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Wayne looks at how to fix deficit

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

The facts about Wayne's finances are well known: property values dropped 40 percent since 2008, which caused tax revenues to plummet; the deficit is continuing to grow; and the city is projected to run out of money in 2017.

"At the end of the budget presentation, I will ask 'What are you willing to do?'" said Brian Camiller of Plante Moran. "I can't tell you what to do. There are a lot of options. Not all of them are great, some are painful. A series of hard decisions need to be made."

Camiller and Tim McCurley made the budget presentation at what is to be the first of a number of meetings on the budget with the public.

"This is for you. We will have another meeting. We don't want the city to tell you what we should do — that didn't work," said City Manager Lisa Nocerini, referring to failed millage requests. "It's your dollars, your city, your public services."

Responding to questions, Camiller said Wayne is already on the state watchlist of financially distressed cit-

ies. Without a change in the current financial situation, that means Wayne could end up entering a consent decree with the state or an emergency financial manager, he said.

"Detroit was the first city allowed to file for bankruptcy. I can't imagine the governor allowing another city to go

See BUDGET, Page A2



Raymond King, 7, of Garden City checks the taste of the icing as he decorates his holiday cookies Thursday night in Garden City.

TOM BEAUDOIN

Jaycees donate to local veterans

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Area groups assisting veterans have benefited from a charity 5K run/walk sponsored by the Westland Area Jaycees.

"This was a wonderful project with over 200 participants and nearly \$10,000 raised," Westland Area Jaycees President Jim Hart said of the Veterans Day 5K.

A ceremonial check presentation was recently held at the Westland City Council meeting.

The largest donation, \$7,000, went to Veterans Haven, which assists veterans with housing, food, clothing and other services through an outreach center in Wayne.

"Oh my God, that's fantastic. This will buy a lot of food," said Judy Berna,

See VETERANS, Page A2



Judy Berna of Veterans Haven (left) and Westland Area Jaycees President Jim Hart with a ceremonial check.

WLND

Haul out the baking sheets!

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

"Cookie Decorating & Craft Night" was on tap the evening of Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Garden City Library, offering fun for kids the yummy way.

With the holidays here, the *Observer* contacted Mary Denning, former owner of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland, for some terrific cookie recipes to try. Denning was raised in Westland, lived in Garden City and now calls Howell home. She and husband Charlie also have a Florida home, and she notes, "Life is good!"

She retired last year from teaching at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn. Why not try some of these tempting treats from your home kitchen?



Garden City resident Haylie Sapp decorates her holiday cookies at the Garden City Library Thursday night.

TOM BEAUDOIN



Garden City Youth Services librarian Erin Look gets the cookies and decorations ready for a fun night at the library Thursday night.

TOM BEAUDOIN

See COOKIES, Page A2

'Force Awakens' brings out Star Wars fans in droves

The State Wayne Theater hosted around-the-clock showings of the highly anticipated *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* starting Thursday night.

"The first show is 7 p.m. Dec. 17 and it will run for 30 hours with continuous shows until after the midnight shows into Dec. 19," Phoenix Theaters owner Cory Jacobson said prior to the showings.

"People are excited. We're getting a good response from people who work odd shifts and can't be there for the 7 p.m. opening."

The same showing schedule was offered at Phoenix's other theaters, including the cinema at Laurel Park in

See STAR WARS, Page A4



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COOKIES

Continued from Page A1

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

Yield: 30 cookies, Baking time: 12 to 14 min., Temperature: 350 degrees

Ingredients:
 1 cup softened butter
 3/4 cup brown sugar
 3/4 cup granulated sugar
 2 eggs
 2 1/2 cups flour
 1 tsp. salt
 1 tsp. baking soda
 2 cups chocolate chips

Directions:
 Cream the butter and sugars with mixer. Add eggs and beat until light. Mix dry ingredients together and add to egg mix-

ture. Mix just until dry is incorporated. Do not over-mix! Add chocolate chips. Chill dough in refrigerator 20 minutes. Scoop onto parchment lined sheet pan. Bake just until set. DO NOT OVERBAKE.

Note: Dough can be stored covered in refrigerator for up to 7 days.

PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

Yield: 36 cookies, Baking time: 12 to 14 min., Temperature: 350 degrees

Ingredients:
 1 cup softened butter
 1 cup brown sugar
 1 cup granulated sugar
 1 1/2 cup peanut butter
 2 eggs
 1 tsp. vanilla
 1 tsp. baking soda
 2 1/2 cups flour

1/2 tsp. salt

Directions:
 Cream butter, sugars and peanut butter with mixer. Add eggs and vanilla and beat until light. Mix dry ingredients together and add to egg mixture. Mix just until dry is incorporated. Do not over-mix! Chill in refrigerator 20 minutes. Scoop onto parchment lined sheet pan. Press each cookie with fork dipped in sugar. Bake until set. DO NOT OVERBAKE.

GLUTEN-FREE PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

Yield: 18 cookies, Baking time: 15 min., Temperature: 350 degrees

Ingredients:
 1 cup peanut butter

1 egg
 1 cup granulated sugar
 1 tsp. vanilla

Directions:
 Mix peanut butter and sugar together. Add egg and vanilla. Drop cookies onto an un-greased cookie sheet with a teaspoon. Flatten with fork dipped in sugar.

BUTTER COOKIE (M&M OR CUT-OUT COOKIE)

Yield: 30 cookies, Baking time: 12 to 14 min., Temperature: 375 degrees

Ingredients:
 2 cups room-temperature butter
 1 cup sugar
 1 tsp. vanilla
 2 eggs
 5 1/2 cups flour

1/2 tsp. salt

Directions:
 Cream the butter and sugar with mixer. Add eggs and vanilla and beat until light. Mix dry ingredients together and add to egg mixture. Mix just until dry is incorporated. Do not over-mix! Chill dough in refrigerator 20 minutes. Scoop onto parchment lined sheet pan and press M&M candies into cookie or roll dough on floured sheet and cut out cookies. Note: Dough can be stored covered in refrigerator for up to 7 days.

PECAN SANDY COOKIES

Yield: 36 cookies, Baking time: 10 to 12 min., Temperature: 350 degrees

Ingredients:
 2 cups room-temperature butter
 1 cup granulated sugar
 2 tsp. vanilla
 4 cups flour
 2 cups chopped pecans

Directions:
 Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy with mixer. Add vanilla. Add flour and pecans and mix until blended. Do not over-mix! Chill dough in refrigerator 20 minutes. Scoop onto parchment lined sheet pan. Press each cookie with a glass or the palm of your hand to about 1/2 inch thick. Place a half pecan in center of cookie. Bake until set or until slightly brown around edges.

All recipes submitted by Mary Denning.

BUDGET

Continued from Page A1

into bankruptcy or negotiating for a deal to with vendors," Camiller said. "That doesn't work. The vendors have no incen-

tive to negotiate." The city has a structural deficit, he said, which is when expenditures that can't be controlled exceed revenues.

"In 2009, the city started feeling the impact of the real estate crash. The city lost \$6 million a year

in revenue," Camiller said. "Imagine how many employees that is, how many fire trucks, police cars and cool programs at the community center."

To try and address the reduced revenues, Camiller said the city cut staffing below a bare-bones level and reduced many remaining workers to part-time hours.

For example, the Wayne Police Department had 44 officers 10 years ago and is now budgeted for 24 officers — currently there are only 22 officers. The fire department is down to 12 firefighters from 20 firefighters with a chief shared with Westland,

which provides other command and administrative staff.

The city has taken other steps such as privatizing the Wayne Community Center leasing it to HYPE Athletics.

"When you spend more than what you bring in, you use your savings. The city is quickly running out," Camiller said. "The gap (between revenues and expenditures) is closing with more steps taken but it is not sustainable."

And that doesn't include \$82 million in unfunded legacy costs for city retirees. The current annual contribution is \$3.2 million but that is

expected to more than double to \$7 million in 2022.

"We are pretty well locked into that. I'm not shaken by much. I've worked in places with worse problems — an emergency financial manager and you were afraid to walk down the street," Camiller said. "This is scary."

The city can't make decide to raise the millage to dramatically raise revenues, Camiller said, noting voters had rejected proposals to levy a 345 police-fire retirement fund millage.

As part of efforts to get a better picture of city finances, Camiller

said 14 funds were closed and any money was distributed to the appropriate remaining fund. "That discussion about other pots of money goes away. Those pots are gone. If the money is in one pot, there are no more questions," he said.

The next meeting date hadn't been set yet but more budget discussions are anticipated. "We want to be open and work as a team. That's the only way to solve this," Nocerini said.

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

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VETERANS

Continued from Page A1

wife of Veterans Haven founder and president Vince Berna, who accepted the check.

Receiving checks for \$500 each were the Freedom Center, which provides a place for veterans to eat and relax at Detroit Metro Airport, and to Camp Liberty, which provides inclusive outdoor recreation programs that aid in the reintegration of U.S. military service members, veterans and their families, with an empha-

sis on assisting those with post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injuries.

Along with the 5K participants who paid an entry fee, money was also raised by sponsorships.

» Five Star General Level Sponsor: UAW Local 900.

» One Star General Level Sponsor: Dr. Amanda Apfelblat, Michigan Chiropractic Specialists.

» Colonel Level Sponsor: Men on the Move - Gary Bulson.




Sponsors of the Westland Area Jaycees Veterans Day 5K and recipients of the money raised joined president Jim Hart (center) for a check presentation.

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CITY OF LIVONIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 4 of Act 207 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1921, as amended, the City Zoning Act (MSA 5.2934; MCLA 125.584) as well as Article XXIII of Ordinance No. 543, as amended, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, the Council has determined that a Public Hearing will take place before the Council of the City of Livonia on **Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.**, in the Auditorium at City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, with respect to the following item:

Petition 2015-11-01-10 submitted by McLaren Performance Technologies requesting to rezone a portion of the property located on the south side of Eight Mile Road between Parker Avenue and Hubbard Road, (32233 Eight Mile Road) in the Northeast 1/4 of Section 3, from R-3 (One Family Residential) to P (Parking), without any conditions.

ADRIANE D. SPENCER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Published: December 20, 2015 LO-0000267003 3x2.5

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The force is with Erron Reed of Westland, Dennis Billings of Harper Woods and Dennis Gibson of Garden City as they relax before the start of the movie, "The Force Awakens" that opened Thursday night in downtown Wayne.

TOM BEAUDOIN

STAR WARS

Continued from Page A1

Livonia and in Monroe. "We have new big screens at the Wayne. There are wall-to-wall screens in two auditoriums," Jacobson said last week.

"It has Dolby 7.1, so there will be great sound and a great picture."

A bright new LED marquee is another upgrade for the State Wayne, located on Michigan Avenue, west of Wayne Road, in downtown Wayne. Many shows were sellouts, with eager fans enjoying the camaraderie and the new story.

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TOM BEAUDOIN

Eric Reyna and girlfriend Emma Stevenson of Livonia have the popcorn ready as the excitement builds to the start of the Star Wars movie, "The Force Awakens" that opened at movie theaters Thursday night.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Brandon Moss of Plymouth stands in line Thursday night as he is ready to see the highly anticipated new Star Wars movie, "The Force Awakens," at the State Wayne Theater.

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Learn to skate at GC arena, enjoy open skating

The Garden City Figure Skating Club will hold a free Learn To Skate class from noon to 12:50 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, at Garden City Civic Arena.

This class is open to all ages and skate rental is free, courtesy of the Garden City Civic Arena. The class will include a 25-minute small group lesson with coaches and a 25-minute large group lesson with coaches.

The Garden City arena will also host open skating during

school winter break. Sessions run 1:30-3 p.m. Dec. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30. Adults pay \$4.50, kids 15 and under \$3.50, with rental skates \$2.50.

The arena also offers Saturday "Glow Skate" 7-9 p.m. with admission \$5.50 per adult, \$4.50 per kid, with \$2.50 rentals. A glow necklace is included.

Open skating is held noon to 1:30 p.m. Sundays, with admission \$4.50 for adults, \$3.50 for kids 15 and under, with \$2.50 rental skates.

DFCU announces teacher mini-grants

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

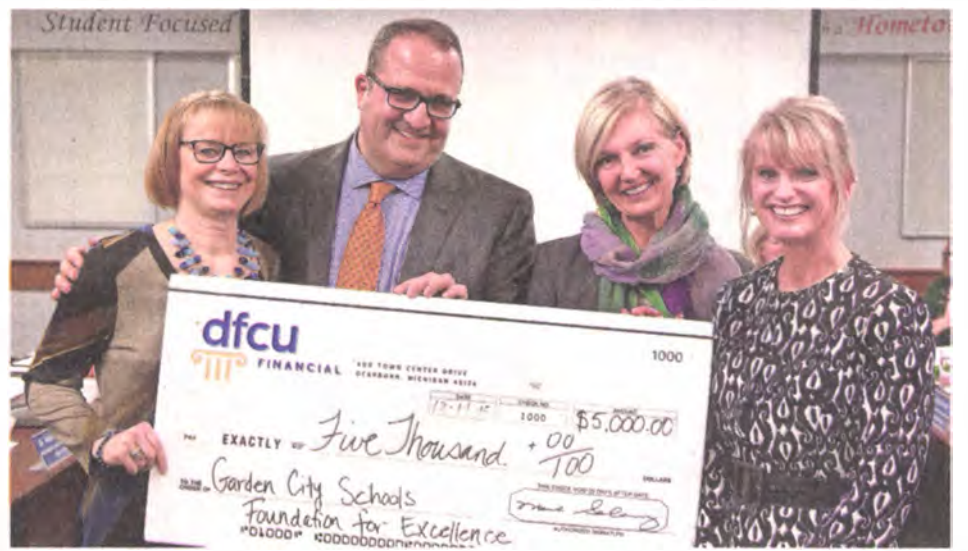
Learning in Garden City's schools is getting a boost thanks to the DFCU (the newer name for Dearborn Federal Credit Union).

For the second year in a row, DFCU is donating \$5,000 to the Educational Excellence Foundation, a special foundation that provides mini-grants to Garden City teachers.

The funds also support field trips, said Alex McNeece, Garden City's curriculum director, "that really promote out of the box learning. We're incredibly thankful for them."

DFCU leadership is seeking membership on the board of the foundation. They are generous with donations of both money and time, he said.

Superintendent Derek Fisher and McNeece serve on the foundation



Shown are Darlene Jablonowski (Garden City Board of Education president), Derek Fisher (superintendent of Garden City Public Schools), Vida Skiotsy (Garden City DFCU branch manager), and Peggy Richard (Public Relations director, DFCU)

board, also known as the Global Foundation and more often called the Garden City Educational Excellence Foundation. McNeece praised DFCU

support for mini-grants during lean times "for really neat things teachers come up with." He added, "The credit union has essentially

jump-started it (the foundation) again. We're very grateful. DFCU does really nice things of reaching out to the community."



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

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PETITION 2015-09-01-09 submitted by 15983 Middlebelt, L.L.C., to rezone \the property located on the west side of Middlebelt Road between Five Mile Road and Puritan Avenue, (15983 Middlebelt Road) in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 14, from OS (Office Services) to C-1 (Local Business).

ADRIANE D. SPENCER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

PUBLISH: December 20, 2015 LD-090208220 LD-

Wayne Police add recording capability

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Utilizing grant money, the Wayne Police Department will soon have equipment installed to record videos of interviews conducted during its investigations.

The council approved the purchase of a police interview room recording management system for \$9,490. All but \$928 will be funded through a federal Justice Assistance Grant.

"In 2012, there was a requirement that law enforcement make audio/visual recordings of interviews in major felonies — sentences of 20 years and above," Wayne Police Chief Alan Maciag said. "Traditionally, the police department has not recorded interviews."

As chief, Maciag said he felt it was important that the department add the recording capability. The Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards had set standards for the recordings.

The police departments were required to have the equipment installed within 120 days of funding being provided by MCOLES. However, as Maciag noted, MCOLES hasn't released any funds.

"We have one interview room, so this system will work great for us. Romulus Police use the same system also," said Maciag, adding the system has a three-year warranty and local technical support.

A Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority grant will be sought for the \$928 not covered by the JAG grant, Maciag said, or it would be covered through the police budget.

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Rotary holiday gala brings friends together

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Paul Motz, president of Westland Rotary, was enjoying the company of good friends Thursday at Joy Manor.

"We do it for the fellowship," Motz, a Westland resident, said of the service club's annual holiday get-together in December. "We work hard all year long. This gives us an opportunity to reflect on the good things we've done. It's a time for fellowship."

Three tables of Rotarians and guests gathered Dec. 17 around tables at Joy Manor on Joy Road in Westland to enjoy each other's company. Lawrence Derderian, owner of My Lady's Florist in Westland, donated a festive centerpiece for a club raffle that day.

Also honored was Diane Higgins, who with her family owns Joy Manor banquet hall. Her gifts were much appreciated, as she serves the Rotary lunches each week. "A big thing of candy," a smiling Higgins said. "Thank you guys so much. I love those candies."

Motz, Westland Youth Assistance director, joked that day he "barely squeaked by to become past president." Rotary Club leadership is re-elected each year, as is Rotary International leadership and levels in between.

The Westland Rotary Club meets at 12:15 p.m. each Thursday, at Joy Manor, on Joy east of Middlebelt. There will be no meetings Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

"And please join us," emphasized Motz, to encourage new members.

Garden City Rotary also welcomes new members, and meets at 12:15 p.m. Thursdays at Amantea's, 32777 W. Warren Road in Garden City. Other area Rotary clubs can be found under "Club Finder" at www.rotary.org.



JULIE BROWN
Lawrence Derderian of My Lady's Florist donated this centerpiece in holiday colors for a club raffle.

JULIE BROWN
Enjoying the Westland Rotary party are (from left) Shari Kudek, a local caterer, Mary Vellardita, a Westland Chamber of Commerce staffer, and Tom North, who with his family owns North Brothers Ford.



JULIE BROWN
Jeff and Linda Juenemann enjoy the Westland Rotary party. His business is Juenemann Insurance of Westland.



JULIE BROWN
Visiting at Westland Rotary are James Gibbs, Westland's district court administrator, and Antoinette Martin, an Ameriprise financial planner.

ADDENDUM #1

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The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of **sealed bids** for Asbestos Abatement Contractor Bids at Holmes Middle School and Johnson Upper Elementary School Buildings.

REVISED DATE- Stevenson High School, Asbestos Abatement Contractor Bid for the 2015-2016 School Year

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2015-2016 school year, open bids OR Buy4Michigan Website, www.buy4michigan.com.

A MANDATORY pre-bid walk through is scheduled for Wednesday, December 09, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. at Stevenson High School, 33500 Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI, 48152. You must check in at the Front Office.

Sealed bids marked Stevenson High School Asbestos Abatement Contractor Bid will be received until 10:00 a.m. on the 4th day January, 2016, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. **Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.**

The Bid Opening will take place at 10:00 a.m., on the 4th day of January, 2016, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

PREVAILING WAGE RATES APPLY TO THIS BID.

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

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

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

All bids must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Livonia Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each bid over \$23,230.00 and must be submitted with the bid forms furnished with the bid specifications/price sheet package.

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

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

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


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

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


"Stevenson High School Asbestos Abatement Contractor Bid"

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Arch Environmental Group, Inc., Phil@archenvgroup.com 248.426.0165, x330 or to Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, hlau@livoniapublicschools.org, 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED



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Mark

As Mark Layton spent more time at his desk and his activity level decreased, his weight accumulated. Mark was diagnosed with type two diabetes and had high cholesterol and blood pressure. That's when his doctor recommended surgical weight loss surgery at St. Mary Mercy Livonia's Michigan Bariatric Institute. Now, he's committed to a healthier lifestyle - he's a runner and has competed in marathons. His diabetes is resolved and Mark is 130 pounds healthier.

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County executive Evans tours Maplewood Center

The Maplewood Community Center welcomed Wayne County Executive Warren Evans and his staff on a tour of the center this December. Evans saw the programs Wayne County has to offer such as Meals on

Wheels and Congregate Lunch. Sheila Sulewski, the senior activities coordinator, invited Evans to the next Legislator's Coffee Hour in January. Evans and Sulewski were able to discuss what other services

would be helpful for seniors in Garden City; topping the list was a more efficient transportation program for seniors to travel to and from the community center. Evans and staff were also able to stop by the

Community Resources Department, also located in the Maplewood Community Center. They toured the Our HOME Pantry and observed it in action. They also had a brief discussion with CRD staff on the health in-

urance programs offered by the department, which help families enroll in health insurance either through the Marketplace or MIBridges. THRIVE, a coalition focused on the prevention of substance abuse

in Garden City, especially among youth, was the last stop on the tour. Evans stated that the center's environment felt warm and inviting, as well as festively decorated for the holiday season.

Detroit Circus coming to area New Year's Eve

Canton's Village Theater is bringing New Year's Eve fun to families Thursday, Dec. 31, when the Detroit Circus comes to town. This high-energy performance is set to take place at 7 p.m. on the main stage, 50400 Cherry Hill Road.



The Detroit Circus has been dazzling audiences for the past several years with its acrobatic skills and gravity defying acts.

During this performance, skilled aerialists will dance, weave and flow through the air, while aerial hoop performers display lyrical flexibility and astonishing strength as they contort and spin. Adagio Acrobatic members will also amaze viewers with their challenging body balancing, yoga and flexible maneuvers requiring two partners, who appear to push the limits of physics.

These jaw-dropping performances are sure to thrill fans of all ages. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at www.cantonvillage.com or in person at the Village Theater box office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets include free popcorn and a non-alcoholic beverage.

Witness high-flying aerial antics on fabric and the trapeze; fire dancing and eating; stilt walking and stilt acrobatics; plus, feats of mind-bending strength. Please note that this is an animal-free circus.

In addition to the exciting performance on stage, audience members can enjoy a special pre-show event starting at 6 p.m., featuring on-site face painting artists and strolling circus entertainers.

The Detroit Circus has been dazzling audiences for the past several years with its acrobatic skills and gravity defying acts. Watch as members of the aerial acrobatics troupe tie themselves into ornate

poises utilizing silks hung from the rafters and captive audience members with grace, poise and incredible strength.

These jaw-dropping performances are sure to thrill fans of all ages. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at www.cantonvillage.com or in person at the Village Theater box of-

ice from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets include free popcorn and a non-alcoholic beverage. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is a regional center for the arts that offers the magic of live theater, soul-stirring music, the thrill of the dance and the enjoyment of fine art exhibitions and events, in addition to providing a home for several cultural organizations and community groups. For more information about this special performance and the latest exhibition in the Gallery@VT, call 734-0394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillage.com.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Tail Waggers drive

Tail Waggers is calling all animal lovers to participate in its Winter Fund Drive. The group's goal is to raise \$25,000 between Jan. 1 and March 31 so that it can continue to provide wellness services at an affordable rate. Here's how donations can help:

- » \$10: Will supply a bag of pet food for the Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance Program
- » \$25: Will vaccinate a cat with the Feline Indoor Package
- » \$50: Will vaccinate a dog with the Canine Core Package or three individual vaccinations
- » \$100: Will spay and/or neuter, and microchip a dog or cat or provide financial assistance for owners with multiple pets.

Donations will help the group continue to carry out its mission of "Helping People Help Animals." Financial contributions can be made by mail to: 28402 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48154; online at tailwaggers1990.org/donate.html; or by phone at 734-855-4077.

Environmental meeting

The Westland Homeowners Committee for Environmental Conservation will conduct its general meeting, open to the public, to discuss environmental issues, Monday, Dec. 21 from noon to 1 p.m. at Panera Bread, 35300 Warren Road, Westland.

For more info call Lee Duffey, 734-722-1184.

Colbeck resolution calls for temporary halt on refugees

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, introduced a resolution calling on Gov. Rick Snyder to continue his opposition to the resettlement of Syrian refugees in Michigan until the state is sufficiently assured that the federal government is properly vetting the refugees against any terrorists infiltrating the U.S. through the resettlement program.

"We are not seeking a ban on resettling refugees in Michigan, but rather a pause in the process until we are certain that the process for vetting them is sufficient to protect our citizens," Colbeck said. "For those who are truly seeking refuge from a dangerous situation, there are other options avail-

able to us right now including Safe Zones in their own countries and nearby countries. For those who are looking for a better life in America and wish to assimilate into our 'Great Melting Pot,' we welcome their immigration through the resettlement process once it has been proven safe."



Colbeck

The resolution notes that the president has issued an executive order increasing the intake of refugees from Syria to 10,000 and seeks to resettle Syrians in communities across the United States.

However, terrorists loyal to the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham in Syria — commonly known as ISIS — have

recently expanded their campaign from the war-torn streets of Syria to all nations, including the most recent attack in San Bernardino, Calif.

Colbeck also said that by increasing the intake of refugees, the president has given individuals who have adopted the teachings and ideology of ISIS a clear path into the United States. FBI Director James Comey admits that "there are certain gaps ... in the information available to us" when speaking about the process by which refugees are screened to prevent the resettlement of individuals with ties to ISIS.

"As the frequency and severity of ISIS attacks increase, measures are needed to protect the citizens of Michigan and the United States. Governor Snyder was correct in suspending the Syrian resettlement program in

Michigan in the wake of ISIS's attacks on Paris," Colbeck said. "Suspending this program has made our state more secure and efforts must continue to be made to ensure our security."

"We appreciate how the governor has taken the lead not only in Michigan but across the nation on the need to protect our citizens from a resettlement process that even leading members of the president's administration have admitted is riddled with information gaps. Ultimately, the security of our state is a partnership between the governor and the Legislature. My fellow legislators and I look forward to continuing that partnership in a fiscally responsible and secure manner that promotes the most honorable values of Michigan citizens."

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

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

McKinley Elementary School Demolition Bid for the 2015-2016 School Year (See Attached Specifications)

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

Sealed bids marked **McKinley Elementary School Demolition Bid** will be received until 10:00 a.m. on the 5th of January, 2016, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.

A MANDATORY Building walk thru will be December 16, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. at McKinley Elementary School, 9101 Hillcrest, Livonia, MI, 48150.

The Bid Opening will take place at 10:00 a.m. on the 5th day of January, 2016, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

PREVAILING WAGE RATES APPLY TO THIS BID.

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

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

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

All bids must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Livonia Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each bid over \$23,230.00 and must be submitted with the bid forms furnished with specification/price sheet package.

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

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

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

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

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

"McKinley Elementary School Demolition"

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Cliff Andrews, NTH Consultants, CAndrews@nthconsultants.com, 248.324.5253; Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, hlaui@livoniapublicschools.org, 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

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

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

Play Structure Bid-2 sites (Garfield and Rosedale Elementary School) for the 2015-2016 School Year (See Attached Specifications)

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

Sealed bids marked **Garfield and Rosedale Elementary Play Structure Bid** will be received until 10:00 a.m. on the 5th day of January, 2016, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of Nick Armelagos, Administrator of Finance, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.

The Bid Opening will take place at 10:00 a.m. on the 5th day of January, 2016, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

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

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

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

All bids must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Livonia Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each bid over \$23,127.00 and must be submitted with the bid forms furnished with specification. All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet and all sheets must be returned for the bid. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days.

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

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

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

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

"Garfield and Rosedale Elementary Play Structure Bid"

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, hlaui@livoniapublicschools.org, 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

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or email cbjordan@michigan.com**

Faith communities gather to share message of love

Representatives of the spectrum of metropolitan Detroit faith communities will gather at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 22, at the Islamic Center of America on Ford Road in Dearborn to stand up for their faith values.

"Our community is being captured by fear and there is too much talk of abandoning some of our most cherished faith values," said Bob Bruttell, chair of the InterFaith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit. At Tuesday's event, Detroit-area faith

leaders will speak out and encourage our community to have faith and seek peace. They also plan to launch a series of events around the theme "2016: A Year of Faith and Peace."

"The antidote to fear is boldly standing up for our common faith values," Bruttell said in a release. "So we will stand together with our friends of all faiths; we will unite against fear; and we will stand up for religious freedom."

Numerous faith communities and religious

leaders in the region have been looking for an opportunity to publicly express their solidarity around strongly felt faith values, in light of the heated rhetoric in the public sphere.

Tuesday's launch will bring together leaders of numerous religious organizations and congregations in southeast Michigan, including the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit, the Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, the United Methodist Church, the Ecumenical

Theological Seminary, the Michigan Board of Rabbis, the Hindu community and the Sikh community, as well as a number of Islamic mosques, Christian churches and other congregations. The event is free and open to the public.

"We need to stand together, comfort one another and commit to working together to solve these problems as people of faith," Bruttell said. "During this season of peace, Christmas, Hanukkah and the birth

of the Prophet, our faith leaders will kick off a year of events that will reinforce our faith and help to calm our fears. In the current charged atmosphere, we must commit ourselves to actively working toward more understanding, creating friendships and building community."

In 2016, the InterFaith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit and the interfaith community will introduce adult literacy programs, religious diversity immersion programs, congregation-

al exchanges, interfaith dinners, open houses and other innovative educational events designed to help our community develop deeper understanding and stronger bonds of friendship.

"We cannot allow terrorism and intemperate political statements to displace our faith values," Bruttell said. "It's as simple, as important and as critical as that. Our better angels require us to seek peace, generate good will and care for each other."

Suspect sought in laptop theft case

Westland Police are asking for help identifying a suspect wanted in connection with the theft of a laptop computer from a local office supply store.

The reported theft happened Nov. 17 at the Office Max store, 35150 Central City Parkway. Surveillance video, also released to the public, shows the suspect looking at a display model of a laptop computer. The

suspect allegedly waits until employees are not looking and disables the security devices. He then allegedly removes the computer from the shelf, conceals it inside his coat and exits the store.

The suspect is described as a black male, approximately 50 years old, with black hair and a medium build. He is clean shaven, and was wearing a black hat, tan

coat, blue jeans and glasses at the time of the theft.

According to employees, the suspect may be responsible for multiple thefts at other Office Max locations.

Anyone with information regarding the identity of the suspect is asked to contact the Westland Police Department at 734-722-9600 or Sgt. Chris Gazdecki at 734-467-3250.



WESTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
Westland Police are trying to identify a suspect wanted in connection with the theft of a laptop computer from Office Max.

Delta Air Lines supports military hospitality efforts at Metro Airport

Delta Air Lines announced Dec. 16 its continued support for members of the military and their families traveling through Detroit Metropolitan Airport. For the second consecutive year, Delta will be the presenting sponsor of the "Holiday Military Salute" at the Freedom Center Military Lounge.

Delta's support of the Michigan Armed Forces Hospitality Center, Inc. makes possible a month-long Holiday Military Salute program at Freedom Center Military Lounge, located adjacent to Gate A-43 in the McNamara Terminal. As presenting sponsor, Delta is ensuring that military members and their families enjoy the comforts of a world-class military lounge, including complimentary soft drinks, coffee, juices, bottled water, snacks and sandwiches during their holiday travels.

"Delta Air Lines has been a wonderful supporter of Freedom Center since we opened our doors in November of 2011," said Ken Pratt, president of Michigan Armed Forces Hospitality Center, Inc. "Our lounge is greatly appreciated by the many military members and families every day of the year and especially during this holiday season."

Since its opening, the Freedom Center military lounges have hosted more than 200,000 military, family members and veterans. The Holiday Military Salute program, which runs through Jan. 15, coincides with the busiest time of the year for Freedom Center.

"We are proud to continue supporting the Freedom Center

with our Holiday Military Salute this holiday season," said Andrea Newman, senior vice president of Government Affairs for Delta Air Lines. "This world-class facility is a great respite every day of the year for members of our military and their family members, but especially during the holidays. Lounge staff and volunteers assisted nearly 6,000 members of our military and their family members last holiday season, alone."

Freedom Center volunteers staff the lounge beginning at 6 a.m. until flight operations are completed for the day.

Delta Air Lines has been designated the official airline of the Michigan Armed Forces Hospitality Center, Inc. In addition to the McNamara Terminal lounge, the non-profit group also operates lounges in Troy and Lansing for the benefit of new recruits and their family members and is opening a fourth lounge in the North Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

As a Michigan non-profit, MAFHC is dedicated to providing a world-class reception and hospitality station that meets the needs of in-transit military service members. Staffed by volunteers and supported by various organizations, organizers also welcome retired members of the military and veterans. In addition, they welcome members of the military from allied nations. The Freedom Center is dedicated to "Serving Those Who Serve Us." More information is available at: MIFreedomCenter.org.



Wayne Police Chief Alan Maciag and Wayne Mayor Susan Rowe flank Lifesaving Award recipient Michael Robertson.

Civilians honored by Wayne Police

LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Six civilians were honored for rendering help at an accident that could have taken a man's life and for intervening in an attempted car-jacking.

"Our citation board takes nominations for awards inside the department and outside citizen awards," Wayne Police Chief Alan Maciag said.

Michael Robertson was presented with the Lifesaving Award. In August 2014, Robertson heard yelling from underneath a vehicle. The vehicle had fallen on a man who was working

underneath it.

Robertson took a hydraulic jack and lifted the car off the man, who was unconscious by this point.

"The man was resuscitated. Mr. Robertson's quick action saved a man's life," Maciag said. "He threw the kids out of the car."

The five award recipients jumped into assist the woman and chased the suspect down when

"The suspect asked the woman for a cigarette. She rolled the window down to say she didn't smoke. He grabbed her and pulled her out of the car," Maciag said. "He threw the kids out of the car."

The five award recipients jumped into assist the woman and chased the suspect down when

he fled, holding him for the police.

"The police department thanks each of them. We are huge advocates of the citizens of Wayne and those who work in Wayne. We would not be able to do it without you," Maciag said.

irogers@hometownlife.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE
OFFICIAL 2016 MEETING SCHEDULE
CITY OF LIVONIA - CABLE TELEVISION COMMISSION
33000 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, LIVONIA, MI 48154

Notice is hereby given to the public that the meetings of the Livonia Cable Television Commission for the year ending December 31, 2016, will be conducted according to the following schedule.

Thursday	March 10	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	June 9	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	September 8	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	December 8	6:00 p.m.

Meetings take place in the Gallery on the fifth floor of Livonia City Hall.

Michael DiFazio, Program Supervisor
Livonia Television

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Daughter inspired by mom's illness to start clothing line

Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

Karen MacDonald never thought she'd run her own business.

She had been with The Taubman Co. for more than 30 years, enjoying a successful career as communications director. But her mother's illness in 2014 prompted MacDonald to start a clothing line of merchandise designed for hospital patients.

"My mom was in the hospital before she passed away," MacDonald said. "It was Christmas Eve and she didn't want to see anyone because she didn't like the way she looked. I decided to make her a wrap to go over her patient gown, to make her feel special and pretty."

That moment inspired MacDonald to launch Wrapped in Love.

Her company designs

wraps, head wraps and scarves for anyone in a hospital who's in need of some warmth, beauty and dignity. That includes new moms, patients undergoing chemotherapy and other procedures or ones recovering from illness.

"They are accessories that are easy to wear for those who may have limited mobility," MacDonald said. "The wraps come in a variety of styles, colors and fabrics. I designed everything as 'one-size-fits-most' so you can give them as gifts and not have to worry about the size."

They're manufactured locally in Lansing and MacDonald is donating 10 percent of each sale to the American Cancer Society as a tribute to her mother.

A number of local retailers carry the wraps and they're also available online at wrappedinlove.com. The head wraps start at \$30, the scarves



Karen MacDonald with her mom, Theresa, who passed away last year.

are \$40 and the body wraps start at \$60.

"They're currently designed for women, but I have been

getting a lot of requests to design something similar for men and children, too, which I will start working on shortly,"

she said.

Because the wraps are being used in a hospital setting, MacDonald worked closely with the medical community to design something that would provide caregivers with appropriate medical access to a patient if needed. She also conducted a focus group with women at Gilda's Club to gain their input regarding fabric choices, colors and styles.

So far, MacDonald has enjoyed the challenges of being her own boss.

"It's been great, but right off the bat, you learn that you can't be everything," she said. "So it's important to find good resources that you can rely on. Luckily, I've been able to find everything I've needed right here in our great state of Michigan."

jgrossman@hometownlife.com
586-826-7030
Twitter: @BhmEccentric

Reverend: Christmas is all about love

As we approach the holiday season, whether one is Christian or not, it's hard not to notice the seeming precarious situation(s) we find ourselves in these days. Political banter is as loud and toxic as ever. We can't communicate and discuss anything anymore. Instead it seems we must demonize and belittle the "other" side rather than discuss and speak in truth and love.

We appear to be divided as never before. Add to this the scourge of terrorism in its myriad iterations, not only abroad, but now very much present here at home, as well as so many other local and global concerns, and it's understandable that perhaps the hope and joy of this time of year abides under shadow to some extent.

There's a sense we're waiting for some answer ... some reason to feel more confident and secure. Some trust in money and/or possessions. Some cling to their favorite sports team for a lift (lifetime Lions fan here ... so "long suffering" comes much, much more easi-



Andy Whitten
GUEST COLUMNIST

ly than does hope or joy there). Still others give way to pessimism, but most people I speak with, even if it's superficial, still display some sense of optimism in the midst of the noise of the world's offerings. Perhaps the answer is there, and perhaps the question it addresses isn't even the one we're asking.

When Christ was born, the incarnation fulfilling the utterances of so many prophets, over so many centuries, and Jesus grew up into his divine ministerial purpose. He came as THE answer that the world needed more than it could comprehend. He certainly didn't come as the answer they thought was necessary. Some thought He would rise to rule geopolitically, bringing might and pride back the his people.

But Jesus wasn't interested in politics. He wasn't interest-

ed in earthly power. He was interested solely in the people living daily under those systems of politic and power. He spoke, by and large, to the masses... those living in the fringes of society. The "99 percent," as we've heard the phrase used recently. And Jesus' message, ultimately, was founded and driven on a singular premise ... love!

We've diluted what that word means, of course, but God, in Christ, proclaimed love to this fallen world. He demonstrated his very heart and nature by the love He lived out in Emanuel, "God with us." And before Jesus loved us up to and beyond the cross, He commanded his apostles, the first seeds that would grow into the Christian church, to love one another, even as Jesus had loved them (these words spoken shortly after he'd washed the filthy feet of his own disciples, showing them what true humility born of love for the other may look like!).

He spoke of the difficult times that would certainly come, but exhorted them not to

be wary or fearful. He warned them to beware of the inevitable false prophets and pseudo-Christ's that would come, assuring them that when it WAS himself returning, they would know. It's recorded how he instructed his beloved follower to "feed my sheep," clearly speaking of the loving nature that was and is to embody not only pastoral, but Christian life, service and ministry.

Love ... LOVE, for one another ... this was to be the founding principle of the faithful. Love would overcome the trap falls of religion. Love would turn one's own selfish heart in concern toward the other. Love would allow the hard-hearted to be born anew, eyes now opened to the beauty and value of life lived for a season in this robe of flesh. Love would manifest grace and mercy to the ungracious and ruthless, changing some forever, but leaving none untouched. As we sing each year around this time, "Long lay the world in sin and error, pining, till He appeared, and the soul felt it's worth!" Love!! ... THIS is what

Christmas is about. First, God's immeasurable love toward us, the jewel of his creation. Then, the love gifted us by his Son, given to all freely, long before we could ever think to choose to possess anything so precious... we "find ourselves" when we come to find that our own significance is revealed by the birth of the Savior. Because, you see, God so loved the world, that He came to us in Christ so we would live a life knowing love, knowing Him who loved us into being...

God's peace, mercy, and love unto you all, no matter who and where you are! And please know that you, dear friends, are invited and welcomed to join us at Our Saviour Lutheran Church (on the corner of 8 Mile and Currie), for a candlelight Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m., to hear more about the Christ in "Christmas!" God bless you, one and all!

Rev. Andy Whitten is the pastor at Our Saviour Apostolic Lutheran Church in Northville. oursavioural.com

NEED MORE CUSTOMERS?

EDUCATION

Canton foundation continues scholarship tradition

By Brad Smith

The Canton Foundation continues its tradition of providing financial aid to students in need. The foundation awarded 100 scholarships to students at various colleges and universities across the state. The total amount awarded was over \$1 million. The foundation was founded in 1950 and has since then supported thousands of students. The scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate financial need and academic achievement. The foundation also provides support for students who are pursuing careers in education and healthcare. The foundation's goal is to help students who are unable to afford college to receive a quality education. The foundation's support is crucial for many students who are struggling to pay for college. The foundation's scholarships have helped many students to graduate from college and pursue their dreams. The foundation's support is a testament to its commitment to education and to the future of the community. The foundation's scholarships are a source of hope and inspiration for many students who are striving to succeed. The foundation's support is a reflection of its belief in the power of education to change lives. The foundation's scholarships are a gift to the community and to the state. The foundation's support is a source of pride for the community and for the state. The foundation's scholarships are a testament to its commitment to education and to the future of the community. The foundation's support is a reflection of its belief in the power of education to change lives. The foundation's scholarships are a gift to the community and to the state. The foundation's support is a source of pride for the community and for the state.

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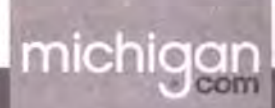
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Globetrotting with Google



AILEEN WINGBLAD
Hillel Day School teachers David Venning (left) and Josh Cutler check out Expeditions Pioneer.



AILEEN WINGBLAD
Hillel Day students Ethan Sternberg and Yoni Benezra take a virtual tour, courtesy of Google.



AILEEN WINGBLAD
Eighth-grader Kelly Meir's reaction to Google's Expeditions program.



Marnie Diem explains the program to colleague Josh Cutler.

AILEEN WINGBLAD

Hillel Day School students do virtual reality trial

Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

Hillel Day students visited Israel, Antarctica, Italy and other far away places on Thursday – without leaving their Farmington Hills school.

It was all thanks to Google, which selected Hillel Day to try out its new program that uses virtual reality viewers and smart phones to explore Earth and outer space.

The Expeditions Pioneer Program is not yet available for purchase, but if the reactions from Hillel students and staff who got to sample it is any indication, it will be a hit once it's on the market.

"Oh my god, this is so cool!" said eighth-grader Emily Sherman, as she peered into a Google Cardboard to see what Google describes as "guided tours of places schools buses can't go."

Virtual reality panoramas make up the expeditions which are led by a teacher or other guide using a tablet containing the Expeditions application.

"It's so weird – it actually looks like you're in the place," Emily said.

Since launching the program in September, Google representatives have been making one-day visits to select schools throughout the world, bringing everything students and teachers need to experience it.



AILEEN WINGBLAD
Hillel Day student Russell Presser said the program "is so much fun."

"It's crazy," said eighth-grader Yoni Benezra.

His classmate, Evan Baxter, agreed. "You're in school, but you get to see ancient Rome and inside the coliseum – I love this thing," Evan said, smiling.

Another eighth-grader, Noa Alterman, likened Expeditions to "taking a nap, waking up and feeling it's the next day."

Of course, it was also a big hit with Hillel staff. "Wow," said history teacher Josh Cutler.

"This is a great thing to have in school. To be able to see where (historic events) happened rather than just talking about them is so valuable," he said. "It really brings history alive."

Added fellow teacher David Venning: "It's very interesting. It's cool looking at it all in 3-D, 360 degrees. It's pretty exciting – a virtual tour."

Marnie Diem, Hillel Day's coordinator of technological adventures, said she applied last year for the school to be part of Google's pilot program. Just a couple weeks ago, she got word that they were accepted.

"I was beyond excited when we got approved," she said. "This brings learning to life for the kids."

Expeditions fits right into Hillel Day's focus on technology, "project-based learning and hands-on experiential learning," Diem added. And even this brief run with the program will be beneficial as teachers can relate what the kids saw in their "visits" to curriculum, she said.

Diem also said she's hoping to eventually learn to create virtual tours of her own.

"We always are working to come up with new ways to engage – these kids learn differently than we did," she said. "They don't need to memorize facts. It's about what they can do with them. This is the Google generation."

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Vaccines, auto insurance rates among introduced bills

Kathleen Gray
Michigan.com

LANSING — The state Department of Health and Human Services would be prohibited from imposing more stringent rules on vaccinations than is already allowed under state law under a bill that was introduced last week.

The bill also would prohibit the state from excluding students from schools based on vaccinations as a disease-control measure.

The debate over vaccinations flared late last year after an outbreak of measles hit Disneyland in California. The state health department issued rules that would require parents to attend a meeting with local health officials if they wanted to seek a vaccination waiver.

And the Detroit delegation in the House introduced a package of bills that would, in part, require auto insurance companies to reduce rates by 12% in cities with populations of more than 500,000.

House bills

HB 5121: Require notification to firefighters if a building is made of lightweight materials. Sponsor: Rep. Laura Cox, R-Livonia.

HB 5122 and SB 655: Create the Water Shutoff Protection Act. Sponsors: Rep. Stephanie Chang, D-Detroit and Jim Ananich, D-Flint.

HB 5123: Require installation of arc-fault circuit interrupters in new residential home construction. Sponsor: Rep. Erika Geiss, D-Taylor.

HB 5124: Allow for inclusion of roads with a primary residence in determining distribution of snow-removal funds. Sponsor: Rep. Joel Johnson, R-Clare.

HB 5125: Require policies and procedures regarding the closure of a school building. Sponsor: Rep. Stephanie Chang, D-Detroit.

HB 5126-5127: Prohibit exclusion from schools for students without vaccinations and rules that are more stringent than in current law. Sponsor: Rep. Thomas Hooker, R-Byron Center.

HB 5128: Allow retired state employees to contract with the Department of Natural Resources for wildlife suppression without losing retirement allowances. Sponsor: Rep. Bruce Rendon, R-Lake City.

HB 5129: In driver training classes, require instruction on how to move over for cars pulled over with their flashers on. Sponsor: Rep. Peter Pettalia, R-Presque Isle.

HB 5130: Provide for the definition of a hoop house in the construction code. Sponsor: Rep. Adam Zemke, D-Ann Arbor.

HB 5131: Eliminate flow-through entities from income tax withholding requirements. Sponsor: Rep. Jeff Farrington, R-Utica.

HB 5132-5133: Require direct-mail companies to comply with streamlined sales and use tax. Sponsors: Reps. Jeff Farrington, R-Utica, Wendell Byrd, D-Detroit.

HB 5134-5135: Require auto insurance companies to reduce rates in certain municipalities, change personal protection benefits, create fraud authority and provide tax credit for certain auto insurance policies. Sponsor: Rep. Brian Banks, D-Detroit.

HB 5136: Allow use of school sinking funds for safety and security improvements. Sponsor: Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton.

HB 5137: Designate a



The debate over vaccinations flared late last year after an outbreak of measles hit Disneyland in California. Many who fell ill there were not immunized against measles.

portion of U.S.-12 as the Officer Gordon Lewis Stevens Memorial Highway. Sponsor: Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton.

HB 5138: Revise requirements to restructure municipal health facilities into nonprofit corporations. Sponsor: Rep. Peter Pettalia, R-Presque Isle.

HB 5139-5141 and SB 648-650: Clarify the ability to create unequal joint interests in property conveyances and modify the procedures to determine whether there has been a transfer of property ownership. Sponsors: Rep. Peter Pettalia, R-Presque Isle, and Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba.

HB 5142-5144: Establish a 30-day license plate and require monthly proof of auto insurance policy; require certain nonrefundable charges in 30-day policies. Sponsors: Reps. Tom Cochran, D-Mason, Mike McCready, R-Birmingham.

HB 5145: Require that local units of government be given first shot at state sale of transportation equipment. Sponsor: Rep. John Kivela, D-Marquette.

HB 5146: Increase

penalties for possession of a carcass of a deer or elk that has chronic wasting disease. Sponsor: Rep. John Kivela, D-Marquette.

HB 5147: Exclude credit union loan promotions and raffles from gambling and lottery crimes. Sponsor: Rep. Anthony Forlini, R-Harrison Township.

HB 5148: Prohibit operation of drones over the state Capitol without permission from the state Capitol Commission. Sponsor: Rep. George Darany, D-Dea-born.

HB 5149: Create a legislative committee on state agencies. Sponsor: Rep. Jim Townsend, D-Royal Oak.

Senate bills

SB 642: Allow property owners to participate in clean energy programs and authorize issuance of general obligation bonds for alternative source clean energy programs. Sponsor: Sen. Rebekah Warren, D-Ann Arbor.

SB 643: Create Human Right to Water Act. Sponsor: Sen. Coleman Young, D-Detroit.

SB 644: Revise re-

quirements for the authorization to restructure municipal health facilities as nonprofit corporations. Sponsor: Sen. Jim Stamas, R-Midland.

SB 645: Establish uniform criteria for employee misclassification in the Fair Employment Practices Act. Sponsor, Sen. Mike Kowall, R-White Lake Township.

SB 646: Provide for second parent adoption. Sponsor: Sen. Rebekah Warren, D-Ann Arbor.

SB 647: Require instruction of CPR and use of automated external defibrillation as a requirement for graduation from high school. Sponsor: Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker, R-Lawton.

SB 651-653: For tax purposes, transfer commercial forest programs into qualified forest programs. Sponsors: Sens. Darwin Booher, R-Evart, Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba.

SB 654: Revise requirements for financial school aid support for attendance at postsecondary institutions. Sponsor: Sen. Mike Shirkey, R-Clarklake.

SB 656-657: Modify applicability of collection practices in the occupational code. Sponsor: Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand

Ledge. **SB 658:** Allow five zoos — Binder Park Zoo in Battle Creek, Children's Zoo at Celebration Square in Saginaw, John Ball Zoo in Grand Rapids, Potter Park Zoo in Lansing and the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak — to breed large animals to protect the species. Sponsor: Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge.

SB 659: Expand investment options for fostering futures scholarships. Sponsor: Sen. Peter MacGregor, R-Rockford.

SB 660-661: Create a state historic preservation office and require commission approval for changes to the exterior of historical sites. Sponsors: Sens. Wayne Schmidt, R-Traverse City, and Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D-Taylor.

SB 662: Provide for forensic audits for first-class school districts. Sponsor: Sen. Coleman Young, D-Detroit.

SB 663: Provide a grace period for certification lapses for certified nurse aides. Sponsor: Sen. Coleman Young, D-Detroit.

SB 664: Authorize a pilot project for a tuition loan repayment program based on a percentage of the graduate's income. Sponsor: Sen. Coleman Young, D-Detroit.

SB 665-666: Modify sentencing guidelines to provide for a five-year sentence for failure to store a firearm resulting in access by a minor or injury or death. Sponsor: Sen. Rebekah Warren, D-Ann Arbor.

SB 667: Modify rules for providing liquor advertising items to retailers. Sponsor: Sen. Jim Stamas, R-Midland.

SB 668: Prohibit resisting arrest of a reserve police officer. Sponsor: Sen. Joe Hune, R-Whitmore Lake.

kgray99@freepress.com

CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE

AGENDA
Zoning Board of Appeals
January 5, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.
Livonia City Hall - Auditorium (1st Floor)
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI
(734) 466 2259

APPEAL CASE 2015-10-54: CRE REO, LLC, 4600 Wells Fargo Ctr., 90 South 7th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55402, on behalf of Lessee Cozy Corner Cafe, south side of Plymouth (36083) between Levan and Yale, seeking to erect two (2) wall signs upon a tenant space in a multiple unit retail center, resulting in excess number of wall signs and wall sign area.

APPEAL CASE 2016-01-02: Nicole Cassar, 16558 Nola Court, Livonia, MI 48152, on behalf of Lessee Charles & Alicia Krantz, east side of Pere (8936) between Grandon and Northfield, seeking to maintain a dog run which is located in the corner street side yard, which is not allowed. Dog runs must be located in the rear yard, ten (10) feet from all property lines. Dog runs must not exceed 200 sq. ft. The existing dog run is 256 sq. ft., an excess of 56 sq. ft. The fence material used to make this fence should be a chain-link style fence rather than the wood lattice used in its construction.

APPEAL CASE 2016-01-03: Patricia Ulman, east side of Milburn (18548) between Pickford and Clarita, seeking to erect a covered front porch, resulting in deficient front yard setback.

APPEAL CASE 2016-01-04: Alma Real Estate Investments, LLC, 2951 Long Ridge Court, West Bloomfield, MI 48323, seeking to erect a wall and ground sign upon property located on the south side of Six Mile (29721) between Middlebelt and Oporto. This property is zoned Office Services, which allows for a ground or wall sign and cannot exceed sixteen square feet. Proposed is a wall sign of 42 sq. ft. and a ground sign of 28 sq. ft. Excess in area is the wall sign at 26 sq. feet and ground sign area of 12 sq. ft.

APPEAL CASE 2016-01-05: Grand River Charter Development, LLC, 3850 Broadmoor Ave. SE, Ste. 201, Grand Rapids, MI 49512, seeking to erect a one (1) story multi-storage building upon property located on the south side of Eight Mile (28153) between Angling and Grand River, resulting in deficient east side yard setback.

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

Published: December 20, 2015

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Dog released from prison finds a home in South Lyon

Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

A pit bull named Penelope Louise was rescued from the streets of Detroit, went to prison for rehabilitation and ended up living with a South Lyon family.

Along the way Penny became somewhat of a celebrity on YouTube and was named Monday Miracle for *Dogster Magazine* this month.

No one really knows what the first year of her life was like, but judging by the way she was found in 2012 when she was less than a year old, it likely wasn't good. She had scars on her face, infected skin and in such poor shape rescue workers said she was on the brink of death.

Penny became the subject of three documentary shorts available on YouTube. A World Animal Awareness Society filmed Penny as the American Strays Canine Census moved through a Detroit neighborhood and found her wandering. Each milestone in Penelope's amazing rescue story was captured on camera in WA2S' American Strays series.

A forever home

Refurbished Pets of Southern Michigan placed Penelope in its Correctional Companion

"It's a big commitment and it's a matter of making sure you are open to what each dog brings. They come with their own personalities."

VINCE FALZONE

Program at Coldwater Prison Complex, then in a foster home and finally in South Lyon with Sheri Prielipp-Falzone, her husband, Vince, and their two teenage sons.

While Penny was in prison, inmates took care of her every need: feeding, grooming, providing potty breaks and most importantly building her confidence.

When the Falzone family, who had recently lost their dog to cancer, decided to adopt Penny, they knew they wanted to take a second dog to keep her company and to provide her with a playmate. So, they also took home Barkley, a terrier and shepherd mix.

During the first year, Prielipp-Falzone sent letters to the prisoners who cared for Penny to let them know their work and compassion was well spent

and that Penny was in a safe home where she played in the backyard and had a dog friend in the house.

Prielipp-Falzone, an RPSM volunteer, wants to encourage other people to adopt rescue dogs, but she also wants to make sure they understand it's a 13- to 15-year commitment. She encourages people who can't have a pet, or might not be up to a 15-year promise to care for a dog, to consider volunteering at RPSM or other animal rescue, donate money or foster a dog before it is adopted.

"It's a big commitment and it's a matter of making sure you are open to what each dog brings," Vince Falzone said. "They come with their own personalities. Find the joy in what they bring to the household."

When Prielipp-Falzone isn't saving dogs, she's volunteering at her church, St. Paul Lutheran in Hamburg, or through her personal initiative, The Watering Can, helping "all God's creatures — animals, children or the elderly — thrive."

Learn more about Refurbished Pets of Southern Michigan at rpsm.org.

dandreassi@hometownlife.com
734-432-5974
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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sheri Prielipp-Falzone at her South Lyon home with her two rescue dogs; Barkly-Leroy, left, and Penny. Both are pit-bull mixes and have been lovingly taken care of by Sheri and her husband Vincent in their home.

Southfield police ask for help with two cold cases

Southfield Police are asking for help in identifying suspects in two cold cases.

In the first incident, on Oct. 14, 2015, at approximately 12:05 p.m., Norman Prady, an 82-year-old from Berkley, was struck by a vehicle while he was walking in the north parking lot of New York Bagel at 19731 W. 12 Mile Road.

The driver of the vehicle fled the scene after hitting Prady. As a result of the accident, Prady was hospitalized for approximately seven weeks with a serious head injury.

The suspect is described as a white male, medium complexion, approximately 18-25 years old, wearing a Yamaka.

He was driving possibly a gold-colored Toyota Camry with a Mackinac Bridge-Sunrise Michigan License Plate. A witness is confident that the license plate contained the letter C.

Second cold case

The second cold case involves two break-ins on Nov. 24. At approximately 8:15 am, Southfield officers investigated a breaking and entering of two storage buildings at Divine Providence Church located at 25335 W. Nine Mile Road.

The padlocks were on the buildings were pried allowing access to the building. The reporting party was unsure if anything was taken. Video



SOUTHFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT.
This truck was seen at two breaking and entering cases in Southfield, police said.

evidence shows a dark-colored, older-model Ford F-150 leaving the scene. The truck has a metal toolbox in the bed and the front driver's side rim



SOUTHFIELD POLICE
Southfield Police are looking for this person in relation to a hit and run at New York Bagel.

is darker than the rear rim. Later that evening, between the hours of 9 p.m. and midnight, Southfield Officers investigated a larceny at the

Mix Factory Recording Studio located at 27380 W. Nine Mile Road. An industrial dolly, lawnmower and power washer were stolen from the area around of building.

Video evidence once again shows a dark-colored, older-model Ford F-150 arrive in the driveway. The suspect is described as a white male, approximately 40-50 years old, facial hair, average height and weight, wearing a baseball cap with yellow writing, green work jacket, blue jeans and work boots.

Contact Southfield Police Department if you can offer any help regarding either incident at 248-796-5500.



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

The midsize sedan has an "open and inviting interior with many features that will surprise people," Demmer sales manager Chris Conley said. "From the floating center console with ample storage underneath it and the attention to detail that is noticeable throughout the vehicle."

The 2016 MKZ is available with front- or all-wheel drive. "Three engines choices with three levels of performance and three suspension settings allows the MKZ to be tailored to each driver's personality," Conley said. The hybrid version is rated at up to 41 MPG.

"The available all-wheel drive offers peace-of-mind for all driving conditions," he added.

Standard features for the 2016 MKZ include:

- » 240-horsepower, turbocharged 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine
- » Six-speed automatic transmission with shift paddles
- » Front-wheel drive
- » Adaptive LED headlights
- » LED taillights
- » Heated front seats
- » Digital instrument cluster
- » Sync and MyLincoln Touch with 8-inch screen
- » Remote start
- » Backup camera
- » Required in every new car: front airbags, anti-lock brakes and an electronic stability system

The MKZ features easy-to-use technology including an available Embedded Modem to connect to your vehicle



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COLLEGE SIGNING

Pats' Payne to tee it up for UDM

Long-hitting golf phenom ready for the next level

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The University of Detroit Mercy's perennially strong women's golf program made a Payne-ful addition to its 2016 roster last week.

Livonia Franklin long-hitter Kendall Payne signed a national letter of intent to tee it up for the Titans beginning in summer 2016.

Payne is a two-sport phenom at Franklin, having earned seven varsity letters (an eighth will be added once the upcoming girls tennis season is finished) in golf and

tennis.

The Patriot's best 18-hole round to date is a sizzling 83. She has also racked up 53 wins on the tennis court.

"Kendall is a diamond in the rough for us," UDM head coach Terri Anthony-Ryan said. "She has only played for a few years, but she keeps getting better. She hits the ball very solid and her short game is improving every day."

Payne will be joining a program that has captured three Horizon League championships in the past six years, including back-to-back titles in 2013 and 2014.

"I like everything about the school," said Payne, who was

See PAYNE, Page B2



Livonia Franklin senior Kendall Payne is pictured with her high school golf coach, Jason Rammler, after signing a letter of intent to play collegiate golf for the University of Detroit Mercy.

Ladywood, Mercy icers tie

In a tight, physical game at The Pond, Ladywood and Mercy battled to a 1-1 tie. Mercy scored first early in the 2nd period to grab a 1-0 lead. It would stay that way late until Sophomore Brook Spiegel found the back of the net with just 16.7 seconds left to tie the game. The teams skated through a scoreless OT session. Senior Michaela Warner was spectacular in net stopping 41 shots.

With the draw, Ladywood improves to 3-0-1.

All-KLAA football

Several local gridiron stars were named to the 2015 All-Kensington Lakes Activities Association first-team football squad. Following are each school's honorees:

Livonia Franklin: Denzel Adams (QB), Nate Binkiewicz (RB), Daniel Domzalski (OL), Robert Erwin (LB/TE), Jax Gasaway (OL), Jake Giacobbi (WR/DB/K), Chris Nehasil (DB/RB), Josh Retting (OL), Ryan Tracy (DL);

Livonia Churchill: DeMarco McKinney (LB), Jamal Allen (DB/WR), Austin Simpson (DT), Robert (DE), Mike Hill (WR), Matt Pachota (TE), Evan Cunnins (QB), Chris Sessamen (OT), Sean Stenzel (RB/P);

Livonia Stevenson: Austin Petrie (RB), Tyler Hudson (LB), Sam Davidek (DB), Chris Tanderys (QB), Nate Bunton (DB), Ian Henzi (K), Frank Carlin (WR), Gino D'Agostino (SE), Kyle Foster (OL);

Westland John Glenn: Jaylen Smith (RB), Andrew Wicker (LB), Brandon Carreathers (OL);

Wayne Memorial: Malik Bryant (WR/DB), Reggie Micheaux (DE/WR).

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY



GO WEST, YOUNG SPARTANS!

Stevenson upends Salem in game played at WMU

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's hockey team killed two birds with one puck, so to speak, during a trip last weekend to Kalamazoo.

On Friday, Dec. 11, the Spartans watched Western Michigan University's hockey team defeated Colorado College, 7-3, at Lawson Arena.

The day, on the same ice surface, the Spartans throt-

tled KLAA rival Salem, 4-1. Stevenson never trailed against the Rocks after taking a 1-0 lead into the first intermission. The winners tacked on two goals in the second period before adding some icing to the victory cake with a single net-finder in the third.

Senior goaltender Cullen Barber allowed just a second-period goal while stopping 22 shots.

See SPARTANS, Page B3



Livonia Stevenson's Adam Olson rips a shot during Wednesday night's 2-2 draw against Orchard Lake St. Mary's at Eddie Edgar Arena. Details of the game were not available at press time.

Spring girls lacrosse

Canton Leisure Services is offering a spring girls lacrosse program for players of all skill levels in grades 3-8.

The program will include league games with local communities. It also will feature uniforms, indoor practices and classrooms, among other components.

Jennifer Herzfeld will be coaching and a few former girls high school players are being recruited to assist. Helping with scheduling and to recruit coaches is Salem girls varsity lacrosse coach Dave Medley.

Call Canton Sports Center at 734-483-5600 as soon as possible if interested.

Reporting results

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

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

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Stribling-led John Glenn fights off pesky Lions, 47-37

Senior's double-double powers Rockets to win

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

On the night the new *Star Wars* movie debuted nationwide, the force was with Westland John Glenn's girls basketball team — at least on the

defensive end of the court.

The host Rockets forced South Lyon to commit 25 turnovers, which helped offset a shaky offensive performance during their 47-37 victory in a KLAA Kensington Conference cross-over game.

John Glenn senior forward Kimah Stribling wore the "23" jersey well, posting a LeBron-esque stat line of 10 points, 10

rebounds and six steals.

Sophomore center Carly Loving also had a solid night, adding 10 points and six boards while battling through foul trouble.

The winners' balanced scoring ledger was topped off by Nadia Reed's eight points and Sharon Woodard's seven.

Junior guard Samantha Swain (13 points) was the Li-

ons' lone double-digit scorer.

Both teams struggled to tickle the twine in the first half, which ended with the Rockets in front, 14-10. The Lions had more first-half turnovers (11) than shots (eight).

"I challenged the girls at halftime to play with more defensive intensity," John

See GLENN, Page B2

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GIRLS BASKETBALL



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Livonia Stevenson's Grace Lamerson drives to the basket during Thursday night's 29-28 victory over Plymouth. Lamerson led the Spartans with eight points.

Spartans post dramatic win over Wildcats

Senkowski nets game-winning shot on put-back

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Points were precious during Thursday night's KLAA Kensington Conference cross-over showdown between Livonia Stevenson and host Plymouth.

The two most precious points — at least as far as the Spartans were concerned — rolled off the fingertips of junior guard Diane Senkowski, whose last-minute put-back off a missed free throw proved to be the difference in Stevenson's thrilling 29-28 victory.

The win gave the Spartans a 3-2 record heading into the holiday break. "It wasn't a pretty game, but both teams played hard," Stevenson head coach Tim Newman said. "Diane only scored three points, but two of them won the game for us."

Grace Lamerson led the winners with eight points. The junior guard sparked an improved effort at the free-throw line for the Spartans, swishing six of her seven attempts.

As a team, the Spartans drained 12 of 19 freebies.

Bailey Brown led the Wildcats with 14 points. Hannah Badger added nine.

Plymouth rolled to a 10-2 lead after one quarter before securing a 16-6 halftime advantage in the defense-dominated contest.

Stevenson started to find its rhythm in the third quarter when it outscored the Wildcats 7-2 to pull to within 18-13.

The Spartans closed the game with one of its most-productive quarters (16 points) of the season to notch the win.

"We finally started running our sets in the fourth quarter and scored 16 points, which is a lot for us," Newman said.

Audrey Stahrr converted two pivotal baskets in the final eight minutes, Newman said.

Stars shine

Led by Livonia resident Cheryl Setlock's 17 points, St. Catherine defeated Bishop Foley, 44-38, earlier this week to improve to 5-2. Bishop Foley slipped to 2-1.

Kelly Liszewski added nine points for the Stars.

ewright@hometownlife.com

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Churchill's John Doyle battles for possession of the puck during a game earlier this season.

Churchill icers tame Lions, 5-0

Five players score for red-hot Chargers

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

It seemed just about everybody got into the scoring column Wednesday night for Livonia Churchill's hockey team.

The same couldn't be said for the Chargers' opponent, South Lyon, which dropped a 5-0 decision in a KLAA cross-over game at Eddie Edgar Arena.

The Chargers jumped all over the Lions, 3-0, in the first period before adding single goals in the second and third periods.

Andrew Broyles registered the shutout in net for Churchill (6-2), which was scheduled to

close its pre-holiday break schedule Saturday at Bay City Central.

"We always count on a physical contest with South Lyon, and (Wednesday) was no different," Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds said. "We traded shots with them for most of the night, and we just managed to find the good fortune, along with another great performance by Drew Broyles in our net."

"Willis (Wuebben) had a great game tonight. He's typically not a flashy player, but he's steady and one of our most reliable defensemen. I'm very pleased that he was rewarded for his hard work tonight."

Wuebben piled up a season-high four assists, including helpers on his

team's first two goals from Spencer Kovacs and Griffin Ahmet. Michael Papiouannou also assisted on Kovacs' goal while Seth Kucharczyk assisted on Ahmet's.

Tyler Haydu made it 3-0 for Churchill with 2:16 left in the first period off assists from John Doyle and Jordan Veggoni.

Vengoni was on the scoring end of assists from Haydu and Wuebben 11:38 into the middle stanza.

Conor Burnette put the icing on the scoring for the winners with a power-play goal from Wuebben and Kovacs.

The Lions played shorthanded for large portions of the game as they were whistled for eight infractions, all two-minutes in length.

Churchill out-shot South Lyon, 34-28.

"Right now, our boys are playing with a lot of confidence," emphasized Reynolds. "Our leaders continue to produce, while some of our role players are beginning to contribute as well. There's a great synergy developing within the collective group, and my hope is that we'll continue to see positive results. Tonight was a good night."

"These were two critical points we wanted to capture in order to keep us in the divisional race. As a team, we're thrilled to get the win and I think tonight gives us more confidence as we look ahead to the future."

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ED WRIGHT

Kendall Payne works on her putting form during a late-September practice at Idyl Wyld.

PAYNE

Continued from Page B1

also recruited heavily by several other next-level programs, including Cleary University and Wayne State. "The coach had a lot to do with my decision. I've been taking lessons from her for a few years, so I know how good of a teacher and coach she is."

With her sights set on a future in the business world, Payne has already been accepted to UDM's

prestigious business program.

"It's a special program that will allow me to earn my MBA in business in five years; that was really appealing to me," she said.

Payne will get an opportunity to compete for a varsity spot for the Titans.

"The coach believes in me and thinks I can make an impact soon — maybe my freshman year," Payne said.

ewright@hometownlife.com

GLENN

Continued from Page B1

Glenn coach Derrick Jordan said. "They went out and created multiple turnovers that help lead to some easy baskets at the other end."

Jordan said Stribling's potential is higher than the ceiling.

"She's definitely one of our leaders," Jordan said of Stribling. "When she's focused, she can be one of the best players in the KLAA."

John Glenn's victory may have been a tad more comfortable if not for some off-the-mark free-throw shooting (eight-for-23). The Lions drained 16 of their 30 free-throw attempts.

Although the Rockets never trailed in the second half, they were never able to pull away from the feisty Lions. After Stribling banked in a fast-break lay-up off a slick feed from Woodard at the 2:27 mark of the third quarter, the hosts led 27-17.

However, South Lyon



ED WRIGHT

John Glenn's Sharon Woodard prepares to make a move against South Lyon's Arianna Camanse.

ended the stanza — and opened the fourth — with a flurry, closing its deficit to 30-29 35 seconds into the final period on a driving layup by Swain.

The Lions could never get over the hump, falling victim to a 10-2 Rocket spurt that was capped by a Loving layup off a great cross-court pass by Reed.

"It was an ugly win," Jordan concluded, "but we'll take it."

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THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Dec. 22
Franklin Holiday Tournament
Franklin vs. W.L. Western, TBA
Pioneer vs. Pinckney, TBA
Salem Holiday Tournament
Thurston vs. Warren Mott, 5 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 23
Franklin Holiday Tournament final, TBA

Salem Holiday Tournament final, TBA
Saturday, Dec. 26
Wayne at Renaissance, 5 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 27
John Glenn at East English, 5 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 2
John Glenn at Detroit Renaissance
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 21

Clarenceville at Whitmore Lake, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 26
John Glenn at Southgate Invite, TBA
Sunday, Dec. 27
John Glenn at Southgate Invite, TBA
Monday, Dec. 28
Ladywood at Rochester, 11 a.m.
HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING
Tuesday, Dec. 22

Stevenson at Lakeview-St. Clair Shores Invite, 9 a.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 23
Stevenson at Ionia Invite, 9 a.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 29
Garden City, Franklin at Salem Tournament, 9 a.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 30
Wayne at Canton Invite, 9 a.m.

2015 ALL-AREA BOYS TENNIS TEAM

FIRST TEAM SINGLES

Jordan Lu, Plymouth: The senior co-captain and team MVP finished the season with a record of 18-4, including wins over highly-ranked players.

Lu was named a Division 1 all-state player as a result of his efforts, which sparked the Wildcats to the KLAAs South Division championship. "Players with this level of skill and talent are rare," coach Tom Kimball said. "Jordan combined a crushing serve, a devastating forehand, superior athleticism and a strong desire to win to become one of the best players that Plymouth will ever have."

David Kagan, N. Farmington: Kagan jumped four spots in the lineup this year, going from No. 4 singles (all-area second team) to No. 1 and a berth on the first team. Kagan was a regional champion and helped the Raiders to qualify for the Division 2 state tournament.

"David did a great job of stepping up as a leader this year," coach Whitney Wasielewski said. "He made a big jump in the lineup and really held his own at that difficult spot."

"One singles is a much different and more challenging position to play than four singles and David has proven he is ready for the challenge."

"He worked very hard during the off-season and that showed. I think next year he can have a very successful season now that he's had a year of experience at that position and if he continues to work hard."

Sean Mulka, Churchill: Mulka had a fantastic junior season, racking up an 18-5 record against many of the top players in the area. He is also an outstanding student.

"Sean is one of the hardest workers on the team," coach John Webster said. "He is a leader on and off the court. Sean works with recruitment and development of new players. Sean was city champ, Troy Athens



Lu Kagan



Hack Mukhtar



Mulka Decker



Kapke Mohanraj

COACH OF THE YEAR

Tom Kimball, Plymouth

FIRST TEAM SINGLES

Jordan Lu, sr., Plymouth

David Kagan, jr., N. Farmington

Sean Mulka, jr., Churchill

Matt Decker, jr., Plymouth

Aaron Hack, jr., Harrison

Matthew Mukhtar, jr., Canton

FIRST TEAM DOUBLES

Justin Kapke, jr., Plymouth

Yogesh Mohanraj, jr., Plymouth

Jeff Della Mora, jr., Stevenson

Scott Findlay, jr., Stevenson

SECOND TEAM SINGLES

Kevin Hou, sr., Plymouth

Tyler Kelly, jr., Garden City

Cade Bunton, jr., Stevenson

Andrew Dzioubau, jr., Stevenson

Navjit Girija, jr., Farmington

Daven Patel, jr., Plymouth

Vijay Sriram, soph., Harrison

SECOND TEAM DOUBLES

Joey Mosca, sr., Canton

Kurt Seifert, jr., Canton

AJ Choukair, jr., Salem

Jacob Rumpfs, jr., Salem

Avery Emerson, jr., Garden City

Derek VanDooren, sr., Garden City

HONORABLE MENTION

Harrison: Perry Kreiss, Jon-Luc Kralovich, Kyle Trautmann; Farmington: Chirag Adappa, Justin Walsh; N. Farmington: Keith Jackson, Srihari Srinivasan, Sunny Malik, Sarosh Iran; Canton: Jacob Paton, Howard Zhang, Geet Antani, Vishal Nayak; Salem: Caden Sweet, Conor Sweet; Plymouth: Sam Tufts, Anoop Kotha.

relay tourney runner-up and regional runner up this season."

Matt Decker, Plymouth: Another stellar performer for the Wildcats was Decker at No. 2 singles, tallying a 16-5 record, including victories over players from top programs such as Salem, Canton, Grand Blanc and Walled Lake Northern. He also won two tournaments.

"Despite our move toward sched-

uling tougher opponents, Matt has once again made significant improvements in his game," Kimball said. "Matt will continue to work on his game in the off-season and I expect that his skill and humble determination will take him far again next season."

Aaron Hack, Harrison: The junior compiled a 10-8 record at No. 1 singles, was a regional finalist and a

Division 2 state qualifier.

"Aaron came prepared this season to build on his experience playing one singles," coach Joe Ludwig said. "He earned that spot through tenacious efforts in his challenge matches."

"Aaron continued to work on improving throughout the season, culminating with his qualifying for states. He is a remarkable young man."

Matthew Mukhtar, Canton: The junior was a standout for the Chiefs at No. 2 singles, compiling a stellar 11-5 record.

Mukhtar posted wins against players from Novi Detroit Catholic Central, Brighton, Livonia Stevenson and Livonia Franklin.

"Matthew became a great singles player with his own style and strategy," coach Barb Lehmann said. "He would stream the ball over the net, surprising his opponent and catching them off-guard."

"His laid-back attitude kept his focus strong and his competition level strong."

FIRST TEAM DOUBLES

Justin Kapke and Yogesh Mohanraj, Plymouth: The Wildcats' top doubles tandem finished 13-5, only losing close, three-set matches against top 10 teams, Kimball said.

"This duo played a powerful, aggressive, high level of doubles that was enjoyable to watch," Kimball said. "Given additional challenge matches, either one of these players could have broken into our singles lineup and would have done equally as well. Both players have developed a smart, confident, intimidating net game that allowed them to go on the offensive and control their opponents."

Jeff Della Mora and Scott Findlay, Stevenson: The Spartans' duo compiled a stellar record thanks to their top-notch skill level and on-the-court chemistry that is vital to doubles success.

COACH OF THE YEAR



Tom Kimball, Plymouth: Led by senior all-stater Jordan Lu, the 2015 season was an unqual-

ified success for Kimball and the Wildcats.

Plymouth went undefeated in the KLAAs South Division, claiming the title for a fifth straight season. Along the way were victories at the Wildcat and Monroe invitationals, the first-ever win over West Division champion Grand Blanc, a team-high third place at the KLAAs tourney and fourth place at the Plymouth-hosted D1 regional tournament.

Kimball said a team effort throughout the lineup was instrumental in that long string of successes.

"The doubles players went outside their comfort zone and were able to start developing some aggressive tactics and alternative strategies, which resulted in success against some of the top teams in the state," Kimball said. "All of our singles players are polished, tournament-level players who amassed an amazing combined regular season win-loss record of 56-6."

"I have excellent athletic administration that support the growth our program here at Plymouth and I am especially fortunate to have Erik Batell assist me with coaching and developing our players."

Despite the graduation of four seniors, including Lu, the veteran coach is confident in the program continuing to succeed in 2016.

"Each year, we have more players taking lessons in the off-season and playing in leagues at indoors clubs, which allows them to improve and move to the next level at a much faster rate," he said.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Defense, Michalak vault Cougars over Truman

Garden City 'D' is air-tight in first and fourth quarters

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Garden City senior basketball player Lindsey Michalak was sterling for four quarters Thursday night against Taylor Truman.

The Cougars' defense was fantastic during the game's book-end quarters.

The combination propelled the visiting Cougars to an emphatic 39-22 victory over the similarly named Cougars in the final pre-holiday break action for head coach Michele Tyree's squad.

Michalak had a break-out game for the winners, scoring 23 points — one more than Truman's entire team — to go along with nine rebounds and four assists.

Senior sharpshooter Amber Swisher complemented Michalak's nice night with six points — three coming on a long-range jumper.

Garden City yielded just two points in the first and fourth quarters. GC led 18-10 at the half and 31-20 after three quarters before outscoring their hosts 8-2 down the stretch.

"One of the keys tonight was that we were able to cut down on our turnovers," said



Amber Swisher drives to the basket during a game earlier this season against Taylor Kennedy.

Tyree, whose team improved to 2-4. "We forced some turnovers, too, and hit some outside shots. When you hit outside shots, it opens thing up for the entire offense."

Cassie Leleniewski added four points for the winners while Brittany Radtke scored

three. Alea Montgomery grabbed a team-high 12 rebounds.

Pioneers rock Cougars

On Tuesday at Dearborn, the Pioneers bolted to a 29-6 halftime lead before locking down a 59-18 victory over GC.

Sydney Bruce and Linda Kobeissi both scored 15 points for the winners.

Michalak led GC with six points.

Dearborn made 14 of 21 free throws. GC was five-for-11 from the stripe.

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COLLEGE SOCCER SIGNING



Susie Bryan (center) was joined at the head table Wednesday by (from left) her parents, Schoolcraft women's soccer coach David Carver and John Glenn athletic director John Young.

Glenn's Bryan signs with Schoolcraft

Outside back brings speed, strength

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

All the hard work, dedication and effort Westland John Glenn senior Susie Bryan has invested in the sport of soccer paid dividends on Wednesday when the talented defender signed on to play two years of her favorite sport at Schoolcraft College.

Bryan was joined on special day by SC head coach David Carver, her parents, high school coach Ralph Cabildo, John Glenn athletic director John Young and several family members and friends.

"I like the soccer program a lot, and I'm pretty sure I want to be a veterinarian, but in case I change my mind I have two years to think about it," Bryan said, when asked what appealed to her about Schoolcraft. "Everybody there was warm and welcoming to me as well."

Bryan started playing soccer at the age of 8 along with current teammate Kendra Pennington (who signed Wednesday night to play soccer for Cleary University).

"I like everything about soccer; I can't really pin-point one thing,"

"I like the (Schoolcraft College) soccer program a lot. ... Everybody there was warm and welcoming to me as well."

SUSIE BRYAN,
Westland John Glenn senior

she said. "I play pretty much year-round and my best position is outside back, but I can play pretty much everywhere."

Among the many highlights the fast and instinctive defender has piled up during her high school career was a mid-field shot her sophomore season that floated over the keeper and into the net.

"I think my best skill is that I'm a hard worker and I don't give up," she said.

Bryan carries a phenomenal 3.6 grade-point average with just over a half of a year left in her high school academic career. She said her two favorite subjects are science and social studies.

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SPARTANS

Continued from Page B1

Stevenson's offense was balanced with Shane Leonard, Ben Kowalske, Alex Walkuski and Adam Olson netting goals.

Picking up assists were Alec Allen (two), Leonard, Joe Alcantara, Kowalske and Nate Su-

dek (two). Austin Goleniak made 42 saves for Salem.

Spartans, OLSM tie

Stevenson battled Orchard Lake St. Mary's to a 2-2 draw on Wednesday in a game that couldn't find a winner even after an eight-minute overtime session.

Will Tragge played well between the pipes

for the Spartans, stopping 19 shots.

Alex Siroky and Sudek scored the Spartans' goals.

The game was scoreless after the first two periods before both teams struck for a pair of lamp-lighters during the final 17 minutes of face-paced action.

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Stevenson goaltender Will Tragge made 19 saves during Wednesday's 2-2 overtime draw against Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Late surge lifts Spartans over Plymouth

Dunn's three-point play the catalyst in comeback win

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's boys basketball team saved its best for last Thursday night against visiting Plymouth in a down-to-the-wire KLAAs Kensington Conference cross-over contest.

With the Spartans trailing by one point and just under two minutes left in the game, sophomore guard Devin Dunn stole the ball near mid-court before converting a layup at the other end while getting fouled.

The game-changing sequence was capped by a technical foul call against the Wildcats after one of their players slammed the ball hard to



Stevenson's Spencer Eddings powers in a layup during Stevenson's victory over Wayne earlier this week.

TOM BEAUDOIN

the floor.

After Dunn drained his free throw to complete the and-one, Ian

Knoph sank both technical foul shots. Stevenson also scored on the ensuing possession,

which was made possible by the "T", to seize a six-point lead.

Plymouth cut its deficit to two in the waning seconds, but the Spartans hung on to improve to 3-1 heading into the holiday break.

"It was a nice win for us," head coach Kareem Smartt said. "Both teams missed a lot of layups. We must have missed 13 or 14, with eight of them being from point-blank range. We'll work on finishing over the break, that's for sure."

Knoph led the Spartans with 14 points. Dunn added 12 and Chris Tanderys knocked down three huge triples in the second quarter to finish with nine.

Tanderys's long-range shooting heroics were instrumental in the Spartans carrying a 27-24 lead into the half.

Plymouth senior

guard Brent Davis continued his fine play as he finished with a team-high 26 points.

Stevenson drained 11 of 16 free-throw attempts.

The loss dropped the Wildcats to 1-3.

Here are the other stats (besides the Max-Preps report I sent you...also attached!) from tonight's non-conference home game against Westside Christian Academy:

Warriors triumphant

Lutheran Westland improved to 3-0 on Tuesday night with a 71-52 victory over Westside Christian (1-2).

The Warriors set the tone early by out-scoring WC 28-4 in the first quarter. Lutheran Westland led 46-23 at the half and 66-33 with eight minutes to play.

Four Warriors reached the double-digit scoring plateau: Brent Croft (22 points), Luke Smith (17), Zach Burk (13) and Robert Marshall (10).

"We had an excellent first half," said Warriors head coach Jim Hoeft. "We took care of the ball and played pretty solid team defense."

"The third quarter was much of the same; however, the fourth quarter we were pretty sloppy. We have some things to work on, but I'm happy with the team game we're playing. I am pleased with the way we're rebounding the basketball, limiting second-chance points. This was a good win heading into the break!"

Jaylin Hall led Westside with 23 points. Carvell Goodlow scored 13.

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BOYS BASKETBALL

Northville digs out of early hole to cage pesky Zebras

Gibbons, Zimbo pace 60-54 victory

Brad Emmons
Staff Writer

Northville was expecting the fastball, but Wayne Memorial came out and threw the Mustangs a curveball to start Thursday's boys basketball game.

But once Northville figured things out after trailing by as many as 11 points in the first quarter, the host Mustangs scored another walk-off victory — their fourth straight to open the season — by a 60-54 margin.

"They (Wayne) ran a different kind of defense, they ran a different kind of zone," said Northville senior forward Justin Gibbons, who finished with a game-high 24 points. "It was a match-up zone and they left the paint wide open a lot of times. We crashed hard and kind of clawed our way back from an 8-0 deficit. We kept crashing, kept getting second-chance points and honestly that got us back in the game and got us the W."

Northville trailed by eight, 20-12, after the first thanks to a triple by senior Justin Zimbo (20 points) with 5.4 seconds left in the quarter.

"We thought it'd be a similar game that we had (Tuesday) versus (West-

land John) Glenn, where they'd be trapping an pressing all over the floor," Northville coach Todd Sander said of Wayne. "And they played a really creative match-up zone (defense) that's hard to practice against and hard to simulate. Took us a while to get it figured out, but we had different guys step up and make big plays."

By the second quarter, Northville had pulled even, making 7-of-12 shots from the floor while outscoring the Zebras, 19-11. The quarter was capped by Zimbo's short buzzer-beater to even the score at 31-31.

"They came out firing and hit two threes back-to-back," Gibbons said of the Zebras' first quarter, when they made 8-of-16 field-goal attempts. "We started off a little slow on offense, made a few poor turnovers, but we managed to tighten things up and hit some shots."

Sander was thrown for a curve himself to start the game.

"We've been fortunate," he said. "We've got off to good starts in games to date, so today this was a great learning experience. We dug ourselves a couple of big holes, but had a big second quarter and cleaned up some things on defense. I was really proud of our guys how they executed in the second

half."

Wayne, behind 6-foot-6 junior forward Keion Epps, stayed close in the third quarter as the teams battled to a defensive stalemate. Northville held a 39-38 lead heading into the final quarter.

It was 45-45 with 5:17 left in the final quarter after Epps, who finished with a team-high 18 points, scored inside.

But two straight shots by Zimbo broke the deadlock and a pair of free throws by Jake Justice with 2:27 left gave Northville a four-point cushion, 51-47. The Mustangs went on to make 9-of-12 free throws down the stretch to secure the victory.

"Zimbo, I thought, willed us to some hoops and showed why he's the leader that he is," Sander said.

For the game, Northville made only 19-of-50 shots from the floor (38 percent), but connected on 19-of-25 free throws (72 percent). By contrast, Wayne was 21-of-47 from the field (44.6 percent), but only 3-of-8 from the foul line (37.5 percent).

Northville also out-rebounded the Zebras, 33-25, and scored on 19 second-chance points to Wayne's seven.

"Some of the things that hurt us was, if you look at the game, is that we missed free throws and (Northville) made



Wayne's Isaiah Lewis has been a catalyst for the Zebras during the season's early going.

TOM BEAUDOIN

theirs and that was the difference," said Wayne coach Nkwane Young, whose team fell to 1-3 overall. "But my hat's off to them. They made plays when they had to. I thought in the fourth quarter, there were two crucial plays where they didn't score, but wound up getting second-chance points and that hurt us big time. That's been our problem — rebounding."

Gibbons wound up going 7-of-17 from the floor to go along with 11 rebounds.

"Gibbons ... he ended up with a lot of points and made free throws down the stretch for us and made big plays for us on the glass," Sander said. "Didn't shoot it real well, but was really, really effective around on

the interior going against their defense."

Gibbons, however, went 10-of-12 from the foul line.

"Tonight was a good night," the senior forward said. "Not every night is great, but hit them (free throws) when they mattered and got us back in the game. That's all that matters ... got the W."

Junior forward Napier Bryant and freshman guard Isaiah Lewis each added 12 points for the Zebras. All of Lewis' points came on triples.

"We're steadily trying to build," said Young, who is in his second season. "That's one thing I've done is build programs and I know it's going to take time. You gotta be patient. We

got a freshman and a sophomore starting at guard, then three juniors starting and three of my top four players off the bench are juniors, so I know it's going to take some time."

Northville, which had only one returning starter (Zimbo) off last year's Class A district final squad, has been somewhat of a surprise starting the season at 4-0.

"We were really excited to get going," Sander said. "We've got great chemistry. We really like the style the guys are playing. They're buying in and they're just a bunch of winners. We're excited where we're at, but certainly can be a lot better."

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GIRLS BOWLING

Zebras topple Grand Blanc

Wayne brings back victory from long trip to Genesee County

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

The Wayne Memorial girls bowling team stayed in its early-season groove Wednesday when it handed host Grand Blanc a decisive 24.5-5.5 setback in a KLAAs cross-over match.

"The shot was difficult, but the girls continued to make good shots," first-year Zebra head coach Christine Day said. "It was definitely a day in which spare-making was necessary."

"Nearly half the team's games were consumed with spares, which shows how much work this team has been



TOM BEAUDOIN

Wayne Memorial's Shaelyn Wojewski throws a practice ball prior to a match earlier this week at Canton's Super Bowl.

putting into their practice."

The Zebras kicked off the day on an encouraging note when they posted their highest Baker game score of the season (159).

First-year high school bowler Mariah Aho then made a dazzling debut by defeating

her teammate by over 40 pins in both games.

In addition to Aho, Miranda Holmes and Miriana O'Harris earned individual points for the winners, who outscored Grand Blanc by 379 pins.

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HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASTICS

Livonia Blue deep, talented; Red now 2-0 after victory

Ed Wright
Staff Writer

Quality and quantity will figure into the 2015-16 Livonia Blue gymnastics season.

"We have a big team this year and everyone is working well together," Blue head coach Lisa Broomfield said. "We have a lot of talent and drive for the season ahead. Looking forward to seeing what this team is made of."

The team will be led by some familiar names from last season: seniors Bri Rhoad and Emily Chatterjee, junior Jessica Weak and sophomore Katie Grover.

Rhoad was a state-qualifier last season in the all-around. She placed ninth on the vault

and fifth on the bars.

Weak also was an all-around state-qualifier, placing fourth on the uneven bars.

Chatterjee qualified for the state meet on the bars, beam and floor. She placed 10th on the floor.

"I am very proud of all the girls so far this season; they come into the gym ready to work," Broomfield said.

"With so many new teammates, we have bonded quickly and everyone is enjoying themselves. I am looking forward to see what the season holds for us."

Livonia Red wins

Livonia Red improved its record to 2-0 Tuesday night with a 141.125-132.05 triumph over Milford-Lakeland.

Julia Hattley was the winners' top varsity scorer, chalking up 35.15 all-around points. Hattley's highlight event Tuesday was the floor exercise, which she won with a score of 9.15. She also earned an 8.85 on the vault, an 8.75 on the beam and an 8.40 on the uneven bars.

Red's Marissa McVey and Mikaela Hille tied for first on the vault with a score of 8.95. McVey also won the bars with 8.55 — 0.10 more than Hille.

Mackenzie Borrman out-performed everyone on the beam, posting a sparkling score of 9.40.

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WEDDING

Kristen Elizabeth Barry and Michael Kenneth Marcaccio were married Dec. 27, 2014, at Meadowbrook Congregational Church, Novi. The Rev. Arthur P. Ritter officiated.

Kristen, daughter of Michael and Nancy Barry of Livonia, is a 2007 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in education in 2011 and a master of arts degree in literacy in 2015 from Michigan State University. She teaches fourth grade in the Troy School District.

Michael, son of Kenneth and Carol Marcaccio of Waterford, graduated in 2005 from Orchard Lake St. Mary's Preparatory and earned a bachelor of science degree in human resources in 2011 from Michigan State University.

Jenny Meagher was the maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Kelley Marcaccio, Michelle Cady, Beth Kretunski, Becca Grden and



Michael Maraccio and Kristen Barry

Amanda Dean. Flower girls were Lily and Genevieve Brown.

Matt Bojczyk was the best man. Groomsmen were Steve Kelm, Tom Barry, Kevin Brennan, Neil Runyon and Chris Cichewicz.

The reception was held at the Meeting House Grand Ballroom in Plymouth.

The newlyweds took a honeymoon trip to Jamaica. They live in Rochester Hills.

Winter solstice service celebrates 'rebirth' of sun

The winter solstice marks the longest night and shortest day of the year in our Northern Hemisphere as the Earth's axis tilts the furthest away from the sun. While the first day of winter can make us feel cold and chilly, for many people it's a time to celebrate the return to more light, as the daylight will gradually lengthen.

Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church in Southfield is holding an Earth-centered winter solstice service for people of all faith traditions Tuesday, Dec. 22.

Rev. Kimi Riegel explained that among the membership of the eclectic congregation are Christians, atheists, agnostics, people of the Jewish tradition and those who identify with Buddhist teachings.

"If you look at our hymnal, there are hymns from all different traditions and different languages, so it's a very open and accepting and supportive environment," she said. "There are people in the congregation who celebrate solstice ... for whom that is a metaphor that explains this time of year. We will have a solstice service led by me and one of the women in the congregation for whom the story is most meaningful."

Farmington Hills resident Denise Calhoun, a pagan, is organizing the



Diana Wing

solstice celebration. She said it was important for ancient man to understand the rhythms and cycles of the Earth to know when to plant in order to survive.

"Between (Dec.) 21 and 22, the Earth is going to tilt. ... This energy is going a certain way and all of a sudden it's reversed and changing. Some people think there is significance to that and it affects us on a physical and spiritual level," she said, noting that it's a time to reflect and look inward.

"We can sit and count our seeds for the next planting season. It's a dark time and that's why ancient man celebrated it," Calhoun said. "It's like, don't be scared. The sun is going to come back and we're going to have a party about that."

Pagan rituals

The solstice ceremony will run about an hour and will include a lighting of candles and rituals to welcome the new year. There is a tradition of calling the quarters, a belief that direction — east, south, west and north — each brings a different kind of energy.

"When we create a pagan ritual, we want to create a sacred space



Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church in Southfield is holding an earth-centered winter solstice service for people of all faith traditions Tuesday, Dec. 22.

and in our minds imagine it being out of time in a dimension," Calhoun said. "We invite the east and it brings its own kind of energy. Some people invite the god and the goddess. I like to think of it as the divine masculine and feminine energies that give us balance."

Another ritual is an intention similar to making a new year's resolution and then telling the congregation about it if you'd like.

"What do you want to bring into the next year? What do you want to create or work on or have success with?" Calhoun said. "We're going to commit by writing these

down and decorating a wreath with them. The wreath represents the cycle, the wheel of the year."

The solstice service begins at 6:45 p.m. and it's open to the public. The congregation's regular Tuesday "Friends and Soup" gathering begins at 6 p.m. and includes a vegan soup and vespers — a quiet meditation and sharing time. A \$5 suggested donation is suggested for that earlier gathering.

Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 23925 Northwestern Highway. Call 248-354-4488. Go to www.northwestuu.org.

Passages

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 Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers
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 Holiday deadlines are subject to change.



MAXWELL, BETTY J.

Age 92 of Northville passed away on December 1, 2015. Loving wife of the late Jack Simons, and the late Herbert. Beloved mother of Marlene (John) Birchmeier, Donald (Karen) Simons, the late Brian Simons, and Roseanne Simons. Proud grandmother of Libby & Lindsey Birchmeier. Dear friend of Patti (Mike) Cappuccitti and Katie & Sarah. Memorial Service Saturday, December 26, 2015 11:00 AM at Vermuelen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. The family will gather for visitation with friends Saturday, December 26, 2015 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimers Association To share a memory, please visit vermueulenfuneralhome.com Following the service a luncheon to celebrate Betty's life will be held at the Courthouse Grille, 41661 Plymouth Road, (West of Haggerty), Plymouth.



WALKER, WHITNEY

Was born on August 14, 1942 in Lincoln, Pennsylvania and moved when she was three years old with her parents and family to Birmingham, Michigan. From a very young age she was a beautiful child who laughed easily and often, and was creative to her very bones. She attended Adams Elementary, then Kingswood School Cranbrook until she transferred to Birmingham High School for her junior and senior years. She was accepted at Julliard as a dance major, but went to Butler University instead. She was strong and a very fine dancer, excelling in the Martha Graham technique of modern dance. Ballet was too confining for Whit; she was a free spirit. During summers in high school she worked at the Village Store, which offered classic 1950s kilts and Shetland sweaters for teenagers, on Pierce Street in Birmingham. She studied modeling and was a successful photographic model for local ad studios during high school and during summers when she was in college. After two years at Butler, she left to live and work in Ann Arbor, briefly embracing a beatnik lifestyle, especially its jazz music. She was quite a rebel in the conservative 1950s. In 1962 she was maid of honor in her sister Starr's wedding; then returned to Ann Arbor where she met and married Flip Jackson, a fine jazz musician, with whom she had seven children, five of whom still live near the Birmingham area where they grew up. She loved Santa Barbara and spent a few years there with her younger children who were still in grade school. She loved music, especially jazz, and the wonderful Hawaiian music she discovered when she visited her cousin Adrian in Hawaii. She played the piano for fun and to entertain her children. She enjoyed painting and art, and passed these passions to her offspring. She loved to sing: Whit and her sister Starr used to sing camp songs in harmony each night while washing dishes at home after dinner, often joined by her younger siblings, Sam and Deb. Whit and Starr were the only choir members, accompanied by a piano player, when our parents transferred us from Christ Church Cranbrook to St. Stevens, a mission church Christ Church sponsored in the late 1950s. Over the years Whit learned to be a good businesswoman, operating her own day care center and home cleaning service. In her later years, she became a master gardener, transforming her deep love of flowers and artistic talent into a fine gardening design business for clients in Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and neighboring communities. Whitney was a warm and friendly person, well loved by all who knew her. She died gently and peacefully in hospice on December 7, 2015. She is survived by her sisters, Starr Foster (Mitch) and Deborah; and brothers, Sam (Joanne), Peter and John Walker; and her children, April, JJ, Lee, Valerie, Emily Beasaw (Rex), and Bill; and her beloved grandchildren, Jackson (April), Jordan, Hailey, and Joshua (JJ), Hana, Olivia (Valerie), Maliko, Cole, Remy, Blaize (Emily). The Memorial Service was held Friday, December 11, 2015, at Christ Church Cranbrook.

MULLEN, BARBARA "BOBBIE" ELLEN (NEE NEEDLES)

Age 91, lifelong resident of Birmingham and Horton Bay, MI. Beloved wife of the late William "Bo" Stanley Mullen; loving mother of Pam (John) McEnroe and Jeanne Groat; proud Meme of Elizabeth McEnroe, Richard (Dylan) Groat and Kathy Groat; dear sister of the late Gene (Ed) Falk; fond aunt of Stephen (Diane) Falk. Funeral Mass was held in Illinois and a Michigan funeral will be held in spring of 2016 follow by Interment at All Saints Cemetery, Waterford, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Alzheimer's Association 8430 West Bryn Mawr Avenue, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60631 or Misericordia 6300 North Ridge Avenue Chicago, IL 60660 Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or (847) 675-1990.



May you find peace in your time of sorrow.

Hearts touched by giving at CARE House

Diane K. Bert
 Correspondent

With children and parents in attendance, the annual festive CARE House holiday party was held recently at the Sheriff's Hall in Pontiac. Tricia Schuster, program director of CARE House, was in charge of the event.

"It is a joy to see the parents' faces as their children pick out their gifts," Schuster said. "Many families thought they weren't going to have a Christmas. They wouldn't be able to buy gifts. They only have money for basic needs. The staff gets to see people we work with all week long ... seeing them get things is very rewarding."

"We do this at no charge to CARE House," Oakland County Sheriff's Deputy Mark Hickson said. The police in Oakland County work closely with CARE House.

The Junior League of Birmingham founded CARE House decades ago. "We have volunteers offering craft projects and healthy snacks. Children receive a bag of snacks and make cute ornaments," Carol Ellis said. "This is a great event," said Anne Neihal of the Junior League. "Seeing the joy of all the kids is gratifying." "People are especially generous this year in supporting CARE House," said Pat Rosen, CEO of CARE House. "We have had a wonderful response from many individuals, the Junior League of Birmingham, Kirk of the Hills Church and the nursing students of Baker College. This enabled us to offer this wonderful holiday party for our families and serve many children through the Adopt A Child gift giving program. We collect things all year to give away at this event."

"This is a great opportunity for the families," said Chad Ozias, director of volunteers. "We couldn't do it without all of the volunteers."

"Baker College nursing students are expected to earn service learning hours. Helping at this event is a fine experience



Pat Rosen, CEO of CARE House of Oakland County, holds one of the beautiful Santa Bears donated by Karen Rogers as gifts for children served by CARE House.

for them. They have fun and serve others," said Linda M. DiClemente, a professor.

"CARE House is a nonprofit agency which serves children who are victims of sexual abuse or neglect by providing forensic interviews and therapy," Miriana Milo said. "They also have an Early Learning Head Start Program which provides parenting education to high-risk young parents, a Court Appointed Special Advocate program and education programs for school personnel and children. All services are provided free to the families. All of the children and their families are invited to the party."

CARE House staff members wholeheartedly support the event, appearing early to decorate the hall and arrange hundreds of gifts in the Santa room. A beautiful Christmas tree covered with teddy bears and other stuffed animals awaited the children. As Yvonne Cameron, director of intervention, decorated the tree, she said, "It is really exciting for us to see the excitement of the children. Parents

can relax and enjoy themselves. It is touching when children ask for a bear for their younger brother or sister."

One very special guest was 81-year-old Mary Lou Zieve.

"Years ago, it was my idea to do this for the kids," she said. "As president emeritus of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, I called on friends to be Santa (a.k.a. Steve Goldsmith) and his helpers. This goes beyond giving money; we gave of ourselves. We make life a little happier for the kids. It is a feel good thing."

Zieve provides the film for the Santa photos.

As children had their turn to visit Santa and have their picture taken, they were able to choose a toy from the wonderful array of age-appropriate gifts donated by Kirk in the Hills members. Norma Waldo who coordinates the Kirk involvement, said, "This is such a meaningful, wonderful event. We like seeing the happiness on the children's faces. They seem to glow and, after seeing Santa, they glow even more." The church also

provided pizza and salads to feed the 250 guests at the party.

One little boy clapped his hands in delight after choosing a gift. Most children gave careful consideration to their choice.

One Cranbrook Schools student had guests at her birthday party bring gifts for CARE House children. Another generous donor, Karen Rogers, gave her Christmas Bear collection to CARE House. These beautiful bears will be treasured by the children. Rogers' daughter Danielle said, "We wanted to make a difference on someone's life."

A gift honoring the memory of Brian White was given to CARE House. A beautiful book case holding children's books was placed in the waiting room of the therapy area. Children may take books and the books will be replenished frequently.

Kyle Mason and his wife brought their children, ages 9, 6, 4, and 2. He said, "The kids couldn't wait to come. We came last year. They are very excited and loved seeing Santa."



Nicole Nahs shows the glitter paint she used on her DIY sweater.



Nicole Nahs, assistant manager of a Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft store in Livonia, explains how she created a tacky holiday sweater.



Nicole Nahs plans to wear her DIY gaudy Christmas sweater when she visits her in-laws.

Holiday sweaters turned craft project

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Call them ugly, tacky or the overachievers of the knitwear world.

Holiday-themed sweaters are a must-wear for parties, family gatherings and bar nights at Christmas. The gaudier, shinier and more sparkly they are, the better.

But you don't need to buy a sweater. You can make one yourself with a little craft knowhow and lots of fabric glitter paint.

I asked Nicole Nahs, assistant manager at Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores on Middlebelt near Schoolcraft in Livonia for a few pointers. She responded with newly decorated sweater in hand.

"I was thinking about it and I was kind of walking around the store and looking at stuff and I saw some wrapping paper that had cats dressed as elves and I said that would be kind of cute to do something with animals, because who doesn't like animals, especially when they are dressed up?" said Nahs, who shares her home with her husband, three stepchildren, four cats and a dog. Nahs calls animals her passion and in her spare time makes thermal blankets for cats and dogs at the Michigan Humane Society.

"I would stick with a theme, something you're passionate about," she advised. "If you go with a theme that makes it easier to find things to go with it. Otherwise you're just looking at everything Christmas."

After gathering a few items from the store, including a flannel remnant decorated with cute dogs, white sequin fringe, bells, and a wide piece of ribbon sporting the words, Merry Christmas, Nahs combed through her craft items at home. Then she shopped at a DAV thrift store in Livonia, where she bought a red sweater with red sequin stripes for \$4. Sweatshirts can substitute for sweaters, too.

"It was already shiny. I like shiny stuff," Nahs said. "I think you want to start with something plain, depending on what you're going for."

At the jewelry counter, she found a handful of cat-themed pins for 25 cents each, and a few trinkets in the shape of mice. She bought them all.

At home she worked on the layout. She recommends laying out the entire design before gluing with



Nicole Nahs describes her do-it-yourself holiday sweater as cute but gaudy.

fabric glue and outlining with fabric paint. Nahs cut dog shapes from the fleece, placed them on the sweater and gave them felt hats with fake fur brims and a pompom on top.

"You know you have to put something on like a wreath or a tree. So, I cut out triangles and frayed them. I put a little fabric paint on there, too, to give them texture."

The triangles were stacked into a tree that begged for ornaments.

"Once I found the dogs, I thought I could decorate the tree with the cat pins, like they'd caught the cats and those are their ornaments. And the little mice I found at the thrift store would be happy the cats would be on the tree. I made up this whole story," she said, with a laugh. A story can help give the sweater "a life of its own."

She liberally sprinkled on glitter as a finishing touch.

"Honestly, glitter doesn't need glue. It sticks everywhere. You aren't going to wash something like this. It's one of those things you'd wear it once or twice to a holiday party."

Nahs plans to wear her do-it-yourself holiday

sweater to her in-laws at Christmas.

My theme ideas

» It's the giving season, so why not make your ugly holiday sweater a walking billboard for your cause? If you're a food bank advocate, for example, buy an assortment of tiny play food boxes from the toy store. Draw a Christmas tree on the sweater in green fabric paint. Add ornaments by attaching food boxes to the sweater with ribbons. On the back, write food pantry names and addresses to encourage donations. Add glitter.

» Adult coloring books are hot this year. Cut out Christmas cookie cutter shapes from coloring books and adhere them to the sweater with glue. Outline each shape with fabric glitter paint. Glue green and red crayons on the garment. For a whimsical touch, tie or glue a few felt tip colored pens or crayons onto a long ribbon. Alternate with jingle bells. Tie the ribbon, wear as a necklace. Add glitter.

» Be the tree. Staple on garland. Cut ornaments out of fleece and glue onto the sweater or sweatshirt. Outline each in fabric paint. Add some battery-operated lights. Add a star to a headband and wear. Add glitter.

Where to wear it

» Ugly Christmas Sweater Charity Party, 8 p.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, Townsend Hotel, in downtown Birmingham. Includes pictures with Santa, cash bar, Christmas carol karaoke, DJs and live music by Killer Flamingos. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation to support this year's Snowpile Program, which gives parents the chance to "shop" for Christmas presents their children, without having to leave their sick child's bedside. Tickets from \$34.99-\$59.99. Visit www.neptix.com/events/29015

» Ugly Sweater Contest, judging starts at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, at Stellas Black Dog Tavern, 860 Fralick, Plymouth. Win prizes for first, second and third place. Appetizers and drink specials. 734-207-9656

» Family Christmas dinner. If you're cooking, be sure to wear an apron. Don't add glitter.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

Polish group shares oplatki wafers at annual event

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

The West Side Detroit Polish American Historical Society will wish the public a Merry Christmas with its annual Oplatek on Sunday, Dec. 27, in its heritage room at St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia.

"We anticipate a big crowd this year at our event since it's our 10th annual Oplatek," said Laurie A. Gomulka, vice president and executive director/secretary.

The 10th Annual Oplatek & Grand Gala will honor local Polish press, including the *Polish Times*, *Polish Weekly* and *West Side Courier*. The event will run 2-5 p.m. at the church, 17600 Newburgh, just north of Six Mile.

It will start with music by Filaretos and a Kolesy sing-along. Visitors will get a chance to browse a Polish heritage exhibit that includes photographs of west side Detroit neighborhoods, vintage funeral record books and ordination documents, a vintage priest's stole, vintage musical instruments, Catholic Society booklets, pins, holy cards, and

more. Artist Dennis Orlowski will be on hand to discuss the mural he painted in the Heritage Room. Oplatki wafers, a Polish Christmas tradition, also will be served.

"Outside the Heritage Room in the main Activities Center is where we will share the oplatki wafers. We will have approximately 28 tables set up and in the middle of each table will be a plate containing eight wafers," Gomulka said. The Rev. Gary Michalik, St. Colette pastor and president of the Society, will recite a blessing and attendees will share the wafers.

"As we share the wafer, we wish one another health and happiness in the New Year or other similar wishes of goodwill. It is very important in the Polish culture that before entering into this custom we forgive and forget any past slights or wrongs. It is believed that no untoward or unkind thought should be carried forward into the New Year," she said.

Christmas Eve

She practices the tradition at home during her family's

Wigilia, a Christmas Eve dinner, and also includes a small piece of wafer in each Christmas card she sends to Polish family members and friends.

Christine Lewandowski, co-owner of Polanka Market on Plymouth Road, east of Middlebelt, in Livonia, said the wafers are essential for Polish family Christmas Eve celebrations. Each bag of oplatki she sells contains three large and two small wafers and costs less than \$2.

"It's at the center of the table. We cover the table with a white tablecloth and underneath usually they put a little hay. This represents that Christ was born in a manger. It's a symbolic thing," Lewandowski said. "We put it on a plate and everyone takes a little piece."

A light reception will follow the wafer sharing at the 10th Annual Oplatek & Grand Gala. There is no admission, but a free-will offering will be accepted.

For more information, call 855-765-6642 or email lgoulka@detroitpolonia.org.

sdargay@hometownlife.com



Oplatki wafers are made of flour and water and are decorated with a holiday scene. You can get a chance to taste them at the Tenth Annual Oplatek & Gala, Dec. 27 in Livonia.

REUNIONS

DETROIT CODY CLASS OF 1966

50-year reunion planned for Sept. 10, 2016, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. For more information, visit cody-class1966@groups.facebook.com or call Joe Evans at 313-421-5448 or Barbara (Doherty) Kalinski at 734-320-6545.

GARDEN CITY EAST AND WEST CLASS OF 1966

The reunion is set for Sept. 10, 2016. RSVP to 1966reunioncommittee@gmail.com or call Dennis Russell at 734-658-2288.

PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1967

50-year reunion planned. Visit Class Creator - Plymouthmi67.com for information, or call Lynette Thayer at 419-726-2088.

REDFORD UNION HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1966

50th reunion planned for Saturday, May 21, 2016 at Western Golf and Country Club, with an informal get together on Friday, May 20, 2016. For registration and full details, visit RU66reunion@gmail.com or call Randy Maltby at 248-914-1052.

RELIGION CALENDAR

DECEMBER 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 PLAY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 19 and 6 p.m. Dec. 20

Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Christmas play about a military chaplain searching for the spirit of Christmas while settling into new base overseas. He finds inspiration in the testimonies of historical figures, as well as the Bible. The program is free

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

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Time/Date: 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. Dec. 24 and 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11 a.m. Dec. 25

Location: St. Colette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia

Contact: 734-464-4433; stcolette.net

COMMUNITY CAROL SING

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

Location: Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth

Details: Features The Salvation Army Dearborn Heights Citadel Band. Refreshments will be served after the concert at First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church Street, Plymouth

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

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 31

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: Worship service

Contact: 313-532-8655

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 or on line at 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

Rescues offer calendars, pet delivery, winter tips

Guardian Angel Animal Rescue (GAAR) in Livonia wants you to start the new year out right, with its 2016 wall calendar.

The calendar includes photographs of GAAR-rescued animals that "fought against all odds to survive."

The calendars cost \$12, with all proceeds going to help its animals. Order by mail by sending a check to GAAR, P.O. Box 511309, Livonia, MI 48150. Or email to guardian_angel_rescue@hotmail.com.

Christmas delivery

Any pet adopted from the Humane Society of Huron Valley (HSHV) Dec. 21-24 is eligible for free holiday delivery within a 10-mile radius of the shelter.

"Volunteer elves will be making most of the deliveries on Christmas Eve and morning," said Krista Donohoo, adoptions manager. "But Santa said he'll deliver a few pets himself, too."

HSHV hopes to use this service to encourage adoption instead of other ways of acquiring a pet, and aims to get as many homeless animals into homes over the holidays.

More puppies and dogs will be delivered to the shelter just in time for Christmas by Pet-Smart Charities' Rescue Waggin. The homeless dogs will come from shelters that struggle finding adopters.

See available pets on HSHV's website, hshv.org, and on HSHV's Facebook page. Or visit in person at 3100 Cherry Hill Road, Ann Arbor; 734-662-5585

It's c-c-cold outside

Every year, dogs and cats in the metro Detroit area are left outside, forced to face the frigid winds and extreme temperatures without adequate shelter, food and water. With its



Guardian Angels Animal Rescue is selling this calendar for \$12 each.

Cruelty Investigation Department already responding to high numbers of weather-related calls, the Michigan Humane Society (MHS) is urging pet owners to ensure their pets are protected now, before it's too late.

Michigan state law requires pet owners who keep their animals outdoors to provide enough food and water, as well as adequate shelter. MHS says dog houses should be well-built, insulated, and slant-roofed. The interior should be just large enough for the dog to stand and to lie down comfortably and slightly elevated from the ground for air circulation. The door should face away from prevailing winds and have a protective flap to eliminate drafts. Clean, dry straw should be used as bedding, rather than towels, rugs or blankets, which quickly absorb moisture and freeze in frigid temperatures.

MHS offers free straw for pets from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday, and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, at its Detroit Center for Animal Care, 7401 Chrysler Drive. It's also available from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesdays at its shelter on 3600 W. Auburn Road, Auburn Hills.

It offers these cold weather tips:

» When temperatures plummet, pets should not be left outside for any length of time. Be sure to bring small or short-haired pets in when temperatures reach 15-20 degrees Fahrenheit. Be sure to take into account precipitation and wind chill.

» Cats should be kept indoors or at least brought into a warm, animal-proofed garage during severe weather.

» Roaming cats often seek the warmth of car engines, so be sure to knock on the car hood or honk the horn before starting your car to startle them and give them a chance to escape.

» Increase the amount of food you provide for dogs left outside by 10-20 percent during the winter months. The extra calories are needed to help an animal to stay warm.

» Regular access to clean, unfrozen water is also critical. Check drinking water frequently — every few hours — to ensure that it is unfrozen.

» If an animal is cold to the touch, or his paws and ears are pale, he may be suffering from frostbite. Move the animal to a warmer area and contact your veterinarian immediately.

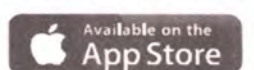


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Citrus Herbed Chicken With Asparagus



Tuscan Pasta

Swap salt for herbs, spices in 2016

Making a New Year's resolution? Don't forget salt. Most Americans consume about a 1,000 milligrams of sodium over the amount recommended by nutrition and health experts. New research shows cooking with spices and herbs could help you ditch the salt shaker and meet sodium recommendations.

Keeping a resolution to cut salt from your diet is easy. Use simple spice swaps to create tasty, low-sodium meals. From seasoning eggs with basil instead of salt to adding spices and herbs to no-salt tomato sauce, the McCormick Kitchens offer these easy tips and recipes to make low-sodium meals full of flavor:

» Beat ½ teaspoon herb instead of salt into 2 eggs before scrambling.

» Add oregano, garlic powder and red pepper to no-salt added tomato sauce for a tasty, low-sodium pasta dinner.

» Try making Citrus Herbed Chicken with Asparagus, Fiesta Citrus Salmon or Tuscan Pasta. These dishes don't call for any salt. Instead, they swap in basil, garlic powder and oregano.

For more low-sodium tips and recipes — such as shaved vegetable salad with Italian herb vinaigrette — visit McCormick.com/recipes/low-sodium to keep your New Year's resolutions on track. To see the full Anderson study, which examined the effects of a behavioral intervention that emphasized spice and herbs, and how it impacts sodium intake, visit McCormickScienceInstitute.com.

Courtesy of Family Features

FIESTA CITRUS SALMON

Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Serves: 4

- ¼ cup orange juice
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons McCormick Perfect Pinch Salt-Free Fiesta Citrus Seasoning, divided
- 2 tablespoons packed brown sugar, divided
- 1 pound salmon fillets

In small bowl, mix juice, oil and 1 tablespoon each seasoning and sugar. Place salmon in large resealable plastic bag or glass dish. Add marinade; turn to coat well. Refrigerate 30 minutes, or longer for extra flavor. In another small bowl, mix remaining seasoning and sugar. Remove salmon from marinade. Discard any remaining marinade. Rub salmon evenly with seasoning mixture.

TUSCAN PASTA

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Serves: 6

- 1 can (28 ounces) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 can (8 ounces) no-salt added tomato sauce
- 1 tablespoon sugar (optional)
- 2 tablespoons packed brown sugar, divided
- 2 teaspoons McCormick Garlic Powder
- 2 teaspoons McCormick Perfect Pinch Italian Seasoning
- ½ teaspoon McCormick Black Pepper, ground
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 pound zucchini, sliced
- 1 package (8 ounces) sliced mushrooms
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 6 ounces pasta, such as spaghetti or linguine

In medium saucepan, mix tomatoes, tomato sauce, sugar and seasonings. Bring to boil on medium heat. Reduce heat

to low; cover and simmer 20 minutes. In large skillet, heat oil on medium-high heat. Add zucchini, mushrooms and onion; cook and stir 4 minutes or until vegetables are tender-crisp. Stir tomato sauce into vegetables. Meanwhile, cook pasta as directed on package. Drain well. Place pasta in serving bowl. Add vegetable mixture; toss well.

CITRUS HERBED CHICKEN WITH ASPARAGUS

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes
Serves: 4

- ¼ cup flour
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
- ½ teaspoon McCormick Garlic Powder
- ¼ teaspoon McCormick Black Pepper, coarse ground
- 1 pound thin-sliced boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 ½ cups chicken stock

- 1 teaspoon McCormick Basil Leaves
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Oregano Leaves
- 1 pound asparagus, trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice

In shallow dish, mix flour, Parmesan cheese, garlic powder and pepper. Reserve 2 tablespoons. Moisten chicken lightly with water. Coat evenly with remaining flour mixture. In large nonstick skillet, heat oil on medium heat. Add ½ of the chicken pieces; cook 3 minutes per side, or until golden brown. Repeat with remaining chicken, adding additional oil, if necessary. Remove chicken from skillet; keep warm. In medium bowl, mix stock, basil, oregano and reserved flour mixture until well blended. Add to skillet along with asparagus. Bring to boil. Reduce heat to low; simmer 3-5 minutes, or until sauce is slightly thickened, stirring frequently. Stir in lemon juice. Return chicken to skillet; cook 2 minutes, or until heated through.

Guide to Employment

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

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

For even more opportunities see our "award winning" classified section!

Help Wanted - General

APPOINTMENT SETTER
Make Your Own Schedule!
Work From Home PT or FT.
Schedule Pick-Ups for Purple Heart, call Mon-Fri. 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email phoneworkinfo@aol.com

Help Wanted - General

CUSTODIAL PART-TIME
Northville First United Methodist Church is looking for a part-time custodian to work evenings & Sunday mornings. If interested or for more information submit a resume and letter of interest to jhopkins@furncorthville.org Or call Jim at: 248-349-1144

Help Wanted - General

REAL ESTATE SALES OPPORTUNITY
work with Michigan's #1 REALTOR
Real Estate One
Earn High Commission Income
Rapidly Expanding Real Estate Market
Start Earning Commissions Right Away
• Own Your Own Practice
• Be Your Own Boss
• Work Your Schedule
• You Determine Your Income
• Bonus Programs
• Health/Life/Disability/Retirement
• Full Time Support Staff

Help Wanted - Medical

CLAIMS LIAISON
The Rehabilitative Service Claims Liaison has responsibility for oversight of all administrative aspects of the program, including managing calls, mailings, and general office tasks. Must have excellent computer skills, demonstrate exceptional verbal and written communication skills, organizational skills, and be customer service oriented. \$15.50/hour; benefits.
Resume to: humanresource497@yahoo.com

Help Wanted - Medical

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

Help Wanted - Medical

DISABILITY/CLINICAL CASE MANAGER
The Disability/Clinical Case Manager has responsibility for the oversight and completion of the disability claim management lifecycle. The RN is responsible for the assessment, planning, facilitation, care coordination, and evaluation through communication and available resources to assist with improvement in the disabling and co-morbid condition(s). The RN is responsible for the oversight and completion of assigned disability claims for purposes of making appropriate claims decisions. CCM certification encouraged but not required. Must have unrestricted Michigan RN license. Min 5 years clinical exp. Computer literate, excellent written/verbal skills. No weekends or holidays. Competitive salary; benefits. Novi location.
Email resume to: humanresource497@yahoo.com

Help Wanted - Medical

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/DIRECT CARE WORKER
Rewarding positions serving persons with special needs in their homes or in group homes. Must be 18. Paid training. Hiring in: Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti, Brighton, Milford, Novi, South Lyon, Wixom, Northville/Canton areas.
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Help Wanted - Medical

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

Help Wanted - Medical

DELIVERY DRIVER & HELP INSIDE STORE
Stop in to apply at:
DOLLY'S PIZZA
632 N. Lafayette St. South Lyon.

Help Wanted - Medical

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

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

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Or you may type the URL to get to the page directly:

For iPhone:

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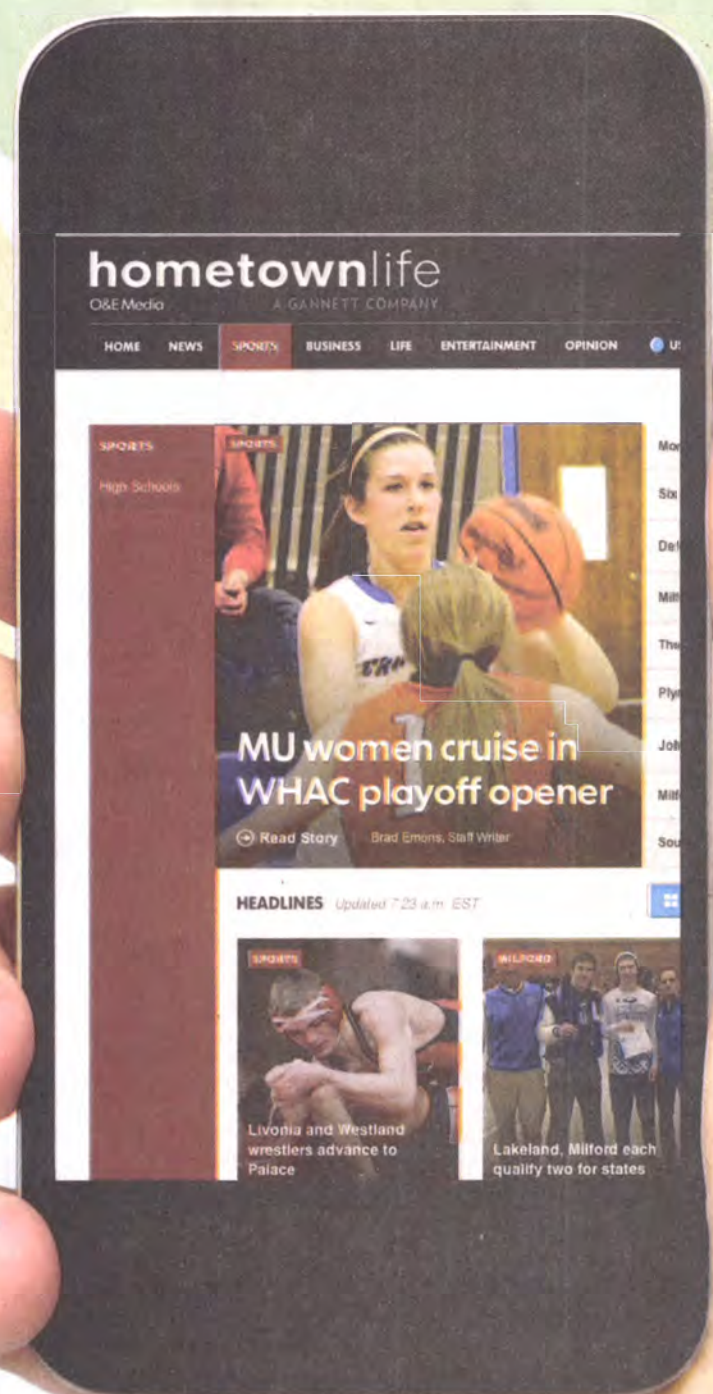
Type **Observer and Eccentric** in the search field. Select the Observer and Eccentric from the list of available selection options.

Click the **INSTALL** button once you are on the O&E page.

The browser will bring you to your **GOOGLE** account page. Sign in to your **GOOGLE** account and follow prompts to complete the download process.

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BILL BROWN



32222 Plymouth Road • Livonia, Michigan 48150 • (734) 436-2795 • www.billbrownford.com

Showroom Hours: Monday & Thursday 9 AM to 9 PM, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9 AM to 6 PM

Holiday Hours: December 24th, 9 AM to 2 PM | December 25th, Closed

December 31st, 9 AM to 5 PM | January 1st, Closed | January 2nd, 10 AM to 3 PM

December Is Truck Month at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia

While Supplies Last... Receive Extraordinary Savings On All Remaining 2015 Model Year Ford F-150 Inventory

NEW 2015 Ford F-150 XL Super Cab 4x4



35 Available - 3 At This Price

\$213* per month

24 Month Lease

\$544 Due at Signing with \$1,000 Down

Security Deposit Waived, Plus Tax, Title and License. Includes Acquisition Fee and Lease Renewal.

Buy For \$27,937+ | MSRP \$39,505

Featuring: Equipment Package 101A, 2.7L EcoBoost® V6 Engine, 6-Speed Automatic Transmission, 145" Wheel Base, AdvanceTrac Traction Control with Roll Stability Control, Anti-Lock Braking System, Automatic Headlamps, BoxLink®, Cruise Control, Electronic Shift-On-The-Fly 4x4, Hill Start Assist, Power Equipment Group Including Power Locks, Windows and Tailgate Lock, Remote Keyless Entry, SYNC®, Tow Hooks, Trailer Sway Control

NEW 2015 Ford F-150 XLT Super Cab 4x4



14 Available - 2 At This Price

\$231* per month

24 Month Lease

\$563 Due at Signing with \$1,000 Down

Security Deposit Waived, Plus Tax, Title and License. Includes Acquisition Fee and Lease Renewal.

Buy For \$30,317+ | MSRP \$44,145

Featuring: Equipment Package 301A, 2.7L EcoBoost® V6 Engine, 6-Speed Automatic Transmission, 145" Wheel Base, AdvanceTrac Traction Control with Roll Stability Control, Anti-Lock Braking System, Automatic Headlamps, BoxLink®, Cruise Control, Electronic Shift-On-The-Fly 4x4, Hill Start Assist, Rear View Camera, Rear Window Defroster, Remote Keyless Entry, SIRIUS® Satellite Radio, SYNC®, Tow Hooks, Trailer Sway Control

NEW 2015 Ford F-150 XL Super Cab 4x2



15 Available - 5 At This Price

\$236* per month

\$568 Due at Signing with \$1,000 Down

Buy For \$24,645+ MSRP \$35,805

36 Month Lease

Security Deposit Waived, Plus Tax, Title and License. Includes Acquisition Fee and Lease Renewal.

Featuring: Equipment Package 101A, 2.7L EcoBoost® V6 Engine, 6-Speed Automatic Transmission, 145" Wheel Base, AdvanceTrac Traction Control with Roll Stability Control, Anti-Lock Braking System, Automatic Headlamps, BoxLink®, Cruise Control, Electronic Shift-On-The-Fly 4x4, Hill Start Assist, Power Equipment Group Including Power Locks, Windows and Tailgate Lock, Remote Keyless Entry, SYNC®, Tow Hooks, Trailer Sway Control

NEW 2015 Ford F-150 XL Super Crew 4x4



12 Available - 6 At This Price

\$249* per month

\$536 Due at Signing with \$1,000 Down

Buy For \$30,627+ MSRP \$42,560

24 Month Lease

Security Deposit Waived, Plus Tax, Title and License. Includes Acquisition Fee and Lease Renewal.

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*All payments and prices are for qualifying AIZ Planners. For qualifying non (not new) AIZ 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.