

SUNDAY
December 6,
2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 45
Number 56

75 CENTS

Money-saving coupons inside Local theater troupe needs your help! - B7

WESTLAND OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com



Let the games begin: First
week basketball coverage
Sports, B1

AROUND TOWN

Mill lighting

Looking for a nice program for the holidays?

Bring the entire family to the Nankin Mills area of Hines Park in Westland for crafts, games and Santa from 4 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12.

From 4 to 5:15 p.m., there will be seasonal crafts and games for children, with prizes awarded for games participation. Then from 5:15 to 6 p.m., it will be the 22nd annual Nankin Mills mill lighting and sing-a-long. People will sing outside on the porch of the 19th century mill as Santa pulls the switch to light the lights.

The mill lighting and Santa visit are free, however, the crafts and games cost \$4 per child. A limited number of spots are available, and children must pre-register before the event.

Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. Parking is available off of Hines Drive, and can be reached even if the road is closed at Ann Arbor Trail.

For more information or to register, call Wayne County Parks at (734) 261-1990.

Let it snow

Even if it isn't in the plans of Mother Nature, the Westland Parks and Recreation Department promises that one lucky Westland family will indeed have snow in their front yard on Dec. 21.

Elementary school age children who live in Westland are encouraged to draw a poster showing their house covered in snow on Christmas Day. Posters can be completed at home or at school and must be received by the Parks and Recreation Department by 10 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11.

The winner will be announced and contacted on Monday, Dec. 21.

Participants need to include their name, address, home telephone number, name of school and grade on the back of their poster.

Posters can be dropped off at the Bailey Recreation Center between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. every day of the week or mailed to Christmas Poster Contest, Westland Parks and Recreation Department, 36651 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185.

If there is already snow, another prize will be awarded.

City saves money by not filling vacant jobs

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Much of the financial gap for Westland caused by an 11-percent cut in state shared revenues will be made up by leaving a number of vacant staff positions unfilled.

The council met recently to get a first-quarter financial update, which included the nearly \$1 million reduc-

tion which will be addressed through a combination of cuts and projected savings. Westland had budgeted nearly \$8.2 million in state shared revenue, but now expects to receive just more than \$7.2 million.

The largest part of the administration plan is a projected \$616,590 savings from 11 positions that have been vacated since the start of the fiscal year July 1. That includes three patrol

officers, a records clerk and a dispatcher from the police department, a secretary each from the building and planning departments, a confidential secretary and a deputy director at parks and recreation, an equipment operator in the water department and a water billing clerk in the finance department.

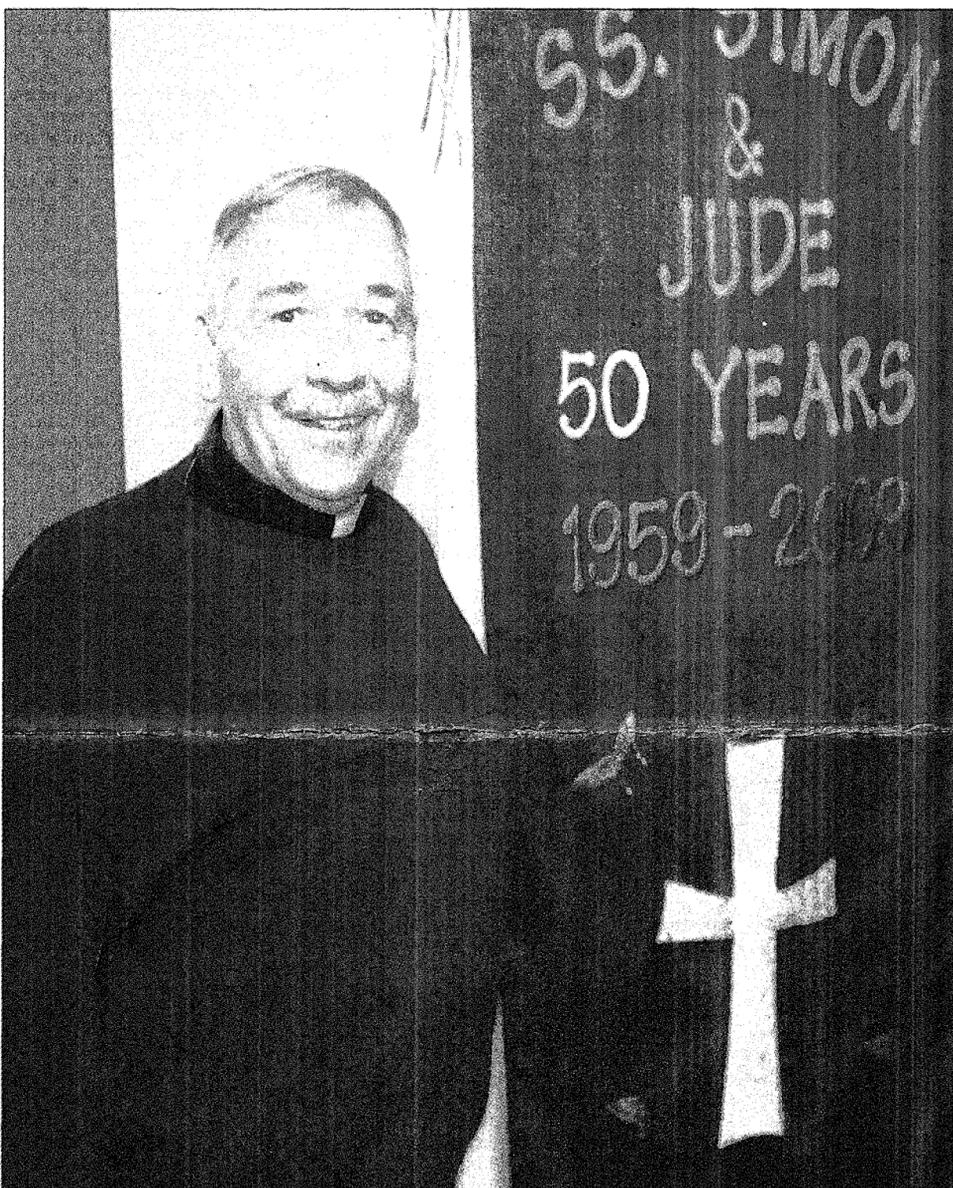
If necessary, some of these positions could be filled, Treasurer Steve Smith

said, but other positions would be left unfilled to reach the required savings.

Asked if the council needed to approve a hiring freeze, Mayor William Wild said that not hiring additional employees has been the trend for the city and that had basically equated to a hiring freeze.

The administration also is budgeting

Please see **CITY, A2**



As pastor of Ss. Simon and Jude Church in Westland, the Rev. Gerard Bechard has the pleasure of leading his parishioners in celebrating the church's golden anniversary.

'Best church family ... ever'

Ss. Simon and Jude marks 50th anniversary

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

The Rev. Gerard Bechard at Ss. Simon and Jude Church in Westland is known to occasionally start Mass with: "I hate to interrupt this party, but ..."

The enthusiasm of parishioners welcoming one another seems to bubble over from the parking lot to the church. Members talk about how the church is a gathering place where everyone is not only welcome, but invited.

"Our parish has the best church family that you could ever imagine," said Noreen Miles, who as a founding member 50 years ago, remembers when Mass was held at various locations before the first church was built.

Celebrating its golden anniversary, the parish is "exploding with activity" — mostly outreach programs to help people in the area, including a St. Vincent DePaul chapter that provides food, clothing and assistance paying bills for people, an annual baby shower for unwed mothers and the Red Wagon Literacy Program, which brings reading books to the children in the area over the summer months to ensure their reading skills don't wane before school starts again in September.

"I can't tell you what the parish secretary does, because the next person to come to the window will have a different need," Bechard said, explaining that filling the needs of people in the community isn't something you can schedule, "but this is what we do."

Please see **CHURCH, A2**

Residents wake up to broken car windows

Westland police are looking for information about whomever is responsible for breaking windows on vehicles parked on residential streets in the areas of Palmer and Wildwood Nov. 27-29.

"We had five incidents and Wayne also had some. I think it was kids riding around with a pellet gun or a slingshot," Westland police Lt. Dan Karrick said. "No one saw anything." Some of the vehicles were parked

on the street, some were in driveways, he said.

The windows were broken sometime between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., Karrick said, an estimate based on victims parking the vehicles for the

night and finding the damage in the morning.

Anyone with information about the vandalism is asked to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600.

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W-W board to get revamped schools plan

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Parents spoke and the school board listened.

That's the message from Wayne-Westland school officials who spent more than 15 hours reworking the recommendations of the district's 21st Century Schools Committee to address concerns raised by residents at a five-hour public forum last week.

"We heard what residents said, we listened to what they said and the proposal has been changed," said school board President Skip Monit, who participated in a portion of the discussions. "The board gave the administration direction and I think they have come up with a good plan that even the community can live with."

The new recommenda-

tions will be presented to the school board at a 6 p.m. meeting Monday at the Stockmeyer Auditorium on the campus of Wayne Memorial High School. The meeting will be the board's regular monthly meeting, but the agenda is being reworked to allow for expanded citizens' comments, which most likely will be limited to one hour.

"We've got to do our best so everyone is heard," Monit said.

Changes in the proposal include a return to the original boundaries for the high schools' attendance areas, which addresses issues raised by parents living in the "blue square," the southern portion of the Madison Elementary School attendance area.

"The blue square is gone under the new proposal," said Monit. Under the new proposal,

Madison would still be closed and those students living south of Avondale between Wayne Road and Dowling moved to Schweitzer Elementary for kindergarten through fourth grade. However, instead of going to Adams, Franklin Middle School and eventually Wayne Memorial High School, the former Madison students would go to Marshall, Stevenson Middle School and John Glenn High School.

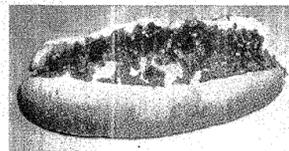
Revisions to the plan will create four lower elementary schools in which students will be split off to go on the two proposed 5-6 schools. The goal of the district had been to keep students with classmates throughout their school years, and that will happen at the start of fifth-

Please see **SCHOOLS, A2**

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In time: Family gets keys to Habitat home

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland has its first completed Habitat for Humanity rehabilitation project.

As promised, new owner Kenette Washington and her family were able to move into the renovated home on Vincent in plenty of time to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Mayor William Wild, city staff, Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County Executive Director Alice Dent and others were on hand for a dedication ceremony at the home, which

was obtained and renovated through Neighborhood Stabilization Program dollars.

"We are very pleased and looking forward to a new long-term relationship with Habitat for Humanity," said Wild. "We welcome Ms. Washington as Westland's newest resident. She was certainly excited."

It's the first project completed through a new partnership between the city and Habitat for Humanity and also an unusual project for Habitat which traditionally builds new homes.

Under the partnership, which was developed after city officials found the federal NSP grant money could be used for Habitat for Humanity projects, a second house is scheduled to be renovated and two new homes constructed in 2010.

The purpose of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program is to remove the negative effects caused by vacant, foreclosed homes. The home on Vincent had been vacant for more than two years.

Simultaneously, the city is also working with two private contractors who are to establish and manage the rehabilitation/resale component the NSP. Each company will be expected to sell 20 rehabilitated during the 15 months of the project. Unlike the private con-



Westland has its first completed Habitat for Humanity House. Posing in front of the house on Vincent are Community Development Director Joanne Inglis (left), Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County Executive Director Alice Dent, new homeowner Kenette Washington and Mayor William Wild.

tractors, Habitat holds the interest-free mortgage on the homes and requires 250 hours of sweat equity from the new owners.

That's one of the benefits of partnering with Habitat, Wild said. The groups' motto that "Habitat is a hand up, not a handout."

Habitat also relies on donated material and donated labor.

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CHURCH

FROM PAGE A1

ALL ARE WELCOME

His hope for the parish in the years to come is to be a signal of hope and place for many to call "home."

"Father Jerry is always willing to have us participate and is urging us to find more things to do for the community," said Alice Namovich, a Ss. Simon and Jude parishioner for more than 40 years.

"There's a great need out there," added JoAnn Vasely, who also volunteers at the church.

A member of the church for 49 years, Kathy Lancaster describes the church as "community-minded and more so now than we ever used to be."

"We went from a very conservative parish to a very liberal parish in works and teachings," explained Adeline McCusker, also a founding member. "Father Gerry is very well liked."

Some parishioners are third- and fourth-generation members.

"But, it's not so big that people don't feel at home," he said, adding that three- or four-generation families attend the parish.

"We have super, super people here who don't mind getting involved," said Norm Swope, who is currently serving as president of Ss. Simon and Jude's Usher Club and has worn many other hats at the church during his 41 years as a parishioner.

For their 50th anniversary parishioners held celebrations each month honoring different nationalities. On Dec. 12, in connection with the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, will be a Mariachi Mass, dinner dance with Mexican food, mariachi band and raffle.

Tickets are \$12 each and are still available for the mariachi dinner and dance. Call (734) 722-1343 for more information.

LOCAL HISTORY

Ss. Simon & Jude Parish was

founded June 26, 1959, in an area constructed during World War II as temporary housing to serve workers at the Ford Willow Run Plant, where the B-24 bomber was built.

The Rev. Arthur Oldani was the first pastor and the first church was built in 1960. The Rev. Andrew Niecekarz followed, serving at the church 25 years, and Bechard became the third pastor 20 years ago.

"I've baptized children who are children of the altar servers I first served with here," he said.

In 1999, the parish began building its current church — a 120-foot diameter geodesic dome — and it was dedicated Nov. 23, 1999. The old church became Father Oldani Hall.

The new church seats 650 people wrapped around the altar at the center with tall windows framing stands of tall trees at the front and sides.

Looking at the windows, Bechard said, the open view illustrates his philosophy as

a pastor. What goes on outside the church walls affects the parish and what happens inside the church will likewise make change outside the walls, he said.

No one is more than 52 feet from the altar no matter where you sit in the church. The prefab dome structure was the best deal at the time and "now I wouldn't change it for anything," said Bechard, who served in Vietnam twice.

When people ask what role he plays as pastor, Bechard has said: "They call me father and the role is to raise adults who are mature Catholics and people of the church and world around them." People tell me, "You force us to think."

Sometimes that might mean taking controversial stands, like welcoming gay and lesbian support groups at the parish and opposing government-backed war.

"There's not a church in this diocese or a priest I would want to change places with," he added.

CITY

FROM PAGE A1

a \$210,000 savings through self-insurance on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield medical insurance and an additional \$222,616 drug forfeiture fund reimbursement.

"Drug forfeiture can reimburse the general fund a certain amount. This is about double what we had budgeted," Smith said. "It is possible that there will be an additional reimbursement."

If the city took no action to make up the gap between the anticipated state shared revenue and what is actually going to be received, Smith said the general fund's fund balance, effectively the city savings account, would have been

emptied. The previous audit showed the city had a \$1.2 million fund balance.

Since Westland began its curbside recycling program in July through October, an average of 20 percent of the city's solid waste has been recycled for a \$38,400 savings in tipping fees. That's in addition to nearly \$16,000 savings from yard waste diverted from the solid waste landfill.

Council President James Godbout asked if the city was in danger of being penalized for not sending the minimum tonnage required under the landfill contract through the Central Wayne County Sanitation Authority.

The overall tonnage to the landfill must drop 10 percent over 10 years to trigger a penalty, Wild said. Since the amount sent to the land-

fill includes all five CWCSA communities — a group that includes Westland, Garden City, Wayne, Inkster and Dearborn Heights — and only Westland currently has curbside recycling, Wild said he didn't expect that penalty to be triggered until the third year.

"It's a total of the five communities. They all may be recycling by the end of three years, but now it is cushioning the blow," Wild said.

Additionally, Smith noted the CWCSA administrative fees are allocated based on tonnage sent to the landfill and that means a smaller share for Westland due to the recycling program.

One area where revenue was drastically under budget was the rental inspection program, which so far has generated just over \$3,100 when \$200,000

had been budgeted. "That's one of the bad news items. I talked to (Building Director) Roger Shifflett, who indicated there is more money to be collected from the big apartment complexes," Smith said. "I'm not sure if there is legal recourse."

The \$200,000 was estimated as the fees that would be collected to complete the first phase of the inspection program, Wild said, adding that needed to be looked at before the city began reinspecting in a second phase.

"All those are major corporations. If we need to go after them, we should. It would not be fair to those who paid to let the big ones hide because they are big corporations," Godbout said.

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SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE A1

grade under the new proposal, Monit said.

In response to concerns about students in the Norwayne community having to cross major roads like Michigan Avenue to get to

their new schools, the recommendation is to keep Hamilton Elementary open to service the Norwayne students.

While it isn't what residents of Norwayne wanted — they were asking that one of the two schools, Lincoln or Jefferson Barns, be kept open — students instead would go to Hamilton, which is on

Avondale at Schuman and about a half-mile north of the Norwayne subdivision.

"I think people assumed we would be a rubber stamp for the recommendations and we're not," said Monit. "I hope residents see that by this new recommendation that we did listen to them. We've got to vote by our conscience and by what's right for the students."

The changes, if approved, will mean the district will save less than they hoped to cut \$5.5-\$6 million of the estimated \$12 million it needs to

trim from its budget. The committee had recommended that it seek help from employee groups to make up the difference.

"This is a give-and-take situation, we're just going to have to bite the bullet," Monit said.

It also appears the board heeded residents call to delay voting on the recommendations. According to Monit, the board will most likely take it up at a special meeting, quite possibly on Monday, Dec. 14.

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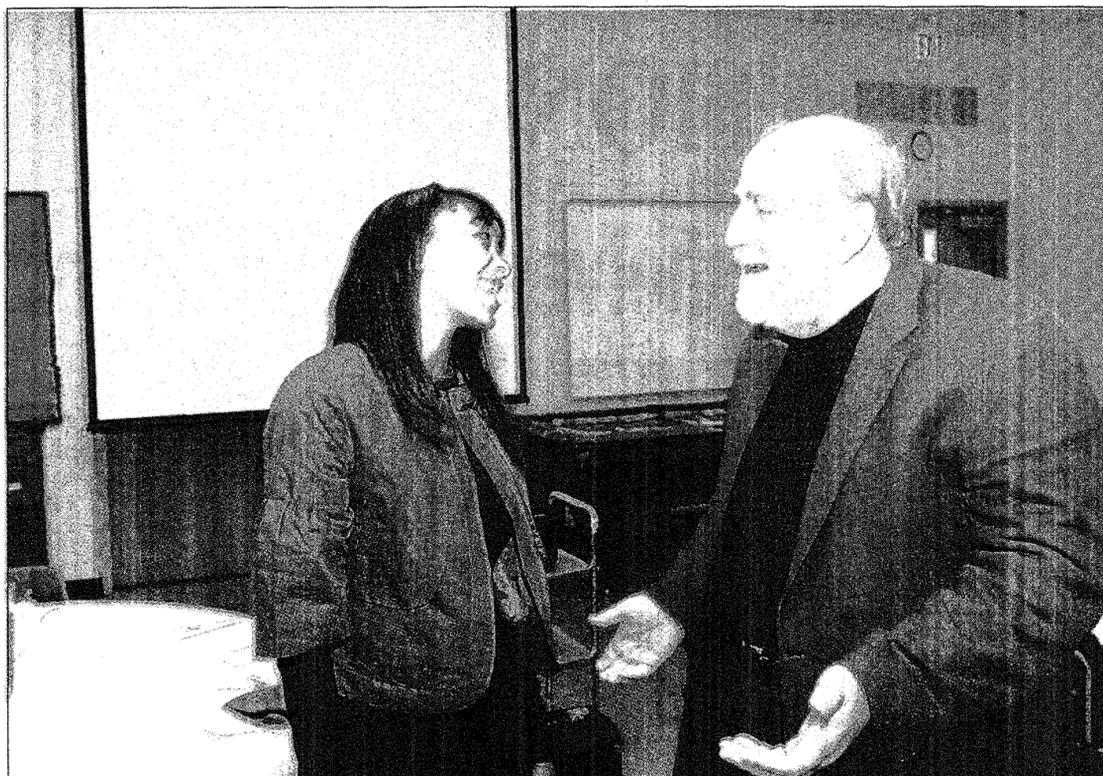
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Westland City Council President James Godbout talks with Rebecca Stewart, C-SPAN marketing representative, following her presentation to the Westland Rotary Club Thursday.

McCotter honored by Michigan bankers

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, received the 2009 Economic Impact Award from the Michigan Bankers Association on Thursday.

The Economic Impact Award recognizes public officials for their leadership on matters of public policy that support and encourage a vibrant Michigan economy.

State Rep. Brian Calley, R-Portland, also received the award.

"These leaders understand the serious economic challenges faced by banks and businesses across Michigan," said Dennis Koons, president and CEO of the Lansing-based Michigan Bankers Association.

"They support legislation and initiatives advancing Michigan's economic livelihood."

McCotter was honored for his efforts on preserving and promoting manufacturing and small businesses as well as reducing taxes and the size and scope of government.

Calley was recognized for his decade as a community banker, assisting hundreds of small businesses and his in-depth understanding of the challenges facing small businesses in Michigan.

The awards were presented during the MBA's Bank Management and Directors Conference at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids.

Share your memories, Santa letters with us

The holiday season is upon us and, through the hustle and bustle, we're asking our readers to let us be a part of their celebration.

We're asking readers to send us their favorite holiday memories and photos to the *Observer* for the special holiday edition we're planning for Thursday, Dec. 24.

Did you get a favorite gift for Christmas, or do you have a special memory of Hanukkah? Is there a special tradition your family has that makes the season merry and bright? Share those memories with your neighbors through us. Send your items — be sure to include a photo, if you can — to *Observer* editor Sue Mason at smason@hometownlife.com.

It is our intention to make that issue a "keeper," something our readers will savor — and save.

And for youngsters, Santa Claus has started to make his list, although sources tell

the *Observer* that, while he's far from checking it twice, he is waiting by his mailbox for youngsters' gift lists and letters.

The *Observer* wants to make sure Santa Claus knows what children would like this Christmas and is asking youngsters to send us letters to him. We will publish the letters in the newspaper during December before sending them on to the North Pole.

The letters should be sent by e-mail and include a snapshot of the child writing the letter. They can be a list of toys, a holiday greeting for the Jolly Ol' Elf or whatever information youngsters want Santa to have.

Send Santa correspondence to smason@hometownlife.com and be sure to put "Letter to Santa" in the subject line. Letters can also be sent the old-fashioned way, via postal service, to Letter to Santa, c/o Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

C-SPAN seeks film entries from students

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Local students have a chance to put in their two cents about a national issue and earn scholarship money through a short film competition sponsored by C-SPAN.

The Westland Rotary Club recently hosted Rebecca Stewart, C-SPAN marketing representative, who made a presentation on the 2010 StudentCam annual documentary film competition. A total of \$50,000 in cash prizes will be awarded to 75 students and 11 teachers in the contest, open to middle and high school students. The grand prize is \$5,000.

"Last year, we had just under 1,000 entries, so there

is as good chance of winning," Stewart said, adding there hasn't yet been a grand prize winner from Michigan. "StudentCam is an opportunity for students to have a voice, and to explore issues in their community that they care deeply about."

StudentCam encourages students to create a short film about issues affecting their communities and the nation. This year's theme asks middle and high school students to address "One of our country's greatest strengths" or "A challenge the country is facing."

Stewart showed clips from 2009 competition winners, with the theme of a message to President Barack Obama about the most urgent issue facing the country. The

first-place high school entry addressed concerns about why bees, which are crucial to the human food supply, are dying. A winning middle school entry asked questions about whether private corporations should receive taxpayer-funded bailouts.

"We would really like you to spread the word about StudentCam," Stewart said. C-SPAN likes to work with service organizations, such as Rotary, Stewart said, which goes along with the public service philosophy of C-SPAN's public affairs coverage.

Funded by cable fees, C-SPAN provides live unedited gavel-to-gavel coverage of largely the federal government with separate channels showing proceedings in the

U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. C-SPAN is non-partisan and offers no commentaries or commercials.

Stewart and Keri Valmassei, a marketing representative for cable provider WOW!, also made visits to Royal Oak and Taylor Truman high schools to promote the StudentCam program. Stewart added that C-SPAN representatives also want to let students know about free educational resources available through the cable network.

The deadline for this year's competition is Jan. 20. Additional details can be found online at www.studentcam.org.

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EDUCATION

Wayne High students stock shelves at food depot

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Students at Wayne Memorial High School were up to the challenge of stocking the shelves of the John Bolde Memorial Food Depot, carting four carloads full of canned and boxed foods to the facility prior to Thanksgiving.

But the odds were that there would be more coming, considering there was a competition to see which first-period and sixth-period classroom could collect the most. At stake was a pancake breakfast for the first-period class and a pizza party for sixth-period class.

"This is very good," said parent Sue Webb, who helped sort and box up the donations. "It seems the kids here are very generous. They're always willing to help others."

Everything from tea, ramen noodles, cereal to baby formula and an assortment of canned vegetables and fruit was collected during the food drive, which was sponsored by the Student Senate and held Nov. 16-20. It has been a school activity since at least 1995.

"Students learn through action," said Assistant Principal Mary Wizinsky. "This teaches them about community involvement and it builds character. They're not just hauling canned food, they're investing in their community, a community they make with other people."

Senior Deanna Boston, a member of the Senate, has worked on the food drive for two years, agrees with Wizinsky.

"I think this is really good for the community and for us to do," she said. "It's given me



Wayne Memorial activities secretary Vickie Lewis (from left), student Jennifer Farley and parent Susan Webb prepare boxes of food to be taken to the depot.

good character and it makes me feel good inside."

Boston said donations appeared to be down this year, quite likely due to the state's declining economy. An observation backed by Wizinsky, who said the school is "aware some of our students are struggling."

Boston joined Webb and activities secretary Vickie Lewis in checking expiration dates of the food and filling the boxes while other students carted them to the waiting vehicles. Wizinsky credits Lewis with the food drive's success.

"It's her baby, it's important to her," she said.

"I spend about 30 bucks a year on food for this, it's my own contribution," Lewis said, adding that she stays on the staff "like a wet blanket" by e-mail to keep them involved.

"I'm a member of this community, I know the need," she said.

For Lewis, delivering food to the depot is the one day a year she drives her husband's pickup truck to work. By 9 a.m. Friday, its truck bed was filled to the top.

"This is the one time a year I get to leave the building," said Lewis. "This is the only time we do a food drive. Sometimes the kids bring so much that it's down the hall and stacked in the office at the food depot."

"They really count on us," she said.

The depot is based at the St. Mary Outreach Center on Sims in Wayne. The center helps families in need in seven communities — Wayne, Westland, Canton, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City and a portion of Redford — and relies entirely on the

donations of money and materials from area businesses, community and civic organizations, other churches and individuals for its operation.

"The Wayne-Westland schools have been absolutely phenomenal," said center Director Judy Wells. "Wayne Memorial has already brought in 1,400 pounds of food and there's still more coming."

Schools like Wayne Memorial, John Glenn and Edison Elementary, which donated 716 pounds of food, as well as 17 churches in the seven communities help stock the shelves, a good thing. Wells estimates that 30 families a day come through the depot to get food.

"Generous doesn't quite describe what these kids and people do for us," Wells said.

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Food depot stocks up for lean months

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Judy Wells is a bit of a hoarder. She takes in as much food and donations during the holiday months to weather the lean times in January, February and March. With demand for assistance increasing, it's one way to keep meeting the needs of families that turn to the John Bolde Memorial Food Depot for assistance.

"We're holding our own," said Wells, director of the St. Mary Outreach Center which houses the food depot in the basement of a former credit union building at Sims and Second Street in Wayne.

"We're doing over 30 families a day and better," she said. "We did 33 yesterday."

Wells describes herself as "basically hustling for money and food" to meet the needs of residents in seven communities — Wayne, Westland, Garden City, Canton, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights and a portion of Redford. The depot gets businesses, community and civic organizations, other churches and individuals to meet the need as does the outreach center upstairs which provides clothing, furniture, appliances and the like.

"How much food they get

depends on the size of the family," said Wells. "If it's a family of five they basically get two carts full of food. We also try to give them some toiletries when we have them. A Bridge card will cover pop, but you can't get toilet paper and bar soap."

People using the depot need a referral and need to provide picture ID like a driver's license, and copies of two bills. Parents also must provide proof of children, like birth certificates or immunization records.

People who receive food from the depot can only come once every two months. Wells has a card system that keeps track of visits. Some families have filled several cards.

"Some people have been coming here for eight years," she said.

So far this year, the depot has given out 163,132 pounds of food this year, and Wells is using the increase in donations at the holidays to stock up. The outreach center also "People are generous up until Christmas," she said. "Once the holidays are over, donations dry up."

People who want to donate or those in need of help can call the center at (734) 326-2234.

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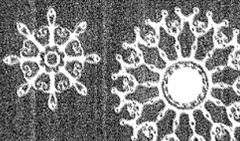
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SIMON

Country star Aaron Tippin to play benefit for injured soldiers

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

Country music singer Aaron Tippin, known for his patriotic-themed music, will be headlining an upcoming Christmas show that will benefit soldiers injured in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Tippin will perform his songs at Operation Injured Soldier's inaugural Christmas Spectacular Dec. 11 at Laurel Manor in Livonia. The event, which begins at 7 p.m., will help the South Lyon-based non-profit organization's efforts to send injured soldiers and their families on vacations, to sporting events, and on hunting, fishing and camping trips. The trips are provided at no cost to the soldiers.

According to Operation Injured Soldier's Pam Bijansky, who also owns Parkside Cleaners in South Lyon, this is the biggest fund-raiser the group has ever held. She said the reason they decided to do

CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

- **When:** 7 p.m., Dec. 11
- **Where:** Laurel Manor in Livonia
- **Tickets:** \$75 (includes dinner)
- **More info:** For more information about tickets or sponsorship, call (248) 437-1144 or visit www.injuredsoldiers.org.

it is because more and more soldiers are coming home with injuries suffered in America's two current wars. Many of the soldiers are suffering from post traumatic stress disorder caused by head injuries, and have had a difficult time adjusting back to everyday life.

The point of Operation Injured Soldier, according to Bijansky, is to help with that adjustment, and help the soldiers and their families reconnect.

"There is just a huge, huge need. People don't even understand," Bijansky said. "It's not just the soldier, it's their fami-

lies. If they have drifted psychologically, they need a family vacation. They need to bond again as a family."

Bijansky said many of the trips the group is able to send the soldiers and their families on are donated. However, the group still has to pay for transportation and other related costs.

"We have had so many people step up with time shares and guided hunting trips, but we had to turn them down because we couldn't afford to send the soldiers," she said.

And that is why Bijansky is hoping for a good turnout at The Christmas Spectacular. Her goal is to get 1,000 people to attend the event. She believes Tippin's star power will help.

Tippin agreed to do the show when members of Operation Injured Soldier and some of the soldiers attended one of his concerts earlier this year. He was already scheduled to be in the state to do a Dec. 12 show in

Roscommon.

Bijansky is also still looking for a local choir that might be interested in singing Christmas carols during dinner.

Tickets for the show are \$75, which includes a full dinner. There will be a cash bar available. Bijansky said the group is still looking for corporate sponsors for the event. Currently Hines Park and Abbey Park at Mill River are the two main corporate sponsors.

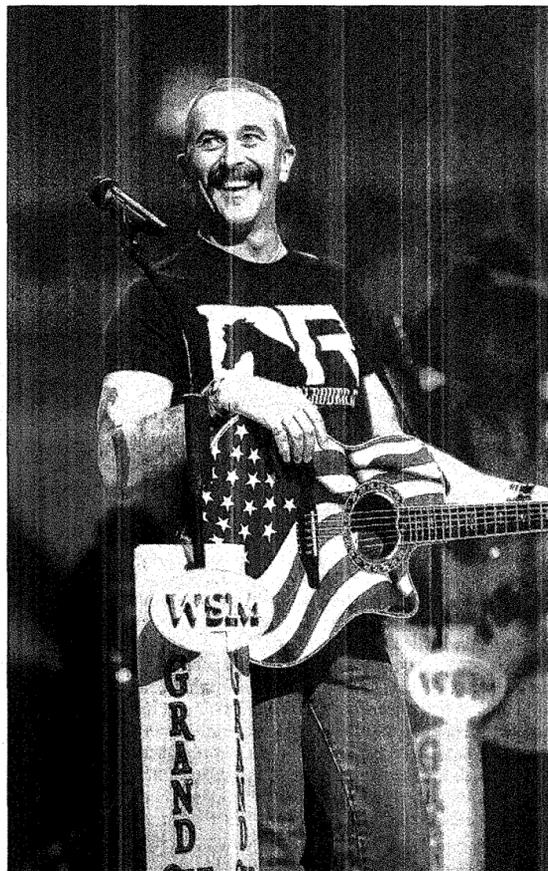
"Every penny goes back to our guys," Bijansky said.

People can also buy tickets and donate them so injured soldiers can attend the event and see Tippin perform.

"A lot of people have already donated their tickets. Half of the room will literally be filled with our injured heroes," Bijansky said.

For more information about tickets or sponsorship, call (248) 437-1144 or visit www.injuredsoldiers.org.

kkuban@hometownlife.com



Country music star Aaron Tippin will be singing his patriotic songs at Operation Injured Soldiers Christmas Spectacular Dec. 11 at Laurel Manor.

Westland teen earns Eagle rank

Charles Foster will find himself in rare company when he receives his Boy Scout Eagle rank during a Court of Honor on Dec. 9. Only about 5 percent of all scouts become an Eagle Scout, the highest rank in all of Boy Scouting.

Foster, a Westland resident is a member of Boy Scout Troop 897 in Livonia. He earned at least 21 merit badges and completed an Eagle Scout project, a supply drive for the AAA Resource Center of Livonia.

Foster worked with the center, his fellow scouts, Costco, Kinko's and several local churches - St. Michael of Canton, St. Damian of Westland, St. Mel's of Dearborn Heights, Bethel Community of Livonia and St. Timothy of Westland - to collect baby supplies that are needed for this center.

The AAA center dispenses more than 1,100 wipes and more than 800 packages of diapers to women who seek help with their babies, most from Detroit, Redford, Westland and Livonia. The center also offers classes on parenting, money management, breastfeeding as well as other topics. The women who follow the program earn tokens that can be used to purchase items for their babies. The items are made available through donations from local churches or individuals.

Foster's goal was to provide supplies for the center that would last at least one month. He did that and more. He collected 16 packages of diapers, 223 packages of wipes, more than 100 articles of clothing and 136 misc. baby items, such as a high chair, changing

table, gates, swing, stroller, bottles and toys.

Foster is the son of Curt and Michele Foster of Westland. A senior at Livonia Franklin High School, he is in his fourth year of Navy JROTC. Currently an ensign, he has been a member of the IDR drill team for the last three years.

He also has helped with several community service projects, including adopt-a-family at Christmas and placing flags on veterans graves for Veterans Day.

Foster plans to enlist in the Navy after graduation. His goal is to become a chef while serving his country.

He will receive his Eagle rank at a 7 p.m. ceremony Dec. 9 at the Bethel Community Church in Livonia.



Eagle Scout Charles Foster, Peggy Roberts (on his left), director of AAA Resource Center of Livonia, and volunteers show off the items he collected as his service project.

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CITIZENS BANK

Family sets up scholarship to keep their son's memory alive

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

With the one-year anniversary of his death quickly approaching, the family of Dustin Piepsney has been busy making sure his name will never be forgotten.

Dustin's parents, Bill and Amy Piepsney, have set up a scholarship to honor their son, who was found dead behind their Canton home on Dec. 12. They are in the process of raising money for the scholarship, which, if all goes according to plan, will be awarded annually to a student from Canton.

According to Bill Piepsney, he and his wife decided to start the scholarship soon after their son's death.

"This is a way to give back to the community, and to also keep his memory alive," he said.

Dustin died of a single gunshot wound to the head shortly after he came home from school

on a Friday afternoon. Canton police investigators concluded that he had committed suicide, something the family has never accepted. In addition to the fact that there was no suicide note, there was never any indication from anyone who knew Dustin that he was upset about anything.

In fact, Bill Piepsney said his son was involved in school, had many friends, and was also active in sports, especially wrestling. That is why they have decided to award the scholarship to a wrestler — at least for the first year.

"This year it will be for a wrestler. We could change that in the future. Maybe we will make sure it will be awarded to any athlete in the future. We really haven't figured it out yet. We're still trying to work out the details," said Piepsney, who is a 1988 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School.

The Piepsneys have

HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are several ways to contribute to the Dustin Piepsney Scholarship Fund. If you like to gamble, the U.S. 12 Bar and Grill (34824 W. Michigan Avenue in Wayne) will be hosting poker/blackjack fund-raisers beginning tonight at 8 p.m. Other dates are Dec. 1-4, Dec. 17-20, and Dec. 29-30. For more information, call (734) 637-1430

If you don't like to gamble, you can make a contribution for the scholarship fund by calling the Canton Community Foundation at (734) 495-1200 or by visiting www.cantonfoundation.org.

approached the Canton Community Foundation to administer the scholarship for them, and it will be part of the foundation's annual scholar-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dustin Piepsney was active in many sports, including wrestling at East Middle School.

Case of missing boy unsolved after 15 years

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Fifteen years ago this Friday, D'Wan Sims' mother told security guards at Wonderland Mall that her 4-year-old son was missing.

Dwanna Harris told police she lost her son in a mass of Christmas shoppers at the mall. The story generated thousands of tips, several false leads and searches by police and volunteers.

His photo appeared in newspapers and on television.

But D'Wan was never found.

This week, The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children issued a press release with a photo of what D'Wan may look like today at the age of 19 and urged people to call (800) THE LOST with information.

Detective Sgt. Shelley Holloway of the Livonia Police Department said that while the case remains open, no tips have been received lately.

Livonia police remain suspicious of the story of Harris, who married and is now Dwanna Jackson.

"We're confident that he never made it to Wonderland Mall," Holloway said. "He never appeared on any video at all."

D'Wan's mother was observed on the video. "You see her walking around, not reacting or concerned, that her son is missing," Holloway said.

Holloway said Livonia police investigators spoke with eyewitnesses who saw D'Wan's mother arrive at the mall without her son. Their stories were corroborated with store receipts and surveillance video of their arrivals to shop there.

Livonia Police were assisted by the Michigan State Police and the Detroit Police Department during the initial investigation.

Holloway said she doesn't know for a fact that Sims is dead, but she believes "something happened to him. It could have been an accident," she added.

Holloway has not spoken to Jackson in years, she said.

But Jackson insisted at the time of the disappearance that



D'Wan Sims in 1994.



D'Wan's photo is progressed to what he may look like at 19.

she and her son walked from the Target store into the mall, and that shortly thereafter he was gone, according to published reports and newspaper stories from that time.

In a 2003 newspaper story, Beverly Harris, the mother of Dwanna, said her daughter was emotionally devastated by the loss of her son and by police interrogations. She remembers the sadness of Christmas without D'Wan and his enjoyment of Power Rangers and watching televisions.

Holloway said the case was frustrating. "We exhausted just about every resource we could use," Holloway said.

Anyone with information on the disappearance of D'Wan Sims can contact the Livonia Police Department at (734) 466-2470.



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Flexible spending, medical savings accounts have benefits

Now that Thanksgiving is behind us there are some tax planning opportunities to consider as 2009 winds down.

Whether it is converting existing IRA money into a Roth IRA or implementing such tax moves as making an estimated payment on State of Michigan taxes before the end of the year, the time is now. One area that many people need to consider before the end of the year is flexible spending accounts.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

A flexible spending account is generally set up through an employer and it allows pre-tax dollars to cover certain non-reimbursable expenses such as health care. Although flexible spending accounts can save money, they have one downside — if you do not use the money before the end of the year you lose it. Although a few years ago the Department of Treasury did pass new regulations that allowed employers to extend the time period in which flexible spending accounts can be used, not all companies have done so.

If you participate in a flexible spending account you should review the plan provisions and determine your remaining balance.

Many people are surprised how money can be used in flexible spending account. Over the last few years, what is a permissible expenditure has been expanded. For example, you can use flexible spending account money to pay for LASIK eye surgery, sunglasses and in many situations a doctor-recommended weight-loss program. The key is to look at your plan to determine what qualifies. If you have questions, talk to the human resource representative at your company.

Many people are confused when it comes to the difference between flexible spending accounts and medical savings accounts. Although they sound similar, they are not. Medical savings accounts have much greater flexibility than flexible spending accounts. For example, in a medical savings account you are not required

to use your contribution on a year-by-year basis. If you have a balance, the amount remains in your account and you can use it for years down the road. Flexible spending accounts don't have that same feature.

I am frequently asked if an employee should take advantage of a flexible account. My answer is yes. Flexible spending accounts give individuals an opportunity to use pre-tax dollars to pay for certain expenses. For someone in the 28 percent tax bracket, using pre-tax versus post-tax dollars represents a 28 percent savings right off the top.

The key, however, is how much to fund these accounts. Because flexible spending accounts have the use-it-or-lose-it feature, be smart with the dollars you contribute. Consider the expenses you incur that can be covered. That is the amount to contribute. It does not always make sense for an individual or even a family to contribute the maximum. In fact, because of the use-it-or-lose-it feature, I recommend contributing a little less than you expect to use.

Used effectively, flexible spending accounts offer individuals or families a great opportunity to save on taxes. However, like many tax items, when they're not used properly they end up costing you money.

It would be nice if there was one type of flexible account with standard terms. That is not the case. There are many types of plans with different terms and conditions. The key is to understand your plan and use it effectively.

One last note, if your employer does not offer a flexible spending account, discuss it. In addition, if your flexible spending account does not cover certain out-of-pocket health care expenses, talk to your employer about changing the plan. You would be surprised how easy it is for employers to make changes.

Don't forget the end of the year is upon us. If you have any tax moves, don't delay, now is the time. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at monematters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

Oh, the smells of the season

No matter where you look today you can't help but be reminded that the holidays are fast approaching. Decorations on homes and businesses call out to everyone that this is a time for celebration. Lights are strung on trees and even geese on porches are decked out in their Santa suits. But the holiday reminders don't stop there. The smells of the season can't be escaped.

Smells impact our memories and can set the stage for us to begin to reminisce about the joys of the holiday season. No matter what special smells bring out the holiday spirit in you, most everyone has that special one which can be called upon anytime of the year to carry them back to the holidays.

The library can set you on a path to help you recreate those smells and perhaps even bring new smells into your life and your memories.

If the kitchen is one of the places your holiday smells takes you, why not check out a copy of "The Christmas Cookie Book," written by Judy Knipe and Barbara Marks, or "Christmas Is Cookies" by the Editors of Time-Life Books, and begin creating even more tasty smells? For those of you who like your memories BIG, then "Big Fat Cookies" by Elinor Klivans might be for you. (I can personally vouch for the wonderful smells and tasty memories



nearly all the cookies in this book bring to mind.)

What would the holidays be without a group activity? And

what group activity evokes more smells than making a gingerbread house? Pre packages kits are a perfect way to go but the "from scratch" method can create a whole new set of memories. Get on the path to letting your imagination go wild with "Gingerbread Houses: Baking and Building Memories" by Nonnie Cargas or "Gingerbread Houses: A Complete Guide to Building, Baking and Decorating" by Christa Currie.

Perhaps the most memorable smell associated with this season is the wafting smell of evergreens. Who can resist that special reminder of the wonders of nature? For those who have an evergreen tree growing in your yard, "The Evergreen Expert" by D.G. Hessayon might help you maintain the health of your tree. "Decking the Halls: The Folklore and Traditions of Christmas Plants" by Linda E. Allen and "Seasonal Wreaths" by Susanna Morrison can show you ways of incorporating these smells in your holiday decorating.

Whether the smell of candy canes,

pumpkin pies or cinnamon help you get in the holiday spirit, you are never too far away from learning more about them. Stop by the library or visit on the Web site at westlandlibrary.org and we might just be able to help you enhance your holiday memories.

Highlighted Activities

December Concert Series @ the Library: Dec. 6, 10, 13

Call the library at (734) 326-6123 for more information.

Documentary Movie Night: "In the Shadow of the Moon," 7 p.m. Dec. 8.

Join us for a viewing of the documentary film "In the Shadow of the Moon." This film is an intimate epic, which vividly communicates the daring and the danger, the pride and the passion, of this extraordinary era in American history. No sign-up is required.

Musica Batteria: Marimba Holiday Concert, 7 p.m. Dec. 10.

Take a break from the holiday rush. Come to the library to experience the lush sounds of the marimba, performed by Musica Batteria, the duo of Lynn Koch and Kristen Tait. You'll hear seasonal favorites in unconventional settings, along with some ragtime and light classical favorites. It's a holiday treat not to be missed! For more information on

Musica Batteria, please visit their Web site at www.musicaibatteria.com.

Ara Topouzian and the music of the Middle East: 2 p.m. Dec. 13.

Need a break from the pre-winter blues? Do you need some calming music to ease your body and mind? "Ara Topouzian is an Armenian-American musician whose proficiency on the kanun (Middle Eastern lap harp with over 76 strings) has made him a nationally-recognized artist," according to the Michigan Humanities Council. For more information on Ara and his music, visit his Web site at www.aratopouzian.com.

Job Seekers Lab: Every Tuesday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday 5-8 p.m. and Friday 1-4 p.m.

Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job related activity? Stop by the library where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help.

Information Central was compiled by Marilyn Kwik, reference librarian.

The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123 or go online to westlandlibrary.org.

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Christmas Candles, Potpourri & Scented Items	Christmas Categories Shown 50% Off	Christmas Nativity Sets INCLUDING STABLES & ACCESSORIES	Home Accent Categories Shown 50% Off	Decorative Birdhouses & Wind Chimes
Wilton® Make n Mold, Sunny Side Up & LoRann Cake, Cookie & Candy Making Supplies INCLUDES EVERYDAY	Ceramic Cookie Jars, Mugs, Tableware & Containers	Christmas Pillows, Table Runners, Placemats & Rugs	Decorative Pillows, Tassels & Rugs	Metalware INCLUDES ITEMS WITH DECORATIVE METAL ACCENTS EXCLUDES FURNITURE
30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES	Paper Plates & Napkins	Christmas Kitchen & Dining Accessories INCLUDES TABLE RUNNERS, PLACEMATS, CROWN MITTS, APRONS & MORE	Painted Wood Decor INCLUDES WALL & TABLE PIECES	Decorative Boxes, Trunks & Chests CHOOSE FROM PAPER, FABRIC, WOOD, LEATHER, METAL AND WICKER
Christmas Baskets, Vases, Planters & Boxes	Christmas Gift Bags INCLUDES FABRIC & PAPER GIFT BAGS & PAPER SACKS	Christmas Craft Categories Shown 50% Off	Christmas Trees 6" - 12" Pre-lit & Unlit INCLUDES MINIATURE & TABLETOP STYLES	Christmas Picks, Bushes, Stems & Dried Materials 100 Pcs. G.E. Mini Light Set OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICE
Christmas Gift Supplies Categories Shown 50% Off	Boxed Christmas Cards	Christmas Ornaments INCLUDES MINIATURES, BOXED SETS & ROBERT STANLEY GLASS ORNAMENTS	Christmas Lights 100 Count G.E. Mini Light Set OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICE	Christmas Tinsel, Fabric & Bead Garlands 25 Count C-7 or C-9 G.E. Light Set OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICE
Christmas Gift Wrap Extravaganza INCLUDES WRAP, BOWS, RIBBON, TAGS, SHRED, TISSUE, FOLDED BOXES, NESTED BOXES & GIFT CARD HOLDERS. EXCLUDES SCOTCH TAPE	Christmas Tins EXCLUDES EVERYDAY STYLE TINS	Christmas Tree Skirts, Stockings & Stocking Holders LARGE SELECTION TO CHOOSE FROM	Decorative Treetops INCLUDES METAL, PLASTIC & FABRIC ANGELS & SANTAS	All Christmas Wreaths, Garlands & Swags 150 Count Net Style Lights OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICE
All 32"x40" Matboard & Pre-Cut Custom Mats EXCLUDES CUSTOM MATS. OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICE	Photo Frames INCLUDES OUR ENTIRE SELECTION OF FRAME, PHOTO, PHOTO TO FRAME, PHOTO TO MOUNT, PHOTO TO HANG, PHOTO TO STRETCH, PHOTO STORAGE	Plastic & Die Cast Model Kits FEATURING REVELL, TAMIYA, HERTL, CLASSIC METAL & MORE	All Rocket Kits & Starter Sets INCLUDES ROCKET ENGINES	Entire Stock of Scrapbook Totes & Organizers 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES
Open Back Ready-made Frames	Framing Categories Shown 50% Off	All Diorama & Train Accessories	Hobbies Categories Shown 30% Off	Scrapbooking Categories Shown 40% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES
Shadow Box Frames, Display Cases & Flag Cases	Custom Frames APPLIES TO FRAMES ONLY. THE ROLL IN, FRAMES, AND ONLY AT STORE ADDRESS LISTED BELOW.	All Boxed Science Kits & Telescopes	All Coin & Stamp Collecting Supplies FEATURING WHITMAN, H.E. HARRIS & CO. & ULTRA OPTICS	"Spare Parts" Embellishments by the Paper Studio CHOOSE FROM HUNDREDS OF BEAD, EYELET AND OTHER DECORATIVE ITEMS
Floral Arrangements INCLUDES FLOWERING, GREENERY, POSTS, BRANCHES, GRASS, STICKS, FEATHERS, FILLS, GRASS, BUCKETS & BOWLS, FILLERS.	Ribbon By the Roll INCLUDES ALL RIBBON BY THE ROLL IN ALL WIDTHS, SEASONS, PATTERNS & COLORS.	All Artist Tube Paint OIL, ACRYLIC & WATER COLOR, INCLUDING SETS	All Artist Kits and Art Paint Sets	All Artist Easels, Drawing Boards, Tables & Chairs
Floral Stems INCLUDES CHRISTMAS FEATHERS AND ALL STYLES & VARIETIES IN OUR STORE DEPARTMENT.	Floral Stems Categories Shown 50% Off	Art Storage Bags, Boxes, Portfolios & Cases FEATURING SOFT SIDE, WOOD & PLASTIC	Art Supplies Categories Shown 30% Off	Children's Large Boxed Activity Kits FEATURING THE CPM GROUP, NSI, ANIM & CREATIVE KIDS
Grapevine, Straw Wreaths & Lacquered Vine Wall Shapes	Flowering & Greenery Buses INCLUDING PLANTS & FERNS EXCLUDES POTTED TREES	Gessoed Panels, Artist Clayboard™, Aqua Board & Pastel Board ALSO INCLUDES ACCESSORIES	All Master's Touch® Brushes SINGLES & SETS 50% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES	AMACO Polymer Clay & Craft Oven OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$39.99
Dried Naturals INCLUDES CHRISTMAS, PRESERVED/DEHYDRATED FLOWERS, POSTS, BRANCHES, GRASS, STICKS, FEATHERS, FILLS, GRASS, BUCKETS & BOWLS, FILLERS.	Felt & Flannel INCLUDES PATCHES BY THE YARD 25% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$39.99	Coats Classic Crochet Thread 300 yds. 400 yds. 1.99 OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$2.99	All Plastic Canvas Sheets & Colors 7 MESH SHEETS CLEAR & COLORS 3/1.00 OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$4.99	Children's Medium Boxed Activity Kits FEATURING ROBE AT, NSI, ANIM & CREATIVE KIDS
Corduroy 4.99 YTD. OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$9.99	All Ribbon & Trim Spools EXCLUDES RIBBONS 50% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$2.99	All Needleart Totes, Knit Stands & Floss Organizers FEATURING CREATIVE COUTURE, CIRC, CROWN & NOEL 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$9.99 - \$29.99	Needleart Sale Categories Shown	Entire Stock of Bead Treasures™ Beads, Glass Pendants & Kits
Polyester Satin 100% POLYESTER SATIN SHEETS 2.99 YTD. OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICE	Fashion Fabric Categories Shown	Needle Master Set OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$29.99	Boye Crochet Master Set OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$28.99	Jewelry Making Categories Shown 50% Off
Entire Stock of Home Dec Fabric Prints, Solids & Sheers PREVIOUSLY REDUCED FROM 10% OFF 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$29.99	Entire Stock of Calico Prints & Solids 10% OFF 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$29.99	Entire Stock of Christmas Fabric 10% OFF 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$29.99	All Plastic Canvas Shapes 30% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$9.99 - \$29.99	Jewelry Adhesives 25% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES
Entire Stock of Curved Compartment Organizers 1.47 OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$1.99	Alphabet Beads 1.99 OUR EVERYDAY LOW \$2.99	Sparkle Style Fashion Jewelry 25% Off OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES	Entire Stock of Traditions, Explorer & Natural Gallery	

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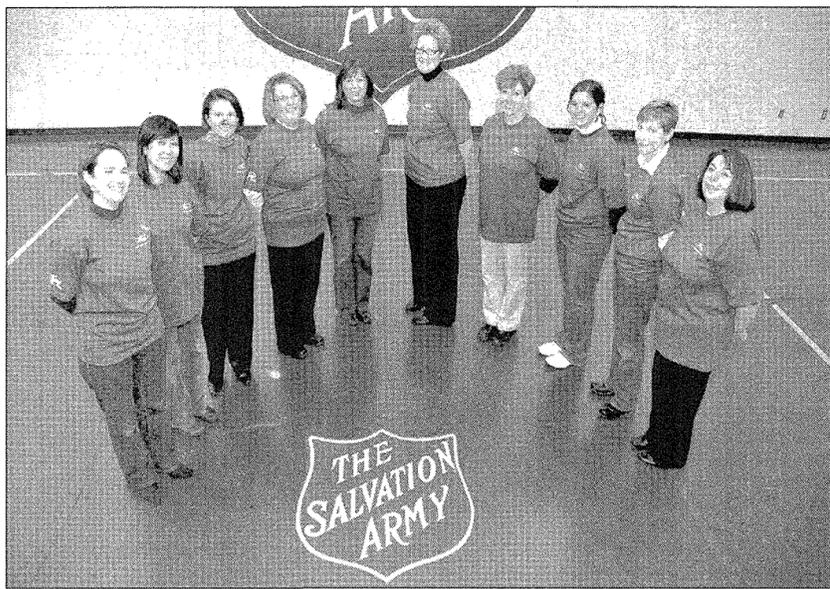
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Employees of the Ford Motor Company helped make merry the annual Christmas luncheon for seniors at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army Corps by serving the meal. Wolring at the site were team leader Annie Wong, Sharon Priebe, Jody Banciu, Michelle Kurtjian, Colleen Murphy, Rhonda Rosselle, Diane Abramczyk, Nancy Natter, Diane Domek, Diane Dossin, Jill Plensdorf and Deborah Gertsen.

Good deed: Ford workers help out at Salvation Army

BY DANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

Velda and Elmer Fraley of Westland haven't been out much this year, because most of their time has been spent at hospitals and doctor's appointments.

Before Elmer got sick, they attended the monthly senior programs at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army.

"We decided today we would start going out again," Velda said, sitting at a table with a wrapped gift at each setting.

The Fraleys were among some 100 seniors who Friday were at the annual Wayne-Westland Salvation Army Christmas luncheon that was served this year by Ford Motor Co. volunteers.

"For some, this is their special day out for the year," said Elm-

Newell, a senior at the luncheon and a Westland resident for 45 years. "Some have no family and need this. The people here are so caring and want to help anyone they can."

Twelve Ford employees, who work in the company's Office of General Counsel, volunteered in Westland. And they felt humbled by the experience.

"I came out because I like to help the community and it helps others less fortunate than most of us are," said Nancy Natter, a Ford employee and Garden City resident.

"It makes me feel good that I'm giving back to the community," said Sharon Priebe, a Ford employee and Redford resident.

Diane Abramczyk, a Farmington Hills resident, said she tries to volunteer at pro-

grams outside of Ford, too. "I think it's important to always help out, regardless of the changes and conditions of the times," Abramczyk said. "There are always people who can use assistance."

For Jill Plensdorf, a Grass Lake resident, the outing was the third volunteer program she has been involved with through Ford this year.

"I worked at a food bank and that especially touched me to see that basic needs aren't being met," Plensdorf said. "There's a feeling of giving back to the community to people less fortunate than myself."

The 12 women at the Salvation Army were among Ford employee groups throughout southeast Michigan who Friday worked anywhere food was being distrib-

uted, according to Janet Lawson, Ford volunteer corps director.

"Between 600,000 and 700,000 people in southeast Michigan don't know when their next meal will be," Lawson said. "Every day of the week, there are Ford volunteers doing some good."

Four days a year, on Accelerated Action Days, between 400 to 600 Ford volunteers are out in full force. Each of the Accelerated Action Days has a theme and Friday's was providing food to people in need.

"Hunger is a painful reality for far too many people who go to bed hungry each night in our local communities," said Jim Vella, president, Ford Motor Co. Fund and Community Services. "Giving of our time and sharing our resources are two ways Ford

and its volunteers can help ease that pain and take another step toward our goal of making the world a better place."

Ford offers employees a chance to work in community service and get paid their regular salary.

"We hope they get their appetites whetted and become volunteers for those community groups," Lawson said. "We're a smaller, leaner company these days, but our people are really giving back."

Transit Connects, a new model similar in design to vans, have been donated by Ford and marked for Gleaners, Forgotten Harvest and United Way services, Lawson said.

"They're to get meals to these people who are challenged with lack of food," Lawson said. "We have a whole new population of

hungry people and they're not near those soup kitchens."

The next Ford Accelerated Action Day is March 3 and the focus will be to help agencies that serve children and families.

Westland Salvation Army Capt. Joanna Rose said that the corps couldn't provide services like the luncheon without the help of volunteers.

"Some of these seniors have families, but now that they are getting older their friends are passing away and sometimes their families are moving away," Rose said. "They hold our history in their hands. They raised our parents and our grandchildren. What better way to celebrate Christ's birth than to celebrate the people who he has put in our lives, especially the seniors."

'Detroit: Our Greatest Generation'

Film honors metro Detroit World War II heroes

BY STACY JENKINS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Dale Holland couldn't wait to enlist in the United States Air Force.

The year was 1942 and his dream of becoming a pilot was well within reach.

"I was always interested in aviation," said Holland, 88, of Dearborn. "I built model airplanes; flying was a very popular occupation then."

His dream came true, and before he knew it, he was behind the controls of a B-24, awaiting take-off on a mission in New Guinea. It was his first mission — and his first glimpse into the dangers of his new career as a United States Army Air Corps pilot.

"The plane in front of us ran off the runway and blew up," he said, noting there was a malfunction in the plane. "My crew was very close to that crew."

Another memorable mission — of the 59 he flew in the South Pacific during World War II — was the successful Oct. 14, 1944, bombing of an oil refinery in Balikpapan, on Borneo Island in Indonesia. It was the main fuel source for the Japanese Armed Forces.

Holland and his Jolly Rogers 90th Bomb Group succeeded where others had tried for months, earning him a letter of commendation from George C. Kenny, commander of the Allied Air Forces of the Southwestern Pacific.

Holland was issued a Purple Heart after being injured in the line of duty. He suffered a flesh wound on his arm in combat.

Humble about his courageous service during World War II, Holland said being included in the documentary by metro Detroit's Keith Famie, entitled *Detroit: Our Greatest Generation*, is "a little uncomfortable."

Holland is one of hundreds of local World War II veterans being honored in Famie's latest documentary, which will premiere at the Fox Theatre in Detroit on Dec. 13. This historic, once-in-a-lifetime tribute to Michigan's greatest generation begins at 7 p.m.

The 90-minute director's cut documentary — which was edited at the Farmington Hills-based Digital Image Studios — captures the emotional realities of pre- and post-WWII survivors and how their lives affected the city, known at the time as "the Arsenal of Democracy."

The film is directed and produced by Keith Famie of eight-time Emmy award winning Visionalist Entertainment Productions.

The project, developed over 16 months, features exclusive personal interviews with veterans and their families, including a soldier's first-time journey back to Omaha Beach, Normandy. Capt. Merle Barr, who shared the trip to France with his son, survived against insurmountable odds on D-Day.



Dale Holland

Legendary Detroit broadcasters and military veterans Sonny Elliot and Budd Lynch also share their experiences in the film, along with several metro Detroiters, who reflect on how their service affected the rest of their lives. Additionally, the film takes an in-depth look at Detroit's role as the Arsenal of Democracy.

"The debut of *Detroit: Our Greatest Generation* is more than a film premiere. It's the celebration of an era: one that belongs to Detroit and was critically influential in the freedom Americans share in today," said Famie. "The film tells the narrative of Detroit's heroes like never before, while we are still able to hear the stories from the people who were there to experience



Dale Holland, with the last known flying B-24 "Witchcraft" (maintained by Collings Foundation) at the Willow Run air show. He had the opportunity to fly in the bomber and was allowed to sit with the pilots on a short flight recently. It was his first B-24 flight in more than 60 years.

them."

The premiere event will feature WJR's Paul W. Smith as emcee, Mitch Ryder and Stewart Francke performing with the United States 338th Army Band in a special sound off to each branch of the current military. Also featured will be a special Andrews Sisters revue and the Cornerstone Concert Choir singing the National Anthem.

Holocaust survivor Sam Offen, who lost more than 50 members of his immediate and extended family to slave labor, ghetto confinement and concentration camp horrors, will speak, offering his gratitude to all the WWII veterans who helped liberate the Jewish community.

The debut will open with a specially recorded message

from Tom Brokaw, author of *The Greatest Generation* and special correspondent for NBC News, who also speaks in the film about Detroit's importance in the war effort.

The film benefits the Michigan Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America and the Yankee Air Museum. Tickets are available for \$23 and \$33 on Ticketmaster or at the Fox Box Office. Doors open at 6:45 p.m.

A one-hour version of the film will be shown on WDIV-TV in Detroit, with no commercial interruption, on Dec. 16 at 8 p.m. and again on Dec. 25 at 2 p.m.

Detroit: Our Greatest Generation is sponsored by American House, Metro Detroit Ford Dealers, A.J.

Desmond Funeral Homes, Presbyterian Village, Guardian Medical Services, Andiamo's Restaurants, Lakeshore Engineering, Charity Motors, National Wholesale Printing Corp. and Designers & Partners Marketing.

"With our nation losing 1,500 World War II veterans a day, *Detroit: Our Greatest Generation* is not only timely, but a powerful and moving way to honor our heroes both abroad and on the home front in Detroit," said founder of American House Bob Gillette. "And with more than 300 World War II veterans calling American House home, we're not only a sponsor of the film, but an everyday advocate for *Our Greatest Generation*."

HOSPITAL WELLNESS CALENDAR

Garden City Hospital, at 6245 Inkster Road, offers a weekly schedule of health and wellness programs for residents. The lineup includes:

Monday, Dec. 7
Childbirth Education (6 of 6 classes) at 6 p.m. The six-week course prepares the expectant mother and coach for labor and delivery. Class runtime is 2 1/2 hours. There is a \$60 fee. Medicaid is accepted. A refresher course also is available. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information or to register.
Yoga (3 of 4 classes) at 7:30 p.m. The four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden City Hospital's Health Enhancement Center. Call (734) 458-3242.

Tuesday, Dec. 8
Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. The exercise program is designed to

help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. Fee is \$30 per month. Call (734) 458-3242.

Diabetes Self-Management Education (2 of 3 classes) at 9:30 a.m. A comprehensive series, participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481.
Strength and Stretch at 2 p.m. is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help strengthen and define muscles, as well as increase flexibility. Fee is \$30

per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.

Fitness FUN-Damentals at 6 p.m. Enjoy a fitness class that includes exercise, fitness tips and healthy recipes.

Wednesday, Dec. 9
CPAP and BiPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. Visit the Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan, 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland, from 5-6 p.m. any Wednesday for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed. Call (734) 458-3330.

Eating Disorders Support Group at 6:30 p.m. is for individuals with anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive and binge eating disorders. Men, women and teens invited to attend. Call (734) 458-4330.
Alzheimer's Support at 7 p.m. for family members, friends and caregivers

of persons afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease or related disorders. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building, lower level classrooms. Call (734) 458-4330.

Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) Support Group at 7 p.m. A free support group for people who are hard of hearing is held every second Wednesday of the month. Call (734) 458-3381.

Thursday, Dec. 10
Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. The exercise program is designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. Fee is \$30 per month. Call (734) 458-3242.
Strength and Stretch at 2 p.m. is a non-

aerobic exercise class designed to help strengthen and define muscles, as well as increase flexibility. Fee is \$30 per month. Call (734) 458-3242.

Yoga at 6:30 p.m. The four-week session is \$32. Classes meet at Garden City Hospital's Cardiac Rehab. Call (734) 458-3242.

Diabetes Self-Management Education (2 of 3 classes) at 6:30 p.m. A comprehensive series, participants learn self-care skills of nutrition, exercise, medication management, monitoring of blood sugar levels, foot and skin care, prevention of problems and psychosocial issues. Physician referral is required. There is a fee, but reimbursement is available by Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurance plans. Call (734) 458-3481.

"Focus on Living" Cancer Support at 7 p.m. A self-help group designed to bring together persons living with cancer. A nurse facilitator provides opportunities for all to share their mutual concerns. Call (734) 458-3311.

Daily programs
Garden City Hospital's Health Enhancement Center offers daily programs Monday through Friday in Phase II and III Cardiac Rehabilitation/ Cardiac Wellness, a Peripheral Vascular Disease Exercise and Strength Training Program, and a Diabetes Exercise Program. These classes are presented and monitored by certified exercise physiologists. Contact the Health Enhancement Center at (734) 458-3242 to select an exercise program specifically designed for you.

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at fax at (313) 223-3318. For more information, call (313) 222-6751.

UPCOMING

EVENTS

Rock'n 4 A Reason

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5
Location: Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: Rock'n 4 A Reason is a college education fund-raiser for Mariah Hope Neil, the daughter of Sarah Horn who died on Sept. 28. The event includes a spaghetti dinner 3-6 p.m., live music 7 p.m. to midnight and raffles and 50/50. Cost is \$10 per person, those 21 years and older after 9 p.m. To donate items for the raffle, call Connie Kincer at (734) 578-4615. Contributions can be made to the Mariah Neil Fund at the Parkside Credit Union, 36525 Plymouth Road, just west of Levan in Livonia.

WCGH 25th Reunion

Time/Date: Doors open 5 p.m., and party runs to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8
Location: Cafe Marquette, William D. Ford Technical Center, Marquette and Carison
Details: All Wayne County General Hospital retirees and former employees are invited to attend. A buffet meal will be served. Priced \$16 (including gratuity). Pay at the door.
Contact: Kay Shafi at (734) 427-3437, e-mail chkhil@wideopen-west.com; Dennis Abraham at (734) 721-2917; e-mail ingirish316@sbglobal.net, or Pat Ibbotson at (734) 331-9291, e-mail pibbotso@aol.com.

Earth Angels

Details: Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/performance nonprofit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for

girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.
Contact: www.earthangelstour.org or by e-mail to eangel1986@comcast.net

TOPS 869 meetings

Time/Date: Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.
Location: Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.
Details: The group is for people age 18 and older.
Contact: The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

American Legion Post 251

Time/Date: 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month
Location: 1217 Merriman Road, between Avondale and Palmer, Westland.
Details: All veterans, male and female with a honorable discharge are welcome to join.
Contact: www.post251.org or call (734) 326-2607

Fish Dial-A-Ride

Location: Garden City, Livonia and Westland
Details: Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times, and areas they're willing to drive.
Contact: Call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Higher Rock Cafe

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Fridays of the month.
Location: Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.

Details: Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands.
Contact: www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660

ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of Eloise

Time/Date: 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December)
Location: Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland.
Contact: Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918

Writing Group

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month
Location: Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne
Details: The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle's National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free.
Contact: www.storycircle.org or send an e-mail to shepry@yahoo.com

TOPS M128

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays
Location: Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland
Contact: Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879

TOPS 869

Time/Date: Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.
Location: Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.
Details: The group is for people age 18 and older.

Contact: The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.

Garden City Democratic Club

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June)
Location: Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City
Contact: Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344

Citizens for Peace

Time/Date: 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month
Location: Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia
Details: The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome.
Contact: Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

In Harmony

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays
Location: Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland
Details: For men interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting
Contact: Call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal

Veteran's Haven

Location: Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne.
Details: Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate-donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays.
Contact: (734) 728-0527

Silver Strings Dulcimer

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month
Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City
Details: Musicians and listeners are welcome to stop by and visit a traditional music jam. Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concert-

ina, autoharp, recorder, penny-whistle, ukulele and upright bass.
Contact: (734) 482-2902, <http://geocities.com/ssdsociety>

Garden City Kiwanis

Time/Date: 12:15 p.m. Thursdays
Location: Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City
Details: Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to bettering the world one child and one community at a time. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.

Garden City Rotary

Time/Date: 12 noon Thursdays
Location: Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City
Details: Community service planning, lunch and socializing are enjoyed.

Habitat for Humanity

Details: The Western Wayne affiliate of Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help with building homes, office duties and fund raising. No experience necessary. Training will be provided.
Contact: (734) 459-7744

Oakwood Annapolis Hospital Retirees

Time/Date: 1 p.m. the first Monday of the month
Location: Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, Venoy at Howe in Wayne
Details: All Oakwood Retirees are welcome to attend.

Dyer Center

Location: 36745 Marquette, between Wayne Road and Marquette, Westland
Details: Offers activities Monday-Friday at the center.
Contact: (734) 419-2020

Senior Fitness

Location: Maplewood Senior Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City
Details: The Senior Fitness Room is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Annual membership is \$50 per year or \$1 for a daily pass. Aerobic classes are held 8:45-9:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.
Contact: (734) 793-1870

Garden City Lions

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month
Location: Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City
Contact: Dave Fetter at (734) 425-4382

Garden City Garden Club

Time/Date: 7 p.m. on the third

Tuesday of the month
Location: Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City
Details: Everyone may attend to hear guest speakers on a variety of gardening topics and plan events around the city.
Contact: Della Haydon at (734) 427-9410

Genealogical Society

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. third Monday of every month
Location: Livonia Civic Park Senior Center on Farmington Road, south of Five Mile
Details: Beginning genealogy and computer classes start at 6:30 p.m. Guests are welcome.

Purple Heart

Time/Date: 8 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month
Location: VFW Post 7575 Hall, 33011 Ford west of Venoy, Garden City
Details: Meetings are open to combat-wounded veterans.

FOR SENIORS
Friendship Center

Location: 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland
Details: The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center) offers a variety of programs for older adults.
Contact: (734) 722-7632, www.ci.westland.mi.us

Dyer Center

Location: 36745 Marquette, between Wayne Road and Marquette, Westland
Details: Offers activities Monday-Friday at the center.
Contact: (734) 419-2020

Senior Fitness

Location: Maplewood Senior Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City
Details: The Senior Fitness Room is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Annual membership is \$50 per year or \$1 for a daily pass. Aerobic classes are held 8:45-9:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.
Contact: (734) 793-1870

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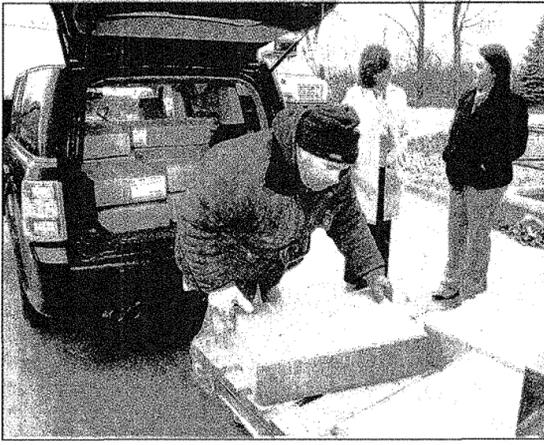
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Dave Parker loads some of the 2,800 pounds of frozen chicken donated to Starfish Family Services. Starfish CEO Ann Kalass and client Chelsea Cloutier will take the load back to the agency.

Chicken donation helps feed the area's needy

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Area agencies scrambling to feed a growing number of hungry, recession-ravaged families received a much-needed boost recently when a truck hauling 40,000 pounds of frozen chicken rolled up to a Canton distribution center.

In all, 21 agencies shared the gift from a nonprofit foundation called HEAR (Health, Education And Relief), a Chicago-based volunteer group also helping families in the Detroit area.

"We timed it for the holidays," said local HEAR director Mark McManus Sr., a Novi resident and chairman of Livonia-based New Horizons Computer Learning Centers.

HEAR bought the frozen chicken for a reduced cost from Tyson Foods and had it trucked in from the company's Springdale, Ark., headquarters to Norquick, a cold-storage, warehouse and distribution center in Canton.

"We're amazed by the generosity," said Ann Kalass, CEO for Inkster-based Starfish Family Services, which offers a

wide array of family services in Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford, Westland and other metro Detroit communities.

Starfish, alone, received 2,800 pounds of boxed, frozen chicken.

"It couldn't come at a better time than the holidays," Kalass said. "So many families are in crisis and struggling to find resources."

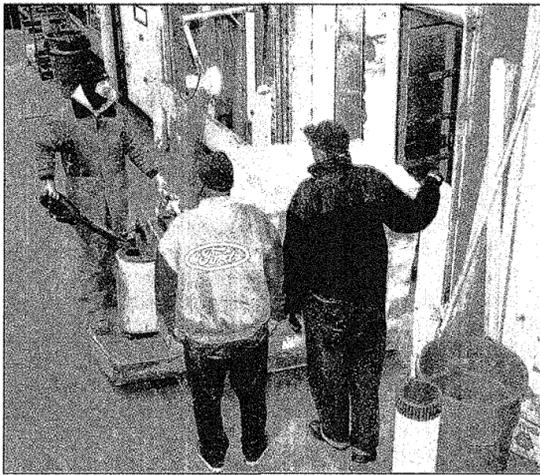
Kalass came to Norquick with Westland single mom Chelsea Cloutier, a Starfish client and Starfish Head Start executive board member whose 3-year-old son attends a full-day preschool program while she works and studies for a bachelor's degree she expects to receive in August.

"The holidays can be so stressful," said Cloutier, 25, who is studying business administration and finance.

Ed Hingelberg, a Plymouth City Commission member and operations director of Detroit-based Cass Community Social Services, said the 3,200 pounds of frozen chicken CCSS received will be stretched to feed as many needy families as possible by using it in soup, chicken



Mark McManus Sr., owner of Livonia-based New Horizons Computer Learning Centers, is director for a nonprofit group that donated 40,000 pounds of frozen chicken for distribution to local social service agencies.



Robert Dixon and Michael Mason of Cass Community Social Services wait as 3,200 pounds of frozen chicken is loaded onto their truck.

salad and other meals.

"I can't tell you how much this helps us," Hingelberg said, standing with McManus out-

side Norquick on a gray, drizzly morning that somehow seemed a little less bleak after HEAR's food shipment arrived on

Canton's north side.

"When the economy is down," Hingelberg said, "the need goes through the roof."

Cass Community Social Services provides help ranging from meals for the homeless to emergency shelter to vocational opportunities.

McManus said HEAR worked with another nonprofit organization, Northville Civic Concern, to seek out agencies needing food to help their clients. McManus helped oversee the frozen chicken distribution mere hours after he returned from a relief effort in Guatemala.

He said 100 percent of HEAR's donations are used to help people in need. Much more about the organization can be learned — and donations can be made — online at www.hear-foundation.org.

HEAR's shipment of frozen chicken came in 10-pound bags. Agencies received as little as

200 pounds and as much as 3,200 pounds.

McManus released a list of 21 recipients that included Active Faith food pantry of South Lyon; Blessed Hope Mission of Lincoln Park; Cass Community Social Services; Central Detroit CDC; Faith Community Presbyterian Church of Novi; Forgotten Harvest of Oak Park; Fort Street Presbyterian of Detroit; Friendship House of Hamtramck; Grace Centers of Hope of Pontiac; Help's On The Way of Dearborn; Military Avenue Presbyterian Church of Detroit; Northville Civic Center; The Salvation Army in Farmington, Plymouth, Westland and Macomb; St. Christine's Soup Kitchen & Outreach of Detroit; St. James Catholic Church of Novi; Starfish; the Wayne County Family Center of Westland; and Western Oakland Meals on Wheels.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238



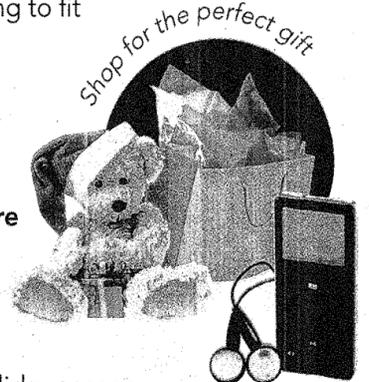
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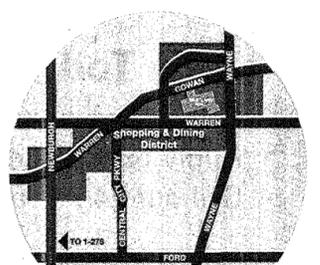


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SUNDAY
December 6,
2009

SECTION B
(WL)

Brad Emmons, editor, (313) 222-6851
bemmons@hometownlife.com

Popular toys this holiday season – Neighbors, B6

SPORTS, HEALTH & FITNESS, NEIGHBORS

HOMETOWN LIFE



Gifts for pets
and pet lovers
See inside Classified

Churchill's depth too much for Cougars, 42-27

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

GIRLS BASKETBALL

It may not be the most stylish victory Livonia Churchill racks up all season, but the Chargers' performance Friday night proved they are determined to remain on the plus side of .500 this season and contend for the top spot in the KLAAs South.

Backed by solid play in the paint from senior Darcy DeRoo and sophomore Erin Menard, the Chargers dominated from start to finish in their season-opening 42-27 non-league girls basketball victory at Garden City.

"I'm happy because they played hard," Chargers coach Chad Jenkins said of his young squad. "I had 10 girls who got playing time and for a lot of them it was their first varsity experience. I thought they did a good job competing and getting after it."

Right from the opening whistle, the

Chargers were determined to take advantage of their size as DeRoo and Menard got plenty of touches inside. The result was a 9-7 first-quarter advantage for the Chargers that they were able to extend to 20-11 by halftime.

The two teams traded buckets for much of the third period before five straight points to end the quarter provided Churchill a comfortable cushion of 32-18 entering the final frame.

DeRoo and Menard again stood tall in the those last eight minutes as the Chargers sealed up that all-important first win.

"Erin did a great job of getting rebounds, and then with Darcy and the high-low passing, we were able to get some big baskets," Jenkins said.

DeRoo and Menard each netted nine points to pace the winning attack.

Senior guard Taylor Kerr followed with seven points, while junior guard Kara Kempinski had six and senior guard Meghan Catalano added five.

"They played hard and that's what I like about this team," Jenkins said. "They were a little tight at first, but in the second half I think they played better and more consistently."

"We've practiced a week together. Half my team was playing volleyball just a few days ago, so we're just getting started and people are trying to get comfortable as to where they're going to be."

"I'm sure we're going to make a lot of strides by the middle of the season. Overall, I'm happy. It's a win."

For the Cougars, senior forward Alex Johnson had the early hot hand, bagging a game-high 14 points. Included in her totals were a pair of 3-point baskets.

After that, the scoring dropped

off to just four points apiece for juniors Samantha Fischer and Carley Shattleroe.

"We were trying to play a nice up-tempo style and basically we ran ourselves out of gas," veteran Cougars coach Barry Patterson said. "Our bench was really short today. But I give the girls a lot of credit because they played very, very hard."

"We just didn't finish and we also shot poorly from the free-throw line. They were also much tougher on the inside and that's something we're going to have to work on."

Patterson, however, had to remind himself it was only the season opener.

"Overall, I'm impressed," he said. "We played a very good first half. We rebounded the ball with a much bigger opponent and we ran the floor like I wanted to, but quite honestly, we ran out of gas. They were running a lot of subs and we couldn't make a lot of subs."

KLAAs South race could be a logjam

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREVIEW

Even though the boys basketball season tips off Tuesday, it may take a while to determine who is the clear-cut favorite to win the KLAAs South Division title.

Division play doesn't start until January, so the month of December will provide only some evidence on how things may sort out.

Wayne Memorial, 14-7 a year ago, will try and repeat in the KLAAs South minus standout point guard Robert Woodson, who graduated and is now playing at Grand Valley State.

Coach Wayne Woodard does have a strong inside post presence in 6-foot-3 forward Daniel Hill, who averaged 13.5 points and eight rebounds as a junior.

Also returning for the Zebras are Derric Horton, a 6-2 junior guard; Nick Mills, a 6-5 senior center; and Reggie Reeves, a 6-2 senior guard.

"We have to take care of basketball," Woodard said. "Early on we've been a little careless with the ball. In our first scrimmage, we didn't play particularly well. We have a couple guys battling for the point guard spot."

Rival Westland John Glenn slipped to 10-11 overall last year and will be minus the area's second-leading scorer in Austin Anderson, who graduated.

The Rockets will rely on two holdovers — 6-2 senior guard-forward Jeremy Langford and 5-9 sophomore point guard Marquese Graves.

"If we can have balance offensively — from our defense, drives and posts and perimeter shooting — and defensive rebound better, we could challenge for our division," said Young, who is 43-21 overall in three seasons.

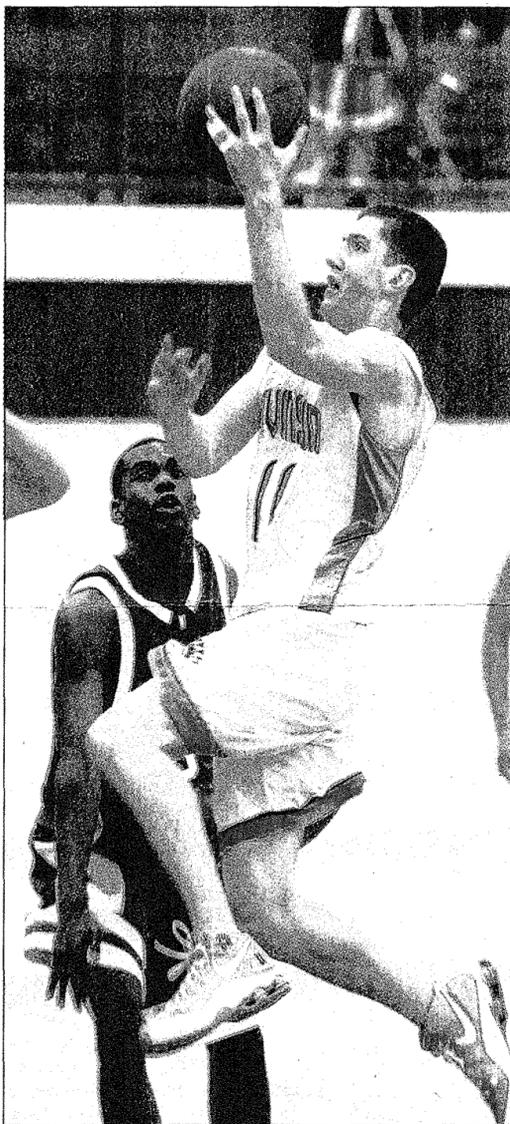
One of the sleepers in the KLAAs South could be Livonia Churchill (10-12), which returns second-team All-Area forward Adam Bedell, a 6-6 senior who averaged 12.5 points and 12 rebounds per game. The Chargers also return 6-0 guard Tony Frezzell and could get a boost from newcomer D'Juan Cooks, a 6-5 senior.

"The division is wide open this year and every team has a legitimate shot," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "It should be an exciting year."

Livonia Franklin (8-14) lost its two top scorers to graduation — second-team All-Area pick Connor Leidal (now at Madonna University) and Jeff Poole.

The Patriots, however, do return a solid nucleus of players. One returnee, 6-0 guard Mike Gadsby, is recovering

Please see **PREVIEW, B2**



OBSERVER STAFF PHOTO

Stevenson's top returnee is senior guard Bobby Naubert, who averaged 17 points last season for the Class A district champions.

Pats get past Eagles, 48-33; Blazers edged

Livonia Franklin rebounded from its season-opening setback to even its girls basketball record at 1-1 with a 48-33 victory Friday night at Redford Thurston.

Junior guard Chelsea Williams paced the Patriots' scoring attack with 14 points.

Senior forward Brittany Milican added 10 points, while junior forward Amanda Borio contributed seven points and eight rebounds. Senior center Senneka Scott also grabbed seven rebounds.

It was 19-19 at intermission before the Patriots went on a 19-6 third-quarter run to gain some breathing room.

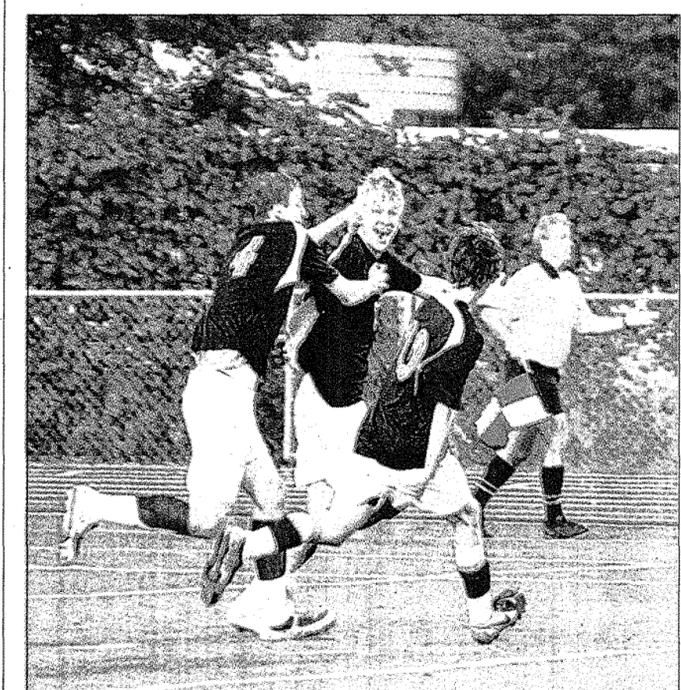
"The girls looked better tonight. They were moving the ball and are starting to see the floor better," said Franklin coach Dave McCall, whose team was coming off a 50-46 setback Tuesday to Livonia Ladywood. "But we still missed too many layups and free throws (10-of-24)."

Ashley Wheeler paced Thurston (0-1) with 14 points, including a pair of triples. Chelsea Carradine added 10 points before going down with an ankle injury early in the fourth quarter.

The Eagles were 7-of-13 from the foul line.

POWERS 69, LADYWOOD 62: On Friday, host Flint Powers Catholic (1-0)

Please see **ROUNDUP, B2**



THOMAS J. BEDELL

All-Area Boys Soccer

Livonia Churchill's Max Washko (middle), who scored 25 goals this season and helped the Chargers to a 19-1 record, is a member of the All-Observer Boys Soccer First-Team. See page B4 for more details.

Stevenson peppers Franklin goalie, 7-0

Crechiolo records 59 saves in loss

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREP HOCKEY

Not succumbing to the eight-goal mercy rule was a victory in itself Wednesday night for the Livonia Franklin boys hockey team.

The Patriots, coming off an 8-0 season-opening loss to Pinckney, managed to get through all 51 minutes of action in a 7-0 loss to unbeaten Livonia Stevenson at Edgar Arena.

The shots on goal — 66-11 in favor of the 4-0 Spartans — were a clear indication of how the game went.

In the first period alone, Stevenson peppered a total of 28 shots at Franklin senior goaltender Anthony Crechiolo. But the Spartans had only a 2-0 lead to show for it as John Strauch scored the first of his three goals on the night just 30 seconds into the game off an assist from Christian Wood, followed by Trevor Baruzzini's goal from Joseph McDonald at 13:49. Stevenson, outshooting the Pats 22-4

in the second period, increased its lead to 5-0 as three different players tallied goals — Kyle Gabrielson on a power play (from Justin Shureb and Cole Rochowiak); John Mandryk (from McDonald and Cam Humitz); and Tim Pruchnik (from Gabrielson and Humitz).

The Spartans added two more in a penalty-filled final period — Strauch (from Humitz) and Strauch again (from Humitz and Jacob Vert).

"Their goalie (Crechiolo) played phenomenal," said Stevenson coach David Mitchell, whose team improved to 2-0 in the KLAAs Kensington Conference. "And I thought their kids battled and played hard until the final buzzer."

"I was pleased at the number of shots we put to the net. It's one of 24 (games) and we're happy with the win."

According to Franklin coach Scott

Please see **HOCKEY, B2**

SIDELINES

Scicluna resigns

Madonna University athletics director Bryan Rizzo announced Friday that he has accepted the resignation of head men's soccer coach Tino Scicluna.

"I am very sorry to see Tino go," said Rizzo after a meeting with the team. "He has done a tremendous job in elevating our program to sustained national prominence. He inherited a very strong program and built it to a top 20 program. He will be extremely difficult to replace. We will miss him."

Scicluna posted a 91-32-12 overall record in his seven seasons at the helm of the Crusaders and was named the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference's Coach of the Year four times (2003, 2005, 2007, 2008).

Scicluna guided the Crusaders to five WHAC titles, along with back-to-back appearances in the NAIA National Tournament (2007, 2008). The 2008 trip featured MU advancing to the Sweet 16.

The Crusaders finished 4-7-4 overall and 4-5-3 this season in the WHAC.

A national search for Scicluna's replacement is underway and interested parties may submit a resume and cover letter to: Bryan Rizzo, Madonna University Athletics, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150.

Patriot Wing Night

The Livonia Franklin boys basketball team will stage a fundraiser from 4-10 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7 at Buffalo Wild Wings, located at 6677 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Buffalo Wild Wings, which will donate 20 percent of each bill toward the program, is offering 60 cent boneless wings and Monday Night Football.

To obtain coupon to present with the bill, download the flyer on franklinbasketball.googlepages.com.

MU top scholars

Madonna University had nine players earn NAIA All-American Scholar-Athlete recognition for the fall season including:

Volleyball — Mary McGinnis (art) and Inta Grinvalds (nursing); men's soccer — Mark Pikula (TV and communication arts); women's soccer — Jessica Austin (language arts) and Diana Brda (psychology); Livonia Franklin; Lauren Hess (nursing); Livonia Ladywood; Brittany Warner (marketing); Plymouth; Sara Rokuski (dietetics); and Jaclyn Ventigmiglia (nursing).

Albion grid letters

The Albion College football team finished 4-2 in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association and 4-6 overall this year thanks to the efforts of letter winners Jason Bajas, Livonia Stevenson; Neil Copeland and Mark McRobb, both of Livonia Franklin; Dustin Hess and Matt Bilger, both of Livonia/Novi Detroit Catholic Central.

Bilger earned a second-year award as an offensive lineman, while Hess, a cornerback, finished with 21 solo tackles and eight assists in his third year.

McRobb, a wide receiver, had 23 catches for 150 yards, in just five games.

Bajas, a linebacker, recorded five tackles, while Copeland, a defensive end, finished with 13 tackles including three for loss.

PREVIEW
FROM PAGE B1

from surgery from a football injury. "We lost five overtime games last year — games where we were real close — and we hope the experience from that pays off," Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault said. "With a veteran team, I'm anxious to see how we handle this early adversity. Gadsby was last year's top defensive player for us also. We are hoping for a full recovery soon. We hope to play extremely hard to compete. The whole South Division is anybody's. There are no front-runners."

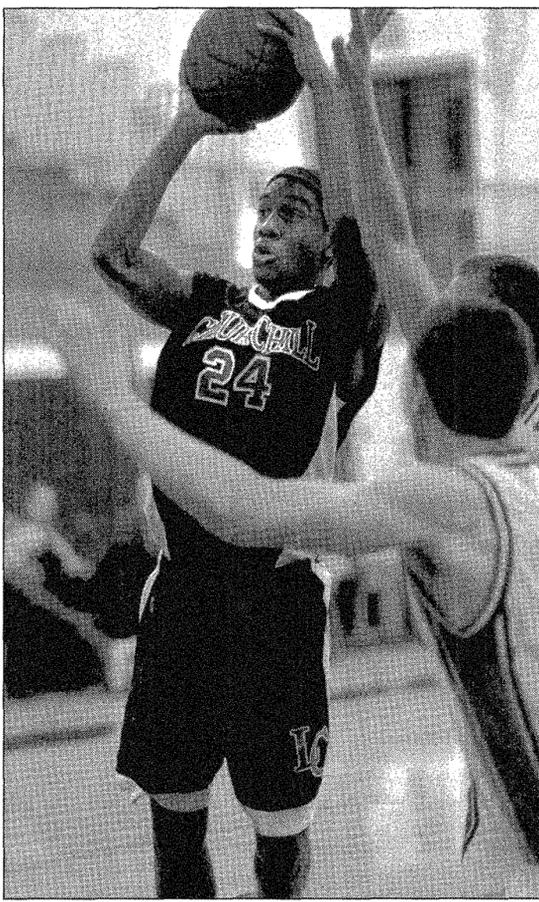
The two other members of the KLAAs South who hope to be in the mix are Canton and Plymouth.

Canton is led by second-team All-Area junior guard Dietrich Lever, while Plymouth will be minus second-team All-Area forward Justin Moss, a 6-6 junior who transferred to Romulus.

Meanwhile, Novi is the defending champion in the KLAAs Central Division with Livonia Stevenson (14-10), led by first-team All-Area guard Bobby Naubert (17 points per game), hoping to move up in the standings.

"I like the chemistry of our team right now," Stevenson coach Mike Allie said. "They are mature young men who worked hard over the summer. The coaches are excited and I look for us to make some noise in the league this year."

In the newly revamped and expanded Michigan Independent Athletic Conference, Lutheran High Westland (11-8) moves into the Blue Division, while next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (15-8) goes



OBSERVER STAFF PHOTO

Churchill senior guard Anthony Frezzell returns from last year's 10-12 squad.

into the Red Division.

Doug Haller takes over as coach for Brandon Bekius at Lutheran Westland, where the Warriors return starters Austin Baglow, Gage Flanery and Ethan Haller.

Huron Valley Lutheran will be led by returnees Bryan Gruenewald, Tyler Wagaman and Matt St. John.

Livonia Clarenceville (14-8), the defending champion in the Metro Conference, took

a severe hit with graduation losses starting with Class B All-Stater Jamie Stewart, who averaged 27 points per game. Stewart is now playing at Henry Ford Community College.

New coach Justin Johnson returns senior guards Levonté Brooks and Ben Watts, along with 6-8 junior center Jalen Reynolds.

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BOYS BASKETBALL CAPSULE OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Jim Solak, eighth season.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 10-12.
Notable losses to graduation: Ryan Woods (third-team All-Area); Scott Sencyszyn, Cameron Norscia, Alex Bay, Chris Barnard, Jordan Sytsma.

Leading returnees: Adam Bedell, 6-6 Sr. F (12.5 ppg; 12 rebs.); Tony Frezzell, 6-0 Sr. G; Raynard Allen, 5-9 Sr. G; Kevin Pietrasinski, 5-9 Sr. G; Steve Hovermale, 6-2 Sr. F; Deandre Westry.

Promising newcomers: D'Juan Coombs, 6-5 Sr. F; Stephen Foster, 6-0 Jr. G; Dean Bokuniewicz, 5-5 Jr. G; Melvin Hill, 6-0 Jr. G; Grant Pomaville, 6-4 Jr. F; Bryan Bartig, 6-2 Soph. F; Matt Windle, 5-11 Jr. G; Troy Bogenschutz, 6-4 Jr. F.

Solak's 2009-10 outlook: "This team plays with a lot of energy on both ends of the floor. This is probably the most athletic team we've ever had as a bunch of guys can play multiple spots. The guys are improving daily and practices have become more and more competitive. That should help us because experienced depth may be an issue early. We have a tougher schedule this year, but a nice early home schedule that we need to take advantage of. So far they've been a lot of fun to coach and they truly enjoy being around each other and being in the gym."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Jeremy Rheault, third season.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).

Last year's overall record: 8-14.
Notable losses to graduation: Connor Leidal (second-team All-Area); Jeff Poole (third-team All-Area);
Leading returnees: Andy McCaffery, 6-3 Sr. G; Mike Gadsby, 6-0 Sr. G; Tom Percin, 5-11 Sr. G; Nate Coleman, 6-4 Sr. C; Jack Chinavare, 6-3 Sr. F.

Promising newcomers: Jarius Woolfork, 6-9 Jr. F; Blake Lukas, 6-1 Jr. F; Alontae McElhaney, 6-0 Sr. G; Mike Sharp, 6-4 Jr. F; Ryan Parkin, 5-11 Jr. G; Jesse Sabbagh, 5-11 Jr. F.

Rheault's 2009-10 outlook: "Coleman has great hands and is hard to guard in the post because he's so athletic. Gadsby is an excellent scorer and a great athlete who has improved his perimeter game. We're hoping he gets a full recovery from his ankle injury from football because he's a main cog. McCaffery is a slasher who has really improved his perimeter game. Chinavare is a hard worker and consistent player, while Percin is a heady player and threat from the 'three.' Sharp is extremely athletic and explosive to the rim. Lukas is a workhorse around the rim, while McElhaney is quick, aggressive in the open court, strong on ball defense."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Mike Allie, third season.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 14-10.
Titles won last year: Class A district champs.

Notable losses to graduation: Ricky Chrzasz, Mark Grisa, Brian Rowe, Kendal Snow.

Leading returnees: Bobby Naubert, Sr. G (first-team All-Area; 17 ppg; 5 apg); Jordan El-Sabah, 6-4 Sr. F; Nick Marzec, 6-0 Sr. G; Frank Sopko, 6-1 Sr. F; Joe Swingle, 6-4 Sr.

F; Nick Tomasi, 6-0 Sr. G; Kyle Bambach, 6-0 Sr. G.

Promising newcomers: Jonathan Campbell, 5-11 Soph. G; C.J. Mwila, 5-11 Jr. G; Charlie Swingle, 6-0 Jr. G; Phil Worley, 6-4 Jr. F.

Allie's 2009-10 outlook: "We are looking forward to another very competitive season in the KLAAs. A large percentage of the players on this year's team contributed to last year's success. How well we defend and rebound is going to be the key. This team has great confidence on the offensive end of the floor. Given the experience of our returning players and the talent of our newcomers, we expect this group to have an excellent understanding of how we need to play."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Dan Young, fourth season.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 10-11.

Notable losses to graduation: Austin Anderson (first-team All-Area); Dorian Prather, Jon Swagerty.

Leading returnees: Jeremy Langford, 6-2 Sr. G; Marquise Graves, 5-9 Soph. G.

Promising newcomers: Marcus Meeks, 6-1 Jr. G; Brett Hudy, 6-0 Jr. G; Marcus Davis, 6-0 Jr. G; Kelly Maxwell, 6-2 Jr. F; Zariq Barnes, 6-4 Sr. C (transfer from Phoenix, Ariz.); Antawon Humphrey, 6-2, Jr. F.

Young's 2009-10 outlook: "We are young and inexperienced. We are stressing our philosophies of defensive pressure, rebounding and sharing the ball. We don't have a lot of size and inside scoring. We'll have to play hard and play well to win. It's a great group, they play their tails off. We'll have to be scrappy."

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Wayne Woodard, 10th season.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 14-7.

Titles won last year: KLAAs South Division champs.

Notable losses to graduation: Robert Woodson (first-team All-Area); Jimmel Bennett, 6-2 Sr. G (fourth-team All-Area); Delorean Holland.

Leading returnees: Daniel Hill, 6-3 Sr. F (13.5 ppg; 8 rebs; 2 blocks); James Jackson, 5-8 Sr. PG; Derric Horton, 6-2 Jr. G; Nick Mills, 6-5 Sr. C; Jamel Robinson, 6-3 Sr. F; Jon Bausley, 5-11 Sr. PG; Reggie Reeves, 6-2 Sr. G.

Promising newcomers: Brian Gray, 5-11 Sr. G; Jon Hunt, 5-11 Sr. G; Dawad Danner, 6-0 Jr. G; Carle Freeman, 5-10 Jr. G; Jordan Buck, 5-11 Jr. G; Deandre Griggs-Washington, 6-2 Jr. F.

Woodard's 2009-10 outlook: "With strong nucleus coming back we expect to be competitive. We have a couple of early tests with (Taylor) Truman and Belleville, so we'll know where we're at. The (South) division will be competitive. We have good senior leadership. We have 10 seniors and five juniors. We have some guys who played significant minutes last year. We have some guys back who got decent playing time."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: Justin Johnson, first season.
League affiliation: Metro Conference.
Last year's overall record: 14-8.

Titles won last year: Metro Conference regular season and tournament champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Jamie

Stewart (first-team All-Area); Nathan Clark (third-team All-Area); Jeremy Gainer, Darryl Whittaker, Corey Reynolds.

Leading returnees: Ben Watts, 5-9 Sr. G; Levonté Brooks, 5-8 Sr. G; Jalen Reynolds, 6-8 Jr. C; Dominic Patton, 6-2 Sr. G.

Promising newcomers: Lenny Smith, 6-1, Sr. F; Leonard Hogan, 5-8 Sr. G; Gaven King, 6-1, Sr. F; Michael Schiffman, 6-1 Sr. G; David Jones, 6-2 Jr. F; C. Adrian Myers, 6-0 Jr. F.

Johnson's 2009-10 outlook: "With a new coaching staff and a senior-heavy team, we have been working hard to bring out the old plays and mentality and cycle in a fresh approach. The 2008-09 team graduated a large percentage of their scoring. Many of the returning players were role players last season, but they are hungry this season. The goals of the team are to come together and improve every day, play intense defense all the time, and hopefully win the Metro Conference and make a run in the playoffs."

LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND
Head coach: Doug Haller, first season.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Blue Division).
Last year's overall record: 12-7.

Notable losses to graduation: Sam Ahlersmeyer (fourth-team All-Area); Josh Krueger, Eric Shoats.

Leading returnees: Austin Baglow, 5-10, Sr. G; Gage Flanery, 6-0 Sr. G/F; Ethan Haller, 5-10 Sr. G/F.

Promising newcomers: Marc Rosin, 5-9 Jr. G; Kent Kryzke, 5-6, Jr. G.

Haller's 2009-10 outlook: "Our team is faced with a couple of changes this year with it being my first season as the varsity head coach as well as entering a new conference. The team and I are very excited about the new challenges. We have a solid core of seniors that we will rely on to lead our team this year and a group of promising juniors who are ready to contribute. There are several quality basketball teams in the MIAC, but we are looking forward to attacking the new challenges and we expect to compete at a high level every game."

WESTLAND HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Head coach: Jim Ott, 10th season.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division).
Last year's overall record: 15-8.

Notable losses to graduation: Aaron Howell, Kyle Tacia, Chad Fielek.

Leading returnees: Bryan Gruenewald, 5-11 Sr. G; Tyler Wagaman, 6-0 Sr. G/F; Matt St. John, 6-2 Jr. G-F.

Promising newcomers: Matt Kempainen, 5-11 Sr. F; Mark St. John, 5-10 Sr. G; Shawn Schaffer, 6-2 Jr. C.

Ott's 2009-10 outlook: "We have a mix of decent players that can contribute in varying ways. However, the puzzle will be to maximize their abilities in combinations of five players at a time. Some may be disappointed with playing time, but we have to utilize the tools we have. It might be a struggle to compete with (Taylor) Baptist Park and Plymouth Christian Academy in our Red Division this year, but I feel pretty confident with the good group of guys we have that we can compete for those top three spots. Anything less than a 500 record and competing for the top of our division in the MIAC would be a disappointment with this group. It should be fun once we get off and running in full gear after Christmas."

Olivet stops MU men's cagers, 79-55

Nathan Jennings popped in a game-high 23 points, while Michael McClary added 16 points and pulled down 17 rebounds to propel Olivet College to a 79-55 men's basketball victory Friday night over host Madonna University in the WHAC-MIAA Challenge. The Comets, who also got nine points apiece from Andre Evans and Bryan Dutton, improved to 1-4 overall. Madonna, which slipped to 1-7 overall, got a team-high 16 points from senior center Leroy Allen. Freshman guard Kevin Henry added 10 points, while junior center Ryan Waidmann grabbed a team-high seven rebounds. MU, which trailed 43-24 at intermission, shot only 38.6 from the floor (22-of-57), including only 1-of-14 from three-point

range. Olivet shot 7-of-18 from beyond the arc and was 16-of-25 from the foul stripe. **Schoolcraft men edged** On Wednesday, Branden McKenney tallied a game-high 23 points as Macomb CC edged the host Schoolcraft College men's basketball squad, 69-66. Freshman guard Ron Pummill (Garden City) scored a team-high 18 points for the Ocelots, who fall to 3-9 overall and 1-3 in the conference. Macomb improves to 5-3 overall and 1-0 in the conference.

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Rockets post two dual meet wins

The Westland John Glenn wrestling squad sprung into action Wednesday night with a pair of victories in a double dual meet hosted by New Boston Huron.

Coach Bill Polk's senior-laden team squashed the host Chiefs, 57-18, and capped off the night with a hard-fought 35-28 victory against Dearborn Heights Annapolis, ranked No. 5 in Division 2.

Among the individual **WRESTLING** double winners for the

Rockets were: Kyle Gillies, 103 pounds; Steve Wakeford, 112; Josh Austin, 125; Anthony Pavlich, 130; Mark Thompson, 135; Zach Redden, 160; and Dustin Gajowiak, 285.

Wolpack start 2-0

Dimitrios Renfro and Anwar Oliver came through with key wins as Wayne Memorial opened its season Wednesday with a double-dual victory over Gibraltar Carlson (59-21) and Lincoln Park (39-27).

Going 2-0 on the night for the host Wolpack included Tristan Jarosciewicz (119), Terry McCartney (135), Oliver (145), Josh Mills (160), Brandon Whittenberg (171), Renfro (189) and Chris Bowie (285).

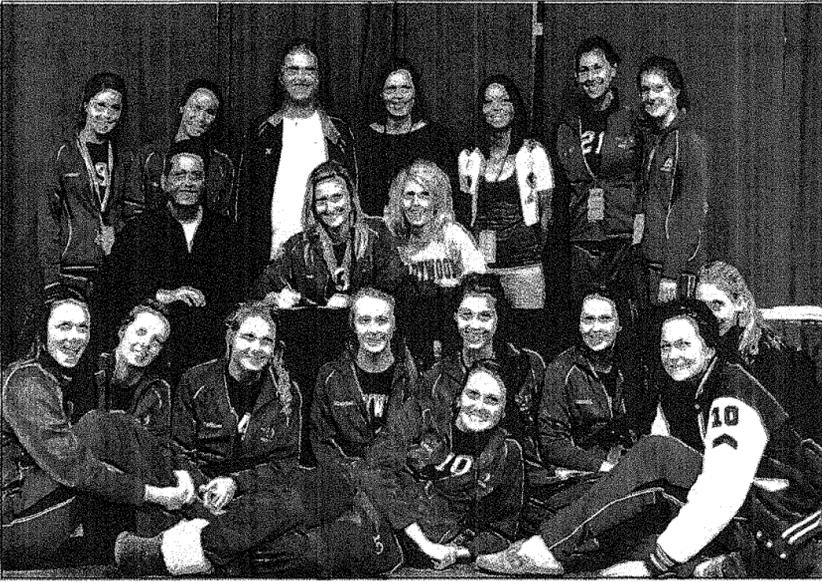
WAYNE MEMORIAL
WAYNE 39, LINCOLN PARK 27
 103: Dylan McLeod (LP) pinned Pablo Flores, 5:35; 12: Jacob Jones (LP) decisioned Darryl Ison, 11:10; 119: Tristan Jarosciewicz (WM) p. Richard Jerzierski, 0:59; 125: Anthony Barbour (LP) won by major decision over Devon Adams, 18:46; 130: Bobby Sadowski (LP) dec. Ryan Raymor, 11:10; 135: Terry McCartney (WM) p. Brandon Duvall, 1:22; 140: Andrew Daraban (LP) dec. Sharif Hegazi, 6:2; 145: Anwar Oliver (WM) dec. C.J. Ward, 14:7; 152: Robert Kanales (LP) dec. Jalen Jones, 11:7; 160: Josh Mills (WM) p. Arthur Hernandez, 3:29; 171: Brandon Whittenberg (WM) p. Tyler Roth, 0:44; 189: Dimitrios Renfro (WM) p. Brandon Bonora, 0:43; 215: Jerome Triplett (LP) p. Dylan Korzetki, 3:27; 285: Chris Bowie (WM) won by void.

WAYNE MEMORIAL 59
GIBRALTAR CARLSON 21
 103 pounds: Brandon Washington (GC) pinned Pablo Flores, 3:40; 112: Allen Parker (GC) won by void; 119: Dillon Wheeler (GC) decisioned Darryl Ison, 13:10; 125: Tristan Jarosciewicz (WM) p. Cameron Smith, 3:32; 130: J. Getchell (GC) p. Devon Adams, 3:40; 135: Terry McCartney (WM) p. Jacob Seals, 1:46; 140: Jacob Mydloski (GC) p. Sharif Hegazi, 1:46; 145: Anwar Oliver (WM) p. Robin Michael, 0:21; 152: Jalen Jones (WM) won by technical fall over Jake Sanders, 17:2; 160: Josh Mills (WM) p. Griffin Riter, 3:32; 171: Brandon Whittenberg (WM) p. William Sanders, 1:49; 189: Dimitrios Renfro (WM) p. Allen Clark, 1:34; 215: Dylan Korzetki (WM) p. Tyler Caughey, 0:15; 285: Chris Bowie (WM) won by void.

Wayne's dual meet record: 2-0 overall.
Dec. 2 at Auburn Hills Avondale
LIVONIA STEVENSON 56
WATERFORD MOTT 18
 103 pounds: Kevin Shafta (WM) pinned Sheldon Kabrovich, 0:49 seconds; 112: Ashraf Alhaj (LS) won by void; 119: Omar Mostafa (LS) def. Jacob Hartsoe, 8:3; 125: Corey Davis (LS) won by technical fall over Frank Rodriguez, 18:2; 130: Lewie Bettsford (WM) p. Robert Schramm, 5:25; 135: Paul Jordan (WM) decisioned Samer Shebak, 3:2; 140: Zach Auner (LS) p. Ian Branam, 1:35; 145: Charlie Kokenakes (LS) p. Dre Sangster, 2:51; 152: Jacob Mailloux (LS) p. J.D. Oeans, 1:48; 160: Chris Arnold (LS) p. Josh Rieck, 1:43; 171: Joshua Siebert (LS) p. Ryan Trevino, 0:44; 189: Joseph Scott (LS) p. Joe Scott, 1:54; 215: Andrew Schramm (LS) p. Chris Saikalis, 1:54; 285: Ken Allen (WM) def. Nathan Keedle, 3:1.

AUBURN HILLS AVONDALE 45
LIVONIA STEVENSON 27
 103 pounds: Jesse Mitchell (AHA) pinned Sheldon Kabrovich, 3:07; 112: Ashraf Alhaj (LS) p. Ben Thompson, 3:32; 119: Trevor Wright (AHA) p. Omar Mostafa, 2:22; 125: Corey Davis (LS) won by major dec. over Dillon Branchery, 19:9; 130: Troy May (AHA) p. Robert Schramm, 1:03; 135: Brad Lowe (AHA) p. Samer Shebak, 1:06; 140: Kyle Reinhart (AHA) p. Zach Auner, 3:39; 145: Charlie Kokenakes (LS) won by major dec. over Jarrell Fields, 10:1; 152: Ryan Azmouadan (AHA) won by forfeit over Jacob Mailloux, 5:5; 160: Chris Arnold (LS) dec. Nick Kennels, 4:3; 171: Jacob Creech (AHA) dec. Joshua Siebert, 18:9; Andrew Schramm (LS) dec. Joe Kury, 7:6; 215: Chris Wilson (AHA) p. Joseph Scott, 2:35; 285: Jacob Range (LS) p. John Morton, 1:10.

Stevenson's dual meet record: 1-1 overall.



DENNIS BARNES

Spiker signs letter

Ashley Hines, a senior captain on the Livonia Ladywood volleyball team, will play next fall at Davenport University in Grand Rapids. Hines, a four year varsity player who earned All-Central Division, All-Region and honorable mention All-State honors, recently signed with her new coach Rick Rykse. Also on hand for the signing, which was held Nov. 20 during the state Class B semifinals at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena, were Ladywood varsity coach Erin Craggs, along with Hines' teammates and parents.

Western goaltender 'stones' Chargers

BY BRAD EMONS
 OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A modest and almost sheepish Benny Iaquina shrugged off his 52-save performance like it was no big deal.

"If it's coming at me and I can see it clearly, I can stop it," said the Walled Lake Western goaltender, who helped the Warriors earn a 5-3 KLAAs Kensington Conference boys hockey victory Wednesday night over host Livonia Churchill at Edgar Arena.

"A few times my guys were blocking shots and sometimes I just got lucky," the senior netminder added. "They (the defense) save my butt a couple of times."

Churchill jumped out to a 2-0 first-period advantage.

PREP HOCKEY

Christo Papaioannou's power-play goal from Drew Carlson and Devin Smythe at 2:24 got things rolling for Churchill.

Tony Mifsud followed with a goal at 8:02 from Nick Proben and the Chargers increased their lead to 3-0 at 3:38 of the second period on a goal by Scott Hamill from Papaioannou.

But the Warriors answered with four straight goals on just six shots during the same period capped by senior Chad Schram's short-handed effort from J.J. Pierce at 14:35.

Western also got goals from Schram, Kyle Shreue and Jarrod Wysong during the surge.

Wysong added an empty-netter with 25 seconds remaining in the final period to clinch the victory.

Schram finished with two goals and two assists on the night as Western improved to 1-2 overall and 1-0 in the conference.

Meanwhile, the loss dropped Churchill to 1-3 and 0-2.

But it was the play of Iaquina, a second-year varsity netminder, that got the most attention from Western coach Logan McLean.

"This was only his second game," the Warriors' second-year coach said. "He's had off-and-on nights, but lately he's been stepping up."

"He was the difference in the game."

bemons@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6851

HOCKEY

FROM PAGE B1

Wirkgau, the Patriots may have learned a valuable lesson after coming off a season-opening 8-0 mercy-rule setback to Pinckney.

"In the book 'The Art of War,' you never underestimate an opponent," he said. "After that game, we found out they (Pinckney) had 13 seniors."

"Obviously we didn't underestimate Stevenson. They're an elite program and what we're striving to become. But I thought maybe Stevenson misjudged the competitiveness of Franklin a bit. I think a lot of people thought this game would be over sometime in the second period."

Franklin, coming off a 0-24 season in 2008-09, may have found a diamond in the rough in Crechhiolo, who traded in his basketball shoes this season for skates.

"I thought our goalie (Crechhiolo) was the best player on the ice for both teams," said Wirkgau, whose team is 0-2 and 0-1. "He hasn't played hockey in six years. And for being only his second competitive game against a team like Stevenson, he was clearly the best player on the ice."

On Friday, Franklin fell to 0-3 on the young season in a 5-4 setback to Dearborn Unified at Edgar Arena.

The Patriots trailed 4-1 before rallying to tie it at 4-4 before Dearborn tallied the game-winning goal.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Dec. 8
 Dearborn at Churchill, 7 p.m.
 Franklin at Milford, 7 p.m.
 Howell at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 Taylor Kennedy at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
 Annapolis at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
 Luth. N.West at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Mount Carmel, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 9
 Edsel Ford at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
 Taylor Truman at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 11
 Stevenson at Churchill, 7 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Oak Christian, 7 p.m.
 (St. Joseph Mich. Lutheran Tourney)
 Howardsville vs. Flint Int. Acad., 6:30 p.m.
 Huron Valley vs. Mich. Lutheran, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12
 John Glenn vs. Del. Renaissance at Detroit Cass Tech, 1 p.m.
 Mich. Luth. Tournament, 5:30 & 7 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 8
 Huron Valley at Franklin Road, 6:30 p.m.
 Clarenceville at Hazel Park, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 9
 Churchill at Dearborn, 7 p.m.
 Waterford Mott at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Edsel Ford, 7 p.m.
 Wayne at Garden City, 7 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Mount Carmel, 7 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Cranbrook, 7 p.m.
 Saginaw Nouvel at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 10
 F.H. Harrison at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
 Wayne at Taylor Truman, 7 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Luth. N.West, 7 p.m.
 Lutheran South at Huron Valley, 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 11
 Churchill at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 A.A. Skyline at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
 Grand Ledge at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Dec. 9
 Stevenson vs. Novi at Novi Ice Arena, 6 p.m.
 Churchill vs. Plymouth at Edgar Arena, 8 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 11
 Churchill vs. Novi-Detroit CC at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12
 Ladywood vs. G.P. South at Arctic Pond, 6:30 p.m.
 Stevenson vs. Novi-Detroit CC at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Wednesday, Dec. 9
 Livonia City Meet at Stevenson, 5:30 p.m.
 Wayne at Romulus Summit Quad, 5:30 p.m.
 John Glenn at Linden, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12
 Avondale Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Garden City Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
 Salem Invitational, TBA
 Rochester Invitational, TBA
BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING
Tuesday, Dec. 8
 Wayne at Garden City, 4 p.m.
 W.L. Western at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 10
 Lincoln Park at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12
 Rocket Relays at John Glenn, 1 p.m.
PREP BOWLING
Tuesday, Dec. 8
 John Glenn vs. Hartland
 Wayne vs. Howell
 Clarenceville vs. Milford
 at Century Bowl, 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 9
 John Glenn vs. W.L. Western,
 Wayne vs. W.L. Central,
 Clarenceville vs. W.L. Northern
 at Westland Bowl, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12
 Farmington Early Bird Invitational
 at Drakeville Lanes, 9:30 a.m.
GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER
Monday, Dec. 7
 KLAAs Quad at Waterford Mott, 6:30 p.m.
 KLAAs Quad at Grand Bluff, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 9
 KLAAs Quad at Pinckney, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12
 Wyandotte Invitational, 9 a.m.
 CCAM Invitational at Stoney Creek, 1 p.m.
GIRLS FIGURE SKATING
Sunday, Dec. 13
 Ladywood in Team Competition at Hartland Sports Center, 8 a.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Wednesday, Dec. 9
 Schoolcraft at Grand Rapids CC, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 11
 (Madonna University Classic)
 Rochester College vs. UM-Dearborn, 6 p.m.
 Madonna vs. Notre Dame (Ohio), 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12
 Schoolcraft at Glen Oaks CC, 3 p.m.
 (Madonna University Classic)
 Notre Dame (Ohio) at UM-Dearborn, noon.
 Madonna vs. Rochester College, 2 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Friday, Dec. 11
 Madonna at St. Ambrose (Ia.), 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12
 St. Clair CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.
 Madonna vs. St. Mary-of-the-Woods (Ind.)
 at St. Ambrose (Ia.) Classic, 4 p.m.

ROUNDUP

FROM PAGE B1

held off a late fourth-quarter rally to down Livonia Ladywood (1-1) in non-league encounter.

Flint Powers had four players scored in double figures, led by Lauren Kooy and Lindsey McPherson with 14 and 13 points, respectively. Lauren Leach and Jordan Barkman each added 12.

Alyssa Anastos paced the Blazers with 14 points, while Molly Gacich and Cara Miller chipped in 13 and 12, respectively.

The Chargers made 30-of-43 free throws as three Ladywood starters fouled out.

"They got in the bonus early and they got to the line often," said Ladywood coach Pat Cannon, whose team was 18-of-27 from the foul line. "We're a physical team and they called anything that was going to the basket."

Ladywood trailed by 12 points after three quarters before rallying within three in the final 90 seconds.

"Our bench came in the latter half of the third quarter and brought high energy," Cannon said. "They kept hustling and working. It got us back into the game. They (Powers) had to make free throws to ice the game."

EDEL FORD 64, STEVENSON 36: Charifre Carr tallied 13 points, while Marli Marano and Daniell Cowart each added 11 Friday as Dearborn Edsel Ford (1-0) trimmed host Livonia Stevenson (0-1), spoiling the debut of first-year coach Jen Knoph.

The Thunderbirds jumped out to a 16-13 lead and extended their advantage to 40-22 at halftime with a 24-9 second-quarter run.

Sarah Smith and Molly Knoph scored eight and seven points,

respectively, for the Spartans, who shot 13-of-22 from the foul line.

"Edsel Ford is a veteran team, a great team and we have a lot of work to do," Jen Knoph said. "We have a lot of depth, but we're just not jelling yet."

ANNAPOLIS 60, CLARENCEVILLE 23: On Friday, Kelly Supikowski scored 13 points as host Dearborn Heights Annapolis (2-0) rolled to a non-conference win over Livonia Clarenceville (1-1).

Jalissa Williams and Nicolette Plewa added nine and eight, respectively, for the victorious Cougars.

Jenna Burgess led the Trojans, who trailed 28-10 at halftime, with nine points and six rebounds. Kristen Jolly added five points and four rebounds.

BELLEVILLE 50, JOHN GLENN 30: Three players scored in double figures Thursday as the host Tigers (1-0) downed Westland John Glenn (0-1) in the season opener.

Jessica Green led Belleville with 15 points, while Nichole Nicholson and Diajah Ruffin added 11 and 10, respectively.

Glenn, which couldn't overcome a 26-11 halftime deficit, got a game-high 16 points, seven steals and six rebounds from Michelle Vanover.

The Rockets were 3-of-11 from the foul line, while Belleville was 12-of-25.

LUTH. WESTLAND 31, INTER-CITY 24: Senior center Emilie Freeman scored 15 points and sophomore forward Amanda Terranella added 10 Tuesday night as Lutheran High Westland (1-0) defeated host Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (0-1) in the season opener for both teams.

The Warriors, who shot 33.3 percent from the field and 55 from the foul line, also received a strong rebounding effort from senior forward Rachel Storck.

S'craft extends home win streak

Angela Burrell scored 15 points to pace a balanced scoring attack Friday night as the Schoolcraft College women's basketball team captured its 41st straight home game with a 76-53 triumph over Sinclair Community College (Ohio) in the Schoolcraft Invitational.

The Lady Ocelots, now 12-0 overall, led 41-34 with 15:03 left in the game before going on an 18-5 run to break it wide open.

Burrell, who hit three triples, added eight rebounds and seven assists.

Also chipping in for the Lady Ocelots, ranked No. 2 in the latest NJCAA Division II poll, included April Goins, 14 points and 10 rebounds; Antania Shepherd, 14 points and seven rebounds; and Kimberly Bee, 10 points.

Schoolcraft outbounded Sinclair by a 54-36 margin.

The Lady Ocelots shot 43 percent from the field (29-of-67) and 78.9 percent from the foul line (15-of-19).

Shelby Pettit and Chelcie

Gullett tallied 13 and 12 points, respectively, for Sinclair (5-2).

The Lady Ocelot will take on Kalamazoo Valley CC (3-5) beginning at 3 p.m. Saturday in the championship final.

Kalamazoo Valley defeated Kennedy-King (Ill.) in the first game, 62-37.

SCHOOLCRAFT 71, MACOMB CC 42: Amber Avery scored a game-high 23 points and added 15 rebounds Wednesday night as Schoolcraft College (11-0, 4-0) rolled to an MCCA Eastern Conference win over visiting Macomb Community College (3-3, 0-1).

Emelda Chew and Antania Shepherd each added 14 points for the victorious Lady Ocelots.

Angela Burrell also dished out six assists as Schoolcraft, ranked No. 2 in NJCAA Division II, extended its conference winning streak to 31 straight.

Macomb was outscored 43-23 in the second half.

The Monarchs made only 14-of-47 shots from the floor (29.8 percent), while Schoolcraft hit 30-of-75 (40 percent).

The Lady Ocelots also enjoyed a 59-28 rebounding advantage.

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Notice is hereby given that on December 16, 2009 on or after 9:30 a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are preferred **cash only but will except debit/credit**. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: 34333 E. Michigan Ave. Wayne MI. 48184 (734)728-8204.

A119	Stacey Grantham	Treadmill, Refrigerator, Bike
A124	Monique Jordan	2 Tables, 10 Boxes, Dresser
A312	Nikki Cooper	2 Bikes, 20 Boxes, Mattress
A403	Ferial Blaik	3 Boxes, Bag
B112	Edward Watkins	Motorcycle Parts, 5 Totes, 10 Boxes
B113	Edward Watkins	Engine Stand, Sanding Machine, Drill Press
C156	Brandi Warren	Toys, Stereo, 5 Boxes
C168	James Craemer	Desk, Microwave, 5 Boxes
C182	Laura Anderson	Table, Dresser, 5 Boxes
E146	Russell Redmon	Toys, 40 Boxes, 5 Bags
RV2	Scott Pierce	Sylvan Boat
RV50	Beverly Brown	Ford Bronco
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OE0680190

Top soccer players earn All-Observer accolades

First team

Sasa Miskovic, Sr. GK, Salem: One of the top student-athletes to represent Salem, the senior goalkeeper overcame a knee injury to be a key reason for the Rocks march to the Division 1 state semifinals.

Salem's co-MVP finished with a goals-against average of 1.05 and earned his second first team All-State berth along with All-KLAA.

Miskovic held off top-ranked Livonia Churchill, 3-2, in a memorable district final and then followed up with a clutch performance against Canton in the regional final (a 3-1 win). Against Holt in the D1 semifinal, it took a late header to defeat Miskovic and the Rocks, 1-0.

"Sasa is an intelligent organizer of our back line and dominates the 18-yard box," said Salem head coach Ed McCarthy. "He has great quickness and prevented sure goals throughout the season with a new back line from the previous year."

McCarthy called Miskovic "the best goalkeeper in the history of Salem soccer."

Adam Bedell, Sr. Def., Liv. Churchill: The first-team Division 1 All-State selection finished the year with an amazing 11 goals and 10 assists. The 6-foot-6 Bedell anchored a Churchill defense that allowed just nine goals in 21 games.

"He was instrumental in our restarts and supporting our attack as well," Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said of the All-KLAA pick. "He's one of the most complete soccer players I have coached here at Churchill. He has the best touch of any defender in the game. He could play anywhere on the field."

Jon Dugan, Sr. Def., Canton: Strong defense had a lot to do with Canton going 14-8-3 and then capturing its first Division 1 district championship since 1998. The Chiefs blanked three opponents during the districts, winning the final 4-0 over Dearborn Edsel Ford and adding a fourth whitewash in the regional semifinal. Dugan was a key component of that stinginess.

"Jon was a strong defensive asset to our team," said Canton coach George Tomasso. "He was also one of our captains, and he proved his leadership all year by giving a consistently high performance. We had four shutouts in the state playoff run, and he was a huge part of those."

Dugan was selected as an All-State honorable mention and was named to the All-District and All-Region teams.

Dan Jasewicz, Sr. Def., Plymouth: Jasewicz sparked the Wildcats defense, contributing to the team's 10-7-2 overall record and excellent 7-2-1 second-place finish in the KLAA South.

"He had an outstanding season for us; he organized our defense," said Wildcats coach Jeff Neschich. "It's been our best finish in the division since the school's been open, and he's been a key part in that."

The senior co-captain, who chipped in seven goals, was recognized for his fine play, being named to the all-conference team as well as being an All-State honorable mention selection.

Zach Cooney, Jr. Def., Liv. Stevenson: The junior anchored the Spartans' defense from his center back position en route

2009 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS SOCCER FIRST-TEAM
 Sasa Miskovic, Sr. GK, Salem
 Adam Bedell, Sr. Def., Liv. Churchill
 Jon Dugan, Sr. Def., Canton
 Dan Jasewicz, Sr. Def., Plymouth
 Zach Cooney, Jr. Def., Liv. Stevenson
 Eric Weberman, Jr. MF, N. Farmington
 Lachlan Savage, Sr. MF, Salem
 Ian Guerin, Sr. MF, Liv. Churchill
 Phil Strachan, Sr. MF, Liv. Clarenceville
 Mark Amis, Sr. MF, Farmington
 Max Washko, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill
 Alex Tramel, Sr. F, Salem
 Gage Flanery, Sr. F, Luth. Westland

SECOND-TEAM
 Conner Burton, Sr. GK, Liv. Stevenson
 Erik Bird, Sr. Def., Liv. Churchill
 Connor Furgason, Soph. Def., Canton
 David Bahling, Sr. Def., Farmington
 Dan Martin, Jr. MF, Salem
 Don Mullett, Sr. MF, Ply. Christian
 Tyler Arban, Sr. MF, Garden City
 Vinh Nguyen, Sr. MF, Plymouth
 Nelson Kenne, Sr. MF, Westland Glenn
 Brandon Tolinski, Sr. MF, Canton
 Adam Shibliq, Sr. F, N. Farmington
 Ardit Dushkaj, Jr. F, Liv. Clarenceville
 Francis Mensah, Jr. F, Redford Union
 Jordan Machonga, Sr. F, Ply. Christian

CO-COACHES OF THE YEAR
 Reid Friedrichs, Liv. Churchill
 Ed McCarthy, Salem

HONORABLE MENTION
Churchill: Nick Wood, Stephen Foster, Tim Devine; **Franklin:** Jordan McGuire, Dillon DeBellis; **Stevenson:** Adam Dobkowski, Chris Sergison; **John Glenn:** Troy McGuigan, Robert Hurst; **Wayne:** Kevin Glass; **Clarenceville:** Garek Hintzman, Mike Schiffman, Jimmy Moody; **Lutheran Westland:** Austin Baglow, Laird Francis, Kent Krzywiec, Mitchell Boehm; **Huron Valley Lutheran:** Matt St. John, Mark St. John, Matt Kempainen; **Farmington:** Ben Fleck, Brent Winkler, Zach Schulz, Jake Finkbinder, Donald Payne; **Harrison:** Will Mindrou, Dan Leeb, Andrew Kuelbs, Koshiro Shimomiya; **North Farmington:** Justin Barbat, Matt Jaisle, Marc Chiodo, Kyle Kansman; **Canton:** Mitch Posuniak, Kai Walther; **Plymouth:** Nick Russ, Andrew Yoder, Kyle Brindza, Joe Klonowski, Sam MacCani; **Plymouth Christian:** Blair Robinson, Travis DeKruyter, Matt Zandee, Alex Chapman; **Salem:** John Krutty, Mohammad Pourmandi; **Redford Union:** Jaak Mejja, Tyler Cooley, Anthony Sadler; **Garden City:** Andy Chambo, John Selinski, Justin Vincent.

to All-KLAA, All-District, All-Region and honorable mention All-State recognition.

Cooney, who scored two goals this year, earned a starting spot as a sophomore on Stevenson's Division 1 state runner-up team. He is also a member of the Derby County Wolves Under-16 national championship team.

"Zach is a very good overall soccer player who can excel both offensively and defensively," Stevenson coach Lars Richters said. "He is a great competitor and a strong leader by example, and he tends to rise to the challenge of the biggest game."

Eric Weberman, Jr. MF, N. Farmington: Weberman played an important role in the team's turnaround, going from 4-12-2 last year to 10-4-4 and a fourth-place finish in the OAA White Division. He was the North MVP for the second year in a row, and he made the all-state second team. Playing mostly center back, Weberman still had seven goals and six assists.

"He's our hardest-working player on the field, and he was always double teamed when he had the ball," coach Mike Horner said. "Besides being an extremely talented athlete, he's also a bright young man and understands the game very well. His first choice is not to play defense, but he was happy to do that for the good of the team. He works hard and doesn't have a big ego. Next year we'll play him in the center of the field and give him a chance to be more a part of the attack."

Lachlan Savage, Sr. MF, Salem: While Miskovic was keeping the ball out of Salem's goal, Savage was busy taking care of the pitch with 12 goals (sharing top team honors with Alex Tramel).

Savage — a third team All-Stater and All-KLAA choice — also led the team in assists this season, marking the second consecutive season he led or shared the lead in both offensive categories.

During his prep career, "Locke" tallied points in eight of 11 tournament games to underscore how clutch a player he was at Salem.

"(Savage is a) very creative player with a crafty ability to pass and involve other players," coach McCarthy said. "He's an excellent attacking central midfielder."

Ian Guerin, Sr. MF, Liv. Churchill: The hard-nosed and scrappy midfielder, who scored three goals and added five assists, earned All-State honorable mention accolades as well All-KLAA honors.

"Ian is the hardest working player on the field at any given time against any given team," Friedrichs said of his captain. "He's an inspiration to his teammates and can mark any 'best player' on the opposing team. He's such a positive force for our second and such a positive influence with most of the time his work going unnoticed in the stat book. He was a game-changing player because of his overall attitude and work ethic."

Phil Strachan, Sr. MF, Liv. Clarenceville: The senior midfielder and sweeper led the Trojans to their best record in school history (13-5-2) and a runner-up finish in the Metro Conference.

The three-time All-Conference selection and two-year captain capped his senior year with six goals and eight assists.

"Phil is the strongest player I have ever coached," Clarenceville coach Trevor Johnson said. "He is a great leader, on-and-off the field, has incredible soccer instincts, a very big physical presence on the field, huge leg and can play any position."

"I couldn't have asked for a better player to coach. He's extremely dedicated and hopes to play at the next level. Another coach commented to me about Phil: 'It's like he's a man out there playing amongst boys.'"

Mark Amis, Sr. MF, Farmington: Amis was the primary playmaker for the Falcons, who were 14-6-1 and one of the top three teams in the OAA White Division. As the center midfielder, he scored eight goals and passed for eight assists. Amis made the all-region team and is an all-state honorable mention.

"Mark was somebody we could depend on each and every game," coach Luke Juncaj said. "He played hard all season. We dominated the midfield in just about every game, and Mark was the main reason for it. He controlled the midfield and got us on the attack. Because of his performance in the midfield, we had a lot of offense and a lot of goals scored. He was definitely the top player on this team and somebody who will be hard to replace next year."

Max Washko, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill: The Chargers' MVP and third-team Division 1 All-Stater

racked up 25 goals and 11 assists his senior year.

"He is a goal scoring forward who developed a work ethic over his career as good as anybody I've ever coached," Friedrichs said of the All-KLAA selection. "He has passion for the game of soccer that made him improve himself into a complete soccer player. He was the best player in the air and could score from anywhere on the field."

Alex Tramel, Sr. F, Salem: Tramel's speed, determination, versatility and powerful shot enabled him to net 12 goals for Salem, tied for team honors with Lachlan Savage, and help the Rocks post a 17-5-4 record.

He made 2nd team All-State and All-KLAA for his considerable contributions to the D1 regional champions.

"Alex has the ability to be a dominating target forward with a strong ability to hold the ball waiting for midfield support," explained McCarthy. "He can take players one-versus-one with a strong shot from both his left and right foot."

Gage Flanery, Sr. F, Luth. Westland: The senior forward, who scored 23 goals and added four assists, earned Division 4 second-team All-State honors along with first-team recognition in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

"Gage is one of those special players who is not only good on the ground, but also effective in the air," Warriors coach Rich Block said of his four-year varsity standout. "He's a gutsy kid who's really hard to handle off the dribble. He can finish and scored a lot of big goals for us this season."

Co-coaches of the year

Reid Friedrichs, Liv. Churchill: The 10th-year coach enjoyed his greatest season with the Chargers, who finished the regular season 17-0-1 and ranked No. 1 in Division 1.

Friedrichs, a former All-Big Ten goalkeeper at Michigan State, guided Churchill to the KLAA South Division, Kensington Conference and Association-wide titles.

Churchill allowed just nine goals all season en route to a 19-1-1 overall record.

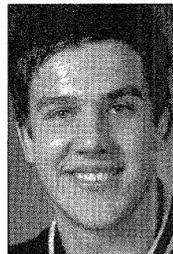
"It was a very special year and the boys made it that way by being in great shape and playing like a team," said Friedrichs, whose overall record is 122-778-20 at Churchill. "They played more as a team and more in their specific roles than any team I have coached. They squeezed every drop of potential out of themselves and I was very proud of them."

Churchill's only loss of the season came in the district final against Salem, 3-2.

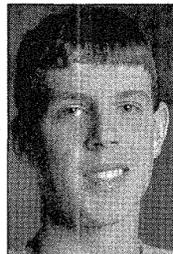
"I was just sad I didn't prepare them well enough for our first and only loss," Friedrichs admitted. "We weren't ready for that first 20 minutes somehow. We never gave up more than one goal in a game and we gave up two in the first eight minutes."

"Overall though, to play the schedule we do, and go unbeaten in the regular season, was something I was so happy to be a part of and is something I will remember for a long time."

Ed McCarthy, Salem: With the ability to motivate and teach his players at the same time, McCarthy led Salem to an excellent 17-5-4 record. The Rocks did their best work in



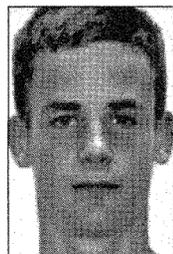
Sasa Miskovic Salem



Adam Bedell Churchill



Dan Jasewicz Plymouth



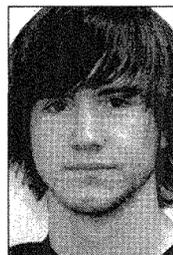
Zach Cooney Stevenson



Eric Weberman North Farmington



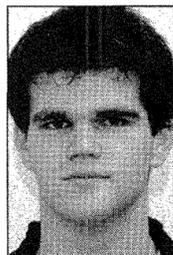
Lachlan Savage Salem



Ian Guerin Churchill



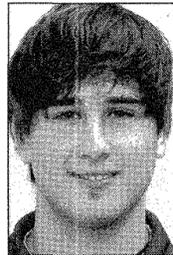
Phil Strachan Clarenceville



Mark Amis Farmington



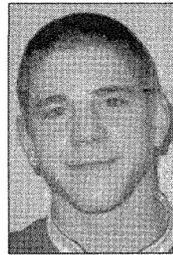
Max Washko Churchill



Alex Tramel Salem



Gage Flanery Lutheran Westland



Jon Dugan Canton



Reid Friedrichs Churchill coach



Ed McCarthy Salem coach

the state playoffs. They mowed down Plymouth, Northville, title-favorite Livonia Churchill, Dearborn and upstart Canton — and then coming within a whisker of playing for a Division 1 state championship. Holt won the semifinal 1-0 on a header late in regulation.

McCarthy might have been more proud of what the 2009 Rocks accomplished after losing six players to college from the 2008 squad that went 22-1-4. He improved his 14-year record at Salem to 227-60-48.

"The expectations from outside the program were not high," said McCarthy, who played at Redford Union and Schoolcraft College during high school and college, respectively. "Despite losing so many high quality players, the team was very motivated and focused to improve on the (2008) regional finalist team."

With a number of scoring threats, Salem one-upped the

'08 team, which was the No. 1 squad throughout the regular season.

"The key to this year's team was our balance," McCarthy noted. "We were not dominant in any area. We had a solid back line, midfield line, and forward line. This was supported by a deep bench."

The deep and talented roster did plenty of damage, scoring 59 goals. In addition to All-Observer first-teamers Savage and Tramel (12 goals each), the Rocks' lineup included 11-goal scorer Dan Martin (who made the All-Observer second team) and Evan Antich who registered eight goals, including one against Livonia Churchill in the district final.

This year's district and regional titles were the seventh and fourth, respectively, that the Rocks have won during McCarthy's long and distinguished tenure at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

MU baseball camp

Madonna University baseball coach Greg Haeger and his staff will stage a holiday baseball camp for ages 9-18 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, at the Total Sports Complex in Wixom.

The cost is \$150 for the first child and \$75 for each additional child.

MU baseball staff members Stu Rose, Ted Falkner and Mike George will assist in the camp.

For more information, e-mail Jen at Total Sports at Jen@total-sportscomplex.com.

Lacrosse coach wanted

Livonia Ladywood is seeking a varsity girls lacrosse coach for the 2010

spring season.

If interested, fax a resume to Ladywood athletic director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

Track coach wanted

The University of Detroit Jesuit High is seeking a varsity boys track and field coach for the 2010 season.

Those interested should forward a resume to: Mickey Barrett, Athletic Director, 8400 S. Cambridge, Detroit, MI. 48221; or fax to (313) 862-3299; or e-mail mickey.barrett@uofjjesuit.org.

Hoop programs set

Garden City Parks & Recreation Youth Basketball Programs are being

offered this winter for boys and girls in grades three through six.

Boys and girls freshman (third and fourth graders) basketball offers a recreational focus stressing fundamentals of the sport.

Cost is \$43 and all participants will receive a team t-shirt and medal. Games will be played Saturday mornings at Maplewood Community Center.

Registration will be conducted through Jan. 9. Play begins Jan. 9 and continues through March 6.

Boys junior varsity (fifth grade) basketball runs Jan. 26-May 4 and involves five elementary schools within the city. Practices will be held at the respective schools and games to be played at Burger School for the

Autistic.

Cost is \$48 and tryouts are required.

Registration will be held Dec. 7-Jan. 9 at Maplewood Community Center.

Boys varsity (sixth grade) basketball also involves all five elementary schools in Garden City. Practices will again be held at the respective schools with games to be held at Burger School for the Autistic.

Cost is \$48 and tryouts are required.

Registration will run Dec. 7-Jan. 9 with games being contested Jan. 28-May 6.

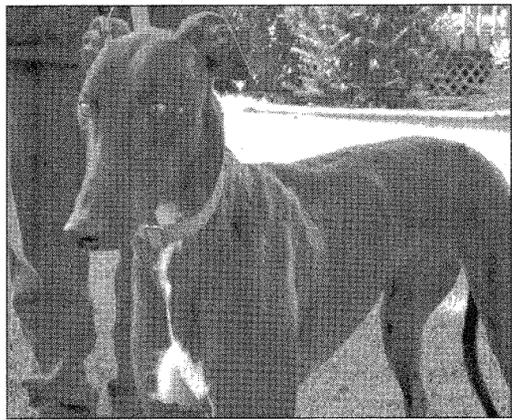
For more information, call (734) 793-1882 or visit online at www.gardencitymi.org/parks.

MU softball camps

Madonna University will stage three winter softball camps at the MU Activities Center featuring specialized individual instruction covering all phases of the game for girls ages 7-18.

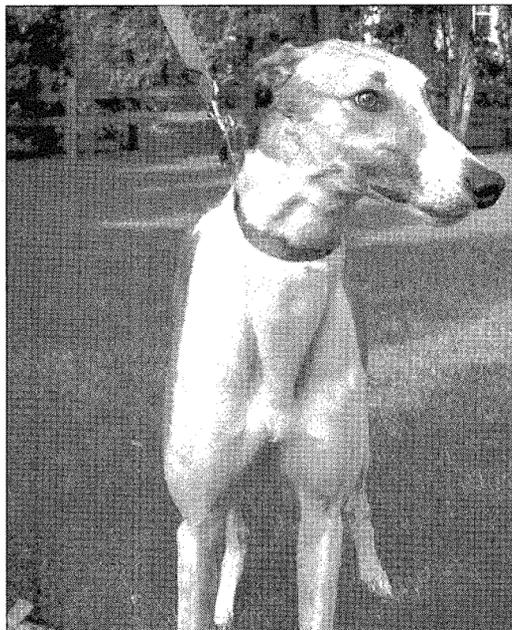
Among the camps offered include: Hitting - 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 19-20 (cost \$30); Fundamental No. 1 - 9-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 (cost \$150); Fundamental No. 2 - noon-2:30 p.m. (cost \$150).

For more information, call MU head coach Al White at (734) 432-5783; or Steve Gentilia at (734) 776-1716. You can also e-mail awhite@madonna.edu.



Jill

ADOPTABLE GREYHOUNDS



Oliver

Three greyhounds, Jill, Oliver and Haley, are on hand for Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption's "Santa Express Meet and Greet," noon to 4 p.m., today, Sunday, Dec. 6, at PetCo, 43435 Ford Road, at Morton Taylor, Canton.

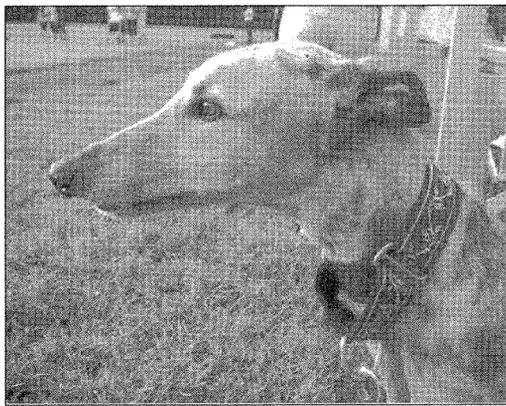
Here's what volunteers say about the three dogs:

Oliver, 2, has a white coat with red markings in it. He is the sweetest dog you could ever want to meet. Handsome and gentle. He'll be at the adoption event between noon and 1:30 p.m. Jill is a beautiful little

black girl with the sweetest eyes you could ever wish for. She is 3 and a curious little girl at that. She'll arrive at the meet and greet at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Haley is 6 1/2 years old and could melt the heart of a Grinch. She is a petite little girl with light fawn brindle coloring. She'll be on hand at around 1 p.m.

Can't make it to today's event? View the dogs online at www.greyheart.org. For more information about adoptable greyhounds, call Greyheart at (866) 438-4739.



Haley

MILESTONES

PHILLIPS-SHELTON

Amanda Phillips and Timothy L. Shelton plan to marry in December 2009. The bride-to-be, daughter of Martin Pollard and Tracey Rowedder of Acworth, Ga., graduated from Kennesaw State University and is

employed in sales. Her fiancé, son of Terry and Brenda Shelton of Farmington Hills, graduated from the University of South Florida and St. Mary's Medical School. He is a physiatrist at Non-Surgical Orthopaedics. The couple plans to wed in Kennesaw, Ga.

PLYMOUTH TWINS

Langston Christopher Montney and Eloise Rose Montney were born Nov. 19, 2009. Langston weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces, and measured 19 1/2 inches. His sister weighed 5 pounds, 11 ounces, and measured 19 inches. Proud parents are Chris Montney and Hillary Cargo of Plymouth. Grandparents are George and Adrienne Cargo of Marshall, and James and Jeanann Montney of Davison.



Eloise Rose Montney and Langston Christopher Montney

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

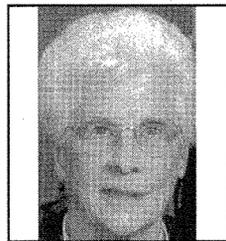
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WILFRED "BILL" "BUMPY" CAMERON
 Age 81, November 25, 2009 of Livonia. Beloved husband of Olga. Loving father of Reid (Mary Kay) and Marcia (Brad) Saunders. Dear brother of Ruth Frazer. Grandfather of Richard (Tracey), Kasi, Ellen and Aaron Saunders, Grace (Tony) Zaszczurynski and Audra Cameron. Great grandfather of Nicholas, Mitchell, Heston and Lilly. He was preceded in death by his son Keith Francis Cameron. Mr. Cameron worked at the YMCA for many years. He was a lifelong Rotarian, where he was past President, Paul Harris fellow recipient and Friendship Exchange Volunteer. During his life Mr. Cameron wrote two columns (Court Jester and Ski-Heil) for the Observer Newspaper. A Memorial Service will be held on Friday at 11AM at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. The family suggests donation to Livonia Rotary Foundation. Please sign Bill's online guestbook at www.rgrharris.com



PAULA K. DUNCAN

Dec. 3, 2009 age 52, of Westland. Beloved wife of Charlie L. Dear mother of Christina (Jason) Parrillo, Samantha Duncan & Charlie Duncan III. Loving daughter of Sharon Morris & the late James Morris. Sister of Sherie Wells. Grandmother of Kaelee & Christopher Decker. Funeral at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland Mon. 1 PM. Family will receive friends Sun. 1-9 PM. Memorial contributions may be made to the family. Please visit and sign a tribute at: www.uhtfh.com



ILA MARSEE

December 3, 2009, age 85 of Plymouth. Beloved wife of the late Carl. Loving mother of Barbara, David (Janet) and the late Judy (Ed) Langer. Proud grandma of Dawn Bradford, Darren (Jana) Kopetko, Scott (Anita) Langer, Todd (Kara) and the late Kevin. Also survived by nine great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews including Joan (the late Eugene) Morrison. Visitation Sunday, 2pm to 9pm at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. In state Monday, 10:00am until 11:00am. Funeral Service at First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth. Interment Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church-Youth Group or the Plymouth Historical Museum. To share a memory, please visit: Vermeulenfuneralhome.com



DOREEN J. STEVENS

Passed away quietly on November 20, 2009. Preceded in death by her loving husband Lee. Survived by her children Janet (Mike) Jensen, Randy (Mimi) Stevens, and Sheila (Tom) Gebhardt, grandchildren Sara, Christopher, Christine, Craig, Danny, Lea, Samantha, Callen, and great grandchildren Aiden, Kallee, Maggie, Kelsen, and Emmy. A Celebration of Life was held in Colorado. Memorial contributions may be made in Doreen's name to the Porter Hospital Cancer Center, 2525 S. Downing Street, Denver, CO 80210. Interment Oakwood Cemetery, Farmington, MI. www.thayer-rock.com



CORRINE CLARK

Age 84 of Canton, passed away Thursday, December 3, 2009. She was born May 7, 1925 to Walter and Agnes Schifle and was a life long resident of the Plymouth-Canton area. Married Wilbert (Bill) Clark on June 28, 1944 and had celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary this last year. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who enjoyed traveling, bowling, gardening and family functions. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, Nankin Eastern Star, the VFW Auxiliary, a Charter member of the Elks Vivian Club of Plymouth and belonged to the Trailwood Garden Club. She volunteered for the American Red Cross for 15 years. Dear mother of Terry (Susan) Clark of Ft. Wayne, IN and Carol (Bill) Barringer of Canton. Loving grandmother of Kelly (Chris) Steffen, Greg (Erin) Clark and Brent Clark of Ft. Wayne, IN and Grant (Jaime) Gardner and Mike Gardner of Plymouth and five great-grandchildren. Visitation 2-5pm and 6-8pm Sunday, December 6, 2009 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Funeral Monday 1:30pm at the funeral home. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com



JOANNA (Jury) GARRETT

Love, Compassion, Joyfulness
 Former Birmingham resident Joanna Garrett died on Monday, November 23, 2009. Joanna Jury was born in Jackson, MI, on August 4, 1940 to Helen and Henry Jury. She began her lifelong love of education at the University of Michigan where she earned a B.A. and M.A. in English. She was President of her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma, and was involved in many academic and social activities during her time in Ann Arbor. Following her graduation she taught high school English in the Birmingham School District. Joanna was a modern renaissance woman. She loved, supported, and participated in the creative arts. She was a passionate reader and was co-founder of a book club which continues to this day. she was a painter and weaver, a superb cook and gracious hostess, and above all a teacher and mentor to children, friends and family. She was an accomplished gardener who reveled in the first blossoms of spring, the last displays of fall color, and even the raking of leaves. She loved making clothes for her grandchildren on her ancient sewing machine. She enjoyed all the performing arts, especially lie theatre and movies. An avid traveler along with her husband and greatest admirer, Roger, Joanna enjoyed numerous hiking, biking, and kayaking trips in Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and Africa. In 2002 she completed the famous and challenging "Coast to Coast" walk across England in 15 days. She traveled to every continent except Antarctica, and always looked forward to the exciting new experiences her travels would bring. Joanna served on the boards of the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, the Friends of the Detroit Public Library, Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, Family Life Education Council (FLEC), and the Parents League of Independent Schools. She volunteered for many worthwhile causes including Habitat for Humanity, Guyton School in Detroit, the Grosse Pointe Public Library, Greening of Detroit, Services for Older Citizens (SOC), Pewabic Pottery, and the Detroit Institute of Arts. Joanna will be remembered as a devoted and loving wife, mother, and grandmother by her family. All who knew her will remember her enthusiasms, kindness, generosity, compassion, joyfulness, beauty, and keen mind. Mrs. Garrett is survived by her husband Roger, children Jeffrey (Maria) Johnston, Hillary (Dave) Grogan, and Bevan (Steve) Gottlieb; grandchildren Katherine, Michael, Benjamin, and Madeleine Johnston, and Garrett, Sterling, and Eleanor Gottlieb, and brother William. A memorial service will be held at the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church on Saturday, December 5th at 11:00a.m. Memorial donations may be made to the University of Michigan Depression Center, Rachel Upjohn Building, 4250 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.



JANICE L. DIEHL (nee DEPKI)

Age 71 long time resident of Plymouth, November 18, 2009. Loving wife of Robert. Beloved mother of Cheri (Craig) Britt, Kimberly (Don) Myers, Timothy (Tara) Blomberg, Steve (Lisa) Leonard and Kenneth Diehl. Dear grandmother of Michael, Ryan, Justin, Patrick, Donnie, Kelly, Timothy, Thomas, Rachel, Jessica, Kenneth and Stephanie. The family will gather with friends Sunday December 13 from 1PM until the 2PM Memorial Service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd. (btwn. Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Memorial contributions may be made to Mercy Hospice. To share memories please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



ILA "Punk" ROBERTS

Age 85, of Farmington. Born in Brighton, Ontario, Canada to the late John and Grace Loomis. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Cec. Dear sister of Dawn Hetherington of Canada. Punk was a longtime member of Ward Presbyterian Church. A memorial service is pending, with a spring burial planned in Brighton, Ontario, Canada. Memorials may be made in Punk's memory to the charity of your choice.



HAROLD EVERETT STEIN

Passed away December 1, 2009 at the age of 93. Hal Stein was born on May 18, 1916 in Chicago, Illinois. He attended Monroe High School in Monroe, Michigan and in 1932, as a sophomore, he set the State Class A record in the pole vault with a vault of 12' 3/4". He continued to compete in track and field during his college career at Michigan State Normal College (now Eastern Michigan University). Hal served in the U.S. Army during World War II and attended the University of Michigan after discharge, earning a Masters Degree in History in 1949. While at the U of M he also pursued his interest in the fine arts and it was art rather than history that occupied the rest of his life. Hal taught art at Wayne Memorial High School from 1949 to 1975. He enjoyed the friendship of former students until the end of his life, with the satisfaction of seeing several of them choose careers in art. Both before and after retirement, Hal himself created a wealth of art: large and small sculpture, paintings, graphic and photographic works. He was a member of the Three Cities Art Club and had works in exhibitions sponsored by the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Plymouth Community Arts Council. He had a one man show of paintings at the Renaissance Unity Center in Warren in 2003. He also wrote poetry and extensive poetic commentaries on his visual work. Hal married Dorothy Estelle Lovell in 1946 and her death in 2001 ended 54 years of a very happy marriage. He is survived by his daughter Kathleen F. Stein and son-in-law William A. Hunt of Canton, NY. Contributions in Hal Stein's memory may be made to Art Serve Michigan (www.artserveimichigan.org) a non-profit, 501(C)(3) organization devoted to supporting the arts in Michigan and specifically to countering the effects of budget cuts on school art programs. Share your special thoughts & memories at: www.schrader-howell.com

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CATHERINE KECSKES
 Age 91 passed away Nov. 28, 2009. Beloved wife of John (deceased). Mother of Catherine (Al) Bright and John (Diane) Kecskes. Grandmother of Dawn (Lou) Gasbarro, Kevin (Beth) Kecskes, William (Kelly) Hunt, Keith (Lisa) Kecskes, Nicole Bright, Kevin Bingman. Great grandmother of Dylan Hunt, Sophia and Nico Kecskes, Carson and Quinn Kecskes. Catherine has been an active member in her church, St. Mary's of Wayne, and also active in her community, Wayne, for most of her life. Visitation Thursday 3-9pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 34567 Michigan Ave, Wayne. Funeral Mass Friday, in state 10:30am for an 11:00am Mass at St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne. Memorial contributions to Alzheimer's Association appreciated.

OBITUARY POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

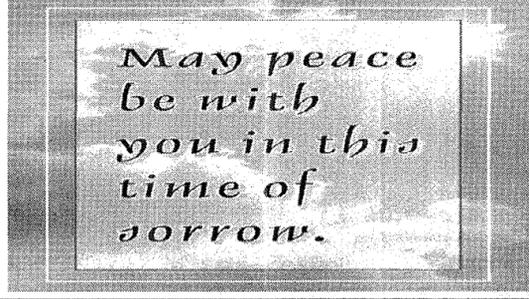
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NEIGHBORS

Fun stuff: New toy store owners discuss popular gifts

BY JULIE BROWN
OGE STAFF WRITER

Charles and Elle Dare were doing a brisk business on a recent Saturday at their new Genuine Toy Co. on Forest Avenue in Plymouth, but they had time to talk about this year's top sellers among the younger set.

"Calico Critters I'd say have been among our best sellers," Charles said of the small animals in a bright green box. Board games and puzzles do well at the business, which was opened Aug. 3 by the Plymouth couple.

"We hear a lot of people say they are having family game nights now," Elle said. They showed Rokenbok which combines a construction toy with a remote control vehicle.

"It's a very well-made toy," he said. Children play with it all day, his wife added.

Quality toys are the focus at the new store, opened by Elle, who has a background in psychology working with abused kids, and later Web pages. Her husband spent 16 years with Merrill Lynch and was a banker for five years before that. He has children ages 9 and 13.

They don't carry a lot of dolls, sending those customers to Muriel's on nearby Penniman in downtown Plymouth.

This holiday season, they're selling the Plasma Car in which the child puts his or her feet up and turns the steering wheel. Elle said fossils and minerals do well, "things you couldn't get unless you were in a museum store. It gets them

interested in more of a science." Science and craft kits remain popular with middle schoolers.

Retro toys also do well. A small grocery cart toy even sold out in the past.

"We love toys," Charles said. "We think there's a market for different types of things."

INFLUENCED BY ADS

"They ask for the things they see in commercials," Elle said of local kids. The Zhu Zhu pets are big but have limited play value and are hard to get, they said.

"We tried to get a good quality for a good price," she said. They carry a lot of birthday gift items around \$20, or smaller ones for children who, for example, did well at the dentist.

The couple agreed video games only go so far in terms of using a child's imagination. "There's only so much you can do with that," he said. They see renewed interest in toys that pique children's imaginations.

Kathy Petlewski of Redford's a customer, having three grown children and a granddaughter who's 21 months old. She bought a tin toy set that won't break, along with toy fruit joined together by Velcro. Children can see the inside of the "fruit."

VARIETY OF FORMATS

Petlewski, an electronic resources librarian at the Plymouth District Library, said books also make great gifts this time of year and year-round. The library in



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Zoe Barkoff, 7, shops for Mad Libs with her mom, Victoria Barkoff, and sister, Charlotte, 2.

Plymouth carries children's books in other formats, such as playaways and on CD. There are feature and educational DVDs and children's music as well.

Lauren Baker of Wixom, children's librarian at Plymouth, said the playaways are popular with kids. That's like a mini MP3 player for which children need their own headphones. The library carries titles for third grade or so through adult.

Barnes & Noble and Borders Web sites list hundreds of playaways for both children

and adults. They range in price from about \$30 through slightly more than \$100.

Genuine Toy Co. is at 550 Forest Ave. in downtown Plymouth, south of Ann Arbor Trail. The phone is (734) 414-9500, the Web site GenuineToyCo.com.

Find playaways and other book formats at www.borders.com and www.barnesandnoble.com. Visit Borders stores at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 W. Warren Road, Laurel Park Place, 37560 W. Six Mile, Livonia, and 43435 Ford Road, Canton; Barnes & Noble is located at 17111 Haggerty, Northville.

Avoid toy hazards with common sense tips

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Web site has common sense tips on toy safety.

Parents and others should choose toys based on the child's age, abilities, skills and interest level, according to the AAP. The physicians also recommend you read instructions carefully first, and give children under 10 battery-operated toys rather than those that use an electrical outlet.

Choking is a hazard for children under 3, for whom toy parts shouldn't measure less than 1 1/4 inches in diameter and 2 1/4 inches in length. The AAP urges you keep button batteries and magnets away from young children who may swallow them, along with uninflated or broken balloons, also a choking hazard for those under 8.

For pull toys, watch for strings under 12 inches, a strangulation hazard, adds the AAP.

Much toy safety is common sense, agreed Charles Dare of Plymouth, co-owner with wife Elle of Genuine Toy Co. in Plymouth. She noted parents should read labels, and be leery of products made in China.

Industry testing has improved, Elle Dare said, with new regulations and U.S. standards now better than those in Europe.

The U.S. Public Interest Research Group released its

Please see **HAZARDS, B7**



Elle Dare stocks shelves at Genuine Toy Co. She and her husband opened the store on Forest in Plymouth in August.

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860



NOT ORDERING X-RAYS

When a patient with a painful knee or shoulder comes to a doctor, the patient's expectation is that the doctor will take an x-ray, or possibly with the technology now available, order an MRI. In many instances, the doctor listens to history of the joint pain, does an examination and then proceeds to describe medicine or perform a joint injection. He does not suggest or order an x-ray.

The reason he doesn't is that at this point in care, he is going to undertake a therapy that does not depend on what the x-ray shows. For example: A patient comes with a swollen knee, and after hearing what happened and examining the knee, the doctor has good reason to believe that a twist to the knee caused the problem and removing the excess knee fluid is the treatment of choice, the joint aspiration is what the physician will do. Obtaining an x-ray will not add information to change his mind.

However, if the doctor treats that knee and the patient returns not improved, then the response from the doctor will be to obtain an x-ray of the knee before undertaking any further treatment. Now the x-ray has a purpose: to uncover any unknown problem in the knee that could explain the failure to recover after reasonable therapy.

For physicians being a professional consists more than just finding the right diagnosis and undertaking the proper treatment. A professional does his work in an efficient manner, not using any more of the patient's time, money and resources than is needed for the task at hand.

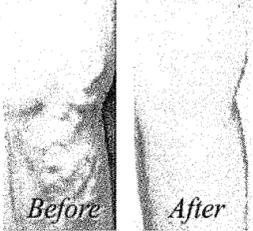
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C46186

REUNION CALENDAR

The Reunion Calendar runs Sundays in the paper as space allows, and online in its entirety at www.hometownlife.com. Submit your announcement at least two weeks in advance to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Cody High School Classes of 1955-58

Holiday lunch, 1 p.m. Dec. 21, at Monaghan Knights of Columbus Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia. Contact: Vera at (734) 591-1305 or Irene at (248) 489-0415.

Detroit Pershing Class of 1960

50th reunion festivities in September 2010 will be held at the Doubletree Guest Suites Fort Shelby in downtown Detroit. For more information call Sherry Forbush (Sharon Bailey) at (248) 994-0664 or Joan Harrington (Mazey) at (734) 595-7508.

Detroit St. Brigid Class of 1959

Planning a reunion and looking for classmates. Contact szonyek@att.net with any information about classmates.

Farmington High School Class of 1970

Planning reunion in 2010. Seeking classmates. Join the group on Facebook by searching Farmington High School Class of 1970 Reunion. Or e-mail Carla Campbell Lehn at dblehna@aol.com.

Garden City High School Class of 1960

Mini-reunion luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

Garden City West Class of 1970

40th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010 at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland. Dinner and DJ included for \$50 per person. Classmates from the classes of 1968-1972 also invited to attend. For more information, call Larry Conn at (734) 788-5254.

Dearborn Heights Haston High Class of 1965

45-year reunion, 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. July 24, 2010; Contact Pat Beadle-Kopczyk, 3334 Kneeland Circle, Howell, MI 48843, at (517) 552-1182 or e-mail to her at patkopczyk@aol.com.

Financial drama

Theater presents staged holiday reading

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Craig Hane has done the math — and it's daunting. He needs to raise \$5,000 on Dec. 11 and that means selling 96 more tickets to Barefoot Production's holiday fund-raiser show in less than a week.

And if he doesn't? "Unfortunately if we are not able to raise the \$5,000 on Friday, we may have to cancel one or both of the remaining season shows, a fate we do not wish to happen," said Hane, founder and director of the Plymouth-based community theater. "I'd like to get to all our creditors, everyone paid off by the end of the year. Right now this fund-raiser is going to help us pay off the remaining expenses plus give us starting money to get the next productions rolling."

The four-year-old troupe plans to stage *Rope* in February 2010, followed by *Steel Magnolias* in May 2010. Hane said *Rope* is budgeted at about \$3,000. Ticket sales from that show will help pay for *Steel Magnolias*.

"Generally we work between \$1,000-\$2,000 a show, but if you want to give a good quality production it can be between \$3,000 and \$5,000," he said.

The cost of utility bills at the Walker-Buzenberg



Barefoot Productions of Plymouth rehearses its reader's theater-style production of "A Christmas Carol." The actors voice all parts, including sound effects and narration.

Building where Barefoot stages shows, along with expenses for costumes, set building supplies, props, make up, and advertising adds up quickly — even though the troupe looks for ways to economize.

"We collect props from show to show," explained Chris Steves, a Woodhaven resident who works in Canton and sits on the Barefoot Productions board. She's also in charge of production direction and makes costumes.

"Up until now the things we've collected are things the actors have donated or found at resale shops that are super cheap. We've done shows and had board members clean out their homes.

"We did *Little Women* a few years ago, and the drawing room settee was borrowed from Wayne State and the rest was my living room," she said, with a laugh.

"When we did *Black Coffee*, (the set) that was Craig's living room."

TAKING RISKS

The troupe has become known for its cutting edge presentations. Hane staged the *'Black Coffee'* show, for example, in black and white, mirroring the color scheme of 1950s and '60s television shows.

The troupe has become known for its cutting edge presentations. Hane staged the *Black Coffee* show, for example, in black and white, mirroring the color scheme of 1950s and '60s television shows.

The Good Doctor, their most recent production, included a hidden swimming pool to make an actor's jump off "the pier" more realistic. Steves said the first row got wet at every performance.

Barefoot Productions stages its plays in an intimate setting that holds no more than 100 guests. That limits the revenue it takes in from

ticket sales.

"We only made \$2,700 on the *Good Doctor* and that was the most successful run to date," Hane said. "In the theater world, ticket sales are nothing. That's why we have to do these fund-raisers."

DESSERT, WINE

Tickets for the upcoming performance are \$50 in advance and \$60 at the door. The holiday celebration will start with a reception from 7-8:30 p.m., on Friday, Dec. 11. Vinter's Cellar Winery of Canton will supply wine, including a hot mulled beverage, and Sweets 21 in Plymouth will cater desserts and pastries. Tranquillitea, also in Plymouth, will offer teas.

The audience also will get a chance to meet the board of directors.

The performance, a reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, will start at 8:30 p.m. Hane edited the book into a 95-minute script last spring.

The seven actors portray

about 40 characters, sound effects and narration.

"It's all read as the novel but in different character voices," Hane explained.

He likens the experience to telling a bedtime story to the audience.

"It's fresh, elegant and simple. The stage is bare, with podiums and the actors are outfitted in gowns and tuxedos," he said. "They're not just reading. They have to get the characters out. They're memorizing the script."

Hane pointed out that Dickens read his novel in public more than 240 times. "My whole theory was to present it as the original form Dickens intended it to be."

He said if all goes well on Friday, he plans to edit *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* for a dramatic reading next Halloween.

The Walker-Buzenberg Building is located at 240 N. Main, Plymouth. (734) 560-14983 or visit www.justgobarefoot.com.

Radio station's collecting new, unwrapped toys for needy children

There's still time to help 96.3 WDVD stuff three buses full of new toys to brighten the holidays for needy children. The radio station is collecting toys through Monday, Dec. 7, at Borders on Ford Road, east of Sheldon in Canton, Woodward and 13 Mile in Royal Oak and at The Village

of Rochester Hills, Adams and Walton.

Toys will benefit local charities including Orchard's Children's Services, Beaumont Children's Hospital, Canton Goodfellows, Ronald McDonald House, Neighborhood Service Organization, Lighthouse,

Volunteers of America, Bridgepoint, Detroit Rescue Mission Missionaries and others.

New, unwrapped toys are accepted.

Donation hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6 and 8 a.m. to noon Monday, Dec. 7.

HAZARDS

FROM PAGE B6

24th annual Trouble in Toyland report on Nov. 24. It noted progress in the last year with the new Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act and new Consumer Product Safety Commission leadership.

U.S. PIRG warns against choking hazards with toys, along with those excessively loud (over 85 decibels) or containing toxic chemicals lead and phthalates.

The Plymouth District Library has informa-

tion on toy safety, as do other area libraries. "We are trying to be proactive in informing parents," said Kathy Petlewski of Redford, electronic resources librarian. "Parents and grandparents, too."

The Plymouth library, 223 S. Main, has printed information on the U.S. PIRG survey and other toy-safety information. That includes PVC-free toys, such as Lego and IKEA products.

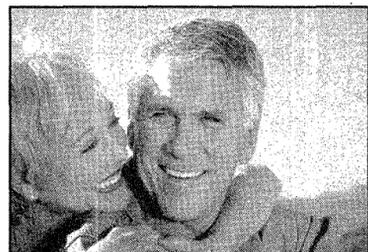
The report also is available online at www.uspirg.org

— By Julie Brown

7th Annual Senior Expo

Tuesday, May 18, 2010 • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
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You'll be featured on the center spread of our special section plus newspaper promotion during April and May.

Expo table plus two chairs

Use your space for giveaways, food demonstrations and promotional materials. Electricity available on a first come, first served basis for an additional charge.

Food

Two complimentary boxed lunches for exhibitors.

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- Canton Observer
- Farmington Observer
- Garden City Observer
- Livonia Observer
- Milford Times
- Northville Record
- Novi News
- Plymouth Observer
- Redford Observer
- South Lyon Herald
- South Oakland Eccentric
- Berkley, Clawson, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Royal Oak, Pleasant Ridge, Southfield
- Westland Observer

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6/10/09/2010

Kensington offers outdoor family fun

For information or to register for programs at the Kensington Metropark Nature Center or Farm Center near Milford/Brighton, call (800) 477-3178.

AT THE NATURE CENTER:

"Creature Feature in the Lobby," Saturday, Jan. 2, 1-4 p.m., Nature Center Lobby. Meet some of the critters that make Kensington Nature Center their home. No registration is necessary during this free, ongoing program.

"Winter Bird Walk," Sunday, Jan. 3, at 2 p.m., Nature Center. Bring binoculars to discover which birds have the "right stuff" to stick around through a Michigan winter. For ages 10 and older. Fee: \$2 per person. Pre-registration required.

"New Year's Bird Count," Saturday, Jan. 9, at 8 a.m., Nature Center. Bring binoculars and clothing suitable to participate in a census of Kensington's birds. Experienced leaders will guide teams to various parts of the park. Beginners are welcome. Pre-registration required.

"Snowshoeing Adventure (or Winter Hike)," Sunday, Jan. 10, at 2 p.m., Nature Center. Bring your snowshoes or boots for a winter adventure. Fee: \$2 per person. Pre-registration required.

"Winter Nature Detectives," Saturday, Jan. 16, at 1 p.m., Nature Center. Uncover evidence of animal activities in winter. Fee: \$2 per person. Pre-registration required.

"Bear Scouts - Sharing Your World With Wildlife," Sunday, Jan. 17, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Nature Center. All requirements for this badge will be met during this indoor/outdoor program. Fee: \$5 per Scout. Pre-registration required.

"Ice Fishing for Beginners," Saturday, Jan. 23, 1-4 p.m., Nature Center. This program offers beginners an opportunity to learn about ice fishing. Bring ice fishing rods and dress for the weather. (Ice conditions

permitting). For ages 6 and older. Fee: \$5 per person. Pre-registration required.

"Naturalist Travels - Paris and the South of France," Sunday, Jan. 24, at 2 p.m., Nature Center. Enjoy a virtual visit to the South of France, mostly Provence, as well as Paris, to learn about the natural and cultural history of the area. Fee: \$2 per person. Pre-registration required.

"Ice Fishing for Scouts," Saturday, Jan. 30, 1-4 p.m., Nature Center. This program offers scouts an opportunity to learn about ice fishing. Bring ice fishing rods and dress for the weather. (Conditions permitting). Fee: \$5 per Scout. Pre-registration required.

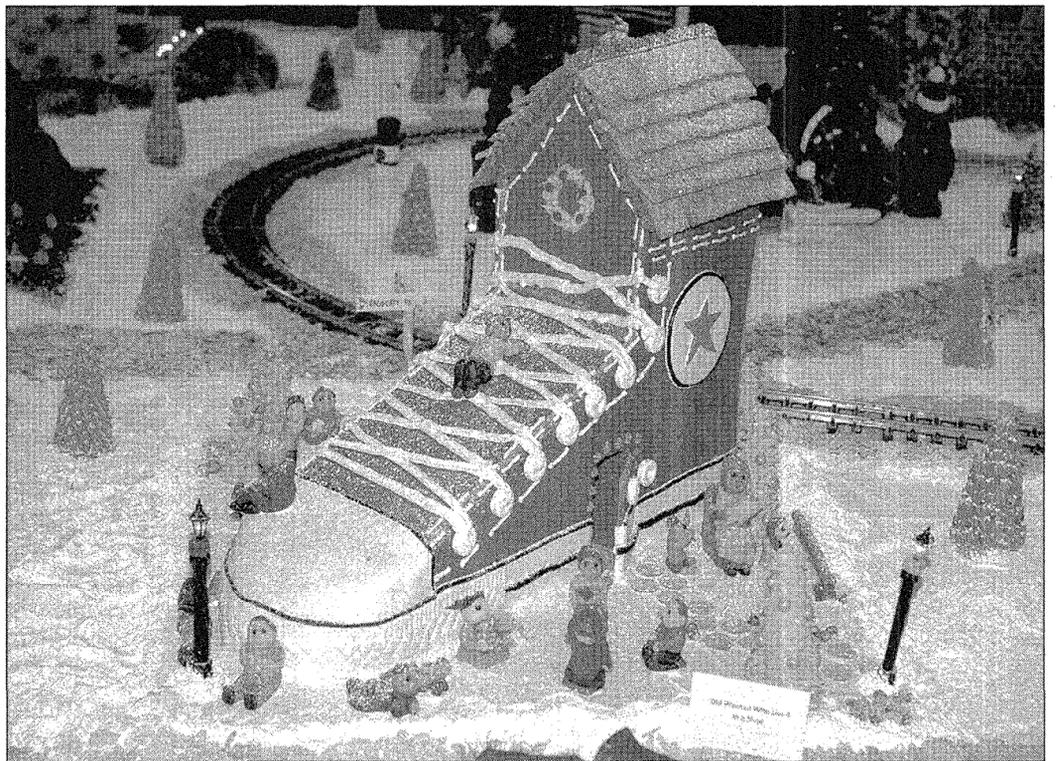
"Wolf Scouts - Birds Arrow Points," Sunday, Jan. 31 at 2 p.m., Nature Center. Wolf scouts can earn some arrow points from the birds elective. Fee: \$3 per Scout. Pre-registration required.

AT THE FARM CENTER:

"Papermaking," Saturday, Jan. 30, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Farm Center. Give a valentine created from your own hands as well as your heart. Learn the basic process as you enjoy a wonderful time papermaking. Fee: \$15 per person. Pre-registration required.

"Horse-Drawn Hayrides," weekends, noon to 4 p.m. Take a relaxing horse-drawn hayride past the fields and through the woods. Hayrides are \$3 per child, \$5 per adult. For more information, please call (248) 684-8632 or (800) 477-3178.

Individuals needing assistance to participate in these programs should contact the interpretive center at least 72 hours prior to the program. A Metroparks vehicle entry permit is required to enter any Metropark which is \$25 annually for regular admission, \$15 annually for seniors, or \$5 daily in 2010. Information can be found at www.metroparks.com or by calling (800) 47-PARKS.



The nursery rhyme, "Old Woman in the Shoe," inspired this first place winner on display in a gingerbread village at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

These houses are good enough to eat

Nursery rhymes inspired the lavishly decorated gingerbread houses you'll see on display through Friday, Dec. 10, at VisITaTech on the Schoolcraft College campus, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia.

Culinary Arts students created the gingerbread art, which was judged and then assembled into a village.

Rachel Kaniarz of Livonia won first place for her edible rendition of "The Old Woman who Lived in the Shoe"

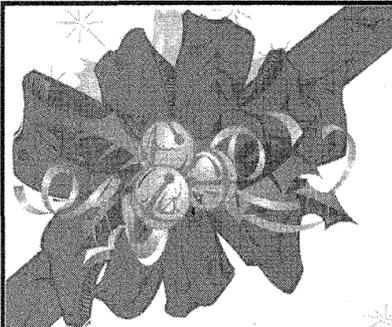
Second place went to the team of Katelyn Dingrave of Livonia and Gabrielle Todd of Jackson, who created the "Six Swans" in gingerbread.

Lisa Quint of Livonia took third place for "Three Little Pigs."

Call (734) 462-4400 for more information.



The Big Bad Wolf will huff and puff and eat this gingerbread version of the "Three Little Pigs" house on display at Schoolcraft College.



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The Farmington Community Band music organization will present "Winter Blast!" at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Harrison High School on 12 Mile, east of Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills.

Have a musical blast at FCB concert

Farmington area music lovers will have a musical blast this year at a holiday concert, "Winter Blast!" presented by the Farmington Community Band music organization at Harrison High School's auditorium at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 13. Admission is free for the annual FCB classic featuring music by the renowned

80-piece FCB Concert Band under the direction of Damien Crutcher and the fabulous 20-piece FCB Big Band under the direction of Randy Barber. Enjoy a variety of spirited symphonic band classics and big band signatures along with a few holiday favorites performed by the Farmington community's

premier instrumental music ensembles together at one concert. Presented by the Farmington Community Band music organization now in its 44th season serving the arts in the Farmington community. For more information visit the FCB Web site at fcbmusic.org or call (734) 261-2202.



The Finnish-American Singers will perform its annual holiday concert, "Rukous Jouluna," translated as "Prayerful Christmas," at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Finnish Cultural Center.

Finnish American singers present holiday concert

The Finnish-American Singers will perform its annual holiday concert, "Rukous Jouluna," translated as "Prayerful Christmas," at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13 at the Finnish Cultural Center.

The Finnish Cultural Center is located at 35200 W. Eight Mile, on the north side of Eight Mile between Gill and Halsted in Farmington Hills.

The 25-voice mixed chorus includes singers from throughout the metro Detroit area. Directed by Henry Naasko and accompanied by Bill Gramzow, the Finnish-American Singers will perform a wide variety of entertaining musical selections including several Finnish carols and hymns.

"Rukous Jouluna" will include full choral numbers,

solos, and a performance by the FASM Quintet, showcasing holiday and seasonal music. Choral pieces include *Rukous Jouluna*, *Oi Sä Riemuisa*, *Mistletoe*, *Fruitcake*, and *Give Me No Grand and Golden Thing*, and *Pine Cones and Holly Berries*.

Tickets are \$10 for adults over 18, \$5 for teens 12-18, and free for children under 12. They can be purchased in advance from a chorus member or FCA volunteer by calling (248) 478-6939. Tickets will also be available at the door at the same pricing. The cost of admission includes a Finnish coffee table of sandwiches and desserts. For further show information, contact Chorus President Ilene Yanke at (248) 887-3538.

Community Chorus annual holiday concerts set

The Farmington Community Chorus performs its 30th annual holiday concert, "Our Holiday Family Album," at Mercy High School Auditorium at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 11 and Dec. 12.

Mercy High School, 29300 W. 11 Mile, is at the corner of Middlebelt and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$15, or \$12 in advance; a limited number may be available at the door. Singers from around the metro-Detroit area comprise the 70-voice mixed chorus. Instrumentalists (piano, bass, drums, saxophone) and OCC music students who auditioned to join the FCC complete the choral sound.

Directed by Steve SeGraves and accompanied by assistant director Susan Garr, the

chorus will perform favorite selections from the past 10 years, including *Sweet Little Jesus Boy*, *For Him All Stars Have Shown*, *White Christmas* and *I Have a Little Dreydel*, as well as solo and small group numbers.

Yuletide Memories 2, a new recording of the FCC's favorite holiday songs, will be available for \$15 at the concerts. They make great gifts and stocking stuffers.

To order advance tickets, call the FCC ticket line at (810) 632-4067 or the Costick Activities Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile Rd. in Farmington Hills, at (248) 473-1800. Tickets may also be purchased from FCC members.

For more information, contact manager Shelly Addison at (248) 250-1447 or visit www.farmingtonchorus.com.

NORTH CONGREGATIONAL PRESENTS 'CHRISTMAS CANTATA'

North Congregational Church will celebrate Christmas with a special Chancel Choir performance of Daniel Pinkham's *Christmas Cantata*.

The concert will be at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 20, during the regular worship service.

Accompanying the 32-member Chancel Choir will be double brass quartets conducted by Laurie Meeker, music director of North Congregational Church. This special presentation is part of the Sunday morning worship service and the public is

invited to attend. Additional musical offerings on Dec. 20 will be *A Child is Born* by Jones/Wilder, a solo performed by Meeker, and *A Gift of Love* by Placido Domingo Jr., a solo performed by James Wilking. Both soloists will be accompanied by David Bauer, pianist.

North Congregational Church is located at 36520 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills (north side of 12 Mile between Drake and Halsted). For further information on services, call (248) 484-1750.



CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING December 21, 2009

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on December 21, 2009 at 6:58 p.m. regarding the Proposed Purchasing Ordinance Amendment (Local Business Preference).

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CITY OF GARDEN CITY

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

PURCHASES, CONTRACTS, AND SALES ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 35, PURCHASES, CONTRACTS, AND SALES ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR PURCHASES AND CONTRACTS; PROVIDING FOR FEDERAL, STATE OR INTERLOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS; PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY PURCHASES; PROVIDING FOR BIDDING PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR SALE OF PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR PREVAILING WAGE AND BENEFIT REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN CITY PROJECTS; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY ORDAINS:

SECTION I. AMENDMENT TO THE CODE.

Chapter 35, the Purchases, Contracts and Sales Ordinance is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 35.01 DEFINITIONS. This section provides definitions for terms used in this Ordinance.

§ 35.02 PURCHASES OR CONTRACTS OVER \$8,000.00. This section provides the requirements for any purchase or contract for supplies, materials, or equipment over \$8,000.00.

§ 35.03 PURCHASES OR CONTRACTS BETWEEN \$5,000.01 AND \$8,000.00. This section provides the requirements for any purchase or contract for supplies, materials, or equipment between \$5,000.01 and \$8,000.00.

§ 35.04 PURCHASES OR CONTRACTS BETWEEN \$2,000.01 AND \$5,000.00. This section provides the requirements for any purchase or contract for supplies, materials, or equipment between \$2,000.01 and \$5,000.00.

§ 35.05 PURCHASES OR CONTRACTS BETWEEN \$500.01 AND \$2,000.00. This section provides the requirements for any purchase or contract for supplies, materials, or equipment between \$500.01 and \$2,000.00.

§ 35.06 PURCHASES OR CONTRACTS \$500.00 AND BELOW. This section provides the requirements for any purchase or contract for supplies, materials, or equipment \$500.00 and below.

§ 35.07 FEDERAL, STATE, OR INTERLOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS. This section provides for federal, state or interlocal government purchases of goods or services.

§ 35.08 EMERGENCY PURCHASES. This section provides for emergency purchases.

§ 35.09 BIDDING PROCEDURES. This section provides the bidding procedures.

§ 35.10 SALE OF PROPERTY. This section provides the procedures for the sale of real or personal City property

§ 35.11 PREVAILING WAGE AND BENEFIT REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN CITY PROJECTS. This section provides the prevailing wage and benefit requirements for certain City projects.

SECTION II. VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

This section provides that any person or entity that violates any provision of this Ordinance may, upon conviction, be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or imprisoned not more than Ninety (90) days, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SECTION III. SEVERABILITY.

This section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the rest of the Ordinance.

SECTION IV. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES.

This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION V. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

This section provides that all rights and duties which have matured, penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance.

SECTION VI. PUBLICATION.

This section provides that the Clerk for the City of Garden City shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION VII. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This section provides that this Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

All interested citizens are invited to attend and provide comments. Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the office of the City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135, during regular business hours.

Posted: December 3, 2009
Publish: December 6, 2009

This Holiday Season, Give Your Loved Ones The Greatest Gift Of All... PEACE OF MIND

Those who fail to make their final arrangements in advance can place a tremendous burden on family members. Loved ones must make very important decisions while still in shock, grieving, burdened with unusual expenses and facing new responsibilities. Cadillac Memorial Gardens West wants to help you eliminate the financial and emotional burden from your family when a death occurs by offering you a FREE burial space. This is a limited time offer so call Cadillac Memorial Gardens West today for complete information on this pre-need opportunity.

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CITY OF WESTLAND

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland, 36601 Ford Rd., Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **January 5th, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.** for the following (no exceptions will be made for late filings):

2010 Combination Single Engine Sewer Cleaner with Positive Displacement Vacuum System mounted on a 2010 Heavy Duty Truck Chassis
A 7500 Series Truck Chassis

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185, or at www.cityofwestland.com. Please direct questions pertaining to specifications to Kevin Buford, DPS Director at (734) 467-3242. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

William Gabriel
City Controller

Publish: December 6, 2009

CE0883166-2x1.5

NOTICE OF MEETING

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Wayne Masonic Temple Association, a Michigan non-profit corporation, shall be held at the office of the corporation at 37137 Palmer Rd., Westland, Michigan on the Tuesday December 15, 2009 at 8:00 PM for the election of directors and such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

Publish: December 6, and 13, 2009

CE0883175-2x1.5

CITY OF WESTLAND

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **December 17, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made) for the following:

Fire Hose

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained at www.cityofwestland.com or from the Purchasing Office. Questions pertaining to the equipment should be directed to Bruce Tenniswood, Deputy Fire Chief at (734) 467-3252. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

William Gabriel
City Controller

Publish: December 6, 2009

CE0883171-2x1

Study: Women reluctant to take tamoxifen to prevent cancer

Even when women at high-risk of breast cancer are well-informed about the risks and benefits of using the drug tamoxifen for prevention, only 6 percent say they're likely to take it, according to a University of Michigan study.

Researchers at the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center created a "decision aid" designed to inform women about the risks and benefits associated with tamoxifen, a drug that was first used to stop breast cancer from returning and has recently been shown to prevent breast cancer in the first place.

The U-M decision aid gave objective information about tamoxifen and was tailored to each woman's health history. The study targeted women

who were at high risk of developing breast cancer within the next five years; 632 women participated.

"Tailored information is critical because the risks and benefits vary across women. This is one of the most detailed tailored decision aids to address breast cancer prevention. The information about the risks and benefits of tamoxifen was tailored to each woman's health history. That means, when women read this decision aid, they learned about how the drug was likely to affect them given their age, race, breast cancer history and medical history," says lead author Angela Fagerlin, associate professor of internal medicine at the U-M Medical School and a research investigator at the VA Ann Arbor

Healthcare System.

After viewing the decision aid, 41 percent of women could correctly answer six questions about the risks and benefits of tamoxifen, while 63 percent correctly answered at least five of the six questions.

Despite this understanding, only 29 percent of women said they were likely to seek out more information about tamoxifen, and only 29 percent said they would ask their doctor about it. A scant 6 percent of women said they were likely to take tamoxifen.

Three months later, the researchers found that fewer than 1 percent of participants had started taking tamoxifen, and fewer than 6 percent had either talked to their doctor or

sought more information.

"For any given woman, there is not a right or wrong answer in regards to whether she should take tamoxifen to prevent a first diagnosis of breast cancer. The goal of decision aids is to explain the risks and benefits in a clear way so that the woman is able to weigh these factors and make an informed decision about what is best for her," Fagerlin says.

While as many as 10 million women could be eligible to take tamoxifen to prevent breast cancer, few choose to do so.

Side effects were the biggest concern about tamoxifen cited in this study. The side effects of tamoxifen include hormonal symptoms, including hot flashes, and sexual problems,

as well as rare incidences of endometrial cancer, blood clots or cataracts.

"Experts have bemoaned the dearth of women taking these pills, worried that word has not gotten out about tamoxifen's ability to prevent breast cancer in high risk women. Our study shows that even when the word does get out, most women are too concerned about the pill's side effects to want to take it," says senior author Peter Ubel, M.D., professor of internal medicine and director of the Center for Behavioral and Decision Sciences in Medicine at U-M.

According to the American Cancer Society, 194,280 Americans will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year and 40,610 will die from the disease.

Two Detroit hospitals rank high on patient safety survey

For the third consecutive year, two Detroit Medical Center (DMC) hospitals met the stringent standards of the Leapfrog Group and have received honors as top hospitals in the nation for patient quality and safety.

Detroit Receiving Hospital and Harper University Hospital are among only 45 hospitals (34 urban, three rural and eight pediatric) nationally to receive the rec-

ognition for 2009. They're the only hospitals in Michigan to earn the top ranking.

The Leapfrog Group is a ranking agency that conducts surveys on behalf of Fortune 500 companies, with the goal of improving overall hospital quality.

Its rankings are based on a survey conducted at 1,206 hospitals across the country and is considered a comprehensive and current assessment of hos-

pital quality and safety.

The number of top hospitals selected for 2009 is down from those selected in previous years as a result of more exacting requirements used to evaluate the facilities vying for the award across the country.

"We have been purposeful in our pursuit of superior quality and safety for the patients we serve," stated Dr. Thomas Malone, president of Harper University and Hutzl

Women's Hospital. "Receiving the Leapfrog Group's top hospital recognition for three consecutive years is a testament to the dedicated professionals here. We are honored that the work we do everyday is being acknowledged by such a distinguished group."

Dr. Iris Taylor, president of Detroit Receiving Hospital, said the facility's second consecutive Leap Frog honor "acknowledges the exemplary

commitment to quality patient care and safety our health care professionals have made."

"Each and every day, our dedicated doctors, nurses, pharmacists, therapists and support staff work to set a bar of excellence that is among the highest in the nation." To make Leapfrog's list, a hospital must have a top efficiency of care score for at least three of four procedures and conditions. The Leapfrog survey

collects data from hospitals on their progress and commitment toward implementing practices in the several areas, including computerized physician order entry, ICU physician staffing, and evidenced-based hospital referral.

The 2009 Leapfrog Hospital Quality and Safety ratings and methodology can be found at www.leapfroggroup.org.

H1N1 virus affects expectant moms differently, physician notes

Pregnant women already keep a close eye on their health. But this flu season, expectant mothers have an additional concern — the H1N1 virus.

Kelly M. Campbell, M.D., an OB/GYN physician at the Women's Health and Menopause Center in West Bloomfield, has a few tips for pregnant women to limit

their exposure to the virus.

With the popularity of the H1N1 vaccine, some women may find it currently unavailable, or they may have concerns about getting the vaccine altogether. Although it is generally safe, Campbell suggests pregnant women speak to their primary care physician about getting the flu vaccine and H1N1 vaccine

to be fully protected.

According to Campbell, the H1N1 virus appears to affect pregnant women differently than the rest of the population. These women seem to have more respiratory complications, which may be a result of increased oxygenation of the fetus, or a mother's altered immune response during pregnancy.

"The signs and symptoms of the flu are the same for pregnant women as for the rest of the population, they include fever, cough, muscle and joint pain, vomiting and diarrhea," she said. However, expecting mothers who catch the H1N1 virus may develop serious complications, including early labor and pneumonia. The only way a

woman can know if she's contracted the virus is to have a test performed by her primary care physician.

Campbell said treatment for pregnant women who have been exposed to the virus, is Tamiflu. She said Tamiflu should be administered regardless of testing because the illness can develop rapidly.

Campbell suggests that expectant mothers practice frequent hand washing, drink plenty of fluids, get ample rest and avoid contact with known sick people. If a woman experiences increased respiratory distress, she should visit the emergency room.

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