

Good Shuh

It was good news for Buddy Shuh, who dropped another nine pounds as a contestant on NBC's *The Biggest Loser*. The connections pastor at Journey Community Church in Westland, Shuh was the biggest loser for the week for the Red Team. By Week 2's end, the Wayne resident weighed 372 pounds and shed 31 pounds on the reality weight loss competition.



Shuh

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City weighs 12.1-percent water-sewer rate increase

By LeAnne Rogers
 Observer Staff Writer

To cover cost increases from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and Wayne County, Westland is tentatively looking at a 12.1-percent water-sewer rate increase.

But as city council members met to discuss the water and sewer

fund five-year analysis and rate study, another problem became apparent. The rate increase includes a substantial hike in fixed costs — nearly 70 percent higher — passed along to Westland, but generates no money to pay for local infrastructure work.

“Is there any fixed cost rate for Westland costs? Wayne County has done

it for years and DWSD is doing it,” council President James Godbout said. “Are we kidding ourselves? We’ve had 100 water main breaks so far this year (resulting in a 10-percent budget amendment) in relatively mild weather. Our infrastructure is not getting any younger.”

Of the recommended 12.1-percent combined

rate increase, Godbout noted that 6.5 percent covered the fixed costs increases from DWSD and Wayne County.

That doesn’t include the increased rates which are currently estimated since DWSD and Wayne County have not approved their 2012 rates.

“No one likes a 12-percent increase on their water bill, but the bulk

of it is strictly a pass through,” Godbout said. “We’re taking baby steps again.”

Good rating

Additionally, Godbout said the water and sewer fund needs to improve its financial position — the fund is paying back a \$2 million loan from the

Please see RATES, A2

Auto Show tickets

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win two tickets to see the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. We are giving away a pair of tickets every day until Jan 18. Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five chances to win, if they also enter the contest. A winner will be randomly selected every day until the contest ends.

To enter, go to www.hometownlife.com and see “Auto Show Ticket Contest” under the “Don’t Miss” section on our home page.

In the ‘Soup’

Mention pregnancy and food cravings in the same sentence, and images of pickles and ice cream come to mind. That wasn’t the case, however, for former Westland Deputy Mayor Courtney Conover, who recounts her craving for steak in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Food and Love*.

The Wayne resident exists in what she calls a mixed marriage. She’s a vegetarian, but her husband Scott, a former NFL player turned professional chef, is a proud meat eater. But in her story, *Baby Wants Steak*, she writes about a craving that delighted her husband.

This is Conover’s sixth contribution to the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series.

Last chance

Time’s running out for Westland residents seeking to recycle live Christmas trees.

Trees can be dropped off at the city’s Recycling Center at the rear of the DPS building at 37137 Marquette, east of Newburgh, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday through Tuesday, Jan. 17. The center is closed Sundays.

Trees should be free of lighting, tinsel and decorations. A designated area is being provided for drop off within the recycling center.

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Cari Cucksey, host of HGTV’s *Cash and Cari* program, is based out of a Westland warehouse.

HGTV’s Cucksey turns old into new at warehouse in Westland

By LeAnne Rogers
 Observer Staff Writer

Whether it’s furniture from the 1950s, an antique sewing machine or an old record player, there is probably something for everyone at the Re-Purpose Estate Services warehouse in Westland.

“Believe it or not, taxidermy is hot right now. There is a collector for everything,” said Cari Cucksey, owner of RePurpose and host of HGTV’s *Cash and Cari* program.

The company’s location on Commerce Drive will be the site of a silent auction event 6-10:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 27, and warehouse sale 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28. The silent auction will include some art sculptures and high-end items along with

HERE AND THERE

RePurpose Warehouse
Location: 5930 Commerce Drive, off Webb Drive, off Ford and John Hix, Westland
Phone: (248) 719-8332
Website: www.RePurposeEstate.com

some midrange items. “We’ve been having monthly warehouse sales. It seems to be catching on. People come from all over — Tennessee and Ohio — which is great,” said Cucksey, who also has a 1,700-square-foot store in downtown Northville.

Old to new

The warehouse space houses an office, storage and also creative space for Cucksey who, as the company’s name indicates, repurposes old

RePurpose Store
Location: 133 W. Main St. at Wing Street in Northville Square, Northville
Hours: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday
Phone: (248) 735-0500

items into new uses. An estate liquidator for about 12 years, Cucksey’s business has been in the warehouse for four years. The store opened in conjunction with the television show, which started filming just over a year ago.

“We opened the store as a result of the television show. Northville is small town America. We live there, so it made sense,” said Cucksey, whose business partner is her husband, Vince Iafano. “The show and

the shop have been fantastic. It has definitely been a blessing for business, especially in this economy.”

Growing up in the 1908 Sears and Roebuck house, Cucksey said her family was always into antiques.

“I love a little bit of everything. I love mid-century modern, Art Nouveau,” she said. “I have a little knowledge about a lot of things. That’s good for a liquidator. You learn a lot on the job.”

With about 20 employees, Cucksey’s firm handles estate sales which have a minimum \$10,000 value and also will buy all or some of a home’s contents when an estate sale isn’t possible or wanted by the owners. It’s not always a sale

Please see BUSINESS, A2

W-W counsel asks Goci to ‘disavow’ comments

By Sue Mason
 Observer Staff Writer

Wayne-Westland’s legal counsel has put a school board member on notice that he does not appreciate comments that were made during an Aug. 16 committee meeting.

Attorney Robert Lusk, who has represented the school district for more than 20 years, has asked board Vice President John Goci to “publicly disavow” comments he made about the type of legal counsel he would like to see the district hire.

Lusk said the comments, which were reported in a story in the Jan. 8 *Observer*, unfairly made an issue of his integrity.

“Never in my entire career has anyone accused me of not being accountable to my clients or of putting my personal interests before those of my clients,” Lusk wrote in a letter sent Monday to Goci. “Never has anyone had reason to make such an accusation.”

The comments were taken from minutes of an Aug. 16 committee meeting in which Goci, board President Carol Middel and Trustee Thomas Buckalew met with school officials to begin developing a request for proposal for legal services. It was Goci who had recommended that the board not approve the firm of Lusk and Albertson as the district’s general legal counsel, but rather seek RFPs “to see what the market has to offer.”

The *Observer* obtained the copies of the minutes for the Aug. 16 and Oct. 13 committee meetings, as well as the RFP, as part of a Freedom of Information Act request it filed with the district.

Goci responded to Lusk in a letter Tuesday, telling him that he doesn’t know why he “should disavow those statements” and reiterated all of the items he wanted in a law firm that were included in the meeting minutes.

“Both the minutes and the article make clear that the board members

Please see COMMENTS, A2

City honors King legacy at annual program

A slide show commemorating the unveiling of a national monument honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s life will be featured during Westland’s 14th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day ceremony at 9 a.m. Monday at the Westland Senior Friendship Center.

“In August 2011, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial opened in Washington, D.C., and

the monument is a true tribute to the monumental changes that Dr. King has brought to this world,” Westland Mayor William Wild said.

A traditionally well-attended program, the MLK Day ceremony this year will feature displays of creative projects by Wayne-Westland Community Schools students honoring King’s legacy. The Westland

John Glenn and Wayne Memorial high school choirs also will perform musical selections.

Anthony Lucas, a historical presenter from the Henry Ford’s Greenfield Village, will deliver excerpts from famous King speeches. The invocation will be delivered by District Elder Luke McClendon of Christ Temple Apostolic Church.

Westland Department of Public Services Director Kevin Buford will be master of ceremonies.

Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

City offices, with the exception of the Bailey Recreation Center, will be closed in observance of the Martin Luther King holiday Monday. Trash pickup will not be affected.

Firefighter praised for saving man's life

A Westland firefighter is being lauded for his off-duty lifesaving efforts. Firefighter/paramedic Gordon Cronk used an AED and applied CPR to a 58-year old man who went into cardiac arrest while he was working out at a Sterling Heights athletic club on Nov. 3. Cronk remained on the scene to assist Sterling



Cronk

Heights firefighters who had responded. At a recent council meeting, Mayor William Wild read a letter from the Sterling Heights Fire Department, recounting the incident

and commending Cronk for his efforts. According to the letter, the man was hospitalized for 13 days and is making a full recovery. "He deserves recognition. It shows the type of employee that we have. This was all off-duty of course," said Wild. Cronk joined the Westland Fire Department in July 2005.



This is only some of the items that will be available during a warehouse sale coming up at Re-Purpose Estate Services in Westland.

Auditor: City has taken steps to improve water-sewer fund

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Despite continuing to be short on cash, Westland's water and sewer fund has taken positive steps in recent years and fiscally is heading in the right direction. That was the assessment of city auditors Plante Moran, who met with city council Monday to review the water and sewer rate model, which includes a recommended 12.1-percent rate increase for 2012. Among the positive steps taken regarding the \$24 million water and sewer fund in recent years, auditor Brian Camiller of Plante Moran said, has been the development of the rate model, annual rate increases of 9-16 percent over the last five years, implementation of a fixed cost fee to recover costs from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and Wayne County and staff reductions through attrition. Created several years ago, the rate model predicts what is needed to cover increased charges to the city and keep

the fund moving ahead, Camiller said. The water and sewer fund still owes the general fund \$1.7 million and is short on cash, he said. "The amount owed by customers at any given time is significant. We are providing service, but not getting paid for six months," Camiller said. "We are looking at a rate increase to people who pay their bill on time enough to offset this. Some people wait until the last possible minute to pay or let it go to their tax bill." With the economy not having rebounded and the city not knocking on doors to collect overdue water bills, Finance Director Steve Smith said it's likely that people are paying other bills first. There is a 30-percent penalty, if the water bill is added to taxes. "We're six months behind (in receivables). How do we shorten that?" Councilman Dewey Reeves said. Water and sewer rate comparisons with other area communities were included, with Westland placing near the bottom even with a 12.1-percent

proposed rate hike. "We get calls all the time from people who think we have the highest water rates, but we really don't," Mayor William Wild said. Based on rates as of October 2011, only Romulus and Livonia charged lower water rates than Westland. "There are a lot of variables. Romulus charges Metro Airport for their six- and eight-inch meters to supplement the residential water rates," Wild said. Using a comparison of an average 16.3 units of water on a residential bill, Westland currently charges \$145.28; the proposed rate hike would take that to \$162.84. On the high end, Garden City charges \$214.49 and Inkster has a \$208.46 charge. Council is expected to introduce the proposed rate hike, more than half to recover fixed costs from DWSD and Wayne County, at its first Feb. 6 meeting and consider adoption at the Feb. 21 meeting.

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RATES

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general fund. The fund is currently rated A, which means good financial security, but city officials have been working to get the fund into a condition that would allow a more favorable rating, which reduces borrowing costs. The rate model presented was what council had requested, Mayor William Wild said, adding that a local fixed rate charge needed to be discussed as part of strategic planning and asset management.

The proposed water and sewer fund budget includes \$750,000 for system upgrades annually, he said. The rate increase is projected to add \$500,000 to the water and sewer fund balance for the 2012-13 fiscal year. Generating revenue to fund infrastructure improvements was supported by Councilman Dewey Reeves, who said the city needs to stop being reactionary and be proactive in maintaining the water and sewer system. Before committing, Councilman Bill Johnson said that he would need to see a hard number proposal for a fixed rate fee

that would be added to water bills. "I'm not uncomfortable with the rate. It may be low from a city perspective. Do we take the first step to realize the fixed rate costs?" Godbout said. "We tend to wait until it's too late to make changes. We've been relatively aggressive to address it, but we're not out of the woods yet. Our working capital still sucks." Godbout added that he wasn't opposed to revisiting the local fixed rate charge at another council study session.

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BUSINESS

Continued from page A1

after the owners have died. "It's really a mixed bag. There are a lot of people who are downsizing. They get caught up with buying too much or maybe they've been bequeathed an estate and don't know what to do with it," said Cucksey. "We don't take a lot on consignment and we don't take a lot of collectibles, like Hummels (figurines)."

Positive trend
Estates are becoming more popular, which Cucksey sees as a positive trend. "I hope that people are more conscious and not so quick to throw away things," she said. "If you buy more vintage and antiques, you'll be more green. But you're also sharing stories and traditions. I think I help facilitate that." To that end, Cucksey



An antique sewing machine at the Re-Purpose Estate Services warehouse in Westland.

has an affiliate business training people to start estate sale business. As filming gets under way for a new series of *Cash and Carl*, Cucksey will be filming at the Northville store 3-6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12. She will be joined by three other appraisers to give

opinions on the value of items brought into the store by the public. The warehouse is located at 5930 Commerce Drive in Westland. The store is located at 133 W. Main St., Northville.

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COMMENTS

Continued from page A1

were merely discussing the attributes they wanted to see in a law firm," he stated, adding that the minutes were "never approved by the committee or the board, or read at a public board meeting." "I also asked to use RFPs from a nearby district and MASB and to advertise broadly to every known school attorney in the business; on the Michigan Bid website; legal news and any other media the business office recommends that would be appropriate," Goci stated. "This is the job of a school board member, other members mentioned other attributes." However, Middel did make a report to the full board Sept. 26 about the Aug. 16 committee meeting, listing items relevant to issuing an RFP and the drafts to be taken after a draft was prepared by the business office. Her

report made no mention of the discussion about the attributes wanted in a legal firm. In questioning Goci's comments, Lusk said that the firm was "aware" that the teachers union has been "actively involved, financially and otherwise, in recent board elections and has urged certain members to select a new law firm." "But that is a much different issue that the statements attributed to you," Lusk stated. Lusk also questioned comments by Goci about billing for services, pointing out that Wayne-Westland's legal fees "have been trending downward for almost a decade," due in part to his work with administrators. "Wayne-Westland has a nice group of people who do a good job," he said. "There's not a question about the legal fees. Wayne-Westland does a good job to keep them at an appropriate level." Former Deputy Supt. Gary Martin provided information to the committee that substantiat-

ed Lusk's claim. In a presentation to the committee at the Aug. 16 meeting, he said that the "general legal expenses have been down 30-40 percent over the last four or five years and the data trends indicate that we have been averaging around \$100,000 per year for the last 10 years, excluding extraordinary costs for specific legal cases" like the teachers strike and teacher tenure cases. "I do not question the right of the district's Board of Education (to) review legal counsel and to select new legal counsel for whatever legitimate reasons it deems fit," Lusk stated. "Lusk and Albertson was invited to participate in that process and has done so. We will, of course, abide by the board's decision and handle ourselves professionally in the process. At the same time, I will not permit to stand the false statements attributed to you in the ... article."

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Career Tech students win in NAIAS poster contest

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Graphic design students at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center are continuing to win honors from the North American International Auto Show.

Posters by three of Steve Paulsen's students were among 15 selected as winners in the annual high school poster contest. Paulsen has had his students enter the contest since 2002 and this year's prizes continue a winning streak dating back to at least 2005.

First place for the 10th Grade Award went to Gabriel Jones of John Glenn High School, while first place for the 11th Grade Award went to Nicole Pranger of Belleville High School. Cleveland Reed of Wayne Memorial High School placed third for the 10th Grade Award.

"I was very excited about winning, I didn't expect it," said Pranger, who received a \$500 cash prize. "I've never won a contest before."

Her horizontal poster featured a car and speed lines that were blurred "to make it look like it was moving" away from the number 12 as in 2012, and a blue background with map of southeast Michigan superimposed on it.

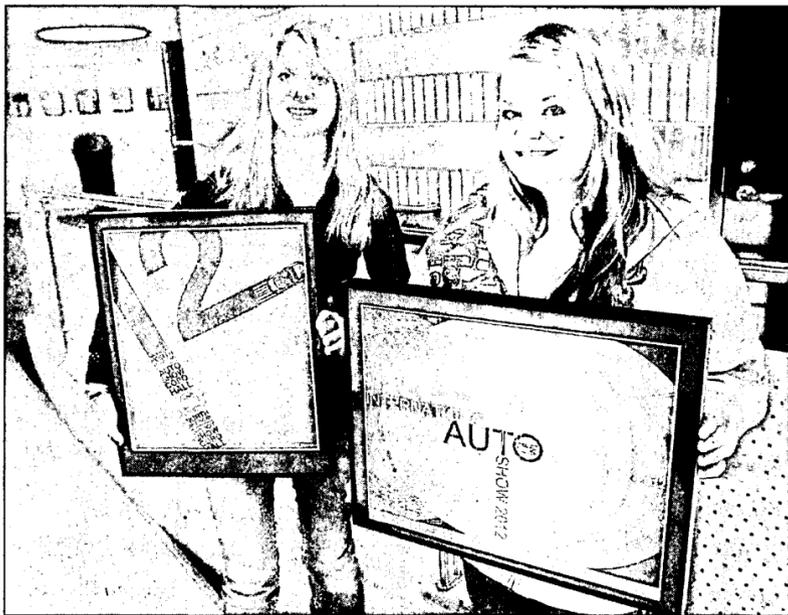
Pranger is a shared time student at the Career Technical Center, which she said she likes.

"They have very nice technology here," she said.

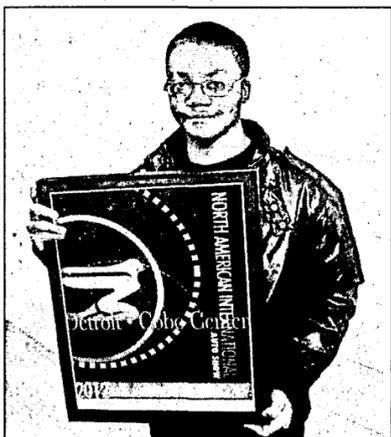
'Little abstract'

Jones also won \$500 for her poster, which Paulsen described its circular design as being "a little abstract, a nice design."

"I like it because it's not like everybody else's," Jones said. "Everybody



Nicole Pranger (left) and Gabriel Jones show off their winning NAIAS posters. The teens are students in Steve Paulsen's graphic design class at William D. Ford Career Technical Center.



Cleveland Reed's winning poster features concentric rings that mirror the one surrounding the auto show logo.

else's posters have cars or the skyline of Detroit. I like mine because it has something to do with the nuts."

Jones added that she ran the idea past Paulsen, who told her to do that one.

"I think I made a good choice by doing that," she said.

A first-time winner in the poster contest, Jones plans to take a few more graphics classes after she

graduates "to get better," then go on to college. She eventually would like to try to own her own business, like a teacher store.

"Thank you, Mr. Paulsen, you're the best teacher in the world," she said.

Reed likewise was surprised to win because of the simplicity of his design. He used Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator to reproduce the circle

motif of the logo. "I was pretty shocked," he said. "I didn't think my poster would win because of how simple it was."

"Simple is sometimes better," Paulsen said. "Simple is sometimes better than having a lot going on."

Like Pranger, this was Reed's first contest. The experience has fueled his interest in graphic design.

"Once I leave high school, I want to look for a job and a technical college to study technical design and hopefully start my own business," he said.

Paulsen is a firm believer in having his students enter contests with professionals. He tries to have them enter as many as they can.

"It's so important for them to do real jobs as opposed to the things I throw out to them," he said. "They learn that they won't succeed if they don't follow the rules."

Record setter

A record-setting 88 high schools were involved and there were 891 posters entered in the 24th annual contest held in conjunction with the auto show, which opens to the public Saturday. The grand prize, the Chairmen's Award of \$1,000, went to Elizabeth Sabol, a 10th-grade student at Lahser High School in Bloomfield Hills. The NAIAS 2012 chairman, Bill Perkins, selected the winning entry, which will be printed in the official NAIAS program.

"It was difficult choosing a winner given the high level of creativity demonstrated and the record number of entries we received," Perkins

said. "The creativity and passion displayed in the artwork from high school students always reminds us of their deep-seated passion for the automotive industry and the NAIAS."

The poster entries were judged by Perkins, a General Motors automotive designer, a College for Creative Studies instructor and a State Farm Insurance representative. All of the winning entries are posted on the official NAIAS website, naias.com. The winners also will be on display Jan. 14-22 at the auto show. The contest was open to Michigan students in grades 10-12.

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Larceny from a vehicle

Police were called to Central City Parkway and Wildflower about 2:30 p.m. Jan. 8 after a witness reported a window had been smashed on a 2009 Jeep Cherokee. The officer found a purse and make-up kit on the ground near the vehicle. The window had been smashed with a rock which was lying on the center console.

The purse contained the personal information of a Westland woman. The officer noted that the vehicle appeared to have been ransacked. Locating a home number for the registered vehicle owner, the officer was able to get a cell phone number for the purse owner.

Approximately 30 minutes after message was left for the woman, she and the vehicle owner returned from walking a dog. Nothing else was reported missing from the vehicle.

Break-in

Just after 6 p.m. Jan. 4, a resident in the 36000 block of Cen-

tral City Parkway told police that someone rang her doorbell several times but she didn't answer. Then she said she heard her door being smashed in. The woman screamed which she said likely scared off the intruder.

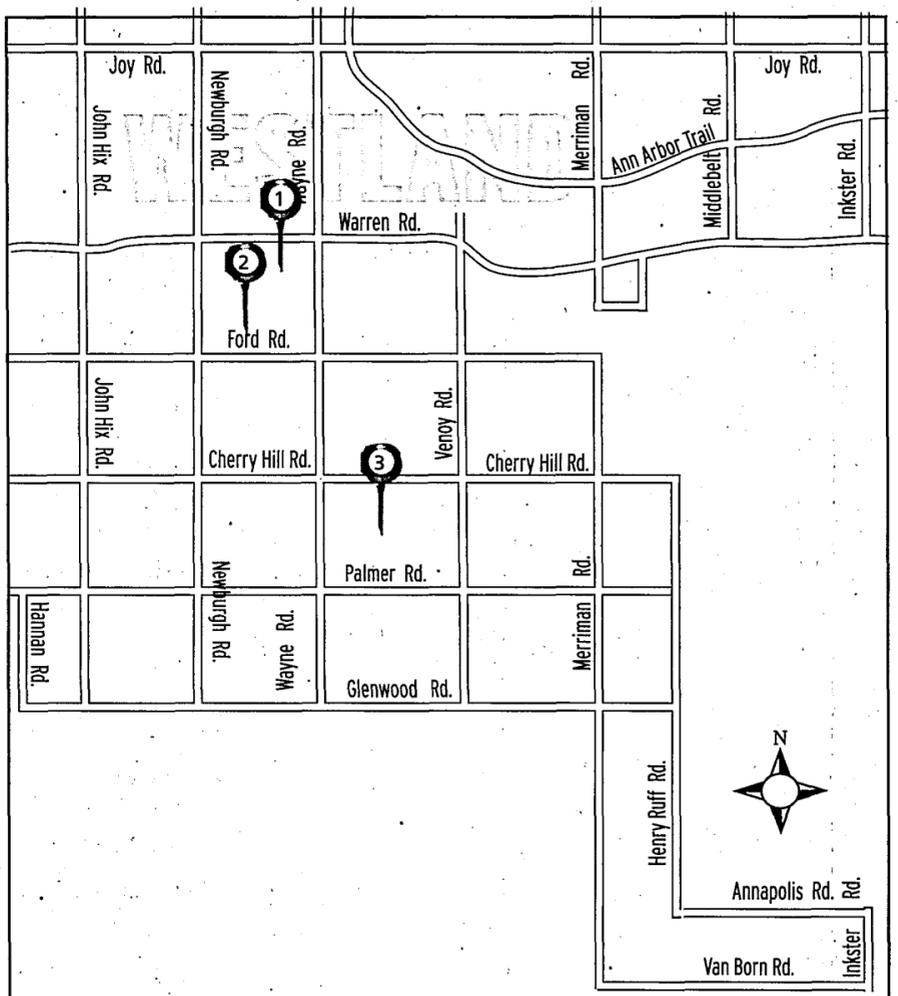
The dead bolt and door jam were both damaged. The woman said an empty cardboard box had been taken from a table just inside door threshold.

Larceny

On Jan. 4, a resident in the 32000 block of Avondale told police that he suspected his nephew had stolen the license plate from his 2003 Chevy S-10 pickup truck. The man told police that his nephew had been staying with him for a few months and the license plate disappeared about the time the nephew moved back to Missouri, police said.

A message was sent to the Florissant, Mo., Police Department which subsequently recovered the license plate and arrested the nephew, 19, police said.

By LeAnne Rogers



Police, fire departments praised for work at crash scene

By Sue Buck
 Observer Staff Writer

Garden City Police and Fire personnel are being praised for their work at the scene of a multi-vehicle accident on Cherry Hill last Friday.

"I happened to be in the area," Councilmember George Kordie said. "It was a very serious accident with four cars."

He said that the seri-

ousness of this accident "scared" him because of what would have happened if there had been another potential emergency at that time.

"Everybody was there from the fire department," Kordie said. "This is something that we need to consider. I definitely don't like cutbacks with police and fire, but I wanted to give recognition and kudos to the fine

staff that we have."

A police investigation has determined that a car crossed over the center lane of Cherry Hill, resulting in the crash that closed the road east of Venoy during rush hour last Friday afternoon. One injured driver was taken by helicopter to the University of Michigan Hospital.

Police officers were dispatched to the area

of Cherry Hill Road and Hubbard at about 3:11 p.m. When they arrived, they saw that four vehicles were involved in a traffic crash.

"Two of the vehicles were involved in a head-on traffic crash in the westbound lanes of Cherry Hill Road," Garden City Police Chief Robert Muery said.

When Garden City Res-

cue arrived at the scene, they told police that one of the drivers was seriously injured and the Life Flight would be required. The Life Flight responded and landed on Cherry Hill to transport the injured driver, a 34-year-old Westland man, to U-M Hospital.

The injured also were transported to Garden City Hospital and Oakwood Hospital.

The police investigators have determined that a vehicle travelling eastbound on Cherry Hill crossed over the center lane and entered the

westbound lanes, striking another vehicle head on.

Garden City Fire Chief Catherine Harman said six people were involved in the accident.

"Three of the vehicles required the jaws of life and just about every tool Garden City Fire along with Westland Fire had on their engines to remove the injured parties," Harman said.

Kordie agreed, saying that every available tool and equipment was used.

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PLUS special financing available
 Exclusions apply. See store for details. Offer good thru 1/16/12.

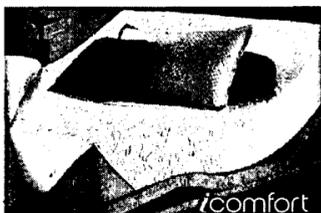
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PLUS \$50-\$300 instant savings on assorted set purchases. Offer good thru 1/29/12.

FREE delivery, setup & removal on sets \$499 or more. Free standard local delivery and haul away after discounts and coupons Mon. thru Fri. Retail value 79.99. Free haul away excludes waterbeds. See store or thegreatindoors.com for offer and standard delivery details. Free comparable size bed frame \$39.99-\$59.99 value. Offer good thru 1/29/12.



\$100-\$200 award card with the purchase of iComfort queen or king mattress set. While Award Card quantities last. Receive one instant TGI Award Card for the value of \$100 for queen and \$200 for king iComfort mattress set purchase. Offer good thru 1/21/12. Offer available in store only. In the event the original purchase is returned, Award Card amount will be deducted from your refund. Some exclusions apply. Award Card valid for future purchases only. Limit one Award Card per purchase. See store associate for details.

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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 January 19, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

Calcium Chloride Dust Control

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

William Gabriel
 City Controller

Publish: January 12, 2012

CITY OF WESTLAND
 SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
 MTG. 1 01/31/12

Presiding: President Godbout
 Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer
 02-J. Godbout declared Council President.
 04-A. Hammons declared Council President Pro-Tem.
 05: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 12/19/11.
 - Appr. Motor City H.O.G. Toy Run on 9/23/12.
 - Adopt Bud. Amend. 2012-03; Manpower Amendment \$38.00.
 - Adopt Bud. Amend. 2012-04; General Fund \$586,407.00.
 - Adopt Bud. Amend. 2012-05; Library Fund \$123,238.00.
 - Adopt Bud. Amend. 2012-06; General Fund \$32,750.00.
 06: Appr. checklist: \$563,304.75 & Prepaid: \$880,000.63.
 Mtg. adj. at 7:38 p.m.
 Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

James Godbout
 Council President

Eileen DeHart
 City Clerk, CMC

Publish: January 12, 2012

Offers good thru 1/16/12 unless otherwise noted. Valid only at The Great Indoors stores and at www.thegreatindoors.com. Offers exclude installation services, Everyday Price items, Great Price items, open box merchandise, special order kitchen, bath and decorative hardware fixtures, Weber, Viking, DCS, clearance grills, All Clad, Casablanca, Dyson fans, Dyson vacuums, Hunter Prestige, Henckels, Kichler products online, Le Creuset, Monte Carlo Select, Minka Aire. ††Excludes Serta Gazelle & iComfort, Sealy Abacus & Hartline Ti, Simmons Beautyrest Black, Stearns & Foster and Tempur-Pedic mattresses. ††Excludes Great Price items, clearance/closeouts and open box merchandise, Aga, Asko, Bertazzoni, Best, Dacor, DCS, Electrolux, Electrolux Icon, Fisher & Paykel, GE Monogram, Jenn-Air, Liebherr, Marvel, Thermador, U-Line, Vent-A-Hood, Viking and Zephyr. ††Free standard delivery valid on any appliance \$499 or more after discounts and coupons. Offer good thru 1/17/12. Standard delivery includes delivery within local delivery area Monday through Friday and delivery not requiring additional services or time. Customer pays an additional charge for non-standard delivery. Additional charges vary. Free delivery value varies by delivery location. Excludes built-in refrigeration. See store for details. Limited offers and special purchases excluded from raincheck option. The Great Indoors shall not be held liable for errors. CONTRACTORS LICENSE NUMBERS: The following license numbers are held on behalf of The Great Indoors: AZ (Gen. Comm. Contr. Lic. ROC #160177B-1 and Gen. Res. Contr. Lic. ROC #160178B); CA (Contr. Lic. #797513); MD (MHIC 321-47); MI (Res. Bkr. #2101175210); VA (Class A Contr. 2705 057009). Services and installation performed by The Great Indoors authorized licensed contractors. ††SHOP YOUR WAY REWARDS™ offer not valid on Viking appliances in the State of Arizona. Members earn Points on Qualifying Purchases excluding sales tax and other fees. Subject to full program terms available at shopyourwayrewards.com. Must remain opted-in to receiving promotional emails from SHOP YOUR WAY REWARDS™ to earn Bonus Points. Bonus Points are inclusive of, and not in addition to, any Base Points earned on Qualifying Purchases. When Bonus Point offers are combined, total Points earned will be less than the combined Point totals for each individual offer. See www.shopyourwayrewards.com for details.

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Officials take Ford Road funding fight to governor

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

Refusing to halt their fight for funding to reshape the traffic-clogged I-275/Ford Road area, Canton officials made a renewed pitch Monday during talks with Gov. Rick Snyder and his legislative aides.

Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy and state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, spent a 30-minute session in Snyder's Lansing office amid hopes of amassing key support for a solution to Ford Road traffic woes that make it one of the state's most accident-plagued thoroughfares.

Colbeck arranged the meeting, also attended by Dick Posthumus, the governor's senior adviser; Darin Ackerman, Snyder's legislative affairs aide; Kirk Steudle, the Michigan Department of Transportation director; and Kelly Bartlett, MDOT's governmental affairs office director.

"We're going to keep pushing until we get this across the finish line," Colbeck said.

Hopeful talk

Colbeck and LaJoy appeared optimistic that Snyder and his aides had a clear understanding of I-275/Ford Road traffic problems and a possible solution that already has drawn bipartisan support.

"We've got an issue here without (political) division," Colbeck said. "We have overwhelming bipartisan support. It's going to come down to how to pay for it. I feel much more confident of where we are (after Monday's talks). The problem is funding."

Three efforts have been made — and rejected —

to secure \$20.3 million from a federal program dubbed TIGER, or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery. TIGER has allocated money across the nation to spur jobs and pay for road projects.

Canton and MDOT officials have indicated they will continue to seek any federal money that might be up for grabs, possibly even a fourth round of TIGER grants.

Project push

Yet, Monday's talks with Snyder, his legislative aides and high-ranking MDOT officials underscored a shift toward Lansing as Canton officials push to get the I-275/Ford project listed as a high state priority.

Colbeck and LaJoy said Snyder has had his share of Ford Road travels.

"We had a real good meeting," LaJoy said. "I think this was absolutely another step in the right direction. I think he listened. He knows Ford Road, and he seemed to understand the problems."

LaJoy, Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas and others, armed with studies showing high traffic volumes and numerous crashes along Ford Road near I-275, have for a decade sought a solution.

One regional study has indicated traffic congestion could be eased by building two new ramps, or slips, allowing drivers exiting southbound I-275 to access Haggerty Road in either direction without using Ford Road. The same study has suggested a service drive along the east side of the interstate, from Cherry Hill north past Ford Road.

Support crucial

On Monday, LaJoy and Colbeck gave Snyder and other officials a shorter version of an elaborate presentation that occurred in November, when the Michigan Senate Transportation Committee came to Canton for a public hearing on Ford Road problems.

LaJoy said Snyder's support could become crucial if local officials ever need him to sign a bill related to I-275/Ford.

Since the Senate panel's visit to Canton, the full Senate and a House Transportation Committee have adopted formal resolutions supporting efforts to reshape the I-275/Ford interchange.

MDOT also has started the preliminary steps for an environmental study of the project area, while the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments is expected as early as March to bolster the project by placing it on a revised priority list for transportation projects.

Colbeck, meanwhile, has made a pitch for the project to the Senate Appropriations Committee. He serves on a transportation subcommittee.

Local officials have said traffic congestion has only worsened during the last decade, when Canton's population spiked 18.1 percent to 90,173. They also have underscored the regional significance for communities such as Westland and Plymouth Township, among others.

As the scramble to find project funding continues, local officials vowed the fight will continue.

"We're not going to give up," LaJoy said.

clem@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2238



Miss Wayne County Shelby Gardiner will be wearing a black satin MacDuggal gown, provided by B-Ella Bridal of Northville, to the North American International Auto Show 2012 Charity Preview Friday evening.

Miss Wayne County gets ready for Charity Preview

It's Detroit's own mini-version of the Golden Globes, complete with dignitaries, foreign and local press, along with lots of tuxedos, gowns, and sparkle. With the industry enjoying record sales and recovery, the Detroit Auto Dealer's Association has decided to take the glamour of this year's event up a notch by adding the area's own version of royalty.

Shelby Gardiner, Miss Wayne County, will be on hand to do exactly that Friday evening at the North American International Auto Show 2012 Charity Preview at Cobo Hall in Detroit. "I am so excited to attend the charity preview," said Gardiner. "As a member of the Detroit Tiger's DTE Energy Squad, I have learned that the most enjoyable part of life is community service. The charity

preview embraces that philosophy by supporting so many area non-profits."

The quest for the perfect gown led to B-Ella Bridal of Northville which is donating Shelby's black tie show-stopper.

"B-Ella Bridal let me try on whatever dresses caught my eye," said Gardiner. "We decided on a strapless black satin MacDuggal gown with a lace bodice and pink underlay. It's very 'red carpet' with beading along the entire hemline and a contrasting pink lining. I love it!"

First time

Gardiner, a sophomore at Oakland University majoring in elementary education, looking forward to seeing the auto show.

"I've never attended the auto show, I know that sounds strange considering I was born and raised

in the Metro Detroit area, but I just never had the chance," said Gardiner. "I'm looking forward to actually being there and taking it all in for the first time."

The Detroit Auto Dealers Association Charitable Foundation Fund was established in 1998 at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. It supports programs and activities that assist children and youth in the seven-counties of southeast Michigan.

Gardiner will represent Wayne County at the Miss Michigan pageant this June in Muskegon. The Miss Wayne County Scholarship Program is a not-for-profit affiliate of the Miss America Organization.

For more information about the Miss Wayne County and Miss America Organizations, visit www.misswaynecounty.org and www.missamerica.org.

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CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On January 17, 2012, the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
2002	CHRYSLER	SEBRING	SILVER	4C3AG42H92E149056
1999	MERCURY	MYSTIQUE	GRAY	1MEFM66LXXK605675
1996	BUICK	CENTURY	WHITE	1G4AG55M7T6422494
1998	DODGE	DURANGO	PURPLE	1B4HS28Y3WF196876
1987	CHEVROLET	CAPRICE	GRAY	1G1BN51H4HX203514
1997	PONTIAC	GR PRIX	RED	1G2WP12K5VF252152
1989	FORD	F150	GRAY	2FTDF15Y2KCB56220
1996	FORD	WINDSTAR	RED	2FMDA5149TBB95172
1990	VOLVO	740GL	BLACK	YV1FA8843L2494130
1999	FORD	ESCORT	BLACK	1FAFP13P8XW284852
1998	CHEVROLET	S10/BLAZER	BLUE	1GNDT13W7W2130831
1993	FORD	MUSTANG	TEAL	1FACP40M6PF117310
1997	FORD	EXPEDITION	TAN	1FEMU18W4VLB57282
2002	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	BLACK	1G1NE52JX2M719514
2009	PONTIAC	G5	SILVER	1G2AS18H09728846
2001	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	BLUE	2G1WF55E719215921
1995	CHEVROLET	CAPRICE	BLACK	1G1BL52P8SR112866
2011	TOMO	50CC	BLUE	99583

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

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OE876202

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

LENDING WORKSHOP

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11

Location: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, north of Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Become an investor without spending any money of your own at a Mother/Daughter Micro-Lending Workshop 2012, hosted by Schoolcraft College and the Zonta Club of NW Wayne County. Each participating mother/daughter team will choose a small business in a developing country to support with a small loan, and will learn about strategies to make investment decisions, cultures around the globe, and the economic impacts of micro-lending. Discover the ways that small loans make a big difference to entrepreneurs all over the world. Explore their unique businesses, and learn how Zonta International clubs support them.

Contact: Register online today at zontanorthwestwayne.eventbrite.com.

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 22

Location: St. Kenneth Church, 14951 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth

Details: Widowed Friends, a peer group in the Archdiocese of Detroit, invites the widowed to celebrate Mass together at St. Kenneth Church in Plymouth. It will be followed by refreshments, social time and information about other widowed activities in a safe and friendly setting. Check-in starts at 2 p.m., Mass is at 2:30 p.m.

Contact: For more information call Pat at (734) 895-6246.

Volunteers

FIRST STEP

Details: First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence



Wish You Were Here

Betty Booher and her brother Don McMillan of Westland spent two weeks over Christmas in Charlotte, N.C., with Don's daughter Michelle and her two boys, Josh, 7, and Jake, 5. Don and Betty enjoyed great weather - in the high 50s and 60s - but the best part was Christmas morning with the boys, according to Booher and McMillan. Josh was up first and gasped for air when he said "Santa came!" Michelle and the boys will visit Grandpa and Aunt Betty in Michigan, but in the summer months. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason as a jpg at smason@hometownlife.com or by mail to her attention at 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program.

Contact: (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223

VNA HOSPICE

Details: Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required.

Contact: (248) 967-8361, www.vna.org

SEASONS HOSPICE

Details: Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community.

Contact: (800) 370-8592

LITERACY COUNCIL

Details: The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will

provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area.

Contact: (734) 416-4906

HEARTLAND HOSPICE

Details: Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services.

Contact: (888) 973-1145

SCHIZOPHRENICS ANONYMOUS

Time/Date: 4:30-5:30 p.m. every third Thursday of the month

Location: Room 124 of Hegira Programs Inc. from in at 8623 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Schizophrenics Anonymous meetings are open to those with this mental illness or related conditions. The remaining days the group will meet are Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15.

SUPPORT GROUP

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month

Location: American House III, 35700 Hunter, Westland

Details: Adult Well-Being Services through The Senior Alliance is sponsoring a support group that provides support and guidance for families caring for an older person.

Contact: Chris Goldberg at (734) 629-5004. Call to confirm meeting, if coming for the first time.

For Your Health

W-W NAMI

Time/Date: 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month

Location: St. Johns Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: The Wayne-Westland affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) provides support and information for individuals and families dealing with mental illness.

SAFE PLACE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursdays

Location: Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City.

Details: A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program.

Contact: Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995

ADULT DAY SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays

Location: 570 S Main St., Plymouth MI

Detail: A structured week-day alternative for adults in need of supervision. Program provides activities and discussions to meet social, recreational and personal needs unique to dependent individuals

Contact: Laurie Krause at laurie.lifecareads@gmail.com and (734) 956-2600

METRO FIBROMYALGIA

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. Second and fourth Thursday of each month

Location: Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, just west of Ford in Garden City

Details: The first meeting has a speaker, the second meeting is open to discuss living with our fibromyalgia.

Contact: Lucy at (734) 462-1768, www.MetroFibro-Group.com

MENOPAUSE & MORE

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month

Location: Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: A support group for women, no registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge.

Contact: (734) 655-1100

COUNTERPOINT

Details: Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families.

Contact: (734) 563-5005

TOUGHLOVE

Time/Date: 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays

Location: Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington, Livonia.

Details: Support group, newcomers welcome.

Contact: (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748

Westland to distribute surplus food

Surplus federal food will be distributed to eligible Westland residents living north of Michigan Avenue 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at the Dorsey Community Center, 2715 Dorsey, east of Venoy.

Residents living south of Michigan Avenue should pick up their commodities 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the second Monday of each month at St. James United Methodist Church, 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt. For information, call (734) 729-1737.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers will pick up their food at high-rise and should call their building manager for their day of distribution.

Income guidelines for 2012 have been revised. Based on 200 percent of federal poverty income guidelines, they are now:

- Income for a one-person household is \$21,780 annually, \$1,815 monthly and \$419 weekly.

- Income for a two-person household is \$29,420 annually, \$2,452 monthly and \$566 weekly.

- Income for a three-person household is \$37,060 annually, \$3,088 monthly and \$713 weekly.

- Income for a four-person household is \$44,700 annually, \$3,725 monthly and \$860 weekly.

- Income for a five-person household is \$52,340 annually, \$4,362 monthly and \$1,007 weekly.

- Income for a six-person household is \$59,980 annually, \$4,998 monthly and \$1,153 weekly.

- Income for a seven-person household is \$67,620 annually, \$5,635 monthly and \$1,300 weekly.

- Income for an eight-person household is \$75,260 annually, \$6,272 monthly and \$1,447 weekly.

For each additional family member add \$7,480 annually, \$623 monthly and \$144 weekly.

For the month of January, applesauce, corn, peas, salmon, sliced potatoes, vegetable soup, yams and possible additional items will be distributed.

For more information, call the Dorsey Center's surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366. The program is administered by the Wayne County Office of Senior Services. All food allocations, distribution sites and dates of distribution are determined by that agency.

VOICES & VIEWS: COMMENT ONLINE



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If you are like most people, you have probably lost weight in the past only to gain it back and then some. **The old yo-yo dieting syndrome.** There is a reason for that and I'll show you what it is. There is no gimmick or quick fix that will ever make you lose weight permanently. **This is the REAL THING!**

I know there is a good chance you are dealing with Type II Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, High Cholesterol, Hypothyroidism, joint pain and possibly a number of other health conditions. **Come spend one hour with me and I'll show you how you may be able to completely rid yourself of Type II Diabetes, and possibly throw away your blood pressure and cholesterol drugs forever.** Whether you want to lose that last 10 pounds or you NEED to lose 100 lbs. or more, I can show you how to do it.

IF YOU ARE SERIOUS ABOUT LOSING WEIGHT THIS YEAR, DO NOT MISS THIS FREE ONE-HOUR SEMINAR!!!

My goal for this year is to help as many people as possible to reach their goal weight and reclaim their lives! Will you be one of them? If you are suffering with a weight problem or any of the related illnesses that go along with it, don't wait another minute. Let me help you out. This seminar could literally change your life the way that it has for so many people just like you.



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- Husband and wife team together lost 200 pounds.



If you are dealing with a weight problem I sincerely want to help you get your life back. Are you frustrated with trying so many gimmicks and still dealing with weight issues? Are you sick of the hype and false hope? Have you given up on losing weight? If you are serious about losing your weight once and for all, then call to reserve your seat right now This one hour seminar could be the beginning of a new life for you. Don't miss it!

Saturday, January 14
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SEATING IS LIMITED, SO CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!!

PS.: This will be my biggest weight loss seminar of the year and will book up fast. Don't be left out. Call now to reserve your spot.

www.livoniaspineandhealth.com

Churchill student in hospice care to get diploma early

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Rachel Collett, a Churchill High School senior who's been battling cancer for six years and is currently under hospice care, will receive her diploma in a private ceremony Friday at the Livonia school.

Graduating high school was high on the list of the things she wanted to accomplish, said her mother, Audrey Collett of Livonia. The other was skydiving, which she did in September after getting special permission to waive the age requirement of 18.

"She knew she wouldn't have a long life," Audrey Collett said. "That was her thing, taking every moment she had and putting what she had into each moment."

School has always been important to Rachel, who decided early on in her cancer fight to schedule her chemotherapy, surgeries and other treatments around her life and not the other way around.

She attended classes up until October and was on the varsity cheer team until this school year, when the pain became too unbearable. She also helped to coach the Orioles cheer team.

After she receives her diploma, "she wants to have a graduation party; that's what's next," her mother said.

Appreciates school

Churchill Principal Joe Anderson said the ceremony will be a shortened, simulated version of their June commencement exercise with central office administrators, teachers, family members and close friends in attendance.

He said Rachel attended classes as often and for as long as she could, even continuing her studies at home after she was physically unable to go to school any longer.

She had hoped to work with special-needs children in the medical field — one of her little sisters is cognitively delayed — and had earned some college credit through the medical assistance program at the Livonia Career Technical Center.

"She has been pretty incredible for not letting this stop her," Anderson said. "Here's a kid who really appreciates the ability to be able to come to school. So many take it for granted or don't want to be here."

"She's come when almost every (other) kid wouldn't."

Very few people at Churchill knew Rachel was battling a rare form of osteosarcoma, a bone cancer, since age 11.

"It was always something she never let define her," her mother said. She didn't want teachers or



Rachel Collett, 17, top right, is the second oldest of four children. Her siblings are Hannah, 10, top left, Andrew, 20, and Madison, 11.



Rachel Collett, pictured with mom Audrey Collett, attended the Livonia Stevenson High School prom with friends last spring.

students to treat her any differently because she was ill.

A popular student who always had a smile on her face, she didn't want people feeling sorry for her. "She struggled so much behind closed doors; she refused to let anyone see her fight," Audrey Collett said.

After Rachel missed some activities in sixth and seventh grades because of her treatment, she told her oncologist she was going to start scheduling her medical procedures around her life instead of her life around her medical procedures.

"From now on, my life is going to be my main focus," her mother said she told her doctor.

Diagnosed in sixth grade

Rachel was diagnosed with osteosarcoma after her mother noticed visible changes in her jaw and chin just after Christmas 2005. She was a student at Johnson Elementary in Westland at the time.

She has been in some form of treatment, sur-

gery or recovery, but never remission, ever since.

Despite trying every kind of conventional and "fly-by-night homeopathic" treatment, they were only able to slow down the cancer, not stop it, her mother said.

It is now in her lungs, ribs, spine and hips.

"Her pain is her biggest devil right now," Audrey Collett said. Rachel is living at home, under the care of Arbor Hospice.

Through it all and even now, Rachel's focus has been on other people, not herself, Audrey Collett said. "She never felt sorry for herself, or asked why me?"

She was crying the other day, thinking about how sad her older brother and two younger sisters will be after she is gone. And she never told her parents what was on her list until she knew she could accomplish it so they wouldn't have any regrets.

"I've never meant anyone with the type of heart she has and caring toward other people," Audrey Collett said.

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Time to assemble family balance sheet

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Now that the excitement of the new year has passed and the majority of us have probably broken most of our resolutions, it's time to get down to business. This time of year provides one of the best opportunities to organize financial affairs. Over the next few weeks, year-end statements from a number of different entities will arrive. Whether it's your 401(k), your investments or your mortgage, just about every financial entity sends out year-end statements. This information will help you create a personal family balance sheet, a rather simple, but extremely important document.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

I recommend doing a personal family balance sheet at least twice a year. A balance sheet for a family is no different than a balance sheet for a business. Businesses create balance sheets so they know the state of the business. You and I need to do the same thing when it comes to our personal finances. A balance sheet is nothing more than a listing of your assets and liabilities. Hopefully, the assets are more than the liabilities. That number is then your net worth. Periodically creating a personal family balance sheet will allow you to know which way your

net worth is going. In addition, when it comes to planning for retirement, net worth is an important number to know.

Home value

One of the items on a personal balance sheet is how to value your home. Unfortunately, over the last year property values throughout the country have continued to fall. Therefore, be realistic when valuing your home. There are many ways to get an approximation of your home's value. You can use certain real estate websites such as zillow.com or look at your property tax bill and base your estimate on the state equalized value. As unfortunate as it may be, the bottom line is that we all have to accept that the value of our real estate, which for many of us represents a significant portion of our net worth, has been reduced dramatically. Remember, the family balance sheet is for your purposes only; therefore, to over-inflate the value of your home accomplishes nothing.

In doing a personal family balance sheet, exclude collectibles from the calculation. My reasoning is that the great majority of collectibles may be worth something, but their real value in the open market may be minimal, at best. Of course, if you do have collectibles that have a true market value, then there is no problem including the current market value on your family balance sheet. When I say true market value, I mean you can sell the item for that price.

Liabilities

The other side of the balance sheet lists all outstanding liabilities. Never forget that your family balance sheet is for you and only you. Therefore, it makes no sense to inflate the number or to conveniently forget about something. Just as important as it is to be honest with your assets, your liabilities need to be accurate as well. Whether it is your mortgage, charge card balance, student loans or even personal loans, it is important to include all liabilities. At the same time, it's not a bad idea to refresh your memory as to the terms of the outstanding debt, such as when it is due and the interest rate. In addition, you should know whether your debts are tax deductible or not.

There are many software programs that can assist you in doing a family balance sheet, however, you don't need to be that sophisticated. If nothing more, you can do it the old-fashioned way, with paper and pencil. The key to a personal family balance sheet is to be accurate and do one at least twice a year.

One last note, the first time you do a family balance sheet will be a time-consuming. However, after you do the first one, the next ones are relatively easy and straightforward. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at monymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his website at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED TOILET ROOM UPGRADE WORK

THE WAYNE HOUSING COMMISSION IS SOLICITING SEALED BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF MULTIPLE TOILET ROOM UPGRADES IN THE CITY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN. DETAILED INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE COMMISSION'S ENGINEER/ARCHITECTS: SCALES AND ASSOCIATES, INC. AT THE FOLLOWING FTP WEB SITE:

To obtain an electronic copy of the construction documents send an email containing the words Wayne Housing Commission Toilet Room Upgrade to:

cscsales@scsalesassoc.com
An email containing a link to download the plans will be immediately returned.

Engineers/Architects Address:
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Suite 1100 Grand Park Centre
28 West Adams Street,
Detroit, MI 48226-1617
Phone: 313.962.8830
Fax: 313.962.3776

2012 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW



Automakers ready to show public they are back

NAIAS opens Saturday, runs through Jan. 22

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The buzz is back at the North American International Auto Show.

And when the doors open to the public on Saturday, patrons will be overwhelmed by sleek new cars, interactive displays and auto companies poised to meet the needs of their consumers.

Bill Perkins, Bloomfield Township resident and chair of the 2012 NAIAS, said there is so much to see and do that even people who are not car enthusiasts will want to head to the Cobo Center.

"People will truly enjoy it because there are a lot of new things going on," he said. "It's a must attend show."

The show opens Saturday, Jan. 14, and runs until Sunday, Jan. 22. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day except Jan. 22 when it closes at 7 p.m.

Lauren Halpin, a Plymouth resident who was working as a model for Lincoln on Tuesday, said she liked the intimate access of press week, but plans to come back during the public show with her brother.

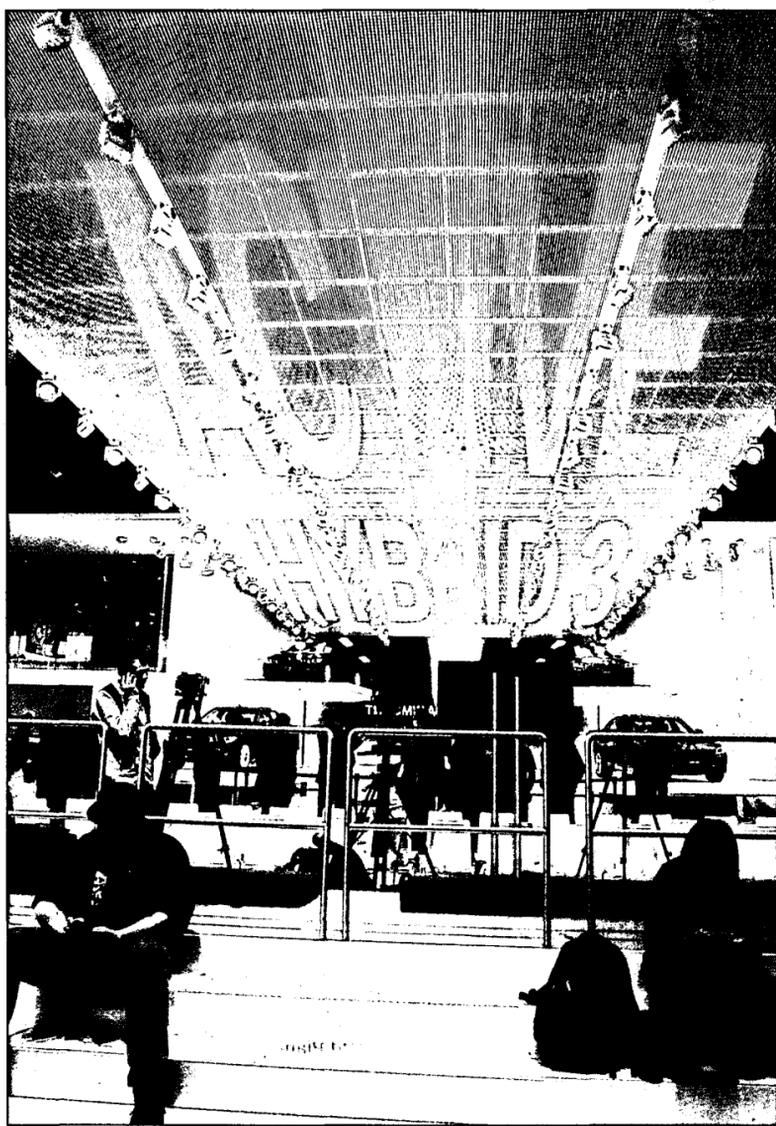
"My dream car has to be the Audi A8," she said.

While the cars are the obvious draw, there are plenty of other activities to engage the public. Many automakers have simulators people can use, fun giveaways and even a test track featuring electric-drive and hybrid vehicles in the Michigan Hall that people can drive (get there early or expect to wait).

Tickets for the show are \$12 for adults, and \$6 for seniors and children 7-12. Children under 6 are free. Tickets can be ordered at the show or online at www.naias.com.

nmueller@gannett.com | (248) 437-2011 ext. 255

Paul Olexa of ZF Automotive Group in Northville Township checks out his engineering firm's 9-speed transmission Monday at the NAIAS. ZF's transmission will be used by Chrysler in 2013 and produces fuel economy savings of about 30 percent, according to published reports.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The displays at this year's North American International Auto Show are more complex and brightly designed than ever before.

How to enjoy sights, sounds of auto show

Camaros, Chargers, Regals and Fusions — you would expect to see those cars at an auto show.

But a tractor?

One of the many unique attractions at the 2012 North American International Auto Show includes a Craftsman tractor exhibit. Spokeswoman Allison Aaron said it's actually a great match.

"It's Craftsman's latest tractor," she said. "It has automotive inspired features, it's available in February at Sears nationwide and we thought, 'Why not launch it at the auto show?' It made perfect sense to us."

The tractor rumbles at 8 mph, has automatic traction control, cup holders, cruise control, tilted steering — and a 12-volt adaptor in case you want to charge your iPod while mowing the lawn.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stephanie Lundberg, with Ford Motor Co., tries out a virtual reality driving simulator.

Cadillac Racing

Kids will find plenty of racing simulators at the car show, but Cadillac Racing offers something for the adults.

The CXC Motion-Pro Simulator is powered by iRacing software, the same program used in actual racing schools. The simulator allows you to race an 800-horsepower Cadillac at the Mid-Ohio raceway. A couple of times around the track and you will feel like you just had a workout. It's geared for people 16 and older.

"It's the cheapest way to race," spokesman Matt Leddy said. "Anyone who's a true race fan will love it."

Calling Batman

Wonder what a Lincoln might look like in 2023? Students at the College for Creative Studies have the answer. Work-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

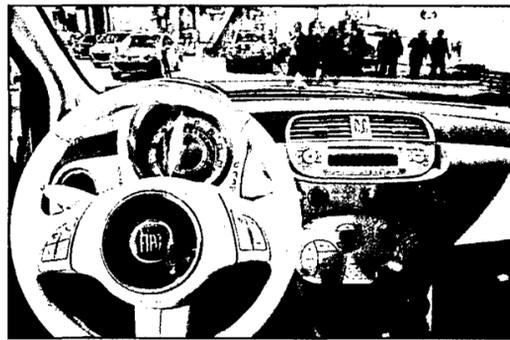
The slowest vehicle on the floor is probably the Craftsman lawn tractor, piloted by spokeswoman Allison Aaron.

ing under the guidance of Lincoln Design Director Max Wolff, students designed futuristic model cars for a showroom between 2018 and 2023. They're sleek and cool and on display throughout the show. And, yes,

some of the model cars resemble the Batmobile.

Drive the future

Toyota has two simulators at the show, one of which is designed to show you what driving a car might feel like in the



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The auto show affords attendees the ability to kick the tires and sit behind the wheel.

future. Mainly it's a lot easier, as multiple features in the car will alert you to any moving object, presumably while you're talking on the phone or texting. The other Toyota simulator shows people what it's like to drive a car without the Toyo-

ta Star Safety System — and then with the safety features. In other words, a lot of skidding and sliding.

"It's a lot of fun," said spokeswoman Grace So, who lives in Royal Oak. "It's like an off-road driving experience."

Design a car

If you think a pair of La-Z-Boy recliners would make excellent car seats, now is your time to explain why. Chevrolet has two concept cars on display, the Code 130R and the Tru140S. Both cars need your input.

"We want to know what you think the vehicles should consist of," Chevy spokeswoman Tifarah Brumback of Royal Oak said. Four iPads are set up at the display, allowing the public to offer input on the car seats, the dashboard, the steering wheel and other interior features.

Press perks

Covering the auto show does have its share of perks. One is the free massages, compliments of students from Irene's Myomassology Institute in Southfield. Reporters also got to test the Ford Immersive Vehicle Environment, a state-of-the-art simulator designer Elizabeth Baron helped create that uses sophisticated virtual reality technology to enable designers and engineers to fully experience a vehicle before it is ever built. Baron was at the auto show Tuesday to demonstrate its use.

"It's a combination of the virtual and physical world," she said. "We track your view and hands in real time and let you interact with the vehicle. It's almost like being inside a video game."

This is the first time Ford brought the simulator to a car show, but it's not quite ready for the public.

—By Jay Grossman

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS



Thomas and Matthew Rost of the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes and Cremation Services show off the annual Parker Award that was presented to them at the fall convention of the Preferred Funeral Directors International Association.

Parker Award

The annual Parker Award was presented to Thomas and Matthew Rost at the fall convention of the Preferred Funeral Directors International Association. Thomas Rost is the president of the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, which last year celebrated its 100th anniversary of serving Westland and Livonia and the surrounding communities.

The award is given in recognition of demonstrated leadership, customer service and innovative creativity in funeral service.

The award is presented annually to a firm that meets the highest of qualifications and is given in honor of Brent Parker, a funeral director from Charleston, West Virginia, who demonstrated the highest qualities in funeral service. Parker passed away two years ago.

"Like Brent Parker, the staff at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes and Cremation Services represents the finest in funeral service leadership, and are proud to accept this award in recognition of the families we serve as we educate them on the Experience Of Healing and help them to meet their emotional, spiritual and relational needs," said Thomas Rost.

Working out

Planet Fitness, the gym franchise known for its Judgement Free Zone® atmosphere and friendly prices, has entered a brand partnership with *The Biggest Loser*, the NBC reality show that

airs at 8 p.m. Tuesdays.

During the season, contestants will work out on Planet Fitness gym equipment at *The Biggest Loser* ranch in Calabasas, Calif. In some episodes throughout the winter and spring, contestants will work out at Planet Fitness gyms near their homes, under the guidance of Planet Fitness trainers.

"We're thrilled to be associated with *The Biggest Loser* and proud to have the opportunity to help the show's contestants on their journey toward improving their health and changing their lives," said Planet Fitness co-founder and chief executive Michael Grondahl. "Planet Fitness is the one gym where all people - no matter their fitness level - will find a comfortable and non-intimidating atmosphere to pursue their goals."

Recently, NBC film crews were on site at Planet Fitness clubs in Lansing and Westland to shoot scenes for the upcoming season.

"It's exciting not only to be associated with *The Biggest Loser* program, but to actually have our club participate in the filming of the show," said Bryan Rief, a Michigan franchisee whose company owns and operates nine Planet Fitness clubs in the Detroit area.

The Biggest Loser, which debuted on NBC in 2004, attracts nearly 7 million viewers a week.

Joins staff

A diagnosis of cancer is usually a frightening experience. For Marlene Davis, a Garden City resident, the diagnosis of cancer awakened a strong resolve to fight it and

win. She trusted her care to Garden City Hospital and its oncology specialists and it paid off.

"While I was in cancer treatments, I wanted to talk to someone locally," Davis said. "The lack of counselors skilled in helping the cancer patient and their families led to my decision to return to Wayne State University and complete a master's degree in counseling."

The Director of the Counseling Department, Dr. Phil O'Dwyer agreed "Counseling helps patients cope and when one is both ill and stressed, it is important to have that counseling available locally," he said.

Davis recently joined the staff at the Center for Counseling at Garden City Hospital.

"My goal is to provide counseling in the local community tailored to the needs of cancer patients and their families," said Davis who brings the perspective of a cancer survivor and is dedicated to helping this patient population.

Located in Garden City, Brookfield Clinics has been servicing the community for more than 30 years as an outpatient mental health and substance abuse clinic. A variety of treatment options are available to help relieve emotional distress.

Center for Counseling is located on the Garden City Hospital campus at 6245 Inkster Road. For more information, call (734) 421-3374.

Plan helps vets find jobs

By Glenn S. Anderson
Guest Columnist

Last month, our country joined hands to celebrate the sacrifices made in the line of duty by our men and women in the armed forces. Though Veteran's Day is an important tribute and recognition of this service, I firmly believe we should remember and honor our veteran's each and every day we wake up and live free lives because of their efforts. If it weren't for the service of our veterans, and our men and women who currently serve in the armed forces, we would not enjoy



Sen. Glenn Anderson

the way of life to which we are accustomed.

To recognize the service of our veterans, I recently joined with my colleagues in the House and Senate to co-sponsor legislation to help small businesses hire veterans. Senate Bill 800 is part of a bicameral package that will help our small businesses grow while putting our veterans back to work. The "Hire MI Heroes" package provides an opportunity to recognize the service of our veterans and help turn the economy around - a rare combination of accomplishing two important goals with single piece of legislation.

If enacted, the package would provide a tax credit to Michigan small businesses who hire an unemployed veteran. A recent Congressional report found that Michigan

ranked as the worst state in the country for out-of-work veterans, with an unemployment rate of nearly 30 percent. Nationally, the Bureau of Labor and Statistics found that the unemployment rate in September for post-9/11 veterans was 11.7 percent, with female veterans out-of-work at a rate of 14.7 percent.

Battling unemployment with incentives like this proposal will help veteran job seekers and job providers at the same time. I strongly support this initiative as a means to an important end: giving back to those who risk their lives to protect our American way of life.

Glenn S. Anderson is a state senator serving 6th District, which includes Westland and Garden City. He welcomes feedback at SenatorAnderson@senate.mi.gov.

WESTLAND CHAMBER CHAT

Plans are in motion to have one of the biggest celebration's the Westland Chamber of Commerce has ever seen on April 20, when we celebrate our 50th birthday.

Don't miss out on great entertainment provided by Steve King and The Dittilies, fantastic food provided by the Hellenic Cultural Center and special guests from the past. Tickets will be \$40 each or \$320 for a table of eight.

There are many sponsorship opportunities available as well. Event Chairperson Gary Bulson says he has one goal in mind ... FUN! For more information, call

(734) 326-7222.

The Westland Chamber also is a member of the 5 Star Business Group, a joint effort between Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Redford, Wayne and Westland Chambers to offer more opportunities to their members.

The driving force behind The 5 Star Business Group is that there is power in numbers. The goal of the 5 Star Business Group is to provide members with tremendous networking opportunities with a larger group of people. A larger audience allows for amazing opportunities to exchange ideas

and create partnership opportunities with individuals from other areas that you would not meet otherwise.

The next opportunity for you to benefit from the 5 Star Business Group is coming up. On Thursday, January 19, 2012, we will be meeting at Malarkey's Irish Pub located at 35750 Warren Road, Westland. We'll be meeting 5-7 p.m., appetizers will be provided.

Come join us and check out one of the many ways our Chamber is working for you.

Brookellen Swope
President and CEO
Westland Chamber

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BUSINESS HAPPENINGS

Face to Face

The Garden City Chamber of Commerce is offering a free Face to Face on Facebook workshop for businesses 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Jan. 13, at Panera Bread, 26580 Ford, Dearborn Heights.

Bring your laptop or use theirs. Drop in anytime during the two-hour program for some tips and hands-on instruction for using Facebook for your business.

Hospice volunteers

Compassionate Care Hospice is seeking caring, compassionate volunteers with big hearts to serve as friendly visitors for its patients. The service area includes the counties of Oakland, Monroe, Wayne, Washtenaw and Livingston. Volunteers set their own schedules and typically donate one-two hours of their time per week. Compassionate Care Hospice is a communi-

ty-based hospice organization committed to the highest quality of hospice care for patients, their families and other loved ones. Volunteers receive training and on-going coaching, and social opportunities are available as well.

The next new volunteer orientation is fast-approaching. It will take place at its office in Canton at 5730 N. Lilley Road, Suite A. Contact Justine Galat, volunteer coordinator, to apply for an interview at jgalat@cchnet.net or call (888) 983-9050.

Ladies Night

Art Van Furniture and 99.5 WYCD Detroit's Best Country are inviting ladies to enjoy a night of wine and fun to benefit Henry Ford Health System 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29 at the Art Van store at 22035 Eureka in Taylor.

Guests can enjoy hair styling, make-up, massages and more. There will be music, dancing, exercise and desserts

with a country flair. The event is free, but space is limited, so make reservations by calling (888)-619-2199.

Open Mic Night

Stop by Maxwell's Art and Treasures in Garden City on Saturday, Jan. 21, for the next open mic. It's an evening of good food, good music and great friends.

Admission is \$5 per person, pay \$10 and enjoy the buffet dinner. Doors open at 6 p.m. Food's on at 7 p.m., and the show starts at 8 p.m.

Maxwell's is at 32416 Industrial, north of Ford, Garden City.

VOICES & VIEWS:
COMMENT ONLINE



hometownlife.com

OUR VIEWS

MLK Day

Honor the man with a day of service

In a commentary published last January on the 25th observance of Martin Luther King Day, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Leonard Pitts Jr. observed that it is one holiday that has left us with the question of how we should observe the day.

According to Pitts, unlike Christmas — where we open presents or the Fourth of July where we have a barbecue and watch the fireworks — MLK Day “lacks a defining tradition.” That’s not to say people haven’t found ways to celebrate it. Most of our communities will have an observance, interfaith breakfast, a walk or a ceremony that honors Dr. King.

But 25 years after Congress declared the third Monday in January as Martin Luther King Day and 18 years after it designated it as a day of service, there is no “one or two things we do that emblemize this

day.”

Pitts cited Lerone Bennett Jr., the venerable historian, author of *Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America*, who says King “lives on the top tier of American heroes with Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln. But the King holiday gets ‘bogged down’ in soundbites of I Have A Dream, and gives no sense of the greatness or majesty of the man and the fundamental changes he demanded.”

Pitts wrote: “For Bennett, King’s last crusade, which he died trying to fulfill, is symbolic of his broader vision: The Poor People’s Campaign was designed to move the struggle for equality beyond race to the common ground of class.”

Pitts and Bennett are right in that most of us think of Dr. King in terms of I Have A Dream. For many of us, he is the face and the voice of the civil rights movement. We forget that his fight went beyond racial equality to include labor rights, economic exploitation, fair housing and better schools.

According to the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, “In many ways the true power of his legacy remains untapped. Children across the country celebrate his life with a day off from school each year, but too many don’t understand the reasons why.”

“Americans respect his achievements in ending segregation, but for many his teachings end at I Have A Dream. And across the globe, men and women of all ages know his name as a past benefactor of mankind, but not necessarily as a source of relevance to their current lives.”

We would like to think we are better off than we were in the 1960s, that racial equality exists in this country. But while we have made progress, it has not been enough. Segregation still exists. It may not be in the form that Dr. King spoke against, but it is still here. We see diversity in our schools and our neighborhoods, but we need only look to Detroit to a segregation of opportunity. Those who can have left the city, leaving those who can’t behind.

According to Pitts, the “common denominator” in all that Dr. King fought for was “simply a demand that America do better by its most vulnerable: the poor, the racial minorities, the unhoused, the uneducated, the left out, left behind and forgotten, the ones the Bible calls ‘the least of these.’”

Dr. King said: “Every man must decide whether he will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness. This is the judgment. Life’s most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?”

We as Americans need to do more Monday than remember and honor the man, we need to observe it as a national day of service, “a day on, not a day off.” It needs to be more than a day off from school and a good day to take in the auto show.

Dr. King didn’t take a day off in his campaign for racial and social justice. If we want to honor him, we need to get involved and help provide solutions to our most pressing national problems. By working together, we can make a difference and we need to make difference.

We owe it to ourselves and to each other lest we become that person Dr. King spoke of, when he said: “When an individual is no longer a true participant, when he no longer feels a sense of responsibility to his society, the content of democracy is emptied.”

COMMUNITY VOICE

What are your plans for the North American International Auto Show?

We asked this question at Westland Shopping Center in Westland.



“I plan to go and take my kids.”
Ziad Souidan
Dearborn



“Oh, I’d love to go down there, but I don’t think I’ll make it.”
Judi Wheeler
Westland



“We don’t have any plans to go.”
Lorena Hamlin
Canton



“I go every year. I used to work for Ford.”
Abe Diesel
Dearborn

LETTERS

Grateful for story

Thank you for placing an article on suicide as your cover story for your Jan. 1 edition of the *Observer*. I was surprised, and grateful.

This Christmas season, our family was stunned and distressed by the suicides of two of my children’s friends, young men aged 22 and 23 seemingly with their entire life ahead of them. Ironically, BOTH happened on the same day in different locations in Michigan. I can only imagine from a distance the horror of the nightmare from which their parent’s will never awaken.

As a substitute teacher and as a mother, I felt that these incidents, this huge loss of life, could not be ignored. On my final day of teaching prior to Christmas, I spoke to my two high school classes about this. The night before I taught, I found three Suicide Prevention numbers and had them printed out for distribution. At the beginning of class the next day, I briefly told the class about the two suicides.

I begged them to select ONE number from the list and enter it into their phone in case it was ever needed — that depression is very real and to never ignore a change in behavior in someone. I also recognized that it is no one’s fault because sometimes the signs may be so subtle as to escape detection.

The person driven to suicide is so severely depressed, they are not their real selves at the time they feel that suicide is their only option.

My heart continues to hurt greatly for these families. I will, as I have, continue to pray for them in the days and years to come. As a Christian, I know the promise of eternal life in glory through Christ, and this is my hope. I pray that these families will have strong pillars of support around them, and will find solace in their faith and knowing that unfortunately, their loss is not the only one. There are others who walk this sad path with them. Severe depression is a serious issue, but also something that one can be brought out of with the right treatment. I know, I’ve been there.

I have since gotten on the National Suicide Prevention website and discovered that suicide is the THIRD leading cause of death for persons aged 15-24. Maybe continuing to talk about this very difficult subject others will realize that they are not alone, and that there really IS hope. Thank you for acknowledging the reality of suicide in such a prominent article and may the efforts of many involved in suicide prevention education have a profound difference in someone’s life.

Linda Auwers
Plymouth Township

Controlled substance

I’m writing about Greg Francisco’s thoughtful letter: “Regulate marijuana” (Jan. 5).

I’d like to add that marijuana is a controlled substance — controlled by criminal gangs.

Just like alcohol was when it was illegal.

Kirk Muse
Mesa, Ariz.

Bigoted bill

The Republican-run Legislature

SEND US YOUR VIEWS

We welcome your letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

Web: www.hometownlife.com
Mail: Letters to the Editor, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226

Fax: (313) 223-3318
E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

has passed a bill that will eliminate domestic partnership benefits for public employees. This bill removes health care benefits for the gay partners of public employees throughout the state. This cruel and bigoted piece of legislation was supported by our own Sen. Patrick Colbeck.

Domestic partnership rules would not be needed if gays were allowed to be married in Michigan. But the people of Michigan have spoken and hate has triumphed over tolerance and inclusion. So, led by lawmakers like Mr. Colbeck, the anti-gay agenda continues unabated.

Thaddeus J. Hejka
Canton

Price fixing

Joe Gagnon’s column on “Cost of service is a pricey subject” in the Dec. 25 issue was interesting. I wonder why government is not going after various industries who are publishing “price books” setting the prices. Is it not price fixing, which is illegal? Even gas stations can not do this verbally, but here they are doing this price fixing and gouging in writing.

Hari Agrawal
Farmington Hills

Rebuilt is option

Buying a new car might sound great in theory, but in these uncertain economic times, it might not be the right investment. Other options, such as replacing your worn out engine with a rebuilt or remanufactured engine, may be a much better economic decision to keep new car costs at bay.

Installing a rebuilt or remanufactured engine saves big money in the long run. For the cost of an average down payment on a new car or truck, you can repower your vehicle with a remanufactured or rebuilt engine and gain years of reliable service without monthly car payments and higher insurance rates.

With a rebuilt or remanufactured engine, a vehicle’s worn out engine, or an identical engine, is completely disassembled, cleaned, machined and rebuilt. Unlike used or junk yard engines with an unknown performance and maintenance history, remanufactured and rebuilt engines are dependable, reliable and backed

by excellent warranty programs.

Before you consider a new vehicle purchase, talk with a professional automotive technician to see if a rebuilt or remanufactured engine is the right choice for you. To learn more, visit the Engine Rebuilders Council website at www.engine-rebuilder.org and click on Cost Comparisons to view a chart of examples illustrating the cost difference between purchasing a new vehicle and repowering your vehicle with a remanufactured or rebuilt engine.

Ken Carter
chairman, Engine Rebuilders Council

Turned off by electric cars

Buyer indifference has cut electric car predictions in half. Even with a taxpayer subsidy of \$7,500, the price of a Volt is double that of the gasoline model. Range, performance and resale value are unsatisfactory.

Electricity is not cheap. It is in short supply because greenies insist on solar or wind energy instead of coal or nuclear power. Dreams must be functional before becoming regulations. Environmentalists and the president promote electrics while driving gas vehicles.

Refusal to extract oil might increase the price enough to reconsider electric autos, but the cost to jobs and the economy will be disastrous.

Hank Borgman
Farmington

Two sets of rules

President Obama appointed Richard Cordray head of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau as a recess appointment. The Republicans are furious because they have nothing against Mr. Cordray — they just don’t want a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. One more proof of how the Republicans are the party of the 1 percent.

Remember in 2008 how the we had the Wall Street meltdown which we had to pay for? Well, the Republicans want to have all us 99 percent at the mercy of the banks. We need to have an agency that will help us understand the mortgages and also deal with payday lenders and other debt collectors that have previously escaped federal oversight.

We need regulation. We do not need deregulation. They say that regulation stifles economic growth. The only thing that gets stifled is us the consumers. We need to have someone to stand up for us. Too many people have been taken out of their homes with fraudulent paperwork by the banks.

I am proud of President Obama for doing this. He needs to do more. If Congress won’t act because of a minority of senators filibustering these appointments, then President Obama is doing the right thing.

By the way, President George W. Bush had 61 recess appointments compared to 28 by Obama. But, of course, there are two sets of rules — one for the Republicans and one for the Democrats. Of course, this is my opinion. What is yours?

Joanne Braund
Royal Oak

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Deadline for submissions: 1/26/12

All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by close of the business day on Jan. 26th. Winners to be announced in the February Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

When it's cold outside sometimes the only thing a kid can do is have BIG TIME FUN. Here are some fun things to do with your friends and family outside or indoors. In either case, get ready to have loads of fun and laughter.

OUTSIDE FUN:

- 1. Get a group together and have your own winter game competition. You can design your own obstacle course using small snow mounds for hurdle jumping, a track for short distance sprinting, and snow balls for shot-put throwing.
- 2. Create years of fun memories with the whole family. Build a headless snowman and take funny photographs of you and your family using your head as a substitute for the snowman's head.
- 3. Create a colorful ice sculpture using food colored frozen water made in plastic or Styrofoam cups. A little water poured between the ice blocks will help everything stick together like glue.

INDOOR FUN:

- 1. Create a night of giving. Take one evening and go through your closet and pull out clothing that you no longer want and give it to charity. Especially look for clothing that is good for the cold winter months.
- 2. Have a Home Movie Buffet. Invite some friends over and let your creative mind go to work. Ask mom and dad to help create fun treats for everyone to sample. How about strawberry hot chocolate or peanut butter and honey mini sandwiches? Yummy. Put on your favorite movie and top it off with some fruit flavored popcorn. (Learn how to make fruit flavored popcorn below).

COOKING WITH SCOOP

Here is a fun tasty treat to try at home with mom and dad.

Ingredients

- 1. 10 cups popped popcorn
 - 2. 1 cup butter
 - 3. 3/4 cup sugar
 - 4. 1 (3 ounce) package fruit flavored gelatin mix
 - 5. 1 tablespoon corn syrup
 - 6. 3 tablespoons water
1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees F. Grease a 1/4 sheet pan. Generously butter a heavy 2 quart saucepan.
 2. Distribute popcorn evenly in the baking pans and put in the oven to keep warm.
 3. Combine butter, sugar, gelatin, corn syrup and water in a saucepan over medium heat about 250 degrees F.
 4. Pour mixture evenly over popcorn and stir until the popcorn is coated. Put popcorn in oven. Bake for 5 minute then stir and bake for 5 more minutes.
 5. Pour out popcorn on to a large piece of foil. Let cool and enjoy.

SCOOP PUZZLER

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. SLOWNKEA _____ | 6. SMITENT _____ |
| 2. SMANNOW _____ | 7. SNAGITK _____ |
| 3. ZARBLIDZ _____ | 8. SLECI _____ |
| 4. TREWIN _____ | |
| 5. FRACS _____ | |

Answers: Snowflake, Snowman, Blizzard, Winter, Scarf, Mittens, Skating, Icicles

Winter Family Fun Contest

Youth Name: _____

Youth Age: _____

Youth Community: _____

Parent's information to contact winning entry:
 (Phone, email, home address)

Selected winners will have their name, age, hometown and photo in the next Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.

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Lucky winner from last month's contest

Caroline Loder
 Age: 9
 Community: Livonia

My tradition is every winter my family and I do puzzles. For instance, this winter we already finished a hot air balloon puzzle and we are doing a jelly bean puzzle right now. Next, we will do a button puzzle. When my grandparents come over they like to help too. They actually do their own puzzles every winter at home too.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Bradley White
 Community: Canton
 Jan 12

Brandon Lewandowski
 Community: Garden City
 Jan 29

Scoop, the newshound, will be offering contests on a monthly basis. Look for Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights page monthly in this newspaper!

Resource Center offers yoga classes

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

Ever wonder what yoga is but never had a chance to try it?

Instructor Jennifer Drake, a facilitator at the Family Resource Center in Garden City, will give participants a chance to experience it.

The 12-week class is from 5-6 p.m. Mondays Jan. 16 through April 2 at the Maplewood Center on Maplewood, west of Merriman in Garden City.

"They will work on breathing, postures and resting meditation," said Monica Fulton, FRC supervisor. "We want people to bring a water bottle, a towel or yoga mat and wear comfortable clothing."

All ages are welcome with registration.

"We ask that children 11 years old and younger be accompanied in the classroom with their parents," Fulton said.

The entire 12-week class costs \$20. If anyone wants to just drop in one week to try it out, it costs \$2.

Drake is a wellness coordinator for the FRC.

"She is a certified yoga instructor," Fulton said. "We are fortunate to have that type of talent on staff with us."

sbuck@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2249

Winter recreation

Kensington Metropark teaches ice fishing basics

By Phillip Allmen
Staff Writer

Grant Kirchner learned how to fish with his grandfather at one of Kensington Metropark's ice fishing for beginners program. The Commerce teen has been hooked ever since.

"It's a fun thing to do instead of sitting around watching television in the winter," said Kirchner, a Lakeland High School junior.

The metropark will hold four ice fishing classes this winter for kids and adults interested in learning more about the sport.

"They take you out there, and they have all the stuff for you to use," Kirchner said. "We did catch fish."

The program starts with some classroom learning about the equipment and techniques needed to fish through a hole in the ice. And if weather permits, participants will head out on Wildwing Lake to drop a line in the water and test their newfound skills.

Mike Broughton, an interpreter at Kensington's Nature Center, said winter is the only time that Wildwing Lake can be fished — only the western end is open to fishing — and more wintertime fishermen set up on adjacent Kent Lake so there's less pressure on Wildwing.

"Hardly anyone fishes it that often in the winter," Broughton said. "There's a decent size perch and blue gill out of that lake."

Safety first
Metropark staff will



FILE PHOTO

Brian Daniels spends an afternoon last winter ice fishing. Kensington Metropark will hold several introductory ice fishing classes in January and February.

pre-drill holes through the ice before the program, saving those learning to fish from a little extra work. But if the weather doesn't cooperate, no one will venture out on the ice.

"We offer it four times. Sometimes the ice isn't ready yet," Broughton explained. "We're hedging our bets. We need a certain thickness of ice to take people out. We'd love to do it four times."

"Right now it's looking scary for the ice. It's been so warm and rainy."

The Kirchner family lives on Lake Sherwood. Grant Kirchner said he checks the ice's thickness by drilling holes through the ice at the end of his dock. The neighborhood association notes prob-

lem spots throughout the lake in its newsletter, and often he'll wait until he sees others on the ice with their snowmobiles or four-wheelers before heading out himself.

Six inches of ice typically suffices, he said.

That's the same thickness Kensington staff wants for its winter programs. But there are other considerations, as well, according to Broughton.

New ice is preferred, because it's stronger than old ice. When drilling through the ice, the angler can determine its age by its color and amount of air pockets.

New ice is clearer and has fewer air pockets, which forms after snow falls, then freezes on ice. Old ice is whiter and not

translucent. The older the ice, the thicker it needs to be, said Broughton.

There are no specific regulations at Kensington on when the ice is usable. Common sense, he added, plays a major role.

"It's strictly up to the person on when it's safe to go out there," said Broughton.

Different sport

Those accustomed to sitting in a fishing boat or casting from shore during the warm summer months need to adjust to ice fishing. Different poles, hooks and bait are needed when out on the ice. Short poles are needed, and anglers jig, instead of casting and reeling. Jigging involves lightly bouncing the line

at a certain depth. Smaller hooks and bait are needed.

"It's a completely different type of thing," said Broughton. "It's harder to get the fish in the winter time. The fish have slowed way down, because they're cold-blooded."

Kirchner said he's been asking for ice fishing gear as presents ever since he learned of the sport. This Christmas, he received an ice shanty.

"The lake isn't frozen (yet)," he said Friday. "It's bumming me out."

Kensington has some ice fishing gear to loan for its beginners programs. Broughton said basic rigs can be purchased at retailers for as little as \$10.

The metropark allows anglers to keep fishing shanties on Kent Lake throughout winter if registered with the park office. Otherwise, those fishing are not allowed to leave anything on the ice overnight.

Program details

Kensington Metropark will hold four ice fishing for beginners classes: Jan. 21 and 28 and Feb. 4 and 11. The three-hour programs run 1-4 p.m. and include classroom and outdoor time at the nature center. They are open to kids ages 6 and older, as well as adults. A fishing license is required for those 17 years of age and older, \$5 per person fishing, and registration is required by calling (248) 685-1561.

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SPORTS

BRAD EMONS, EDITOR
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Resurgent Ocelots prevail

Witcher keys 10th victory

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

The Schoolcraft College men's basketball team is experiencing a renaissance of sorts.

The Ocelots surpassed last year's win total Monday night following an 85-77 victory over visiting Delta College.

Schoolcraft improved to 10-3 overall and 3-0 in the MCCA's Eastern Conference by rallying from a nine-point deficit with 11:23 remaining in the second half to win going away.

"It's better to be on the other side," said Schoolcraft coach Randy Henry, whose team finished 9-19 a year ago and has endured four straight losing seasons. "We're 3-0. We're in first place. We have OCC (Oakland Community College) on Wednesday. I'll enjoy it today and practice tomorrow on OCC."

"I've tried to get my

team to understand we need the 10 guys that are left to come together as one — and regardless of who scores or makes the pass — all should be happy. That's my biggest task in front of me right now to get them galvanized and of one accord that we just want to win."

Schoolcraft committed 11 first-half turnovers and trailed 39-34.

The Ocelots also had trouble defending Delta sophomore guard Jody Hill, who scored 18 of his game-high 35 points in the first 20 minutes.

"The biggest thing is that we tried to slow number three (Jody Hill) down," Henry said. "He ended up with 35 points, so that was null and void. We tried to make him work for every shot. He did miss a couple on the drives, but everything had to be under pressure. That was my goal in the

Please see **OCELOTS**, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Schoolcraft's LenDerrick Witcher goes in for the reverse two-hand dunk during the second half of the Ocelots' 85-77 win over Delta College. Witcher scored a team-high 22 points for the Ocelots.

GLIAC honors cager Taylor

Grand Valley State University forward Brianna Taylor (Livonia Franklin) was named Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference North Division women's basketball player of the week.

The 5-foot-10 junior averaged 15.5 points and 8.0 rebounds last week while helping the Lakers win back-to-back games for the first time this season.

Taylor tallied 12 points, including going 4-for-4 from the foul line, and three assists in a 50-48 win at Saginaw Valley State last Thursday. She registered her second double-double of the season with 19 points and 10 rebounds during a 74-53 rout Saturday at Lake Superior State.

Taylor, also a standout on the Lakers' softball team, leads the team in scoring at 13.6 points. She's averaging 6.1 rebounds per game.

Grand Valley headed into Wednesday's game at home against Northwood at 7-7 overall and 4-3 in the conference.

WYAA hoop registration

Registration continues for Westland Youth Athletic Association basketball from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday and 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

Age groups offered include: Right Start (7-8), Freshman (9-10), Junior Varsity (11-12) and Varsity (13-16).

Right Start games will be played at Upper Elementary School. Freshman, JV and Varsity games will be at the Bailey Recreation Center.

For more information, call (734) 421-0640.

Blazers waylaid by Lakes

Livonia Ladywood hit an unexpected chuckhole Tuesday night, falling to visiting Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes, 53-50.

The Blazers, outscored 15-9 in the final quarter, fell to 5-4 overall.

State-ranked Lakes (7-1), ranked No. 5 in Class D, got five 3-pointers from Tori Duffey in the second half. She finished with a game-high 17 points, while Lexie Robak added 11.

The Lakers made 9-of-16 three-point attempts and connected on 12-of-18 foul shots.

"They're pretty good, they hit shots," Ladywood coach Anthony

GIRLS HOOPS

Coratti said. "They made plays and free throws down the stretch. Hats off to them."

Junior guard Andie Anastos led Ladywood with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Senior guard Briana Combs chipped in with 11 points, while senior forward Morgan Chops added eight points and six rebounds.

The Blazers, who went 2-for-5 from the line, face defending Class B champion and state-ranked Dearborn Divine Child at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at home.

HVL 55, CALVARY 36:

Freshman Julie St. John scored 14 points and junior Megan Prieskorn added 11 as Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (1-2, 1-1) earned the MIAC Red Division triumph Tuesday at home over Ypsilanti Calvary Christian Academy.

Senior Paige Schmidt chipped in eight points for the Hawks, who pulled away in the second half after leading 25-24 at intermission.

"We did not come out very aggressive tonight in the first half, but turned it around in the second," HVL coach Kris Ruth said. "We did not rebound very well to start. I was very pleased with our balanced scoring tonight. We still need to find more consistency in our offensive sets."

Seniors Kallie Hunley and Emily Getchell tallied 14 and eight, respectively, for the Cougars (0-2 MIAC Red).

MU women can't finish off No. 4 Davenport

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

COLLEGE HOOPS

There were plenty of moments Saturday when it appeared Madonna University had the No. 4-ranked NAIA Division II women's basketball team in the country on the ropes.

But the host Crusaders, who jumped out to an 18-2 first-half lead and held a 67-61 advantage as late as 3:43 to go, couldn't stand prosperity as Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference leader Davenport University got off the can-

vas for a 73-69 win.

It was MU's sixth straight defeat and dropped the Crusaders to 5-10 overall and 2-4 in the WHAC.

Davenport, getting 17 points apiece from Karlee Despres and Abbey Hengesbach, improved to 16-2 overall and 6-0 in the WHAC.

Senior guard Erin Bentley, who made 6-of-13 three-point shots, scored a career-high 20 points for MU.

Please see **MU**, B3

Delta crashes Schoolcraft's party

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

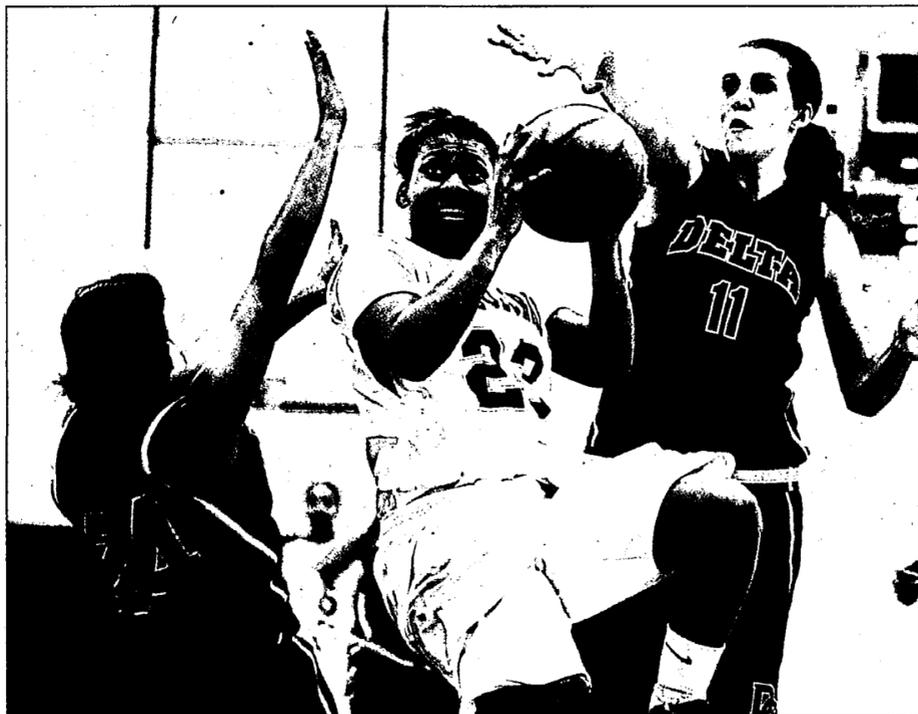
First-year Schoolcraft College women's basketball coach Kevin Brathwaite had little to say after watching two significant streaks end Monday night after Delta College's stunning 65-64 triumph.

It was the Lady Ocelots' first loss at home since Dec. 2, 2006, and it snapped their NCJAA Division II record home court winning streak at 69. Schoolcraft's 21-game victory streak in the MCCA's Eastern Conference also ended.

"People were just not relaxed and playing the game," Brathwaite said. "That's pretty much it."

Schoolcraft relaxed too much on Delta's 5-foot-10 freshman guard Kelly Dineen, who led all scorers with 29 points, including three 3-pointers.

"I don't know, maybe the fact that they didn't respect that she could play basketball... I guess they should respect her now, because that's what I told them after the game," Brathwaite said.



RENA LAVERTY | PHOTO

"We didn't make plays the whole game."

Kayla Spohn and Nana Hall each added 15 points for the Pioneers, who improved to 6-8 overall and 3-0 in the conference. Hall also

had 13 rebounds.

"We're balanced and different people pick it up every single game," said Delta coach Kelly Miller, whose team led 37-35 at halftime. "She (Dineen) did a nice

job picking it up for us today.

"We knew we had to hustle and be fundamentally strong. We had to jump-stop, take care of the basketball. We had to have head fakes and box

out on the rebounds. And definitely stop their penetration on defense."

But it was the play of Dineen that tipped the scales in Delta's favor.

Please see **HOOPS**, B3

Schoolcraft's Shaawnicka Thomas (23) gets past Delta defenders Angelica Garza (left) and Kayla Spohn (right) in Monday's MCCA Eastern Conference clash.

MU signs Swistock

The Madonna University men's soccer program added offensive punch Monday by announcing the signing of Fraser High's Keith Swistock.

Swistock, the Ramblers' team MVP who scored a school single-season record 28 goals, earned third-team Division I All-State and first-team All-Macomb Area Conference honors.

He was also named to the All-Macomb County and All-Region teams and led his Alliance FC club team to a national appearance in 2010.

"Keith gives us a tremendous amount of versatility," MU coach Scott said. "He scored a bunch of goals in high school and during the recruiting process I have seen him play holding mid, center back and right back. He is excited to get going and we are excited to have him."

MU captured last year's Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference playoffs and earned its third bid to the NAIA National Championships last fall.

The Crusaders begin the 2012 season next August playing and training at the all-new Madonna Soccer Complex.

Koestering's FT gives Spartans 1-point win

The Livonia Stevenson girls basketball team cut down the right Allie to pick up a KLAAs Central Division victory on Tuesday night.

Junior guard Allie Koestering, who scored just four points, made the first of a double-bonus free throw with only 0.9 seconds remaining to break a 43-all deadlock to give the Spartans a dramatic 44-43 win at Northville.

Stevenson rallied from a

KLAAs GIRLS HOOPS

35-30 third-quarter deficit with a 14-8 fourth-period run as sophomore center Charlesann Roy scored seven of her game-high 19 points.

"We got some key stops and cashed in on the other end," Stevenson coach Jen Knoph said.

Senior guard Molly Knoph added 10 points for the Spartans, who improved to 5-2 overall

and 1-1 in the Central.

At one point in the second quarter, Stevenson trailed 22-12 before going on an 11-1 run to cut the deficit to 24-23 at the half.

Alex Moynes and Brittany Berekulka tallied 12 and 11 points, respectively, for the Mustangs (4-4, 0-2).

JOHN GLENN 51, CHURCHILL 35: Sophomore guard Kaira Barnes popped in 16 points and ShaKeya Graves added 13 Tuesday as visiting Westland John Glenn (6-2,

2-0) held off stubborn Livonia Churchill (2-4, 0-2) in a KLAAs South Division matchup.

Kierra Jordan added a double-double for the victorious Rockets with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

"We were a little flat after our big game with Canton," John Glenn coach Eric Kovatch said. "Churchill played a good game and their record is not indicative of the type of team they are. They're well coached."

Senior center Erin Menard led the Chargers with 14 points, while Cecilia Hansen added eight.

"We played really well, but

turned it over too much and didn't take care of the ball," said Churchill coach Matt McCowan, who set team made only 4-of-13 free throws. "But we played very hard and I'm happy with the effort."

CANTON 65, WAYNE 19: A 26-0 third-quarter advantage Tuesday for visiting Chiefs (6-2, 1-1) told the tale in a KLAAs South Division game at Wayne Memorial (2-6, 1-1).

Rachel Winters paced Canton with 18 points, while Taylor Hunley added 10 points and nine rebounds. Paige Aresco also added 10 points as all 10 Canton players scored.

PLYMOUTH 52, FRANKLIN 28: In a KLAAs South Division encounter Tuesday, forward Shelby Cheston sparked the Wildcats with 12 points and 12 rebounds in a victory over host Livonia Franklin (1-7, 0-2).

Three other Plymouth players scored in double figures led by Kylie Robb (14), Jada Woody (11) and Kate Watson (10).

Franklin, which couldn't overcome a 30-11 halftime deficit, got nine points from Jackie Shields and eight from Katelynn Devers.

Plymouth hit only 8-of-20 free throws, while Franklin was 7-12.

Franklin grapplers first at Adams

Livonia Franklin boasted four individual champions en route to a first-place team finish in last Saturday's Rochester Adams Invitational wrestling tournament.

Host Adams was runner-up in the team standings while Northville placed third.

"The tournament is usually pretty competitive, but a few teams didn't show this year and it was a bit down," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "That being said, everyone got some good matches, and some of our newer guys were able to make some progress."

The Patriots put six grapplers in the finals led by champions Danny Martinez (119 points), Gabe Martinez (125), Jordan Atienza (140) and Avery Opperman (160).

"Danny and Gabe both looked sharp - both are very technical, methodical wrestlers," Chiola said. "Jordan just keeps rolling. He still hasn't lost - each week he's trying something a bit different to make himself better. He has all the tool to go all the way."

"Avery was able to stay healthy through the tournament and took home a championship. He's had some nagging injuries all year and is still looking to get into wrestling shape."

Allen Steele (171) and Omar Haymour (285) also took runner-up hon-

ors for Franklin.

"The (KLAAs South) division meets start this week, so I'm hoping we're ready," Chiola said. "I don't think any meet is going to be easy because our division is very balanced. We're going to have to wrestle our best to go undefeated."

Spartans go 1-4

Jake Range (215), Samer Shebak (145) and Kody Roy (135) each finished 5-0 on the day and earned tournament titles as Livonia Stevenson finished 1-4 in Saturday's Harrison Township L'Anse Creuse Team Duels.

The Spartans, now 2-5 overall, defeated Utica Eisenhower (45-30), while losing to Saline (43-31), Dearborn Heights Crestwood (49-21), Marlette (38-38 on criteria) and the host Lancers (48-33).

Richmond, ranked No. 1 in Division 3, captured the team title.

Joe Scott (189) went 4-1 and added a runner-up finish, while Corey Davis (130) and Marco Lytwyn (103) each took thirds with 3-2 records.

"The team is working on improving every day," Stevenson coach Dan Vaughan said. "The young kids are learning the importance of wrestling for six minutes and scoring first points."

Beginning at 9 a.m. this Saturday, Stevenson will host the Spartan Duels.

THE WEEK AHEAD

- BOYS BASKETBALL**
- Friday, Jan. 13**
- Luth. W'sld at Calvary, 6 p.m.
 - Hazel Park at Cville, 7 p.m.
 - Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 - Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 - John Glenn at Wayne, 7 p.m.
 - HVL at Franklin Road, 8:30 p.m.
- GIRLS BASKETBALL**
- Thursday, Jan. 12**
- HVL at Franklin Rd., 5:30 p.m.
 - Cranbrook at Cville, 7 p.m.
 - Parkway at HVL, 7 p.m.
 - DC at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
 - Luth. W'sld at Calvary, 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 13**
- John Glenn at Wayne, 5:30 p.m.
 - Franklin at Churchill, 7 p.m.
 - Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m.
- PREP HOCKEY**
- Friday, Jan. 13**
- Stevenson vs. Trav. City West at Howe Arena, 5:30 p.m.
 - Churchill vs. Salem at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
 - Franklin vs. Northville at Novi Ice Arena, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 14**
- Stevenson vs. Trav. City Central at Howe Arena, 3:30 p.m.
 - Ladywood vs. W.L. Northern at Arctic Pond, 7:30 p.m.
- PREP WRESTLING**
- Saturday, Jan. 14**
- Stevenson Invitational, 9 a.m.
 - Luth. W'sld Tourney, 9 a.m.
 - Garden City Novice, 9:30 a.m.
 - Warren Lincoln Dual, TBA.
- BOYS SWIMMING**
- Thursday, Jan. 12**
- CC at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 13**
- Wayne Inv. prelims, 4 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 14**
- Wayne Inv. finals, noon.
 - Lakeland Invitational, 1 p.m.
- PREP BOWLING**
- Thursday, Jan. 12**
- (4 p.m. at Grand Blanc) Clarenceville vs. Kettering.
 - John Glenn vs. Waterford Mott.
 - Wayne vs. Lakeland.
- Friday, Jan. 13**
- Ladywood vs. Divine Child at Sterling Lanes, 3:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 14**
- Plymouth Tournament at Super Bowl, 12:30 p.m.
- GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER**
- Saturday, Jan. 14**
- Ladywood Invitational, 2 p.m.
- MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**
- Saturday, Jan. 14**
- N'western Ohio at MU, 3 p.m.
 - S'craft at Henry Ford, 3 p.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**
- Saturday, Jan. 14**
- N'western Ohio at MU, 1 p.m.
 - S'craft at Henry Ford, 1 p.m.
 - TBA - time to be announced.

Churchill freezes state-ranked foe

Livonia Churchill's sparking second-period play translated into a 4-2 boys hockey victory Saturday night over host St. Clair Shores Unified in a battle to top-ten ranked teams at Mark Wells Arena.

The Chargers, ranked No. 3 in Division 1, improved to 7-1 with the victory.

The loss drops No. 7 St. Clair Shores to 8-2-1 overall.

After a scoreless opening 17-minute first period, Churchill scored three straight to take a commanding 3-0 lead.

Kevin Louwers' goal off an assist from Riley Brown at 2:47 got Churchill jump-started.

Devin Smythe then followed with a goal at 15:16 from Mike Gambino and Tommy Carey to make it 2-0. And just 19 seconds later, Carey scored from Jake Otto and Nick Proben.

Jake Otto's goal from Andrew Puihes and Smythe just 19 seconds into the third gave the Chargers a four-goal cushion.

Justin Misiak then countered for St. Clair Shores on a power play at 5:25 from Austin Buchholz and Brandon Misiak.



HAL GOULD | SOUTH LYON HERALD

South Lyon Unified's Jake Telep (19) moves the puck up the ice against Franklin's Dylan Smith during Monday's Kensington Conference game at the Kensington Valley Ice House.

Justin Misiak notched his second with 3:15 to go in regulation from Joe Vitale, but that was the extent of the scoring.

Churchill goalie Alex Estes made 12 saves, while Joe Sedrowski had 23 stops for St. Clair Shores.

"The second period we played probably our best period of hockey all season," said Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni, whose team enjoyed a 10-4 shots-on-goal margin.

"Once we got the fourth goal we let up a bit. Give credit to St. Clair Shores. They were the hardest working team we have seen all season long."

"It was a great team win for us and probably our most complete game of the season."

S. LYON 9, FRANKLIN 0: Jake Tairioi scored a hat trick Monday as host South Lyon Unified (8-5-1, 3-4) rolled to a mercy rule win over Livonia Franklin (2-7-1, 0-7) in a Kensington Conference crossover at the Kensington Valley Ice House in Green Oak Township.

South Lyon dominated the game from the opening faceoff, exploding for seven first period goals - five in the first five minutes to put the game away.

Other standouts for South Lyon included Jared Vincek, three assists; Matt Burton, two goals; J.P. Maki Lohiluoma, one goal and two assists; Jake Telep and Cory Haas one goal and one assist each; Blake Robertson, two assists and Colin Tittle, one goal.

G.P. NORTH 6, LADYWOOD 0: Jennifer Cusmano tallied a hat trick along with one assist to lead Grosse Pointe North (6-3, 5-2) to a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League win Saturday night over host Livonia Ladywood (4-6, 4-6) at Plymouth's Arctic Pond.

Goalie Emman Huelmantell stopped 12 shots for the Norsewomen, who led 2-0 after one period and 3-0 after two.

Ladywood netminder Sarah Koch made 21 saves.

PREP MAT RESULTS

KLAAs QUAD MEET

Jan. 4 at Wayne Memorial

WAYNE MEMORIAL 49

NOVI 21

103 pounds: Dan Denova (N) pinned Jake Preiss, 1:13; **112:** Andrew Park (N) decisioned Tyler Mulligan, 12-6; **119:** Tim Way (WM) won by major decision over Anthony Levi, 20-6; **125:** Tristan Jarosicwicz (WM) dec. Evan Davis, 6-5; **130:** Devon Adams (WM) p. Demar Mathis, 3:54; **135:** Alejandro Albuerna (N) dec. Kevin Marz, 13-7; **140:** Allen Parker (WM) p. Kaveh Sohizad, 3:59; **145:** Benjamin Wright (N) dec. Kyle Szalai, 10-5; **152:** Sharif Hegazi (WM)

p. Michael Gurney, 1:44; **160:** Sam Ekanem (WM) p. Benjamin Landry, 5:27; **171:** Lucas Hofbauer (WM) p. Farahman Kian, 1:01; **189:** Devin Korzetki (WM) p. Jake Dobras, 1:01; **215:** Dimitrus Renfroe (WM) p. Justin Michael, 1:49; **285:** James Keller (N) p. Colin Mullins, 2:40.

WAYNE MEMORIAL 46

SALEM 27

103: Joey Taylor (S) pinned Jake Preiss, 1:07; **112:** Tyler Mulligan (WM) p. Alex Arble, 1:58; **119:** Tim Way (WM) won by major decision over Caleb McCabe, 15-5; **125:** Cody Korpus (S) p. Michael

Gossett, 0:57; **130:** Devon Adams (WM) p. Joshua Streeter, 2:11; **135:** Kevin Marz (WM) p. Mitchell Marshall, 3:01; **140:** Allen Parker (WM) dec. Riley Duxtader, 7-4; **145:** Matthew Lang (S) dec. Kyle Szalai, 7-6; **152:** Sharif Hegazi (WM) p. Connor Thornbury, 2:17; **160:** Sam Ekanem (WM) dec. Tyler Gross, 5-1; **171:** Alex Brown (S) p. Lucas Hofbauer, 4:18; **189:** Jacob McCabe (S) p. Devin Korzetki, 2:28; **215:** Dimitrus Renfroe (WM) p. John Agostini, 2:16; **285:** Aaron Mauldin (WM) p. Ali Ajami, 2:43.

Wayne's dual meet record: 6-0 overall.

PREP BOWLING RESULTS

LIVONIA LADYWOOD HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT BOWLING RESULTS

Jan. 7 at Super Bowl

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Flat Rock, 2,739 (3 games)-708 (4 Bakers)-3,447 (total); 2. South Lyon East, 2,678-754-3,432; 3. Salem, 2,790-630-3,420; 4. Canton, 2,654-736-3,390; 5. Westland John Glenn, 2,582-789-3,371; 6. South Lyon, 2,599-717-3,316; 7. St. Clair Shores Lakeview, 2,718-592-3,310; 8. Farmington Harrison, 2,602-684-3,286; 9. Ferndale, 2,568-660-3,228; 10. North Farmington, 2,536-674-3,210; 11. Novi Detroit Catholic Central, 2,580-625-3,205; 12. Plymouth, 2,457-669-3,126; 13. Warren DeLaSalle, 2,395-680-3,075; 13. 14. Waterford Kettering, 2,439-630-3,069; 15. Livonia Clarenceville, 2,337-669-3,006; 16. Berkley, 2,386-613-2,999; 17. Dearborn Divine Child, 2,412-565-2,977; 18. Birmingham Brother Rice, 2,206-656-2,862; 19. Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 2,210-594-2,804.

High games: 1. Aaron Radner (N. Farm.), 262; 2.

David Nikkila (Salem), 257; 3. Juwayn Teamer (FH), 243; 4. Brandon Zurawsk (Plate Rock) and Steven Cadwell (Salem), 227 each; 6. Nick Krause (Kettering), 226.

High series: 1. Radner (N. Farm.), 628; 2. Nikkila (Salem), 618; 3. Andrew Starney (S.L. East), 610; 4. Daniel Wrobel (Flat Rock), 589; 5. Donovan Williams (Ferndale), 587; Alex Franz (S.L. East), 583.

John Glenn scorers: Jordan Hornes, 171-184-199-554; Tommy Ruark, 170-216-386; Daniel Ammons, 189-160-349; Steven White, 174-151-325; Steven Wrone, 203; Mitch Dean, 173.

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Flat Rock, 2,335 (3 games)-698(4 Bakers)-3,053 (total); 2. Plymouth, 2,312-599-2,911; 3. South Lyon, 2,274-594-2,868; 4. Waterford Kettering, 2,261-585-2,846; 5. North Farmington, 2,184-656-2,840; 6. Westland John Glenn, 2,291-535-2,826; 7. Warren Regina, 2,208-600-2,808; 8. Salem, 2,209-588-2,797; 9. St. Clair Shores Lakeview, 2,177-597-2,734; 10. South Lyon

East, 2,149-603-2,752; 11. Livonia Ladywood (Blue), 2,200-541-2,741; 12. Farmington Hills Mercy, 2,105-634-2,739; 13. Canton, 2,104-577-2,681; 14. Farmington Harrison, 2,063-559-2,622; 15. Ferndale, 2,083-489-2,572; 16. Dearborn Divine Child, 2,066-477-2,543; 17. Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 1,964-541-2,505; 18. Livonia Ladywood (White), 1,822-599-2,421; 19. Berkley, 1,911-465-2,376.

High games: 1. Ella Kearney (Harrison), 243; 2. Brittney Antonelli (Kettering), 225; 3. Bridget Maul (Salem), 222; 4. Carissa Gadson (Ferndale), 210; 5. Lindsay Ridsen (Flat Rock), 206; 6. Briana Blaska (S. Lyon), 202.

High series: 1. Antonelli (Kettering), 607; 2. Maul (Salem), 583; 3. Jessica Pate (John Glenn), 558; 4. Gadson (Ferndale), 550; 5. Ridsen (Flat Rock), 548; 6. Toni Cadena (S. Lyon), 537.

John Glenn scorers: Jessica Pate, 166-192-200-558; Olivia Cabildo, 166-174-191-531; Yvette Ayers, 138-173-138-449; Caitly Lenard, 127-156-283; Sara Auldige, 138.

BOYS SWIM RESULTS

ROCK KILGORE BOYS SWIM INVITATIONAL

Jan. 7 at Salem H.S.

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 298 points; 2. Northville, 241; 3. Zeeland, 222; 4. Livonia Stevenson, 178; 5. Salem, 123; 6. Canton, 102.

200-yard medley relay (Heat 1): 1. Pioneer (Peter Doyle, Reizo Osawa, Dante Schmitter Sanchez, Brendan Vorobiev), 1:50.61; 2. Stevenson (Jacob Goeddeke, Tommy O'Donohue, Matt DellaMora, Mike O'Donohue), 1:56.33; (Heat 2): 1. Pioneer (Matthew Erickson, Jiaming Shen, Kai Williams, Ruohao Li), 1:45.70; 4. Stevenson (Parker Belmore, Jacob Collieran, Zack McCarter, Alex Lee), 1:53.02; 5. Salem (Patrick Huls, Calvin Kahler, William Long, Robert Basanese), 1:55.02; (Heat 3): 1. Stevenson (John Ferrara, Jake McNamara, Bradley Bielicki, Brandon Bielicki), 1:42.31.

200 freestyle (Heat 1): 1. Sergio Reyes (N), 1:58.85; 4. Matt LaPorte (LS), 2:03.99; (Heat 2): 1. Isaac Perez (Z), 1:54.14; 4. David Ptashnik (LS), 1:59.58; (Heat 3): 1. Matthew DeJonge (Z), 1:51.65; 4. Brandon Shatter (LS), 1:58.69; (Heat 4): 1. Seiji Osawa (P), 1:45.25; 4. Grant McNamara (LS), 1:55.49.

200 IM (Heat 1): 1. Jiaming Shen (P), 2:07.96; 2. Belmore (LS), 2:14.53; (Heat 2): 1. Daniel Wu (P), 2:08.55; 5. Bradley Bielicki (LS), 2:18.1; (Heat 3): 1. Jin (C), 2:04.68; 2. J. McNamara (LS), 2:04.78; 6. Solterman (S), 2:16.19; (Heat 4): 1. V. Zhang (C), 1:56.49; 3. Ferrara (LS), 2:02.77.

50 freestyle (Heat 1): 1. Doyle (P), 24.52; 4. T. O'Donohue (LS), 26.62; 5. Michael SanMillan (S), 27.15; 6. John Everitt (C), 28.91; (Heat 2): 1. Williams (P), 24.46; 4. Alex Smith (S), 26.16; 5. McCarter (LS), 27.53; 6. Jenner (C), 27.84; (Heat 3): 1. Sam Boyea (N), 23.07; 5. Lee (LS), 26.15; (Heat 4): 1. Zach Zylstra (Z), 23.20; 3. Carlson (C), 23.55; 5. Brandon Bielicki (LS), 23.67; 6. Bai (S), 24.13.

1-meter diving (Heat 1): 1. Chas Eisenhardt (LS), 189.80 points; (Heat 2): 1. Brian Atiyeh (LS), 235.55 points; (Heat 3): 1. Charlie Dillon (S), 347.00; 4. Jesse Damesworth (LS), 252.60; (Heat 4): 1. Daniel Goldstein (P), 380.80; 5. Eric Rathgeber (LS), 278.20.

100 butterfly (Heat 1): 1. Frank Zhang (N), 1:00.61; 3. Bryan Frederick (LS), 1:06.18; (Heat 2): 1. Williams (P), 57.60; 4. McCarter (LS), 1:05.54; (Heat 3): 1. Schmitter Sanchez (P), 57.55; 5. Bradley Bielicki (LS), 1:02.62; (Heat 4): 1. Christian Otteman (Z), 57.33; 5. Ptashnik (LS), 1:00.30.

100 freestyle (Heat 1): 1. Fillippo Miavaldi (N), 52.93; (Heat 2): 1. Chris Kim (N), 51.39; 5. DellaMora (LS), 1:00.10; (Heat 3): 1. Wu (P), 51.33; 4. Lee (LS), 57.95; (Heat 4): 1. S. Osawa (P), 48.15; 4. Carlson (C), 51.89; 5. Brandon Bielicki (LS), 51.91; 6. Matthew Pairitz (S), 53.97.

500 freestyle (Heat 1): 1. Finn Magoon (P), 5:23.42; 2. Michael Chen (LS), 5:34.21; (Heat 2): 1. Danny Teng (N), 5:12.71; 2. Shatter (LS), 5:21.27; (Heat 3): 1. Schmitter Sanchez (P), 5:02.12; 4. LaPorte (LS), 5:19.34; (Heat 4): 1. DeJonge (Z), 4:55.10; 4. G. McNamara (LS), 5:05.48.

200 freestyle relay (Heat 1): 1. Pioneer (Magoon, John Antonetti, John McCormack, Nicholas Lopez), 1:40.51; 4. Stevenson (Ferrara, Sean Reppenhagen, Collieran, M. O'Donohue), 1:47.17; (Heat 2): 1. Pioneer (Klein, Williams, Jiaming Shen, Li), 1:34.24; 4. Stevenson (DellaMora, Shatter, LaPorte, T. O'Donohue), 1:46.11; (Heat 3): 1. Pioneer (Thad Stalmack, Wu, Davis Argersinger, S. Osawa), 1:32.00; 4. Stevenson (J. McNamara, Ptashnik, G. McNamara, Lee), 1:38.55.

100 backstroke (Heat 1): 1. Nick Hayes (N), 1:01.27; 3. Chen (LS), 1:05.8; (Heat 2): 1. Vorobiev (P), 1:02.03; 4. Jacob Goeddeke (LS), 1:02.86; (Heat 3): 1. Otteman (Z), 56.4; 6. Belmore (LS), 1:02.26; (Heat 4): 1. V. Zhang (C), 53.80; 2. Ferrara (LS), 53.89.

100 breaststroke (Heat 1): 1. R. Osawa (P), 1:10.31; 4. DellaMora (LS), 1:15.43; (Heat 2): 1. Shen (P), 1:04.69; 4. T. O'Donohue (LS), 1:12.30; (Heat 3): 1. Stalmack (P), 1:05.97; 4. Collieran (LS), 1:10.33; (Heat 4): 1. Klein (P), 1:02.93; 2. J. McNamara (LS), 1:03.91.

400 freestyle relay (Heat 1): 1. Northville (Aaron Zalewski, Mike Miller, Danny Teng, Sergio Reyes), 3:40.52; 3. Stevenson (Chen, Ferrara, M. O'Donohue, LaPorte), 3:58.22; (Heat 2): 1. Northville (Adam Curry, Dawson Laabs, Scott Wang, Miavaldi), 3:42.33; 4. Stevenson (Shatter, Belmore, McCarter, Ptashnik), 3:40.03; (Heat 3): 1. Pioneer (Argersinger, Wu, Benson, S. Osawa), 3:21.81; 5. Stevenson (Brandon Bielicki, Bradley Bielicki, G. McNamara, Ferrara), 3:29.35.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Flow exercise: 1. Pompilius (H), 9.6; 2. (tie) Jewell (H) and Dubach (B), 9.4 each; 4. Dorton (Red), 9.2; 5. Prebola (Red), 9.15.

All-around: 1. Pompilius (H), 36.20; 2. Hextall (P), 35.85; 3. Blythe (H), 35.50; 4. Robinson (B), 34.40; 5. Dorton (Red), 33.85.

Livonia Red's dual meet record: 1-4 overall.

KLAAs TRI-MEET

Jan. 9 at Churchill H.S.

TEAM SCORES: 1. Livonia Blue, 134.85; 2. Walled Lake Northern, 94.75; 3. Walled Lake Central, 70.65.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Vault: 1. Alex Kitz (Blue), 9.0; 2. Haley Olson (Blue), 8.55; 3. Nicole Sokolowski (Blue), 8.45; 4. Sammi Pulgini (WLC), 8.35; 5. Sammi Randlett (WLN), 8.3.

Uneven bars: 1. Kitz (Blue), 9.2; 2. Olson (Blue), 7.95; 3. Sarah Hogan (Blue), 7.75; 4. Sokolowski (Blue), 7.35; 5. (tie) Andrea Irvine (Blue) and Caitie McDougall (Blue), 7.2 each.

Balance beam: 1. Olson (Blue), 8.8; 2. Randlett (WLN), 8.75; 3. Hogan (Blue), 8.1; 4. Pulgini (WLC), 8.0; 5. Kitz (Blue), 7.9.

Flow exercise: 1. Kitz (Blue), 9.15; 2. Irvine (Blue), 8.9; 3. Hogan (Blue), 8.55; 4. Jillian Zafarana (Blue), 8.45; 5. (tie) Olson (Blue), Pulgini (WLC) and Randlett (WLN), 8.4 each.

All-around: 1. Kitz (Blue), 35.25; 2. Olson (Blue), 33.70; 3. Irvine (Blue), 32.45; 4. Zafarana (Blue), 32.40; 5. McDougall (Blue), 30.95.

Livonia Blue's dual meet record: 4-0 overall.

Pats drop heartbreaker

Late basket gives Plymouth 40-38 win

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Another game, another nailbiter for Mike Soukup's Plymouth Wildcats.

Tuesday night against visiting Livonia Franklin, a driving layup by junior forward Sid Acharya proved just enough in a 40-38 victory.

"We've had three overtime games out of seven," said third-year Plymouth coach Soukup. "Every game's come down to two or three points."

It looked like another overtime game was looming for the 'Cats after Franklin senior forward Max Shamus connected on two free throws to make it a 38-38 game with just 35 seconds to play in the fourth.

Plymouth inbounded the ball with 20 seconds left following a timeout, and senior point guard Marcus Oden waited patiently before dishing the ball to Acharya. His layup danced around the rim before dropping.

"I want to say that it was supposed to be executed that way, but I'd be lying if I told you that," Soukup said. "It was a broken play, and Marcus made a great read and Sid rolled, and he wasn't afraid to be a hero in a big moment."

Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault said it was a tough, frustrating way for the ballgame to end. He said his team got into trouble on the final play because of a "poor defensive rotation" and were not able to get a timeout in order to settle the defense.

"But I love the defense that we played

KLAA BOYS HOOPS

when it was tied," Rheault said. "Max Shamus makes both those key free throws to tie it, and then it was a great defensive series. But we needed that timeout at the end... but we didn't get it."

Franklin came out strong and led 11-7 after the first, but Plymouth rallied with a 14-4 second to take a 21-15 halftime advantage.

The Pats came back in the third, which ended deadlocked at 28-28.

Leading Plymouth (4-3, 2-0) with 14 points was junior Brendan Swanson.

For Franklin (1-6, 0-2), senior center Jake Barham had 10 points and 10 rebounds while senior guard Tommy Smith scored nine.

It was an evenly matched game in several categories besides points.

Franklin out-rebounded Plymouth by a 23-22 margin and turned the ball over eight times (compared to Plymouth's 10).

JOHN GLENN 65, CHURCHILL 36: Senior forward Eric Coville's 24 points carried Westland John Glenn (5-2, 2-0) to a KLAA South Division win Tuesday at home over Livonia Churchill (2-4, 0-2).

Junior guard Nick Daniels chipped in with 19 points for the victorious Rockets, while senior guard Desmond Cervera connected on three triples for nine points.

Meanwhile, the Chargers couldn't overcome a 24-3 first-quarter deficit after going 1-of-8 from the field and 1-of-7 from the foul line.

Duane Scott, Jr. and Robert Foster tallied 12 and 10, respectively, for Churchill.

"We had no answer to Glenn's inside game and we couldn't get rebounds early," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "You can't play like that against John Glenn

because once they get out on the break, they're really good."

Churchill was only 7-of-20 from the foul line, while Glenn was 6-of-8.

Even more bad news for the Chargers is that they have lost 5-foot-10 junior forward Romello Brown, the team's top rebounder, for the season. He'll be out six months after undergoing surgery Tuesday for a torn Achilles tendon, according to Solak.

NORTHVILLE 47, STEVENSON 46: A late rally for Livonia Stevenson (4-2, 0-2) fell short in a KLAA Central Division setback Tuesday against the host Mustangs (3-4, 1-1).

Andrew Meacham scored 10, while Nick Raad and Brett MacDonald each added nine for Northville.

Vince Tomasi paced the Spartans with 11 points, while Jonathan Campbell, who missed a last-second three-point attempt to win it, added 10.

"You can't play 18 or 20 minutes out of 32 minutes," said Stevenson first-year coach Brandon Sinawi, whose team trailed by as many as 16 points. "The last two games we haven't played a complete game. Northville played good defense and kept Campbell in check at times. We squandered some opportunities late."

Northville was 9-of-16 from the foul line, while Stevenson made only 4-of-10.

CANTON 55, WAYNE 47: On Tuesday, senior center Paul Baumgart's 14 points propelled the host Chiefs (6-2, 1-1) to a KLAA South Division victory overall Wayne Memorial (4-3, 1-1).

Josy Mayberry added nine for the Chiefs, who out-scored Wayne 17-12 in the final period.

Dezmon Burleigh paced the Zebras, who trailed 26-22 at halftime, with 12 points.

Michael Cooper and Jordan Lowry each added nine for Wayne.

"We had to foul at the end and we couldn't quite get over that little hump," Wayne coach Mike Schuette said. "We scrapped and hustled for loose balls, but Canton got more rebounds."

Wayne was 5-of-8 from the free throw line, while Canton hit 11-of-15.

Lady Ocelots rout Wayne County

Five players scored in double figures Saturday as the Schoolcraft College women's basketball team notched its 21st consecutive MCCA Eastern Conference victory with a lopsided 106-42 win over host Wayne County Community College in a game played at the Inkster Recreation Center.

The Lady Ocelots, who improved to 11-2 overall and 2-0 in the conference, tied school records for steals in a game (35) and forced turnovers (49) as they

overcame a sluggish start.

Schoolcraft trailed 15-14 with 10:43 remaining in the first half before going in a 16-4 run over the next five minutes to take a 30-19 advantage with 5:28 left.

After leading 49-24 at the half, Schoolcraft then held the Wildcats to a mere eight points over the next 10:30 of the second half to open up an 81-32 cushion.

Domonique Jones paced Schoolcraft in scoring with 23 points, while Amber Sammons

chipped in with 15. Also in double figures for the Lady Ocelots were Jarmela Antoine (12), Ashley Beemon (11) and Infiniti Maxwell (11).

Courtney Dyer-Grove posted a team-high eight steals and dished out five assists, while Infiniti Maxwell added eight steals.

Jones and Maxwell grabbed eight rebounds apiece.

Wayne County (0-2, 0-2) got 15 points and 16 rebounds from Sicily Baker.

HOOPS

Continued from page B1

"She's just a strong player," Miller said. "She doesn't play like a freshman. She comes out as the strong leader vocally and by action on the floor. She just really handled the pressure and took it upon herself, was aggressive and took the ball to the basket. She played great defense and we had her on their top player. She did a really nice job. I'm

proud of her." Shawnicka Thomas paced the Lady Ocelots (10-3, 2-1) with 16 points. Shanequa Braggs added 12 points and 11 rebounds.

Ashley Beemon and Diamond Tolliver had 13 points and 10 points, respectively. Amber Sammons added nine points.

Domonique Jones dished four assists for the Ocelots, who were 25-of-70 from the floor (36 percent) and 3-of-18 on three-pointers. Delta shot 39 percent

(23-of-59) and 16-of-23 from the foul line (70 percent).

The Pioneers out-rebounded Schoolcraft (47-44), but had more turnovers (22-14).

Meanwhile, the Ocelots will have to pick up the pieces heading into Wednesday's game at Oakland CC (6-8, 3-0).

"We going to do the same thing — just play basketball and do it the right way," Brathwaite said.

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OCELOTS

Continued from page B1

second half with him." LenDerrick Witcher, a 6-foot-3 freshman guard from Ferndale, paced the Ocelots' second-half comeback by scoring 16 of his team-high 22 points.

Witcher's basket with 9:07 remaining gave the Ocelots the lead for good, 55-53.

"He's a man," Henry said. "LenDerrick is a little older. What I always tell my guys is always follow your shot and that's what he did today He did

a tremendous job and he saved us. A lot of the misses we had close, he put back in. He did a yeoman's job rebounding and finishing his shot."

Witcher also grabbed 17 rebounds and got support from teammates Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial), who added 15 points and 12 rebounds; Lydell Mason (Westland John Glenn), who scored 15 points and had 10 rebounds; and Karl Moore, who had 13 points and 12 rebounds.

Reshard Anders added eight points off the bench. Point guards Zachary Childress and Mohamed Elhaj com-

bined for 11 assists. Schoolcraft shot 34-of-78 from the floor (43.5 percent) and 15-of-26 from the foul line (57.6 percent). The Ocelots had only seven second-half turnovers.

Delta shot only 12-of-33 in the second half (36.3 percent) and 13-of-33 in the first half (39.3 percent). The Pioneers made 23-of-32 free throws (71.8 percent).

Jakob Holland and Tyler Dwyer added 14 points and 12 points, respectively, for Delta (4-10, 0-3).

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HVL earns MIAC win

Westland Huron Valley Lutheran boys basketball coach Jim Ott may have summed it up best as a "pretty scrappy game."

It far from a work of art Tuesday night, but the host Hawks emerged with a 36-33 Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division victory over Ypsilanti Calvary Christian Academy.

HVL, which improved to 2-3 overall, got a game-high 14 points from Ryan Schaffer.

Johnny Bryant led Calvary, now 0-1 in the MIAC Red, with 10 points.

It was 17-all at halftime. The Hawks then out-scored the Cougars 12-8 in the third period.

FRANKLIN ROAD 53, LUTH. WESTLAND 44: In a MIAC Red Division game Tuesday, host Franklin Road Christian used an 11-2 second-quarter surge to turn back Lutheran High Westland (3-3, 2-1).

Franklin Road, now 2-0 in the MIAC Red, got 17 points from Jalen Walker and 14 from Averett Barksdale.

Taurrek Fikes and Dawson Davenport each tallied 10 points for the Warriors, who made only 6-of-15 free throws.

"That second quarter they (Franklin Road) came out with a 2-3 zone and were a little

too patient and too passive," Lutheran Westland coach Doug Haller said. "We settled for jumpers and it came down to making shots."

BERKLEY 58, CVILLE 45: Daniel Waldhorn scored 15 points to lead three players in double figures Tuesday as the host Bears (1-5) notched their first victory of the season at the expense of Livonia Clarenceville (2-6).

Alec Roy and Jordan Taylor chipped in with 15 and 13, respectively, for Berkley, which jumped out to an 18-6 first-quarter advantage.

Sam Brown tallied a game-high 18 points and Kassius Kelly added for the Trojans, who shot only 7-of-16 from the line.

Berkley, meanwhile, made 11-of-15 free throws.

S'craft cruises; MU falls in WHAC

Just about everybody got into act as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team cruised to a 104-76 victory Saturday afternoon over host Wayne County Community College at the Inkster Recreation Center.

The Ocelots, who improved to 9-3 overall and 2-0 in the MCCA's Eastern Conference, jumped out to a 56-25 halftime lead and never looked back.

Karl Moore paced Schoolcraft with 21 points, 14 rebounds and five assists, while Wayne Memorial grad Daniel Hill added 18 points and 10 boards.

Also contributing to the Ocelots' winning cause was LenDerrick

COLLEGE HOOPS

Witcher (14 points, nine rebounds); Reshard Anders (13 points, 11 rebounds); and Deon Gunn (12 points).

Guards Mohamed Eljah and Zachary Childress also combined for 18 assists.

Schoolcraft made 18-of-30 free throws on the day.

Wayne County (2-7, 0-2) got a game-high 23 points from Daniel Price.

DAVENPORT 79, MADONNA 69: JaVontae Ford came off the bench to score 23 points in 26 minutes Saturday as host Davenport University (16-2, 6-0) downed Madonna University (10-8, 4-2) in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference encounter.

The Panthers, ranked No. 4 in the NAIA Division II Coaches Poll, also got 18 points from Damacious White and 14 points and 12 rebounds from James Humphrey.

Senior point-guard Lonnie Fairfax (Livonia Clarenceville) added seven points and eight assists in 30 minutes for Davenport.

The No. 21-ranked Crusaders, who trailed 36-33 at halftime, got 22 points from sophomore guard Travis Schuba, who hit 6-of-10 shots from three-point range.

Sophomore point-guard Bobby Naubert added 14 points and 11 assists, while Eoghann Stephens finished with eight points.

MU

Continued from page B1

Junior guard Michelle Lindsey added 17 points. Junior guard Heather Pratt, who made 4-of-10 three-point shots, added 12 points.

The Crusaders went scoreless during the final 2:09 after Lindsey's layup made it 69-67.

Yet, MU had a chance to win after Despres split two free throws with 19 seconds left to put the Panthers ahead, 70-69.

But a steal by Abby Neff following a spin dribble at midcourt by MU's Shantelle Herring gave the ball back to Davenport with 12 seconds remaining and the Panthers capitalized by making three foul shots in the final 11 seconds.

Despres also came up with a key offensive rebound after a miss by Carrie Grubius to put Davenport back on the line.

Two free throws by Despres with seven seconds left then sealed the victory.

"We were more focused on offense getting the ball up the floor than getting the rebound," MU coach Carl Graves said of the play. "That cost us. There were a few things we can point to as far as mistakes, but overall I thought we played a good game."

Davenport was 27-of-39 on free throws, while MU was 6-of-12.

"I thought we really played well," Graves said. "Obviously it's tough when the opponent shoots 27 (made) free throws. That means we're fouling them too much. They shoot 39 (attempts) for the game and actually we outshot them (26-21 field goals) from the floor. Field goal percentage-wise we outshot them from the three-point line. But when we're fouling that much and putting them at the free throw line... that's just tough."

Davenport got off to a rocky start and trailed 38-29 at halftime.

"If you let them get open looks, they're going to make them — and they did," Davenport first-year coach Mike Williams said of the Crusaders. "They're very good defensively. They had a lot of energy to start the game. I think we came out... not flat, but we were kind of on our heels and they were kind of on their toes. And it showed."

With 14:42 left, the Panthers made it 45-45 on two free throws by Kayleigh VanKeulen.

The second half had five ties and nine lead changes.

"We did a couple of things defensively," said Williams, who was a four-year assistant under Kev-

in Borseth at Michigan. "We talked about getting more pressure on the ball. I thought our pressure (first half) was kind of flat. The first half we just let them shoot it. We also talked about getting through screens. They (Madonna) were doing a great job setting that little 'fire screen' on us and we did a better job fighting through it."

Davenport's 1-3-1 zone defense also caught the Crusaders off-guard.

"We weren't expecting that and I don't know why we weren't," Graves said. "He (Williams) is an old Michigan coach. It's their defense and we even call it 'Michigan' with our defense. We were expecting it and it bothered us a little bit."

"It threw us off rhythm offensively. It served their purpose for them, but it's not why we lost the basketball game."

The Crusaders had 20 turnovers and ran out of timeouts.

"Our timeout management wasn't the reason we lost the game," Graves said. "It would have been nice to have one down the stretch when the Shantelle (Herring) no-call happened at half court. That really decided the basketball game right there. We thought we could still play through."

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2012 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW



Seniors rule the road: New features address older drivers

By Jay M. Grossman
Eccentric Staff Writer

American drivers are getting older. The first wave of America's baby boomers turning 65 this year will be the "silver tsunami," AAA Michigan spokesperson Nancy Cain said. According to the U.S. Census bureau, this segment of the population will increase by 75 percent over the next two decades.

In less than 10 years, one in four licensed drivers will be age 65 or older, Cain said.

Those drivers don't necessarily fare too well on the road. Research shows that elderly drivers face an increased risk of being involved in a car crash. After the age of 75, the risk of driver fatality increases greatly.

So how are automakers addressing older drivers? One of the many themes to the 2012 North American International Auto Show involves a lineup of features designed to make driving a safer and friendlier experience for motorists of all ages.

"I think the first thing is to make sure it's easy to get in and out of the vehicle — making sure customers don't have to sit too low or climb too high," said Amy Marentic, group marketing manager for cars and crossovers at Ford.

Marentic, who lives in Plymouth, said her mom drives a Taurus that

comes with adjustable foot pedals so she doesn't have to sit too close to the steering wheel. Another feature many automakers offer is blind spot information.

"Instead of having to swing your head all the way to the left, you just see a little warning light in your side mirror and you know it's not safe to make your lane change," Marentic said. "Once you use it, you will never get a car without it."

Gadgets are another issue. Dave Masch, chief engineer of the highly anticipated 2013 Cadillac ATS, said most of the touchscreens today are simple, intuitive and easy to use.

"You don't need to read the owner's manual to figure out how to use the system," said Masch, who lives in Beverly Hills. "It also has natural voice recognition that allows you to control many of the car's features."

Jiyan Cadiz, manager of media relations for Chrysler and a resident of Rochester Hills, said the Chrysler 300 comes equipped with an 8.4-inch touchscreen, the largest in the industry.

"It's almost like having an iPad on your dashboard," Cadiz said. He also pointed out the knobs below the touchscreen that control volume, climate and other features.

"Let's be honest," he said. "When something happens quickly, it's easi-

er to just rotate a volume knob rather than punch down the volume button multiple times."

Another feature being touted at the show is a lane departure warning system that alerts drivers when their vehicle starts drifting into another lane. Most of the upper-echelon vehicles come equipped with rear-view cameras that automatically show drivers what's behind their vehicles and on the sides.

An added bonus with some of the more premium vehicles is a virtual bumper system that uses ultra-sonic sensors and a short-range radar system that will automatically stop a car moving at 25 mph or less if the driver is about to hit an object in the front or rear of the car. It's perfect for the crowded shopping mall parking lot.

The adaptive forward collision warning system in many of these cars will warn drivers if they're getting too close to another object on the road. Higher-intensity discharge xenon headlights give off a brighter light to help illuminate the night time surface.

Combined, these features result in a much safer driving experience. "Whether you're an elderly driver or not, these are features that apply across the board," Masch said.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Chief Engineer for the Cadillac ATS Dave Masch.

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(586) 826-7030

Automakers preening at auto show as industry rebounds

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The mood and atmosphere at the North American International Auto Show is noticeably different this year, as automakers feel as if the weight of the recession that nearly crippled them has lifted.

Now with the Big Three leading the charge, domestic and international car companies are pounding their chests as they release new cars and appear ready to compete once again.

"There is optimism," said Cyril Benito, a Bloomfield Hills resident and program manager for the new Dodge Dart. "Not only are we producing great cars, but they are being validated in the



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Reporter Nathan Mueller joins the media scrum interviewing Hyundai designer S.H. Park after the Elantra won 2012 Car of the Year at the North American International Auto Show.

marketplace. "Optimism is absolutely here. It took a couple years to grow, but everyone has some momentum."

General Motors, Ford and Chrysler are all

yielding profit for the first time since 2004 and gained shares in the marketplace for the first time since 1988 and experts predict auto companies will add 60,000 jobs in the United States over the next year and 190,000 jobs by 2015.

Bryan Johnson, a Canton resident and manager of marketing and communications for the Northville-based SF Group, said all it takes for him to know the car companies are coming back is to take a look at the elaborate displays and see how much money they are spending on them.

"Everything is positive now," he said. "You see a lot of positive momentum and there are a lot of new products coming out and people are excited to see them."

It's not all about the Big Three either, as a pair of foreign automakers took home the North American Car and Truck of the Year awards. The Hyun-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Harman audio component employees Jeff Puggi (left) and Phil Eyer check out an interactive display at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit on Monday. Harman has a research center off Cabot Drive in Novi.

dai Elantra was car of the year and the Land Rover Range Rover Evoque was the top truck.

Nearly every company had something to debut this year, and it wasn't just a smoke and mirrors act. Hampden Tener, a Bloomfield Hills resident and U.S. product director for Cadillac, said day to day the confidence is a reality.

"We are working on building and growing and that adds a level of excitement," he said. "We are back to doing our best, both for Cadillac and General Motors."

Phil Eyer, who lives in Northville and works for Farmington Hills-based Harman, called last year a "comeback year."

"This year there is a lot more confidence," he said. "You can just see it."

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Snyder talks about state, auto industry comeback



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Governor Rick Snyder and Ford Executive Chairman Bill Ford Jr. walk the floor of the Auto Show.

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Sometimes the simplest change can make all the difference.

And for Gov. Rick Snyder, moving his press conference on Tuesday to the main show floor at the North American International Auto Show instead of being in the basement at the Cobo Center (where it was last year) gave him the perfect metaphor.

"In many respects people thought (the state of Michigan) was in the basement in the past," he said. "But we are no longer there, we are making a strong comeback in the

state and it's about reinventing Michigan."

Snyder took his usual tour of the exhibits when he arrived at Cobo before meeting with more than 200 engineering students from various universities in the state for a talent discussion.

"You can be the catalyst, you can be on the ground floor of the comeback of Michigan," he said to the students.

Snyder, along with Dr. Won Suk Cho, president of Hyundai America Technical Center, also used the press conference to announce a deal to expand Hyundai's Superior Township technical center.

The company will be

investing \$15 million to construct the facility and add 50 full-time jobs over the next five years. The state will fund construction of a new power substation that will improve the power output to the building.

Snyder said he wants to continue partnerships like this, and focus on the people who make the automotive industry go.

"In many respects the people that engineered, designed or even manufactured the products were Michiganders," he said. "And that is something all of us should take great pride in because that is something we can show the rest of the world. When people look at the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Governor Rick Snyder is the center of attention walking the floor of the show.

best products in the world, where they are designed, where they are engineered, where they are built, it's right here in Michigan and we are going to continue that legacy."

A nun works on an icon at the Dormition of the Mother of God Orthodox Monastery in Rives Junction. Mother Gabriella, abbess of the monastery, will speak Sunday, Jan. 15 in Livonia.



Orthodox nun talks about prayer

Mother Gabriella, abbess of Dormition of the Mother of God Orthodox Monastery in Rives Junction, will speak Sunday, Jan. 15, at Sacred Heart Banquet & Conference Center in Livonia. Her talk, "Weaving Prayer into the Fabric of Daily Life," will start at 1 p.m. at the center, located at 29125 West Six Mile, east of Middlebelt. Admission is free,

although freewill offerings will be accepted. Dormition of the Mother of God Orthodox Monastery is located seven miles north of Jackson on 120 acres of wooded land. It was founded by three Romanian nuns with a mission to spread Orthodoxy in America. The monastery offers retreats, a gift shop, and daily chapel services

open to the public. The nuns at the monastery arrange daily activities around services and prayer. They also greet visitors, sew vestments and prayer robes, create icons and beaded eggs and make altar bread. For more about the monastery visit www.dormitionmonastery.org. For more about Mother Gabriella's talk call (734) 522-3166.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. If including a photo, it must be in jpg format, attached to the e-mail.

Jan. 12-31

BETHANY

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 21
Location: Leon's, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City
Details: Friends of Bethany Monthly Breakfast with Kathy and Pat
Contact: Kathy at (734) 956-0715

BIBLE STUDY

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 12-April 12
Location: New Life Church, 33111 Ford Road, Garden City
Details: Study is titled Understanding the End Time Prophecy
Contact: (734) 326-7000

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15
Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: All you can eat pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk, juice; \$3 adults; \$1.50 children, 2-10. Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club
Contact: (734) 425-4421

CATHOLICISM SERIES

Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. Sunday, beginning Jan. 15
Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: The 10-week series

examines the new adult study series by theologian the Rev. Robert Barron, on which the PBS program, "Catholicism," is based. There is a \$40 charge for the study guide and workbook; registration is required. A children's ministry is available by prior arrangement
Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 207, e-mail swilliams@livoniastmichael.org, or see the Web site at www.livoniastmichael.org.

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21
Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: London, England-based Tenors Un Limited present original compositions and favorites in "The Rat Pack of Opera." Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for students and children, and \$50 for a family ticket, (two parents and two students or children)
Contact: Michele at (734) 464-8513 or e-mail to tenorstickets@yahoo.com

FILM SERIES

Time/Date: 5:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 15 and 22
Location: Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: An Israeli film series explores the beginning of modern Israeli politics and the interplay between Jewish tradition and secular Israeli culture. Howard Lupovitch will introduce each film and lead a discussion afterward. Films are "Three Days and a Child" on Jan. 15, and "Flames of Revolt" on Jan. 22. Cost is \$15 per session
Contact: David Goodman

at (248) 851-6880

MEMORY CHALLENGES

Time/Date: 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28
Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21100 Southfield Road, just north of Eight Mile, in Southfield
Details: Dr. Annette Carron, from Palliative Care in Farmington Hills, will speak about memory loss, dementia, signs of Alzheimer's, and methods to delay memory loss. This is a free program open to the public and light refreshments will be served
Contact: (248) 569-2972 or firstbaptist@fbc-detroit.org

OPEN HOUSE

Time/Date: 9:30-1 p.m. Jan. 29
Location: St. Edith Catholic School, 15089 Newburgh at Five Mile, Livonia
Details: K-8th grade enrollment available
Contact: (734) 464-1250 or visit www.stedithschool.org

VIRTUAL DEMENTIA TOUR

Time/Date: 10-11:30 a.m. or 1-2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21
Location: Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Audra Frye, marketing director at Arden Courts of Livonia-Memory Care Community presents an event that gives participants a chance to experience what it's like to live with dementia. No charge, although donations will be accepted for the adult day care program at the church. RSVP by Jan. 13
Contact: (734) 464-0990 or (734) 855-4056

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BEASLEY, LINDA K.

Age 52, passed away on January 6, 2012. Beloved daughter of the late Arthur Beasley. Survived by mother Keiko Beasley, brother Doug Beasley, sister Peggy (Bill) Clink and nieces Rachel, Jessie, Kumara and nephew Brian. Also remembered by many other loving friends. Please view and share memories at: www.virtual-memorials.com

LANCASTER, WILLIAM W.

January 9, 2012, age 84. Beloved husband of 54 years to the late Doris. Beloved uncle of Bob (Jody) Bonocore, Joe (Phyllis) Bonocore and Josephine Bonocore. Great uncle of Jennifer (John) Labb and Robert J. Bonocore. Brother-in-law of Al (Marge) Stuhlmann, Alice Vespar and Marie Bonocore. Cousin of Robert Cameron. Visitation Friday 10am until time of memorial service at 11am at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com



PAQUETTE, BERNADINE T. (nee Beil)

Jan 7, 2012 Age 81. Beloved wife of Charles E. for 60 years. Loving mother of Charles K., Rosemarie (Edward) Vincent and Sandra Dolores (Joseph) Haffey. Dear grandmother of Jacob Joseph Haffey. Sister of J. Walter Beil and the late Dolores Kern. Numerous nieces and nephews. She was an avid tap dancer and gardener. She was also the financial secretary for St. Priscilla's Bingo. There was a Visitation on Mon and Tues with a Rosary at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia Chapel. The Funeral Mass was 10:00am Wed at St. Priscilla Catholic Church 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia, MI 48152. Please go to www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com to leave a message of condolence or to share a treasured memory.

RUCINSKI, DAVE

10/7/1964-1/4/2012. David was a great guy and a great friend but most of all a husband to Eileen Rucinski for 26 years, dad to Rebecca and Raymond, son to Ray & Jan, brother to Linda & Gayle.

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Hear woodwind, student concerts in Farmington Hills

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

Head to church for live woodwind music this Sunday and student performances the next.

St. John Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills continues its monthly concert series with a bassoon-flute duo playing works by Heitor Villa-Lobos, Joseph Fiala, Pierre Gabaye and Michel Joseph Gebaue on Jan. 15.

A concert of student performers follows on Sunday, Jan. 22.

"This is an unusual combination but they've got very interesting music," said Wes Fishwick, church organist and series coordinator. "The flute is higher and the bassoon is darker. The bassoon can be lyrical but also humorous."

Timothy Abbott and Jacqueline Wright, both of Ann Arbor, will perform at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15 in the church sanctuary at 23225 Gill Road, between Grand River Ave., and Freedom Road. Admission is free, although a free-will offering will be collected. Refreshments will be served.

Abbott, a bassoonist and contrabassoonist, actively performs with the Adrian, Birmingham-Bloomfield, Flint, and Warren symphonies, and is a frequent substitute with many other local orchestras, including the Ann Arbor and Oakland symphonies. He also teaches private lessons and holds master of music degrees in bassoon performance and chamber music from the University of Michigan.

Wright earned a master of music degree in flute performance from the University of Michigan and a master of music degree in orchestral conducting from the University of Florida. She has performed and conducted in international venues, including in England and Spain.

"Jackie did a concert here — she plays with a flute ensemble — a couple of seasons ago. She was interested in performing in a duo. They contacted us," Fishwick said.



The music series at St. John Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills features a variety of performers with both classical and contemporary sounds. This trio, which performed last month, includes Melody Wooton on violin, Wes Fishwick — the church organist — on piano, and David Levine on cello.



Flute and bassoon duo Jacqueline Wright and Timothy Abbott will perform Sunday, Jan. 15 at St. John Lutheran Church, Farmington Hills.

That's exactly what he hopes student musicians will do if they are interest-

ed in the second annual high school solo and ensemble preview at 4 p.m. Jan. 22 at St. John.

Students who want to test out their music before a live audience can call the church at (248) 474-0584 and reserve a spot. Walk-ins on concert day also will be accepted.

Ten students performed last year.

Friendly audience

"Our January 22nd concert for high school students is one of our favorite concert events. We are proud to present these young musicians in concert as they prepare for the solo and ensemble festivals that take place

throughout our state later this month," Fishwick said.

"Our church becomes a performance laboratory for these talented kids to try out their pieces and gain audience experience before performing for a judge.

"It's a very kind audience," Fishwick added.

A vesper service will follow the student concert.

"It's a worship service, but it's mostly singing," said Elaine Pearson, a church member who handles publicity for the concert series. She said the concerts draw both church members and nonmembers and the music includes classical and pop selections.

"Our current sanctuary

was dedicated in 2003 and we began to do concerts. 2008 was when we first started to plan a season," she said. "We do this as an opportunity for the community to be able to have good quality music in a comfortable venue. Our sanctuary has very nice acoustics."

The rest of the season includes concerts by pianist David Berriman on Feb. 12; a student string quartet on March 4; Detroit Lutheran Singers on March 18; The Novi Chorales on April 15; and the Marie Walck Memorial Hymn Festival on May 20.

For more about the concert series visit www.stjohn-elca.org.

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GET OUT!

Art

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Dates: 2 p.m. Sundays
Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit

Details: Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission
Exhibits: Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus exhibit runs through Feb. 12 and includes 64 works. Tickets are \$16 for adults; \$8 for youth, 6-17. Other exhibits include Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010, an exhibit of 50 photos through April 8; Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection of drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs through March 18

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Through Jan. 13

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: Call for entries to the 6th annual Member Exhibition that runs Feb. 3-18

Current exhibit: "Etch, Sketch and Stiletto," an exhibit of the work of Topher Crowder, runs through Jan. 28. The artist is inspired by animated Saturday morning cartoons, vintage postcards, and 1960s/1970s comic books

Contact: (248) 344-0497

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday through Feb. 24

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: "Lest We Forget: Legends of Detroit Gospel," celebrates the history of Gospel music in Detroit

Contact: (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillagetheater.org.

Comedy

GO COMEDY!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

Contact: (248) 327-0575; gocomey.net

JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield

Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Dave Waite, through Jan. 14; Norm Stultz, Jan. 18-21 Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kicker-complex.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Mark Sweeney, Jan. 12-14; Jeff Caldwell, Jan. 19-21; Frances Dilorinzo, Jan. 26-28

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

Dance

MOON DUSTERS

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday, dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Singles and couples dance to music of the '30s, '40s and '50s; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members

Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

Film

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 13-14; 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15 and 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Tower Heist," \$3

Coming up: "J. Edgar," 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 20-21, 4:20 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 22; and 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26; "The Muppets," 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27 and Thursday, Feb. 2, and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 28-29

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Jan. 20 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Jan. 21

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "Forbidden Planet," tickets \$4

Contact: (313) 537-2560

Museums

CHARLES H. WRIGHT

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

Details: Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free

Coming up: 12th Annual MLK Day Breakfast, 8 a.m., Monday, Jan. 16, including breakfast, keynote speech by Georgia Hill of Plymouth United Church of Christ and performances by Armond and the Institute of Music & Dance at Marygrove College. Tickets are \$35, available by phone at (800) 838-3006 and online at www.brownpaper-tickets.com

Contact: (313) 494-5800

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday; next exhibit runs Jan. 18-June 17

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: "Ration Stamps & Bombers, WWII at Home" is the next exhibit. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17

Contact: (734) 455-8940

U-M KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Time/Date: The museum is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

Location: 434 S. State, Ann Arbor

Details: Part II of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology's special exhibition - "Karanis Revealed: Discovering the Past and Present of a Michigan Excavation in Egypt" - will run Friday, Jan. 27-Sunday, May 6. This special exhibition explores the story of the site's excavation, which was initiated by the University of Michigan in the 1920s and 1930s. Part II follows the changes that took place in Karanis with the beginning of the Roman occupation of Egypt and then later with the advent of Christianity. The displays - all but a few will be new - include collections of Roman glass, tax rolls on papyrus, and the leather breastplate of a Roman soldier. Admission is free, but donations are accepted.

Contact: www.lsa.umich.edu/kelsey; (734) 764-9304

Music

THE ARK

Time/Date: An Dro, Jan. 12; Mountain Heart, Jan. 13; Theo Katzman: Songwriting Workshop, Jan. 14; The Yellow Room Gang, Jan. 14; Bearfoot, Jan. 15; Shelby Lynne, Jan. 16; Open Stage, Jan. 18; Martin Sexton, Jan. 19; The RFD Boys, Jan. 20; The Verve Pipe Family Show, Jan. 21; International Guitar Night, Jan. 21; Lonesome Country & Goldmine Pickers, Jan. 22; The Juliets, Jan. 23; An Acoustic Cafe evening featuring Erin McKeown, Carrie Rodriguez and Kelly Joe Phelps, Jan. 24; The 35th Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival, Jan. 27-28; Take a Chance Tuesday with Peyton Tochterman, Jan. 31

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org



JUDY YACKER

A polar bear plunges into frigid water at the Detroit Zoo.

Embrace winter at the Detroit Zoo

With the weather expected to dip into the 20s this weekend and snow showers forecast for Friday, it's the perfect time to head outdoors and get up close and personal with arctic wildlife at the Detroit Zoo.

Wild Winter weekends, an annual series of family-friendly events, kicks off with "Arctic Adventure," Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 14-15 at the zoo, located on Ten Mile at Woodward, in Royal Oak. The program includes zookeeper talks, games, crafts, children's music and other activities - both indoors and outdoors - that are free with regular zoo admission.

All sessions run 11 a.m.-

3 p.m.

Henry Ford Community College Ice Carving Club will carve ice both Saturday and Sunday this weekend, creating a collection of zoo animals and winter-inspired sculptures.

Wild Swan Theater will perform the production, Owl's Winter, at noon and 1:30 p.m. in the FEC Theater. Owl's Winter is a collection of wintery stories for young children based on Arnold Lobel's Owl at Home. Audience members join Owl for a series of fun adventures and create a surprise for Owl. The show is appropriate for children, 3-8, and runs about 45 minutes.

Mr. Seley and the Trou-

blemakers will sing children's music at noon and 1 p.m. and arts, crafts and games will keep youngsters busy from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Learn about polar bears at 11 a.m. and seals at 11:45 a.m. at the Frederick and Barbara Erb Polar Passage. Zookeeper talks and animal enrichment focus on polar bears at 1 p.m. and fox at 2:30 p.m. at the Tundra Overlook.

Wild Winter African Adventure will run Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 11-12. The program will celebrate Black History Month with an African drum lesson stories told by David Gakure, Kenyan naturalist and Detroit

Zoo education specialist. Families can enjoy live entertainment, arts and crafts, games and educational experiences.

Wild Winter Safari Social is set for Saturday-Sunday, March 10-11. Participants can escape the winter "blahs" with hot drinks and cool treats. Ice cream and hot cocoa will be available for purchase at a discount. Animal arts and crafts, face painting, animal enrichment activities, zookeeper talks and a winter safari scavenger hunt add to the fun.

Zoo admission is \$12 for adults, 15-61, \$10 for senior citizens, 62 and older, and \$8 for children, 2-14. Children under 2 are free.

International Festival coming to Cherry Hill

Get a henna tattoo, taste ethnic fare and watch dancers from a variety of cultures perform at Canton's International Festival, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton.

The event, presented by the Multicultural Committee of the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage, costs \$2 per person at the door. Performers include

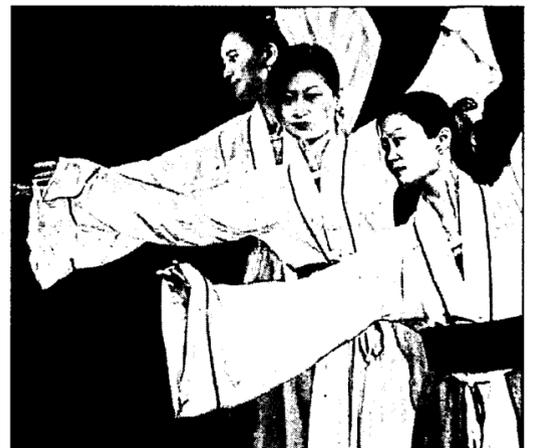
Dance performances will represent India, Tahiti, Hawaii, New Zealand, Ireland, China, the Middle East, and the United States.

Choral performers include Jesus Murillo from the Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan and singers from The New Century Chinese School and the Plymouth Canton

Chinese Learning Center. Other featured artists include New Hope Church's Praise Dancers, Mimes of Ministry, Women's Liturgical Group and Steppers of Soul, Monica Prasad on the sitar, and dancers from the O'Hare School of Traditional Irish Dance, Triple Threat Dance & Theater Company, Troupe Ta'amullat, and the Hoaloha Hula Dance Company.

Cultural exhibits will be stationed in the theater lobby and cultural items from around the world, including henna tattoos, will be available for purchase. Snacks and desserts from various countries also will be sold.

For more information about the Canton International Festival, call (734) 394-5308 or visit www.cantonvillagetheater.org.



Dancers strike a graceful pose during a previous Canton International Festival.

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STARTS FRIDAY, JANUARY 13 CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

MOBILE USERS: For Showtimes - Text CONTRABAND with your ZIP CODE to 43KIX (435491) No charge from 43KIX, std. rates may apply. Text HELP for info.

Budget-friendly family fun

These days, enjoying one another's company on a budget is even more important for families. So take a break from the ordinary and settle into the comforts of the best playground around — the home.

Remember that family time should be silly, lighthearted, and above all, about creating special bonding moments with the kids. Following are a few entertaining at-home activities the entire family can enjoy without dipping into savings.

- Explore the great indoors. Everyone loves a good scavenger hunt. Divide the family into teams and race to see who can find the most items on the list first. Don't forget to have prizes for the winners.

- Switch it up with backwards day. Shake up the evening routine by doing everything backwards. Put on your comfy pajamas right after school and even flip them backwards or inside out. Get together for a board game with a twist and move the pieces from finish to start. Make your end of day meal more festive by serving breakfast for dinner or eating dessert as the first course. The kids will certainly get a kick out of bending the rules.

- Create an obstacle course. Collect some old produce boxes from your local grocery store; they're usually available free of charge. Then, stagger the boxes in the basement or in the backyard for the kids to run through in different patterns. Set up a bowling game with recycled empty bottles just before the finish line. You can add other obstacles such as a limbo stick, hopscotch with ropes or anything else you like from materials around the house — the sky is the limit.

- Make dinner a family affair. Research consistently shows that families who regularly eat together are closer and happier than those who don't. Try a one-pot dish such as White Chicken Chili made with fiber-rich beans, tender chicken and creamy evaporated milk for a dinner ready in 30 minutes or less. Or hearty fare, such as Vegged-Out Pumpkin and Black Bean Soup.

For more budget-friendly family recipes and activities, visit www.Meals.com.

Thai-Style Pumpkin Soup

Preparation Time: 10 mins
Cooking Time: 10 mins
Servings: 4 servings

2 cups water
1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin
1 can (11.5 ounces) mango nectar
3 vegetarian vegetable flavor bouillon cubes
1 teaspoon finely chopped fresh ginger or ½ teaspoon ground ginger
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
¼ to ½ teaspoon crushed red pepper
½ cup creamy peanut butter
2 tablespoons rice vinegar
2 tablespoons finely chopped green onion
½ cup finely chopped cilantro, divided
½ cup (5 ounce can) evaporated fat free milk

Combine water, pumpkin, nectar, bouillon, ginger, garlic and crushed red pepper in large saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally. Reduce heat to low.

Stir in peanut butter, vinegar, green onion and 1 tablespoon cilantro. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 to 8 minutes or until soup returns to a boil. Stir in evaporated milk. Sprinkle with remaining cilantro before serving.

To Freeze ahead: Prepare as above; do not sprinkle with remaining cilantro. Cool soup completely. Place in airtight container; freeze for up to 2 months. Thaw overnight in refrigerator. Heat in medium saucepan over medium heat, stirring occasionally, for 15 to 20 minutes or until heated through. Sprinkle with remaining cilantro before serving.

Apple Curry Soup

Preparation Time: 15 mins
Cooking Time: 25 mins
Servings: 4 servings

2 tablespoons butter
1 small onion, chopped
1 tablespoon curry powder
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
2 pounds (about 5) cooking apples, peeled, cored and chopped
3 cups warm water
3 vegetarian vegetable flavor bouillon cubes
½ cup half-and-half
½ teaspoon ground white pepper

Melt butter in large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add onion; cook, stirring occasionally, for 3 to 4 minutes or until tender. Stir in curry powder and flour; cook for 1 minute. Stir in apples, water and bouillon; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 15 to 20 minutes or until apples are very tender.

Transfer mixture to food processor or blender container (in batches, if necessary); cover. Process until smooth. Return to saucepan. Stir in half-and-half and pepper. Warm, stirring occasionally, over medium-low heat until heated through.

— Courtesy Family Features



White Chicken Chili

White Chicken Chili

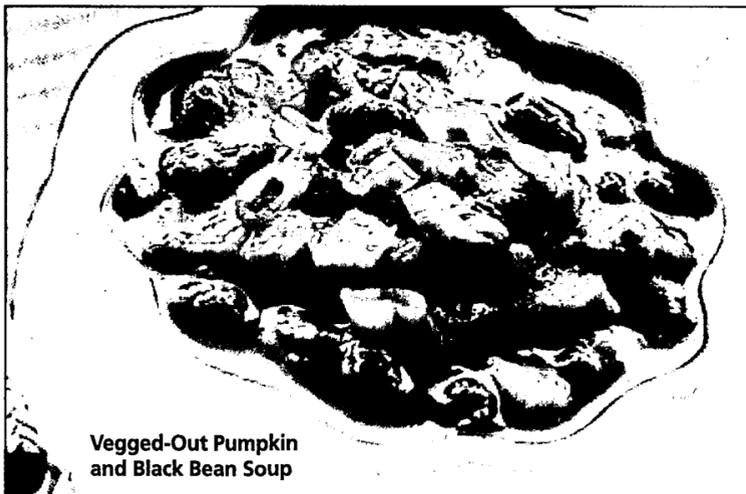
Makes 8 servings — about 1 cup each

1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1½ pounds boneless, skinless chicken breast tenders
1 medium onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, chopped
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1½ teaspoons ground coriander
1–1½ cups mild salsa verde
1 can (15 ounces) cannellini beans, drained
1 can (15 ounces) pinto beans, drained
1 cup water
½ cup loose-pack frozen corn
1 can (12 fluid ounces) evaporated low-fat 2% milk
1 cup fresh spinach leaves
Baked tortilla chips and light sour cream for serving (optional)

Heat oil in large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add chicken; cook on each side until golden. Transfer to plate; cover.

Add onion to same saucepan. Cook, stirring occasionally, until translucent. Add garlic; cook for 30 seconds. Stir in cumin and coriander; cook for 30 seconds. Stir in salsa verde, cannellini beans, pinto beans, water and corn. Cook for 10 minutes or until hot.

Cut or shred chicken into bite-size pieces and add to saucepan along with any accumulated juices on plate. Stir in evaporated milk and spinach; cook for a few minutes just until heated through and spinach is slightly wilted. Serve topped with crumbled tortilla chips and dollop of sour cream.



Vegged-Out Pumpkin and Black Bean Soup

“Vegged-Out” Pumpkin & Black Bean Soup

Preparation Time: 15 mins
Cooking Time: 20 mins
Servings: 8 servings, 1 cup each

1 tablespoon olive oil
5 green onions (white and light green parts), thinly sliced (slice dark parts and set aside for later)
1 red bell pepper, chopped
3 cloves garlic, chopped
1½ teaspoons ground cumin
½ teaspoon dried thyme
2 cans (15 ounces each) black beans, rinsed and drained
1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin
1 can (14.5 ounces) no-salt added diced tomatoes, undrained
1 can (14 ounces) vegetable broth
½ cup water
½ teaspoon salt or more to taste
½ teaspoon cayenne pepper or more to taste

Heat oil in large saucepan over medium heat. Add white and light green parts of green onions, bell pepper and garlic; cook, stirring occasionally, for 4 to 5 minutes or until soft. Stir in cumin and thyme; cook, stirring occasionally, for 1 minute. Add beans, pumpkin, tomatoes and juice, broth and water; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low; cook for 10 minutes. Stir in salt and cayenne pepper. Top each serving with dark green onion tops.

City bites

New bagel in town

PLYMOUTH — MD Bagel Fragel, 448 Forest will serve free coffee during its grand opening, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14. The event will include prizes and 20 percent off food purchases.

Customers also will get a chance to meet Mr. Bagel. Bagel Fragel makes more than 30 varieties of bagels and their specialty is the sugar-cinnamon covered Fragel.

More free coffee

SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN — Get a small Premium roast Coffee free at more than 230 McDonald's restaurants every Wednesday this month and in February. The offer is available from open to close at participating restaurants for in-lobby dining and at the drive-thru. Limit one small Premium Roast Coffee per customer per visit, with no purchase necessary. Coffee days are Jan. 18, 25, and Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.

Wine tasting

LIVONIA — A representative from Great Lakes wine and Spirits will pour elegant red wines and a few port wines Thursday, Jan. 19 at d.vine fine wines, 17386 Haggerty. On Thursday, Jan. 26, taste wines that celebrate the Super Bowl and pair well with appetizers and munchies. Light appetizers will be served and guests may bring their favorite tailgate dish to pass. Each tasting costs \$15 per person; \$10 for Wine Club members. Events start at 7 p.m. Call (734) 432-3800 to reserve a spot; www.dvinefinewines.com

All about pork

PLYMOUTH — Mary Kelpinski of the Michigan Pork Producers Association will address the Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at Rose's, 201 N. Canton Center Road, in Plymouth. Kelpinski will highlight why farmers will need to double the world's food production in less than 40 years and how they'll need to rely on science and technology to make it happen. For a reservation, call Cheryl, at (734) 981-7259.

The Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club, which organizes a variety of community service projects, marks its 40th anniversary this year. Visit its Web site at www.civitan.net/plymouthmich.

Wings for Special Olympics

STATEWIDE — Stop by any participating Buffalo Wild Wings locations on Monday, Jan. 16 with a coupon downloaded from www.somi.org and the restaurant will donate 20 percent of the purchase to Special Olympics Michigan and its Polar Plunge events. Participating restaurants include 41980 Ford Road, Canton; 37651 Six Mile, Livonia; 44375 12 Mile, Novi; and 6677 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Polar Plunge participants raise funds for Special Olympics Michigan, put on a costume and jump into frigid water. There are 27 Polar Plunge this year in the state, including Belleville on Feb. 11 and Detroit on Feb. 18. There is a minimum \$75 registration fee to participate in a Polar Plunge. Register at www.somi.org.

Beer benefiting charity

ROYAL OAK — Sample more than 80 beers 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, located on Fourth, between Lafayette and Washington. Westborn Market presents the event, that will benefit Camp Casey, a horseback riding program for children with cancer.

Beer lovers also will taste beer-inspired cuisine and hear live music by Detroit folk favorites, Petal Shop. Fifteen new beers will make their Michigan debut at the event. The event is open to age 21 and over. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door and include 25 beer samplings. Advance tickets are now available at Westborn Market, 14925 Middlebelt, Livonia; 21755 Michigan Ave., Dearborn; and 27659 Woodward Ave., Berkley, as well as the Royal Oak Music Theatre box office, at (248) 399-2980.

Livonia woman to serve on 2012 CREW board

Commercial Real Estate Women Detroit, an organization influencing the success of the commercial real estate industry by advancing the achievements of women and celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2011, announces the following CREW Detroit members will serve on the 2012 CREW Detroit Board of Directors:

•President: Jan Purcell; director of Sales and Marketing, eTitle Commercial, Troy

Purcell is a resident of Bloomfield Hills.

•President-Elect: Jumana Judeh, MAI, CCIM; president and CEO, Judeh & Associates, Dearborn. Judeh is a resident of Dearborn Heights.

Immediate Past President: Marilyn Nix; senior vice president, Compass Commercial LLC/ITRA Global, Troy. Nix is a resident of Bloomfield Hills.



Mary LeFevre

•Treasurer: Donna Hanson, CPA; partner, Plante & Moran, PLLC, Auburn Hills. Hanson is a resident of Lake Orion.

•Secretary/ Communications

Director; Nicole Heyart; vice president, Luna Tech Designs, LLC, Plymouth. Heyart is a resident of Sterling Heights.

•Membership Director: Alicia E. Buisst; independent real estate consultant. Buisst is a resident of Brighton.

•Programs Director: Mary LeFevre; manager of Business Development, Turner Construction Co., Detroit. LeFevre is a resident of Livonia.

•Outreach Director: Beth Bailey, manager of Due Diligence Group, PM Environmental Inc., Berkeley. Bailey is a resident of Berkley.

•Golf Director: Sheila Suppes; director of Business Development & Marketing, Sachse Construction, Birmingham. Suppes is a resident of Commerce.

•IMPACT Real Estate Awards Director: Andrea Burg, senior project manager, LEED BD+C,

Jones Lang LaSalle Project and Development Services, Detroit. Burg is a resident of Bloomfield Township.

CREW Detroit (www.crew-detroit.org), founded in 1986, is a dedicated to influencing the success of the commercial real estate industry by advancing the achievements of women through networking and member-to-member driven business opportunities. It is a founding chapter of CREW Network, a professional organization of more than 8,000 women and men in commercial real estate women in the U.S. and Canada that serves as a key resource to CREW chapter members and the commercial real estate industry. CREW Network members hail from all disciplines of commercial real estate. Learn more at www.crewnetwork.org.

Use caution in yule decor

Q: Our homeowners love to get in the spirit of the holidays and our association sponsors a decorating contest, hosts a party in the Community Center and uses association funds to adorn common elements. Unfortunately, however, the association party and common area decorations support Christmas. There are residents who support other religions and are complaining that the association isn't doing enough to support their religious beliefs and backgrounds. What do you think?

A: This is a difficult question which may sometimes lead to an issue of religious discrimination. Under federal fair housing laws, it is unlawful to discriminate against any



Robert Meisner

person in "the provision of services or facilities" because of religion and

the law is broadly interpreted. You may wish to have all of the major religions represented in your decorations or make it as nonsectarian as possible. Perhaps a general holiday party policy and decorations which do not provide any implications as to a religious representation would be appropriate, but you are best to consult with your attorney for a legal opinion.

Q: Our association is concerned about using volunteers because of the risks that may be involved. Do you have any suggestions?

A: When in doubt, check with your insurance agent. Ask the volunteers if they have their own insurance. Ask the volunteers to sign a hold harmless agreement drafted by your attorney. Be sure you are getting good volunteers, if, in fact, you choose to use them. Make sure the volunteers have the skills to do the job. Make sure that their work is reviewed through proper oversight and, have a board resolution, either authorizing the volunteers to do the work or clarify what type of work cannot be done by volunteers. Everything else being considered, it is probably a good idea not to utilize volunteers unless you are adequately protected.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 26-30, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
2289 Amsterdam Ave	\$167,000
47626 Ashford Dr S	\$340,000
40455 Blytheville Ln	\$86,000
4337 Bridgeview Ln	\$95,000
48662 Central Park Dr	\$402,000
46866 Creeks Bnd	\$150,000
1737 Crestview Dr	\$233,000
1450 Delancy Cir	\$401,000
1239 E Crystal Cir	\$188,000
4243 Forest Bridge Dr	\$210,000
393 Lenox Dr	\$375,000
2394 Lexington Cir N	\$190,000
46990 Mornington Rd	\$297,000
169 N Willard Rd	\$109,000
1350 N Willard Rd	\$65,000
49103 Northampton Ct	\$292,000
1260 Old Colony Ln	\$115,000
41992 Saratoga Cir	\$190,000
2609 Stanton St	\$320,000
49500 Taft Ln	\$35,000
49529 Taft Ln	\$308,000

49730 Taft Ln	\$51,000
44698 Tillotson Dr	\$170,000
387 Torrington Dr W	\$340,000
48356 Wadebridge Dr	\$330,000
39747 Wales St	\$130,000
GARDEN CITY	
28988 Bridge St	\$65,000
33149 Brown St	\$21,000
31504 Dover St	\$80,000
28568 Elmwood St	\$10,000
29896 Elmwood St	\$86,000
28952 Florence St	\$35,000
33740 Pardo St	\$54,000
LIVONIA	
36080 Ann Arbor Trl	\$18,000
11427 Brookfield St	\$80,000
29814 Buckingham St	\$90,000
11864 Camden St	\$72,000
34803 Fairfax Dr	\$265,000
18948 Floral St	\$27,000
19010 Floral St	\$20,000
19446 Hardy St	\$80,000
18301 Heatherlea Dr	\$329,000
29907 Lyndon St	\$128,000
39324 Lyndon St	\$130,000
27854 Meadowbrooke Ave	\$177,000
9108 Melvin St	\$76,000
9729 Middlebelt Rd	\$25,000
9917 Middlebelt Rd	\$22,000
31744 Middleboro St	\$128,000
34448 Middleboro St	\$175,000

37968 N Laurel Park Dr	\$150,000
33919 Oakdale St	\$147,000
32856 Perth St	\$110,000
19380 Rensellor St	\$74,000
17574 Rexwood St	\$145,000
14586 Ronnie Ln	\$139,000
37751 Southampton St	\$147,000
36316 St Andrews Dr	\$30,000
38757 Summers St	\$71,000
31350 Wentworth St	\$150,000
NORTHVILLE	
50630 Hawthorne Ct	\$330,000
19687 Ironwood Ct	\$60,000
42240 Ladywood Dr	\$226,000
47647 Pine Creek Ct	\$400,000
16035 Pine Valley Dr	\$525,000
48741 Stoneridge Dr	\$485,000
41773 Waterfall Rd	\$336,000
19135 Windridge Dr	\$235,000
20145 Woodhill Dr	\$270,000
PLYMOUTH	
45800 Beacon Hill Cir	\$345,000
11365 Bellwood Dr	\$260,000
48499 E Normandy Ct	\$323,000
163 Hamilton Ave	\$164,000
48200 Hilltop Dr E	\$420,000
48565 Hilltop Dr W	\$371,000
1076 Ross St	\$195,000
1311 S Harvey St	\$182,000
1298 Sheridan St	\$294,000
800 York St	\$65,000

REDFORD	
14057 Brady	\$70,000
12033 Columbia	\$58,000
9543 Dixie	\$44,000
11942 Eileen	\$69,000
17416 Fox	\$53,000
17602 Indian	\$32,000
9168 Nathalie	\$62,000
16741 Negaunee	\$85,000
14384 San Jose	\$23,000
25054 Schoolcraft	\$23,000
9008 Virgil	\$51,000
26906 W Chicago	\$26,000
17603 Wakenden	\$54,000
19328 Wakenden	\$16,000
15512 Woodworth	\$38,000
WESTLAND	
32823 Anita Dr	\$80,000
36636 Avondale St	\$105,000
2041 Buchanan Ct	\$99,000
39343 Dillingham St	\$80,000
32248 Fairchild St	\$23,000
34318 Frances St	\$72,000
35070 Lewis St	\$64,000
382 Marigold Cir	\$68,000
80275 Ravine Dr	\$135,000
37135 Riviera Dr	\$30,000
12955 John Hix St	\$116,000
219 Van Sull St	\$80,000
8320 Vista Ln	\$30,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 19-23, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
30460 Embassy St	\$179,000
19655 Warwick St	\$350,000
BIRMINGHAM	
1602 Cole St	\$73,000
563 Hanna St	\$360,000
958 Pleasant St	\$363,000
798 Tottenham Rd	\$315,000
1245 Washington Blvd	\$930,000
Bloomfield Hills	
1765 Alexander Dr	\$350,000
5170 Wing Lake Rd	\$244,000
10 Cranbrook Ln	\$650,000
1705 Huntingwood Ln # B	\$68,000
745 Upper Scotsborough Way	\$245,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	

1585 Ashover Dr	\$173,000
3536 Bradway Blvd	\$610,000
182 Dourdan	\$225,000
172 E Hickory Grove Rd	\$235,000
4791 Inkster Rd	\$425,000
3150 Kernway Dr	\$305,000
4144 Meadow Way	\$375,000
969 N Reading Rd	\$195,000
1327 S Carillon Ct	\$897,000
6750 White Pine Dr	\$215,000
5108 Woodlands Ln	\$150,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
6043 Venice Dr	\$204,000
4853 Waldon Woods Dr	\$223,000
FARMINGTON	
32718 Grand River Ave Unit B	\$30,000
24048 Merrilyn Ct	\$165,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
28296 Bayberry Rd	\$110,000
24382 Broadview St	\$140,000
28032 E Greenmeadow Cir	\$152,000
37596 Emerald Forest Dr	\$259,000
27849 Gettysburg St	\$210,000
22195 Gill Rd	\$145,000
29969 Green Acres	\$173,000
27129 Hampstead Blvd	\$375,000

29743 Monterey Cir	\$150,000
24644 Springbrook Dr	\$145,000
27671 W Echo Vly	\$50,000
23961 Watercrest Ct	\$174,000
28420 Wildwood Trl	\$180,000
FRANKLIN	
30780 N Greenbriar Rd	\$385,000
Lathrup Village	
18469 Dolores Ave	\$130,000
MILFORD	
119 Second St	\$115,000
220 Crystal St	\$190,000
615 E Summit St	\$89,000
1434 Hunters Lake Dr	\$555,000
1470 Hunters Lake Dr	\$607,000
527 Olivia Dr	\$250,000
846 Ridgeside Dr	\$114,000
NOVI	
50641 Amesburg Dr	\$480,000
50648 Amesburg Dr	\$520,000
50707 Amesburg Dr	\$458,000
50707 Amesburg Dr	\$550,000
26517 Anchorage Ct	\$485,000
49944 Blackberry Trl	\$209,000
24566 Borderhill	\$140,000
43077 Brookstone Dr	\$223,000
50884 Chesapeake Dr	\$718,000

22745 Cranbrooke Dr	\$82,000
50861 Drakes Bay Dr	\$635,000
43099 Emerson Way	\$231,000
24587 Enchanted Dr	\$180,000
22357 Hazelton Ct	\$405,000
27965 Hopkins Dr	\$105,000
24312 Knollwood St	\$135,000
23310 Meadowbrook Rd	\$31,000
30850 Palmer Dr	\$158,000
25884 Shoreline Dr	\$435,000
SOUTH LYON	
1098 Colt Dr	\$193,000
26660 Daria Cir W	\$288,000
25400 Meadow Ct	\$30,000
21975 N Lyon Trl	\$240,000
21575 Pontiac Trl	\$35,000
204 Princeton Dr	\$26,000
SOUTHFIELD	
21326 Greenview Rd	\$55,000
30550 Red Maple Ln	\$71,000
25422 Saint James	\$65,000
30200 Southfield Rd # A208	\$28,000
WHITE LAKE	
10944 Hillway St	\$198,000
8170 Rene Dr	\$99,000
974 Round Lake Rd	\$77,000
9130 Twin Lakes Dr	\$430,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

A Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. For more information, contact Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

Tax appeals

Learn how to prepare for receiving your 2012 "This Is Not a Tax Bill" in March and "How to Appeal Your Property Taxes" by Mark Avery. Sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Jan. 12, 5:30 PM/9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. www.REIAofOAKLAND.com; (800) 747-6742

Finance Seminar

Learn how to finance your purchase and rehab projects in and around Detroit. Hear from an expert in the lending business, Trent Dalrymple, who has more than 25 years of experience. Real estate and investment professionals are welcome.

Seating is limited so call (248) 547-3006, or sign up at www.metro-mi.com. These free one-hour seminars will be 6-7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month at Metro Mortgage Investments, 26711 Woodward Ave., Suite 301, Huntington Woods.

Real Estate Sales and Appraising

Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Wednesdays.

To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

Designation

Bart Patterson of RE/MAX Classic in Canton has earned the Certified Investor Agent Specialist™ (CIAS) Designation, having completed extensive training to provide solutions and expertise to real estate investors.

"For decades, investing in real estate has proven to be a consis-

tent and stable way for individuals to build wealth," Patterson said. "Real estate investment supports a number of industries, including construction, retail and professional services, and is a strong way to energize and increase investment in our local economy."

Over the past 12 months, investment and second-home properties comprised more than \$300 billion in sales, representing approximately 27 percent of all residential real estate transactions. In addition, in market conditions affected by mortgage industry challenges, 48 percent of investors made all-cash purchases.

"As markets face the challenges of distressed properties and a difficult economy, real estate investors have the opportunity to find productive deals while helping communities stabilize," Patterson said. "Investors provide much-needed liquidity to the market, decrease vacancy rates, improve neighborhoods, and present solutions for homeowners who need to sell."

As a professional with the CIAS Designation training, Patterson will help area residents

build wealth through real estate investment, and homeowners facing foreclosure find potential buyers for their properties.

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation.

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@advaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

On Facebook

RE/MAX has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers for their real estate questions from RE/MAX experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKREMAX and get clear, expert answers in real time. Visit www.facebook.com/ASKREMAX.

SERVICES

hometownlife.com

Moving/Storage

A1+ Movers & Service
Lic. & Insured - Efficient 3 men, \$75/hr. 866-633-7953

Painting/Decorating Paperhangers

PAINTING BY ROBERT
• Wallpaper Removal • Int • Ext • Plaster/Drywall Repair • Staining 25 yrs exp. Free est. 248-349-7499, 734-464-8147

Roofing

BEST CHIMNEY CO.
Free Est. Lic & Ins. 248-557-5595, 313-292-7722

LEAK SPECIALIST Flashings, Valleys, Chimneys, etc. Lic. Member BBB. 30 yrs. exp. Warr. / Ins. Call: (248) 346-4321

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted-General

RESIDENT MANAGER & MAINTENANCE
For 33 apts. in Westland. Fax resume: 734-728-4110

MACHINIST

3 to 5 yrs machining experience. Responsible for operation of manual machines including Conventional Lathes, Bridgeport mills, Grinders, Drill presses and various other standard shop equipment. Tight tolerance machining. Able to read blue prints, do own set up's. Must be able to single point thread both OD & ID. \$12.00 to \$18.00 an hour plus a 4% shift differential. Pay based on level of experience. CNC experience helpful but not required. 2nd shift 3:30 PM to 12:00 AM.

EOE

Fax (248) 426-5631 HR@acecontrols.com

2012 Postal Positions

\$13.00-\$32.50/hr. Federal hire/full benefits. No Experience. Call Today. 1-866-477-4953 Ext. 161

MATERIAL HANDLER

AW Transmission Engineering (AWTEC), located in PLYMOUTH, is an award winning, industry leader in remanufacturing automotive transmissions, with a commitment to quality and equipment standards that is unsurpassed in the automotive industry.

AWTEC seeks a team-oriented, dependable individual with a CDL and Hi-Lo Certification.

General Description: Responsible for parts replenishment to support production and material movements throughout a warehouse environment.

- Utilize forklift to supply manufacturing lines
- Storage of parts and finished product in warehouse racking
- Re-stock parts to manufacturing lines as needed
- Re-stock of parts to proper storage locations
- Load and unload incoming and outgoing freight
- Prepare shipments using barcode scanning and process paperwork as required
- Perform system transactions as required using RF (radio frequency) equipment
- Pick & pack materials as needed
- Collect and transport metal, cardboard, wood, etc. for recycling
- Maintain proper storage and housekeeping in warehouse
- Able to lift up to 50 lbs.

*\$10.50/hr + overtime potential
• Planned work hours are 7:00AM - 3:30PM
• Raise after 90 days
• Quarterly & Year end bonuses
• 100% company paid health/dental/optical
• Vacation/holiday/sick pay
• Tuition reimbursement
• 401k with company match

AWTEC-HR
14920 Keel St.
Plymouth, MI 48170
Fax: 734-454-1091
Email: resumes@awtec.com
EOE

RETAIL SALES:

Full time floor sales & administrative position available for outgoing, ambitious person. Please fax resume: (248) 399-1738

Help Wanted-General

Public Safety Service Officer
Canton is now accepting applications for a Public Safety Service Officer. Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process are available on the Canton Township website at www.canton-mi.org
Application Deadline: 4:00pm 1/20/12 E.O.E.

TELEMARKETERS NEEDED
For family-owned windows, window, and roofing company. Part-time, 2 shifts: 11-3 and 4-8pm. Compensation is \$8.00/hr. Email resume to: choicewsr@gmail.com

DIRECT CARE WORKERS
All shifts and weekends. Prefer experience and MORC training. Must have good driving record. Fax resume: (248) 478-8620

GROUP HOME MANAGER
For senior DD residents. Available for on call 24/7. Prefer experience and MORC training. Full-time benefits. Fax resume: (248) 478-8620

COVENANT HOUSE MICHIGAN
A Human Service Agency serving homeless & at-risk youth in Detroit has the following position:

Development Officer- Grants
Full-time responsible for researching, writing & tracking grants; preparation of applications & materials, etc. Bachelor degree, 3-year exp. proven track record, MS Office proficiency, excellent writing & organizational skills required. Raiser's Edge exp desired. \$33-35K + excellent benefits.

Please send resume to: Attn: HR, CHM 2959 Martin Luther King Detroit, MI 48208. Fax: 313-463-2222. Email: dhendons@covanhouse.org EOE

CNC MACHINE MAINTENANCE
Dynamic manufacturer in Plymouth is looking for an experienced CNC Machine Maintenance Individual. Ideal candidate must have experience troubleshooting, repairing and maintaining CNC, hydraulic and pneumatic systems. Responsibilities will include preventative and corrective maintenance. Experience in press maintenance is a plus. Competitive wages and a generous benefit package including 401(k). EOE. Email resumes to: maint48170@yahoo.com

Title Examiner
Experienced required; exam and abstract residential and commercial properties for expanding title company in Livonia. Must be able to type accurately and issue final policies. Do not reply if you have not worked for a title company. Send resume to: kmccarry@mbassville.com

Driver/Welder Apprentice
For small tool & die welding shop in Livonia. Full-time, will train. Benefits. \$9/hr. start. Good license required. Apply: 37050 Amrhein, Livonia

DIRECT CARE STAFF
Full-time, benefits, afternoons, midnights, \$8+. Novi area: (248) 342-6451

CANVASSERS WANTED

Join us in campaigning surrounding neighborhoods to schedule appointments with homeowners for in-home demonstrations with our Sales Team

What we offer our team members:
Base pay of \$10.00/hr. Uncapped bonus potential. A fun working environment. Career advancement. Paid Time Off. Co-Matching 401k Program. Call (734) 462-6019

*Minimum length of employment required

HEADER TOOL ASSEMBLER
1-2 yrs. exp. required. Repair broken tooling, operate grinders, lathes, etc. Email resume to: shicks@headerproducts.com

Observer & Eccentric Hometown Weeklies Classifieds
Just a quick call away - 1-800-579-SELL

Job Opportunities

MICH-CAN STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED

ADOPTION

ADOPTION, LOVING, FINANCIALLY STABLE COUPLE offers lovely baby, bestie stories, and lifetime of unconditional love. Expenses Paid. Call Kathie and Kumar 1-888-476-0118 or www.kathieandkumarAdopt.com.

PREGNANT? LOVING, FINANCIALLY SECURE COUPLE looking to adopt a healthy infant. Expenses Paid. Contact John and Maureen 1-877-287-4082 or reemadjohn409@gmail.com.

SCHOOLS/ Career Training

DRIVER-NEW CAREER FOR THE NEW YEAR! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! No credit check! Top industry pay/training. 100% paid CDL training 800-326-2778 www.JoinCRST.com.

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$3997 - MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own band mill. Call today for more info. In stock ready to ship. FREE Int'l DVD. www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1283 Ext. 300N.

Help Wanted-General

Retail: Award-winning Bridal Salon seeks FULL-TIME SALES ASSOCIATES (approx. 32 hrs/wk). Combination day/eve. hrs. Ideal for college grads & homemakers returning to work. (Training offered) Mandatory Sat. 10-5. Closed Sun. Flexible summer hrs. Email "NEW HIRE RESUME" tdbridal@yahoo.com

SIGN INSTALLER

Lamar Advertising is looking for reliable workers. Billboard Vinyl installation experience will be helpful. Must have a valid driver's license, not afraid of heights & must be willing to work outdoors year round. You must be able to pass pre-employment physical & drug test. Apply in person: Lamar Advertising 6405 N. Hix Rd. Westland, MI 48185 Located btwn. Ford & Warren Rds.

CNC Lathe, CNC Mill, Manual & CNC Grinder (D/O), Surface, Unison, DadTru/Centerless. POLISH/Parts Finishing Dept.
Strong Company with Good Pay and Benefits! Specialize in Carbide/Steel Tooling made to print. Immediate position avail. EXP. PREFERRED. Will train the right candidate.

CNC Lathe Supervisor/Lead Man Immediate position available for motivated and committed individual with strong exp. work ethics & leadership skills. Conveniently located (-1275/Ford Rd). Excellent benefits/401K. Apply in person only 7am-11am & 1pm-4pm. Link Tool & Mfg. 39115 Warren Rd., Westland MI. No phone calls please.

CONTROLLER Part-Time &/or Full-Time position in western Detroit suburbs. Exp. in manufacturing accounting mandatory. HR exp. a plus. Email resume: motocrielyshworks.com

BAKER, SALES PERSON & CASHIER Full-Time, days, competitive wages, flexible scheduling. Livonia Bakery & Cafe. Call: (248) 474-0444

RETAIL JEWELRY SALES PERSON: Part-Time. \$10/hr & up, + commission. Ask for Mike. M. Mazzoni Jewelers Farmington: (248) 478-3300

PROJECT ENGINEER Alpine Electronics of America seeks Project Engineer for Farmington Hills, MI facility with 30+ experience in press maintenance is a plus. Competitive wages and a generous benefit package including 401(k). EOE. Email resumes to: maint48170@yahoo.com

Highway Coach Operator MUST HAVE CDL A OR B WITH P ENDORSEMENT. Experience preferred but will train the right person with the correct license. Call National Trails 248-353-9510, Mon-Fri 9-5

MACHINE OPERATOR Some experience required. Clean shop in Livonia. Day shift. 734-266-0239

FARM ASSISTANT Part-time, knowledge of animals, farm & equipment helpful. Mature minded and team player. 248-374-0200 nvillifoundation@aol.com

CNC LATHE PROGRAMMER/SET-UP Exp'd. only. Resume to: info@qualitytoolandgear.com

PLUMBER Journeyman. Service and commercial construction exp. req. Fax resume to 248-437-0708

CASHIER, FT or PT. Good pay! For carry out deli. Southfield Call Sid: 248-860-4499

Maintenance Techs, FT Needed M-F and some weekends from 7am to 3:30pm in the Farmington Hills area. Must have carpentry, plumbing, electrical exp. Must have a valid driver license. \$15 per hour plus paid medical benefits. Call: (734) 842-9074

RECEPTIONIST Must be QuickBooks, Microsoft Office capable. Livonia office. For Interview: 248-358-1717

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT Support to NOVI Energy President with word processing & preparation of presentations, travel (domestic & international), filing of project documents & administration support in coordination with other administrative office needs. Provide organized, consistent and effective administrative support that complies with Company procedures and standards. Provide support for property management. Professionally handle confidential information. Required: 5-10 yrs. exp. with similar assignments; Bachelor's degree; Proficient in Word, Excel, Project and PowerPoint. Send resume to: dhughes@novienergy.com Or you may mail/ fax resume to: NOVI Energy 23955 Novi Road Novi, MI 48375 Fax: (248) 735-0088 No telephone calls please.

LEGAL SECRETARY Part-time for Livonia law firm handling criminal and family law matters. Experience preferred, must have excellent telephone, typing & organizational skills. Fax resume attn: Charlotte: (734) 422-5832

RECEPTIONIST Fast-paced, busy law firm seeking an experienced receptionist. Ability to handle multiple line phone system in a cheerful, professional manner. Scanning and clerical duties, basic computer skills required. Full time, 9 am to 5 pm, Monday-Friday. Previous phone experience a must. Fax resume only: 248-996-6450

FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST Must have experience with Eaglesoft, scheduling appointments, answering phones, insurance claim processing, dependable, able to multi-task. Fax resume to: 734-425-1907

DENTAL ASSISTANT: Experience preferred, xray certified, for 4 days a week in Dearborn. Must be a team player with friendly personality and positive attitude. Please fax a note as to why you should be hired along with your resume to: (313) 563-5865

Operations Support Insurance service firm providing medical assessments, seeking FT ops support team member, with exp in medical terminology & transcription. Formatting, editing, and corrections of reports will be the primary functions of this role. Must be extremely detail oriented, flexible & be able to adapt to a fast paced environment. MS Office skills required, specifically MS Word. Great benefits & competitive wages offered. Email resume to: hr_mis@yahoo.com

SALES ASSISTANT Exp'd. in loading ready made programs & tool paths, Fanuc & Heidenhain Controls, mold work only, no part. Call Don: 313-335-7831

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CNC Lathe, CNC Mill, Manual & CNC Grinder (D/O), Surface, Unison, DadTru/Centerless. POLISH/Parts Finishing Dept.
Strong Company with Good Pay and Benefits! Specialize in Carbide/Steel Tooling made to print. Immediate position avail. EXP. PREFERRED. Will train the right candidate.

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BAKER, SALES PERSON & CASHIER Full-Time, days, competitive wages, flexible scheduling. Livonia Bakery & Cafe. Call: (248) 474-0444

RETAIL JEWELRY SALES PERSON: Part-Time. \$10/hr & up, + commission. Ask for Mike. M. Mazzoni Jewelers Farmington: (248) 478-3300

PROJECT ENGINEER Alpine Electronics of America seeks Project Engineer for Farmington Hills, MI facility with 30+ experience in press maintenance is a plus. Competitive wages and a generous benefit package including 401(k). EOE. Email resumes to: maint48170@yahoo.com

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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT Support to NOVI Energy President with word processing & preparation of presentations, travel (domestic & international), filing of project documents & administration support in coordination with other administrative office needs. Provide organized, consistent and effective administrative support that complies with Company procedures and standards. Provide support for property management. Professionally handle confidential information. Required: 5-10 yrs. exp. with similar assignments; Bachelor's degree; Proficient in Word, Excel, Project and PowerPoint. Send resume to: dhughes@novienergy.com Or you may mail/ fax resume to: NOVI Energy 23955 Novi Road Novi, MI 48375 Fax: (248) 735-0088 No telephone calls please.

LEGAL SECRETARY Part-time for Livonia law firm handling criminal and family law matters. Experience preferred, must have excellent telephone, typing & organizational skills. Fax resume attn: Charlotte: (734) 422-5832

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DENTAL ASSISTANT: Experience preferred, xray certified, for 4 days a week in Dearborn. Must be a team player with friendly personality and positive attitude. Please fax a note as to why you should be hired along with your resume to: (313) 563-5865

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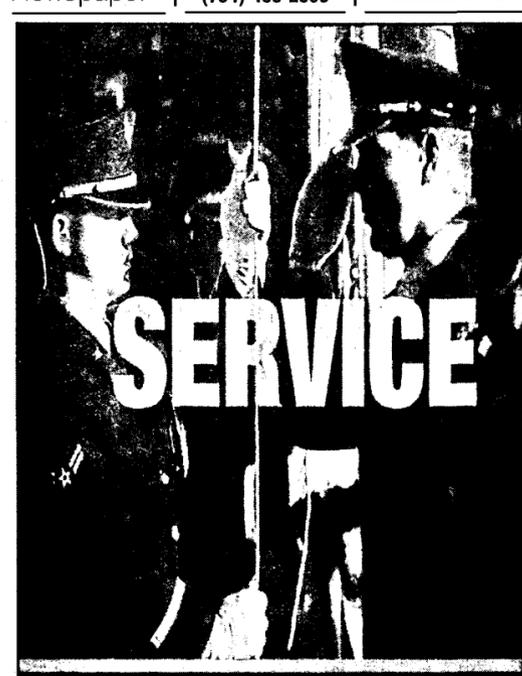
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