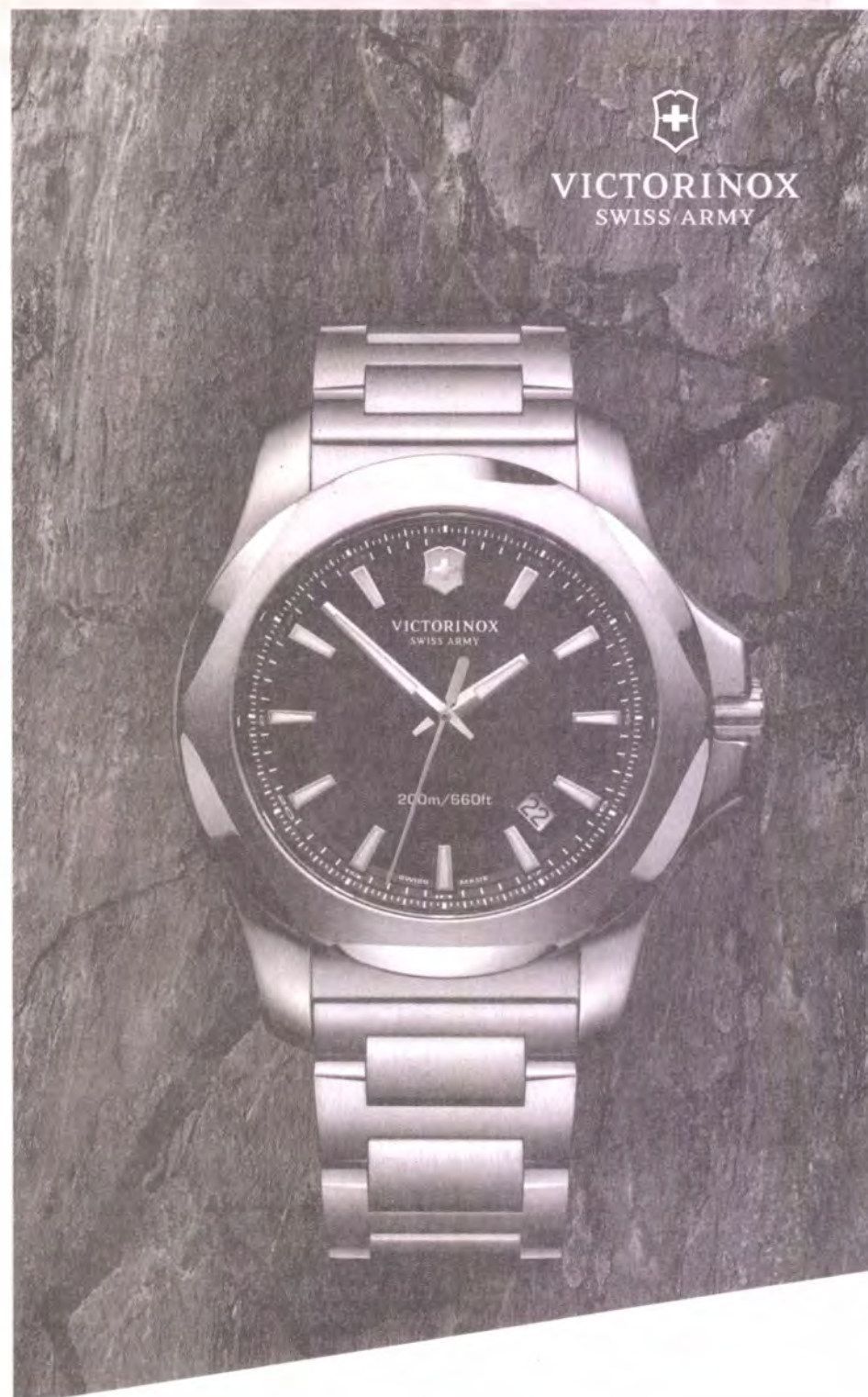
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Opera House venue 'exciting' for women of Madonna U. Chorale

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

The Madonna University Chorale women's section got a special holiday treat Dec. 5. The women performed with a ballet company and the orchestra for *The Nutcracker* at the Detroit Opera House.

Some 15 women performed that day, said director Kevin Cushman, a Redford resident. The performance was one of about seven. "They would have different choirs from around the area," said Cushman, also the music minister at St. Valentine Catholic Church in Redford.

Barbara Wiltsie, a voice faculty member at Madonna, is on the Michigan Opera Theatre board and was able to pass along the request to Cushman. "We just set it up. Our part was a small portion of the production," he said.

"It's all women's voices. I was just there for moral support," he added.

The Madonna University Chorale numbers about 40 with the men. On Dec. 5, the women sang during the "Waltz



KEVIN CUSHMAN

Women members of the Madonna University Chorale sang Dec. 5 in "The Nutcracker" at the Detroit Opera House.

of the Snowflakes" as well as doing Christmas carols at the Opera House to entertain before the performance and at intermission.

This is the first such performance Cushman knows of; he started with the Madonna University Chorale this past fall. "The members who performed had never done it," he said. "They enjoyed it. It was

exciting, entertaining, informative, just a nice honor."

The women had some performance "butterflies," he agreed. "You have to concentrate totally on the director," said Cushman, retired from the Redford Union schools, where he was vocal music director for high school and middle school.

Liz Cross of Redford was

among chorale members singing Dec. 5. "It was exciting," she said. "Half of us were under the stage as it was going on. We were all in the orchestra pit."

Cross, who began with the chorale in September, said "it was kind of intimidating. But it was so much fun." She especially enjoyed listening to the orchestra.

"Just to sit with them and see what goes on in the pit," Cross said. The singers were able to go up after they were done and watch the performance from a balcony, which Cross did. The chorale members wore concert black.

Added Cushman of the professional musicians, "It was a genuine response on their part. It was all very positive." They met the conductor.

The chorale members come from western Wayne communities of Plymouth, Canton, Livonia and Redford, as well as Southfield and the Farmington area, he said.

Its winter concert, with a "Winter Gifts of Music" theme, was Friday, Dec. 11, in the Presentation Chapel of the Felician Sisters Motherhouse, in the Schoolcraft and Levan road area of Livonia.

"It's a nice wide variety of holiday specials," said Cushman, who agreed the Livonia chapel has good acoustics. "It's a lovely place to perform."

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Retired sheriff's deputy facing gun charges after dispute

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A retired Oakland County Sheriff's deputy is facing charges, including carrying a concealed weapon and impersonating an officer, after he reportedly had a dispute with a woman he contacted online for sex.

Canton resident Robert Joseph, 58, is scheduled for Wayne County Circuit Court arraignment Dec. 17 on the two charges along with a count of forging licensing documents.

The charges stem from an Oct. 16 incident in 1800 block of N. Walton in Westland. Police were called to a home when a woman reported that a man, armed with a handgun, had threatened her and her live-in boyfriend.

The woman told police that approximately a week earlier she had met the man at a Mexican restaurant with plans for

"hanging out and partying." The two had connected through craigslist, she said, with the man giving her \$100 for a babysitter and to purchase marijuana.

In her version of the situation, the woman said she was robbed while attempting to buy marijuana but the man didn't believe her. When the man subsequently texted her, the woman said she invited him to her home where he turned up angry and armed with a handgun.

The woman told police the man pointed a gun at her, demanding her cell phone and money. She said she told her boyfriend what had happened, then he went outside armed with a BB gun.

The two men were yelling, she said, as the suspect pointed a gun at her boyfriend ordering him to get on the ground. Eventually, the man got back into his vehicle, the woman

said, headed south on Walton which dead ends. When the man doubled back, the woman said he drove onto the lawn in an effort to strike the boyfriend, who threw a landscaping brick at the car, smashing the windshield.

An officer responding to the home on Walton spotted the suspect's vehicle with a smashed windshield on southbound Carlson, then turning west on Marquette. The officer reported the vehicle turned into the parking lot at Taylor Towers as he turned on his overhead lights for a traffic stop.

The vehicle, which had a license plate altered with blue tape, began circling the parking lot refusing to stop, the officer said. The driver eventually tossed a gun out of the driver's side window before coming to a stop, the officer said.

The officer reported the

man refused commands to stop and get on the ground, having gotten out of the car and walking toward the patrol car. The man, later identified as Joseph, was eventually taken into custody.

The man identified himself as an off-duty police officer and told the officer that he threw the gun out of the window so that he would be unarmed when he stopped, police said.

In a subsequent statement to police, Joseph reportedly told police he had been in contact with the woman, whom he described as a prostitute, back in August. He said he had paid her \$100 for sex but she had directed him to a phony address.

Angry at being ripped off, Joseph told police that woman had texted him to meet on Oct. 17, clearly not aware that she was texting him. Taking the opportunity to confront her,

Joseph told police he had a loaded .22-caliber handgun on the passenger seat of his vehicle but denied pointing it at anyone.

Joseph originally was charged with two counts of armed robbery, three counts of felonious assault and felony firearm. Those charges were dropped by the prosecution after the woman and her boyfriend refused to testify in the case.

The remaining charges — stemming from Joseph carrying a concealed weapon with lapsed CPL and the gun being registered to a deceased relative, telling police he was an officer and the altered license plate — moved forward after Joseph waived his preliminary examination in 18th District Court.

Joseph, for whom a not-guilty plea was entered at arraignment, is free on \$100,000/ten percent bond.

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CARNIVAL

Continued from Page A1

Great place to learn

Mary O'Neill, Burger Baylor building administrator, said the school's been at the Inkster location off Middlebelt south of Michigan Avenue a year and four months. The previous Burger West facility at Ford and Merriman roads was taken down.

"I love it," Monroe resident O'Neill said of the new building, noting individual classroom bathrooms. "The hallways are very nice and airy."

Added classroom teacher Bonnie Dexter of Garden City, who coordinated the carnival, "It gives them more independence, too," to have restrooms near students.

"Everyone's diagnosed with autism or on the spectrum," O'Neill said of Burger Baylor students. Some are severely cognitively impaired, some gifted, with social skill difficulty impacting "their ability to be social with other people, to communicate their wants and needs."

Dexter noted events like "Under the Big Top," which was previously held at the Garden City site, help students learn to cope. After Burger Baylor, the students go to the Burger Transitions Center, with a focus on job training and living independently.

O'Neill explained patience isn't really so much the issue in teaching students with autism. "It's really not the crux to what we have to be successful. What we do is reinforce the positive."

Dexter has a student who learned to write his name "over and over, a lot of repetition," making that possible. The educators find their work challenging and rewarding.

Dexter noted students often fear putting down a wrong answer. Added O'Neill, "We forget what it's like to be on the learning side of the desk. You're thinking about your own self-image."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Classes decorated the hallways with clowns for the event.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

James Bosak meets an Alpaca.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Scott Paschen, a retired Livonia police officer, is honored for his volunteer work.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
The cafeteria becomes a one-ring circus with the Top Hat Sideshow.

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W-W Salvation Army seeks gifts, donations

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Caseworker Gladys Beach of the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army would be happy to get her hands on some gifts for boys and girls ages 10 and up.

The corps' Toy Shop is open this week for families who've been screened in advance. Those parents and others will shop at the corps gym on Venoy south of Palmer in Westland.

"As you can see, the littler tables are filling up," Beach said the afternoon of Wednesday, Dec. 9. Finding gifts for boys and girls ages 10-14 is a struggle, however.

The young people like MP3 and CD players, she said, and the Axe bath scent is popular with boys. Basic watches, curling irons and hair-and-nail items are also popular with the students.

The Wayne-Westland corps is serving just under 200 singles/seniors this Christmas, along with 230 families. That's a drop from last year, said Beach, noting some sought Goodfellows help this year.

A total of 168 families were "adopted" by gift-givers at Wayne-Westland this year, with the balance to visit the Toy Shop this week for gifts and food. Many Ford Motor Co. volunteers



JULIE BROWN

Caseworker Gladys Beach of the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army hopes to get more gifts for kids 10-14.



JULIE BROWN

Envoy Jim Hulett of the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army noted the corps' Red Kettle goal of \$180,000 is "lofty."

give time each year at the Wayne-Westland corps, help that's appreciated and will take care of the workload this coming week.

Volunteers continue to be needed throughout the metro region for Red Kettle bell ringing. You can visit www.ringbell.org or call your local corps and ask for help signing up from the volunteer coordinator.

Beach noted her corps will stay open through the morning of Dec. 24. "We have to make sure they're not on any other lists," she said of those seeking yule assistance. "We can help them as long as our toys don't run out. We're just out

here to help whoever we can."

As she spoke, a volunteer unpacked gifts that came courtesy of the Westland Community Foundation. The Wayne-Westland corps has an Angel Tree at Westland Shopping Center each year, along with Adopt a Child and Adopt a Family efforts.

Down the hall was Envoy Jim Hulett, who said, "The Red Kettle can always do better. It's a challenge."

Wayne-Westland has a Red Kettle goal of \$180,000 this Christmas. "It's just a lofty goal is what it is. We're plugging along," he said.

They aim to wrap up by year's end, and Hulett

cites funds raised used for "pretty much everything. It is a large percentage of our operating costs."

The Red Kettle supports Salvation Army programs all year, including social services. "I feel the weather has cooperated with us well," Hulett said. "Rain and cold don't do us any good."

Checks payable to the Salvation Army, with Wayne-Westland in the memo line, are welcome at 2300 S. Venoy, Westland, MI 48186. Call 734-722-3660 during business hours to learn more about donating.

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LOCC approves raises for area elected officials

Westland's elected officials can expect a raise, based on the recommendation of the Local Officers Compensation Commission.

Meeting in odd-numbered years, the LOCC recently reviewed the salaries of the city council, city clerk and mayor, which have been unchanged since 2008. The commission then makes recommendations on the pay levels, which will go into effect for 2016-17 unless overridden by council by Dec. 17.

"The commission reviewed comparable salaries in other cities and noted that Westland elected officials pay scales have remained unchanged since 2008," said Diane Fritz, a former city clerk recently appointed to chair the LOCC. "Through the committee's discussion on the matter, they determined that, at present, the salaries of the city clerk and the mayor are lower than several of the city's department heads, which are covered under a separate pay plan."

The LOCC unanimously voted to set the city clerk's salary

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- » Council members — \$15,471
- » Council president pro tem — \$15,858
- » Council president — \$16,254
- » City clerk — \$103,140
- » Mayor — \$108,297

at the maximum salary of pay grade one of the pay plan that is applied to the top city department heads. The department heads received a 2-percent pay raise July 1 with another 2-percent raise July 1, 2016 as their pay is tied to a ratio with the Westland Police Officer Association contract.

The commission also unanimously voted that the mayor's salary shall be 5 percent than the top department heads with the salary of council members at 15 percent of the top department head salary. The commission set the council president pro tem's salary at 2.5 percent higher than the other council members with the council president's salary at 2.5 percent higher than the council president pro tem.

Two men charged in credit card theft

Thanks to tips from the public, two men have been charged with breaking into a car, stealing a credit card and using the stolen credit card to make purchases.

Inkster resident Keenan McClendon, 17, and Westland resident Freddie Wofford, 18, have been arraigned in Westland 18th District Court



McClendon Wofford

on charges of larceny, receiving and concealing stolen property and cred-

it fraud.

Not guilty pleas were entered for both men and they were released on personal bond. A preliminary examination was scheduled for Dec. 19.

Westland Police credited tips from the public with identifying the defendants. On Nov. 21, a resident in the 34000 block of Elmwood report-

ed her vehicle had been broken into and her credit card been stolen.

Using the list of locations where there had been illegal transaction made using the stolen card, police obtained security photos of the suspects. Those photos were released with a request for help in identifying the suspects.

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FILE PHOTO

Improvements are continuing at Westland's Mike Modano Ice Arena.

Upgrades coming to Mike Modano Arena

Improvements to Mike Modano Arena, including additional locker rooms and an activity room, are moving forward.

The Westland City Council voted Monday to award a bid not to exceed \$843,000 to low bidder Envision Builders.

"This much needed improvement will finalize the modernization of the Mike Modano Ice Arena and will play an integral part in building our hockey and figure skating programs," said

Westland Mayor William Wild.

The expansion and renovation of portions of the ice arena will include:

- » A four-locker room addition with separate showers and bathrooms, something currently shared.

- » An activity room for community gatherings, parties, etc.

- » The repurposing of the existing locker rooms into female locker rooms, a referee locker room and a storage room for a second

ice resurfacing machine.

Construction of the project will be completed over the course of the next 4-6 months and will not disrupt activities within the arena. Funding for this project will come from the city's capital improvement fund and several years of fundraising efforts, including notable donations from the Mike Modano Foundation, and is part of the approved 2015-16 city budget.

The arena is at 6210 Wildwood.

John Glenn High senior speaks at national TED conference

John Glenn High School senior Brandon Allen was selected to speak at the national TED Youth Conference in New York last month. Allen is part of the Eastern Michigan University Bright Futures program at John Glenn.

Through this program, he did a TED-ED Talk two years ago titled "Debunking the Black Male Stereotype." He was selected from students around the world to present his platform at the national TED Youth Conference. He spoke in front of a few thousand teens and his presentation was broad-

cast around the world.

The Eastern Michigan University Bright Futures program facilitated the TED-ED Club at John Glenn High School. TED-ED is a way to celebrate the ideas of students around the world. Students, ages 8-18, can identify and research ideas that matter to them the most. They work on their storytelling and communication skills. Then they frame their idea and present it in a TED talk. The talks are uploaded to the TED-ED YouTube channel and some, like Allen's, are selected to be featured on the TED-

ED website.

More than 1,000 students in more than 20 countries participate in TED-ED Clubs.

In addition to public speaking, Allen currently holds a state office in DECCA, is a founding member of the Male African American Scholars group, participates in the Champions of John Glenn mentoring program, has a 3.5 career grade-point average, is taking three Advanced Placement classes and would like to attend Syracuse University in New York to study broadcast journalism.

POLICE BRIEFS

Cars broken into at gym

Livonia police were called Thursday evening to LA Fitness, 30273 Plymouth, on the report of some vehicles that had their windows broken and items taken from inside.

Some officers were dispatched to backup other officers investigating such crimes when they saw some additional vehicles with broken windows. Police spoke to the driver of one of them, who said he parked his vehicle, left his jacket inside and went inside. When he came out later, he found a car window smashed and his wallet missing from the vehicle.

Wheels, tires stolen

Police were called Wednesday evening to the 32500 block of Seven Mile on the report of a larceny of wheels and tires from a vehicle.

The victim said he parked his car in a nearby field for a Christmas party, as the parking was tight because of the large number of vehicles. Someone inside the party later informed him his wheels and tires were missing. Police arrived and saw the vehicle resting on cement blocks.

Retail fraud suspect flees store

Police were called Thursday morning to Menards, 12701 Middle-

belt, on the report of some stolen merchandise.

A store employee told police the suspect was seen inside the store with several items in a cart, including some security systems. He was seen pushing the cart past all points of purchase without paying. He was approached in the parking lot by an employee regarding the items. The suspect then left the cart in the lot before fleeing across the street near Meijer. Police located the suspect and arrested him. Later, police discovered the suspect was also suspected in a retail fraud that had taken place earlier at the store as well.

NO. 2992

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION I OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND AMENDING ARTICLE III OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE" BY ADDING SECTION 3.3934 THERETO.

THE CITY OF LIVONIA ORDAINS:

Section 1. Pursuant to the Conditional Rezoning Statement executed by Livonia Storage Units, LLC and Grand River Charter Development, LLC, and the report of the City Planning Commission, dated July 15, 2015, setting forth its resolution 07-42-2015 recommending approval of Petition 2015-06-01-06, having been considered by the Council, and the Council having conducted a public hearing on September 2, 2015, on said petition, and having concurred in the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, the Council hereby adopts said Petition 2015-06-01-06 to amend the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map of the City of Livonia and all proceedings heretofore conducted on said petition are hereby approved.

Section 2. Article III of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 543, as amended, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

Section 3.934. Petition 2015-06-01-06 submitted by the City Planning Commission is hereby approved, and the zoning classification of the premises hereinafter described is hereby changed from C-2 to ML:

A parcel of land on part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 1, T1S, R9E, City of Livonia, Wayne County, Michigan being more particularly described as: Commencing at the North 1/4 of said Section 1; thence N89 Deg 50' 00" E, 391.47' along the north line of said Section 1; thence S02 Deg 10' 00" W, 210.19' along the east right of way line of Angling Street to the point of beginning; thence N89 Deg 50' 00" E, 156.11'; thence S00 Deg 10' 00" E, 37.99'; N89 Deg 54' 24" E, 313.97'; thence S00 Deg 01' 21" E, 283.36'; thence N89 Deg 58' 50" W, 482.42' to the east right of way line of Angling Street; thence N02 Deg 10' 00" E, 320.45' along said right of way to the point of beginning, containing 3.23 acres. Commonly known as 28153 Eight Mile Rd.

and the Northeast 1/4 of Section 1 of the Zoning Map is hereby amended to conform to the change made in this section.

Section 4. The attached map designated "Amendment No. 950 to the Zoning Map of the City of Livonia" showing all of the amendments and changes made in the foregoing Section 2 of this ordinance is hereby approved, established and made a part hereof.

Section 5. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

Section 6. Should any portion of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of any of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

The above ordinance was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Monday, November 16, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan Hoff, City Clerk

The foregoing ordinance was authenticated by me on this 17th day of November, 2015.

Jack Kirksey, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Donald L. Knapp, Jr., City Attorney
Dated: November 17, 2015

BOUNDARY OF DISTRICT AS AMENDED FROM C-2, GENERAL BUSINESS TO M-L, MANUFACTURING LIMITED



PETITION NO. 2015-06-01-06
A PART OF THE N.E. 1/4 OF SECTION 1

AMENDMENT NO. 950 TO THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 2992
Adopted by the City Council on 11/16/15



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CLERK

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CITY OF GARDEN CITY COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING January 11, 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on **January 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.** regarding the proposed 2015 Sidewalk Project special assessment.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION No. 4 ROLL#4227 - SIDEWALK, 2015

WHEREAS, at a Regular Meeting of the Council on May 11, 2015, the City Council adopted a Resolution of Determination for Special Assessment District 4227, and the City Clerk Treasurer was directed to prepare such roll; and

WHEREAS, such roll has been prepared and is presented herewith;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Special Assessment Roll# 4227 (Sidewalk, 2015) be filed with the City Clerk for public examination; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Public Hearing be held on **Monday, January 11, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers, 6000 Middlebelt, Garden City, MI 48135, notice of such Public Hearing to be published in the newspaper of general circulation of the City, and that notice of such meeting be given by first class mail to the last known owner of each parcel affected thereby pursuant to the Garden City Code of Ordinances Chapter 40, Section 40.06(c).

Allyson M. Bettis
Treasurer/City Clerk

Published: December 13, 2015 LO-0000296334 3x4

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Livonia Civic Chorus presents 'It's Christmas Time, fa la la'

The Livonia Civic Chorus will sing both secular and sacred music of the Holidays during its "It's Christmas Time, fa la la" concert being presented at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, in the Clarenceville High School Schmidt Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt, in Livonia.

As the first of two concerts of their 51st Musical Season, the 65-member Chorus from Livonia and surrounding communities will present secular music during the first half of the program. The Chorus will open the program with "Welcome the Holidays," "Carol of the Bells," and a guest ballerina for "Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy" and other recognizable and fun holiday selections. The second half of the



The Livonia Civic Chorus will sing both secular and sacred music of the Holidays during its "It's Christmas Time, fa la la" concert. COURTESY LCC

LCC concert is devoted to sacred music. It begins with "Bidi Bom" and continues with "A Hanukkah Wish." "The Midnight Clear" combines the Chorus with

handbells and flute soloists who are usually singing as part of the Chorus. There's also a rousing rendition of "How Great Our Joy." Students from Emerson

Middle School will join the Chorus and its soloists for "Born is the King (It's Christmas)."

The Livonia Civic Chorus is under the direction of Donna Gleason and accompanied by Rimma Stolbov. Accompanying the Chorus on several numbers will be The RERUNZ, an instrumental group associated with Holmes Middle

School. They will also play Holiday Music during the concert's intermission.

"This afternoon of music is a great family experience to begin the many celebrations of the holiday season," Gleason said.

Tickets for this concert are available from Chorus Members, at the Livonia Recreation Center (Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.), or at the door on the performance day. The pre-sale ticket prices are \$12 for adults, and \$10 for seniors and students. At-the-door ticket prices are \$15 for everyone. Questions can be answered by calling 734-542-9071 or sending an email to info@livonia-civicchorus.org. The Chorus website is livonia-civicchorus.org.

Resident reportedly out \$4,000 in 'grandparents scam'

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

An 83-year-old Livonia woman is the latest area resident to be out money in a scam that strikes many senior citizens.

The woman came into the Livonia police station Thursday afternoon to report a fraud that had taken place earlier. She said she received a call

earlier in the day from someone claiming to be her grandson. The suspect on the other end of the line said he was currently locked up in custody of the Detroit Police Department after getting into a car accident. He said he needed \$4,000 in order to compensate the other driver for damages done to the vehicle.

The suspect asked the

woman to go to a Dollar General store and purchase \$4,000 worth of iTunes gift cards to pay for the damages and that he would call back later with the instructions. The woman did go to Dollar General and purchased the gift cards.

The suspect called later and asked her to read the numbers on the back of the cards, which

she did, giving him access to the funds on those cards.

Shortly after the call, she began thinking that the person that had called her was not her grandson. She tried calling his parents but could not reach them. She also could not call back the phone number the suspect had called her from. She said it wasn't com-

mon for her grandson to call her either, another reason she believed it wasn't him who had called.

The scam is a common one performed against senior citizens, with people claiming to be their grandchildren in trouble and in need of funds. The Michigan Attorney General's office recommends those who receive such

calls stay calm and try to confirm it truly is a relative before wiring the demanded funds.

"Try calling your grandchild at the telephone number through which you normally reach him or her. Stay calm and avoid acting out of a sense of urgency," reads information on the attorney general's website.

Madonna lecture focuses on philanthropy

Madonna University's business leader lecture series continues with a presentation on philanthropy and business relationships at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15.

This CEO/Executive Lecture Series will feature Jason Shanks, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan.

Shanks became the first CEO of Catholic

Charities of Southeast Michigan in 2012. Since then, he has worked to merge and consolidate the six independent social services agencies under one organization, build unity among staff and stakeholders, put in place a new infrastructure for systems and policies, expand services to all counties, and work to advance a Catholic culture.

He holds a Master of Nonprofit Administration degree from the Mendoza College of Business at the University of Notre Dame, and a master's degree in theology from the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Shanks is one of eight speakers in the CEO Lecture Series, this academic year. To make a reservation, visit madonna.edu/ceolecture.



PUBLIC NOTICE MINUTES OF REDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the approved Minutes for meetings of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Redford for the month of November 2015 are posted at the following public places within the Township:

- Community Center, 12121 Hemingway
- Fire Department, 15145 Beech Daly
- Library, 25320 Six Mile Road
- Department of Public Services, 12200 Beech Daly
- Police Department, 25833 Elsinore
- Town Hall, 15145 Beech Daly

Approved Minutes may also be viewed on-line at www.redfordtwp.com

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk
Charter Township of Redford

Published: December 13, 2015

LD-000260337 3x3

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Nankin Transit honored for bus service upgrades

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

A local transportation service for seniors and handicapped people has received an award for improving service, which has resulted in more riders.

Nankin Transit, which serves Westland, Wayne, Garden City and Inkster, received the Excellence in Action Award for transforming the rider experience.

"More rides are getting picked up and we have cut down on rider no-shows," Nankin Transit Executive Director James Ridener said. "We had profoundly changed how we do business here."

The award came through Route Match, the computer software Nankin Transit now uses for scheduling the curb-to-curb transportation service. Assistant Manager Jennifer Saylor of Garden City received the award, the result of a peer review by 300 agencies, at a meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.



Nankin Transit Executive Director James Ridener shows off an award the service received for improvements to ridership.

"Our rides used to be scheduled on wooden

board with cards and bungee cords," said Ridener, who oversaw the

computerization since became director 18 months ago. "We looked at how can we get more rides for seniors and the disabled in the four cities. The (Nankin Transit) commission told me we need to increase the number of riders."

From January through June 2015, Nankin Transit provided 3,000 more rides than for the same six-month period in 2014. There were 32,916 rides provided January through the end of October this year.

"Before we would do one ride per hour per bus. Now, we pick up three to four people at a time," Ridener said. "Not always, it depends on the destination. Our average is more like 3.5 people per hour per bus."

The computerization allows riders to be grouped in a way that didn't happen previously. The number of no-shows by riders has been reduced by ten percent.

"We have confirmation calls the night before a ride is scheduled.

The automated call tells them when and where to be for the ride," Ridener said. "The day of the trip, the tablets used in the bus by the drivers send them a call 15 minutes before the bus arrival for an ETA (estimated time of arrival)."

There are prompts on the calls and once the riders got accustomed to the new method for scheduling and confirming rides, Ridener said there has been positive feedback.

"Our number of no-shows went from 344 to 300 — that has been a big help," Ridener said. "Our on-time rate went from 75 percent to 93 percent. But you can get stuck waiting for a train."

Nankin Transit is now providing rides to St. Mary Hospital in Livonia and Beaumont-Oakwood Hospital.

Those 32,916 rides during the first 10 months of year don't include vendor-paid transportation provided for daily service to Services to Enhance Poten-

tial, Ridener said.

Along with increasing ridership, under Ridener's leadership Nankin Transit has moved to operating in black.

Westland Councilman Dewey Reeves, a long-time member of the commission that oversees Nankin Transit, had been working for a long time to see changes made in how the bus service operated.

"I'm very pleased with the changes. They've gotten several accreditations. It's been magnificent," Reeves said. "They have done a total 360."

In the near future, Nankin Transit is scheduled to relocate from space at the Westland Department of Public Services building on Marquette. The new offices and bus parking will be at the Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center on Grand Traverse.

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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 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.

Colbeck hours

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to noon Friday, Dec. 18

Details: State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, and District Manager Penny Crider hold district office hours at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road in Livonia. Colbeck will be on hand to answer questions and respond to concerns any residents of his district may have. All are welcome, and no appointment is necessary.

Colbeck represents the 7th Senate District, which encompasses the cities of Livonia, Northville, Plymouth and Wayne, as well as the townships of Canton, Northville and Plymouth.

For more information or to contact Colbeck, visit www.SenatorPatrickColbeck.com or call 517-373-5713.

Hula classes

Times/Dates: Wednesdays, starting Jan. 20 (10-week winter session)

Details: Instructor Fran Price offers a Hawaiian "Hula" dance class in which students will enjoy exercising and having fun while learning the culture of the Hawaiian Islands. The beginner/family class runs 6-6:55 p.m. (cost is \$50 for adults; \$25 for children under 8). The adult intermediate and advanced classes run 7-8:30 p.m., at a cost of \$75. There is a material fee of \$5.

All classes are conducted at the Livonia

Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road in Livonia. For more information and to register, call 248-547-3109 or email franprice@wow-way.com

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.

Food donation



Bill Heaton of the Livonia Goodfellows accepts a food donation from Dr. Nawaf Masri of Masri Orthodontics. Masri Orthodontics recently sponsored a roller skating party at Riverside Arena. Patients and families attending the annual Patient Appreciation party were asked to bring a food item to donate. Each person who brought an item was given a raffle ticket. The grand prize this year was a HoverBoard.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

DECEMBER 31, 2015

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\$3.99 lb

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Flats
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5 LBS. EACH
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Bundle Pack #2

5 lbs. Ground Chuck
5 lbs. Bone-In Chicken Breast
5 lbs. Chicken Leg Quarters
5 lbs. Store Made Italian Sausage
5 lbs. Bone-In Pork Chops
5 lbs. Small Chicken Wings

\$79.99

Bundle Pack #3

5 lbs. Ground Chuck
5 lbs. Sirloin Steaks
5 lbs. Bone-In Pork Chops
5 lbs. Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast
5 lbs. Chicken Leg Quarters
5 lbs. Pork Steaks

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Ask Dr. Stewart

Dr. James Stewart is a general dentist in Livonia, MI. Today, he answers a question about All-on-4 "teeth in a day" dental implants.

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Project keeps veterans warm, welcomes them home

St. John Lutheran Church and School in Westland recently delivered warm coats in the Piquette Square area near the Detroit VA for homeless veterans. Also collected to distribute were hats, scarves, gloves, blankets and tarps to protect from rain and snow.

The project, in its 10th year, gets help from St. Paul Lutheran Church and School of Livonia. Students from both schools get involved each year.

For transitional veterans, cleaning supplies and paper products were collected for food boxes, with project organizers noting those products aren't covered by government-issued Bridge cards. Those returning service men and women often live in apartments.

In an email, an organizer, Trish Dork, said:

"St. Paul's in Livonia had a special service at the school where all the kids brought donations up to a table to teach the youth how important it is to honor our heroes, and then St. John's students packed all the food boxes and blanket bags for the homeless veterans and the housing bundles for the transitional vets; 409 total packages put together last Friday (Dec. 4) and delivered Saturday (Dec. 5) to the downtown VA.

"We have been blessed to be able to give a little back to over 3,500 of our nation's heroes. We are so thankful for the continued support, help and donations and we look forward to the continued growth of the project. We begin coat and blanket collection for 2016 now! It's all so very exciting to watch come together."



This is the 10th year for the project to help homeless and transitional veterans.

SUBMITTED

Wayne Chamber of Commerce presents annual awards

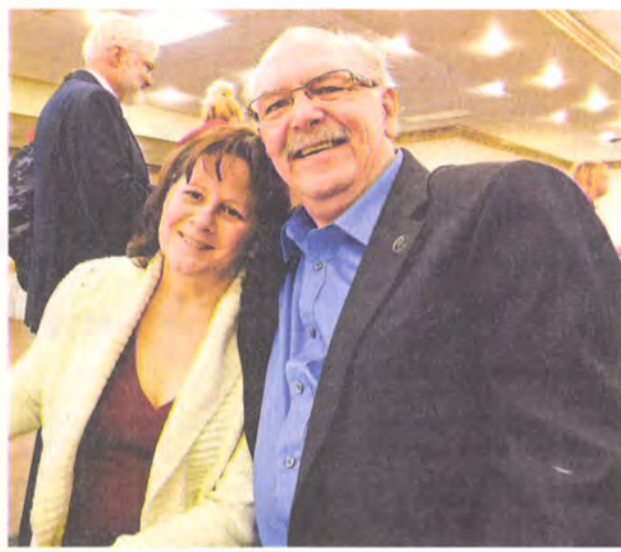
LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Finishing out the year on a high note, Don Nicholson has been honored by the Wayne Chamber of Commerce as Business Person of the Year.

In July, Nicholson was recognized as Westland Business Person of the Year. That honor followed close on the heels of Nicholson, a Canadian by birth, becoming an U.S. citizen.

"I was not expecting this. I do a lot of volunteer work in Wayne," Nicholson said. "I couldn't do what I do in the community without my wife Gayle. She's working with me and that's why I'm able to do so much."

Don Nicholson Enterprises LLC does a variety of automotive events for groups like the Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau along with car cruises in differ-



LEANNE ROGERS

Don Nicholson with wife Gayle after Don was honored as Wayne Business Person of the Year by the Wayne Chamber of Commerce.

ent locations, including Hines Drive and Westland's recent All-American Cruise. He also does design and layout for publications, business cards, dashboard plaques

and web design. Serving on 16 different boards and commissions, Nicholson was nominated as Business Person of the Year by Community Living Ser-

vices in Wayne where he is a Friends of CLS board member.

"I'm very involved with people with disabilities. I'm very happy. I have a wonderful wife to support me and a job where I love what I do," said Nicholson, who serves on both the boards of both the Wayne and Westland chambers of commerce.

Also honored at the awards luncheon were the Wayne Dairy Queen as Business of the Year. The business got a face-lift this year as new owners Michael and Jenn Petrou took over from his parents Anna and John Petrou, the long-time owners. None of the family members were present for the luncheon because they were out of town.

The Wayne Rotary Club was also honored as

Service Organization of the Year, a new award.

"We've very humbled to be the first organization to get this award. We've been working on books for the Little Libraries and we've done a lot with the (Christmas) tree lighting," said Rotarian Trish Hampton, also mentioning scholarships Rotary provides to Wayne Memorial High School students.

Chamber president the Rev. David Furno received a certificate of appreciation for this efforts on behalf of the chamber, which has undergone a resurgence over the past year.

"Pastor Dave put in so much time — it was a full-time job. He was there and on top of it," Nicholson said. "Without you, the year would not be as great as it was."

Nicholson also men-

tioned the efforts of chamber vice president Bob Pugh. "Last year at this time, we were four months behind on our bills. Now the bills are paid up and we have a nice amount in the bank," Nicholson said.

Without full-time staff for the past four years, the chamber is working with the Senior Alliance to provide two part-time workers to allow the chamber office to be open 40 hours a week.

"We have just under 100 members, which is pretty good for us. We've been focusing on retaining members," Nicholson said. "Now we can be more in a membership drive."

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Passage of Every Student Succeeds applauded

Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

Exit "No Child Left Behind." Enter "Every Student Succeeds." Signed into law Thursday by President Barack Obama, the bipartisan legislation is being applauded for returning some control to school districts, family engagement initiatives and more.

"We're happy — this puts more decision-making under state and local control," Farmington Public Schools Superintendent George Heitsch said. "We think decisions made close to where students are directly affected rather than at the federal level created more meaningful opportunities for kids."

According to a release from the National PTA, the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 brings needed improvements to

K-12 education.

"National PTA commends President Obama for swiftly signing the Every Student Succeeds Act into law and his commitment to improving education to make sure every student is prepared for long-term success," said Laura Bay, National PTA president. "The Every Student Succeeds Act is a marked improvement over previous law and provides great opportunity to strengthen family engagement in education and ensure all students reach their full potential. Now is the time for all of us to work together at the federal, state and local levels to make certain that this law makes a difference for the futures of our nation's



Peters

children."

The Every Student Succeeds Act includes changes to Title I requiring school districts to have activities, initiatives and policies to engage families in education.

"PTAs, families and Statewide Family Engagement Centers play an important role in the successful implementation of ESSA and ensuring that all children receive a quality education by holding states and districts accountable," said Nathan R. Monell, CAE, National PTA executive director. "National PTA is committed to empowering all families to be active participants in state and local implementation of the law, support student success and make the promise of ESEA/ESSA a reality for all children."

Farmington Hills resident Tammy Luty,

Michigan PTA federal legislative chair, said she's talked with Michigan's senators and representatives while in Washington, D.C., about family engagement and getting the legislation approved.

"Having this bill pass and signed was a great win for education, as it did include the family engagement piece and also gave more control to a local and state level," she said. "I am looking forward to the March Legislative Conference where I will be able to go back to Washington, D.C., and thank our Michigan legislators for this work and continue to discuss education topics with them that will benefit our students locally and statewide."

Every Student Succeeds also has a bipartisan amendment introduced by U.S. Senators Gary Peters (D-Michigan) and Cory Gardner (R-CO) supporting dual and concurrent enrollment in schools. There are also measures to support funding for financial literacy programs and to strengthen efforts to identify "dual status youth" — those who come into contact with the juvenile justice and child welfare systems.

Peters said Every Student Succeeds is "long overdue education reform that will help strengthen our primary education system and give kids a greater opportunity to get ahead." The provisions for dual status youth will "protect our most vulnerable children from falling into the school-to-prison pipeline," he said.

The Act's Gardner-Peters amendment allows the use of Title I money to support dual and concurrent enrollment programs so high schoolers can simultaneously get college credit from secondary education classes taught by college-approved teachers.



Andrew and Danielle Khalaf returned for pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Santa helps raise money for veterans

Santa and Mrs. Claus annually visit Mr. Mike's Grill in Westland, but this year their visit was combined with a fundraiser for Blum's Landing.

The workshop with Santa and Mrs. Claus was free, with any raffle ticket sales and at-will donations being 100 percent donated to Blum's Landing, a nonprofit bed and breakfast for returning veterans and their families.

"We loved putting the event on, especially for such an awesome nonprofit like Blum's Landing. We appreciate what they do and appreciate what our veterans as well. We really hope to host more community events in the future," Mr. Mike's co-owner Angie Khalaf

said.

Along with photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus and crafts for the kids, children wrote letters to Santa, had a story time with Santa himself reading 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, raffle baskets and prizes, a 50/50 drawing and a drawing for the exclusive holiday visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Tickets for the visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on sale at Mr. Mike's until Dec. 20, with the winner being notified Dec. 21.

Tickets are \$5 each or five entries for \$20, with all the proceeds continuing to go to the nonprofit bed and breakfast.

For more information about Blum's Landing, visit blumslanding.org.

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CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN
DESIGN BUILD BOTSFORD BATH HOUSE RENOVATION

Sealed bids will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until **2:00 P.M., local time on Tuesday, January 12th, 2016** at which time the RFB's will be secured by the City Clerk. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late bids will be returned unopened.

A mandatory site walk meeting will be held at the Botsford Park Pool located at 19444 Lathers St., Livonia, Michigan at **10:00 A.M. on Friday, December 18th, 2015. Request for Bids will not be accepted from those firms who do not attend.**

Instructions and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Each response to the bid must be provided to the City of Livonia electronically in Adobe (PDF) format. Faxed bids in response to this request will not be accepted.

All bids shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: **CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN DESIGN BUILD BOTSFORD BATH HOUSE RENOVATION** and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

No vendor may withdraw their bid within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening thereof.

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

Edward Davis
Superintendent

Jack E. Kirksey
Mayor

Published, December 13, 2015

Westland woman honored for reaching employment goals

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

As she was completing her degree in paralegal studies with a 3.51 grade-point average, Dawn Benbow started interviewing with law firms to be accepted for a required internship.

"For the blind and visually impaired, the employment rate is very low," said Benbow, who was born legally blind and lost her remaining vision at 9 due to a detached retina. "It's very difficult. It's supposed to be equal, but too many employers see the disability but not the abilities the person has."

Eventually, Benbow did get hired for her internship and then continued to work as a paralegal for Plymouth attorney David Helm for five months until a temporary layoff.

"When I interviewed for the internship, he was the only person who didn't question if I could do the work," Benbow said. "He said since I was in my last semester of school, he assumed I

"It's supposed to be equal, but too many employers see the disability but not the abilities the person has."

DAWN BENBOW
paralegal

wouldn't have applied if I couldn't do the work."

Benbow was recently honored by the state Bureau of Services for Blind Persons for being exemplary in achieving her goals for employment.

Graduating from Madonna University in May, Benbow earned her degree in paralegal studies. She had started working with the BSBP in 2006 and received skills of blindness at Visually Impaired Services, which helped her to be independent.

Financial support — as well as specialized equipment, counseling and guidance from BSBP — helped Benbow complete

her education and find employment.

"My sister-in-law is a paralegal. I've always been interested in the law and that kind of stuff," Benbow said. "I asked her if there was a lot of stuff online so I could do it strictly from the computer. She said yes."

Today even research libraries are online, Benbow noted, making them fully accessible to the blind.

Married to Stuart, a carpenter and musician, Benbow had largely been a stay-at-home mom for son Devon, 19, who graduated from Livonia Franklin High School earlier this year, and daughter Bridget, 13, an eighth-grader at Emerson Middle School.

A 1995 Franklin graduate, Benbow was aware that she had been nominated for the award — her counselor had called to get some additional information.

"We are pleased to celebrate the success of our Achievement Honor Roll winners who have had a tremendous and unique impact on our

state's blind community," BSBP Director Ed Rodgers said. "The BSBP looks forward to working with consumers and our partners to provide a wide range of quality services that will help ensure that blind individuals have the skills needed to achieve active employability and independence."

When not working as a paralegal, Benbow works at a business, Winter Warm Knits, that she started earlier this year with help from her husband.

"I taught myself to knit 14 years ago, when I was pregnant, so I could make things for my daughter. I had crocheted before that," Benbow said. "My husband had work issues and I had to bring more income. That's why I went back to school. I knitted going to classes and my internship. It's going better than I expected."

Benbow has a website, winterwarmknits.com.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland resident Dawn Benbow knits with her service dog, Ava, by her side. Ava has been with Benbow, who is blind, since July.

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

Wayne-Westland sets up strategic planning

Dreaming and thinking big doesn't cost anything, so officials in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools are looking for residents willing to help the district define its future by dreaming big about what the district wants for its students.

District officials are developing a strategic plan that will guide its direction over the next five to 10 years. It is an opportunity, they say, to "dream big," an opportunity to envision what could be and what will be in the future.

Wayne-Westland Community Schools is building a strategic plan officials said will be "the stimulus for continued innovation and excellence in our district, both now and into the future."

A strategic plan is a guide to success and a chance for students, staff, parents, city officials and community

members to share their dreams for the future of the district.

District officials are looking for creative thinking, innovative possibilities and out-of-the-box ideas. They've set up a series of meetings through the end of January to help shape the plan. Meetings are expected to last two hours, with the goal of being highly interactive, inspiring and engaging. Meetings are set for:

» Jan. 7, 6 p.m., Parent Meeting, David Hicks Elementary School, 100 Helen, in Inkster.

» Jan. 11, 7 p.m., Community Meeting (open to all community members), Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren, in Westland.

» Jan. 14, 1 p.m., Seniors (open to all community members), Dyer Senior Center, 36745 Marquette, in Westland.

» Jan. 19, 1 p.m., Com-

munity Meeting (open to all community members), Jefferson-Barns Community Vitality Center, 31250 Dorsey, in Westland.

» Jan. 19, 6 p.m., Community Meeting (open to all community members), Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Road, in Wayne.

» Jan. 28, 6 p.m., Parent Meeting (all parents welcome), Taft-Galloway Elementary School, 4035 Gloria, in Wayne.

The strategic planning process will culminate in a presentation to the Board of Education in spring 2016.

Anyone who can't attend one of the meetings can submit suggestions to <http://wwcsd.net/home/strategic-planning-information/>.

For more information about the strategic planning process, contact Cheryl Watson or Sue Rawson at 734-419-2010.

University of Detroit hosts Military Appreciation Day

Attention veterans: The University Of Detroit Mercy will host a Military Appreciation Day at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, as the Titans host Central Florida at Callahan Hall.

All veterans with proper ID can receive tickets in advance or on game day and an additional ticket for a friend or family member. Others in the group can purchase tickets for half-price.

The Titans have joined forces with the Michigan Veterans Foundation. Executive

director Tyrone Chatman said: "It is an honor to participate in this great event and we will be busying in at least 100 of our finest veterans to enjoy a good ballgame. We are also happy to be providing a colorful honor guard and one of our vets will also be singing the national anthem."

In addition to the ticket promotion, the first 2,000 attendees will receive Camouflage Rally Flags sponsored by WADL-TV (Channel 38), the team's official TV home.

Director of Athletics Robert C. Vowels Jr. said in a statement: "We are honored to host these wonderful men and women of our armed forces who have given so much for this country. We are planning to make this veterans event a yearly tradition."

For tickets, visit the Callahan Hall ticket office (open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday), call 313-993-1700 or go to detroittitans.com/tix.

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CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID
Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185, on **December 23rd, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:
PRISONER FOOD
Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at www.CityofWestland.com. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
Devin J. Adams
City Controller
Published: December 13, 2015

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF GARDEN CITY WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
To all residents and interested parties: Legal notices are available for review at our website.
The minutes (including approved ordinances) from regular and special Council meetings are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/minutes
Current requests for bids and proposals are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/bids
You may also access this information at Garden City City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Garden City Police station lobby 24 hours a day.
Published: December 13, 2015

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID
Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185, on **December 23rd, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:
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Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at www.CityofWestland.com. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
Devin J. Adams
City Controller
Published: December 13, 2015

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The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned in the Township of Redford by the Redford Township Police Department and are to be sold, as is, at open auction on Saturday, the 19TH day of DECEMBER, 2015, at North Redford Towing, 25215 Glendale, Redford, MI 48239. Vehicles can be viewed on the auction date. Registered owners will be allowed to pick up their vehicles prior to the start of the auction. Check www.nrtoing.com for the current list.

2000	CHEVROLET	2D	2G1FP22K9Y2141300	CAMARO	ARREST	1506461	1
2002	CHEVROLET	SW	1GNFK16Z82J226887	SUBURBAN	ACCIDENT	1507244	2
2007	FORD	4D	1FAHP37NX7W133640	FOCUS	ACCIDENT	1507361	3
2001	PLYMOUTH	4D	1P3ES46CX1D205246	NEON	ARREST	1507926	4
2003	VOLVO	4D	4V1VS27523F999469	S40	ACCIDENT	1507983	5
2008	SUZUKI	MC	JS1GT77A582104295	GSX-R1000	ACCIDENT	1508020	6
2001	DODGE	4D	2B3HD46R41H572031	INTREPID	ARREST	1508058	7
2001	CHEVROLET	2D	2G1WW12E219173168	MONTE CARLO	ABANDONED	1508062	8
1999	FORD	4D	3FAKP1137XR208010	ESCORT	ACCIDENT	1508074	9
1994	OLDSMOBILE	4D	1G3HN52LXR4816308	88	ARREST	1508188	10
2000	FORD	SW	2FMZA5141YBA27796	WINDSTAR	ABANDONED	1508280	11
2008	NISSAN	2D	1N4AL24E38C101711		ABANDONED	1508297	12
1996	MERCURY	4D	2MELM75WDTX688450	GRAND MARQUIS	ARREST	1508379	13
1993	GMC	PU	1GTFC14Z1PE512276	SIERRA	HAZARD	1508380	14
2004	PONTIAC	4D	1G2NF52E04M518803	GRAND AM	ACCIDENT	1508430	15
2001	FORD	SW	1FTRE14W31HA81561	E150	ABANDONED	1508458	16
1999	LEXUS	4D	JT8BF28GBX5065287	ES300	ARREST	1508461	17
2002	LINCOLN	4D	1LNHM97V72Y675115	TOWN CAR	ABANDONED	1508525	18
2007	CHRYSLER	4D	2C3KA53G47H745128	300	ARREST	1508597	19
2005	CHRYSLER	4D	2C3AA63H05H173966	300	ARREST	1508610	20
1998	BMW	4D	WBAGK2328WDH68750	750L	ABANDONED	1508654	21
1999	FORD	PU	1FTSW30SIXE55365	F-350	STOLEN/REC.	SAT-292-15	22
2003	FORD	PU	1FTNX21543EA29604	F-250	STOLEN/REC.	SAT-293-15	23
1989	CADILLAC		1G6CD5154K4220801		STOLEN/REC.	SAT-293-15	24
2004	MERCURY	4D	2MEFM74W04X653018	MARQUIS	STOLEN/REC.	SAT-197-15	25
2008	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1ZH57B384227720	MALIBU	STOLEN/REC.	SAT-194-15	26
2012	DODGE	PARTS	2C3CDXEJ2CH228484	CHARGER PARTS	STOLEN/REC.	SAT-145-15	27
2009	FORD	4D	1FAHP25W39G102698	TAURUS	ACCIDENT	TITLE	28
1999	HONDA	4D	JHMC65648XC016678	ACCORD	ACCIDENT	TITLE	29
1999	HONDA	4D	1HGEJ6579XL032323	CIVIC	ACCIDENT	TITLE	30

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Get the Varsity Advantage! Varsity Lincoln of Novi is gearing up for the holidays with a HUGE Certified Pre-Owned vehicle sales event.

Visit Varsity Lincoln for the three-day event, which is set for the following dates and times:

- » 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14
- » 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15
- » 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16

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BOYS BASKETBALL

Fast-starting Chargers upend GC

Healthy Andoni pumps in 23 points

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

After playing at less than 100 percent last season while recovering from a knee injury, Livonia Churchill senior guard Joan Andoni received a clean bill of health Thursday night.

Not from a doctor, but Garden City head coach Ron Pummill.

"He looked pretty healthy to me," said Pummill, smiling, after Andoni scored 19 first-half points (and 23 for the game) to lead the Chargers to a 68-42 victory over the visiting Cougars. "After he hit his first two shots in his own gym, I knew we were in trouble."

Churchill led 39-18 at the half, which allowed head coach

Jimmy Solak to check out some of his reserve players, who showed they're capable of providing some spurts of fire-power.

The win improved Churchill to 2-0 while Garden City slipped to 1-1.

Speaking of health, the Cougars were knocked for a loop in the first quarter when senior Branden Grace, who scored 24 points in the season-opening victory over New Boston Huron, suffered a first-quarter ankle injury that sidelined him for the remainder of the game.

"Right when Branden went down, we knew we had to amp it up a little bit," said Solak. "I thought our pressure was real good; we forced them into some uncomfortable situations. The key was once we got a lead, we were able to extend it. We put our foot on the ped-

See HOOPS, Page B2



ED WRIGHT

Churchill's Joan Andoni drives to the basket Thursday night against Garden City.

Churchill grad Brown honored

Wayne State sophomore running back Romello Brown, who is a native of Westland and graduate of Livonia Churchill, was selected as the 2015 Offensive Most Valuable Player after recording the 10th-highest single-season rushing total in school history with 1,287 yards.

Brown's 19 rushing touchdowns was the fifth-highest total for one year in WSU history and tied for the GLIAC lead during the regular season.

Brown, who was voted to the All-GLIAC Second Team, rushed for at least 100 yards in six contests, including the last five games, and had at least two rushing touchdowns in six contests. He set career-highs with 180 rushing yards and five touchdowns against Lake Erie.

Brown also earned the teams's 2015 Serxho Guraleci/Ultimate Warrior award for his outstanding work in the weight room.

LIVONIA CITY WRESTLING



Livonia Franklin wrestlers pose with their first-place trophy following Wednesday's City Tournament.

Madonna hoops

The Madonna University men's basketball team looked to keep the momentum from Saturday's win as they visited the University of Northwestern Ohio, but the Crusaders came up four points short, 59-55, after mounting a second-half comeback.

Down by 16 points at two different times in the first half, Madonna fought back to within two points on two occasions, but could not overtake the Racers.

Khalil Malone was the lone Crusader in double figures with 13 points. Northwestern Ohio was led by Josh Scott with 21 and Ray Beatty recorded a double-double with 11 points and 13 rebounds.

Muhammed Zahr nailed a three-pointer as time expired in the first half to ignite the Madonna offense.

The Crusaders started the second period with back-to-back triples by Zak Lewis and Khalil Malone that started a 14-4 run to put the score at 43-40. Eight straight points put UNOH back on top by 11 until a Malone shot capped off a nine-point run to pull MU to within two points with 1:52 left.

Forty seconds later, the deficit remained two points, 55-53, after the teams traded baskets. UNOH hit the first of two free throws, but got the offensive rebound to maintain possession and the lead. With time winding down, Madonna was forced to foul again and the Racers made just enough free throws to hang on for the 59-55 win.

Reporting results

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

PATRIOTS RETURN TO TOP

Franklin wins city crown for 10th time in past 11 years

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Powered by nine individual weight-class champions, Livonia Franklin's wrestling team captured Wednesday's Livonia City Tournament by piling up a whopping 213.5 points to out-distance runner-up Churchill (182).

Last year, the Chargers snapped Franklin's nine-year run as city champions.

Host Stevenson placed third with 102 points, followed by Clarenceville (82).

"We knew this was going to be close," Franklin head coach Dave Chiola said. "Last year we came out flat and had a terrible first round. We wanted to start strong this year, and we won 11 first-round matches."

Winning titles for the Patriots were Howie Whittaker (103 pounds), Evan Jaynes (125), Carlos Ferreira (130), Jeremy Nelson (140), Kristo



TOM BEAUDOIN

Churchill's Zack Leck won the 160 brackets.

Cule (145), Nathan Atienza (152), Andres Garza (171), Joe Fortin (215) and Josh Retting (heavyweight).

"The big one was Evan Jaynes at 125," Chiola said. "He's a freshman and knocked off the number-one seed from Churchill. That really put us on

track and started us rolling.

"I was really pleased at how into it the team was. When they weren't wrestling, they were cheering on teammates. I think we lost that hunger over the past couple years."

It's been awhile, Chiola said, since the Patriots have fielded

a younger team than they did Wednesday.

Whittaker barely worked up a sweat, finishing off his two foes in a total time of 97 seconds.

"We were starting four freshmen, which is probably the most we've started in a decade," he said. "Howie got us two pins at 103. He actually weighs 103 pounds this year and should have a good year. Last year he was just too small."

"Ferreira wrestled his freshman year and part of his sophomore year, and decided to come back and wrestle his senior year, which is a big boost. Kristo is starting to gel in this his senior year and has a lot more confidence. Garza is also starting to put it all together. Our captains (Nelson, Atienza, Fortin and Retting) are our nucleus. All four are hard workers and lead by example. Any team would be

See CITY, Page B4

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Churchill bounces back nicely, 54-29

Revamped lineup spurs
Chargers to victory

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The message K'Len Morris delivered to his Livonia Churchill girls basketball team Thursday night was received exactly how he hoped it would.

Playing with a restructured starting lineup in the wake of Tuesday night's disappointing loss to Dearborn, the Chargers ousted host Garden City, 54-29, to even their record at 1-1.

The Cougars slipped to 1-3 with the loss.

"I took four starters from our first game out and they were perfect teammates," said Morris, who watched his team bolt to a 21-8 first-quarter lead. "I think we were humbled a little bit the other night. I told the girls that we have the pieces to be a very, very good team, but they had to do a bet-

ter job of playing as a team. Tonight, they played like a team."

Senior guard Alivia Kondrath led the winners with 12 points on near-perfect shooting — an occurrence that didn't surprise Morris one bit.

"I don't know if Alivia knows this, but I saw her go back into the gym after practice the other night and get some extra shooting in," he said. "I'm not sure if she missed a shot tonight."

Shea Smith contributed 11 points for the Chargers.

First-time point guard Lily Allen didn't score a ton of points, but she did a brilliant job of engineering Churchill's offense, Morris raved.

Senior post player Gabby Carter yanked down seven offensive rebounds in the first half alone. Carter finished with nine points, while senior Molly Pummill added eight.

Alecia Montgomery was the Cougars' leading scorer with

10 points. Lindsey Michalak and Mikaela Smolar chipped in five points a piece.

Churchill drained 9-of-20 free-throw attempts. GC made just 10-of-23 freebies.

John Glenn wins

Westland John Glenn handed visiting Oxford a 46-35 setback Friday night in a non-league game played in the Rockets' gymnasium.

Junior Arianna Hassan paced the Rockets' scoring attack with 14 points. Nadia Reed also played well for the winners, pouring in 13 points.

The Rockets canned 12 of 25 free-throw attempts while holding Southgate to just three field goals in the second half.

Ladywood triumphs

Livonia Ladywood improved to 2-1 Friday night with a 48-33 victory over visiting Southgate Anderson. It was the home opener for the Blazers, who never trailed after jumping out

to a 10-point first-quarter lead.

Erika Selakowski was marvelous in the paint for the winners, posting 13 points and 15 rebounds.

Juniors Maggie Shirk and Ally Audia scored 11 points a piece.

Abbey Reppen chipped in with four points.

Warriors tumble

Lutheran Northwest proved to be too tough Thursday for Lutheran Westland as it carved out a 61-35 victory.

Taylor Jones led the Warriors with 14 points. Rachel Reddeman and Eleanor Storck added seven points apiece.

"The first loss of the season always leaves a sour taste in your mouth, but I'm glad this type of game happened early in the season for us," Lutheran Westland head coach Sandi Wade said. "Now we can learn from it and move on."

Northwest surged to a 22-4 lead after one quarter and

never looked back.

"We started the game extremely slow and soft," Wade said. "Our second half was better, but the hole we dug in the first half was too big to get out of. We will keep working on what we need to improve on."

Canton clips Falcons

Canton's varsity girls basketball team walked into the Dearborn Divine Child gymnasium Thursday night and came away with an impressive 44-35 victory.

"Divine Child's always a difficult place to play," said Canton head coach Rob Heitmeyer, whose team improved to 2-1. "So anytime you can go there and get a good quality win, it's something to be proud of."

The Chiefs came out determined, building a fast 14-4 lead. It was a 26-15 edge at halftime.

ewright@hometownlife.com



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Reaching to corral a loose puck is Salem goalie Austin Goleniak, while Churchill's Tyler Haydu watches.

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

GOLENIAK ATTACK

Trio of Salem brothers help topple Churchill in OT

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Salem boys hockey team's Goleniak twins, Austin and Colin, peaked at the right time Wednesday night against host Livonia Churchill — on opposite ends of the ice.

And their older brother Zach had a pretty productive night, as well.

Moments after Rocks freshman goaltender Austin Goleniak made a pair of game-saving, breathtaking overtime saves against the Chargers, Colin Goleniak redirected a blistering slap shot by Marty Mills off the crossbar and into the net at the 4:42 mark to lift Salem to an entertaining 5-4 victory.

The win improved Salem to 2-2, while Churchill slipped to 4-2.

Zach Goleniak helped make the overtime opportunity possible with two regulation goals.

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association instituted an eight-minute, sudden-death overtime format prior to this season — much to the delight of the crowd in attendance at Eddie Edgar Arena — especially, as it turned out, members of the Goleniak family.

"As soon as I saw Marty get ready to shoot, I got to the net as fast as I could," Colin Goleniak said. "I felt ecstatic when I saw the puck in the net. I went right up to Marty and told him how sick his shot was."

As soon as the Rocks realized they had won, they converged for a celebratory group hug against the boards with the guy who scored the goal ... or at least the guy they thought scored the goal.

"Nobody really said anything to me, because they thought Marty scored the goal," Goleniak said, smiling, when asked about the post-game celebration. "Then word got over that I tipped it in and everybody congratulated me."

While the players' adrenaline was rushing at a rapid pace the second the opening puck was dropped, it ramped up consider-



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Livonia Churchill's Conor Burnette (right) looks to stop a rush by Salem's Matt Schaumburger.

ably during the sudden-death session, the Rocks' game-winning goal scorer admitted.

"You have to work that much harder (in overtime), because you don't want to be that last line out there that gets scored on," he said.

Austin Goleniak watched all but the final 1:30 of the first period from the Rocks' bench before replacing starting goalie Matt Visel after John Doyle's second goal of the night gave the Chargers a 3-1 lead.

"Austin really battles," Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher said. "He's a little undersized, so he has to play athletic, he has to be aggressive and stand at the top of his crease. He came in and made a few big saves that allowed us to get back in the game."

"Matt didn't play that poorly, but there were a couple he probably wish he could have had back. But the team came back and won, which is the most important thing."

Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds said he liked how his players came out of the gates with fire in their eyes.

"Our goal was to get Salem back on their heels right away and we did that with the fast

start," he said. "It just came down to two very competitive teams playing in a game that went down to the wire. I credit Salem for continuing to come at us, even when it was 3-1."

Doyle broke the scoring ice three minutes in with a slap shot he launched from above the left circle. He was assisted by Tyler Haydu.

Salem countered quickly, evening the score at 1-1 at the 11-minute mark, when Sean McCormack flipped the puck in front of the net from the blue line. The puck bounced off Nathan Homrich and onto the stick of Nick Callegari, who spun and buried it into the net.

With 9:22 left in the first period, the Chargers went back in front 2-1 after Nolan Cioch scored an unassisted goal when his long-range shot eluded Visel.

A few minutes later, Doyle cranked one off the post; Salem's Callegari did the same at the other end shortly thereafter, while Salem had a power play, keeping it 2-1.

Mills had a dangerous rush with about three minutes to go, but Churchill goalie Drew Broyles deflected it with his blocker.

HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASTICS

Blue and Red upend
'Park' opponents

Livonia teams look
good in early going

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Powered by superb all-around performances from returning standouts Bri Rhoad and Jessica Weak, Livonia Blue's gymnastics team clipped Plymouth, 136.525-135.975, Wednesday night.

The high individual-event score of the night was recorded by Rhoad, who impressed the judges enough to earn a 9.45 on the balance beam to edge Plymouth's Haley Metz (9.3) for top honors. Blue's Megan Lord, Haden Florn and Weak also scored an 8.45 on the beam to tie for second.

Plymouth's Rebeca Simu won the floor-exercise competition with a 9.1. Metz was second (8.925), barely outscoring third-place Rhoad (8.9).

Weak was the night's best performer on the uneven bars as she racked up a sterling score of 8.95 to nip Metz (8.75).

Weak (8.95) and Rhoad (8.7) went one-two in the vault.

Red opens strong

Livonia Red opened its season last week with a solid 137.60-128.60 triumph over Salem.

Red's Marissa McVey and Mikaela Hille got things going early by tying for first on the vault with scores of 9.15. Julia Hattley was third with an 8.90, while Megan Waters' 8.85 earned fourth-place points.

Red dominated the bars competition thanks to the night's best effort of 8.60 from McVey. Hille (8.20) and Olivia Dillon (8.10) placed second and third, respectively.

Dillon proved to be masterful on the beam, scoring an 8.85 to run away with the gold in that event. Salem's Jordyn Williams was second with an 8.40, while McVey placed third with an 8.30.

Williams also sparkled on the floor for the Rocks, earning first-place points with a score of 9.50. McVey was second at 8.90, finishing just ahead of teammates Dillon (8.85) and Hattley (8.80). Lindsey Hoyer also fared well in the event, earning a score of 8.65.

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HOOPS

Continued from Page B1

al."

Garden City found net on just nine of 40 shots through the first three quarters, due in large part to the Chargers' up-in-your-face defensive pressure.

"We're so small that we have to put a lot of pressure on the ball; we can't let the other team just walk it up," Solak said.

Churchill senior Dayton Davis spear-headed the winners' "D" with five steals. He also grabbed five boards to go with five points.

Charger senior guard Jon Hovermale was also solid from start to finish, registering 12 points, five rebounds and three thefts.

Churchill connected on nine treys, but it was a pair of acrobatic twos — both by junior forward Jerren Hampton — that ignited the biggest roars from the crowd.

During the first minute of the second quarter, junior guard Myron Burnette lobbed a back-door alley-oop pass to Hampton, who slammed it home.

With the minutes left in the third quarter, Hampton had to reach back with his left hand for a similar pass from Burnette. While he didn't bank it off the glass.

"Jerren is a great athlete," said Solak. "He's still learning how to play the game. Once he does he's

going to be special."

Jacob Sadowski led the Cougars with eight points. Cameron Walter, Connor Johnson and Robert Moyers all scored five. Avery Emerson nailed all four of his free throws in the fourth quarter.

"Any time you go into another team's gym, it's going to be tough," said Pummill. "But when that team is as athletic and can shoot like Churchill can, you're going to have your work cut out for you."

"You tell your guys to go out and guard the perimeter shots, but once they drive by you once, like Churchill's guards can do, they get a little leery. They definitely stress defense. While the final score wasn't great, we're only going to get better from this. We know where we have to go from here."

Pummill said Grace's injury didn't appear serious.

"It looks like he's going to be fine," Pummill said. "We just didn't want to risk making it worse."

Hampton finished with eight points while junior guard Alan Hammett swished a pair of triples for six points.

The Chargers canned 27 of 67 field-goal attempts (40.2 percent) while the Cougars were 12-for-53 from the field (22.6).

Walter led all rebounders with nine. Evan Cummins grabbed six boards for the Chargers.

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HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Redford Union wrestlers look strong

Coach Rankin optimistic about young, up-and-coming team

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Redford Union wrestling team started its season in fabulous fashion Wednesday by winning both of its matches at a quad meet hosted by Garden City.

The Panthers demolished Dearborn Divine Child, 64-6, in the opener before doubling-up the host Cougars, 57-27.

"We only have one senior, but I expect this team to put together a good season," said RU head coach Rob Rankin. "Our goal is to win team districts again and then give Warren Lincoln a run for their money in the regional. I expect us to get five or six guys out of districts and at least a few into the state meet."

Among the standouts for the

Panthers was junior Larry Elliott, whose night started with a 19-11 victory over a top-notch Falcon grappler at 130.

"Talent-wise, he's the best wrestler on the team," Rankin said of Elliott. "He's very good on his feet, but his height gives him a disadvantage when he's down. He's fast and he knows how to wrestle."

Sophomore Tavion Groves-Knox posted a sparkling victory over Divine Child's James Bird at 152.

"It was a close match, but Tavion absolutely controlled things on his feet; he made zero mistakes," said Rankin.

Junior Taz-don Moore shined at 160 against both his foes.

"Taz-don just kept shooting, shooting, shooting," said Rankin. "He's going to have a big year."

Junior Kenny Vadnais won his only match at 140 (he won by void in the other).

"Kenny is tenacious; he just keeps going," said Rankin.

Senior 215-pounder James

Beaubien won his only match with a second-round pin. Heavy-weight Josh Jozwiak lost his match, but he wrestled well, Rankin noted. Another potential state-qualifier is 189-pounder Isaac Grant, who starred for the Panthers' football team in the fall.

The Panthers will host the Panther Invitational on Dec. 19. The first matches are set for 10 a.m.

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BOYS HOCKEY



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Livonia Franklin's Brendan Whitney (No. 7) looks to fend off a check by Plymouth's Derek Szczepanik (No. 4) and send the puck toward Plymouth goalie Trevor McManus. Parked in front of the net are Chase Wallis of the Patriots and Zack Wiener of the Wildcats.

'Cats nearly claw back against Franklin

Patriots build 5-1 lead then hang on for victory

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Livonia Franklin's high-scoring top line built a seemingly insurmountable 5-1 lead Wednesday against Plymouth.

Scoring three of those goals was senior forward Chase Wallis, who also victimized Salem for a hat trick Dec. 5.

But then the host Patriots had to hang on for dear life as the Wildcats scored three times in 5:30 and came close to evening things up at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia.

Ultimately, an empty-netter by Trevor Lassaline with 15 seconds left gave Franklin a 6-4 KLA South boys hockey victory.

"They've been ripping it all year and, hopefully, we'll start getting our other lines to chip in," Franklin head coach Dennis Gagnon said about the line of Wallis, Lassaline and captain Brendan Whitney (who also scored Wednesday). "But that was a great game. Coach (Gerry) Vento does a great job with those guys; they never quit battling."

"We had the big lead, but they clawed back and made a great game out of it. Just another well-played high school hockey game."

Slow start hurts

Vento lamented getting outplayed the first two periods,



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Plymouth's Josh Weber (right) skates away after putting a hit on Livonia Franklin's Brendan Nutting.

although he credited his team (3-1 overall, 2-1 in the KLA South) for finishing strong.

"When we were down 4-1 in the second, I told the guys, 'Whether we win or lose at this point is irrelevant, it's how you respond to it in the third period,'" Vento said. "I thought they played a great third period, but you can't play one period and win a hockey game."

Sparking Plymouth's late charge was speedy senior forward Ricky Covault, who set up junior defenseman Joe Fontana (on the power play) and senior forward Jake Silvester with gritty plays down low to cut the Franklin lead to 5-3 with 5:24 to go in the third period.

After sophomore forward Josh Weber swiped in the re-

bound of a shot by junior forward Jack Chumley at 13:50, to make it a 5-4 contest, Plymouth continued to press for the equalizer.

A solid shift by Franklin senior defenseman Jack Engel slowed down the Wildcats' momentum, clearing the zone.

Then with 26 seconds to go and Plymouth goalie Brendan Olepa (who came in to play the third period) on the bench for the extra attacker, the Patriots won a face-off in their own zone and chipped the puck into the neutral zone.

From there, Whitney (one goal, three assists) slid the puck up to Lassaline for the empty-netter. Earning the second assist was Wallis, who already has 16 goals this season.

"I just chipped it up the boards to Whit, and Whit was the one who gave it to Trevor," Wallis said. "Congrats to Trevor, he deserves one."

Battling to the end

Covault said the late rally illustrated the Wildcats' will to compete no matter the circumstances.

"I think it just shows we got a lot of heart. We don't ever stop and we can't shut down just because we let in a couple goals," Covault said. "We got to bounce back and get more."

"I had energy, I think the boys were starting to get a little pumped up after we scored a couple of them. We thought we had it at the end, but then didn't win that last face-off and then they got in and scored (in) the empty net."

Earning the victory for Franklin (6-1, 2-1 in the KLA South) was freshman goaltender Jake Penny, who stopped 24 of 28 shots.

Starting for Plymouth was senior goalie Trevor McManus, victimized for four goals in the first two periods.

Vento absolved McManus of any blame for the loss, however, saying he changed goaltenders to try to jump-start his team.

"We deserved to be down 5-1; they took it to us," Vento said. "They were faster, they wanted it more, they were winning battles and if that happens long enough, you're going to be in that position."

Elite line

About the Franklin line of Wallis-Whitney-Lassaline, the

fifth-year Plymouth coach shook his head.

"That's a high-end line. They're big, physical, talented," Vento said. "That's a recipe for disaster when you're on the other side. They took it to us tonight. They controlled the play when they were on the ice and we didn't have an answer for them."

Plymouth actually went up 1-0 early on, when senior forward James Baldwin scored from Fontana and senior forward Kyle Kozler.

The Patriots got it right back on Wallis' first of the night, from Kolby DewHirst and Whitney.

After Brendan Nutting put Franklin in front 2-1 after one period, Wallis pumped in another goal with 1:47 to go in the second from Lassaline and Whitney.

"I owe them (his linemates) my success," Wallis said.

"They're always setting me up and I'm burying them."

Just over one minute later, Whitney scored an unassisted goal to put the Pats up 4-1. He skated out of the left corner and roofed a backhand from a sharp angle past McManus.

Franklin padded its lead to four goals with 12:27 remaining in the game on Wallis' third goal.

At that point it looked like a blowout might be in the works, but the Wildcats interfered with that narrative.

"We knew coming in who we were up against," Vento said. "We weren't surprised, we knew we were going to be in for a battle."

BOYS BASKETBALL

Lutheran Westland runs away from Frankel

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Lutheran Westland out-scored Frankel Jewish Academy 40-10 in the first and fourth quarters Friday on the way to a 63-41 triumph.

The victory improved the Warriors' record to 2-0.

Zach Burk had a huge night for the winners, posting 19 points and 14 rebounds. Luke Smith added 12 points and Brent Croft scored nine. Corey Barikmo had a stellar all-around game, recording six points, eight assists and eight boards.

Adam Schlussek proved hard to stop for Frankel as he poured

in a team-high 22 points. Jacob Viviano added 11.

"We finished around the rim a lot better tonight," LW head coach Jim Hoefft said. "Our guys continue to take what the defense gives them. We also took pretty good care of the ball."

"We haven't put four quarters together yet, but that's what makes me excited about this season. We have a lot of growing to do this season and I can't wait to see what this team is capable of. I'm really starting to see team basketball, which is what we've been preaching from day one."

Thurston upends Stevenson

Redford Thurston broke open a game that was tight early with a 27-point second quarter before cruising to an 86-71 triumph Friday over visiting Livonia Stevenson in a non-league contest.

The Eagles led just 18-15 after one quarter, but shifted into another gear in the second quarter, which led to a 45-33 halftime advantage. The Eagles led 69-52 with eight minutes to play.

"It was close early until we got it going in the second quarter," Thurston head coach Brian Bates said. "We hit three threes

in the second quarter and were able to get the game more to the pace we prefer."

The result left both teams with a 1-1 record.

Spencer Eddings led Stevenson with 16 points, but the story of the night for the Spartans was the sharp-shooting of junior guard Chris Tanderys, who nailed five 3-point shots in the second half and finished with 15 points.

D'eantae Jackson was the main man for Thurston, singing the nets for 23 points while securing 11 rebounds. Caebren Crabtree scored 22 points, while Brandon Marshall added 12 points and six assists.

Other key contributors for

the hosts were Dorian Naylor, who swatted away five Spartans shots, and Juan Fizer, who had three steals to spark the Eagles' defensive effort.

Plymouth wins

On Thursday, Plymouth prevailed against visiting Waterford Mott, 55-48.

Sparking the Wildcats to their second win in as many contests was Brent Davis, with 20 points.

Chipping in were Darius Timmons (nine points), Tariq Woody (seven points), Justin Nicholson (four points) and Julian LeDoux (four points).

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ED WRIGHT

Canton's Obi Okoli slams the ball home during a key third-quarter spurt in Friday night's game against Southfield-Lathrup.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Canton slams Southfield-Lathrup, 46-28

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The numbers that stretched to the right of Canton senior guard Obi Okoli's name on the stat sheet following Friday night's 46-28 victory over Southfield-Lathrup resembled a winning lottery ticket: 13 points, six rebounds, four steals, one blocked shot, one charge taken and one crowd-rousing slam dunk.

Bingo!

Okoli was one of the lone offensive standouts in a game that fans of the Pistons' Bad Boys era would have appreciated: not many uncontested shots, a lot of physicality and a battle for every rebound.

The Chiefs are now 2-0 following a season-opening week that matched them up against two talented, athletic teams (Canton defeated Detroit Country Day on Tuesday).

Canton's defense was in lock-down mode all night, holding the Chargers to 9-of-46 shooting from the field (19.5 percent).

"We make defense in practice the most important thing we do," Okoli said. "That way, when we play in a game, it seems easier than when we're practicing against ourselves."

Okoli said the team is bonding earlier than he originally thought it might.

"I didn't know how this team would look right away, but we've done great and we all get along great," he said. "We played all summer together, so that helped us build up chemistry early."

The Chiefs led the defen-



ED WRIGHT

A trio of Canton defenders (from left), Noah Brown, B. Artis White and Logan Ryan, converge on Southfield-Lathrup's Derek Bright.

sive-minded contest 26-17 at the half. The two teams combined for just nine points (Lathrup scored six, Canton three) in the entire third quarter, but two of the points came on Okoli's breakaway jam.

Early in the fourth quarter, with Lathrup trailing just 29-23, Okoli drew a hard charge that ignited an 11-2 run.

When asked what he was most proud of — the dunk or the charge — he smiled, then thought a few seconds before delivering an answer.

"Normally I'd say the charge, but it was my first dunk of the season, so I'll have to go with that," he said, grinning.

"Obi is a very good basketball player," Canton coach Jimmy Reddy said. "I thought he would have a good year. He was OK on Tuesday, but he was better tonight. He can bring the ball up for us, he's our best perimeter defender and he can finish at the rim."

Canton's 6-7 big man Logan Ryan was the only other player in the game to score in double digits (11). Ryan sat out big chunks of the second half due to foul trouble.

Lathrup matched Canton's athleticism, but couldn't get the ball to settle in the twine. Jerin McKay was the Chargers' leading scorer with just seven points. Derek Bright and Richared Owen added six points a piece.

Canton's Jalen Cochran scored just one point, but he was a beast on the boards, ripping down 11 rebounds.

Chris English knocked down two triples for the winners. The Chiefs connected on just 17-of-44 field-goal attempts, but they made 6-of-8 in the fourth quarter, when it counted the most.

The Chargers canned 11-of-18 free throws. Canton was 9-of-24 from the stripe.

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BOYS SWIMMING

Garden City sinks Franklin, 96-75

Crunk, Darocha lead Cougars to victory lane

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Visiting Garden City posted an impressive non-conference 96-75 victory Thursday over Livonia Franklin.

Dakota Darocha spearheaded the Cougars' stellar performance by winning the diving competition with 171 points and the 100-yard breaststroke in 1 minute, 21.49 seconds.

Darocha also swam the second leg for the Cougars' first-place 200 freestyle relay team, which also consisted of Adam Crunk, Roman Deron and Bryan Browne.

Crunk also earned gold in the 50 freestyle, winning in 26.96 seconds.

Other first-place finishers for the Cougars were Deron, who touched first in the 100 free in 1:04.60, and Brendan Laurendine, who won the 100 backstroke in 1:24.05.

The Patriots grabbed first-place points in two relays: the 200 medley, which included Ethan Nordstrom, Bryan Hives, Patrick Selix and Drew Niemiec; and the 400 free, which was fueled by strong

efforts from Nordstrom, Niemiec, Tim Champagne and Selix.

Individual winners for Franklin included Selix, who won the 200 free in 2:15.38 and the 100 butterfly in 1:08.03; and Nordstrom, who won the 200 individual medley (2:22.20) and the 500 free (5:38.87).

GARDEN CITY 96, FRANKLIN 75 Thursday at Franklin

200-yard medley relay: 1. Franklin (Ethan Nordstrom, Bryan Hives, Patrick Selix, Drew Niemiec), 2:22.20; 2. Garden City (Adam Crunk, Dakota Darocha, Bryan Browne, Roman Deron), 2:08.32; 3. Garden City, 2:20.98.

200 freestyle: 1. Patrick Selix (L.F.), 2:15.38; 2. Jacob Green (GC), 2:41.38; 3. Dominic Tomasi (GC), 2:50.76.

200 individual medley: 1. Ethan Nordstrom (L.F.), 2:22.20; 2. Bryan Browne (GC), 2:56.71; 3. Carlos Hernandez (L.F.), 3:30.58.

50 freestyle: 1. Adam Crunk (GC), 26.96; 2. Drew Niemiec (L.F.), 27.15; 3. Ian Tesarz (GC), 29.97.

1-meter diving: 1. Dakota Darocha (GC), 171 points.

100 butterfly: 1. Patrick Selix (L.F.), 1:08.03; 2. Bryan Browne (GC), 1:22.72; 3. Zach Witt (GC), 2:12.54.

500 freestyle: 1. Ethan Nordstrom (L.F.), 5:38.87; 2. Jacob Green (GC), 7:19.12; 3. Ian Tesarz (GC), 7:38.53.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Garden City (Adam Crunk, Dakota Darocha, Roman Deron, Bryan Browne), 1:56.26; 2. Garden City (Brendan Laurendine, Justin Do, Dominic Tomasi, Kyle Hubbard), 2:09.36; 3. Franklin, 2:19.49.

100 backstroke: 1. Brendan Laurendine (GC), 1:24.05; 2. Adam Crunk (GC), 1:25.69; 3. Tim Champagne (L.F.), 1:33.48.

100 breaststroke: 1. Dakota Darocha (GC), 1:21.49; 2. Bryan Hives (L.F.), 1:29.00; 3. Justin Do (GC), 1:38.10.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Franklin (Ethan Nordstrom, Drew Niemiec, Tim Champagne, Patrick Selix), 4:29.19; 2. Garden City (Roman Deron, Ian Tesarz, Dominic Tomasi, Jacob Green), 4:48.30.

BOYS SWIMMING PREVIEWS

Wayne, Franklin ready to test the waters

Both teams look to make waves in KLAASouth

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Attitude alone could take the Livonia Franklin boys swimming team a long way this winter.

"We have an energetic team," head coach Kevin Hafner said. "The boys have a strong desire to perform well and to race."

Hafner expects his team to be led by Ethan Nordstrom, Patrick Selix, Bryan Hives and Drew Niemiec, all of whom performed well in Thursday's home meet against Garden City.

On top of the list of promising new-comers are Noah Trackwell and Daven King.

Nordstrom placed fifth in the 500-yard freestyle in last year's KLAASouth Division meet and 24th in the 100 butterfly at the Kensington Conference meet this past March.

"The team will have strong leadership from the senior class," Hafner said.

Wayne Memorial

The Zebras are stocked with a solid nucleus of returning performers, according to head coach Mike Greuber.

"The thing I like the best about this year's team is the experience that we have," Greuber said. "Although I only have two seniors, we have nine juniors who for the most part are third-year swimmers."

"I like the cohesive nature of this team, they truly seem to like each other and want to do their part to make the team successful."

Expected to be among the Zebras' leaders in points earned this season are seniors Jacob Griffith and Tye Moore; juniors Arthur Aigeltinger, Blake Barber, Devlin Robinson and Kyle Swindlehurst; and sophomores Zackery Blair and Ta'Varus Lumpkin.

Promising newcomers include freshmen Kolby Hood and Brad Ballard; and juniors Jacob Clark, Steven Rupert and Fabrice Washington.

"My staff and I are anxious to see how this season plays out with so many holes to fill in our lineup," Greuber said.

CITY

Continued from Page B1

thrilled to have any one of them."

Churchill displayed a lot of promise in the lighter weights as Ethan Englehart (112) and Josh Mussen (119) won their weight classes. Englehart notched two pins while Mussen decisioned Franklin's Johnny Diponio, 8-4, in the 119 championship match.

The Chargers also picked up first-place points thanks to championship performances from Zach Leck at 160 and Collin Englehart at 189.

Clarenceville's lone titleist was 135-pounder Greg Lutz, who recorded a pair of pins on the way to earning tournament MVP honors.

When the mats were rolled up at the end of the night, the Patriots' depth and determination to regain the gold prevailed.

"Everyone chipped in for this win," Chiola said. "We had people wrestling out of weight to fill in holes, and freshmen wrestling prob-

ably before they were ready for varsity competition. Overall, I was very pleased. I think this is a good way to get the year started."

LIVONIA CITY WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

Wednesday at Stevenson
FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Franklin, 213.5 points; 2. Churchill, 182; 3. Stevenson, 102; 4. Clarenceville, 82.

103 pounds: 1. Howie Whittaker (F) pinned Jacob Weiss (CL) in 38 seconds; 3. Logan Schoppert (S) pinned Anthony Marchions (CH) in 37 seconds.

112: 1. Ethan Englehart (CH) pinned John Gusmano (S) in 2:34; 3. Connor Pieknik (F) pinned Jonathan Sanchez (CL) in 45 seconds.

119: 1. Josh Mussen (CH) decisioned Johnny Diponio (F), 8-4; 3. Taylor Droste (S) pinned Justin Fields (CL) in 45 seconds.

125: 1. Evan Jaynes (F) dec. Joseph Sanchez (CL), 5-3; 3. Isaih Kozak (CH) pinned Jack Sullivan (S) in 3:38.

130: 1. Carlos Ferreira (F) dec. Brian Walrad (CH), 8-7; 3. Dylk Hunter (CL) by default.

135: 1. Greg Lutz (CL) pinned Spencer Blanchard (CH) in 3:48; 3. Marino Diponio pinned Castor Rodgers (S) in 1:20.

140: 1. Jeremy Nelson (F) pinned Ryan Baldwin (S) in 1:15; 3. Connor McNally (CH) won by default.

145: 1. Kristo Cule (F) won by major dec., 11-3, over Tank Alcodray (S); 3. Blake Bersano (CH) won by default.

152: 1. Nathan Atienza (F) won by major dec., 15-3, over Chase Gardner (CH); 3. Collin Bowersox (S) dec. Dante Marrolo (CL), 7-4.

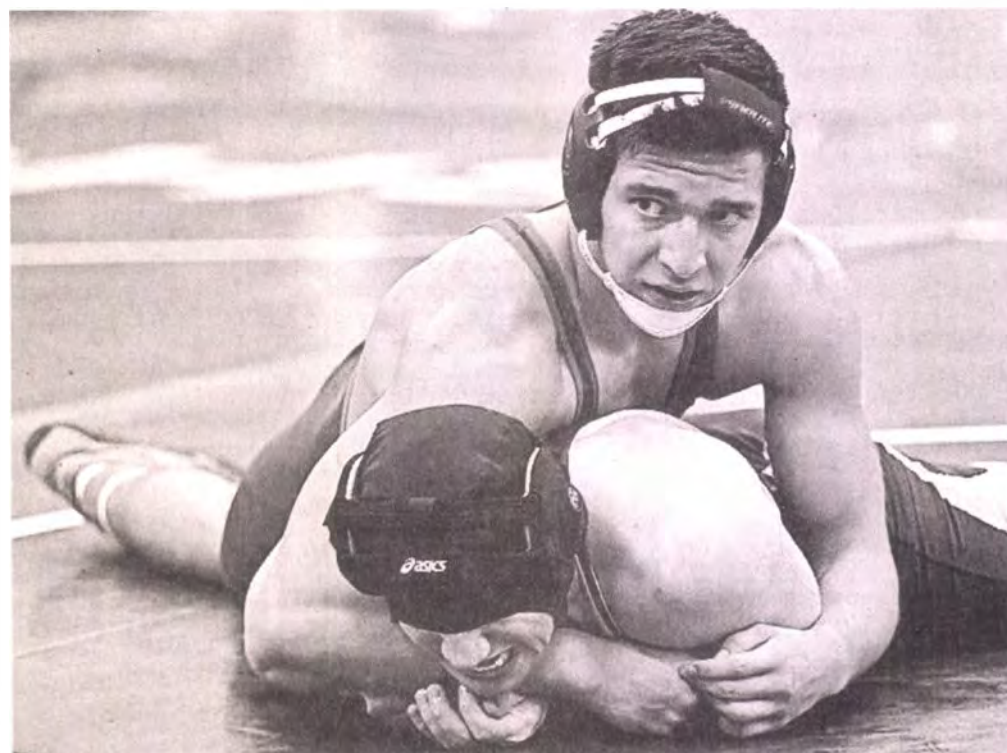
160: 1. Zack Leck (CH) pinned David Means (CL) in 1:36; 3. Jared Wilkinson (S) won by major dec., 14-5, over Richie Garcia (F).

171: 1. Andres Garza (F) dec. Aldo Bella (CH), 9-6; 3. Dante Lamb (S) pinned Kevin Johnson (CL) in 4:16.

189: 1. Collin Englehart (CH) pinned Emanuel Willie (F) in 3:05; 3. Dennis Austel (S) pinned Zack Ollerick (CL) in 5:10.

215: 1. Joe Fortin (F) won by major dec., 16-5, over James Ascott (CL); 3. Andrew Ferguson (CH) pinned Tyler Whiteside (S) in 47 seconds.

285: 1. Josh Retting (F) pinned Desard Deruishi (CH) in 1:31; 3. Devlin Kuschel (S) pinned Tristan Bennet (CL) in 28 seconds.



Franklin's Andres Garza earned first-place points.

TOM BEAUDOIN

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 14
Huron Valley at PCA, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 15
S.L. East at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at RU, 7 p.m.
Salem at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Dearborn at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Northville at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Edsel Ford at Thurston, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 17
Franklin at Salem, 7 p.m.
Truman at Garden City, 7 p.m.

Wayne at Northville, 7 p.m.
Churchill at Novi, 7 p.m.
Stevenson vs. Plymouth, 7 p.m.
John Glenn vs. S. Lyon, 7 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 14
Roeper at HVL, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 15
Churchill at Salem, 7 p.m.
Franklin at S.L. East, 7 p.m.
Thurston at Annapolis, 7 p.m.
RU at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Garden City at Dearborn, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Northville, 7 p.m.

Grosse Pointe North at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
Wayne at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 17
Novi at Churchill, 7 p.m.
S. Lyon at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Northville at Wayne, 7 p.m.
RU at Berkeley, 7 p.m.
Garden City at Truman, 7 p.m.
Salem at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Stevenson vs. Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 18
Oakland Christian at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Dec. 16
South Lyon at Churchill, 6 p.m.
O.L. St. Mary's at Stevenson, 8 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 17
Ladywood at Liggett Tourney, TBA
Friday, Dec. 18
Canton at Franklin, 6 p.m.
Brighton at Stevenson, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 19
Churchill at Bay City Central, 5:30 p.m.
Ladywood at Liggett Tourney, TBA

WRESTLING
Tuesday, Dec. 15
John Glenn at Riverview, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 16
Clarenceville, RU, Thurston at Annapolis quad, 5:30 p.m.
Wayne at Brighton, 5:30 p.m.
Garden City at Fordson, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 19
Redford Union Invitational, 10 a.m.
Wayne County Tourney, 9 a.m.
CO-ED BOWLING
Tuesday, Dec. 15
John Glenn at Plymouth, 3:30 p.m.

Wayne at Canton, 3:30 p.m.
Wayne at Grand Blanc, 3:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 18
John Glenn at Hartland, 3:30 p.m.
Brighton at Wayne, 3:30 p.m.
BOYS SWIMMING
Tuesday, Dec. 15
Churchill at W.L. Central, 6:30 p.m.
Annapolis at RU, 4 p.m.
Thurston at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.
Garden City at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 17
Wayne at Allen Park, 6:30 p.m.
Annapolis at Garden City, 5:30 p.m.

GYMNASTICS
Tuesday, Dec. 15
Livonia Red at Huron Valley, 6:30 p.m.
W.L. Western at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 17
Livonia Blue at Brighton/Howell, 6:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 18
Plymouth Invitational, 6:30 p.m.

Supporters make Chocolate Jubilee a sweet success to the tune of \$2 million

This season's holiday parties are filled with good cheer and good will and the Chocolate Jubilee was certainly no exception.

Held at the MGM Grand in Detroit, the Chocolate Jubilee brought in more than 500 supporters who raised closed to \$2 million for the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Michigan Chapter.

"It is so important for people to be aware of Alzheimer's as a disease, since it's being diagnosed earlier and earlier in people. We have to find a cure," said Marni Barnett, Chocolate Jubilee co-chair for her second year.

Nobody knows that better than John Wood, an artist and teacher who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's at age 45. Wood was the keynote speaker at the black-tie dinner and strolling chocolate dessert reception.

"The day I received the Michigan Media Arts Teacher of the Year Award was the same day I turned in my driver's license at the Secretary of State," said Wood, who was forced into early retirement. "I was a threat to myself and my students. My dreams were over."

Soon after his diagno-



Julie Yolles

SOCIAL SCENE

sis, Wood enrolled in the "Safe Return Program" at the Alzheimer's Association. The Safe Return Program is a 24/7 service that helps a person with Alzheimer's who has become lost, reunite with his or her loved ones.

Meet Me @ the BBAC

And just a few weeks ago, also through the Alzheimer's Association, Wood attended a special program called Meet Me @ the BBAC, put on at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. A grant-funded program, patterned after the Meet Me @ the MOMA (Museum of Modern Art) in New York City, it is administered by the Alzheimer's Association for patients and their caregivers with early-stage and mid-stage Alzheimer's.

Several area care organizations and residential groups have their patients and caregivers participate, including clients from Senior Helpers in Farmington Hills, owned and sponsored by Barbara Roden. Roden, who is on the board of the



Attending the Chocolate Jubilee on behalf of Farmington Hills-based Better Life Homecare are Brenda and Howard Rosenberg, CFO; Amy Miller, director of client care; and Tasha Schurgin and her husband Brian, owner of Better Life Homecare.

Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter, hosts her clients and their caregivers once a month at the BBAC.

"Art is still something that people with dementia can use creatively," she said.

Contact Julie Yolles at socialscenejulie@gmail.com or leave a message at 248-642-9465.



JULIE YOLLES

Margie Krasnick of Huntington Woods, Henrietta Hermelin Weinberg of Southfield, Lois Rubin of Farmington Hills and Judy Rosenberg of Birmingham



JULIE YOLLES

Fran Yee of Troy and Plymouth residents Joleen Firek and Jennifer Johnson enjoy the Chocolate Jubilee.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Holiday deadlines are subject to change.



BERRY, THOMAS H.

Born August 19, 1941, passed away Wednesday, November 18, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Judith A. Berry; his three daughters Barbara, Nancy and Beverly; his four granddaughters, Megan, Heidi, Laura and Lindsay; and his mother, Dorothy Berry-Fifield. Thomas retired from Livonia Public Schools as a Vocational Building Trades Instructor. He also is a retired painter, realtor and shooting instructor. As a lifetime NRA member Tom enjoyed gun collecting, target shooting, hunting, fishing and watching wildlife from his back windows. His priority was spending time with family and friends and making people laugh. He will be missed by all who knew him. Funeral services December 29th at St. Joseph Catholic Church in South Lyon, MI at 11 am. Donations can be made to Michigan Humane Society in lieu of flowers.



KENNEDY, SANDRA

We mourn the loss of Sandra Jean Kennedy, known by her family as Sam, who died peacefully at home on November 25th, 2015. Born on August 26th, 1940 in Pontiac, Michigan to Christine MacDonald (Merrill Connors) and Eugene Wenzloff, Sandra grew up in Kingston, Michigan and Detroit, Michigan. Mother to eight and grandmother to fifteen, she is lovingly missed by her devoted husband of over fifty years, Lawrence Kennedy. Sandra received her Bachelors degree from the University of Michigan in 1962 and a Masters degree from Wayne State University. A passionate advocate for reading and education, Sandra worked for many school districts in the Detroit area as a teacher and counselor. Returning to devote her time to teaching after years of raising a family, Sandra worked at Seton Hall preschool and East Catholic High School. She will be fondly remembered by many for her selflessness, her love of children and books, her intelligent wisdom and kind love, and her unending compassion and generosity. She is survived by her husband: Lawrence Kennedy of Bingham Farms, MI; daughters Christine Kennedy of Bingham Farms, MI, Carolyn Burley (Les) of New Baltimore, MI, Dana Abbasse (Darin) of Lake Orion, MI, Susan Jones (Aaron) of Louisville, KY, Karen von Kluge (Jason) of Ann Arbor, MI; sons: James Kennedy of Sheffield, MA, Michael Kennedy of Eastpointe, MI, Lawrence Kennedy (Leina) of Stockholm, Sweden; fifteen grandchildren: Ty, Elaine, Emily, Nolan, Kirstyn, Claire, Madeline, James, Will, Rider, Luke, Timo, Cameron, Lawrence, Lincoln and her brother and sister: Jim Wenzloff (Janie) and Carolyn Wallace (Jack) In remembrance of Sandra, a Mass will be held on December 16th at 10am at the National Shrine of the Little Flower Church (2100 W. 12 Mile Rd. in Royal Oak, MI 48073) followed by prayers of committal at the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery (25800 W 10 Mile Rd. Southfield, MI 48033).



BLIGHT, WILLIAM D., JR.,

Age 88, December 9, 2015. Beloved husband of Sally for 54 years. Loving father of Lori Peterson (Tim) and Rodney Blight. Cherished grandfather of Christopher, Caitlin, Tiffany, Leila and Hannah. Memorial Service 4 p.m. Sunday, December 20th, at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., Farmington (1 blk. W. of Farmington Rd.). Visitation on Sunday, December 20th, from 1 p.m. until the 4 p.m. service. Memorial contributions may be made to Heartland Hospice or the Humane Society of Huron Valley in Ann Arbor. www.thayer-rock.com

ETHERINGTON, JANET

Age 55. Died unexpectedly on Tuesday, December 8, 2015. Janet will now be teaching and enriching lives at Wayne State University. We love you so much, Janet!!!!



JULIE YOLLES

DeShonda Whitaker, Matique Graham and Felicia Moore of Cake Luv in downtown Farmington, who made custom cakes and gourmet cupcakes that were served at Chocolate Jubilee.



JULIE YOLLES

Bloomfield Hills residents Sandra and Dr. Martin Tessler and Karen Kahn of Farmington Hills.



JULIE YOLLES

Diane Zide Whitmore, executive director of operations for Botsford Commons Senior Community in Farmington Hills; and Redford residents Kevin Snyerski and Cheryl Dzikowski, who is the Senior Living services coordinator for Botsford Commons Senior Community in Farmington Hills.



May you find peace in your time of sorrow.

Christmas play mixes music, contemporary plot, history

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Merriman Road Baptist Church will give the traditional Christmas play a fresh twist when it presents *Christmas In His Presence* Dec. 19-20.

"It's not your typical Christmas play," said Russ Weathers, who works with the drama ministry at the Garden City church.

A cast, crew and choir of approximately 100 church members will present the story of a lonely chaplain who struggles to find the meaning of Christmas while settling into his new home on an overseas military base. His predecessor has left behind books by historical figures such as Helen Keller and Charles Wesley. As the chaplain reads them out loud, the authors appear on stage to share their discovery of Christmas in the midst of adversity.

"It is a little different kind of story, but it is a real story. Many people in this season feel out of sorts, and are wrestling with that. It's answering the question, why be joyful and happy, how could I be with what is happening to me?" said Rev. Wayne Parker, senior pastor.

"What is neat is to have historical figures, like Helen Keller, who writes about disappointments, but also about how she saw God bless her in the midst of those disappointments. It's very encouraging and reminds us that the season of Christmas is not just about all good things, but about hope. Happiness is not a giddy feeling, but it is joy and hope."

Parker said he chose the play for both its story and music.

"We've got a great choir and most of its members are trained musicians. You've got to have good music."

The cast includes Brian Wade, Rev. Dave Ferraro, Pat Aynes, Pam Hensley and Kayla Boehringer, all of Garden



Jerry Dahlen of Inkster portrays Charles Wesley in Merriman Road Baptist Church's Christmas program.



Pat Aynes of Garden City portrays Helen Keller, one of several historical figures that appears in "Christmas in His Presence."



Evan, Lauren and Logan Parker portray Joseph, Mary and Jesus.

City, Terry Crouson, Russ Weathers and Katie Miller, all of Livonia, and Jerry Dahlen of Inkster. Evan, Lauren and

Logan Parker of Belleville portray the living nativity. Performances are at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19 and 6 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 20 at the church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City. Admission is free. 734-421-0472.

RELIGION CALENDAR

DECEMBER

ADVENT CANTATA

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. worship services, Dec. 13

Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Adult and children's choirs, handbells, brass and string instruments, along with scripture

Contact: christoursavior.org; 734-522-6830

ADVENT PROGRAM

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 16

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Gary Michuta, author and Catholic apologist, will explain the Sacrifice of the Mass and its meaning

Contact: 734-261-1455, ext. 200; livonia@michael.org

ADVENT SERVICE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 16

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

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

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

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 16

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road, Livonia

Details: This service is for individuals who struggle with the holidays, including those who are grieving or dealing with a job loss. A coffee reception with care ministers will follow the service

Contact: 734-422-1470

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 20

Location: St. Thodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: French toast, pancakes, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, team milk, juice and a visit with Santa; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children, 2-10

Contact: 734-425-4421

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Time/Date: Blue Christmas Service, 7 p.m. Dec. 21; Christmas Eve services, 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City

Contact: 734-427-3660

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 24, 9:30 a.m. Dec. 25

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: Family service is Christmas Eve

Contact: 313-532-8655

See RELIGION, Page B8



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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
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Artist turns clay into steampunk-style sculptures

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Steampunk...when sci-fi meets the Victorian era. Brian Goins of Westland is a master of the art style. He incorporates gears, vacuum tubes and other found objects into metallic-looking polymer clay animal figures.

"Steampunk is right up my alley. Steampunk has a goldish, vintage look...watch gears and clock gears. Steampunk also is leather and straps. All of my characters have goggles or I make them look like wind-up toys. The weirder I make it, the more I sell."

His steampunk wedding cake topper features a bride and groom wearing gas masks. A used carburetor became the foundation of a sculpture called Motor City Rat, complete with clay, steampunk rodent.

"I like doing funky stuff," he said.

Goins is selling his steampunk sculptures, wall hangings, jewelry and magnets noon-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the DIYpsi 2015 Holiday Market, in the Riverside Art Center, 76 N. Huron, in Ypsilanti. The indie art fair includes nearly 90 vendors selling handmade items including paper goods, ceramics, jewelry, and apparel.

New career

Goins, whose art runs \$10-\$400, left home care nursing to become a full time artist two years ago. He works out of a basement studio in the home he shares with his partner and four cats.

He always had a flair for art and enjoyed painting and drawing. He took art classes in high school but put his creative work on hold while pursuing a nursing career, first in Florida and then back home in Michigan.



The strap around the bird's neck and face may look like leather but is made from polymer clay.



Westland artist Brian Goins attains a metallic look by mixing different colors of polymer clay.

"I was going up north one day and was in the car and I told my partner I wanted to start doing art again, and I wanted to start it again in clay."

Polymer clay

He read a book on the subject, tried his hand at wheel-throwing, but found his niche in polymer clay. He taught himself to work with the medium, sometimes using a pasta machine to soften and create sheets of clay.

"It's a low-fire, lightweight clay. I have an oven in my basement," he said. Some artists also use toaster ovens to firm and dry their work.

He developed his steampunk style when a friend gave him a book on the topic five years ago.

Goins taught classes at Maxwell's Art and Treasures in Garden City for several years, and has shown his work at galleries in Royal Oak and Saugatuck, in addition to running a store on Etsy.com. Now he's focusing on art shows. He has participated in the Funky Ferndale Art Fair, Berkley Art Bash, and the Wyandotte Street Art Fair. It's his first



Brian Goins of Westland creates steampunk-style sculptures, made of polymer clay and found objects.

time at the DIYpsi Holiday Market.

"I do all kinds of other art shows and was on the wait list.

They put me in the show and I'm glad they did," he said. "I haven't done Plymouth (Art in the Park) but I'd like to. May-

be next year."

For more information about the DIYpsi Holiday Market, visit diypsi.com.

Guide to Employment

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Psychic Kristy Robinett kicks off radio call-in series

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer



Psychic medium Kristy Robinett of Livonia

Here's your chance to tap into the supernatural for free advice.

Kristy Robinett will bring her psychic abilities to the Detroit airwaves beginning Monday, Dec. 14. She'll answer listeners' questions during a monthly segment, *Medium Mondays*, in the 7 a.m. hour on WDV-FM's (96.3) *The Blaine Fowler Show*.

"I used to host my own Internet show for a number of years and worked for KISS-FM in Oklahoma and did a segment similar to what I'll be doing with Blaine," said Robinett, a Livonia resident and psychic

would do life coaching tips. This will be actually taking calls."

Robinett said she did a radio segment for a station in Bowling Green, Ohio last week and fielded questions about such topics as "I think my house is haunted," "My brother committed suicide and we don't know why," and "I missed saying good-bye to my mom. Is she mad at me?"

During *Medium Mondays* a staff member will ask callers their name and a summary of their question before connecting them with Robinett on the air. She hopes that will avert potential problem calls like the murder confession she received many years ago during

a radio show.

"They were worried the person they killed were mad at them. Uh, kinda. It doesn't take a psychic to know that," she said, adding that law enforcement subsequently became involved in the incident.

Lifelong medium

Robinett began encountering spirit guides and ghosts as a youngster. Today she combines life coaching and psychic skills to help clients in one-on-one counseling sessions — in person or by telephone — and in group events. She aids law enforcement agencies, attorneys and private investigators with cold cases and has written several books about

her experiences as a psychic medium. *Restless Souls*, a television show about her work on a missing persons case, occasionally runs on the ID network. A new show about her work will air next month in Japan.

Robinett said she sees spirit energy as a physical form in her "mind's eye" when responding to questions by telephone.

"There is no time nor distance with energy. It doesn't matter if someone is in front of me or 500 miles away on the phone. I still get the information through the voice," she said.

Tune in to *Medium Mondays* on Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 7 and April 11.

ENGAGEMENT



Jenna Abraham and Dillon Rahill

Abraham-Rahill

Jenna Abraham and Dillon Rahill announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Doug and Kathy Abraham of Northville, graduated from Plymouth Christian Academy in 2013. She is a senior at the University of Michigan.

Her fiancé, son of Alex and Marie Rahill of Canton, graduated from Plymouth Christian Academy in 2012. He is a senior at Spring Arbor University.

A summer 2016 wedding is planned.

RELIGION

Continued from Page B6

COMMUNITY CAROL SING

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20

Location: Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth

Details: Features The Salvation Army Concert Band, refreshments served after the concert at First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St., Plymouth

Contact: Jerry Smith at 734-453-6464, ext. 119

HYMN FESTIVAL

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 W. Five Mile, Livonia

Details: The choirs of Holy Trinity and St. John Lutheran Church in Farmington present a Christmas hymn festival, "Holy Light." Directors Ann Buland and Troy Nelson will lead the mass choir, supported by Dale Love and Lisa Hartge, accompanists. A free will offering will be accepted and a reception will follow the concert

Contact: 734-464-0211

WINTER SOLSTICE

Time/Date: 7:15 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19

Location: The Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301 Halsted, Farmington Hills

Details: Rev. Leonetta Bugleisi leads a color-themed solstice ritual that celebrates "the longest night." The story theme is "Silver-Blue Solstice: A Walk in Nature Across Time." The celebration includes soloists, story, meditation, ritual, dance and visuals

Contact: 248-478-7272; uuFarmington.org

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Our Lady of Loretto

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

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday, through May

Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Gary Michuta, author and Catholic apologist, leads a study of Isaiah. Bring your own Bible

Contact: 734-261-1455, ext 200; www.livoniastmichael.org

Faith Community Wesleyan

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

Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia

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

Contact: pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

EXERCISE

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

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

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

Contact: 313-408-3364

FAMILY MEAL

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

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

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

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

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

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

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

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

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

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

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

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

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

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

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

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

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

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

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church

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

Location: Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia

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

Contact: Parish office at 734-464-1223

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

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

Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

RECYCLING

RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

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

Contact: Lynn Hapman at 734-466-9023

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Canton foundation continues scholarship tradition

By Brad Kahlisch

When Canton Community Foundation announced that it had awarded \$100,000 in scholarships to 20 students, it was a testament to the foundation's long history of supporting education in the community.

The foundation, which was established in 1964, has awarded more than \$10 million in scholarships to over 1,000 students since its inception.

This year's recipients include students from across the region, including several from local high schools.

The foundation's scholarship program is one of its most popular initiatives, and it continues to attract attention from donors and the community.

For more information, visit www.cantoncommunityfoundation.org

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Presented by leading wellness expert **Dr. Lisa Sullivan, ND**

Wednesday, January 28th or Thursday 11th at 6:00 pm

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• Learn what causes 90% of HPTs
• Why missing lab tests are wrong
• Why simply taking thyroid medication may not improve your condition
• What Really Works to improve your condition. Safely. Healthfully!

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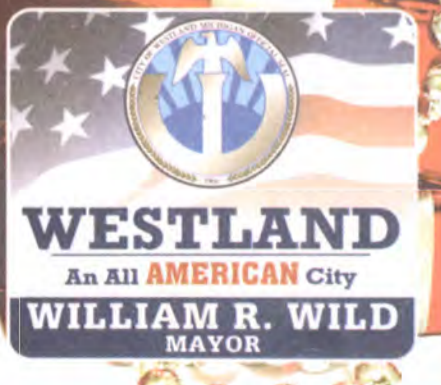
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Looking to Get Out of Your Lease Early?

The Ford Early Bird Program Has Been Extended!

If you are nearing the end of your lease, don't make your next payment until you to talk to us! For a **LIMITED TIME** you may be able to get out of your current Ford lease early and waive up to **FOUR** of your last remaining payments.**

NEW 2015 Ford Focus SE Sedan



24 Month Lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee and lease renewal

\$144* per month with \$1,000 Down Buy For \$16,354+ MSRP \$22,630

Featuring: Equipment Package 201A, 2.0L GDI 14 Engine, 6-Speed Automatic Transmission, SE Appearance Package, Ambient Lighting, Cruise Control, Fog Lamps, Perimeter Alarm, Power Windows & Locks, Rear Window Defroster, Remote Keyless Entry, SIRIUS Satellite Radio*, SYNC* with MyFord*

NEW 2016 Ford Fusion SE



24 Month Lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee and lease renewal

\$136* per month with \$1,000 Down Buy For \$18,759+ MSRP \$27,110

Featuring: Equipment Package 200A, Front Wheel Drive, 1.5L EcoBoost* Engine, 6-Speed Automatic Transmission, Cruise Control, Rear View Camera, Rear Window Defroster, Remote Keyless Entry, SIRIUS* Satellite Radio, SYNC* with MyFord*

NEW 2016 Ford Escape SE



24 Month Lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee and lease renewal

\$143* per month with \$1,000 Down Buy For \$19,907+ MSRP \$28,155

Featuring: Equipment Package 201A, Front Wheel Drive, 1.6L EcoBoost* Engine, 6-Speed Automatic Transmission, Cruise Control, Perimeter Alarm, Rear View Camera, Rear Window Defroster, Remote Keyless Entry, Reverse Sensing System, SIRIUS* Satellite Radio, SYNC* Gen 3 with MyFord*

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24 Month Lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee and lease renewal

\$252* per month with \$1,000 Down Buy For \$30,817+ MSRP \$44,145

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NEW 2015 Ford Edge SEL



24 Month Lease

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\$271* per month with \$1,000 Down Buy For \$28,733+ MSRP \$35,945

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NEW 2016 Ford Explorer XLT



36 Month Lease

Security deposit waived, plus tax and license, includes acquisition fee and lease renewal

\$317* per month with \$1,000 Down Buy For \$32,144+ MSRP \$38,615

Featuring: Equipment Package 202A, Front Wheel Drive, 3.5L Ti-VCT V6 Engine, 6-Speed Automatic Transmission, Cruise Control, Forward Sensing System, Intelligent Access w/Push Button Start, Rear View Camera, Reverse Sensing System, Remote Keyless Entry, Remote Start System, SYNC* with MyFord Touch*

* All payments and prices are for qualifying A1Z Planners. For qualifying non (not new) A1Z Planners an additional \$800 to \$1500 down would be required to keep the payments or price the same. 10,500 miles per year. To buy for price add tax, title, doc and destination fee. All factory rebates assigned to dealer including previous lease, and may require Ford Credit financing. Not all buyers will qualify for lowest payments. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Subject to availability. Payments and prices per program in effect at publication and are subject to change. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 01/04/2016.

** Early Bird Program is effective 12/01/2015 through 01/04/2016. For current Ford Credit RCL/RCO customers. Up to four (4) waived payments with a maximum of \$2,400 with a scheduled lease termination date from 01/01/2016 through 04/30/2016 on C-Max, Escape, Fiesta, Focus and Fusion. Must lease or purchase with Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the Early Bird Program. Past due payments, payment extensions and deferred payments beyond the original agreement are not eligible. Excess wear/mileage are customer's responsibility. Customers must take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 01/04/2016.

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