

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

THURSDAY 12.29.16 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



LOCAL GRADS TO COMPETE IN BOWL GAMES
SPORTS, B1

Westland police arrest suspects in robbery cases

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Westland police say they've arrested three people who are accused of robbing several 7-Eleven shops at gunpoint and shooting a clerk earlier this month.

Police say the three were all arrested on separate occasions. Kyle Wooten, 56 of Inkster, was arrested on Dec. 20; Archie Lewis, 38 of Inkster, was arrested Dec. 21; and Christian Brown, 29 of Southfield, was arrested Dec. 22.

All three are accused in robberies that took place at two separate stores. The first took place in the early morning hours of Dec. 11 at the 7-Eleven at 126 S. John Hix. Police say Wooten robbed the store using a firearm and struck the clerk working that



Brown

day in the face, causing an injury. Police say Brown assisted in the robbery, and Lewis is suspected of being the "get-away driver."

The second incident took place in the early morning hours of Dec. 17 at the 7-Eleven at 160 S. Venoy. Police say Wooten used a firearm and shot an employee, causing non-life threatening injuries. Lewis is accused of driving Wooten away from this incident as well.

All three were arraigned in Westland's 18th District Court earlier this month. Wooten was charged with three counts of armed robbery, one count of assault with intent to murder, two counts of assault with



Lewis

intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, two counts of felony firearm, two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm and a charge for being a habitual offender-fourth offense.

Wooten has a criminal history dating back several decades, one that includes convictions of robbery, fleeing and eluding police and possession of a controlled substance, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections. Records show he was released from prison in 2014 after serving multiple sentences out of Wayne County.



Wooten

Brown was arraigned on one count of armed robbery, one count of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, one

count of assault with a dangerous weapon, and a charge for being a habitual offender-fourth offense. Corrections records show Brown was on probation at the time of these incidents after being convicted of fleeing and eluding police, as well as operating under a suspended license. He was set to come off probation in May 2017.

Lewis was charged with one count of armed robbery, one

See ARRESTS, Page A2



RICHARD LEBLANC

Westland City Hall staffer Donna DeWinter enjoying her deluxe parking space auctioned off by Clerk Richard LeBlanc.

Workers spread holiday cheer

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com

Westland's largest municipal workers union annually hosts an adopt-a-family program to assist local residents in need during the holidays.

This year, members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1602 representing clerical staff and Department of Public Services workers, ended up adopting a larger than expected family.

"Originally this year, we were going to do one family that had a mom and dad with three kids," said Ian Smith, a DPS worker. "We were all set to go when their oldest son moved back in with them along with his girlfriend and a baby. So we stuck with it."

That brought one adopted family to eight people. The second family adopted was two people, Smith said. In that case, the city workers are assisting a 20-year-old woman who is taking guardianship of her 10-year-old brother after their mother died unexpectedly in November.

"We provide gifts, food, gift certificates, a ham and a turkey. We take them a big box of canned goods and dried goods. There are lots of gifts — we went shopping," said Smith, one of the adopt-a-family organizers. "It's a wonderful thing. When you drop things off, you just melt. You know you're doing something good for people."

All the Local 1602 members get involved in some fashion with the adopt-a-family program, said Smith. There are fundraising efforts throughout the year such as 50/50 raffles. City hall staff donates each week to participate in a jeans day.

With the early snow and cold weather this winter, City Clerk Richard LeBlanc agreed to raffle off a week's use of his rock star parking space near the city hall employee entrance. It raised \$85 — a \$20 donation from one employee and \$65 from five employees who would each get to use the parking space for a day.

LeBlanc posted Facebook photos of the employees using

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THE YEAR IN (STAGRAM) REVIEW



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This image of World War II veteran Joe Girolamo who teaches flag etiquette in elementary schools when he's not riding in parades is just one of hundreds posted to Instagram by staff photographer Bill Bresler during 2016. Bresler compiled a sampling of his images from both assignments for the Observer & Eccentric and during his personal travels that can viewed on page A4 inside and online in a gallery at www.hometownlife.com. Bresler uploads photos made with his professional cameras to the phone, processes the files through Instagram and posts those to his feed. To join his Instagram feed search for user [bbresler](#). Click on +Follow.



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Schoolcraft uses partnerships to improve campus

David Jesse
Detroit Free Press

When voters turned down a 0.6-mill millage request from Schoolcraft College in the fall of 2015 by a few hundred votes, things looked bleak for Schoolcraft officials' plan to improve the school's infrastructure and move forward on new buildings on campus.

Now, though, the outlook is much more positive, thanks to creative partnerships between the college and some private organizations. Schoolcraft is a public community college in Livonia, funded both by student tuition and property taxes.

"The question facing us was were we willing to give up on all the projects that needed to be done," Schoolcraft President Conway Jeffress

told the Free Press. Schoolcraft is a public community college in Livonia, funded both by student tuition and property taxes.

So a couple of major projects were put back on the table, including the building of a \$6-million sports dome. The 110,500-square-foot sports dome measures 260 wide by 425 long and can be used year-round. There is also a parking lot and outdoor field.

The dome was built with Universal Properties and Management Inc., which owns 7 Mile Crossing, a commercial building located within the college's campus. The Michigan Wolves-Hawks Soccer Club signed a 25-year agreement to lease space in the building.

So what's in it for Schoolcraft's approxi-

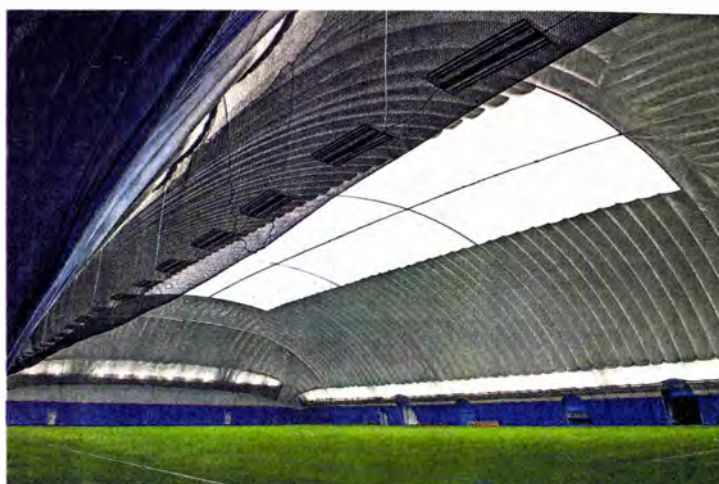


BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Michigan Wolves-Hawks Soccer Club signed a 25-year agreement to lease space in the sports dome, which is visible from I-275.

mately 8,000 students? It's a space that can be used for the college's own sports. Also, the school's renowned culinary program will staff a concession stand that will move past the normal junk food items and be a place where busy parents can feed their children in between school and soccer practice while giving the Schoolcraft students a chance to learn and cook.

Schoolcraft also entered into an agreement to build a 90,000-plus-square-foot MASCO World Headquarters building on its property. Having MASCO on the college property will allow for Schoolcraft students to more easily do internships at the company. Company employees will also be able to attend Schoolcraft classes or classes through Wayne State University, which has a satellite campus on



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The \$6-million sports dome at Schoolcraft College was built with Universal Properties and Management Inc., which owns 7 Mile Crossing.

Schoolcraft's grounds. But buildings weren't the only new things to campus. Infrastructure, including parking lots, a new road ringing the campus and a new traffic light at an access road from the campus to 7 Mile were also added in conjunction with Universal Properties and Management.

The roads are Mike Willis' favorite part of the upgrade. "It's so much easier to get around," said Willis,

25, who has taken classes at Schoolcraft for several years. "I think the dome is cool, but I don't really use it, but I drive around campus all the time and it's much better than it used to be."

The move to use private developers was Schoolcraft taking advantage of what it has.

"We have assets — land and location — developers want," Jeffress said. "I'm trading off time right now. I'm willing to wait a little bit for

money, while developers want it up front. At some point in the near future, (the college) will get a decent money flow. Nothing that was done is draining money away from our academic program."

The college has also started new programs, including a beer brewing degree.

"We are trying to make moves that are consistent with the mission of the college," Jeffress said.

ARRESTS

Continued from Page A1

count of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and one count of assault with a dangerous weapon. Lewis is also on probation for a charge of breaking-and-entering out of Wayne County. He was placed on probation in August.

All three are expected to be in court Jan. 5 for a probable cause conference. If convicted, all three face up to life in prison.

"The Westland Police Department Detective Bureau realized the danger of these particular armed robbery suspects and went to great lengths to arrest them as quickly as possible," police said in a statement. "Despite having very little evi-

dence to work with, they were able to investigate, identify all suspects and arrest all of them within an 11-day period. This was a direct result of the time and effort that the Westland Police Detective Bureau contributed in the interest of the safety of our community."

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CHEER

Continued from Page A1

his parking space each day with the caption,

"Wish that was me." It's the 12th year that the employees have adopted families for the holidays. Smith said they get helping finding those needing help

through the city's Community Development Department.

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

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SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE NEWS BRIEFS

Students help the needy

Helping the community was the focus of Schoolcraft College's Student Activities Office in December, as it sponsored three events that help the needy.

The SAO was part of the annual U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign and had a number of boxes spread around the campus where students and staff could drop-off new toys that were donated to less fortunate children in the community.

The Empty Bowl Luncheon held Dec. 7 featured hand-crafted bowls created and donated by Schoolcraft College ceramics class students that could be purchased. In addition, the campus community was able to purchase soup and bread for lunch to support the cause. The event raised \$1,877 that will be used to replenish the SC Food Pantry.

In addition to these two on-campus events, 12 students also traveled to St. Leos Soup Kitchen in Detroit on Dec. 10 to help prepare and serve 175 meals to the homeless, which included 45 children getting the opportunity to visit with Santa as well. Each child received two gifts and a stuffed animal.

Register online

Although most offices and services at Schoolcraft College will be closed from Dec. 23 to Jan. 3 for the holidays, students can still register for Winter 2017 credit classes and Continuing Education and Professional Development programs at www.schoolcraft.edu/registration or by clicking on the Register button on the college's homepage at www.schoolcraft.edu.

For students needing additional information, the Answer Center staff (734-462-4426) will be available from noon to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29. Students can also email questions to answers@schoolcraft.edu and a staff member will contact you.

"Jump Start!" math

The Learning Assistance Center at Schoolcraft College is offering several Jump Start math preparation/refreshers workshops in early January in preparation for the start of Winter 2017 semester classes. The workshops are free and open to anyone planning on taking a college-level math course at Schoolcraft College or any college or university.

» Math Study Skills will be offered from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4 (in-class and webinar) Participate in a math study skills inventory and learn specialized classroom, homework and test taking skills math students need to be successful in their math classes.

» Jump Start 1500 from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5 (webinar only) is a review of basic geometry skills including angles, area and perimeter of polygons, area and circumference of circles, special triangles and the Pythagorean Theorem.

» Jump Start 2000, which will be held from 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5 (in-class only), will include a math study skills inventory and a review of fractions, decimal, percent and order of operations.

» Jump Start 4000 from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4 (webinar only) includes math study skills inventory and a review of integer operations, expressions, linear equation solving, graphing and factoring polynomials.

The Jump Start sessions are free and open to anyone; however, registration is necessary and space is limited.

To register, select the session(s) you are interested in and email jumpstart@schoolcraft.edu. For more information, visit



Hand-crafted bowls created and donated by Schoolcraft College ceramics class students were featured by the college's Empty Bowl Luncheon on Dec. 7.

www.schoolcraft.edu/jumpstart.

Manufacturing courses

Two manufacturing courses designed to improve participants' job opportunities will be offered through Schoolcraft College beginning in January 2017.

On Mondays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 9 to Feb. 10, a five-week Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Operator Training Course will be held to prepare attendees for a potential career as a CNC operator, where they will operate CNC machines to perform functions such as boring, turning, facing and threading parts of metallic work pieces for the manufacturing industry. The five-week course costs \$1500 and includes OSHA 10 certification and 16 hours of personalized career preparation. Job training funds may be available to help pay for this course for those who qualify. The CNC Operator Training course is a program of the Michigan Coalition for Ad-

vance Manufacturing. For more information on the course, call 734-462-4680 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/MCAM.

A 12-week course on the Intro to Plastic Materials and Processing will run Thursdays from 6-9 p.m. Jan. 12 to April 6. The course is designed for those working in manufacturing or the plastics industry who want to increase their understanding of plastic materials and processing. The course focuses on understanding plastic materials, tooling, processing and testing, with an emphasis on injection molding. The course costs \$995. For more information on the course, call 734-462-4438 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu/plastics.

Project management info session Jan. 9

Anyone interested in project management or those taking the PMP or CAPM exams can attend a free information session from 6-7:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 9, to learn more about project management classes available at Schoolcraft College and potential career opportunities in this field. The session will be led by Eric van der Meulen, a Credentialed Project Management Professional with broad experience in the field. The session will be held in room 111 of the Jeffress Center on the college's main campus in Livonia. For more information, call Schoolcraft College's Continuing Education and Professional Development office at 734-462-4448 or select the Professional Development tab at www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd.

Info session for photography

A "Launch Session" for the new Schoolcraft Center of Photography will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Jan. 11, in the DiPonio Room, VisTaTech Center on Schoolcraft College's Livonia Campus. The Launch will enable attendees to learn more about the new Schoolcraft Certificate of Photography available through the Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development department. Course instructors will be in attendance at the Launch as well.

The Schoolcraft Center of Photography provides a comprehensive learning experience for both budding amateur photographers and those currently working in the industry. Developed with input from industry professionals, the certificate requires six core classes and four elective classes.

All the photography classes are open to all students whether they are seeking the full certificate credential or simply interested in enhancing their skills and knowledge in a particular area. Classes offered through the Center of Photography include DSLR Photography Techniques, Lighting, Composition, Black and White Photography, Fine Art Photography with a Master and others.

For more information, contact the Community Education and Professional Development office at 734-462-4448 or visit the Personal Enrichment tab at www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd.

Five seminars for entrepreneurs

Schoolcraft College's Business Development Center (BDC) is offering an Entrepreneur Series this winter featuring seminars designed to provide entrepreneurs the education and tools to launch a successful small business. The series consists of five courses: Starting a Business, Writing a Business Plan, Marketing Your Business, Financial Management, and Business Legal Issues. Participants who complete all five courses also qualify for the Schoolcraft Continuing Education and Professional Development Certificate.

All the seminars are held from 4-7 p.m. Tuesdays in Room 111 of the Jeffress Center as follows:

- » Starting a Business — Jan. 12
- » Writing a Business Plan — Jan. 19

- » Marketing Your Business — Jan. 26
- » Financial Management — Feb. 2
- » Business Legal Issues — Feb. 9

The cost for registering for all five seminars is \$200. Those interested in particular seminars can register for them individually.

The introductory workshop, Starting a Business, will help potential entrepreneurs assess their ability to lead and manage a company, and evaluate the market and sales potential for the potential product type of service the business would offer. The cost for the single seminar is \$35.

For more information or to register for the series or individual workshops, visit www.schoolcraft.edu/bdc or call 734-462-4438.

Social Media 101 for small business seminar

Schoolcraft College's Business Development Center will once again offer Social Media 101 for Small Business from 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, in room 102 of the Jeffress Center on the college's main campus in Livonia, Haggerty Road between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads. Attendees will learn the basics and etiquette of social networking for small business and how to leverage social networks to help grow a business while reducing marketing costs. The cost for the seminar is \$45. For more information or to register for the seminar, visit www.schoolcraft.edu or call 734-462-4438.

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Salem High School cheer says "Believe in Blue."

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

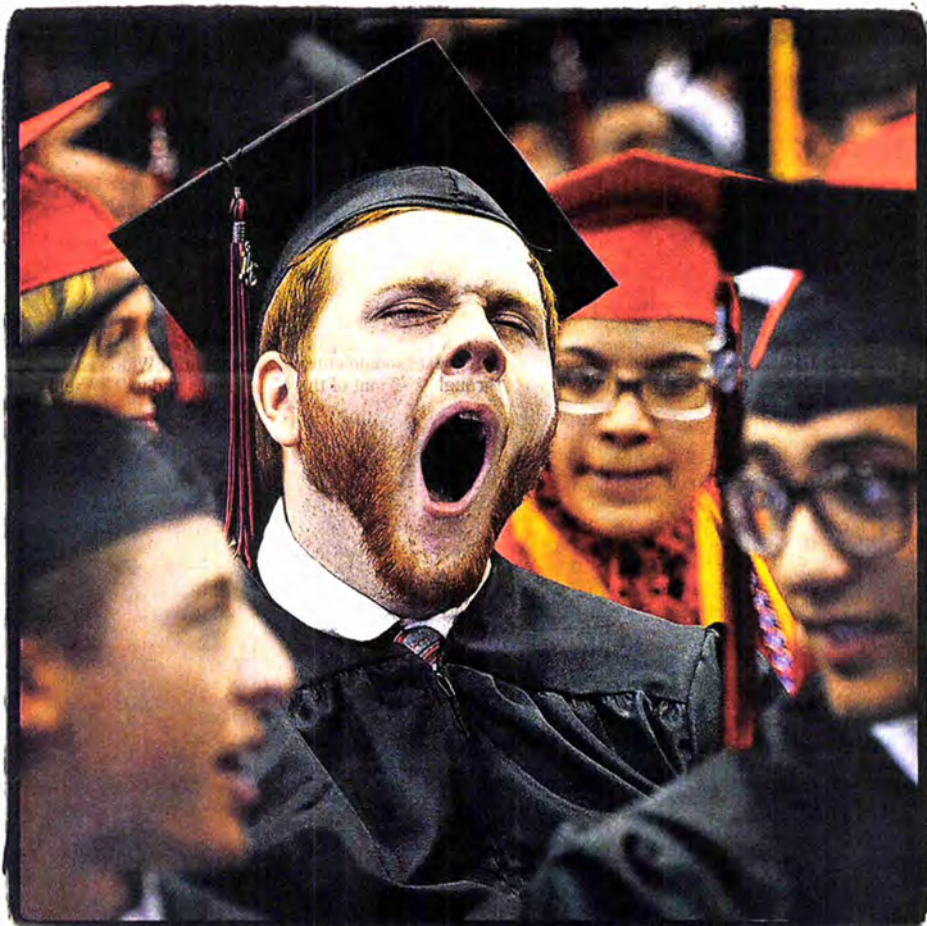
2016 bbresler Instagram in review

Staff Photographer Bill Bresler uses the Instagram social media app to make quick, direct photographs of what he sees. These images are a look back at what he photographed during 2016 both on assignment for the *Observer & Eccentric* and in his personal travels. Bresler uploads photos made with his professional cameras to the phone, processes the files through Instagram and posts those to his feed. To join his Instagram feed search for user bbresler. Click on +Follow.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Arlington National Cemetery.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Timothy Brown has had just about enough of graduation ceremonies.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Someone has her eye on the Westland Police Honor Guard.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bubbles greets Sr. Nancy Marie Jamroz to the consternation of owner Cindy Wallet. Pet Blessing at Madonna University.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As the polls open on Election Day 2016. Kennedy Elementary School in Livonia.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kristen Bye selects herbs at the opening day of the Plymouth Farmers Market.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Maria Taylor is a member of the Warnerettes Parasol Drill Team. Holly Days Parade in Farmington.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
John Kasich campaigns in Livonia.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WAYNE COUNTY

Celebrate the New Year

Livonia Parks and Recreation will host its annual family New Year's Eve party at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, at the Jack E. Kirksey Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard. The event includes swimming, rock climbing, dodge ball, crafts, food and more.

Tickets are \$7.50 for Kirksey Recreation Center members, \$10 for Livonia residents and \$13 for non-residents. Tickets can be bought at the Kirksey Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard. All attendees over the age of 1 must have a ticket. For more information, call 734-466-2900 or visit www.ci.livonia.mi.us.

Strikes for freedom

MLK weekend has become a time for education, remembrance and celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King. Four years ago Printing Plus by United Sonz began "Bowl It Out" and annual event dedicated to continuing to spread Dr. King's message of love, equality, justice and peace for all persons. This year's theme "Strikes for Freedom" combines the fun of bowling with a message of hope, love and prosperity. The message embodies freedom from discrimination, freedom from injustice, and freedom from all inequalities.

It all takes place at Wayne Bowl (36900 Michigan Ave.) from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday Jan. 15. Festivities include two games of bowling, shoes, and a T-shirt. The team fee of \$100 covers a five-person team. Bowl It Out also features a Live DJ, full kitchen, mystery jackpots and portion of proceeds raised will be donated to local nonprofit African American Endowment Fund. Registration and information call 734-485-8889.

Service at Unity

Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Road, is holding a New Year's Eve Service, "Releasing the Past; Creating the New," at 5 p.m. Dec. 31.

3D Photography Club meeting

The club will meet from 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, at Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, just south of Five Mile Road. The meeting will feature some of the best programs from the recent National Stereoscopic Association conventions. There will also be the first of three scheduled "Freebie" drawings for free 3D items.

The public is invited to join the meeting to see many award-winning 3D images. The meetings are free to attend, and visitors are always welcome. Stereo cameras, 3D movies, and educational videos are available for members to borrow or rent. For more information, visit www.Detroit3D.org or call Dennis at 248-398-3591.

Livonia features artist Gwendolyn Roth
Gwendolyn Roth will be the featured artist at the Livonia Fine Arts Gallery for the month of January. Her media is photography. Roth's passion for photography has led her to creating encouraging viewpoints that consider our world in an uplifting or surprising new light. In her artist statement she states, "There is so much to see and capture, and it's all real, and it is found all around us — we don't have to go far. Through my art I hope to transcend the indifferent and enrich our lives one picture at a time."

Wayne Memorial Parent Night

Wayne Memorial High School will host an eighth-grade parent night for those transitioning to ninth grade or interested in getting more information about Wayne Memorial High School for the 2016-2017 school year. Students do not have to be currently attending a Wayne-Westland Community School to attend. The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 8 in the Wayne Memorial High School Stockmeyer Auditorium. Topics covered will include: scheduling, graduation requirements, testing out requirements, direct college courses, AP courses, extra-curricular activities and much more.

All are welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Parking is available in the Glenwood Street parking lot and guests should enter through the front of the auditorium. For more information, call the Counseling Department at 734-419-2215.

St. Edith open house

The public is invited to an open house set for 6-7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, and noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29. St. Edith Catholic School is a MANS accredited Catholic School for 4-year-old preschool and kindergarten through eighth grade. For more information, visit www.stedithschool.com

For those interested in participating to create their own piece, there will be a materials fee of \$25. Registration is required by Dec. 29 by calling Marilyn at 313-231-3939 or emailing marilynmeredith@wowway.com. Fee to be paid the night of the event.

Secondhand Prose closes for renovations
Canton Public Library's Secondhand Prose Bookstore will be closed for renovations from Dec. 23 to Feb. 1. In December hardcover books and children's book will be sold at reduced prices. Friends of the Canton Public Library support the library through advocacy and fundraising for resources beyond the scope of the operating budget.

Wayne Memorial Parent Night

Wayne Memorial High School will host an eighth-grade parent night for those transitioning to ninth grade or interested in getting more information about Wayne Memorial High School for the 2016-2017 school year. Students do not have to be currently attending a Wayne-Westland Community School to attend. The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 8 in the Wayne Memorial High School Stockmeyer Auditorium. Topics covered will include: scheduling, graduation requirements, testing out requirements, direct college courses, AP courses, extra-curricular activities and much more.

Three Cities workshop

The Three Cities Arts Club hosts a glass fusing workshop at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, at D&M Art Studio in Canton to learn how to handle, prepare and cut glass to create your own fused dish or night light. Lori Barry will explain the glass fusing process from the type of glass and cutting supplies needed all the way through the kiln temperature schedule.

The club will meet from 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3, at D&M Art Studio in Canton to learn how to handle, prepare and cut glass to create your own fused dish or night light. Lori Barry will explain the glass fusing process from the type of glass and cutting supplies needed all the way through the kiln temperature schedule.

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Hospice of Michigan accepting donations

The Hospice of Michigan Foundation is accepting end-of-the-year donations that will benefit Hospice of Michigan patients and their families. A tax-deductible contribution allows the organization to continue to offer services that include pediatric hospice care and hospice and palliative care for the uninsured and underinsured, as well as grief support services for children and adults.

Hospice of Michigan will benefit patients and families that reside within the donor's community area, unless otherwise noted. Supporters may choose which location around the state they would like to designate their contribution.

Every donation to The Hospice of Michigan Foundation makes an impact to patients and families served by the nonprofit organization. For example, a contribution of \$50 helps provide oxygen and medical equipment to a hospice patient for 10 days or five days worth of medication. A donation of \$100 helps provide medication for 10 days, or a home care visit from a hospice aide, social worker, spiritual care advisor or a registered nurse.

"Hospice of Michigan relies on community support in order to provide exceptional care and unique services to our patients and their families," said Marcie Hilary, vice president, chief development officer for Hospice of Michigan. "A gift during this giving season will allow patients and their families the opportunity to make the most of precious time with their loved ones."

To qualify for a tax deduction, donations must be postmarked or received before Dec. 31, 2016. To make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.hom.org, call 800-669-9335, or mail a check, made payable to The Hospice of Michigan Foundation, to 989 Spaulding SE, Ada, MI 49301

Still time to donate to 2016 Red Kettle effort

The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit reminds the community that there is still time to give to the 2016 Red Kettle fundraising campaign. All tax-deductible donations made through the campaign's official end date of Saturday, Dec. 31 will be doubled thanks to generous matching support by Detroit area businesses and community leaders.

The nonprofit organization is approximately 10 percent behind in donations, and needs more than \$3.5 million to reach its \$8.4 million goal.

While the iconic red kettles left storefronts on Christmas Eve, select Kroger locations will host bell ringers and kettles throughout metro Detroit.

"The Salvation Army is grateful for the generosity of those support-

ing the Red Kettle campaign," said Major Russ Sjogren, general secretary and metro Detroit area commander for The Salvation Army Eastern Michigan Division. "There is still great need to help those in the metro Detroit community and 87 cents of every dollar donated goes back into the community."

Red kettle donations help support programs and services that assist families and individuals throughout the year across Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties. To make a tax-deductible contribution to The Salvation Army, visit www.salmich.org, text SALMICH to 41444 or call 877-SAL-MICH.

Send a check or money order, made payable to The Salvation Army, 16130 Northland Drive, Southfield, MI 48075

CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 25 12/19/16

Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Cicirelli Bryant, Coleman, Hammons, Herzberg, Johnson, Kehrer

217: Minutes of regular meeting on 12/5/16.
- Traffic Control Order 2016-13: Install (1) "Stop" sign on s/w corner of Malvern & Lathers for e/b Malvern traffic. Install (1) "Stop" sign on s/e corner of Lathers & Malvern for n/b traffic.
- Traffic Control Order 2016-14: Install (3) "No Standing, Stopping, Parking, signs on Laramie btwn. Newburgh & Kingston Ct., s. side of the street.
- Appr. purchase of 2 light towers for DPS; amt. not to ex. \$16,900.
- Adopted Resolution to approve Wayne Co. Annual Permit A-17073.
- Adopted Resolution to approve Wayne Co. Annual Permit A-17128.
- Adopted Resolution to approve Wayne Co. Annual Permit A-17158.
- Adopt NSP Disposition Resolution for 1 property.
- Adopted Election Inspector Resolution.
218: Contract w/Nocerini Strategy Group for consulting/government relations svcs. 1/1/17 - 1/1/18; amt. \$6,000/mo.
219: Adopt "Street Solicitation Policy"
221: Appr. site plan for prop. exp. of Parkside Credit Union, 1747 S. Newburgh w/ contingencies.
222: Appr. 2017 Appt'd Officials & Mayor's Office Pay Plan.
223: Appr. 2017 City Clerk Pay/Benefit Package.
224: Appr. 2017 Deputy City Clerk Pay/Benefit Package.
225: Appr. checklist: \$4,578,198.12.
Mtg. adj. at 9:12 p.m.
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
Council President

Richard LeBlanc
City Clerk

December 29, 2016

ABSTRACT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2016-34 December 20, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. at the Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Rd. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. Presentation of certificates for the Holiday Night at the Museum and for Healthy Wayne. APPROVED: minutes of Regular City Council meeting from Dec. 6, 2016; Site Plan #2016-10 - DQ drive-thru; reappointments of W. Coleman, A. Damitio, D. Wass and T. Shenk (alt.) to the Board of Review until Dec. 2017; purchase of 3 police radios; budget amendment #2017-9; Wayne County maint. Resolution; Video Franchise with Comcast; city attorney contact policy on 1/3/17 agenda; retiree healthcare on 1/3/17 agenda; suspension of contracts; rule and procedures on 1/3/17 agenda; consent calendar; Received and filed Communications and Reports. Adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 29, 2016

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 **January 10th, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

NEWBURGH PUMP STATION ONE REPAIR

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

Devin J. Adams
City Controller

Publish: December 29th, 2016

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR BIDS

CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN MANUAL ROLL DOWN DOORS FOR THE CITY OF LIVONIA BATH HOUSES

Sealed bids will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until 2:00 P.M., local time on **Tuesday, January 31st, 2017** at which time the RFB's will be secured by the City Clerk. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late bids will be returned unopened.

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

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

All bids shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: **CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN MANUAL ROLL DOWN DOORS FOR THE CITY OF LIVONIA BATH HOUSES**, name of vendor and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

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

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

Edward Davis
Superintendent, Parks & Rec

Dennis K. Wright
Mayor

Publish: December 29, 2016

2017 Fire and Police Civil Service Commission Meeting Dates

Notice of Schedule of Regular Meetings of the **Westland Fire and Police Civil Service Commission** to be held during the 2017 calendar year.

To all persons interested, please take notice that the City of Westland Fire and Police Civil Service Commission, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan, (734) 467-3190, will hold Regular Meetings in the City Council Conference Room as described below:

| Date | Time | Location |
|----------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 01/11/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 02/08/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 03/08/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 04/12/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 05/10/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 06/14/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 07/12/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 08/09/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 09/13/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 10/11/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 11/08/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |
| 12/13/17 | 9:30 A.M. | Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road |

Proposed minutes of each meeting listed above will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan, not more than eight business days after the date of said meeting. Approved minutes of each meeting will be available for public inspection during regular business hours, at the same location, not more than five business days after the meeting at which the minutes are approved.

This notice is given in compliance with Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.

RICHARD LEBLANC
WESTLAND CITY CLERK

Publish: December 29, 2016

Trinity House Jan. 7 concert benefits NSO

Concert will celebrate music of Blind Willie Johnson

Six of Michigan's best roots and blues artists join together for an evening celebrating the music of Blind Willie Johnson at 8 p.m. Saturday Jan. 7, at Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia.

The performance will benefit Neighborhood Service Organization.

The artists who will perform include Joel Mabus, Shari Kane and Dave Steele, Jo Serrapere and John Devine, Lac La Belle, Danny Kroha and Rollie Tussing.

Blind Willie Johnson was a gospel blues singer and guitarist who came to prominence in the 1920s and 1930s. The American-based record label, Alligator Records, recently celebrated his music with a tribute CD called "God Don't Never Change - The Songs of Blind Willie Johnson."

The album received two Grammy Award nominations.

Joel Mabus made his first record for a small Michigan label in 1977 with mandolin legend Frank Wakefield guesting. Three years later, he signed with Flying Fish Records for a two-record deal. In 1986 he was one of the first indie folk-singers to start his own label (Fossil Records), even before the advent of the home studio and compact disc, which makes the practice so common today.

Mabus has toured widely and makes his living at music, though he is flying under the radar of American pop culture. Whether you label him folk, Americana or a singer-songwriter, Mabus remains a one-off, walking that lonesome valley, making and marking his way as a working artist outside the confines of the usual music business.

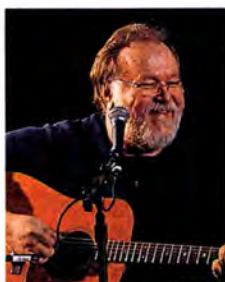
As an acoustic blues duo, Shari Kane and Dave Steele throw a four-handed guitar party of original and time-honored blues, gospel, swing and ragtime. Steeped in Steele's smoky vocals, percussive rhythm and innovative lead lines, Kane's crisp picking style, root-



Multi-instrumentalists and songwriters Jennie Knaggs and Nick Schillace are Lac La Belle.



Danny Kroha



Joel Mabus



Rollie Tussing



Shari Kane and Dave Steele

sy leads, and stinging slidework, their music has been described as street swing and stomp blues, such as a testament to sounds once heard on the streets of Harlem, the juke joints of Mississippi, or from the jug bands of Memphis.

Jo Serrapere (sarahpear), a songwriter from Detroit, started playing guitar at 23 when seeking out lessons from Delta Blues guitarist Shari Kane. Shortly thereafter, she began writing her own songs while completing her college studies in clinical psychology.

She now plays at music venues throughout the United States. Whether re-creating old songs from the Mississippi Delta or performing songs in her own confessional style, Jo's music stands original while always reflecting her love of American roots music. Her eclectic writing and performance fuses elements of various modern and traditional folk music, old-time and electric blues, roots rock, garage surf, swing and alt-country.

John Devine, also a Detroit native, attended

masters classes in classical guitar at Miami University. He went on to explore traditional blues styles and develop a love for the race records of the 1920s and 30s. Devine performed as a solo blues artist and songwriter before teaming up with Jo in 1998. He continues to explore other forms of American roots music and teach his craft.

Lac La Belle is an acoustic duo from Detroit, Michigan. Made up of multi-instrumentalists Jennie Knaggs and Nick Schillace, Lac La Belle is influenced by early Americana, blending history with the present to create stories that capture the human experience via accordion, mandolin, banjo, ukulele, organ, harmonizing vocals, and finger-picking resonator guitar.

What sets this acoustic duo apart is their utilization of their varied experiences; Schillace has a separate career performing his instrumental guitar pieces, and he wrote the first academic work on the recordings of John Fahey; Knaggs has history with New Music compositions and improvisations, in-

cluding mouth harp, diddley bow and slide guitar.

Award-winning guitarist, educator and performer Rollie Tussing has performed in concert halls, major music festivals and sidewalks all over the United States and parts of Europe. His raggedy brand of music is informed by the era of 78 rpm records, juke-joints, and street performers. He composes a lot of his own songs and has a knack for reworking an old obscure tune, finding beauty in the forgotten scratches, pops and grooves of his esoteric record collection.

After winning the National Slide Guitar Competition in 2001 Rollie moved with his wife to Portland, Oregon. He spent the next decade touring, performing, writing songs and playing with some of the best regional and touring musicians the West Coast offered. In 2007 he formed Rollie Tussing & the Diminished Seven. The band enjoyed many enduring residencies in some of Portland's finest venues as well as a devoted following.

NSO provides services that have impacted countless children, youth, adults, seniors, families and communities since 1955. NSOs empowering programs and services provide assistance for: older adults with mental illness; children, youth, and adults with developmental disabilities; youth leadership and advocacy training; year-round workforce development for youth, young adults and their parents; homeless recovery ser-

vice; housing development; community outreach for psychiatric emergencies; call hotline for emergency shelter and housing resources in Detroit; training; and volunteer opportunities for individuals, groups and organizations.

Tickets are \$20, \$17 for subscribers and are available at www.trinityhousetheatre.org.

» Mark Jewett, Jan. 6, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» Celebrating the Music of Blind Willie Johnson, featuring Joel Mabus, Shari Kane and Dave Steele, Danny Kroha, Jo Serrapere and John Devine, Lac La Belle and Rollie Tussing, Jan. 7, 8 p.m. \$20, \$17 subscribers

» Empty Chair Night featuring Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer and Ed Scruggs, Jan. 8, 7 p.m. \$12, \$9 subscribers

» Luti Erbeznik, Jan. 13, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» Heather Styka with Rachele Eve, Jan. 14, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» The Younce Guitar Duo, Jan. 18, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» Claudia Schmidt and Sally Rogers, Jan. 21, 8 p.m. \$20, \$17 subscribers

» Shari Kane and Dave Steele with Eleanor Ellis, Feb. 3, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» Sam Corbin, Feb. 4, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» May Erlewine, Feb. 10, 8 p.m. \$20, \$17 subscribers

» Tia McGraff, Feb. 11, 8:00 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» Empty Chair Night featuring Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer and Amy Petty, Feb. 12, 7 p.m. \$12, \$9 subscribers

» Songwriters Anonymous Showcase, Feb. 17, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» UnValentines Day Show featuring John Latini, Jamie-Sue Seal and Dave Boutette, Feb. 18, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» Tim Grimm Family Band, Feb. 24, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

» Jill Jack with Carly Bins, Feb. 25, 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 subscribers

For more information, call 734-464-6302 or visit www.trinityhousetheatre.org

Substitute teacher shortage is reaching critical stage

Lori Higgins
Detroit Free Press

You've probably seen the billboards on highways across Michigan, screaming in bold, blue letters. "SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED." They underscore a crisis afoot in school districts all over the state.

Substitute teachers are becoming increasingly scarce, causing a shortage that is making it difficult for schools to cope when there are absences due to illness or family emergency, or for those times when a teacher needs to be away for training. Many tie the shortages to declines in the number of people pursuing teaching as a full-time career.

"We're all competing for the same group of employees," said Clark Galloway, president of EDUStaff, which provides staffing, including substitute teachers, to more than 300 school districts statewide.

"It's a huge problem," said Wendy Zdeb, executive director of the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals. "You are seeing principals having to cover classes on a regular basis."

It's Galloway's company that has put up about 40 billboards on state highways, hoping to lure people into considering subbing.

Michigan law requires substitute teachers to have completed 90

IF YOU WANT TO BE A SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

Michigan issues four types of substitute teacher permits. The most basic is the daily substitute permit. Among the requirements:

- 90 semester hours of satisfactory credit from one or more regionally accredited two- or four-year colleges or universities.
- Satisfactory credit means a grade of C or better
- Limited in a single teaching assignment to no more than 90 days

Other permits cover longer-term assignments. For information, go to www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Permit_Overview_529841_7.pdf

Want to sub? EDUStaff works with more than half of the school districts in Michigan. You can call the company at 877-974-6338. Other companies provide subs to schools, too. Contact the local school district you're interested in working in and find out who you should contact.

college credit hours. But many districts go beyond those requirements, opting only to take on people with a teaching certificate.

In some districts, administrators are offering incentives to get people in the door.

In Wayne-Westland Community Schools, for instance, the daily rate for subs who take on long-term assignments and retirees who return to sub have been increased from the standard \$90 a day to \$110 a day.

But the problem still persists. And it's not just in Michigan. Galloway said the fill rate — the percentage of open positions — has declined from about 95 percent in 2012 to as low as 85 percent in 2016.

That means a school district that needs 100 subs on a given day may only get 85 openings

filled. "That means we have 15 classes that do not have a teacher, that do not have classroom management, that do not have a mentor," Galloway said.

Schools then have to scramble to combine classes, enlist principals to help or have teachers give up their preparation time to cover classes for absent colleagues.

"You can imagine the disruption at the building level when we're unable to put a substitute in place," Galloway said. "Children are not receiving proper education during those situations. If it's one unfilled position or it's 15, it's still a problem."

Judy Pritchett, chief academic officer for the Macomb Intermediate School District, said "it's a symptom of a much bigger problem."

She and others cite a

drop in the number of people pursuing teaching as a career. In April 2015, the Free Press reported there was a 38 percent decline in enrollment in teacher preparation programs from the 2008-09 to the 2012-13 school years.

A decade ago, Galloway said, the typical sub was a recent college graduate with a teaching certificate. Graduates would be lined up out the door, he said, to take on substitute teaching positions because it was often a gateway toward a more permanent position.

But the number of people receiving teaching certificates — now those who actually pursue teaching after going through a prep program — is dropping significantly. In Michigan, the numbers fell from 6,058 during the 2009-10 school year to 4,559 during the 2016-16 school year, according to the latest figures from the Michigan Department of Education.

Now the typical sub is 43, predominantly female and a returning-to-work mother without a teaching certificate, Galloway said.

A more specific sign of the times: During the 2014-15 school year, the Wayne-Westland district received 695 applications for elementary teaching jobs, Superintendent Michele Harmala said. During the 2015-16 school year, that num-

ber had dwindled to 270. At the high school level, the numbers declined from 299 to 85 during the same period.

"The state really needs to do something," Harmala said. "We have to look at ... why are students not going into education?"

The decline is due to a number of factors, with some saying the profession has become less attractive because of increased demands, pay cuts, weakened bargaining rights and cuts in salaries and benefits.

Harmala said this school year is her first in 30 years in education in which she had full-time elementary jobs go unfilled until late October. She used long-term subs to staff those classes.

"I've been trying to get the message across with our legislators, to help them understand that the reality of a po-

Passages

Obituaries: Memories & Remembrances

View Online
www.hometownlife.com


How to reach us:
1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

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

BADENHOOP

BRANDON JAMES age 32, died December 23, 2016. Funeral service at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28, at Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea. Visitation from 11 a.m. until time of service. Obituary at www.mitchellfuneral.com

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



Westland approves Parkside Credit Union expansion

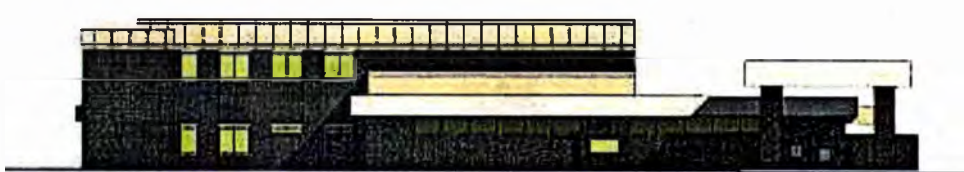
Westland's City Council has given its approval for an expansion of Parkside Credit Union.

Parkside, located at 1747 S. Newburgh, will complete an addition of 7,643 square feet, resulting in a two-story building with a total of 15,291 square feet. The total investment for the project is expected to be some \$4.2 million.

"The primary purpose of the addition is to con-

tinue to improve the financial well-being of our members and the communities we serve," Janet Thompson, President and CEO of Parkside Credit Union, told the council.

The addition will allow Parkside to establish the Westland location as its main office. The location will house 40 members of its administrative staff that are currently scattered across various



A rendering of the Parkside Credit Union expansion.

locations. The branch will also be renovated with new technologies and service levels.

Westland Mayor William Wild said the city was "excited" about the project.

"We are excited to see such a large investment in Parkside Credit Union's Westland loca-

tion and look forward to serving as their main hub for business operations," Wild said.

Outlook for jobs and pay is good in Michigan

However, experts expect growth to slow in 2017

Matthew Dolan
Detroit Free Press

When Michigan checks its stocking this morning to see what Santa left for the next year, economists expect to see lots of jobs and not many lumps of coal.

That's because the state is approaching its eighth year of economic recovery, having created an average of 71,600 net jobs every year from the Great Recession's low point in 2009 to this summer.

In 2014 and 2015, the state's total number of jobs grew by 70,000 jobs each year. Job creation is on pace for a similar gain of 69,000 this year.

The outlook is positive, but there are some key areas to watch closely in 2017 — from incoming President Donald Trump's plans to increase U.S. manufacturing jobs to paycheck inflation to auto manufacturing to a potential increase in construction jobs, particularly in west Michigan.

Jobs gains in the state next year will pull back to a trot from a gallop, experts say.

"With the auto industry operating at peak production levels and historically high sales levels and the state still significantly dependent on the auto industry, Michigan's robust labor demand growth may be coming to an end," Martin Lavelle at the Detroit branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago wrote earlier this fall.

They'll be gains of 41,600 jobs next year and 50,000 in 2018, according to an annual forecast from University of Michigan economists Gabriel Ehrlich, George Fulton, Donald Grimes and Michael McWilliams.

"We look for only modest momentum in the Michigan economy through early next year as auto production starts to ease in the state," said Robert Dye, chief economist at Dallas-based Comerica Bank. "Most major automakers expect slight declines in U.S. auto sales through 2017, and small-car production is being shifted out of the state, so manufacturing employment is expected to be a drag on the state economy next year."

Consumers in the state should expect to pay a bit more at the checkout lines as prices for some goods are expected to rise as interest rates climb higher.

Local inflation fell in 2015, reflecting the sharp drop in energy prices and little-to-no increase in other core prices. But inflation in Michigan is forecast to inch back up to 1.6% this year and then accelerate to 2.2% in 2017, before notching down to 1.9% in 2018.

Paychecks could grow



Little Caesars Arena construction, pictured in October 2016 in Detroit.

for many, but not at the same pace as recent years.

That's because personal income growth has softened from 4.6% in 2015 to 3.5% this year. U-M economists say it will stay in place next year in 2017 before moving back up to 4.3% in 2018.

Despite the gains, Michigan's economy lags the country's top performers in many ways. Michigan's employment, per capita personal income and per capita gross domestic product all grew between 2010 and 2015. But Michigan still ranks 22nd in employment, 33rd in per capita personal income and 35th in per capita GDP compared with other states.

Here are important trends to watch:

Auto manufacturing

The engine of the Michigan economy continues to be the auto industry despite efforts at greater diversification.

Martin Zimmerman, former chief economist at Ford, and a clinical professor of business economics and public policy at U-M's Ross School of Business, said he thinks overall economic conditions suggest that auto industry sales will remain strong in 2017.

"Unemployment is low and expected to remain low in the coming year. Wages are beginning to improve. Interest rates, however, are rising in anticipation of stimulus from expected infrastructure spending and lower taxes as proposed by the new administration," Zimmerman said. "It will take time for the spending and tax changes to be implemented so, on balance, in 2017 we are likely to see sales strong, but off a bit from the record levels of the past two years."

Low energy prices have increased the demand for less fuel-efficient vehicles.

"This will make achieving the fuel standards tougher," Zimmerman said.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the National High-

way Traffic Safety Administration argue technology improvements make the standards feasible. At the end of November, the EPA formally proposed 2022-25 standards remain unchanged and set the stage to implement that ruling before the new administration takes office.

"That action will make it more difficult for the new administration to change the standards, though there will be continuing pressure for some modification, perhaps extended deadlines," he said.

Mobility — from ride-sharing to self-driving cars — continues to be a focus around the world as well as in Michigan. A testing ground for connected and autonomous vehicles — American Center for Mobility at Willow Run in Ypsilanti Township — should open for business in late 2017 as Michigan seeks to retain its role in advanced auto industry technology.

"I think we will see continued progress and technology developments, and some new alliances as well as more pilot programs," Zimmerman said. "We are still somewhat away, however, from fully driverless cars for the mass market or even widespread use in the taxi market."

New jobs coming

Amazon made a splash this month when the online retailer confirmed plans to hire 1,000 workers at a new distribution center born from an old General Motors plant in Livonia.

The Seattle Internet seller billed the expansion into Michigan as a way to help invigorate the local economy.

"The average pay inside our fulfillment centers is 30% higher than that of people who work in traditional retail stores," the company said.

But Amazon declined to say how much it will actually pay its workers. The company also failed to say when the Livonia facility would open even though state economic development officials said it's expected to be-

gin operations in October.

Moreover, the company netted \$7.5 million in state economic aid as well as expected local property tax breaks. And that's not always a great deal for taxpayers, according to a nonprofit group that tracks economic-development subsidies.

"States and localities have given retail juggernaut Amazon almost a quarter-billion dollars in economic development subsidies in the past two years for warehouses the company must build to fulfill the rapid-delivery service tied to its Ama-

zon Prime business model," the group Good Jobs First wrote earlier this month, estimating Amazon's total economic incentive haul at more than \$241 million since 2015.

In response, Amazon said the company is "proud to operate in more than 70 cities across the U.S. where we have invested billions of dollars and created more than 180,000 full-time jobs with benefits starting on day one," adding that it also supports "local businesses near our sites."

Expect the idea of expanding tax incentive programs to return for

public debate this coming year. A proposal to create development "tax breaks on steroids" for major urban projects across the state — including two Dan Gilbert initiatives for downtown Detroit high-rise projects — died in the state Legislature earlier this month. But Gov. Rick Snyder has said the idea could be revived for consideration in 2017.

Dow Chemical CEO Andrew Liveris also promised new jobs despite uncertainty about his mid-Michigan company's future.

Business optimism

Michigan business leaders expressed growing optimism about future growth prospects of the state and national economies this quarter according to the most recent survey release earlier this month from Business Leaders for Michigan, the state's business roundtable.

Doug Rothwell, the group's president and CEO, said optimism had been deteriorating over the last year headed into the November elections. But those sentiments "dramatically improved after the election this quarter," Rothwell said.

For the first time since the end of 2009, 84% of business leaders believe the U.S. economy will improve over the next 18 months.

CITY OF WESTLAND
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, MI 48185, on **January 17th, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

PURCHASE OF TWO GENERATORS

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

Devin J. Adams
City Controller
1-0-000007240 3x3

Welcome to **jonna's market**
734-667-4420
8631 N Newburgh Rd, Westland

MEATS

SHRIMP SALE

Cooked 31-40 Shrimp\$6.99 lb
Raw EZ Peel and Deveined 26-30.....\$5.99 lb
USDA Select Whole Beef Tenderloin\$7.99 lb cut & trimmed
Filet Mignon 8oz Cut-USDA Choice\$12.99 lb
USDA Fresh Ground Chuck\$2.49 lb

DELI

Eckrich Oven Roasted Turkey\$4.99 lb
Sterling Quality Hard Salami.....\$2.99 lb
Eckrich Bologna Garlic or Regular.....\$2.69 lb
Krakus Polish Ham\$3.99 lb
American Cheese\$3.49 lb
LiPari Munster Cheese\$3.49 lb

BEER & WINE

We stock all popular French & California Champagne at great pricing!

Martini & Rossi Asti\$10.99 750mL + tax
Korbel Champagne All Flavors\$10.99 + tax
Corona 12pk Bottles\$12.99 + tax & deposit
Heineken 12pk Bottles.....\$12.99 +tax & deposit
Miller Lite 24pk Cans.....\$15.49 +tax & deposit
Coors Light 24pk Cans\$15.49 +tax & deposit

\$3 OFF \$30 PURCHASE WITH MENTION OF THIS AD
Includes Tobacco, Lottery & Alcohol

Expires in 1/1/17

Ex-‘Survivor’ contestant gets prison for child porn

Katrease Stafford
Detroit Free Press

Ex-“Survivor” TV contestant Michael Skupin was sentenced Tuesday to one to four years in prison after he was convicted in November on four counts of possessing child pornography.

Skupin, 54, of Farmington Hills and formerly of White Lake Township, was sentenced before Oakland County 6th Circuit Court Judge Wendy Potts, according to a news release from Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette’s office. Skupin was also ordered to pay \$31,800 in restitution and serve probation for financial crimes relating to a Ponzi scheme investigation that then snared him on the child pornography charges.



Mike Skupin, pictured in this 2000 file photo, was sentenced to prison on child porn charges.

Once out of prison, he will be required to register as a sex offender and he’ll be restricted from using a computer outside of work purposes, according to the release.

Skupin, appeared during the 2001 season of “Survivor II: The Australian Outback” and also “Survivor: Philippines,”

“Today’s sentencing is a strong message to those who prey on children: no matter who you are or what you do, we will find you,” Schuette

said in the release. “The act of downloading and viewing images of children in sexually abusive situations is reprehensible, this behavior re-victimizes the child victims over and over.”

Skupin was initially charged by Schuette in February with counts of financial crimes of larceny by conversion and racketeering as well as the child pornography charges.

An investigation began into Skupin after victims from his alleged Ponzi scheme contacted a local news reporter. According to the attorney general’s office, Skupin recruited investors and friends to take part in his “gifting scheme” called Pay It Forward.

Victims made cash investments in the scheme and their money

would then cycle through a chart in which participants were eventually paid out of other new investors’ money.

According to the attorney general’s office, the scheme was discovered when there were no new investors signing up and most people in the scheme lost all of their money.

Skupin’s laptop was searched in connection with the Ponzi scheme and investigators discovered images of underage children in sexual situations.

Skupin is best known for his appearance in the 2001 “Survivor: The Australian Outback,” season where he stumbled, fell into a fire and was medically evacuated from the show.

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313-223-4759

It’s difficult to find positives in the product world

As we approach another new year, I have asked myself a question about the many columns I’ve written this past year: “Have you written anything of positive nature during the past 12 months?”

The answer is very little, because the negative stands out like never before. Ask anyone what they think about products made in China and a few other foreign countries and I bet you hear the word “junk” in that conversation. I’ve been writing about the 1.8 million recalled appliances currently in American homes where homeowners don’t have a clue whether they have one or not which prompts the need for a new law making manufacturers responsible for informing



Joe Gagnon
APPLIANCE DOCTOR

every person who owns their brand name products.

For example, let’s take the name Samsung. No one seems to know what a terrible job they did with major appliances until they hear about the telephone debacle. They did admit to a big problem and refused to announce a recall on the product until the Consumer Product Commission stepped on their hands and Samsung cried uncle.

Only then did they decide to play ball and following that episode came the top load washer

which blows up in the laundry room and causes injuries. They sell almost 3 million washing machines before this problem is discovered which as far as I’m concerned is a bunch of bunk. They knew of this problem several years ago and did nothing to protect consumers and now because of all this repeated national exposure, finally Americans are becoming noticeably aware.

I could fill 100 pages of this column with past recalls on major home appliances and most of you wouldn’t have heard one word about them. 1.8 million recalled appliances which are in homes today and haven’t been repaired. That is a small amount compared to the actual amount of recalls announced in the past 20

years. Some 8 million refrigerators who have parts attached to the compressor which catch fire without any warning day or night. Light bulbs that stay on even when the refrigerator door is closed. Ovens which ignite by themselves during the middle of the night and the list goes on and on and on.

If you are reading this column you have an obligation to your whole family to investigate what I am writing about. Go to the website www.productsafety.commission and read and study the recalls of products listed and make sure that one of those is not being used in your home. This past summer I met with State Rep. Gary Glenn in Lansing and he wrote a bill (HB5679)

that would make all manufacturers responsible for informing every consumer of recalled products in their homes. I have not heard back from him in months and I suspect that some lobbyist for some trade association has put the crunch on this bill.

Time will tell I’m sure. Now, let’s go back to the original subject of Samsung exploding washing machines. Watching the Canadian News the other night, Samsung made front page. They refuse to pay owners of these washers any rebate offered unless the consumers purchase another Samsung product. They will also not pay any expenses in the delivery or removal of this exploding washer. I happen to know quite a few Cana-

dians and can prove a pretty tough bunch who won’t take this sort of stuff lying down. This South Korean company can expect a cross-check across a forehead.

Now my final plea is that you will contact Rep. Gary Glenn and urge him to get this HB 5679 passed and into law in Michigan. It will save lives and prevent millions of dollars in property damage and put the awareness responsibility square into the hands of those people who deserve it. The manufacturers are selected. Stay tuned.

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

City of Livonia - 10/17/2016 Regular Meeting Synopsis

Present: White, Bahr, Meakin, Kritzman, Brosnan, Jolly, and McIntyre
Absent: None
Public Hearings Announced
Wednesday, November 9th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. - City Council Chambers.

- 1) PETITION 2016-08-01-06** submitted by TNA Enterprises, to rezone the property located on the northwest corner of Seven Mile and Inkster Roads in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 1, from C-1 (Local Business) to C-2 (General Business).
- 2) A Public Hearing** regarding the necessity for a Proposed Special Assessment LED Street Lighting Necessity Project in the Arbor Trail Estates Site Condominiums, in the S.E. ¼ of Section 32, located north of Ann Arbor Trail, between Wayne Road and Newburgh Road, pursuant to Chapter 08 of Title 3 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended, entitled “Special Assessment Procedure Ordinance.”
Items were received and filed.

- #382-16** Approving minutes of the 1,810th Regular Meeting of the Council on October 3, 2016.
- #383-16** Accepting proposal of BS&A Software for yearly service and support from November 1, 2016 - October 31, 2019, for the equalizer internet tax/assessing system.
- #384-16** Authorizing purchase of 2 2016 Ford Transit 250 vans from Signature Ford, and the up-fitting of said vehicles by Cannon Truck Equipment, as replacement vehicles for the Water & Sewer Section of the DPW.
- #385-16** Approving the 2017 Road Repair Program for the fifth year of the ten-year road paving millage.
- #386-16** Authorizing Mayor and City Clerk, to execute contract amendment between Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc. and the City of Livonia, re: service for the 2017 Concrete Road Repair Program.
- #387-16** Approving Petition 2016-08-08-11, to remodel the exterior of the commercial strip center located at 36184, 36200 and 36232 Five Mile Road, subject to conditions.
- #388-16** Approving an extension of the PCS Site Agreement.
- #389-16** Approving the proposed tentative agreement between the City of Livonia and Livonia Fire Fighters Union for the period December 1, 2015 - November 30, 2018.
- #390-16** Referring the matter of creating a Northeast Livonia Redevelopment Authority/Corridor to the Housing Commission and the Economic Development Director for their report and recommendation.
- #391-16** Determining to take no further action regarding the matter of creating a Northeast Livonia Redevelopment Authority/Corridor.
- #392-16** Determining to take no further action regarding the matter of amending Chapter 49 (Massage) of Title 5 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances.
- #393-16** Determining to take no further action regarding the subject of Chapter 5.49 (Massage) of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.
- #394-16** Determining to take no further action regarding the subject of amending the Ordinances to not require a towing yard.
- #395-16** Determining to take no further action regarding the proposed amendment to the Livonia Code of Ordinances to Chapter 63 (Snow Alert) of Title 10 adding Section 100, re: when civil infractions can be issued in snow alert situations.
- #396-16** Determining to take no further action regarding the subject of athletic recognition signs.
- #397-16** Determining to take no further action regarding the subject of the recommended change of Title 9, Chapter 30, Section 035, which would require controlled substances to be kept in their original package.
- #398-16** Approving the Annual Budget for the fiscal year ending November 30, 2017.
- #399-16** Establishing a tax levy of 4.0447 mills, of the taxable valuation of all real and personal property subject to taxation in the City of Livonia for the fiscal year commencing December 1, 2016, and ending November 30, 2017, as well as various additional levies to support the proposed budget. (CR 343-16)
Second Reading and Roll Call Vote (6-0) was given to an ordinance amending Sections 030, 050, 060, and 090, Title 3, Chapter 12, (Senior Citizens Housing Tax Exemption) of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.
Vice-President Kritzman stepped down from the podium at 8:04 p.m. to avoid any perceived conflict of interest on the following item.
- #400-16** Authorizing Mayor and City Clerk, to execute the contract amendment between the City of Livonia and OHM Advisors, re: the 2017 Asphalt Road Program. (CR 26-16)
Vice-President Kritzman returned to the podium at 8:07 p.m.
- #401-16** Referring the matter of Petition 2016-04-02-07 for waiver use approval to construct and operate a freestanding full service restaurant with drive-up window facilities (Panera Bread) located at 37700 Six Mile Road, to the Committee of the Whole for its report and recommendation.
- #402-16** Referring the subject of the purchase of real property located at 13335 Farmington.
- #403-16** Suspending the rules for procedure.
- #404-16** Approving the Application for Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate from MASCO Corporation for land and building improvements, machinery, equipment, furniture, and fixtures at 17450 College Parkway, Livonia, MI 48152, for a period of 12 years (IDD#117).
- #405-16** Concurring with the plans to proceed with the Amrhein Road Reconstruction Project allowing for the reduction in the width of the road surface from 40 feet to 34 feet, per the requirements of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) LAP Program. (CR 363-16)
- #406-16** Referring the subject matter of the reconstruction project of Amrhein Road from Eckles Road to a point 3,500 feet east of Eckles Road, per the requirements of the (MDOT) LAP Program, to the Administration for its report and recommendation.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.
Full text of the official minutes are available in the Office of the City Clerk.

Susan M. Nash
Livonia City Clerk

Published: December 29, 2016

Rising interest rates will hurt some, help others

As expected, for only the second time since the Great Recession, the Federal Reserve has decided to raise interest rates. The feds raised interest rates one-quarter point and gave every indication that we would see more rate increases in 2017. I’ve frequently been asked if it is good or bad for ordinary people when the Federal Reserve raises interest rates. My answer: Rising interest rates are good for some people and not so good for others.

Those who typically will be impacted negatively are those who currently have adjustable-rate debt and those who are looking at borrowing money in the near future. There are many mortgages and credit cards offering adjustable-rate interest plans. When interest rates go up, so does your interest rate. People with adjustable-rate debt will see their interest increase at the next adjustment. Typically, adjustable-rate mortgages will adjust once a year, whereas adjustable-rate charge cards adjust more frequently.

In addition, people who want to borrow money in the near future will be faced with higher interest rates. If you apply for a mortgage six months from now, I have no doubt that interest rates will be higher. As a result, you will be paying a larger monthly payment.

On the other hand, there are also many winners as a result of the Federal Reserve policy. If you’re an individual who likes to travel abroad, with the Federal Reserve raising interest rates, it’s more likely than not that the U.S. dollar will strengthen against foreign currency. Americans traveling abroad will see that their dollar has more buying power than it did before;



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

their trip will be more affordable.

Others who will benefit from higher interest rates are those who save money in banks and such vehicles as CDs and money market accounts. Although I believe it will be a while before interest rates on CDs and money markets will rise, those who save in these types of vehicles will see higher returns in the not-so-distant future. Particularly for seniors who typically keep a good portion of their money in banks, rising interest rates provide a great sense of relief for them. After all, over the last decade or so, with interest rates artificially low, it has disproportionately hurt our seniors.

Others who may benefit from rising interest rates are consumers who purchase imported goods. With interest rates rising, it once again will strengthen the U.S. dollar against other currencies. Prices on imported goods should be less expensive, helping consumers.

Even though interest rates are rising, others who could also benefit are those who need to borrow money but cannot. In many sectors of our economy, it has been difficult for people to borrow money for such things as starting a business. With higher interest rates, banks will now have a greater incentive to loan money. If banks do make it easier to borrow, it could spur economic growth, which has been anemic in our economy as of late.

Rising interest rates can also be a benefit to stock market investors. As the Federal Reserve pointed out, it is return-

ing to a policy of normalization and this may, once again, make stocks trade on their fundamentals. With interest rates artificially low, markets have been more difficult for investors to understand. A return to normalization could make the markets a little more predictable, which will help investors.

The bottom line is, in any move by the Federal Reserve regarding interest rates, there are going to be winners and losers. The key is if you are going to lose due to rising interest rates, look at ways to reduce the impact. That could be accelerating the payment of the debt or even converting an adjustable-rate mortgage into a fixed-rate mortgage.

One thing everyone should keep in mind is, although interest rates are rising, it is not going to immediately impact the rates that were paid on CDs and money market accounts. It seems those rates don’t move until we have at least two or three interest rate increases. Although the Federal Reserve has said we will see those increases in 2017, there can be all sorts of reasons that the Federal Reserve backs off from that policy. Therefore, people have to take a wait-and-see attitude as to exactly how much interest rates will rise on savings accounts, CDs and money market accounts.

I always tell investors to never overreact to changes such as the Federal Reserve raising interest rates or even change in tax laws. Too many investors feel that, when something happens, they have to react. In many situations, I tell investors the best course of action is to do nothing.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. If you would like him to respond to questions, email rick@bloomsassetmanagement.com.



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USDA CHOICE BEEF
USDA Premium Choice Angus Cowboy Ribeye
\$9.99 lb
save \$5.00

USDA CHOICE BEEF
USDA Premium Choice Angus Ground Beef from Chuck
\$2.99 lb
save \$1.50

All Natural Fresh
Whole Fryers
\$1.29 lb
save 50¢

USDA CHOICE BEEF
USDA Premium Choice Angus English Roast
\$4.99 lb
save \$2.00

Entrees to Go
Italian Chicken Cutlet
\$3.99 lb
save \$1.00



Premium Fresh - All Natural
Baby Back Ribs
\$3.49 lb
save \$1.50

Fresh Housemade
Sheboygan Bratwurst
\$3.99 lb
save \$1.00

Fresh All Natural
Veal Loin Chops
\$10.99 lb
save \$4.00

Fresh All Natural
Boneless Pork Chops
\$2.99 lb
save \$2.00

Alexander & Hornung Spiral Ham
\$2.99 lb
save 50¢

SEAFOOD



Farm Fresh
Tilapia Fillets
\$6.99 lb
save \$2.00

North American
Lobster Tails
small 4 oz
\$5.99 ea
save \$2.00

Alaskan Red
King Crab Legs
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\$22.99 lb
save \$1.00

Wild Caught
Snapper Fillets (pf)
\$9.99 lb
save \$4.00

Wild Caught
Orange Roughy
\$9.99 lb
save \$1.00



Wild Caught USA
Shell-on Shrimp
21/25 ct
\$10.99 lb
save \$3.00

All Natural
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See the previous page for fantastic items from...

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PRODUCE

Jumbo California Cauliflower 2/\$5
California Romaine, Green & Red Leaf Lettuces 99¢ lb
Haas Avocados 2/98¢
Earthbound Organic Salads 2/\$5
Driscoll's Strawberries 2/\$5
California Navel Oranges 79¢ lb



Organic

Blueberries 2/\$6
Green Kale 2/\$3
Collard Green 2/\$4
Broccoli 2/\$4



DELI

Sahlon's Oven Roasted Turkey \$5.99 lb (save \$2.00)
Boar's Head Everroast Chicken \$6.99 lb (save \$3.00)
Dearborn Smoked Turkey \$5.99 lb (save \$3.00)
Boar's Head Low Sodium Turkey \$7.49 lb (save \$2.50)
Hoffman's Hard Salami \$5.99 lb (save \$3.00)
Boar's Head Vermont Cheddar White or Yellow \$6.99 lb (save \$2.00)
Hoffman's Super Sharp Cheddar \$5.99 lb (save \$2.00)
Dearborn Brown Sugar Ham \$4.99 lb (save \$3.00)
Kowalski Bologna Regular or Garlic \$4.59 lb (save \$1.00)



Joe's Meat & Seafood



USDA Premium Choice Angus New York Strip Steak \$9.99 lb (save \$6.00)

USDA Premium Choice Angus Cowboy Ribeye \$9.99 lb (save \$5.00)

Premium Fresh - All Natural Baby Back Ribs \$3.49 lb (save \$1.50)



North American Lobster Tails small 4 oz \$5.99 ea (save \$3.00)

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Buffalo Chicken Pasta Salad \$5.99 lb (save \$1.00)
Italian Sausage & Peppers \$5.99 lb (save \$1.00)
Roasted Root Vegetables \$4.99 lb (save \$1.00)

Keebler, Townhouse & Club Crackers 2/\$5
Bonne Maman French Preserves 2/\$6
John Macy Cheese Crisps & Cheese Sticks \$2.29 ea

Cross & Blackwell Zesty Shrimp & Cocktail Sauces \$1.69 ea

Chef's Feature Shrimp Scampi Pasta

CAFE

Joe's Fresh Roasted Weekly Coffee Special
Butter Rum \$6.99 lb (save \$2.00)

PASTRY

Key Lime Pie \$14.99

Ovation Break-A-Parts All Varieties \$4.99 ea
Chocolate Covered Peanuts \$5.49 ea

Bread Pudding \$6.99 lb (Sweet \$2.00)

Awrey's Ripple Cakes Chocolate, Caramel or Lemon \$7.99



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Danish 2/\$4
Italian Bread \$2.99
Bostock \$2.49



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Martini & Rossi Asti \$10.99 (btl)
Decoy Cabernet Sauvignon \$15.99 (btl)
Cooks Brut \$6.99 (btl)

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Haeger resigns as Madonna University coach

He racked up 651 wins, 11 league titles in 21 seasons

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Greg Haeger, who spent nearly half of his life connected to the Madonna University baseball program, has stepped down after 21 seasons as head

coach. Haeger, a two-time All-Big Ten selection at the University of Michigan and a former Detroit Tigers farmhand, said he has accepted a job at Total Sports in Wixom as its director of baseball operations.

"It's not the same Madonna that I've been working at for the past 19-20 years of my life; it was just a good time," Haeger said.

The 47-year-old Haeger,



Haeger

who ranks 17th among active NAIA baseball coaches in wins (651), recently submitted his letter of resignation to Scott Kennell, who is in the midst of his first year as MU's new athletic director.

"He just said this is just the right time to step down from the position," Kennell said.

Madonna is undergoing a transition period with its administration after the installa-

tion of new school president Dr. Michael Grandillo during the fall of 2015.

Kennell replaced Bryan Rizzo, who left to take a similar position at Dearborn Divine Child High School in June. The school's head athletic trainer Beth Hubbard and sports information director Tim Johnston both resigned recently.

The Madonna athletic director said an immediate search has begun for Haeger's replacement, but he has yet to conduct any interviews.

Meanwhile, assistant coaches Mike George (whom Haeger replaced as head coach in June of 1996), along with Stu Rose and Mark Henkel, remain listed on the school's website as current baseball staff members.

"Obviously we want somebody to come in here is going to keep our program at a high level, just not in the playing realm, but also in the classroom as well," Kennell said.

See HAEGER, Page B2

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



Catholic Central graduate Matt Godin is the starting nose tackle on Michigan's defensive line.

DARYL MARSHKE | U-M PHOTOGRAPHY

CC, Rice grads lead local players in bowl games



GARY SHOOK | WESTERN MICHIGAN ATHLETICS

Brother Rice grad Lucas Cherocci (No. 46) has been a standout special teams player for undefeated Western Michigan this season.

Mike Rosenbaum
Correspondent

Three Michigan schools earned invitations to college football bowl games in 2016, with each berth representing a significant milestone.

The University of Michigan will face Florida State in the Orange Bowl on Friday. While the Wolverines had legitimate national championship playoff hopes all season, the Orange Bowl berth is another step forward for the program that was revitalized by Jim Harbaugh's hiring as

head coach two years ago.

Meanwhile, Western Michigan is preparing for the most significant bowl game in program history, as the unbeaten Broncos square off with Wisconsin in the Cotton Bowl on Jan. 2.

Last week, Eastern Michigan capped a 7-win season by returning to bowl action after a 29-year drought. Despite a 24-20 loss to Old Dominion in the Bahamas Bowl on Dec. 23, the bowl berth symbolizes Eastern's improving fortunes.

Lucky Shamrocks

Michigan's success this year — a 10-2 record and No. 6 ranking in the playoff standings — has been founded on one of the nation's top defenses. Catholic Central graduate Matt Godin plays a key role on the Wolverines' stout defensive line as the starting nose tackle. Godin, a senior, has 25 tackles this season, with two tackles for loss, including a sack. Much of his contribution goes unrecog-

See BOWLS, Page B2

USA SWIMMING

Teen makes splash at nationals

Plymouth-Canton Cruisers swimmer, 14, keeps getting better with help from 'Coach Z'

Tim Smith
Hometownlife.com

Cutting through the water and cutting to the chase is all good for Sophia Tuinman of the Plymouth-Canton Cruisers.

The 14-year-old Tuinman competed Nov. 30 through Dec. 3 at the USA Swimming AT&T Winter National Championships in Atlanta, Georgia. She was one of only four

girls ages 14 and under participating, and she came in 39th during preliminaries of the women's 100-yard backstroke with a time of 56.13 seconds. She entered the event with a seed time of 1:04.51, so her hard work helped shave a significant chunk of time.

"Going to a national meet was one of the most exciting events that have taken place in my swimming career along with many other achievements," said Tuinman, a ninth-grader at Northville High School. "The national meet provided me with some experience and a list of things I need to improve on in order to qualify for World Trials."

Her coach with the P-C Cruisers, Alexandra "Z" Morgan, said the progression the youngster continues to make is no surprise given her unrelenting work ethic.

"Sophia is very driven, yet down to earth," Morgan said. "She has big goals but very little fear. Most sports will label this an X-factor, because it is rare that kids, even at high levels of sport, don't have some type of fear of failure."

"Sophia can look at good and bad races, without a large range of emotions. She's a happy kid that likes to work really hard."

See TUINMAN, Page B2



SUBMITTED

Plymouth-Canton Cruisers swimmer Sophia Tuinman (left) and her coach, 'Z' Morgan, share a moment at the recent USA Swimming AT&T Winter National Championships in Atlanta.



Matt Godin, a Catholic Central grad, plays in U-M's 59-3 victory against Maryland at Michigan Stadium.

ERIC BRONSON | U-M PHOTOGRAPHY

BOWLS

Continued from Page B1

nized on the stat sheet, however, as his success in plugging the middle of Michigan's line often provides other defenders the opportunity to shoot through gaps to make a tackle. Godin joined U-M under head coach Brady Hoke, who played a hands-on role in coaching the defensive line. "I learned a ton from Coach Hoke and Coach (Greg) Mattison," Godin said. "Those two taught me everything I know about playing defensive line, honestly. It was great having a head coach who specialized in the defensive line."

When Harbaugh took charge prior to the 2015 season, former defensive coordinator Mattison became the D-line coach, providing Godin and his fellow linemen some continuity, and helping the Wolverines post back-to-back double-digit victory seasons for the first time since 2002-03.

The former Catholic Central All-Stater has played in 41 games at Michigan, with 15 starts, and earned honorable mention All-Big Ten notice this season. In his final college game on Friday, Godin says Michigan will emphasize stopping the Florida State running game, led by Dalvin Cook, to force third-and-long situations. "He's probably the fastest running back that we've faced," Godin says. Godin adds that the Seminoles have a strong offensive line and a "tough" freshman quarterback, Deondre Francois.

After the Orange Bowl, Godin will focus on training

for Michigan's pro day, with the hope of continuing his football career in the NFL.

Friday could also be the last game for another CC grad, fourth-year senior Garrett Moores. The former Shamrocks quarterback became Michigan's holder for extra points and field goals this year. He performed flawlessly — and also ran in a two-point conversion — to earn the second national "Holder of the Year" award. The honor was originated last year by former Minnesota holder Peter Mortell, who gave the initial award to himself. Although it's not an official NCAA honor, Moores' victory was announced nationally on ESPN and was celebrated among the Wolverines.

"It's great to see him have some success," Godin says. "It's not easy to hold it and place it down as well as he has. He has a bigger role than some people think, and we're definitely fortunate to have him."

The Undefeated

Shortly after earning the first bowl game victory in Western Michigan's history in last year's Bahamas Bowl, head coach P.J. Fleck told the team it was his "expectation" that the Broncos would appear in the 2017 Cotton Bowl, according to senior linebacker Lucas Cherocci.

The Brother Rice grad admits that the team initially felt Fleck's goal was "crazy," but as Western piled up victories this season — including wins over Big Ten foes Northwestern and Illinois — the players began to believe. "We had the vision, the people in the program did the work and now we have the ultimate

goal," Cherocci adds.

Cherocci, who joined the Broncos as a walk-on, redshirted in 2013, playing on the scout team and helping prepare the starters for each game. He saw the field as a special teams performer in 2014, and after the season, Fleck awarded him a scholarship. Cherocci has played linebacker but has mainly been a special teams player over the last two years, a role in which he takes pride. In three seasons, Cherocci has 14 tackles in 26 games, with two tackles for loss.

At Western, Cherocci said, special teams performers are called "how" guys, which he defines as "a guy that plays with passion and plays with his heart."

"It sounds like a bunch of program (cliches), but that's how everyone operates on this team," Cherocci said. "Everyone's bought into the program, the culture. ... The big thing about our success this year is, we're a family. And I (compare) that to my time at Brother Rice. I always thought that my team at Brother Rice was a family. And then I came here and everyone's so tight-knit."

Cherocci calls Cotton Bowl opponent Wisconsin — ranked eighth in the college playoff standings, compared to 15th-ranked Western — an "elite team" but adds that the Broncos "don't have anything to prove. We just have to be ourselves and we have play like ourselves and play like we know we can. ... And that's the way to win the game."

The Cotton Bowl marks Cherocci's last football game. After graduating this spring, he hopes to work as a parole

officer while also developing his own fitness business.

Other area players

Cherocci's Cotton Bowl opponents include Wisconsin redshirt freshman David Moorman, a 2014 All-State selection from Northville High, who played in all 13 games as a reserve offensive lineman this season.

Michigan's area talent includes senior tight end Michael Jocz from Novi High, who served mainly as a blocker and special teams performer, but also caught one pass for 12 yards, returned a punt for 27 yards and blocked two kicks. Country Day grad Maurice Ways, a junior wide receiver, caught two passes for 24 yards. Other local Wolverines who saw the field this year include sophomore quarterback Alex Malzone from Brother Rice; Plymouth native Nate Schoenle, a freshman wide receiver; and junior running back Joe Hewlett from Novi High, who carried the ball twice for -1 yards. Brother Rice grad Anthony Dalimonte, a senior safety, was named Michigan's scout team player of the year by the coaching staff.

At Eastern, sophomore defensive back Ross Williams, a Birmingham Groves graduate, has played in 20 games in two years. He had 10 tackles and an interception this season. Sophomore defensive back Brandon Macklin from Novi High played in one contest in 2016. Offensive lineman Jeremy Hickey from Brother Rice played in 10 games in 2015 but didn't see action this season.

HAEGER

Continued from Page B1

"Our student-athletes have done a great job in the program on the field and off the field, and that's something we take pride in and want to continue that throughout our program."

In addition to his baseball duties, Haeger was also responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of Ilitch Ballpark, as well as University Field's soccer and softball facilities. He also assisted in management at MU athletic events.

During his 21 seasons, Haeger posted a 651-413-5 overall record, capturing 11 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference regular season (including four straight from 2008-11), along with five WHAC playoff titles.

The longest tenured head coach in the WHAC, Haeger guided the Crusaders to five NAIA National Tournament appearances (2009, 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2016). In 2010, MU won a school-record 48 games. He was named NAIA Region Coach of the Year three times and NAIA Great Lakes Section Coach of the Year in 1998.

In his final full season (2016), the Crusaders finished 41-17, including a 24-4 mark in the conference. During the new WHAC fall baseball schedule, which ended in early October, MU went 5-3.

"He had a strong rapport with all the student-athletes," Kennell said. "I know he had a deep care for all the student-athletes at Madonna University, and it showed every day at work. He's someone we valued a lot at Madonna."

As a pitcher and first baseman, Haeger led Detroit Catholic Central to the MHSAA Class A state baseball title in 1987. The Livonia native was named Michigan Amateur Player of the Year and was drafted his senior year by the Tigers, but opted to accept a scholarship play under coach Bud Middaugh at U-M.

Haeger signed with Tigers' organization following his junior draft-eligible year at Michigan and moved up the minor league ranks, earning All-Star honors for the Florida State League champion Lakeland Tigers in 1992.

But a knee injury prematurely cut short his pro career and he returned to U-M to earn his degree, while also landing an assistant coaching position under George.

"It was fun, I grew up there," said Haeger, who resides in New Hudson with his wife Jean and sons Trey and Evan. "Madonna is a very integral part of my life from the friendships across the board, the faculty, athletic staff, the coaches and then the players. I had an opportunity to get to know quite a few young men coming through the baseball program and other sports at Madonna. And those relationships are unique. I still appreciate how they helped me grow as a person and I hope they appreciate how I helped them grow. It was a good run. I definitely will miss it. I'll miss the kids, I'll miss what Madonna was to me, not necessarily recently, but I'll miss it."

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TUINMAN

Continued from Page B1

Does she ever. A typical workout week with the P-C Cruisers includes seven or eight trips to the pool, either at Canton High School or the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex.

"My coach, Z, has created workouts that push me to my limits every day at practice," explained Tuinman, in an email to the *Observer*. "She helps me focus on my short-term goals in my swimming career and what needs to be done."

"This past March, there were some distractions going on that pulled me away from my seasonal goal time."

"I remember telling Z short course states (25 meters instead of 50 meters) just didn't feel like a state meet and she

reminded me of the expectations I had for this season at the beginning of the year. This made me refocus and chase after the time I wanted, during the race."

Less is more

Morgan stressed that, with the P-C Cruisers, her goal is for "quality over quantity" in terms of how many yards per workout Tuinman and others complete.

"Sophie is successful because she has teammates that surround her with a hard-working ethic, (have) positive attitudes, and enjoy each other's company," Morgan said.

"Right now she has a core group of nine other girls, and when the boys get back from high school season the group will grow to 18."

"All of these athletes swim year round and compete above a state level. This past August,

Sophie and two other (P-C Cruisers) teammates, Eugene Li and Kevin Hao, travelled down to Atlanta for a meet one step below nationals."

Tuinman, Li and Hao have many teammates in the P-C Cruisers who are benefiting from Morgan's coaching approach.

"With the boys and girls at this level," Morgan explained, "my goal is to continue to enable them to accomplish more every season, whether that be physically, mentally, aerobically or mechanically. "I think the continued success of our team though is solely dependent on the relationships that the kids maintain with each other, day in and day out."

Morgan was still earning a degree in mechanical engineering and a master's in hydrodynamics at University of Michigan when she started

coaching in 1999 with the Ann Arbor Swim Club.

Her advanced college education informs her coaching, which she described as "mechanically driven."

To that end, Morgan's coaching — and hours in the pool, of course — help swimmers gain the muscle memory needed to perfect various movements and get faster and more efficient in the process.

Quick study

The daughter of Roeland and Kim Tuinman of Northville is a prime example.

With Morgan's coaching, she has made up for being a couple years behind other swimmers.

"It is true that I have started competitive swimming a little bit late for the level that I am currently at," Tuinman said. "I started swimming when I was 8 years old while

most start at 6. I gave up competitive figure skating to focus on swimming at the age of 10."

But she has shown herself to be a quick study, one with potential to at least perform for a college.

"Her level of swimming for her age is bigger than high school swimming," Morgan said. "Most colleges will come knocking on your door for just one of the cuts that she has made."

"She's already made it to a level that will catch the eye of top swimming colleges."

Indeed, Sophia Tuinman's next wave of success already is beginning. Where it takes her could be a journey worth keeping an eye on.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Stevenson holds SL East to 5 field goals

Tanderys scores 9,
Lamerson adds
7 boards, 6 blocks

Brad Emmons
hometownlife.com

Mackenzie Mallory tallied a game-high 11 points, but it wasn't enough as South Lyon East (2-3, 0-1) was held to five field goals in a KLA Central Division setback Tuesday at Livonia Stevenson (5-1, 1-0) 28-25.

Sarah Tanderys paced the victorious Spartans, who led 19-10 at halftime and 24-17 after three quarters, with nine points.

Grace Lamerson chipped in with six points, seven rebounds, six blocks, while Elisa Lebron had six points and five rebounds. The Spartans were 2 of 6 from the foul line.

South Lyon, which couldn't hold an early 9-2 lead, made 14 of 21 free throws.

"We had tons of good opportunities, but just couldn't score," East coach Rob Leadley said.

NORTHVILLE 58, SOUTH LYON 24: On Tuesday, senior center Brook Adams led a balanced scoring attack with 10 points as the host Mustangs (4-1, 1-0) rolled to a KLA Central Division triumph over the Lions (3-3, 0-1).
Kendall Dillon, Roan Haines and Ellie Thallman

each added seven points for Northville, which led 28-15 at halftime before outscoring South Lyon 18-0 in the third period.

Samantha Swain scored eight points for South Lyon.

NOVI 53, SALEM 27: Junior point-guard Ellie Mackay finished with 18 points and three assists as the host Wildcats (5-1, 1-0) led all the way in a KLA Central Division victory over the visiting Rocks (0-5, 0-1).

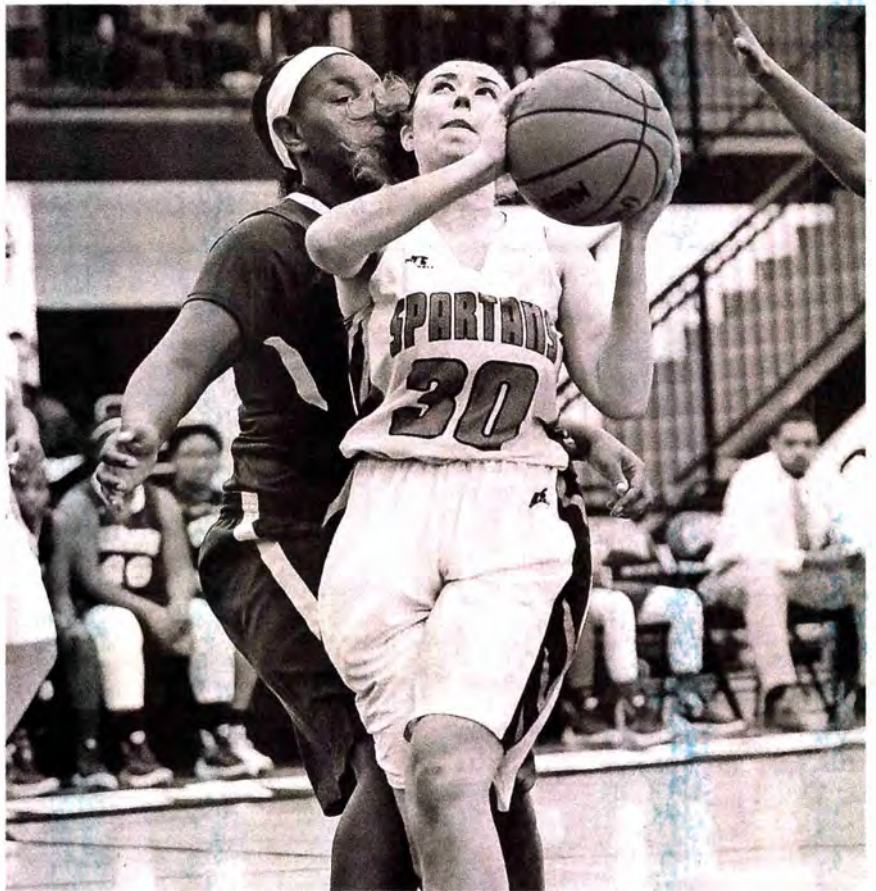
Cara Ninkovich scored 10 points. Julia Lalain had five points, four rebounds and two assists for Novi, which led 30-4 at halftime.

Jessie Bandyk had four points, a rebound and an assist for Novi.

HOWELL 52, MILFORD 24: The unbeaten and ninth-ranked Highlanders (6-0, 1-0) opened KLA West Division action with a convincing victory over the Mavericks (2-3, 0-1) as junior forward Amanda Cortren led three players in double figures with 14 points.

Howell led 29-8 at halftime outscoring Milford 17-5 in the second quarter as Alexis Miller added 10 of her 13 points. The Highlanders also got 12 points from Leah Weslock.

Senior guard Mallory Barrett paced Milford with 11 points and 10 rebounds, while sophomore forward Allison Smith contributed six rebounds and three steals.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Livonia Stevenson senior Kait Pence takes the ball to the rim against a Farmington Harrison earlier this season.

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GIVING BACK

'Crossover' charity hoops game raises \$5K

First annual
game between
West and Liberty
middle schools
unites community

Cherise Rose
Correspondent

Basketball fans filtered in as the doors opened Dec. 16 at Canton's Liberty Middle School.

The game plan was to involve students, families, school staff and local business in an event to foster the spirit of giving back to those in need throughout Plymouth and Canton.

After Plymouth-Canton Community School teacher Marc Szalka reached out to the district and Educational Excellence Foundation, he was able to organize the first annual Crossover Charity Basketball Game.

It was a success on and off the court. The game itself was a crowd-pleaser, and more than \$5,000 so far has been raised and donated to Plymouth Goodfellows, Canton Goodfellows, Liberty Intervention Fund and West Intervention Fund.

There were more than 300 people in attendance as the stands were full of energy, cheering and chanting either for West or Liberty middle school teams comprised of teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals and custodians.

During the first quarter, neither team was able to make a dent in the scoreboard. After many efforts of the mixed-ability teams, mostly non-basketball players, West managed to gain a lead.

Both teams had their school mascots, West Bulldog and Liberty Lion lighting up the crowds, leading spirited cheers for defense.

The game was intense as the score was within a few baskets for either team until the big upset in the fourth quarter. West's Brett Wells lit the gym up with a shot from a special five-point box set up outside the three-point line. With only seconds ticking away on a 49-45 scoreboard, the Liberty Lions humbly accepted defeat as the Bulldogs let the clock run down.

Although, West Middle School took home the first annual Crossover Trophy, the whole community won.



After the thrilling basketball game on Dec. 16, members of the teams representing West and Liberty middle schools posed for a massive group photo.



Wearing different colors didn't matter to these two youngsters, who enjoyed the Crossover game at Liberty Middle School.



The first annual Crossover charity basketball game not only was a fun event for community members of all ages, as shown here, more than \$5,000 was raised to help the less fortunate.

In addition to helping those in need through Goodfellows, the Crossover charity established intervention funds to support at-risk student programs for academic interventions and assistance for Liberty Middle School and West Middle School.

To date, more than \$5,000

has been raised, a feat accomplished through business sponsorships, concessions, raffle tickets, T-shirt sales

and admission fees. Some lucky fans also walked away with some fabulous prizes like a set of four

Detroit Red Wings tickets, a signed Dylan Larkin Red Wings jersey and other rewards.

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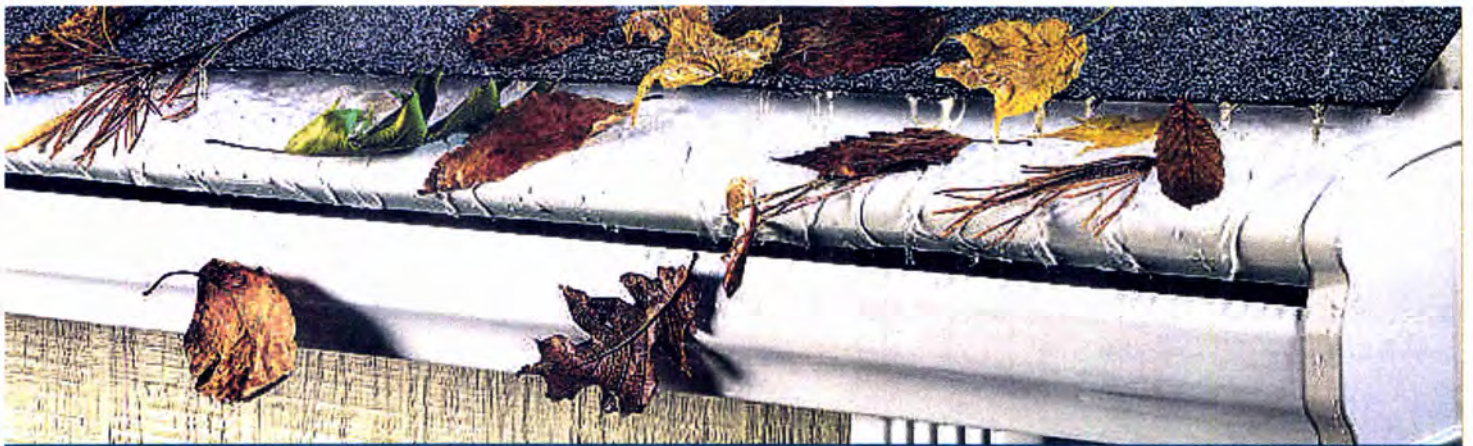
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