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**OBSERVER**

SUNDAY 11.27.16 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

# Westland man charged in shooting

Suspect was released from prison in September 2015

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

Wayne police say a Westland man has been charged in the shooting death of an individual earlier this



Lankford

month. Tyler Lankford, 24, of Westland was charged Nov. 18 with homicide-manslaughter-statutory short form, homicide-manslaughter-death by weapon aimed with intent but without malice, weapons-firearms-possession by

felon and felony firearm. He was also charged as a habitual offender-second offense. Wayne police said Lankford is the suspect in the shooting death of a 27-year-old Westland resident earlier this month. Police say they were dispatched during the early morning hours of Nov. 14 to a residence in the 35000 block of John R. There, they discovered the male victim, who was dead

from an apparent gunshot wound. Police said they arrested Lankford later that day. Michigan Department of Corrections records show Lankford served two years in prison on a dangerous weapons charge in Wayne County. Records show the incident took place in October 2013 and he was released from prison in September 2015.

Lankford was ordered to be held without bond at his arraignment, which took place in Wayne's 29th District Court. He's due to return to the district court for a probable cause conference at 9 a.m. Nov. 29 and his preliminary examination was set for 9 a.m. Dec. 6.

[dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com)  
734-678-6728  
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak



Four-year-old Kellen Weakley has used his super-hero spirit to battle stage 4 neuroblastoma for two years now.

SUBMITTED

# Local family devastated as cancer returns in 4-year-old

Brad Kadrich  
hometownlife.com

Ryan and Tracy Weakley were riding high in early 2014.

The Livonia couple had good jobs and two young children, they were expecting a third and they'd just bought a nice new house to make room for all those kids Tracy had always wanted.

Tracy had just come home from a pediatrician's appointment for the couple's 2-year-old son Kellen and was reveling in her son's good health.

On the way home she thought, "Life can't be going any better."

A week later, it came crashing down around them, the way life sometimes does — without explanation or warning.

Kellen was diagnosed with stage 4 neuroblastoma, a rare form of pediatric cancer generally diagnosed before the age of 5 and which, according to St. Jude Children's Hospital, accounts for some 10 per-

## A HELPING HAND

**What:** Fundraiser for Kellen Weakley, a 4-year-old boy whose stage 4 neuroblastoma relapsed in July.

**When:** 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1

**Where:** Peterlin's Restaurant, 22004 Farmington Road (at Nine Mile), Farmington.

**Details:** The restaurant will donate 20 percent of proceeds from lunch, dinner and takeout receipts; just hand in a fundraiser flier or mention the fundraiser. Also featured will be raffle baskets to be auctioned off and other activities.

**More help:** You can also help at a GiveForward page set up for Kellen.

cent of all childhood cancers. And after a two-year battle that earned Kellen an all-clear status, the family was flattened again in July with the news he had relapsed.

The family was devastated — twice.

"It affects, like, 1 in 100,000

See **CANCER**, Page A6



Kellen Weakley has shown his natural joyfulness despite his struggle with cancer, his parents said.

SUBMITTED



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Kaylee Diehl has big hugs for dad, Sgt. Michael Diehl.

# Westland soldier surprises daughters at school

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

Sgt. Michael Diehl walked briskly past the rows of elementary school students clapping for him Tuesday afternoon at Schweizer Elementary School in Westland. He was looking forward to a big family reunion with his daughters, whom he had not seen this past year.

"I haven't seen them in a while," said Diehl, who has spent the better part of the last year deployed to the Middle East with the U.S. Army. "I missed them."

Educators at the school on Glenwood, along with Diehl's wife Ashley, organized the surprise appearance by Diehl at the school Tuesday afternoon. A banner welcoming Diehl, who also attended Schweizer, hung outside the main doors and many students and family members at the school lined up outside and in the hallway to greet

See **SURPRISE**, Page A2

*"I haven't seen them in a while. I missed them."*

**SGT. MICHAEL DIEHL**  
on being welcomed home by his wife, daughters and teachers at Schweizer Elementary School



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Sgt. Michael Diehl enters the school he attended as a child to meet his daughter Kaylee Diehl, a kindergarten student at Schweitzer Elementary.



Kaylee Diehl and her dad, Sgt. Michael Diehl, reconnect. Three-year-old Emma, overwhelmed by the event, goes back to the arms of mom Ashley Diehl.



Sgt. Michael Diehl, daughters Kaylee and Emma and wife Ashley read a large banner of thanks from the classes.

# WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Email: jmaliszews@hometownlife.com

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## SURPRISE

Continued from Page A1

him before he surprised his two children, including one who is in kindergarten at the school.

During a lesson on leadership in his daughter Kaylee's classroom, he walked through the door when the teacher began talking about leadership with members of the military. She grabbed on and hugged him for several moments before she and her classmates went across the hallway to perform a mini-concert for Diehl.

Michael Diehl said he will be on leave for a few days until after the Thanksgiving holiday. He said he'll then return to Fort Campbell.

Kristen Brickey, the principal at Schweitzer, said she hadn't seen something like the visit during her time at the

school and said it was a unique experience to see.

"We've both been here for five years and nothing like this has happened," she said.

Ashley Diehl said she had spoken with her oldest daughter's teacher, Meredith Bylo, who came up with the idea of surprising Kaylee with a visit from her dad after his deployment to Iraq.

"It was just complete excitement," she said. "It was actually her teacher who started putting this idea of surprising her."

And Michael Diehl's daughter wasn't the only one surprised: he said he wasn't expecting all the fanfare when he arrived to the school with the students all waiting for him in the hallway. It was something, he admitted, that he wasn't used to.

"I normally don't like the attention," he said.

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



It's better together. Kindergarten student Ashlee Diehl and dad Michael Diehl, just back from Iraq.



Kaylee Diehl greets her dad, Sgt. Michael Diehl, just back from Iraq.

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## Ask Dr. Stewart

Dr. James Stewart is a general dentist practicing in Livonia, MI. Today he discusses the effect breastfeeding may have on the development of a baby's mouth.

### BREASTFEEDING AND BABY'S MOUTH

**Dear Dr. Stewart:** I've heard that breastfeeding my baby can help with the development of their mouth. Is this true?

**Dr. Stewart:** Yes. Several studies have concluded that exclusively breast fed babies are at a decreased risk of dental malocclusion (the misalignment of the teeth and jaws). Why is this? While no definitive link has been found, the association might be explained by the fact that breastfeeding requires the baby to move her jaws and tongue in a way that helps develop the mouth. Breastfeeding also requires the use of jaw muscles more so than bottle-feeding, helping to develop muscle tone in the jaw. This use of muscles, especially from the tongue, can help promote proper nasal breathing rather than mouth breathing. Mouth breathing has been linked to health problems. Of course, this doesn't mean that all bottle-fed babies won't enjoy proper mouth development and as a mother, you should choose the option that works best for you and your baby.

If you have a question about your oral health and what you can do to enjoy a healthier smile and higher quality of life, contact Dr. James Stewart by calling (734) 425-4400 or visiting his website at jamesstewartdds.com.

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# Livonia police: Woman threatens clerk

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

Livonia police were dispatched the afternoon of Nov. 19 to Family Dollar, 29477 Seven Mile, on the report of a suspect who had reportedly taken some items and threatened an employee when confronted.

An employee at the store told police a couple came in and appeared to be shopping. The female then separated from the male she came in with and later left without purchasing anything. The store's alarm then went off. An employee then followed them to the parking lot and confronted them, asking to check the woman's purse. The suspect then told the employee she would shoot her if she did not get out of the

way. No weapon was ever displayed during the encounter. The employee left the area and then went into the store to call police. After reviewing footage, it appeared the woman was suspected of taking several items from the store, including some Tide pods and air fresheners.

## Retail fraud reported

Police were called Tuesday morning to the Rite Aid at 37399 Six Mile on the report of a retail fraud that had taken place at the store.

Police arrived at the store and spoke to some witnesses. One witness said they saw the suspects in the store and one of them tried to leave. When they left, the store's alarm went off, indicating they may have had unpaid-for

merchandise. Another witness saw a suspect with a bulge in the coat pocket, indicating they may have had some merchandise in it. When police got to the area before getting in the store, they located the suspect's car and pulled it over. Recovered were several items believed to have been taken, including some Plan B, Flonase and condoms, all of which were missing off of a store rack.

## Car handle damaged

Police were called Tuesday morning to a home in the 11100 block of Oxbow on the report of some damage done to a vehicle.

The resident and vehicle owner told police he went to his vehicle that evening and found a side door handle broken on the vehicle. No other damage was

visible on the vehicle. Police searched the area, but could not locate the door handle.

## Vehicle window smashed

Police were called the evening of Nov. 20 to the IHOP at 14200 Middlebelt on the report of a window that had been smashed on a vehicle.

When police arrived, they spoke to the restaurant patron who owned the vehicle. She said she came out from the restaurant and found the driver-side door window smashed and a GPS unit appeared to have been taken. She said she was in the restaurant for about 45 minutes before coming back out to the vehicle.

- Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department

# Man charged in theft of charity jar

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com



Wilson

Livonia police say they've arrested a man who they believe took a canister filled with donations for the Children's Miracle Network from a local store.

Police say Mark Wilson, 54 of Westland, entered the Walmart at 2955 Plymouth Road on Sept. 20 and was seen picking up the 3-foot-tall canister located near the front of the store. He then placed it into a shopping cart and pushed it out the doors before loading it into the back of a pickup truck, police said.

He was then reportedly stopped by store employees, who confronted him and re-

covered the canister and the money. After an investigation, police arrested

Wilson. He's since been arraigned in Livonia's 16th District Court on a charge of larceny under \$200, a 93-day misdemeanor.

His bond was set at \$9,000/10 percent, and he was expected to be in court Wednesday morning.

"The Livonia Police would like to thank Walmart loss prevention for their diligence and assistance in recovering the donation bin," Livonia police said in a statement.

# Cold temperatures mean water main breaks

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

It's been already a busy time for Livonia city crews fixing broken water mains. Depending on what weather conditions are like this winter, it's hard to predict where the next one will strike.

Brian Wilson, an assistant superintendent of public works for the city of Livonia, said crews were successful in making repairs to the water main near Five Mile and Merriman last weekend, something that left the intersection closed as crews worked. He said the extensive damage done to the main was discovered when it broke the previous weekend. Work was delayed until there was less traffic in the area, thus repairs took place last weekend, Wilson said.

"The repairs went well," he said.

The city has experienced more than a half-dozen water main breaks

that have resulted in Nixle alerts being issued, warning residents and motorists to keep away from break areas. Wilson said it can be difficult to determine when and where a water main break could happen in the city, but large swings in temperature changes can be a good indicator. Breaks have taken place near Schoolcraft and Merriman; Merriman, north of Plymouth; Middlebelt, between Joy and West Chicago; and Five Mile and Farmington, to list some of the locations.

Especially in the month of November, Wilson said, water main breaks have been a common occurrence because of the range in temps during the day.

"November is not an unusual month to begin to experience these kinds of things," he said. "We haven't had the extreme temperatures, but it's gotten into the 30s at night."

As the winter moves

forward, a blanket of snow can actually be a plus when it comes to keeping water mains intact: Wilson said some accumulation of snowfall can insulate the ground and keep the temperatures constant around the pipes, limiting the chances of a break.

Many of the water mains in Livonia date back to when the city began seeing explosive growth in the 1950s and '60s, Wilson said. The city is working in sections to replace aging water mains through an evaluation system the city uses.

In the case of a water main break in an area, Wilson said water will typically remain safe to drink unless the city says otherwise.

Residents who observe discolored water running through their pipes are advised to run cold water from the tap in the lowest part of their house, especially if using water for activities such as laundry.

# Von Maur retail fraud suspects waive hearing

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

The seven Indiana women who were charged earlier this month with taking more than \$15,000 in merchandise from a Livonia department store will have their case moved to downtown Detroit.

The seven women, all from the Indianapolis area, went before Livonia's 16th District Judge Kathleen McCann for a hearing Monday morning in the Livonia courthouse. All seven of them are charged with first-degree retail fraud, a charge that carries a maximum of up to five years in prison. Each waived their preliminary examination, a hearing used to determine whether there is enough evidence that a crime had been com-

mitted. Those before McCann included: Alicia Mcintyre, 42; Kaylynn Fields, 19; Coryonna Tinnin, 17; Kayla Drake, 18; Alaejcia Mcintyre, 18; Andreonna Lewis, 18; and Emani Drake, 17.

The suspects will now all be arraigned on the charges Monday morning in Wayne County Circuit Court at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit.

Livonia police say the women came out of a vehicle that parked near the Von Maur department store at 37500 Six Mile in the Laurel Park Place mall. Police said six of the women entered the store Nov. 12 and began grabbing many articles of clothing and other merchandise from the store. Police said the women then walked out with their arms full of items

without paying for them, getting into the vehicle they came in and driving away. They were stopped in a subdivision near Newburgh and Lyndon shortly after and were all arrested. The items allegedly taken from the store were recovered, totaling more than \$15,000 in value.

The women all received \$15,000 cash or surety bonds at the time of their arraignments, except for Fields, who originally received a \$20,000 cash or surety bond. McCann kept the bonds in place for all but two of the suspects and referred the issue to pre-trial services at the circuit court. McCann changed Drake's bond to a \$15,000/10-percent bond and changed Fields's bond to a \$20,000/10-percent bond.

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Leaves along Filmore south of Seven Mile in Livonia. DAVID VESELENAK

## Late leaf drop delays pickup in Livonia

At the Thanksgiving holiday, the 2016 Bulk Leaf Collection Program is now 3½ weeks into a six-week collection program that provides for the bulk collection of leaves in approximately 31 square miles of residential neighborhoods. Lined up end-to-end, the leaf-filled streets of Livonia would be about the length of a road stretching to Chicago and back!

As we are all aware from our experience with our own trees and yards, the leaf drop was very late this year. Initially, leaf collection crews were not even fully deployed due to the lighter volume of leaves put out at the beginning of the program. Hundreds of normally productive leaf collection hours were not available as a result of the late drop and, even working overtime, our crews cannot make up this lost time in the short term, especially when most of the leaves drop all at once.

The women and men in the Livonia Department of Public Works are working diligently every day collecting dozens of street miles of leaves in all types of weather and temperatures. Leaf crews will be working part of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, staying on task.

The bulk collection

program, with its sheer volume and weight of leaves, is very hard on equipment. Failed clutches, broken radiators and hinges and even equipment catching on fire occur on a daily basis due to the fine, dry leaf dust. Following the conclusion of each workday, equipment technicians work long into the night or arrive early in the morning to work at getting failed equipment back out onto the street picking up leaves.

Signage is intended to give a heads up that leaf crews will be clearing out the neighborhood in the coming workdays. It is not possible to give an exact day or time when crews will arrive on a particular street.

Remember that the bulk collection program is only intended to remove the majority of the leaves, allowing for a manageable amount that residents can then put into cans and paper bags for the weekly yard collection on trash pickup day. When leaves are placed in the street following final bulk collection pickup, crews cannot keep doubling back to re-serve streets over again. They must continue into areas that are still awaiting service. Weekly yard waste collection, in cans or paper bags, will continue through the week of Dec. 5-9.

# A time for love, generosity

November is one of my favorite months. It's a transitional month between Michigan's glorious autumn and the oncoming harshness of winter. It's also a time of love and generosity for many of us.

I like November because it's the month of my birth. Several family members and close friends also celebrate November birthdays. I entered this world Nov. 14, 1943. It hardly seems possible I've been around that long, but there's no escaping that truth.

Each year, my Redford pals celebrate my special day at our favorite Dunkin' Donuts at Telegraph and West Chicago. Attending were Laurie Ruskiewicz, Jill Davies, Robert "Smitty" Smith and Frank Glaub.

Dorothy Wylo, the Queen Mother of our group, makes sure we celebrate everyone's birthday with treats, balloons and celebratory greeting cards. She also gifted me with her famous puppy chow. I'm not



Arlene Funke

fond of the name, but it's a delicious concoction she makes with cereal, pretzels and nuts drizzled with melted white chocolate. I'm lucky to have such friends.

More than anything, I appreciate the seasonal generosity which begins in November. At this time of year, church and Scout groups conduct their food drives. Much of this non-perishable food is donated to Redford Interfaith Relief. Volunteers spend days stocking the pantry shelves so needy Redford folks won't go hungry in the weeks and months ahead.

Also taking place in November is the annual Toys for Tots collection of new, unwrapped toys. Collection boxes are located at various locations in the township. Parents can help their children select a new toy

or two for donation to brighten a needy child's Christmas and instill a spirit of giving.

Another charitable project that begins in November is Redford's annual Goodfellows paper drive. I like to support the Goodfellows because it's operated solely by volunteers. Many come back year after year to sell papers and later pack and distribute gift boxes. Kudos to these good people.

As a kid, Christmas was the high point of my year. The excitement of the decorated tree, special goodies and, above all, piles of gifts made me swoon with excitement. Today, I love Thanksgiving more than any other holiday. The delicious dinner and the gathering of family and friends are so appealing. It's a holiday of love, pure and simple.

For many years, before it closed, my church, St. Hilary Catholic of Redford, held what we called a Sharing Banquet the week before Thanksgiving. It was a potluck

meal of turkey and ham, paired with everyone's favorite side dishes and yummy desserts.

Church members were encouraged to invite family and neighbors. My special guests, each year, were Jean McKenzie and Jaqui Oliver. Longtime Redford members the Klucks and Henehans brought members of their large families. Don Burkholder invited his good neighbors, the Wests. We filled the church hall, feasted and enjoyed one others' company. The Sharing Banquet was a highlight of our family's November in Redford and a prelude to the official Thanksgiving holiday.

With each passing year, I'm more grateful for these simple pleasures. Once the big day is over, I'll be at home (not Black Friday shopping), hopefully enjoying a plate of leftovers and pondering my blessings.

Arlene Funke writes a monthly column about life in Redford. She can be reached at arlenefunke@sbcglobal.net.

## Taking the oath



SUBMITTED

Judge Denise Page Hood, chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, swears in state Rep. Leslie Love for another two-year term in Lansing. Love was administered the oath at a special ceremony organized for newly-elected officials in Redford Township, from state representative to parks commissioners.



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# November veteran of the month

Alan Berry, Vietnam/Desert Storm/Gulf War Era veteran of Livonia, was honored as the November 2016 "Veteran of the Month" by the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 32, of the Myron H. Beals American Legion Post 32 in Livonia.

Alan Berry served a total of 23 years in the service from 1961 to 1997. He was born in Watseka, Ill., and moved to California when he was 6. He was living in Walnut Creek, Calif., in 1961 when he turned 18. Congress passed the Reserve Forces Act of 1955. It mandated a 6-year service commitment, in a combination of reserve and active duty time.

Alan's father told him that it would be better to sign-up rather than be drafted as he could pick his branch of service. He went to the Navy recruitment and signed up for the Navy Reserves and was told to be back to the recruitment office at 7:30 the next morning. As soon as he arrived at the center he was put on a train to Camp Nimitz in San Diego for 6 weeks of basic training. He was then assigned to the U.S.S. Dixie AD-14 as part of the deck force and honor guard.

The U.S.S. Dixie was a Cruiser Destroyer Tender. It was 530 feet long and had a crew of more than 1,250. It contained all the manuals and parts to repair any Cruiser or Destroyer in the Pacific fleet. From February-June 1961 she was at Mare Island Navy Shipyard near Vallejo, Calif., for a complete facelift with a new helicopter deck and hanger as well as parts and manuals to be able to repair the latest weapon systems.

Alan joined the U.S.S. Dixie 1961 as she prepared to assume the duties of flagship for Commander Cruiser Destroyer Forces US Pacific



Veteran Alan Berry

PICASA

Fleet. In February 1962 she departed San Diego for 8 months duty in the Western Pacific. While in the Pacific they earned the Combat Efficiency Award when they set a record by simultaneously refueling by high-lining two destroyers at sea.

"It was quite an accomplishment and we were all relieved and proud when it was over," recalled Alan. On Feb. 20 they were sent to rescue a 34 foot sailboat 180 miles south of Tokyo in 14 foot seas with 50 knot winds. Alan was on watch at 6:30 a.m. when he spotted the sailboat.

"I could see the flickering of his signal mirror, he had been adrift for 14 days," said Alan. "It took us three hours to get him aboard." They returned to San Diego in September 1962 when she was relieved by her sister ship U.S.S. Prairie AD-15. Alan served out the rest of his time in San Diego and was on the ships basketball team. In February 1963 Alan finished his 2 years of active service, was then put on the Active Status List and returned to his job at Kaiser Gypsum.

In 1976 Alan was laid off from his job at ACE Hardware's Warehouse. His wife was 9 months pregnant and he had no

job. Distraught, he knew he had to do something and fast. He went to the Air Force recruitment center to discuss his options. The recruiter told him that he could join the A.F. Reserves and did not have to go to basic training again. He joined and was assigned to Travis AFB, only an hour from where he lived. He wanted to be a Mechanic but was assigned to a Field Maintenance Squadron. Alan spent the next 21 years in the reserves. Every month he spent a weekend at Travis AFB and he spent 2 weeks each year at different Air Force bases all over the world relieving base personnel in field operation.

"I was very fortunate and spent time at bases in Hawaii, Spain, Germany, Philippines, Korea and Japan," Alan said. "We basically ran the base by taking care of scheduling and loading of cargo and passengers."

In early 1991 Alan joined a reserve unit that was sent to Tinker AF Base, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to assist in moving a large amount of armament and supplies to Riyadh and Dhahran, Saudi Arabia in support of Desert Storm. "All the supplies had to be manifested, sorted and

shipped ASAP", noted Alan, "the base was run mostly by civilians and the stuff was just sitting there and no one was moving it."

In 1996 Alan signed up for 90 days of active duty and was sent to Bosnia. He was a Tech. Sergeant and was supervising the loading of a 9,500 pound pallet of supplies when the pallet got stuck in the cargo bay opening. He was inside the plane's cargo bay when the pallet broke loose and trapped his foot between the pallet and a roller rail. All the toes on his foot were broken and his foot was smashed. Alan spent 3 months in rehab. He returned to duty and spent the next year at Travis AFB. He was honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1997.

Alan's wife was from Michigan, and they moved to Canton, Dearborn and finally Livonia where he has lived for the past 16 years. Alan retired from McKesson Pharmaceutical in 2008. He has 2 children and 10 grandchildren. He has been a member of American Legion Post 32 since 2009.

Alan was interviewed by members of the S.A.L. Veteran of the Month Committee and shown at the November S.A.L. membership meeting. Alan attended the meeting and was given a standing ovation for his service. A plaque was presented to Alan from Livonia Trophy with his picture and service information.

The S.A.L. invites local residents to attend their monthly meetings to listen to the Veteran of the Month. The public is also encouraged and to nominate veterans to be honored at its meetings. Nomination forms can be picked up at the American Legion Hall, 9318 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48150

# Thursday meeting to discuss Ann Arbor Road project

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

The state of Michigan is running out of trunks in Livonia on which to do construction. The organization will hold a meeting Dec. 1 to discuss its next project within the city, reconstruction of part of Old M-14 between Newburgh and Market.

The Michigan Department of Transportation will hold an informational meeting regarding the work along parts of Ann Arbor Road and Plymouth Road, which is part of Old M-14, 4-7 p.m. Dec. 1 at Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Dr. The meeting is open to anyone interested in the project and will also include a presentation at 6 p.m.

The proposed work will consist of the reconstruction of the road in that area and will also include:

- » Adding right-turn lanes on Newburgh Road
- » Replacing the Old M-14 bridge over the Middle Rouge River and the Hines Drive bridge over Old M-14
- » A new sidewalk along the west side of

Old M-14, from Newburgh Road to Plymouth Road

» A paved pathway connecting the Old M-14 sidewalk and Hines Drive pathway

There was no word on when work on the road or bridges would begin. Old M-14 consists of Plymouth Road from Telegraph to the Ann Arbor Road/Plymouth Road fork in Livonia. It continues along Ann Arbor Road to the Wayne County/Washtenaw County border at Napier Road.

MDOT has done a lot of projects in the Livonia area recently: resurfacing of Plymouth Road took place from Farmington to Market in 2012 and Interstate 96 from Telegraph in Redford Township to Newburgh in Livonia was reconstructed in 2014. Work crews also recently completed construction on I-275 through Livonia and Farmington Hills this past summer.

In addition, work is planned to take place along Plymouth Road from Telegraph to Farmington in 2017 for resurfacing.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com

## CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185, on **December 8th, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

### FENCING SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office or at [www.CityofWestland.com](http://www.CityofWestland.com). The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Devin J. Adams  
City Controller

Publish: November 27, 2016

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# CANCER

Continued from Page A1

children," Tracy said. "How my child could fall into those odds ... I'll never understand it."

It wasn't supposed to be that way. A week before the original diagnosis, Tracy had Kellen at the pediatrician's office for a checkup and Kellen got a clean bill of health. A week later, she dropped him off at day care and she got a call that afternoon that the staff "was concerned" about some slight swelling around Kellen's right eye.

The next morning, the eye was "pushing up," according to Tracy, who immediately called the doctor. The pediatrician referred them to an ophthalmologist, who ordered an MRI.

"And the nightmare began," Tracy said, wiping away tears.

They got the diagnosis no parent wants to hear: stage 4 neuroblastoma, five tumors, including the one that was pushing his eye upward - "Thank God for that, because there weren't any other symptoms," Tracy said - and one the size of a potato in his adrenal gland.

"We walked out of the pediatrician's office (the week before) with a healthy baby," a stunned Tracy said. "Everything physically appeared fine."

Two years of treatment followed, including trials for his kind of cancer, immunotherapy and eight rounds of chemotherapy. The treatment even took Kellen to the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids.

In April, after months of treatment and testing and a grudging reluctance to declare Kellen in remission, DeVos doctors finally gave the Weakleys the news they'd longed to hear: Kellen was clear.

"We couldn't believe it," Tracy said. "We asked to come out there and see the scan for ourselves."

The joy was short-lived. In July, just three months after the all-clear, doctors found the cancer had returned, discovering a mass behind that same eye. The family knows the odds: Children facing the original diagnosis have a 50-percent chance of survival; that number drops to 10 percent in kids who relapse.

After two years of fighting, though, the



The Weakley family — Tracy and Ryan, with Ava, Kellen and Wyatt.

Weakleys drew upon their shared strength and didn't allow themselves to be completely devastated.

"We've learned to celebrate the small things," Tracy said. "We were glad it was just one small spot."

It's a strength that has impressed her friends, many of whom are working on fundraising ideas to help the family with the burgeoning costs of Kellen's treatment, which is now going to include about a dozen trips to the Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York for immunotherapy and seven vaccines. And that's after two more rounds of chemo here in Michigan.

Tracy, who is on her

second leave of absence from her job as a kindergarten teacher in Livonia schools, has to choke back tears as she struggles with what to do to help Kellen while maintaining life for her other children.

"We're a family of five; we can't afford to take our other children (to New York). There are a lot of arrangements to be made," she said, struggling to fight back tears. "You wonder if it's the right thing to do, but what are you supposed to do?"

Laura Melancon, one of Tracy's best friends, has watched the struggle from up close. Melancon's daughter Evie and Tracy's daughter Ava were born six weeks

apart and her son Owen is just a year younger than Kellen.

"The thought of your child being diagnosed with cancer ... it hit me hard," said Melancon, whose husband has been friends with Ryan Weakley since high school. "When I found out I was pregnant (with Owen), I thought, 'Oh my God, we're going to have a best friend for Kellen.'"

Melancon wanted to do something to help, but Tracy balked - for a while. Finally, Melancon went ahead and established a GiveForward page to help with expenses.

"The cost is going to be insane," she said. "I want to be able to help and the only way to do



SUBMITTED

Kellen Weakley gets in some playtime while waiting for a treatment.

*"The cost is going to be insane. I want to be able to help and the only way to do that, really, is financially."*

**LAURA MELANCON**  
one of Tracy Weakley's best friends

that, really, is financially."

Sarah Davies' family has known Ryan Weakley's family forever and Sarah now has a young daughter and so can empathize with Tracy and Ryan. Like Melancon, Davies has been tugging at Tracy Weakley to let her help - "It's hard to get to a position where you have to ask for help," Tracy said - and finally began helping to organize a fundraiser.

It takes place at Peterlin's Restaurant in Farmington. The restaurant will donate 20 percent of proceeds from lunch, dinner and carry-out meals from Dec. 1 to the Weakleys.

"Watching them go through this experience the last two years has been heart-breaking," said Davies, a Livonia resident. "I can't cure cancer. I wish I could, so you think, 'What can I do?'"

Tracy's first reaction when she heard about the GiveForward page was to tell Melancon "to call all of those people and have them take their money back." But the family has since come to accept that there really are people out there who want simply to help.

"The surprising thing was that perfect strangers were helping," Tracy said. "We're so grateful.

To have this kindness ... really carried us through."

The other thing that has carried the family through is Kellen himself. As much as he's been physically able to, Kellen has carried on with life, going to school when he can - "His teachers have been amazed that he could miss so much school, then come back and fit right back in," Tracy said - and showing a strength his parents call "inspiring."

"I can't believe someone who has been through so much could be so joyful," his mom said. "He doesn't really understand what's going on, but he has truly inspired us. He's our strength."

The doctors at Sloan Kettering are hopeful, Weakley said, and they've met parents whose children have gotten the treatments Kellen is about to experience who've given the Weakleys reason for optimism. But their biggest reason is Kellen himself.

"In his four years, Kellen has taught us just to live in the moment," Tracy said. "Every day he's here is another day of hope for us."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @bkadrich

# Guide to Employment

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# Paying cash for a house is a winning strategy

**Q:** I've read your columns and heard you speak many times and that is why I am turning to you for some advice. I am in my early 50s, divorced and financially secure. I work, and my salary more than covers my living expenses. I have a 401(k) plan that I max out every year and have enough in my trust and IRAs to more than cover my needs when I retire. I plan to work for at least another 10-15 years. My issue is with a new home that I am purchasing. My original game plan was to pay cash for the home. With a recent inheritance and money that I have been saving, I can pay cash for the house without touching any of the money I've allocated for retirement. My friend and my accountant tell me that with interest rates so low and, since I can deduct my mortgage payments, I'd be a fool not to get a mortgage. I don't want a mortgage, but I also don't want to be foolish. My question is, will I be foolish to pay cash?

**A:** I absolutely do not think it would be foolish to pay cash and, in fact, I would recommend that you do so. Yes, there could be some tax breaks to financing the home; however, let's never forget that the goal of our money is to enjoy it and for it to buy us comfort and security. Saving on taxes is, at best, only one small part of that goal. Particularly, for someone in your situation — with their finances in order and who has saved for retirement — what allows you to sleep at night is much more important than any tax savings. It's important to keep in mind that when it comes to deducting your interest, you don't get a



**Rick Bloom**

MONEY MATTERS

dollar-for-dollar savings on your money. For example, if you are in a 28-percent tax bracket and had \$5,000 in interest, your true savings is \$1,400 (\$5,000 times 28 percent). However, it still means that the net cost to you is \$3,600 (\$5,000 minus \$1,400). Of course, the money you would use for the purchase could be invested, but there are different risks involved that you would not have by paying cash for the property.

When it comes to investing, you have to be comfortable with what you're investing in. Investors who invest outside their comfort level tend to end up buying high and selling low. I am also not one who encourages people to incur debt. That being said, a home mortgage is the only type of debt that can make sense for people. Debt creates a stranglehold on people and they lose flexibility.

Also don't forget that there is also a cost to obtain a mortgage. Mortgages don't come free and, sometimes, there are hefty charges that are associated with them. If you are looking solely at the dollars and cents of whether or not to have a mortgage, don't forget to take into consideration the cost to get that mortgage.

*Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Visit his website at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to questions, email [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).*



Every year Chef Tony and the William D. Ford Technical Center's Culinary Arts students wow guests with their dazzling display of holiday treats.

## Westland Holiday Taste Fest tradition continues

For 18 consecutive years, the Holiday Taste Fest has been Westland's premier holiday charity event. This year's gourmet adventure boasts 16 of the area's favorite restaurants and culinary artists featuring their tasty treats and festive holiday displays.

The event, 6-8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland is sponsored by the Westland Chamber of Commerce and Westland Rotary Club and draws hundreds of guests.

There will be a live auction, raffles, an Ugly Holiday Clothing Contest and live entertainment by the Marsha Gayle Band. Emcees Ralph & Kim Cabildo of RC DJ and Video, will keep the event moving and run the live auction.

New to the Taste Fest this year is a Children's Winter Clothing Drive. Donors who bring new or gently used kid's gloves, hats or boots (for children ages 3-5) will be entered in a special raffle to win a \$100 gift card, courtesy of Zeal Credit Union.

Vendors to date include: Biggby Coffee, Famous Dave's, Fireside Bar & Grill, Grindstone Smokehouse, Hammons Kitchen, Hellenic Cultural Center, Jonna's Market, Knox Catering, McDon-

ald's, Mr. Mike's Grill, New Lucky Star, On The Border, Texas Roadhouse, Tim Horton's Coffee, Toarmina's Pizza, William D. Ford Career Technical Center/Café Marquette. The \$25 admission

includes food and entertainment. A cash bar will be available. For tickets and information, call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at 734-326-7222 or visit [westlandchamber.com](http://westlandchamber.com).

### CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE

#### AGENDA

#### Zoning Board of Appeals

**DECEMBER 13, 2016 – 7:00 P.M. LIVONIA CITY HALL – GALLERY (5TH FLOOR) 33000 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE LIVONIA, MI (734) 466 2259**

**APPEAL CASE NO. 2016-09-64 (Tabled on October 11, 2016):** Livonia II, LLC, 21 East Long Lake Road, Ste. 101, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304, on behalf of Lessee Goodyear Tire, seeking to erect two (2) wall signs (north and east elevations) and a ground sign, on property located on the west side of Middlebelt (12661) between Industrial and the CSX Railroad, resulting in excess number of wall signs, wall sign area, excess ground sign area, also, the electronic reader board on the ground sign is excess in area. An electronic message board is not allowed due to the proposed nonconforming signage.

**APPEAL CASE NO. 2016-12-77:** Edward/Barbara Graves, east side of Bredin (14580) between Lyndon and the cul-de-sac, seeking to erect a detached garage while maintaining an attached garage, resulting in excess number of garages and garage area.

**APPEAL CASE NO. 2016-12-78:** Pegouske Holdings, LLC, west side of Mayfield (11805) between Plymouth and Capitol, seeking to perform retail sales of classic/exotic cars on property zoned (M-1) which is not allowed. All vehicles will be stored within the building.

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.

Livonia Observer

Publish: Sunday, November 27, 2016

LD-000034096 3/4

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# Lunch with Santa set for Dec. 17



Santa Claus at the Livonia tree lighting in December 2015. He will appear at the annual Lunch with Santa on Dec. 17 in Livonia.

The annual Lunch with Santa will take place at 11 a.m. Dec. 17 at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington. The event includes lunch, crafts and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.  
"We are pleased to be able to

continue to offer family events to the community. Lunch with Santa has become a tradition for many young families," said Ted Davis, superintendent of the Livonia Parks and Recreation Department. Tickets are \$6 for Livonia resi-

dents and \$9 for non-residents, and are available at the Kirksey Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard. All attendees over age 2 must have a ticket.  
For more information, call 734-466-2900.

# Livonia firm to donate wreaths to national cemetery in Holly



Wreaths at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.

Livonia financial firm McKague Financial has partnered with Wreaths Across America to ensure a Remembrance Wreath is placed this holiday season on each grave site at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. This year, Great Lakes National Cemetery is in need of 19,000 wreaths, so McKague Financial is matching wreath donations made through the firm (up to 250 donations). This is the fourth year that McKague Financial has participated in Wreaths Across America, but the first year it's partnering with the organization and matching donations.

surrounding area to donate so that we're able to hit the goal of 19,000 wreaths." The team at McKague Financial will volunteer Dec. 17 for National Wreaths Across America Day, when wreaths donated will be placed on the grave sites at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Individuals who donate through McKague Financial can also request the wreath they donate be put on a specific grave site. Those interested in donating a wreath through McKague Financial can go to the donation site here. For those unable to donate, McKague Financial will also donate a wreath for every no-charge financial consultation appointment booked by Friday, Dec. 16. To book a consultation appointment with McKague Financial, call 734-425-0112.

# Fundraisers set for Livonia elementary school

Kennedy Elementary School in Livonia has partnered with Barnes & Noble to host a book fair in support of Kennedy's Library Program from 5:30-8 p.m. Dec. 14 at the Barnes & Noble store at 17111 Haggerty in Northville Township.  
Kennedy will offer

various activities from 5:30-8 p.m. including a musical performance by its fourth-grade students, a make-and-take craft, mystery readers and door prizes like an Ozobot and gift cards to Applebees and Barnes & Noble.  
Mention Kennedy Elementary when check-

ing out and a portion of your purchase will be gifted back to the school. From 4-9 p.m. on the same night, Kennedy will also host a dine-out at Applebees at 1710 Haggerty in Northville Township. Kennedy will receive 10 percent of the proceeds from diners

who present the attached coupon. Kennedy staff members will pose as celebrity waiters during a portion of this time. Proceeds from these events will be used to expand the book collection of Kennedy's library as well as to buy consumable products for its newly developed makerspace. The makerspace is a learning environment where children can design, create and tinker together. It encourages experimentation, open-ended exploration and the belief that making mistakes is a great way to learn.

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT FOR CAMPBELL COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

STATE OF TENNESSEE )  
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES )  
Petitioner ) NO. J-2015-JC-137  
vs. )  
JAMES LEE HICKS, SR. )  
Respondent )  
IN THE MATTER OF: ) DOB: 8/27/03  
James Lee Hicks, Jr. )  
A Child Under Eighteen (18) Years of Age )

**MOTION AND ORDER FOR SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**

It appearing to the Court from the allegations of the Petition for Temporary Custody and Motion for Summons by Publication and the Affidavit of Diligent Search that the whereabouts of the Respondent, James Lee Hicks, Sr., is unknown and cannot be ascertained by diligent search, therefore, the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon James Lee Hicks, Sr. It is therefore, ORDERED that said Respondent be served by publication of the following Notice for four (4) consecutive weeks in the *Redford Observer*, a newspaper published in *Redford MI*.

**TO THE RESPONDENT: JAMES LEE HICKS, Sr.**

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 37-1-121 and § 37-1-123, you are hereby summoned to appear on the **25th day of January 2017, at 9:00 a.m.**, and defend the above-entitled action in the Campbell County Juvenile Court, at LaFollette, Tennessee, and answer the Petition filed by the State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, and to serve your answer upon the Petitioner. In case of your failure to do so, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the Petition, which has been filed with the Clerk of the Campbell County Juvenile Court located at the Juvenile Court of Campbell County, 580 Main Street, Jacksboro, Tennessee 37757. Since your whereabouts is unknown and the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you, a copy of this summons shall be published in the *Redford Observer* newspaper for four (4) consecutive weeks.

**ISSUED this 9th day of November 2016.**

AMANDA H. SAMMONS  
JUVENILE COURT JUDGE

APPROVED FOR ENTRY:  
Apyrl C. Bradshaw, BPR# 031072  
Assistant General Counsel  
Department of Children's Services  
182 Frank L. Diggs Drive, Suite 100  
Clinton, Tennessee 37716  
Phone: (865) 425-4400  
Publish: November 27, December 4, 11, 18, 2016

**CITY OF LIVONIA PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 502 of Act 110 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2006, as amended, and Articles XIX and XXIII of Ordinance #543, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, as amended, the City Planning Commission of the City of Livonia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 13, 2016, in the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the following items:

**Petition 2016-11-01-07 submitted by the City of Livonia**, pursuant to Council Resolution #426-16 and Section 23.01(a) of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, requesting to rezone the property at 33233-33243 Five Mile Road (former Chamber of Commerce office), located on the south side of Five Mile Road between Farmington Road and Shadyside Street in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 22, from PL (Public Land) to C-1 (Local Business).

**Petition 2016-11-01-08 submitted by Soave Homes** pursuant to Section 23.01 of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, requesting to rezone the property at 10014 Levan Road, located on the east side of Levan Road between Ann Arbor Trail and Plymouth Road in the Northeast 1/4 of Section 32, from R-U-F (Rural Urban Farm - Minimum 1/2 Acre Lot) to R-1 (One Family Residential - 60' x 120' Lots).

**Petition 2016-10-02-20 submitted by Matt Hazzard** requesting waiver use approval pursuant to Section 16.11(f) of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, to operate an athletic training facility (Athletic Sports & Fitness) at 11844 Hubbard Avenue, located on the east side of Hubbard Avenue between Plymouth Road and the CSX railroad right-of-way in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 27.

The above-mentioned petitions will be on file in the City Planning Commission office, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, during the period of five (5) days immediately preceding the said hearing and may be examined by any and all persons during the normal working hours Monday through Friday.

Ian Wilshaw, Chairman  
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Published: November 27, 2016

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WAYNE COUNTY EVENTS CALENDAR



SUBMITTED

The Harmonyhouse Chorus will perform its Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 11.

**Toys & Trains: Railroadiana**

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers' Club will sponsor a buy-and-swap Railroadiana Train Show from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, at the Ss. Simon & Jude Catholic Church Social Hall, 32500 Palmer Road, between Merriman and Venoy Roads, Westland.

There will be approximately 100 dealer tables available. The cost is \$10 for an 8-foot table. Dealer set up is 9 a.m. on the day of the show, and complimentary coffee and doughnuts will be available for dealers until 10:30 a.m. Food will also be available to the public. Admission is \$2 per person and \$4 per family. Parking is free.

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

**Vintage toy show**

A vintage toy show is set for 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday Nov. 27, at Livonia Elks Hall, 31117 Plymouth Road. Admission is \$5; kids under 12 are free. Items may include Hot Wheels, comic books, games, non-sport cards, Star Trek, Star Wars, music memorabilia, posters, Records, autographs, beer and pop items, GI Joes, and much more. For more information, call Jacquie at 586-329-8213.

**Stuff a SWAT truck**

The Westland Police are assisting the Westland Goodfellows with their "No Child without a Christmas" by holding a "Stuff a SWAT Truck" 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 27, at the Target store, 35401 Warren Road in Westland. The goal is to fill an entire Swat truck with presents for children in need during this holiday season. Stop by and help fill the truck with gifts for children that might otherwise be without.

**Detox your home**

Jennifer Kelly will offer personal and home cleaning products for a healthier home and life at "Detox Your Home" at 1 p.m., Monday, Nov. 28, at Livonia Alfred Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

**Christmas tour**

Livonia's 28th annual Christmas Walk/Home Tour, sponsored by the Friends of Greenmead, will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3. Tickets are \$10 or \$9 in advance and are available at Greenmead Historical Park, Livonia City Hall (Community Resources, 5th Floor), all Livonia public libraries, or from any member of the Friends of Greenmead. The tour will feature four private homes, St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church, and the Simmons/Hill House and the A.J. Geer store on the Greenmead grounds. (Start your walk at Greenmead.) All proceeds benefit the restoration of Greenmead Historical Park. For more information, call 248-477-7375.

**After work with the Rep**

State Rep. Leslie Love, D-Detroit, will host her "After Work with the Rep" to provide people with 9-to-5 work schedules an opportunity to meet with her and get legislative updates. This is the final legislative update of the year. The event is scheduled for 5-7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, at Michno's Cafe, 25524 Five Mile Road in Redford Township. Refreshments will be provided.

**Jazz at the Elks**

Jazz @ The Elks presents an all female group, Straight Ahead, from 7-10 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. The band's sound ranges from mainstream jazz, contemporary jazz, Latin and jazzy hip-hop. The group is led by Marion Hayden on bass with Gayelynn McKinney on drums, Alina Moore on keys, and Kymberli Wright on vocals.

Jazz@the Elks is on the last Tuesday of the month. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors

d'oeuvres. Enjoy jazz in a listening room setting close to the entertainers.

For more information, call 734-453-1780 or visit [www.plymouthannarborelks325.com](http://www.plymouthannarborelks325.com) or email [jazzattheelks@gmail.com](mailto:jazzattheelks@gmail.com).

**LPS Foundation luncheon**

WDIV-TV news anchor Devin Scillian is the keynote speaker at the seventh annual Livonia Public Schools Education Foundation luncheon set for noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, at St. Mary's Cultural and Banquet Center, 18100 Merriman Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$50 each or \$500 for a table of 10. Tickets may be purchased through PayPal at [www.LPSFoundation.org](http://www.LPSFoundation.org) or by check, payable to LPS Education Foundation, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia. The luncheon host is WJR sports director Steve Courtney.

**Art of Giving sale**

The Farber Soul Center hosts the "Art of Giving Holiday Sale" at the center, 5586 Drake Road in West Bloomfield, from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8. A "donor preview" runs from 5-6 p.m. with the sale starting at 6 p.m. Soul Studio's inaugural holiday sale is an art lover's shopping event, featuring amazing art and merchandise for your gift season. The studio will be filled with unique and original works of art, prints, ceramics and weavings. Get a first look at new works for sale and a sneak preview at current works under construction.

In addition to selected new artworks, you'll find a remarkable assortment of new Soul Studio products and merchandise including prints, posters, greeting cards, tee shirts, water bottles, sketchbooks, tote bags, and more - all featuring the artwork of our over 50 studio artists.

**Ladywood 5K fundraiser**

Ladywood High School will host a community wide 5K to raise funds for scholarships, at 9 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 10. The 5K includes an exclusive route and beautiful scenery on the grounds behind Ladywood High School in Livonia. Registration cost for the run/walk, is \$30 for adults, \$25 for students, \$15 for kids 12 and under, and kids 5 and under are free. To receive a free T-shirt, all registrations should be in by Nov. 29. To register online, print a paper registration, and/or learn more about the 5K, please visit [ladywood.org/campus-life/blaze-trail-5k-fun-run-walk/](http://ladywood.org/campus-life/blaze-trail-5k-fun-run-walk/). If your business is interested in sponsorship opportunities, please call Dawn Conn at 734-591-1544, ext. 237.

**Broomstick Pool Tournery fundraiser**

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 32 will host a Broomstick Pool Tournament Fundraiser beginning at noon, Saturday, Dec. 17, at the Myron H. Beals Post 32, 9318 Newburgh Road, Livonia. The cost is \$10 per entrant, with a light lunch included. Register by calling Jerry "mouse" Lundquist 248-310-1775. The public is welcome.

**Livonia Towne Club**

The Livonia Towne Club, a nonprofit women's organization bringing together women for social interaction meets the fourth Thursday of each month September through May (except in November and December when it's held on the second Thursday).

The club meets for lunch and a program at different restaurants in Livonia and surrounding areas. The program could be an informative speaker, bingo, fashion show, music entertainment and more. The next luncheon is Dec. 2 with entertainment from a local accordion musician. For more information, call Vicki at 734-591-3254 for more information.

**Franklin High library teen book fair**

The high school library will have a book fair Dec. 9-13 at Barnes & Noble, 17111 Haggerty, Northville Township. Teens are encouraged to participate in the Harry Potter Magical Holiday Ball - dressed in a favorite character - and dance until you drop. The store and cafe will be open. A percentage of Barnes & Noble sales will benefit the Franklin High School library. If you can't make it and wish to donate, go to [bn.com/bookfairs](http://bn.com/bookfairs) Dec. 9-13. Enter Bookfair ID12026894 at checkout.

**Mike Modano Ice Arena open**

Stop by and check out the new and newly renovated locker rooms and the other significant improvements at the Mike Modano Ice Arena. Open skates will be every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30-3:20 p.m. The ever popular glow skate will be held every Friday from 7-9:20 p.m. Timbits can learn to play hockey every Saturday morning from 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. and anyone can come get skating lessons Mondays from 5:50 p.m., Fridays from 6-6:50 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:30-11:20 a.m. There are adult drop in times every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at

1-2:50 p.m. Ice is available to rent.

**Holiday Harmonies**

The Harmonytown Chorus will perform "Holiday Harmonies," its eighth annual Christmas show at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 11, at the Livonia Public Library Auditorium, on Five Mile, east of Farmington Road. This year's show has an alphabetical treatment the chorus celebrates the Christmas season from A to Z.

Tickets are \$6 for adults; \$3 for students 12-18; children 12 and younger are free. To purchase tickets go to [WeSingBarbershop.com](http://WeSingBarbershop.com) or call 734-743-1764.

**New Year's Eve Party!**

Celebrate the New Year at beginning at 7 p.m., Dec. 31, at the AM-Vets Memorial Hall, 1217 Merriman Road, Westland. The cost is \$30 each or \$50 per couple. The ticket includes dinner, dancing, pizza snack at midnight, and one bottle of champagne per table at midnight.

Tickets available at AMVETS Post 171, 734-765-0716.

**Town Hall speakers**

The Livonia Town Hall has announced speakers for its 52nd season. » Jan. 18: Writer Doug Stanton, who will relate his writing on travel adventures and political pieces from national publications.

» March 15: Best-selling author Denise Kiernan will discuss how she wrote "The Girls of the Atomic City."

Programs are held at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, in Livonia. Call 734-751-1898 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to purchase tickets.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY WINTER TAX NOTICE**

The 2016 winter taxes will be payable from December 1, 2016 through February 14, 2017 without penalty. Beginning February 15, 2017 thru February 28, 2017 a 3% penalty will be added to the unpaid taxes. Beginning March 1, 2017 all unpaid 2016 REAL property taxes must be paid to Wayne County Treasurer, The International Center Building, 400 Monroe, 5th floor, Detroit, Mi 48226 with an additional 4% administration fee plus 1% per month interest computed from March 1, 2017.

ALLYSON M BETTIS-Treasurer-City Clerk

Publish: November 27, 2016

LO-000002290 2/2

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**STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF OAKLAND**  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
 Decedent's Estate  
 In Re the Trust of Joseph G. Opperwall, deceased  
 Date of Birth: January 31, 1927  
**TO ALL CREDITORS**  
 Notice to Creditors: The decedent, Joseph G. Opperwall, who lived at 877 Edgemont Park, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230 died December 31, 2016. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to THEODORE R. OPPERWALL, 877 Edgemont Park, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230, fiduciary, or to both the probate court at WAYNE COUNTY PROBATE COURT, 1307 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48226 and the fiduciary within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.  
 Date: 11/18/2016  
 Attorney Name Bar No.  
 Laura Ann Schreyer P66533  
 800 West Long Lake Road,  
 Suite 160  
 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-2067  
 (248) 642-1056  
 Fiduciary's Name  
 Theodore R Opperwall  
 877 Edgemont Park  
 Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230  
 Publish: November 27, 2016  
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COLLEGE WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

## Hawkins helps Crusaders get jump

Hard-working Stevenson alum sparks MU spikers as they reach NAIA pool play

Tim Smith  
Hometownlife.com

From antenna to antenna, the signal is being received loud and clear about Madonna University junior middle hitter Amanda Hawkins.

The 2014 Livonia Stevenson graduate, who gets in the face of opponents despite her 5-foot, 11-inch height, literally made the jump to go from prep standout to a key contributor on the Crusaders' women's volleyball team. "Our coach (assistant Tim) DeBeliso



Hawkins

I do jump rope, I jump on boxes and everything. Because I really need my vertical to get up over those hitters on the other side of the net."

tells me I have one of the highest verticals on the team," said Hawkins during a telephone interview Wednesday. "And that's something I really focus on during the summer to prepare for season.

"I'm always jumping. I do jump rope, I jump on boxes and everything. Because I really need my vertical to get up over those hitters on the other side of the net."

This week, Madonna is headed to Sioux City, Iowa for the NAIA National Tournament and Hawkins' season-long excellence has been a big reason why.

The 20-year-old led Madonna with 16 kills against Point Park on Nov. 19, enabling the Crusaders to get to the nationals.

"I've been proud of the season, I think I had a really standout season," said Hawkins, adding with a laugh that she "broke out of my little shell."

See HAWKINS, Page B3



MADONNA ATHLETICS

Showing her incredible vertical jump to bring the hammer down during a recent Madonna University women's volleyball game is Amanda Hawkins.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS HOCKEY



Livonia Stevenson junior goalie Will Tragge gets set to snag a Livonia Churchill shot Wednesday night. On the doorstep for the Chargers is junior forward Josh Friend (No. 2).

THOMAS BEAUDOIN

## CROWD PLEASER

Livonia hockey rivals light up Eddie Edgar Arena with early season test

Tim Smith  
Hometownlife.com

Eddie Edgar Arena Wednesday night was as electric as USA Hockey Arena ever is in March during the state boys hockey finals.

With fans ringing the outside of the boards and the fans packed — with large and loud student cheering sections for each team — Livonia Stevenson and Livonia Churchill got after it big-time in a first-week matchup that indicated 2016-17 could be quite a season in the KLA.

After Churchill got on the board first early in the second period, the Division 2 finalists from the past two seasons

responded with three unanswered markers to grab a hard-earned 3-1 triumph.

"Right now our compete level is pretty high with our senior leadership and (other) returners," Spartans head coach David Mitchell said. "The new guys are buying in. But it's a tough way start the season.

"Churchill is a really solid team this year, very well coached and they return a lot of guys who have a lot of talent on

that team. So we're very happy to come out of tonight with the win."

The Spartans improved to 2-0 on the young season, having eked out another tough win against Birmingham Brother Rice (1-0 on Saturday). Meanwhile, the Chargers fell for the first time after securing 6-1 and 10-1 wins last weekend over Farmington and Farmington Hills United.

"We knew going in it was going to be a high-paced game, we knew it was

"We knew going in it was going to be a high-paced game, we knew it was going to be a battle. Stevenson comes prepared every year, of course."

JASON REYNOLDS, Churchill head coach

going to be a battle," Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds said. "Stevenson comes prepared every year, of course. And so we came in with a pretty good

See RIVALRY, Page B2



Ladywood's hoop fortunes will rest on seniors (from left) Jamie Gietl, Kathleen Bushart, Maggie Shirk, Monica Rzepka and Brianne Rogers.

BRAD EMONS

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW - PART 1

## Ladywood has changing at the guard

Sam Lamb takes over as the new varsity girls basketball coach

Brad Emons  
hometownlife.com

Livonia Ladywood girls basketball is under new management.

Sam Lamb takes over the reins for Amber Culloty, who stepped down after three seasons while leading the Blazers to a 9-11 overall record and their first Class B district title since 2013.

Lamb coached previously at the Reading and Riverview high schools, while also spending two seasons as the head women's coach at Macomb Community College.

Ladywood, coming off a 2-6 season in the Catholic League's Central Divi-

tion, will be led by 5-foot-6 senior guard Maggie Shirk, who is entering her fourth varsity season. Other seniors that Lamb will bank on include Kathleen Bushart, Maggie Shirk, Monica Rzepka and Brianne Rogers.

The Blazers open their 2016-17 season with games on the road against Grosse Pointe North (Tuesday) and Trenton (Thursday). Both are 7 p.m. starts.

"We are definitely a work in progress as the girls are adjusting to a totally new offensive and defensive philosophy, but they are working extremely hard and I'm sure they will be ready when we have to start battling in the (Catholic League) Central Division," Lamb said. "We not only play in

See LADYWOOD, Page B3

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COLLEGE MEN'S CLUB HOCKEY

# It's a gutsy weekend for Schoolcraft icers

Ocelots hockey team battles host Ferris State to tie, win

Tim Smith  
Hometownlife.com

With each passing week, the Schoolcraft Ocelots become more comfortable with life in the American Collegiate Hockey Association.

Still just in its second year as a program, the Ocelots continued to grow as a squad Nov. 18-19 at Ferris State University, earning a 6-6 tie Friday and following up the next night with a resounding 7-2 victory.

"The pace of this game was much quicker than Friday night and we had a great defensive effort," Ocelots men's club hockey coach Rob Lindsay said, about the Saturday contest. "I made some line changes for this game to see if we could get all four lines clicking and that's exactly what happened."

"We controlled the game at both ends of the ice. Our penalty kill was really good tonight and we put the puck in the net when we were shorthanded."

Also helping the cause was goalie Matt Monendo, a Livonia Franklin product. He earned the victory with a stellar performance against the Bulldogs' D2 squad.

"Matt Monendo was outstanding between the pipes," Lindsay said. "He made some really huge saves in our 7-2 win. This was a big confidence builder."

After a scoreless first period,



Schoolcraft forward Zach Nichols (No. 12), shown from earlier this season, scored a goal in each of two weekend games against Ferris State.

Schoolcraft got on the board in the second minute of the middle stanza when forward Vinnie Glenn (Livonia Stevenson) scored on an assist from linemate Jacob Stanley of Westland.

By the time the middle period was over, the Ocelots were up 4-1 and in control. Also scoring in the second were forwards Andrew Lindsay (Tren-

ton), Sheldon Varhol (Garden City) and Stanley.

Netting goals in the third were forward Zack Nelson (Livonia Franklin), Lindsay (second of the game for the team captain) and forward Zach Nichols.

Drawing two assists for the Ocelots was forward Owen Hund (Garden

City), with single helpers by Stanley, Glenn, defenseman Scott Pohl (Livonia), Nichols and Lindsay.

"We were beating Ferris to the loose pucks and winning the 1-1 battles," coach Lindsay noted. "I was very excited for the boys and it was a well-deserved win."

"The boys played with confidence and they did things with the puck that you normally don't see. Looking forward I see us getting a bid to the ACHA Playoffs if the boys keep working on our systems."

On Friday, the Ocelots let an early 4-1 lead evaporate, with the Bulldogs scoring four goals in the second to take a 5-4 lead.

It was 6-5 for Ferris State midway through the third. But Andrew Lindsay netted the equalizer at 16:39 (from Nichols and Hund) to send the contest to overtime. After a hard-fought, five-minute OT, the teams settled for the draw.

Other Schoolcraft goals were registered by forwards Spencer Kovacs (Livonia Churchill), Andrew Nowak (Livonia Stevenson), Nichols, Stanley and defenseman Zack Finzel (Livonia Stevenson).

"We have to play three solid periods," he said. "We were playing too much perimeter hockey in the second period and weren't getting enough shots to the net."

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports



THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Looking to dish to a teammate Wednesday is Livonia Stevenson senior captain Justin Alton. He scored his team's first goal Wednesday against Churchill.



THOMAS BEAUDOIN

Livonia Stevenson's Vincent Decina (No. 13) puts a hit against Livonia Churchill's Willis Wuebben along the boards Wednesday at Eddie Edgar Arena.

## RIVALS

Continued from Page B1

game play.

"Obviously, with the ebb and flow of the game we came up a little short in some key areas. We wanted to get pucks to the net, but we had a couple unfortunate pucks sail over the net. We weren't as accurate as we wanted to be."

The Chargers did find the mark first, however.

Both of Wednesday's goalies, Stevenson junior Will Tragge and Churchill senior Andrew Broyles, were perfect through a back-and-forth opening period.

It only took 16 seconds of the middle stanza for the Chargers to take a 1-0 lead, however.

Banging in a rebound over Tragge's shoulder from close range was junior forward Tyler Haydu (who came into the game with five goals).

"I saw John (Doyle) get it down low and he threw it out at me and I got a shot on net," Haydu noted. "I saw the rebound pop out, and my cousin Jordan (Venegoni) was crashing the net good and it hit off him."

"I just whacked it with my stick and it went in. ... But we need to capitalize on more of our opportunities. We got a lot of shots but they missed the net."

## Getting it back

Showing their pedigree as one of Michigan's elite programs, it didn't take long for the big, fast, physical Spartans to respond.

Stevenson knotted the contest at 1-1 with 12:36 left, on a blistering snap shot by senior forward and captain Justin Alton. Making it happen with a perfect stretch pass out of his own end was junior defenseman Connor Jakacki.

Alton ripped a shot from the top of the left circle that Broyles had no chance on.

"Connor Jackacki passed it, nice stretch pass across the ice," Alton said. "We've been working on that a lot in practice, it worked out today. I didn't see the goalie, used the D as a screen. It went in, lucky shot."

The Spartans then got the lead just 1:25 later, with senior defenseman Kyle Lynch getting to a rebound in the left circle and firing it past Broyles.

Drawing helpers were senior forward Alex Walkuski and junior forward Julian Decina.

"Our (offensive) response was good, our goal is to not change the way we play no matter what happens," Mitchell stressed. "Whether the other team has some success or we have some success."

"We have to find a way to play a full 51 minutes and focus on the process of what we do."

The Chargers upped the ante on an ensuing power play, only to have the Stevenson defense come up big with a

couple timely blocked shots.

When Churchill did complete a shot, Tragge was ready.

Midway through the power play, junior forward Conor Burnette slipped a pass over to defenseman Matt Gibboey for a one-timer that Tragge flicked away his blocker.

Stevenson nearly added to its lead moments after killing off the penalty, with Broyles showing quick, lateral movement to thwart a bid by junior D-man Easton Schlatterbeck.

Churchill's subsequent power play was even more dangerous, but the Chargers could not light the lamp.

Tragge closed off the short side to block a chance by senior defenseman Danny Carey and he fought off a screen shot by Doyle.

"Will's been great for us," Mitchell said. "He's a junior but he's experienced and very calm back there, and gives a coach a calming feeling. He's been the great first two games."

Registering the all-important insurance goal for the Spartans was junior forward Jacob Anderson, tapping in a centering pass from Decina with 11:25 to play. Senior forward Morgen Gray also assisted.

## Extra motivation

According to Alton, the team already is all in on doing whatever it takes to have another chance at a championship, fully aware of the bitter disappointment of falling short in 2015 and 2016.

"Our loss to Romeo stays with us, but remember that (every game) and

we use it," Alton said. "We channel that energy, we take it out on the opponent."

Meanwhile, both coaches said they relish the uber-competitive hockey now being played throughout the KLAA, especially the Kensington Conference — the kind fans saw Wednesday.

"It's tight," Reynolds said. "It's always competitive every night, it's not a situation where you can take a night off by any means."

"And we love that. We love having an intense schedule with some very competitive teams. That only helps us be better as a team as the season goes on."

**STEVENSON 1, BROTHER RICE 0:** In season opener Nov. 19 at Eddie Edgar Arena, Justin Alton scored 59 seconds into the third period to break a scoreless tie — and that held up for the win.

Setting up the goal was Alex Walkuski and that was plenty support for junior goalie Will Tragge, who stopped 23 Warriors shots for the shutout.

"I honestly can't say how proud of this group of players I am," Spartans head coach David Mitchell said. "Really can't put into words the level of compete we showed as a team tonight. From the goal all the way out, our players just battled like crazy."

"That is an unreal hockey club over there, Brother Rice is so talented and well-coached. We will take the win, but realize that this is just 1 of 25."

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
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GIRLS BASKETBALL CAPSULE OUTLOOK



BRAD EMONS

Clarenceville coach Kristen Alsheskie (middle) will rely on (from left) Ashley Kato, Aiyana Allen, Alyssa Craigie and Desarae Hartfiel.



Redford Thurston coach Bob Ostrowski (middle) will rely on (from left) Megan Abela, Bailey Porter, Bryanna Burton, Tristen Wessenberg and Naudia Jackson.

**LIVONIA LADYWOOD**  
**Head coach:** Sam Lamb, first season.  
**League affiliation:** Catholic League (Central Division).  
**Last year's overall record:** 9-11  
**Titles won last year:** Class B district champions.  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Erika Selakowski.  
**Leading returnees:** Maggie Shirk, 5-6 Sr. G; Abbey Reppen, 5-8 Jr. G; Kathleen Bushart, 5-7 Sr. G; Natasha Strzelewicz, 5-7 Jr. F; Kate Roney, 5-6 Jr. G; Jessie Drennan, 5-9 Jr. F.  
**Promising newcomers:** Brienne Rogers, 5-7 Sr. G; Amy Babon, 5-9 Jr. G; Jamie Gietl, 5-7 Sr. F.  
**Lamb's 2016-17 outlook:** "We are really excited for this upcoming season. Our team returns eight girls from last year. We also added some depth from our JV team and two new players who did not play last season."

**LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE**  
**Head coach:** Kristen Alsheskie, second season.  
**League affiliation:** Western Wayne Athletic Conference (Red Division).  
**Last year's overall record:** 1-19  
**Notable losses to graduation:** A'Sha Whittaker.  
**Leading returnees:** Myla Hoskins-King, Soph. G; Aiyana Allen, Soph. G; Racque Mance, Sr. F; Desarae Hartfiel, Jr. G.  
**Promising newcomers:** Ashley Kato, Jr. G; Alyssa Craigie, Jr. G.  
**Alsheskie's 2016-17 outlook:** "I'm looking forward to a better more conditioned team in 2016-17. We have seven returning varsity players, which will give us the experience that we lacked last year. We are adding new three seniors and two new juniors who will bring us a balance of maturity."

**REDFORD UNION**  
**Head coach:** Scott Purdy, third season.  
**League affiliation:** Western Wayne Athletic Conference (Red Division).  
**Last year's overall record:** 5-13.  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Cliffangela Stafford, Destiny Mitchell.  
**Leading returnees:** Donna Mejia, 5-5 Jr. G (tri-captain); Haley Hebner, 5-8 Jr. F (tri-captain); Cassidy Sandelin, 5-7 Jr. PG (tri-captain); Angelica Wellons, 5-7 Sr. G.  
**Promising newcomers:** Johnnae Steel, 6-2 Soph. C; Johnnia Steel, 5-11 Soph. F; Destini Sylvester, 5-5 Sr. G; Jamie Goulet, 5-11 Jr. F; Bre'Anna Blount, 5-2 Sr. G.  
**Purdy's 2016-17 outlook:** "They moved two teams out of our division, which was Dearborn and Belleville. Belleville was a powerhouse last year. They went undefeated in our division and Dearborn had two losses, both to Belleville. They moved those guys and dropped in (Dearborn) Fordson and Garden City. We can finish third or fourth, or maybe even better depending on how quick these new girls learn the system."

**REDFORD THURSTON**  
**Head coach:** Bob Ostrowski, 11th year.  
**League affiliation:** Western Wayne Athletic Conference (Red Division).  
**Last year's overall record:** 6-12.  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Kiana Shepard.  
**Leading returnees:** Megan Abela, 5-9 Sr. G-F (captain); Gillian Drake, 5-4 Sr. G (captain); Bailey Porter, 5-10 Sr. F; Bryanna Burton, 5-10 Jr. C; Tristen Wessenberg, 5-9 Soph. G-F; Naudia Jackson, 5-7 Soph. G.  
**Promising newcomers:** To be determined.  
**Ostrowski's 2016-17 outlook:** "Our returning players bring two-to-three years of experience to the team with a mix of a couple of freshmen and sophomores from last year. The mix of new players and returnees will need to gel quickly. We're hoping for an exciting year."

bemons@hometownlife.com  
 Twitter: @bemons1

LADYWOOD

Continued from Page B1

one of the best leagues in the state, our non-conference schedule is loaded with tough teams, but we are welcoming the challenge. This is why you play and coach at a school like Ladywood, so that you can compete against the best."

Twins bolster RU

Redford Union third-year coach Scott Purdy is optimistic about competing in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference's Red Division after both first-place Belleville and runner-up moved up into the Blue Division, while Garden City and Dearborn Fordson dropped down.

RU, coming off a 5-13 season, opens with home non-conference home games against Taylor Prep (Tuesday) and Southfield Bradford Academy (Friday). Both games start at 6 p.m.

The addition of sophomore transfers Johnnae Steel, a 6-2 center, and Johnnia Steel, a 5-11 forward, give Purdy reason for optimism.

"The Steel twins definitely brings us back size inside," Purdy said. "Johnnia is by far a phenomenal basketball talent. She's very knowledgeable, great team player and will be a big asset to our team as the season goes on this year."

The Panthers will also get a lift from junior returnees Donna Mejia, Haley Hebner and Cassidy Sandelin.

"Those three girls are outstanding captains," Purdy said. "They're multi-sports captains, great leadership. All of them have over a 4.0 G.P.A., so they're constantly on-and-off the court leading their team and helping to make sure the other girls are keeping their grades up and everything. Just great kids."

Trojans taking aim

Second-year Livonia Clarenceville coach Kristen Alsheskie hopes her squad can take a big step this season



BRAD EMONS

RU will open the season with key players such as (from left), Haley Hebner, Angelica Wellons, Bre'Anna Blount, Cassidy Sandelin, Johnnae Steel, Johnnia Steel, Destini Sylvester and Donna Mejia.

after finishing 1-19 a year ago.

The Trojans, who open their 2016-17 campaign at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, lost one starter to graduation, but returns four players including sophomore point-guard Myla Hoskins-King, sophomore guard Aiyana Allen, senior forward Raquel Mance and junior guard Desarae Hartfiel.

Junior guards Ashley Kato and Alyssa Craigie also look promising as the Trojans will compete again in the WWAC's Red Division.

"The girls finished out the season on a high note last year and I know that they are hungry for more wins this year," Alsheskie said. "We are looking to continue to build a more consistent,

better conditioned, competitive program."

Thurston outlook

Redford Thurston coach Bob Ostrowski will throw his team into the first this week with home games against Ferndale University High (Tuesday) and Gibraltar Carlson (Friday). Both games start at 7 p.m.

"I hope our senior experience will be a strength, number one," Ostrowski said. "I think we should have some good forward play from that experience, hopefully from Bryanna Burton and also Megan Abela."

Senior guard Gillian Drake also returns.

And although the only had an preseason intrasquad scrimmage on Saturday, Ostrowski hopes his team can blend in together quickly.

"We really haven't meshed yet because we haven't scrimmaged, but I'm hoping that we get very soon," Ostrowski said. "We have our first two games at home. I'm looking for that mesh to come into play a lot easier being at home for two games than opening up on the road."

bemons@hometownlife.com  
 Twitter: @bemons1

HAWKINS

Continued from Page B1

Hawkins added that although the Crusaders are used to high-stakes competition in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, nationals represent "a whole different atmosphere than playing here. It's so competitive and everyone gets really into it."

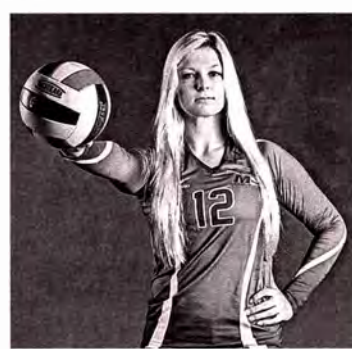
The terminator

That's an understatement as far as how intense Hawkins plays the game, according to longtime Madonna head volleyball coach Jerry Abraham.

"She's one of our go-to players," said longtime Madonna head volleyball coach Jerry Abraham. "She's a middle hitter, has the ability to terminate attacks with a wide variety of shots. ... We run the middle a lot and Amanda is integral in our success, that's for sure. And has been that way for three years. One of our upperclassmen that I rely upon each night."

This will mark the fourth consecutive year that Madonna has qualified for the nationals, but first the team must get out of pool play to have a shot at a NAIA championship.

That quest begins Tuesday; the Crusaders must finish 1-2 among four teams after three contests to advance. MU opens at 5 p.m. Tuesday against Dordt (Iowa).



MADONNA ATHLETICS

Livonia Stevenson alum Amanda Hawkins is poised and confident entering NAIA pool play for Madonna University.

"We're getting better and better as the season goes," Abraham said. "We have some experience, we have some young players but we're excited. We're playing our best volleyball of the season right now, so I think we're ready, that's all we can do. We have a tough pool."

Madonna won the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference East Division with a 14-2 mark but fell in the WHAC semifinals to Cornerstone.

The Crusaders' lineup features other standouts, such as sophomore libero Deanna Krumholz, 5-10 junior outside

hitter Karlie Kelly, 6-3 senior right-side hitter Katie Breault and 6-1 senior all-conference middle hitter Miranda Fuerst.

Crusaders' catalyst

But there is no denying that the former Spartan standout is a major catalyst for Abraham's team.

After a summer devoted to training and improving her vertical jump, which helps the 5-11 middle get up to hammer the ball over taller opponents at the net, Hawkins tallied 343 kills and enjoyed a stellar .337 hitting percentage.

Fuerst had 305 kills and a .332 percentage. Kelly led MU with 489 kills from the outside.

Abraham said the way Hawkins has gone after her business since joining the Crusaders in 2014 is no surprise.

She came over from Stevenson highly regarded; she was a key player on the 2013 Spartans — the final team coached by the late, great Kelly Graham, who passed away in July after a half-year fight against Lou Gehrig's disease. That season, Stevenson reached the Class A quarterfinals.

"We run a little faster offense than they do in high school, of course," Abraham said. "Once she adjusted to that, and she did that right away, very consistent and strong ever since."

"But she was very good in high school for Kelly Graham, and I just like the way she competed at Stevenson, and the way she competes to win right

now." Among reasons Hawkins continues to excel at the collegiate level include dedication and endless toil in the gym. Of course, don't forget to throw in a boatload of talent.

"I liked her (recruiting her at Stevenson) because she has a good arm swing and she's fast, has a good game sense, has a good feel for the game," Abraham noted. "Out of high school, that's what I saw. I knew she could hit the ball hard and was smart."

"She's been developing ever since, it just keeps progressing. She's certainly one of the better middle hitters in our conference (WHAC) of course and nationally she's got good statistics."

No matter how it plays out this week in Iowa, Hawkins and her teammates won't forget to have a little bit of fun along the way.

"It will be my third year going, and like all the other years it's been really exciting and it's just great competition out there," said Hawkins, daughter of Livonia's Jetonna and Christopher Hawkins and owner of a 3.8 grade-point average. "It's great for our team to get out there and compete, and I think we're going to play at a really high level."

With Amanda Hawkins front and center, that certainly should be the case.

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
 Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports



GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW - PART 1

# Familiar cast for new Spartans coach

Anger moves up from Stevenson JV, likes mix of vets and varsity newbies

**Tim Smith**  
Hometownlife.com

Karen Anger is starting her first season as head coach of Livonia Stevenson's varsity girls basketball team. But she is no stranger to the Spartans' program, moving up from junior varsity where her teams combined to go 35-5 over the past two seasons.

Anger knows varsity basketball in the ultra-competitive KLAA Central Division is a different animal, what with teams such as Novi and Northville to contend with. Last year, Stevenson finished 10-11 overall and 3-7 in the KLAA Central.

Yet hope remains, especially given the strong team chemistry and mix of talent Anger sees on the 2016-17 roster.

"It is a true test of what your team is made of when playing those two teams as well as any team in this league," Anger said. "I am excited to get started and to put all the girls hard work from this summer to fall and now at practices to the test. I believe in this team so much."

"The seniors (and junior point guard Sarah Tanderys) I had my first year of coaching JV, and all the sophomores I had on my team last year. So they all know what to expect from me and I know what they all can do and I expect nothing less."

Tanderys also is one of the Spartans co-captains, along with senior guard Grace Lamerson, senior forwards Casey Baldwin and Kelly Newman. That quartet will start, as will senior guard Diane Senkowski.

"I am looking for them to lead both on and off the court," Anger said. "We have a big team this year and I need them to be engaged while they are playing and while they are on bench taking a break."

"I need them to keep all the girls excited and into it. We have a lot of seniors that can be leaders but these girls get no days off as captains of my team."

Six varsity newcomers will make their presence felt, including sophomore forwards Elisa Lebron, Kimmy Freed, Julia Kozler, Allie Terry, sophomore guard Abbie Lamerson and freshman point guard Meredith Hage.

Also on hand to chip in are senior point guard Brie Maas, senior guard Alyssa Maas, senior guard Jackie Green, senior forward Kait Pence and junior guard Julia Bice.

[tsmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:tsmith@hometownlife.com)  
Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports



Grace Lamerson eyes the basket for Livonia Stevenson during a 2015-16 game.

THOMAS BEAUDOIN

*"The seniors (and junior point guard Sarah Tanderys) I had my first year of coaching JV, and all the sophomores I had on my team last year. ... I know what they all can do and I expect nothing less."*

**KAREN ANGER**, head coach

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

# Season could be one of hope for Franklin

**Tim Smith**  
Hometownlife.com

Livonia Franklin had a season to forget in 2015-16, going 0-for-20.

But fifth-year head coach Jim Milican already is seeing a positive upswing, with a trio of senior captains showing excellent team leadership and youngsters adding to the mix.

"The KLAA South is very, very tough as you know," Milican said. "There are four really good teams that did very well last year and will do very good this year. We will give it 101 percent."

"We had a good summer and have worked hard so far and are looking to get off to a good start."

Helping the Patriots do just that will be senior co-captains Lexi Bryant and Brooke Garbarino (both guards) and center Sarah Channey.

Milican also likes the fact that Franklin's roster will include three sophomores — freshmen from last season who "took some bumps and bruises" then, but will have gained invaluable experience as a result.

Those are guard/forward Hannah Strasser, guard Adriana Ufferman and guard Olivia Napier.

"They will be three players we will hear from a lot this year and the next two years," Milican said.

Also a plus for 2016-17 and beyond, Milican said, is the development of younger players on the junior varsity and freshman teams.

"Each are carrying 11 players and there are some very good players," Milican said. "We are looking for a good season out of them."

[tsmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:tsmith@hometownlife.com)  
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Livonia Franklin's Lexi Bryant (left) is one of three key seniors on the 2016-17 squad.

FILE PHOTO

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

# Garden City cagers to compete in new division

**Tim Smith**  
Hometownlife.com

Garden City's varsity girls basketball team is enjoying a change of scenery this season in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference.

It remains to be seen whether a switch in divisions for the Cougars will lead to a contender's status. But head coach Michelle Tyree is hopeful things can improve from last year's 16-17 record.

"We switched divisions in the WWAC," Tyree said. "I think we will be very competitive in the division. We have a large senior class. Hopefully, that experience will help us improve from last season."

Those seniors include centers Tatum Spears, Alex Leleniewski, forward Alicia Acencio, and guards Kayley Hewer, Alea Montgomery and Brittany Radtke.

The post players will need to grab boards and score inside, with Leleniewski especially intriguing. "When healthy, she is a strong presence inside."

The Cougars will look to point guard Radtke to "quarterback our offense. She also is one of our top defenders."

Montgomery and Hewer will provide versatility, able to step in on the wing if needed. Both "will be asked to score and rebound."

Junior forward Camryn Chavis will help off the bench, and brings a scoring touch from the perimeter.

Guard Haleigh Maztatics is the backup point guard. Center Amanda Noel will provide key minutes off the bench. Both are juniors.

Sophomore forward Hayley Shupert is another player Tyree is looking for to provide outside scoring.

[tsmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:tsmith@hometownlife.com)  
Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports



Dribbling through defenders during a 2015-16 game is Garden City's Brittany Radtke (No. 24).

THOMAS BEAUDOIN



Livonia Franklin defenseman Jack Ores (No. 9) turns in the Patriots zone Wednesday night against Walled Lake Western.

THOMAS BEAUDOIN

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

# Warriors take bite out of Patriots

**Tim Smith**  
Hometownlife.com

Livonia Franklin's varsity boys hockey team could not get started let alone get over the hump during Wednesday's Kensington Lakes Activities Conference crossover matchup against Walled Lake Western.

There was little doubt as to the outcome early in the first period at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia, with the Patriots trailing 2-0. Western went on to win 6-0, despite a gallant effort by Pats sophomore goalie Will Augustine (38 saves).

"Will played a great game," Franklin head coach Dan Phelps said. "He held us in there, even with the score spread."

Western was led by Cam Newton, who registered a hat trick. Other goals were registered by Nick Orr, Brad

Barta and Jackson Dobbs. Splitting the shutout were goalies Anders Elmblad (25 saves) and Sean Lickfold (four saves).

"We had a better second period, competed but ran low on gas and depth," Phelps said. "It's a young, inexperienced team, a work in progress (with) rebuilding."

"The effort from the boys was great, small steps of improvement in the process."

Franklin's record dipped to 1-2 overall with the Thanksgiving eve loss while the Warriors improved to 2-0 overall.

The Patriots will host Salem 6 p.m. Wednesday and then travel to face Plymouth (6 p.m. Dec. 3 at Arctic Edge Arena).

On the horizon is a city showdown 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7 against Livonia Stevenson, at Eddie Edgar.

[tsmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:tsmith@hometownlife.com)



RELIGION CALENDAR

DECEMBER ARTS & CRAFTS

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2-3  
**Location:** Lutheran High School, 33300 Cowan, Westland  
**Details:** Juried show of hand-crafted items, hourly door prize drawings, face painting, bake sale, lunch available; \$2 admission, free for 11 and under  
**Contact:** 734-422-2090

BETHEHEM MARKETPLACE

**Time/Date:** 3:30-5:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3  
**Location:** Birmingham First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple, Birmingham  
**Details:** Take a step back in time to the ancient city of Bethlehem where children will be provided with denaia to "spend" at the marketplace. They'll get a chance to help build a cradle and make a wooden dreidel, weave fibers, knead bread dough and more. A census taker, roaming villagers, storytellers and market vendors, along with live animals, round out the interactive event. Dinner will be available from 5-6 p.m.  
**Contact:** Patty Glass at 248-646-6407, ext. 3130; pglass@fmc-birmingham.org

CANTATA, ADVENT WORKSHOP

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. Dec. 4  
**Location:** Faith Community Presbyterian Church, 44400 W. 10 Mile, Novi  
**Details:** Christmas Cantata followed by family Advent workshop  
**Contact:** 248-349-2345; faith-community-novi.org

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

**Time/Date:** 10:30 a.m. Dec. 25  
**Location:** Open Arms Church, 33015 Seven Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Worship service  
**Contact:** 248-471-5282

CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4

**Location:** Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Detroit Lutheran Singers Christmas concert will include selections from "Laud to the Nativity" by Ottorino Respighi, and other sacred works, carols and Handel's "Hallelujah" chorus. Other performances are 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, 1345 Gratiot Ave., Detroit; 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 N. Campbell, Royal Oak; and 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$10 for seniors and students over 12  
**Contact:** detroitluthersingers.com

CONCERT

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

**Location:** Northville Christian Assembly, 41355 Six Mile Road, Northville  
**Details:** Recording artists David Britton and Jean Watson will present the "Sounds of the Season" Christmas concert. The concert will be a unique blend of musical styles that will delight the audience with a variety of Christmas favorites with a live band called the Nashville Bandoliers. All of the artists and the show is produced by Billy Smiley, a Northville native. Smiley went to Northville High from 1972-75. The concert is free.

CONCERT

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

**Location:** St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** An Advent Pageant of Lessons, Carols & Sing-a-long features the Adult Choir, Children's Choir and Contemporary Ensemble of the St. Aidan Music Ministry. Admission is a \$5 donation and two canned goods to benefit the church's Christmas food baskets program  
**Contact:** 734-425-5950

CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11

**Location:** St. Lazerus Serbian Orthodox Cathedral, 4575 E. Outer Drive, Detroit  
**Details:** The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit sponsors its second annual Christ is Born! Glorify Him! A Detroit Orthodox Christmas Concert, which will include hymns and carols from Greece, Serbia, Romania, Ukraine and other countries, English language hymns sung by an Orthodox chorus, and a sing-along of popular carols. A reception follows the concert. Monetary and non-perishable food donations will be collected during the concert to support Orthodox charities  
**Contact:** Olga Liss at 248-252-8184; Olgaliss0910@gmail.com

ONGOING

CLASSES/STUDY CONGREGATION BETH AHM

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Wednesday  
**Location:** 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield  
**Details:** "Drop In & Learn," which runs year-round, features lectures on DVD on Jewish

history, culture, philosophy and related topics, followed by brief informal discussion. No charge, no reservations required  
**Contact:** Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931; nancyelen879@att.net

FARMINGTON AGLOW

**Time/Date:** 7-9:30 p.m. second Monday of the month  
**Location:** Open Arms Church, 33015 W. Seven Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Aglow is an international full gospel ministry  
**Contact:** 248-227-9103

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 Garity Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Gary Michuta, author and Catholic apologist, leads a study of Ezekiel. Bring your own Bible  
**Contact:** 734-261-1455, ext. 200; www.livoniastmichael.org.

FAITH COMMUNITY WESLEYAN

**Time/Date:** 4-5 p.m. every Saturday  
**Location:** 14560 Merriman, Livonia  
**Details:** This informal class includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one  
**Contact:** pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday  
**Location:** 23300 W. Chicago Road, Redford Township  
**Details:** An informal and ongoing study of the Orthodox faith and life. RSVP to Subdeacon Joshua Genig at joshua.genig@gmail.com or 630-936-6386  
**Contact:** facebook.com/stinno-centredford

EXERCISE CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 6:45-7:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday  
**Location:** 20300 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Instructor Wendy Motta, a seven-year Zumba practitioner, teaches Zumba through drop-in classes. Each costs \$3. Participants should bring water, a towel and wear athletic shoes. For more information, email Motta through zumba.com  
**Contact:** 313-408-3364

FOOD SALVATION ARMY

**Time/Date:** 5-6 p.m. every Thursday  
**Location:** 27500 Shiwawsee, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Free meal  
**Contact:** 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 10-11 a.m. second Saturday of the month  
**Location:** 16360 Hubbard, Livonia  
**Details:** Food pantry assists nutritional needs of the needy  
**Contact:** 734-421-8451; stan-drewsepiscopalchurchlivonia.org

HEALING SERVICE THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX BASILICA OF SAINT MARY

**Time/Date:** Arabic service, 3-4 p.m. first Tuesday of the month; English service, 3-4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month  
**Location:** 18100 Merriman, Livonia  
**Details:** The service includes prayers of petition and intercession, hymns, Scripture readings and the anointing of the sick. Offertory candles are available for a free will offering in the vestibule of the church.  
**Contact:** Rev. George Shalhoub at 734-422-0010 or email Stacey Badeen at sbadeen@tbosm.com

MOMS CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May  
**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners  
**Contact:** Ethanie Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

DUNNING PARK BIBLE CHAPEL

**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays  
**Location:** 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford  
**Details:** MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.  
**Contact:** Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday  
**Location:** Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.  
**Contact:** 313-563-0162

PRAYER ST. EDITH CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday  
**Location:** Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia  
**Details:** Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows  
**Contact:** Parish office at 734-464-1223

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday  
**Location:** 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton  
**Details:** Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.  
**Contact:** 734-459-3333

RECYCLING RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. third Saturday of the month  
**Location:** 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth  
**Details:** Recycle your cell phones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPads, iPads, tablets, eReaders on the third Saturday of each month. Use the doors on east side of church.  
**Contact:** Lynn Hapman at 734-466-9023

SINGLES DETROIT WORLD OUTREACH

**Time/Date:** 4-6 p.m. Sunday  
**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304  
**Details:** Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.  
**Contact:** The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org

STEVE'S FAMILY RESTAURANT

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday  
**Location:** 15800 Middlebelt, 14 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.  
**Contact:** 313-534-0399

SUPPORT APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily  
**Location:** 29667 Wentworth, Livonia  
**Details:** Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.  
**Contact:** 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

CONNECTION CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday  
**Location:** 3855 Sheldon, Canton  
**Details:** Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free  
**Contact:** Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info; 248-787-5009

DETROIT WORLD OUTREACH

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday  
**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202  
**Details:** Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems  
**Contact:** 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

FARMINGTON HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August  
**Location:** 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group  
**Contact:** 248-433-1011

MERRIMAN ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday  
**Location:** 2055 Merriman, Garden City  
**Details:** Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations  
**Contact:** www.metrofibrogroup.com; or Ruthann at 734-981-2519

FIRESIDE CHURCH OF GOD

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday  
**Location:** 11771 Newburgh, Livonia  
**Details:** Fireside Adult Day Ministry activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center  
**Contact:** 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; www.firesidechog.org; adm@firesidechog.org



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Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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CARLSON

**CONSTANCE "DEE"** of Plymouth, passed away November 16, 2016, at the age of 85. She was born in Wyandotte, MI to Samuel and Helen Robinson. Dee is survived by her loving son Craig (Debbie) Carlson, her dear grandsons David and Joseph G. (Solbin Park) Carlson. Dee was preceded in death by her beloved husband Gustaf Carlson, both of her parents and her sister Joann Wilson. Dee was a First Grade Teacher for the West Wood School District in Dearborn Heights. She was an active member at St. John's Episcopal Church as a choir member and the church bell ringer. Dee also loved to golf and had a deep love for her Michigan State Spartans. Dee is deeply loved and will be greatly missed. There will be a Memorial Service at St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth on Wednesday, December 21st, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association.

CARPENTER



**CAROL (nee BOGGESS)** age 72 died peacefully October 30, 2016 in her home surrounded by her family and close friends. Beloved wife of Mack Carpenter; loving mother of Bob Carpenter (Mitzi Morris), Cheryl Carpenter (Dr. Leland Babitch). Cherished grandmother of Bradley Babitch and Dylan Babitch. Dear sister of Donna Hoffmann (Fred) and loving Aunt to Donna's daughter Nicole Keaton (Owen) and great aunt to Kylan and Dakota. Carol is also survived by many loving Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces and Nephews. Carol graduated from Henry Ford High School in Detroit in January, 1962. She received both her undergraduate and her Doctor of Education from Wayne State University. A distinguished career in teaching followed at Redford High School and Henry Ford High School in Detroit, Detroit Institute of Technology, Wayne State University, Oakland Community and Oakland University. After teaching, Carol combined her love of teaching and writing with a successful career as a consultant with Ford Motor Company and Chevrolet Division of General Motors. Throughout her life, Carol wrote poems and short stories. She became an award winning poet and short story writer. Carol had over two hundred publications of her writing and received numerous awards for her brilliant writing. Carol's great voice has been quieted, yet it will live forever in the hearts and minds of her students, readers, family and friends. Carol's family and friends have set up the Carol Carpenter Writing Scholarship at Oakland University, 2200 N Squirrel Road, Rochester, MI 48309 to honor Carol, who truly walked in beauty.

DIXON

**DORIS ELIZABETH TREADWELL** Went to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on November 20th, 2016 at the age of 87. She was born February 23, 1929 in Jackson, Michigan, and attended Jackson High School. She is survived by her beloved husband of 66 years, Dr. Charles (Chuck) E. Dixon; sons David (Melanie) of Buchanan, GA, Michael (Lisa) of Jackson, MI, and Mark (Kelly) of Novi, MI; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She was a Registered Nurse, a long-time member of the First United Methodist Church of Jackson, as well as Newburg United Methodist Church of Livonia, and participated in many church activities throughout the years, including UMW and the Music Ministry, singing in church choirs from age fourteen. She also spent many years as a member of the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Jackson; was a past president of the Michigan Dental Association Auxiliary, and numerous PTA committees while raising her three boys. A lifelong fan of the University of Michigan, her favorite time of the year was fall, as it brought with it Michigan Football Saturdays. A memorial service will be Sunday, November 27th at 3p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Jackson, 275 W. Michigan Ave. with visitation one hour prior.

ELNAN

**PAT JOY** Age 85, of Farmington Hills, Michigan. Beloved wife of the late Thor Elnan. Dear sister of Joyce Stoumbos, Kay Adelsburg, and Joan Rogers. Survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Private services entrusted to Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Downtown Farmington. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital or Friends of the Farmington Community Library.  
[www.thayer-rock.com](http://www.thayer-rock.com)

GONZALEZ

**JENNIFER** November 14, 2016 Age 29 of Pensacola Florida, Formerly of Wayne. Long time companion of Tim Woodruff. Daughter of Dawn Stevens and Rene Gonzalez. Granddaughter of Sylvia and Roberto Gonzalez and the late Thelma and Donald Porter. Sister to Jason, Jared, Julian, and Jamie. Aunt of Emily Taylor and Madilyn Gonzalez. Also, survived by many Aunts, uncles and cousins. Funeral service from The Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, Saturday 11:30 a.m. Visitation Friday from the funeral home 11a.m. - 9 p.m. Cremation to follow. Family requests memorials to Gift of Life. Please view memorial and send tributes at [www.uhtfh.com](http://www.uhtfh.com)



May the memory of your loved one...  
 ...bring you peace.  
 May you find peace in your time of sorrow.

HINOTE



**WILFRED CHARLES** age 70, passed away at home on Tuesday, November 15, 2016, surrounded by his family and after a four-year struggle with cancer. He is preceded by his parents Lucette and Ossie Hinote, long-time residents of Plymouth and owners of Ossie's Welding. He is survived by his wife Carol, his sons Wayne C. and Troy M. both of Plymouth; sisters Judith Hainaut of Des Moines, Iowa; Joyce Hinote of Brooklyn, New York; Carol Hinote of Albuquerque, New Mexico; and brother William Hinote of Asheville, North Carolina. Chuck graduated in 1964 from Plymouth High School, attended Michigan Technological University, was drafted into the Army and served in Vietnam with an honorable discharge in 1974. He worked until his retirement four years ago as a welder/fabricator. He and his wife Carol were married in 1972. Viewing and Funeral will be held at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth ([www.schrader-howell.com](http://www.schrader-howell.com)). Interment will be in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI.

HOWARD



**HILMAR** Our family renaissance man Hilmar Howard will always be loved and remembered. At the age of 87 Hilmar was a life long learner. He taught himself how to write Chinese, speak German and Swedish; member of the Farmington Swedish Club. Hil taught himself to play piano, violin, and cello. A gifted artist and former member of BBAA and the Scarab Club. A former Farmington Fireman who still loved reciting Shakespeare! Before retiring Hilmar was a successful 4th generation fruit grower; business owner and orchardist in Farmington Hills. He will be missed by his immediate family, son, Colin Howard and wife, Emily; daughter, Maria Howard-Smith and husband, Timm Smith; grandchildren, James and Brianna Howard, Dylan and Shayla Smith; as well as all his many friends and family. For inquiry regarding the Celebration of Life on December 10th, please contact [ehoward8373@gmail.com](mailto:ehoward8373@gmail.com) or call 810-265-8168.

PALO

**ROBERT** Age 64 of Livonia. Loving father of Lisa (Mike) Hayes and Mike (Katherine). Proud grandpa of Michael, Evan, Olivia, and Lucas. Dearest brother of Rick (Cheryl), Mary Ellen (the late Kenneth) Peters, Ronald (Lori), Michael (Christina), and Mark (Darla). Also survived by many other loving family and friends. Memorial gathering will be held Tuesday 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. with memorial service at 7 p.m. at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel, 36100 Five Mile Rd., Livonia (E. of Levan). Please visit online guestbook [fredwoodfuneralhome.com](http://fredwoodfuneralhome.com).

PAULL

**RANDY LEE** of Garden City, Michigan passed away on September 24, 2016 at the age of 61. Randy was a lifelong resident of Garden City. He will be dearly missed by many family members and friends. A Celebration of Randy's Life has been planned for December 3, 2016. For more information, please contact the family at [celebrationoflife4Randy@gmail.com](mailto:celebrationoflife4Randy@gmail.com).



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## Taking a counteroffer is never cut and dry

BY MATT TARPEY  
CAREERBUILDER

In some cases, when your current employer finds out that you've received a job offer from another company, he or she will propose a counteroffer in an effort to keep you. The counteroffer frequently includes a considerable pay bump and sometimes a promotion.

Is it better to accept the counteroffer and stay with your current company? Here are some pros and cons to consider.

### Money

The biggest advantage of taking a counteroffer is also the most obvious: It's probably a higher salary. Also, the fact that your employer is fighting to keep you may hint at your status with the company.

"When you're able to get a counteroffer from your employer, you've effectively forced them to put their money where their mouth is," says Dorianne St. Fleur, a human-resources professional, career coach and blogger. "It's a unique opportunity for you to leverage your competing offer to get a higher salary and/or bigger job responsibilities."

### Retention costs

A higher salary may not always be indicative of greater



GETTY IMAGES

value to the company. In fact, the counteroffer might be an attempt to cut costs.

"The truth is that the cost of replacing an employee is higher than the cost of the raise," says Michele Mavi, director of internal recruiting and content development at Atrium Staffing. "In addition to the purely financial benefit to the company to keep you on board, they'll also be avoiding the administrative headache of replacing you. For many managers, the time, cost and disruption to their business might become things that they want to avoid at all costs."

### Reason to leave

The proposition of more money may be tempting, but don't lose sight of what caused you to seek a new job in the first place.

"A bump up in salary is terrific, but what else do you need and want?" says career counselor and executive coach Roy Cohen. "Are you upset that you have been passed over for a promotion? Would you benefit from a flex schedule or the opportunity to work from home occasionally? Are the benefits better at the new company? What is missing from your current situation,

and is it likely to be available to you if you stay?"

### Trust issues

Even if you get a counteroffer, your employer knows that you were looking for another job. Money aside, this may have planted seeds of distrust that you need to overcome if you accept the counteroffer.

"Employers are human, too, and remember: You just told them that you disliked your situation so much that you went through the process of seeking and almost accepting employment elsewhere," Mavi

says. "Things may not return to normal right away. There may be promotions that you aren't considered for, or you may not be asked to lead the big project you had your heart set on. That's not to say that with time, things can't go back to normal or that some people haven't been perfectly happy accepting counteroffers — it's just not the norm."

### Co-worker dynamics

It's also worth considering your co-workers' responses to finding out you were prepared to leave. The feeling of disloyalty or betrayal may not be exclusive to your manager.

"If it becomes known that you accepted a counteroffer, your co-workers may become resentful of you and the morale of your department could change," says DeLynn Senna, executive director at Robert Half Finance & Accounting. "Other employees could start to believe that it takes threatening to leave to get a raise or a better title. Some employees could even go on the hunt for a new job so they can receive their own counteroffer."

Matt Tarpey is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. He researches and writes about job-search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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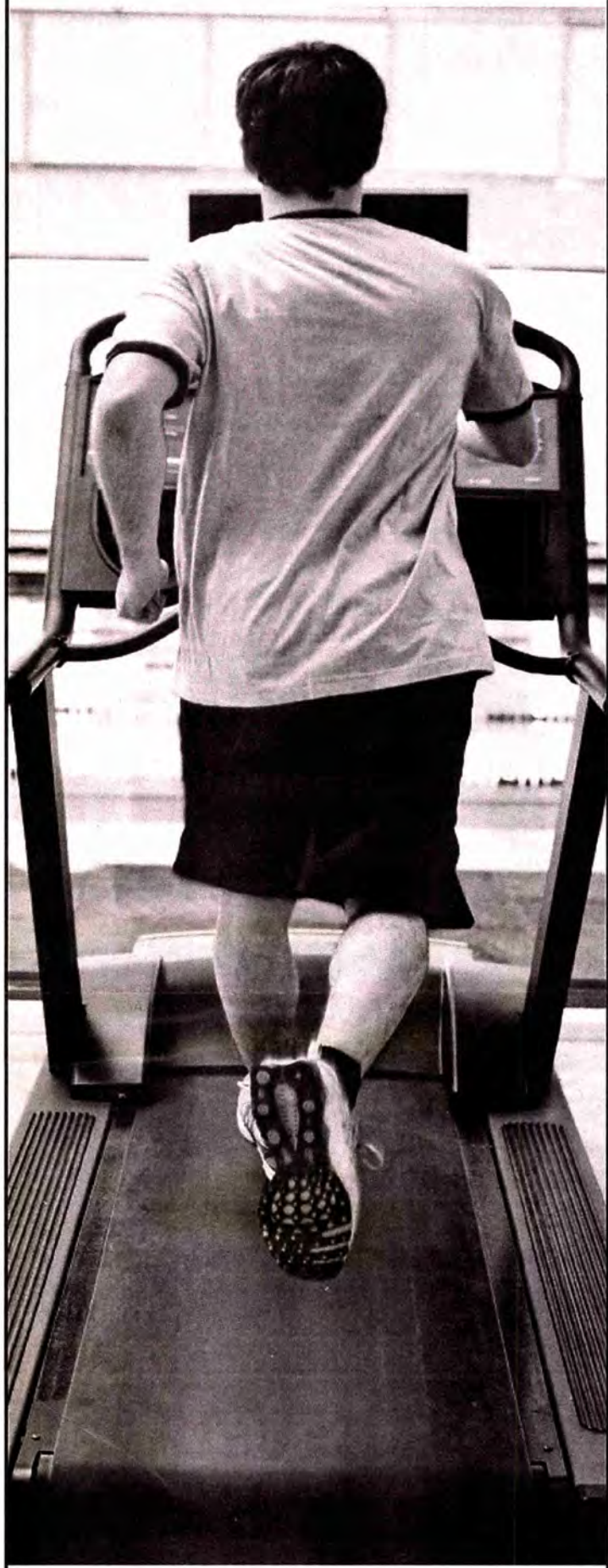
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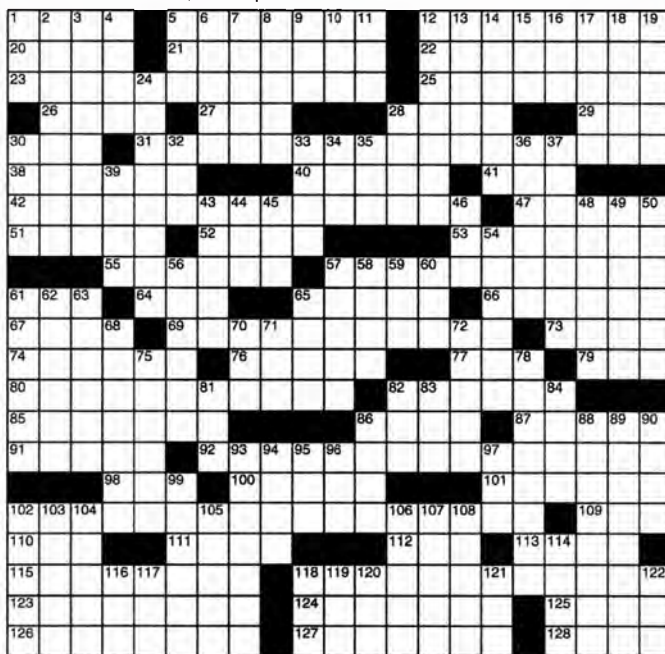
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### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Neighbor of Chile
  - 5 Chemist's outerwear
  - 12 Some caplives
  - 20 Copies
  - 21 Magic's city
  - 22 Fearmonger
  - 23 Centennial State
  - 25 Start to chew
  - 26 Clinic fluids
  - 27 Enjoy a meal
  - 28 DVR biggie
  - 29 Baste, e.g.
  - 30 Text giggle
  - 31 Output of Tolkien
  - 38 Highly skilled people
  - 40 Prudential competitor
  - 41 "— found it!"
  - 42 Member of a noted racecar-driving family
  - 47 Surplus item
  - 51 Be a cast member of
  - 52 Oklahoma tribe member
  - 53 Pledged in the middle, to a Brit
  - 55 The NBA's "King James"
  - 57 120-Down character
  - 61 Uru.
  - 64 Wildlife lair
  - 65 Proverb
  - 66 Add liberally
  - 67 Most August newborns
  - 68 Popular energy drink
  - 73 Anderson of "WKRP in Cincinnati"
  - 74 Rome's country, in French
  - 76 "Für —" (piano piece)
  - 77 Sun, e.g.
  - 79 — Moines.
  - 80 Prism, cone or sphere
  - 82 Beach shoe
  - 85 Stands for hot dishes
  - 86 Melody
  - 87 "Saludi," say
  - 91 Dutch genre painter Jan
  - 92 Port-au-Prince's land
  - 98 No. on a road sign
  - 100 Navigator islands, now
  - 101 Cry upon release
  - 102 1991 Denzel Washington film
  - 109 Gave a meal
  - 110 Hubbub
  - 111 Chiang Mai native
  - 112 Johnny —
  - 113 Pool coverer with pimiento
  - 115 Open ocean
  - 118 Parts of it appear at both the starts and ends of this puzzle's eight theme phrases
  - 123 Bel Air resident, e.g.
  - 124 Funicello of the screen
  - 125 Cry in church
  - 126 Nonclerical females
  - 127 "Possibly"
  - 128 Veg out, say
- DOWN**
- 1 Cook's spray
  - 2 Like serials
  - 3 Pick again
  - 4 KGB funder
  - 5 Lav, in Bath
  - 6 Specter in politics
  - 7 Make swollen
  - 8 Magna —
  - 9 — par with
  - 10 Stick in
  - 11 Morogover
  - 12 Natural home
  - 13 With 84-Down, lunchmeat with pimiento
  - 14 Goal in Zen Buddhism
  - 15 Uno plus due
  - 16 French bud
  - 17 Knife of TV ads
  - 18 Oxalate, e.g.
  - 19 Vermont ski town
  - 24 Wearing a lounge robe
  - 28 Color a little
  - 30 Tibetan priest
  - 32 Ending for enzymes
  - 33 She sang "Smooth Operator"
  - 34 "— dam tootin'!"
  - 35 4G — (T-Mobile offering)
  - 36 Relatiate
  - 37 Like some criticism
  - 39 Singer Ochs
  - 43 Actor Greene
  - 44 — Z.
  - 45 Luc's denial
  - 46 Chilling stuff
  - 48 Camera stand
  - 49 Fixed up
  - 50 Sturdmuffin
  - 54 West Germany's Ludwig
  - 56 Deprived
  - 57 Not genuine
  - 58 Wheel turner
  - 59 Little jerk
  - 60 Patients' gp.
  - 61 First groups of inleaves
  - 62 Snappy reply
  - 63 Net minder
  - 65 California's — Woods
  - 68 Splinters
  - 70 MBA, say
  - 71 — ray Disc
  - 72 Feature of the word "go"
  - 75 — Kit (police tool)
  - 78 Tub traction aids
  - 81 Medit. land
  - 82 "Or — hear"
  - 83 From way back: Abbr.
  - 84 See 13-Down
  - 86 Shut angrily
  - 88 Structure of a plane without the engine
  - 89 Belfry locales
  - 90 Knotted
  - 93 Quarterback
  - 94 Boomer
  - 94 Spanish for "sturdy"
  - 95 Ball caller
  - 96 "Skber —"
  - 97 Chick — A
  - 99 Hold dear
  - 102 Taj —
  - 103 Singer
  - 104 Drenched
  - 105 1953 Alan Ladd title role
  - 106 Disney mermaid
  - 107 Religious branches
  - 108 Die down
  - 114 Rent —
  - 116 Chop down
  - 117 — mo
  - 118 Animal gullet
  - 119 A. in France
  - 120 '75 TV debut
  - 121 Ang of film
  - 122 Certain M.D.



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

## SUDOKU

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

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

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

## THANKSGIVING WORD SEARCH

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

### WORDS

- ACORN
- AUTUMN
- BAKE
- BASTE
- CASSEROLE
- CONVERSATION
- CORN BREAD
- CORNUCOPIA
- DELICIOUS
- DESSERT
- DINING
- DINNER
- EAT
- FEAST
- FOOTBALL
- GATHERING
- GRAVY
- LEAF
- LEFTOVERS
- NAPCIN
- NATIVE
- OVEN
- PILGRIMS
- POTATOES
- PUMPKIN
- RECIPES
- SQUASH
- STUFFING
- TASTY
- THANKFUL
- THANKSGIVING
- THURSDAY
- TRADITIONS
- VEGETABLES
- WESBONE
- YAK

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

**Crossword Answers**

1. CHILE 2. WOOL 3. MANTLE 4. MANTLE 5. MANTLE 6. MANTLE 7. MANTLE 8. MANTLE 9. MANTLE 10. MANTLE 11. MANTLE 12. MANTLE 13. MANTLE 14. MANTLE 15. MANTLE 16. MANTLE 17. MANTLE 18. MANTLE 19. MANTLE 20. MANTLE 21. MANTLE 22. MANTLE 23. MANTLE 24. MANTLE 25. MANTLE 26. MANTLE 27. MANTLE 28. MANTLE 29. MANTLE 30. MANTLE 31. MANTLE 32. MANTLE 33. MANTLE 34. MANTLE 35. MANTLE 36. MANTLE 37. MANTLE 38. MANTLE 39. MANTLE 40. MANTLE 41. MANTLE 42. MANTLE 43. MANTLE 44. MANTLE 45. MANTLE 46. MANTLE 47. MANTLE 48. MANTLE 49. MANTLE 50. MANTLE 51. MANTLE 52. MANTLE 53. MANTLE 54. MANTLE 55. MANTLE 56. MANTLE 57. MANTLE 58. MANTLE 59. MANTLE 60. MANTLE 61. MANTLE 62. MANTLE 63. MANTLE 64. MANTLE 65. MANTLE 66. MANTLE 67. MANTLE 68. MANTLE 69. MANTLE 70. MANTLE 71. MANTLE 72. MANTLE 73. MANTLE 74. MANTLE 75. MANTLE 76. MANTLE 77. MANTLE 78. MANTLE 79. MANTLE 80. MANTLE 81. MANTLE 82. MANTLE 83. MANTLE 84. MANTLE 85. MANTLE 86. MANTLE 87. MANTLE 88. MANTLE 89. MANTLE 90. MANTLE 91. MANTLE 92. MANTLE 93. MANTLE 94. MANTLE 95. MANTLE 96. MANTLE 97. MANTLE 98. MANTLE 99. MANTLE 100. MANTLE 101. MANTLE 102. MANTLE 103. MANTLE 104. MANTLE 105. MANTLE 106. MANTLE 107. MANTLE 108. MANTLE 109. MANTLE 110. MANTLE 111. MANTLE 112. MANTLE 113. MANTLE 114. MANTLE 115. MANTLE 116. MANTLE 117. MANTLE 118. MANTLE 119. MANTLE 120. MANTLE 121. MANTLE 122. MANTLE 123. MANTLE 124. MANTLE 125. MANTLE 126. MANTLE 127. MANTLE 128. MANTLE

**Word Search**

1. ACORN 2. AUTUMN 3. BAKE 4. BASTE 5. CASSEROLE 6. CONVERSATION 7. CORN BREAD 8. CORNUCOPIA 9. DELICIOUS 10. DESSERT 11. DINING 12. DINNER 13. EAT 14. FEAST 15. FOOTBALL 16. GATHERING 17. GRAVY 18. LEAF 19. LEFTOVERS 20. NAPCIN 21. NATIVE 22. OVEN 23. PILGRIMS 24. POTATOES 25. PUMPKIN 26. RECIPES 27. SQUASH 28. STUFFING 29. TASTY 30. THANKFUL 31. THANKSGIVING 32. THURSDAY 33. TRADITIONS 34. VEGETABLES 35. WESBONE 36. YAK



# Car Report

## PRESIDENT-ELECT TRUMP ASIDE, VW, KIA, GM – AND THE INDUSTRY – MOVE AHEAD WITH ELECTRIFICATION



By Dale Buss

Even as a new president moves toward inauguration in the United States as a staunch opponent of regulations aimed at climate change, it's full speed ahead for automakers in rolling out new electrically powered vehicles for global markets.

Volkswagen is completing its pivot from "clean diesel" to electrification. A Chinese startup called NextEV has launched an electric car it claims is the world's fastest completely battery-powered automobile, with big plans to create a lifestyle brand to match the car's speed.

And Kia will be bringing its first hybrid vehicle, the 2017 Niro Hybrid, to American showrooms soon – and has come up with a cutting-edge digital "chatbot" to help market and explain the car.

Trump's term may cause the industry to hit the pause button in certain ways as carmakers look for the new Republican administration to go easier

on them in terms of fuel-economy and emissions requirements. But the horse is far out of the barn, to use an old-mode metaphor, in terms of the industry embracing electric cars.

For example, General Motors is bringing out its all-electric Chevrolet Bolt right now, and Tesla is pushing ahead with plans for huge output of its own mainstream-priced EV, Model 3, in a year or so.

Since Dieselgate, Volkswagen, too, has pivoted toward EVs. And CEO Matthias Mueller just announced that the company may actually build its own EV-battery factory.

VW also disclosed plans to make EVs in the US by 2021 as part of a new push to become a major player in the American market and to become a significant factor in a battery-vehicle segment where Volkswagen had been an afterthought until lately.

Kia has launched NiroBot, a new bot for Facebook Messenger, to deliver instant access to comprehensive product information for the Niro.

The gambit is part of a growing wave of brands using chatbots, which USA Today defines as "a largely automated, interactive experience

that assists consumers with questions and sells them goods and services."

Earlier this month, for instance, Twitter announced that it will launch its own chatbot, which already is being used by Pizza Hut, Spotify, Tesco, Evernote and other brands. And Uber users can hail a cab via chatbot. Meanwhile, Staples, Mastercard and Bank of America are just a few of the brands that have launched bots in recent months.

"Where brands were once defined by their visual expression and human interaction, we're now entering a stage where brands also will be defined through digital voice," said Dylan Stuart, partner at Lippincott, a creative consulting firm. "As chatbots cross the digital divide from transactions to relationships, the face and nature of branding is evolving."

Facebook is now selling ads on the popular messaging service to brands that can reach people they've interacted with, routing Facebook users to Messenger. People who have started conversations with brands on Messenger will be invited to "converse" with a chatbot.

Messenger now works on Android Auto, meaning that users will be able to listen to and reply to texts from friends on Messenger using voice commands.



The all-new 2017 Kia Niro Hybrid Utility Vehicle

For Kia, the NiroBot on Messenger will allow the brand to "talk" with consumers about comprehensive information about the new EV, interior and exterior galleries, multimedia product overviews and the ability to schedule a test drive.

"Kicking off our pre-launch strategy by breaking new ground with our bot for Messenger [will] make the new-car research process much easier and more efficient for shoppers," Kimberley Gardiner, director of marketing for Kia Motors America, said in a news release.

"The user-friendly interface combines the experience of being in a showroom with the convenience and mobility today's car buyers are looking for as users interact with the NiroBot at their own pace and focus on the specific areas that

interest them most."

Certainly Trump was far from the minds of Next executives as they pulled the wraps off the NIO EP9, which boasts 1,360 horsepower, zero-to-160-mpg speed of 7.1 seconds and a lap record for EVs at the famous Nuerburgring circuit in Germany.

The NIO EP9 was introduced at the swanky Saatchi Gallery on Kings Road, London, though it will first go on sale in its native China.

The car will go on sale in China first and then around the world, the company said. "This visionary electric brand will help users rediscover the 'joyful lifestyle' of car ownership by creating inspiring vehicles that deliver superior performance, a new benchmark for aesthetic design and unique user experience," the statement said.



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