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**No coffee
hours**

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will not hold his monthly coffee hours in Westland, Garden City, Redford and Livonia in December. Coffee hours will resume in January. Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson can contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909, by phone at (866) 262-7306 or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

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**Holiday photo
contest**

Enter your favorite holiday photo in a contest for a chance to win a \$20 gift card to a department store. Upload a picture of your house in lights, a visit with Santa or anything related to the holidays. Share the link with friends and see if you come out on top! You and your Facebook friends are allowed one vote per day. To find the contest, go to our website, Hometownlife.com, and look on the right-hand side in our Don't Miss module. Clicking on the photo of the Christmas presents will take you to the contest page. The voting ends Dec. 30. Good luck!

Traditions

Got a favorite Christmas tradition? Maybe it's an annual caroling party or ethnic-inspired Christmas Eve supper, or ornament-making with the kids or a cookie exchange with the neighbors. Perhaps you assist at a soup kitchen on Christmas day or volunteer at an animal shelter, head north to hit the slopes or south to bask in the sun. Whatever your holiday tradition is, we'd love to find out more. Send us a few paragraphs about your Christmas tradition — include a photo if you'd like — and tell us why it's a mainstay in your holiday celebrating. We'll share it with readers in an upcoming *Observer* edition. Include your name, phone number, e-mail, and city of residence. E-mailed photos should be jpg attachments. E-mail to Sharon Dargay by Friday, Dec. 14, at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Or mail them to her at 615 W. Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226.

**Survey shows residents favor
new city hall without tax hike**

By **LeAnne Rogers**
Observer Staff Writer

The survey says: Westland residents who responded to a city survey support building a new City Hall or refurbishing an existing commercial building without asking for a millage or tax increase.

Offered as the city hosted a series of five town hall meetings, the online

survey drew 167 responses although some respondents skipped each of the nine questions.

A new City Hall without a tax increase drew 73.5 percent support. The questions drawing even higher support were questions about consolidating as many city operations into a new City Hall as possible for cost savings, 86.6 percent, and incorporating green building

components in the new building, 83.9 percent.

"I'd say I probably didn't see any surprises on the survey. One of the things that struck me was the response on question No. 1," said Mayor William Wild. "The 76.6 percent yes on whether they had a clear picture on the problems with (the current) City Hall. We did the town hall meetings, and it's well documented."

Depending on how the question was worded, Wild said the response can change. For instance, 53.7 percent of the respondents would support a one-mill tax levy for 25 years to pay for a new City Hall on the city property on Ford Road. On the question about where they'd like a new City Hall to be located, the No. 1 choice at 40.4 percent was in the commer-

cial area near Westland Shopping Center, which would involve a new building or rehabilitation of an existing vacant commercial building.

A close second at was building on the current Ford Road site requiring a dedicated millage increase which had 36.7 percent.

The third option, which

Please see **SURVEY, A2**



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Santa Claus greets the crowd just before receiving the key to the city from Westland Mayor William Wild.

**Santa gets cookies and
cocoa welcome to Westland**

By **LeAnne Rogers**
Observer Staff Writer

Santa Claus arrived in Westland Wednesday to greet local youngsters and receive the key to the city.

Before the Jolly Old Elf arrived, the crowd that gathered at City Hall listened to music performed by the Salvation Army Band, a duet by Jacquese Miloser and Robert Cassidy and a sing-along with students from St. Matthew Lutheran School.

"Santa will be here shortly. Just before I came out, I got a report from Detroit Metro Airport that Santa was on his way," said Mayor William Wild. "He's over the Ambassador Bridge. I'm not sure why he is coming from Canada."

Local school, Scout and church youth groups decorated trees behind City Hall before the official tree lighting program.

"They did a great job, all the decorations are biodegradable. The birds will have a buffet for the next few weeks," said Wild.

In his comments, Wild thanked the participants in the program, particularly the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army Corps.

"I want to give them special thanks for all the good that they are doing.

There are still families in Westland that need help," said Wild.

Riding on a fire engine with a police escort, Santa Claus arrived at City Hall and made his way through the crowd.

"It's an honor and a privilege to be here. What a night, what a crowd," said Santa Claus, who was asked about the lack of snow. "I can't do anything about the weather. I can deliver a lot of joy but I can't control the weather."

After youngsters were asked if they had time to good, Santa noted they still had time to get off the naughty list before Christmas.

Dearborn resident Adam Meister attended the tree lighting with his family — kids Aiken, 10, and Carson, 6, are students at St. Matthew Lutheran School.

"This is the first time I've been here. It's a nice program," said Meister.

While the family was deciding on whether to head over the William P. Faust Library for cookies, cocoa and a chat with Santa Claus, neither Carson or Aiken had any special gift requests to share.

"I don't know what I would ask for. I don't have a list. I want to make a list," said Carson.

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**Right to work:
Lawmakers divided
over results**

By **LeAnne Rogers**
Observer Staff Writer

Set to take office as a state representative in January, Robert Kosowski had hoped to be involved in discussions on the Republican-sponsored right to work legislation.

"Unfortunately, the law is going to be pushed through. I had hoped it would be delayed from some good discussion," said Kosowski, a Westland Democrat. "So much for transparency. It's very sickening that they (Republicans) could rush this through without debate. They know they won't have the votes in January."

With the legislation, which prohibits a closed shop or union membership being a condition of employment, expected to reach final approval lat-

er this week, Kosowski doesn't think the controversy will end there.

"You had 2,000 protesters (at the capitol). The biggest thing I see ahead is recalls being part of it and amendments to the law," Kosowski said.

Proponents argue right to work encourages job development, but Kosowski said that hasn't been the experience in Oklahoma, which enacted the legislation nearly a decade ago.

Along with pushing down wages for union and non-union workers in the state, Kosowski said he was also worried about other workers' rights being negatively impacted by the right to work legislation.

"Worker safety is a really big issue with me and I think that will be

Please see **WORK, A2**

**Redford woman charged
with embezzlement**

By **LeAnne Rogers**
Observer Staff Writer

A Redford woman has been ordered to stand trial on a charge of embezzling more than \$140,000 from her elderly father.

Free on \$10,000 personal bond, Renee Bullock, 31, is charged with one count of embezzlement from a vulnerable adult. She was ordered bound over to Wayne County Circuit Court for trial following a preliminary examination Thursday in Westland's 18th District Court.

The charge against Bullock, filed by the

Michigan attorney general, is that Bullock stole \$140,000 from her disabled father, money she allegedly spent at casinos, nail and tanning salons and retail establishments.

Bullock's father was admitted to a Westland nursing facility in December 2010 after he had granted her general power of attorney June 27, 2010. Bullock was also named as her father's temporary guardian and conservator in January 2012.

The state investigation alleges Bullock

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WORK

Continued from page A1

hurt," he said. "The safety in the work place, also eight-hour work days and vacations, could be hurt."

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, who said his position has followed Gov. Rick Snyder's right down the line, said the legislation makes Michigan more competitive for job creation and empowers workers,

"This is the 21st century. ... Workers are more mobile, sophisticated and educated and they should have the freedom to choose," said Heise, who represents the city of Wayne. "It's also important for unions to be responsive to their members. This will force them to be more transparent and more accountable."

"Most polls have shown employees are willing to stay as a dues-paying union," he added. "This empowers individual members to decide whether or not this is a good fit for them."

David Knezek, who will

represent Garden City and a portion of eastern Westland in the state House as of January, said such laws don't have a proven track record of creating jobs, which is vital to improving Michigan's economy.

"Contrary to its well-crafted name, right to work laws don't grant any rights at all. They only serve to weaken employees' ability to bargain for fair wages, benefits and a safe work environment," said Knezek, D-Deerborn Heights. "The proven method for growing our economy again is to rebuild from the middle class out."

He added the current Legislature has been "remarkably friendly to big business," with an \$1.8 billion tax cut for corporations and reduction in unemployment benefits. He added that statistics show that employees in right to work states make 3.2 percent less than workers in free-bargaining states, or about \$1,500 less per year.

"Rather than consistently crafting policy to

benefit corporations and CEOs, legislators need to start working for the people who sent them to Lansing — the workers of our state," Knezek said. "To put it plainly, right to work is wrong for Michigan."

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, called it "a dark day in Michigan," where labor has made progress for more than 100 years. He said he thinks right to work legislation will take the state back and stall any progress it is making as businesses avoid investing further in the state.

A lot of businesses want well-paid employees with the right training, Anderson said, believing "you get what you pay for."

Anderson also said he thinks the state will see reduced wages as a result of the legislation. "I think it's shameful," he said. "It's threatening the level of good-paying jobs."

Staff Writers Karen Smith and Brad Kadrich contributed to this story.

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SURVEY

Continued from page A1

had been discussed, to build behind the William P. Faust Library within the Tax Increment Financing Authority District, received 19.9 percent support.

"It almost seemed that while it was on Ford Road, people were willing to support a millage," said Wild. "They didn't want it behind the library but preferred another option. Also by just talking to people, behind the library was not their first choice."

Those responses on a possible millage increase for a new City Hall came before the winter tax bills were mailed. Wild noted Westland residents will see two millage increases on their bills — .20 mills for the Detroit Institute of Arts and .99 mills for the William P. Faust Library.

Another question on the survey asked what should be done with the city's Ford Road property, if City Hall was relocated and the existing build-

WESTLAND CITY HALL SURVEY

Where should a new City Hall be located?

■ Current Ford Road location (would require tax increase)	36.7%
■ City-owned property behind the library (no tax increase)	19.9%
■ On the site of or a refurbished vacant commercial building near Westland Shopping Center (no tax increase)	40.4%
■ Would you support a tax increase to rebuild City Hall on Ford Road (approximately \$50 per year for 25 years)?	
YES	53.7%
NO	46.2%
■ Would you support building a new City Hall or refurbishing an existing commercial building without a tax increase?	
YES	73.5%
NO	26.5%

Source: City of Westland

ings, including the closed Bailey Recreation Center, were demolished. The response was 69.1 percent in support of retaining the land for future city use.

"We heard that universally. We're going to look at our options. We've

been doing our due diligence," said Wild. "We heard things at the town hall meetings. We'll follow up and bring something to the public shortly."

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CHARGED

Continued from page A1

failed to make appropriate payments to the nursing home from the time he was admitted until the Wayne County Probate Court removed her as conservator and froze her father's accounts in

March 2012.

Instead, the state investigation alleges Bullock used her father's money to make payments on a Cadillac CTS and a Chevrolet Tahoe that she leased. It is also alleged that Bullock spent her father's money at casinos, nail and tanning salons, numerous restaurants and stores.

"Financial exploitation of Michigan's most vulnerable, our seniors, is one of the fastest growing crimes," state Attorney General Bill Schuette said in announcing the charge. "We are cracking down on criminals who target Michigan's nursing home residents."

A charge of embezzlement from a vulnerable

adult, \$20,000 or more, is punishable by up to 10 years in prison, a fine of \$15,000 or three times the value of the money or property used or obtained, whichever is greater.

Bullock is scheduled for circuit court arraignment Dec. 20.

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Nominations sought for Wayne holiday lights honor

Nominations are being taken for the Wayne Beautification Committee's annual Holiday Lights Awards.

You can nominate someone else or your-

self for recognition of a spiffy looking holiday display.

The Beautification Committee has held holiday lighting and summer landscaping award pro-

grams for more than 20 years. There is no judging or criteria, just a good looking display and yard.

The committee will send out letters of recog-

nitiation to participants.

The deadline for nominations is Jan. 1. Submit nominations by calling the Department of Public Works at (734) 721-8600.

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12/9/12

What's in a number?

Birthday boy turns 12 on 12-12-12

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Nicholas Herriff has 12 reasons to celebrate his birthday on Wednesday. His birthday is on 12-12-12.

It's a unique dateline, the likes of which won't be seen again until the 22nd century.

Nicholas is part of a unique group of individuals who will celebrate their birthday on Dec. 12. What makes his even more unique is that he will turn 12 on 12-12-12.

"I think the next time something like this will happen will be 1-1-11, it would be someone born on Jan. 1, 2111," said Steve Kelly, Nicholas' grandfather. "After Wednesday, it's basically done for the century."

Nicholas was "born during a blizzard" on Dec. 12, 2000, and his father, Doug, is hoping for better weather for No. 12.

Nicholas's mother, Katie, went into labor around 10 p.m. the evening of the Dec. 11, in the midst of a snowstorm. Herriff told his wife "this is not the time to do this," but at 10:30 p.m., they ventured out for the trip to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital near Ypsilanti.

"We lived in another house over by Six Mile, when we got on the road, there was a semi jackknifed on Six Mile," said Livonia resident. "We only saw one car on the road, the freeway hadn't been plowed. It took a long time to get there."

"I was so nervous, Katie was nervous as well, but she kept calm," said Herriff. "It was an adventure for sure."

Twenty-five hours later, at about 11 p.m. Dec. 12,



Nicholas Herriff of Livonia, a sixth-grader at Johnson Upper Elementary School in Westland, is looking forward to turning 12 on 12-12-12.

Nicholas was born.

The uniqueness of his birth date wasn't lost on the family. Nicholas realized he would be 12 on 12-12-12 in second-grade ... with some help.

"Someone told me that, I think it was my grandmother," he said.

And according to Katie Herriff, he's "very excited" about his 12th birthday. That could be because of the duration of the celebration. He'll celebrate it on Wednesday with his parents and brother Ryan, 8, with dinner at the restaurant of his choice — the bd's Mongolian BBQ — then follow up with a sleepover with four friends on Friday night and a big family party next Sunday.

He plans to have a decorated cake — chocolate —

for the big party and ice cream for the dinner and sleepover. He also hopes he'll get his favorite toys — Legos and Nerf guns — as gifts.

"He's stringing it out for a week," said his father. "Actually, it's a Kelly thing, but it's fun."

Oh, his birthday also will be recognized at school. His teacher plays a birthday song for students.

"I think I might be the only one at school with a birthday on that day," Nicholas said. "My friends tell me it's a cool birthday."

"It was pretty remarkable when we realized it a little later," said his father. "Everyone we tell say, 'Wow, that's pretty cool.'"

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WCCCD brings college classes to W-W high schools

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Students at Wayne Memorial and John Glenn high schools are earning college credit without leaving their buildings as the result of an agreement worked out between the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and the Wayne County Community College District.

The idea of students earning college credits while still in high school isn't new. High school students have been able to take classes at colleges for many years through dual enrollment. But the Wayne-Westland program rolled out this fall brings college-level classes to the high schools.

"The response has really been phenomenal," said Paul Sallah, deputy superintendent for instruction. "What's great about this is it goes above and beyond what other districts are doing. We're always trying to do more for our kids."

One hundred students signed up for the classes which include two sections of speech that are being offered at Wayne Memorial and introduction to philosophy and introduction to visual arts that are being offered at Glenn. The classes don't require students to take an extraneous exam but they do have to qualify to take them. The classes transfer for college credit, Sallah said.

A change in the law has expanded who can take the college classes,

so students can begin taking college classes as early as their freshman year.

"We're very excited about partnering with WCCCD and the program," he added. "WCCCD offered the best tuition rates and was very eager to work with us."

"There's pretty solid research that speaks to dual enrollment. In every institution where students participated there was a far greater likelihood they would graduate from college," he added.

Sallah credited School Superintendent Greg Baracy in hammering out the agreement. The school district and college was able to pull the program together "very quickly" last summer.

"He had an idea of where he wanted to go with this, he got the commitment from the college and it was full speed ahead," Sallah said.

The district used its fall newsletter to get the word out about the classes. According to Sallah, school officials talked to the principals and "the feedback was phenomenal. They were 'excited, enthusiastic and pleased' their students could earn high school and college credits at the same time, he added.

"We're really excited to offer these opportunities for our students," said Baracy, adding that he was "somewhat surprised" there was so much interest when the district rolled out the program. "It goes to show we have students who are serious about

their postsecondary education."

"Ultimately our goal is to develop a middle college concept — having students graduate from high school and have their associate's degree," Baracy added. "There's just so many advantages for students. It gives them a two-year head start on a four-year degree. It's a pretty awesome program."

Baracy is elated that the district was able to develop the partnership with WCCCD. College Chancellor Curtis L. Ivery was instrumental in participating and in getting the talks off the ground, he said.

"We should be able to build up a significant number of students with college credit," Baracy said. "We're confident our students can do the work and do it successfully."

School board Secretary Cindy Schofield voiced approval of the program because it brings college to students who qualify for dual enrollment but have now way to get to the colleges.

"It's exciting to put a top-notch program at our high schools," she said. "It's a great benefit for our students and a win-win for everyone."

The district is looking a flip-flopping the classes second semester, offering speech at Glenn and the philosophy and visual arts classes at Wayne Memorial and at offering more classes in 2013-14.

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GC JROTC drill team places in competitions

The MI-861 Garden City High School Air Force JROTC Drill Team entered its third season motivated and ready to compete.

Practicing at 6 a.m. five days a week had the potential to make this season the most successful of all three years. Drill Team is one of the most prestigious teams which cadets can participate in AFJROTC.

The Garden City team's first drill meet was on Oct. 20 at Anchor Bay High School in Fair Haven against eight other schools from Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin. Twenty-three cadets made the one-hour drive to Anchor Bay to participate in 10 team events and two individual events.

Garden City came home with nine trophies, including: first place Color Guard, commanded by Cadet Jacob Noel, first place unarmed, commanded by Cadet Anthony Gonzalez, first place unarmed exhibition, commanded by Cadet Marisha Potter, second place first year Color Guard, commanded by Cadet William Hill, third place inspection and armed, led by Cadet Anthony Gonzalez, and third place armed exhibition, commanded by Cadet Andrew Wasson. Individual medals were won by Cadets River Gallaty and Anthony Ibanez.



The Garden City High School AFJROTC drill team includes Dakota Davis, Chris Witt, Alex Gagin, Michael Fisher, Mykael Redwood, Kirsten Collins, Anthony Ibanez, Dustin Santhony, William Gage, Trevor Clark, Taylor Dinkel, Katie Salyer, Jordan Potter, River Gallaty, Alex Schwessing, William Hill, Anthony Gonzalez, Marisha Potter, Serena Seymour, Shakara Sharp, Andrew Wasson and Jacob Noel.

Two weeks later, the cadets were ready for their second drill meet at Grafton, Ohio. The team performed at Mid-

view High School's Drill Meet on Nov. 3. Thirteen schools participated, and the Garden City team came in fourth place

overall among schools from Pennsylvania, Michigan and Ohio. Among the teams and indi-

vidual cadets to take home awards was the third place unarmed exhibition team. In an armed duet, Cadet Andrew Wasson and Cadet Jacob Noel earned third place. Individual awards were won by Cadets William Hill, Jacob Noel, and Anthony Gonzalez.

The team's most recent competition was Nov. 17, at John Glenn High School. Unlike the other two competitions, this competition was at an Army JROTC unit. Being the only Air Force unit there could have been a setback, but the cadets kept their heads held up high.

The team competed in three events total - unarmed, armed, and an unarmed Junior Varsity team. By the end of the day, Garden City came out with a third-place victory. The armed team earned a first place, while the JV team earned a second place.

And nearly half of the individual medals were brought home by Garden City cadets. The recipients were Alex Denison, Taylor Dinkel, William Gage, Alex Gagin, River Gallaty, Jordan Potter, Serena Seymour, Christopher Witt.

The team's final competition is this month's Michigan Wide Drill Competition at Cass Tech High School in Detroit.

Wayne Alumni Association provides scholarships

Two graduates of Wayne Memorial High School are getting help with their college education, thanks to scholarships from the Wayne High Schools Alumni Association.

Cassidy Burns and Jennifer McCaffery were the 2012 scholarship recipients.

Burns lives in Wayne with her family. She was a member of the National Honor Society, World Language Club, Junior

Civitan and the Figure Skating K.O.M. Program. For the past five years, she has been a volunteer figure skating instructor for young children.

She is attending Eastern Michigan University and plans to become an athletic trainer. McCaffery also lives in



Burns



McCaffery

Wayne with her family. She participated in soccer, cross country and track while at Wayne Memorial. She also was a member of the National Honor Society, Zebra Guides, Upward Bound and Rotary Interact.

She also is attending Eastern Michigan University where

she is in the nursing program in the Honors College. Her goal is to become a nurse practitioner.

The mission of the Wayne High Schools Alumni Association is to award scholarships to deserving Wayne Memorial graduates. It solicits donations from members and friends to create an endowment fund that will continually give scholarships in the future.

The association also hosts the annual alumni reunion banquet which honors the class celebrating its 50th anniversary. The 2013 banquet will be held Friday, May 17, 2013, at Wayne Tree Manor and will honor the class of 1963.

Scholarship donations, made payable to WHSAA, can be sent to the Wayne High Schools Alumni Association, P.O. Box 703, Wayne, MI 48184.

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GC student project is a gift worth giving



Garden City High School teacher Andy Romes and student Jaime Noguera work together on a project.



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dalton Spencer and Blane Siwicki sand the fishing pole racks that are being made to sell as a fundraising project.

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

Those looking for a last-minute holiday gift may not need to look much further than construction trades teacher Andy Romes' classroom.

The Garden City high school teacher's handy students are selling fishing rod holders as a mass production project that the Advanced 3 students designed.

They are \$25 each and will hold six rods.

"We made them in time for Christmas so that we could sell them as a fundraiser," said Romes. "This is the second year of our program."

He's been a teacher for nine years, two years at Garden City High School. Romes is a transplant from the west side of the state who has also taught

in Illinois.

Dakota Solomon, a senior, talked about the rod building process.

"We use the drill press to make the rod holder," Solomon said.

Another tool is used to make the sides.

Romes said that the students started to make the holders last month and completed 13 in three days.

"We set up an assembly line," Romes said.

About 15 students produced the rod holders.

They will again also create storage sheds this year.

"We have two new sheds available," he said. "We sold the four we made last year."

He plans to keep building the sheds every year until they run out of a customer base who wants them.

The sheds cost \$750 which basically covers the cost of the materials which are sold at about half the cost of the same in the store.

"There's no markup for labor or overhead or anything like that," Romes said.

Adirondack-style furniture, chairs and pedestal table, made by the first-level class, is also for sale as well as dog houses.

Romes also takes spe-

cial requests.

"We do custom projects for teachers all over the school" Romes said. "We did the concession stand in front of the gym. We made a cart for the custodians to move tables with. And, we worked on the stage for A Christmas Carol."

A fourth level class will be offered in the springtime during which

Romes hopes to accomplish an "off site" project. He is hoping that they can finish someone's basement, build or refurbish a deck or reshingle a roof and is studying the liabilities involved in being on someone else's property.

The only cost would be materials. He is looking for a homeowner who might be interested.

"Some of my students have gotten jobs with other people based on what they have learned," Romes said.

People interested in purchasing these projects can contact Romes at (734) 762-8350 or by e-mail at romesa@gardencityschools.com.

sbuck@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2249

PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY SEMINAR



Greg Kramer, D.C., D.A.A.M.L.P.
Diplomat American Academy of Medical Legal Professionals. Studies under nation's leading Chiropractic Neurologist.

Dr. Greg Kramer, DC
is holding a
FREE Peripheral Neuropathy Seminar

at the Livonia
Charles Towne Office Center
34441 Eight Mile Rd., Suite 116

**Wednesday,
Dec. 12TH at 6 pm**

Topic to be discussed: Dr. Kramer's
Peripheral Neuropathy Treatment Pain Program

7 WARNING SIGNS OF PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) Numbness | 5) Pain When Walking |
| 2) Burning Pain | 6) Difficulty Sleeping |
| 3) Cramping | From Leg Discomfort |
| 4) Sharp Electric Pain | 7) Prickling/Tingling Feelings |

"The shooting pain in my feet, calves and thighs is gone. The entire program has been life changing for me." - Jeanne G., Warren, MI

"I had pain and burning in my feet causing many sleepless nights. Since starting care had reduced foot pain, can sleep, and have also reduced my blood pressure meds and my diabetic medications. I have told friends if they have similar issues they should give Dr. Kramer the opportunity to make a difference in their lives." - Robert H., Canton, MI

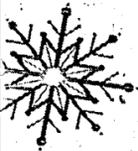
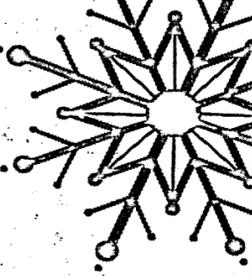
"I had bad burning in my feet, this is the best thing that ever happened to me. I don't have any more pain." - Bev M., Farmington Hills, MI

www.LivoniaSpineAndHealth.com

This is a must attend seminar for anyone suffering from Peripheral Neuropathy

Call (248) 615-1533
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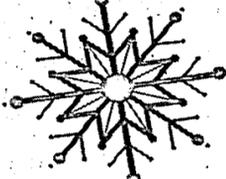
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¹1.10% interest rate is accurate as of 12/1/2012. Funds currently deposited in accounts at Flagstar Bank are not eligible for promotional interest rate. The 1.10% interest rate is guaranteed for the first 6 months. The rate after 6 months is a variable interest rate and is subject to change. Limit one account per customer. Not available for public units. Fees could reduce earnings. Offer subject to change or cancellation at any time without notice. No minimum deposit to open at a branch; \$1 to open online.

²Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 12/1/2012. See branch for details.

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AROUND WAYNE AND WESTLAND

Lunch with Santa

Youngsters can spend some quality time with the big guy at Lunch with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 15, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne.

Festivities get underway noon. The cost will be \$4 for Wayne and Westland residents and \$5 for non-residents. Children 2 and under are free. The cost includes pizza, salad, bread sticks, arts and crafts, and face painting. Photo packages with Santa will be available. Tickets are limited.

For more information, call (734) 728-2900.

No coffee hours

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will not hold his monthly coffee hours in Westland, Garden City, Redford and Livonia in December. Coffee hours will resume in January.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson can contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909, by phone at (866) 262-7306 or by email at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

Kids Night Out

Do some last minute shopping and drop the kids off at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne, 6-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15.

Have your kids bring a bathing suit, towel and lots of energy. Activities include swimming, arts and crafts, games, pizza and pop. Resident cost is \$13, non-resident is \$16.

For more information, call (734) 728-2900.

Christmas Party

Tickets are on sale for the Wayne Golden Hour Christmas Party Golden Hour Christmas Par-

ty which will start at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe at Annapolis in Wayne.

There will be a punch reception, followed by lunch at noon.

Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at the Wayne Community Center. For more information, call (734) 728-2900.

Community Center

Wayne Community is offering a lock-in visit for families this winter. Pay \$5 per visit per family and enjoy your choice of swimming, ice skating or using the indoor track. A visit is good for 10 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday and 3:30-6 p.m. Sunday at the center, located at Annapolis and Howe. The offer is valid now through March 31.

The center also is offering winter walker/skating/swim passes. Get 30 visits to use the track, go to open skate or open swim. The cost is \$30 for residents and \$60 for non-residents. The visits are good now through March 31st.

For more information, call (734) 721-7400.

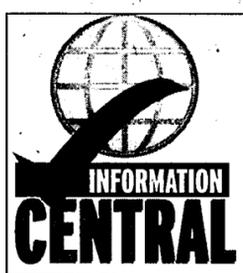
Toastmasters

The Westland Easytalkers Toastmasters Club is now meeting at the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, south of Ford Road, Westland.

Toastmasters is a world leader dedicated to helping people develop their public speaking and leadership skills, in a mutually helpful and friendly atmosphere.

Westland Easytalkers meets 7-8:30 p.m. every Thursday. For information please call Luddie at (734) 414-0034 or Curt at (734) 525-8445 or go online to westlandeasytalkers.toastmastersclubs.org.

Where's the North Pole and Santa's workshop?



The North Pole is located in the Arctic Ocean at the northernmost point of the Earth. There is no land at the North Pole, but it is covered in drifting sea ice that is over 6 feet thick year-round.

The North Pole is surrounded by several countries, including Russia, Canada, Norway, Denmark and the United States, but no country owns the North Pole.

At the North Pole, there is only one sunrise and one sunset per year. In March the sun rises and then stays above the horizon until it sets in September. In the winter, the North Pole has temperatures between -45 and -15 degrees and in summer, temperatures are around freezing (32 degrees).

The North Pole is also the location of Santa's home and workshop, although countries including Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Finland claim to be home of Santa's workshop as well. While the exact location of Santa's workshop is unknown, Canada issued the postal code "HOHOHO" for the workshop, and the United States suggests that letters to Santa be sent to North Pole, Alaska, 99705.

It is disputed whether Santa's workshop is located at the geographic North Pole (previously described), or at the North Magnetic Pole. The North Magnetic Pole is the point on Earth at which the magnetic field points downward in all directions. Because of changes in the Earth's core, this point shifts over time and is sometimes located over land.

Check out some books

to the general public. Sleep - Learn How to Get the Best of Your Nights: 7 p.m. Dec. 12

Find out why the three natural solutions to sleep problems - vitamins, exercise and physical treatment - don't always work. Learn about treatable reasons for your sleep problems and how sleeping pills only mask the real cause of those sleepless nights. This program will be conducted by Dr. Brian Brackney, a member of The Foundation for Wellness Professionals. No registration is required.

Writers Workshop: 7 p.m. Dec. 12

The Writers Workshop critiques an individual's writing in a workshop setting. All genres accepted (fiction, poetry, memoir, etc.). We will tell you what is working with your piece, as well as what needs improvement. The goal of our group is to help writers get published. You must attend one session before your writing will be reviewed. To register, visit or call the Reference Desk (734) 326-6123 or contact andy.schuck@westlandlibrary.org.

e-Reader Support Group: 2 p.m. Dec. 13

Do you have an eReader? Want to learn more about it? Stop in to meet with other eReader users, share your eReader expertise, or learn some tips and tricks for getting the most out of your device. An eReader expert will be on hand to answer the difficult questions.

Open Mic: 7 p.m. Dec. 13

Open Mic at the library is back for the fall! Singer-songwriter John Latini emcees tonight's festivities with our usual array of strumming, singing, and poetry reading. If you do any of those (or something else performance-related), it's your turn at the mic. If you like to listen to fine live music and poetry, join us as well.

Friday Night Movie: 6:30 p.m. Dec. 14

Join us for a recently-run movie and a fun trivia contest (with prizes). Tonight's movie is *The Dark Knight Rises* about a certain bat(?) superhero who's been in hiding and decides to reappear after a new villain comes to overtake the city. Snacks and refreshments provided.

about Santa's North Pole workshop for children including *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg or *Santa's Reindeer* by Rod Green. Or, if you'd like to learn about exploration of the North Pole, try *A Black Explorer at the North Pole* by Henson, *Polar Dream* by Thayer, *To the Pole: The Diary and Notebook of Richard E. Byrd*, or *Avery's To the End of the Earth: Our Epic Journey to the North Pole* and the *Legend of Peary* and Henson.

For these and other resources on the North Pole, visit the library's website at www.westlandlibrary.org, give us a call at (734) 326-6123 or stop by the reference desk. The library is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday.

Highlighted Activities

Holiday Stamping with Cari: 7 p.m. Dec. 11

Get ready for the holidays with Cari. Learn how to create beautiful holiday cards, tags and gift bags. All supplies will be provided. Space is limited so sign up today by calling the library at (734) 326-6123.

Friends of the Westland Library Monthly Meeting: 2 p.m. Dec. 12

The Friends of the Library is an independent group of local residents and library users that helps support and promote the library and its mission. They plan book sales and other fundraising activities for the library. They meet at 2 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Everyone is welcome.

Library Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting: 7 p.m. Dec. 12

The Library Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in one of the Library's meeting rooms. Board meetings are open

vided (donation suggested, not required). This is an after-hours event, so doors will open at 6:30 p.m. No sign-up required.

Winter Concert in the Library: 7 p.m. Dec. 18

It's the time of year that we endure a lot of stress and strain. The library is happy to offer an evening of musical cheer via the delightful interplay between marimbas that is *Musica Batteria* (a marimba is like a xylophone). Please join us in the Faust Area for this winter concert. No sign-up is necessary.

American Red Cross Blood Drive: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 20

To make an appointment log onto www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: wplccp or call 800-RED-CROSS. Hurricane Sandy has affected all blood banks so there is a high demand for donors. Everyone who donates in December is eligible to win a \$500 VISA gift card from the Red Cross. Individuals age 17 or over (age 16 with permission slip) can donate.

Job Seekers Lab: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and 1-4 p.m. Fridays.

Have a question regarding formatting your resume, setting up an e-mail account, attaching your resume to an online application, searching for a job, or any other job-related activity? Stop by the library, where computers are set up specifically for job seekers. A librarian will be available to help. Drop in. No reservation needed.

Chess Group: 7-8:45 p.m. Thursdays and 1-4 p.m. Saturdays

Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to Chess Masters are all welcome. No sign-up required.

Computer classes are offered all year long. Contact the library to find out more. The library offers one-on-one computer classes. Call (734) 326-6123.

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

SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.



subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of I-275. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

www.ssdfighter.com

Local Horologist Repairs Hard-to-Fix Timepieces



BILL MILLER OF TRIPLE CROWN WATCH COMPANY is an expert watchmaker who can repair your watch or clock.

Have a watch, clock or timepiece you treasure and just can't figure out how to fix? Well, you're not alone. When many of the Detroit Area's jewelry stores can't seem to make a watch tick, they out source more complicated repair cases to Troy's own certified horologist (that's an expert watchmaker) Bill Miller of Triple Crown Watch Company.

Miller has over 28 years experience with watches and timepieces, and received his degree in horology at Houston Technical College before relocating to southeast Michigan.

Over his expansive career, Miller has seen his share of unique cases. "One of the most interesting cases I worked on was an English Grandfather clock from the 1590's. The owner wanted it restored to working order, and rewired for battery operation," said Miller.

"Another difficult request was hand-cutting a triangular crystal for a special-edition Masonic pocketwatch by Rolex," Miller continued. There's good reason over 172 jewelers in the area rely on Triple Crown and Miller for those hard-to-fix assignments. "I enjoy the challenge of restoring unique timepieces to their original functioning state. It is as much an artform as it is pure mechanics, and it is extremely rewarding to see these old pieces correctly keeping time again."

Triple Crown is located at 1940 E. Maple Rd. (at John R.) in Troy. In addition to repairing watches, straps, batteries and winding boxes, Triple Crown has a large amount of battery operated and wind up pocket watches.

For more information, stop by Triple Crown at 1940 E. Maple (15 Mile) just west of John R., visit www.triplecrownwatchcompany.com or give them a call at 248-585-2777. They will make sure you stay on time in 2012!

Advertorial

AT8791705

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185, on December 17th, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

OFFICIAL CITY NEWSPAPER

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

Devin J. Adams
City Controller
47872018-332

Publish: December 9, 2012

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Wednesday, January 23, Classroom 10 To register call 734-655-2345 smmarymercy.org

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital has a comprehensive team approach which results in shorter hospital stays, better pain management and faster recovery.

CE0791333

Bailey helps improve library's exterior

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

The new Garden City Public Library sign is a testament to Nancy Bailey's long-time love of libraries.

Bailey and husband Paul recently spent their own money to pay for the sign at the Balmoral entrance of the library, located at the Maplewood Center.

"When the library was relocated to the Maplewood Center, they brought over the old wooden sign and over the last few years it had begun to deteriorate," Bailey said.

The new sign was designed by Spectrum Signs and Designs in Dearborn.

"I carefully researched sign companies in the area and Spectrum came in with the best quote," she said. "The company removed the old wood sign, which was starting to rot."

The sign is 15 inches



Nancy and Paul Bailey show off the new Garden City Public Library sign they had installed on the Balmoral side of the Maplewood Center.

high, in dark brown letters, and is installed on the brick wall outside of the library.

When Bailey was grow-

ing up, she walked to the Garden City Library, once located in the Ford and

Middlebelt area. Her mother didn't drive, and Bailey was deter-

mined to get there. Since then she has read thousands of books and visited libraries both in and outside of Michigan.

Last year, she and her husband were active in the first library millage campaign. They've continued their support of the library. A retired tax auditor, she is serving on the library board and Paul is a member of the Friends of the Library board.

Nancy Bailey spent 12 hours last March removing dead plant debris from several planters outside of the library. People were putting their cigarette butts in two of the pots.

"Maybe they were supposed to be for cigarette butts, but I changed them into flower pots," she said. Her efforts continued.

"I got people to donate about \$300 for the flower beds," Bailey said. "We bought a lot of potting

soil for six big pots out there. I had a planting day in May and we had some people from the Garden City Garden Club and we planted all of the annuals."

Paul Bailey carried the big bags of potting soil. He and his wife bought the 100-foot hose and watered the plants all summer.

"We had a very dry summer, so we were over here a lot," he said.

Now they have volunteers' names for next summer's work.

Library Director Lawrence Marble expressed his appreciation for the Baileys' contribution.

"The staff and library board are very grateful to the Baileys for such a nice addition to the library," he said.

The total cost of the sign was \$950.

sbuck@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2249

RECREATION ACTIVITIES

The Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Department has some special activities and offers over the holidays.

The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree will be accepting hats, gloves, scarves, and toys for low-income neighborhood children in December. Look for the tree in the lobby of the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe, Wayne.

Water Fitness

Water Fitness Classes, sponsored by Health Alliance Plan, will begin on Thursday, Jan. 3. The classes will be held at

3:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. These classes are free to the public.

Check out Facebook or visit www.ci.wayne.mi.us for the latest programs for youth, adults, and seniors or stop in at the Wayne Community Center for a guided tour.

Gift of Wellness

Purchase a membership to the Wayne Community Center during the month of December and \$5 will be donated to the Wayne Goodfellows "No Child Without a Christmas" campaign. The memberships can be for three months to one year in duration.

VOICES & VIEWS COMMENT ONLINE

hometownlife.com

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- Men's Resin & Ceramic Decor**
- Glass Sale** INCLUDES GLASS DEPARTMENT, FLORAL GLASS VASES & CRAFT GLASS CONTAINERS. DOES NOT INCLUDE CRAFT STAINED GLASS OR GLASS TABLETOPS.
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New trustees praise college, plan to make a difference

By Jill Halpin
Correspondent

Although the three newest members of the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees come from different backgrounds, they all agree on one thing: the tremendous value that the community college provides for residents in surrounding communities as well as the state of Michigan. "We are so fortunate to have this fantastic resource right in our own backyards," new Trustee Gretchen Alaniz said. Livonia residents Alaniz

and Eric Stempien, an incumbent since June 2012, were both recently elected to serve a six-year term on the board. Terry Gilligan, also of Livonia, was elected to serve a partial term ending December 2014, filling the vacancy left by the retirement of long-time Trustee Mary Breen. The Schoolcraft College District includes the school districts of Clarenceville, Garden City, Livonia, Northville and Plymouth-Canton. The trio brings a broad spectrum of career experience that mirrors the



Gretchen Alaniz of Livonia was elected last month to a six-year term to the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

diversity of the occupa-

tions of the district's residents: Alaniz has had a long career in manufacturing, while Stempien is an attorney with experience in both private and corporate practice. Gilligan, who holds a position with the Pipefitters Union Local 636, has a background in skilled trades. It is a mix that has many positive implications for the college and its surrounding area, Gilligan said. "I am hopeful that we can continue to develop some strong programs that result in putting people to work in good positions that pay a fair wage," he said.



Terry Gilligan

Career preparation "Schoolcraft does a great job of preparing students for transfer to a four-year university. However, let's face it — a four-year degree is not necessarily for everyone. People need to know that there are career opportunities in skilled trades that allow you to make a nice living," he said. Gilligan, married to wife Barb, is the father of two children, Allyson, 19, and Joe, 21, both of whom

"As the father of a current student, I have sat up at night with him countless times, waiting for midnight to roll around so he can be the first to register for a spot in a class only to find out that there is no room in class. This can delay a student's progress and we need to address it."

TERRY GILLIGAN

interested in a four-year degree. You can complete a certification or a two-year degree and still have the chance to make a good wage," he said. Gilligan said that he is looking forward to the opportunity to become involved with the weld-

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Stempien follows in parents' path

By Jill Halpin
Correspondent

Newly elected Schoolcraft College Trustee Eric Stempien believes that a having a top-notch community college is a significant asset for area residents.

"Schoolcraft provides so much for so many in the community," he said, from degree and certification-granting programs to community education and affordable classes for those on a path to a four-year degree. "We are very fortunate to have Schoolcraft in our community."

Growing up in Northville, one of the college's feeder districts, "It seems like I've always had a con-

nection to Schoolcraft. When the position became available, I did not hesitate. It is important for me to continue to have that connection," he said.

Family service

Stempien's connection, however, goes deeper than community ties. The Stempien name is well-known in service to the Schoolcraft community. Eric's parents, Gregory, an attorney in Northville, and Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Jeanne Stempien, both served as trustees and as chairpersons of the college board.

Eric Stempien was appointed to the board in June 2012 to complete the final year of a six-



Stempien

year term of board member Patricia Watson, who retired.

An attorney for Superior Ambulance Service in Warren, Stempien is a graduate of the Universi-

ty of Michigan and Wayne State University Law School.

Serving on the board of Schoolcraft was a natural fit, said the married father of two daughters, ages 5 and 6.

"Now my own children are able to take advantage of the great classes that Schoolcraft offers through their community education programs," he said.

He said he looks forward to being a part of the budget process.

Tuition

"I want to focus on holding down tuition," he said.

Explaining that of the college's three sources of revenue — money from

the state, property taxes and tuition — student-paid tuition is the only factor that within control of the board.

"And there is no way that we can balance the budget on the backs of the students," he said. "We need to be there for the community — that is why it is called a community college, after all — so we have to find some way to hold down tuition."

Serving the community, he said, means not pricing classes out of reach for community members.

"This has got to be our short-term focus," he said.

Regarding long-term focus areas, Stempien points to increases in state-of-the-art technol-

ogy like the Simulation Technology Center, currently under construction.

"The will allow us to simulate real-life situations — for instance, a real-life operating room — to help prepare our nursing students for actual surgery. This is just one way we can better prepare them" for their careers, he said.

Stempien credits the school's administration for keeping Schoolcraft on track to meet the needs of students and the community.

"They do an excellent job of anticipating what the school needs to thrive and I look forward to working with them," he said.

TRUSTEES

Continued from page A8

ing program and set up a program to identify quality students in order for them to qualify for apprenticeship programs that can enable them to earn a wage while still learning.

He is also hoping to work with Schoolcraft instructors to develop a curriculum for a Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration program.

First-time candidate

While this is the first time that Gilligan has run for public office, he said that it was his experience working with the college that provided the impetus to seek election to the board. He has had experience serving on committees and boards such as the joint apprenticeship training committee, as well as serving as the chairman on the politi-

cal action committee. He has also served in various trusteeship capacities in the past, and currently serves as a trustee of the Insurance Trust Fund.

Gilligan also said that he is hopeful for the chance to work with school officials to make some improvements to the school's online registration system.

"As the father of a current student, I have sat up at night with him countless times, waiting for midnight to roll around so he can be the first to register for a spot in a class only to find out that there is no room in class. This can delay a student's progress and we need to address it," he said.

"If we have programs that are so in demand, let's address it," he added.

Alaniz also has a personal link to Schoolcraft: her daughter Amber, now married, attended Schoolcraft.

"I am a proponent of community colleges because I believe they

provide valuable opportunities for the kinds of training and skills that are necessary for a strong and healthy community. They provide affordable access to education to help our residents," she said.

Wants to give back

Alaniz, who has lived in Livonia for the past eight years, grew up in mid-Michigan and attended Central Michigan University, graduating in 1985 with a degree in business management information systems in 1985. Her career path led her into the world of the computer internal auditing, landing her in her current position as a senior auditing manager with TRW Automotive.

It was in that role — which involved some work as a community liaison — that led to a growing awareness of community needs, she said.

"I blame it on TRW," she said with a smile. "They asked me to be

on the Livonia Chamber board, and that is when it all started."

Alaniz said that after spending some time on the board, she began to develop an understanding of the struggles of both the business and the manufacturing industry in the area.

"The business landscape in Michigan has changed so drastically over the past four to six years," she said, adding that advanced manufacturing machines and computers that require skilled and trained operators have replaced manual labor positions.

"There are openings for these positions right now and we cannot fill them because they require certain skill sets and proper training," she said. "I would like to see Schoolcraft work to develop the programs to meet these needs and get people working."

Alaniz said she agrees with Gilligan that, while Schoolcraft does a "won-

derful job" of providing courses to continue in a four-year program at a university, not all students may wish to choose that path.

"There are many jobs available in skilled trades and advanced manufacturing that require a few classes or certifications or two-year degrees that pay very well. These are not only long-term career options, they can also be short-term career options that would allow someone to make a decent wage to help them pay their way as they do pursue a four-year degree and graduate without a lot of debt," she said.

Alaniz said she is also hopeful for the chance to interact with surrounding communities regarding educational issues within the K-12 arena.

For instance, she said, the state currently requires six hours of each school day be spent on college preparatory classes, leaving little room for students who

may not even wish to go to college. Their time, she said, may be spent more wisely exploring and learning options in skilled trades and advanced manufacturing.

Alaniz also said that she is hopeful to see some movement by the state Legislature that would allow Schoolcraft to possibly expand the nursing and culinary arts programs to four-year degree-granting programs.

"In my mind, a community college does its best work as a community college," but she believes the move would be good for the school and community residents.

"It's a phenomenal school," she said.

Gilligan is also looking forward to serving as a trustee.

"Some may ask, 'What can I, a blue-collar, union tradesman, do to help Schoolcraft become a better community college?' I certainly believe I can make a difference," he said.

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Schoolcraft College

Chef Tony, Charhouse win Taste of Westland honors



More than 400 people turned out for the Westland Chamber of Commerce's annual Taste of Westland last week.



Chef Tony Paquette of the culinary arts program at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center is joined by members of his teaching staff and students in showing off the trophy they won for having the best display at the Taste of Westland.

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

More than 400 people found plenty to eat at the Westland Chamber of Commerce's annual Taste of Westland.

Held at the Hellenic Cultural Center, the event featured food and beverages provided by 14 area restaurants, caterers, coffee house and culinary arts program, live and silent auctions, raffle and entertainment by professional Elvis impersonator Fred Wolfe. Also mingling with the guests were the Big heads from Max and Erma's.

"Everything went very well, we heard great things about the event," said Chamber President Brookellen Swope. "Everyone loved it."

The chamber partnered with the Westland Rotary Club which coordinated the auctions. It was a "happy marriage" that, including the raffle of a bucket of cheer, brought in more than \$5,000 for the two organizations. The a portion of the



Elvis impersonator Fred Wolfe had people up and dancing during his performance. His performance attracted fans who showed up wearing pink Wolfe Pack jackets.

money will go to the Joseph F. Benyo Scholarship Fund and allow the chamber to present possibly two scholarships to graduating high school seniors, Swope said.

There also was a friendly competition among the participating vendors. The honor of having the best presentation went to chef Tony Paquette and

his students in the culinary arts program at the William D. Ford Center in Westland. Westland's newest restaurant, Charhouse received the nod for the best food, Swope said.

In addition to the Charhouse and the culinary arts program, also participating were Biggy Coffee, Buffalo Wild Wings,



Max and Erma's big heads wave to the crowd.

CCC Catering of Inkster, Famous Dave's, the Hellenic Cultural Center, Knox Restaurant and Catering, the always-sweet Mary Den-

ning's Cake Shoppe, Max and Erma's, McDonald's, Olympic Coney Island, Qdoba Mexican Grill, Real Bar BQ of Canton and Rose Catering Inc.,

also of Canton. "It really went very well," said Swope.

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Wayne Chamber honors Paul Franks for achievements

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

As a businessman, Wayne Mayor Al Haidous thought he was "the most loved man" in the city. Thursday, he acknowledge that it wasn't the case. That honor goes to Paul Franks, owner of William C. Franks Furniture.

"It's a great honor to stand here with such a great man," said Haidous who joined the Wayne Chamber of Commerce in presenting Franks with a Lifetime Achievement Award. "I wish I could find something stronger to say than thank you. This doesn't realize your commitment to this city."

The award was one of three presented Thursday by the chamber at its annual Holiday luncheon. Richard Smith, an independent agent with Estate Preservation Insurance, was honored as the Business of the Year and the chamber's Ambassador of the Year.

"Thank you for being a pillar of the community," said chamber board member John Rhaesa in announcing the award. "What a great, stable business you have been for the community."

"I was completely surprised," said Franks, who at the end of the month will close the store founded by his parents, William and Betty Franks, in 1963. The closing comes two years after the furniture store was leveled by a natural gas explosion. Two employees were killed and Franks was injured in the blast. Since then, the business has operated out of its warehouse. Franks admitted that



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Paul Franks of William C. Franks Furniture (left) and Wayne Chamber board member John Rhaesa listen as Wayne Mayor Pro Tem Pamela Dobrowski talks about her house full of Franks furniture at the chamber's annual Holiday Luncheon.



Richard Smith, an independent agent with Estate Preservation Insurance, received the Business of the Year and the chamber's Ambassador of the Year honors from the Wayne Chamber.

the decision was a difficult one, but the closing doesn't mean he will be riding off into the sun-

set. "I'll still be around the community," said Franks.

"I think I have a house full of your furniture," said Wayne Mayor Pro Tem Pamela Dobrowski in presenting a proclamation on behalf of Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara. "We're going to miss you. We wish you the best."

She added that McNamara will formally present the proclamation, approved by the Wayne County Commission, when Franks is honored at the Tuesday, Dec. 18, Wayne City Council meeting.

Chamber Vice President Stan Shelton presented Smith with the Ambassador award, pointing out his efforts on behalf of the Wayne Farmers Market and as

a representative of the chamber.

"He personally and single-handedly delivered farmers market posters to every business in Wayne and to some in Canton and Westland," Shelton said. "Every week, he was at the market helping vendors set up. He took it upon himself and on behalf of the chamber."

"I kind of thought I'd be Ambassador of the Year, I put in a lot of time to make the market successful," said Smith.

A retired community education director for the Climax Scotts Community Schools in Kalamazoo County, Smith moved to Wayne in 2007. He's been an insurance agent for five years. He got involved in the Ambassadors because of Shelton.

"When I asked Stan

where I could do the most good for the chamber, he said the Ambassadors," he said. "It seemed like a natural fit. Wherever I'm needed, I jump in and help."

"I try to help everybody," he added. "This shows that hard work pays off and it pays off for the whole group."

The annual holiday luncheon included a live auction as well as blind raffle in which guests bought tickets to entering in drawings for sealed gift bags. The money raised benefits the chamber.

It also was a time to celebrate the holiday and look forward to 2013.

"I hope we have another successful year in the city of Wayne," Haidous told the group.

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Restoring a legacy

Wayne County Parks reviving 'specimen' trees in historic Bennett Arboretum

By Kurt Kuban
Staff Writer

Back in October, Elizabeth Iszler walked along a trail in Bennett Arboretum and marveled at autumn's glory amid towering trees and rolling hills.

"This is a beautiful place," said Iszler, who was hired back in April as the landscape architect and design manager for Wayne County Parks.

Under Iszler's leadership, the county is taking a fresh look at Bennett Arboretum, which is located in the northwest portion of Edward Hines Park in Northville Township. In addition to its rolling topography and green vistas, Bennett Arboretum contains more than a hundred trees planted back in the 1930s when the park was a major destination for Wayne County families. It also contains an interpretive trail system, wetlands and plenty of wildlife.

Over the years, nature has taken its course in the arboretum and many non-native plants and trees have sprouted up, and in many cases have now overrun the "specimen" trees planted decades ago.

According to Wayne County Parks Naturalist Carol Clements, those trees were brought in from all over the world. In fact, Clements said more than 400 trees were planted during Bennett Arboretum's heyday. Some were native to Michigan and America, but many were



Bennett Arboretum, located in Northville Township, features acres of fields and unique trees, and is popular with walkers, birders and area high schools' cross country teams.

imported from Europe and even China.

"We still have 104 of those original trees, including a beautiful fern-leaf beech and an acanthopanax tree from Asia," Clements said. "We've lost a lot of trees, but we still have some great collections left, including beech, maple and oaks collections."

The problem in many cases is finding them. With brushy invasives like buckthorn and honeysuckle growing in thick stands, some of

the trees have become hidden to those using the park.

With her landscape architecture background, Iszler brings a new perspective to Wayne County Parks. She was immediately struck by the uniqueness of the arboretum area, and hopes to shine a new light on its legacy.

"There aren't a lot, if any, county arboreta in the state. It's a big part of the history of Hines Park," said Iszler, a Novi resident. "The fact that it is here



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elizabeth Iszler walks through Bennett Arboretum in Hines Park back in October. Iszler, with Wayne County Parks, is working to preserve and restore the remaining "specimen" trees dating back to the 1930s. The arboretum is located in Northville Township.

offers a great opportunity. I would really love for people to get out and experience it."

Iszler has initiated a restoration plan that will help people do just that.

People who frequent the park or who drive

Please see TREES, A13



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TREES

Continued from page A12

Edward Hines Drive will begin to see that plan go into effect as early as January when the ground freezes. That's when a contractor will begin going out to the arboretum to remove the invasive plants and trees. The work should continue into the spring, when workers will also prune the specimen trees and bring them back to health. There are also plans to add more signage that will explain both the history and natural features of the arboretum.

"People will really notice the changes by summer," Iszler said.

Bennett Arboretum was the brainchild of J. Merle Bennett, a visionary who joined the Wayne County Road Commission in 1922 at a time the county was starting to develop its roadside plans. Bennett became nationally recognized as a pioneer in roadside devel-



The Bennett Arboretum area of Hines Park (in the background) was a popular destination for all kinds of activities after it was established in the 1930s.

opment, writing several books on the subject and even getting the state of Michigan to enact the "Roadside Tree Protection Act". He was fascinated by forestry, and was personally responsible for the planting of thousands of trees across the county, and especially along the Middle Rouge Parkway, which we now know as Hines Park. It was Bennett's idea to create

an arboretum featuring unique trees from around the world.

According to Clements, back in Bennett's day, Hines Park was a major attraction for Detroiters. The arboretum was the site of popular bridle trails for horseback riders, as well as tobogganing and skiing. Annual Soap Box Derby were also held on the steep roadway next to the arboretum.

"This was the place to be in the '30s and '40s. It was kind of like going up north is today," Clements said.

While Wayne County Parks has done a couple of recent surveys of the arboretum with the help of University of Michigan students, Iszler and Clements believe they will know even more after the invasive plants are removed.

In addition to restoring the specimen trees, the master plan calls for creating wetland and prairie ecosystems that weren't part of the original plan. New trees will

also be planted to supplement the various collections, though the focus will be on adding native trees.

Iszler said she is excited about the future of Bennett Arboretum. Her goal is that more people discover what a jewel the county has, even though it hasn't always been treated as such. "Hopefully this is just

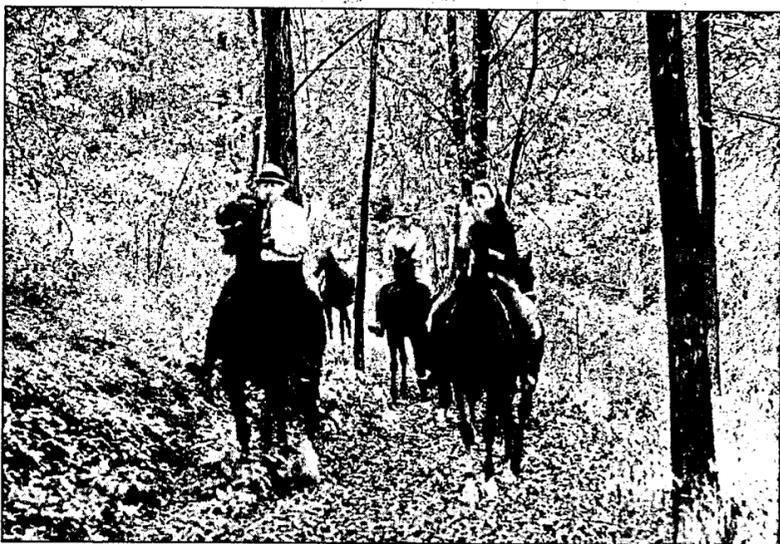
BENNETT ARBORETUM FACTS

- Established in 1930s by J. Merle (J.M.) Bennett, who worked for Wayne County Road Commission as director of Wayne County Parks and Forestry
- Located in the northwest portion of Edward Hines Park, in Northville Township
- Michigan's oldest public arboretum
- 104 of the original 470 or so specimen trees from the 1930s still remain

the beginning," Iszler said. "My hope is to add to the educational component of the arboretum. I think this would be a great place to bring school kids to learn about nature."

"Perhaps the best part of the arboretum is that it's free, and it's open to the public."

kkuban@hometownlife.com
(248) 437-2011 ext. 245



Bennett Arboretum's bridle trails were a popular attraction for years after being established in the 1930s.



JOHN HEIDER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Under Elizabeth Iszler, Wayne County Parks is restoring the specimen trees in Bennett Arboretum, which were planted in the 1930s.

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- Friday, December 14th from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
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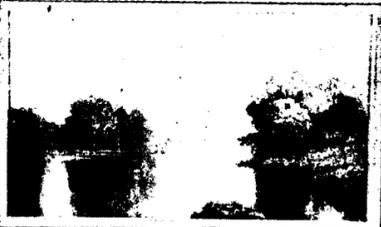
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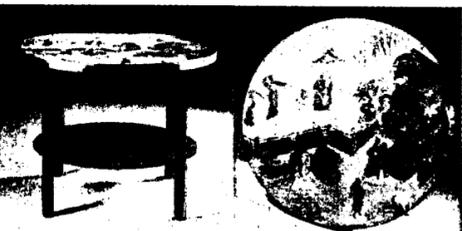
Marc Chagall Lithograph in Color on Wove Paper Titled "Day In May" Lot #100



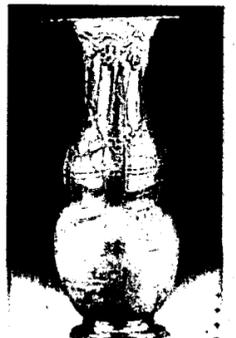
William Mason Brown Oil Painting On Canvas Lot #101



Georg Jensen Sterling & Labradorite 3 Piece Suite Lot #102



A Philip & Kelvin Laverne Bronze Occasional Table Lot #103



A Rare Tiffany Lava Glass And Sterling Mounted Vase. Lot #105



Laliqeu "Miroir Cygnes" Clear And Frosted Glass Swan Center Piece Lot #104



2.06 CT GIA Certified Diamond Lot #108



Important Pair Of Paul Manship Bronze Statues Lot #106

Think long term when investing

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: All this talk about the fiscal cliff has made me very nervous and, as a result, I have liquidated my entire portfolio. I am now 100 percent in cash. Before I get back in the market I want to see if and how this is resolved. In liquidating my accounts I made a couple of mistakes and I need your advice. I had a few investments that I sold that had gains but I held the stock for less than a year. Is there any way I can avoid paying taxes at my ordinary income bracket as opposed to the capital gain rate? I held the investments for a little over 11 months. When I liquidated my investments I had my broker send me a check which I have put into the bank. I put the money into a one-month CD. The problem is some of that money was IRA money and I did not use an IRA CD. Is there anything I can do to avoid paying the taxes on the IRA money?



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

A: There is nothing that you can do with regards to the capital gain situation. The holding period

in order to receive the favorable capital gain rate is one year. Unfortunately, there are no exceptions to that rule. Therefore, there is nothing that you can do to avoid the tax consequences. However, if you have losses on your other investments you may be able to offset the gains with your losses.

It is always more preferable to pay tax at your capital gain rate vs. ordinary income. Currently,

the maximum capital gain rate is 15 percent, while the tax rate on investments that you hold less than a year, in most cases is nearly double.

With regards to your IRA, you do have an option. Under the law, if you withdraw money from an IRA you have 60 days from the time that you withdraw the money to roll it back into an IRA. Go to the bank that you purchased the CD at and have the money transferred into an IRA. As long as you're within the 60-day period there'll be no tax consequences. That doesn't mean that you don't have to report the transaction on your tax return, because you do. However, there is no tax liability.

I recognize many people are concerned about the approaching

fiscal cliff. There certainly have been enough articles and news stories about the potential consequences. Most of the articles have talked about the doom and gloom that would happen if we reached the fiscal cliff. There have also been articles written that take the opposite view — that it wouldn't be so bad if we went over the financial cliff.

I fall somewhere in between. If there is no deal I believe there will be a negative reaction in the market. However, I don't see it having long-term implications. I see it more as short-term volatility. Keep in mind that one of the consequences of reaching a fiscal cliff is that there would be a substantial reduction in federal spending. We all know the

government spends too much money and that politicians have a very difficult time in cutting expenditures. If a compromise is not reached and government spending is reduced is not such a bad thing. The negative effects of going over the fiscal cliff is that 90 percent Americans would end up paying higher taxes. This is somewhat offset by the fact that spending by the federal government would be reduced.

A month ago, I was convinced that after the election the two parties would reach a compromise. Now, I'm not so sure. Even if they don't reach a compromise now they can do something in January and make it retroactive to the beginning of the year.

I don't know what's going to happen. Just because everyone is speculating and doom and gloomers are out in force doesn't say anything about

the course of action consumers should take. I know for the money that I manage, I'm not doing anything different than I normally would and that is to make sure the portfolios are balanced and diversified and that risk is spread out over a wide variety of investment options.

It would be nice if we could avoid risk but, unfortunately, that is not possible. Every investment strategy has risks associated with it and the problem with focusing too much on the short run is it ends up costing you in the long run.

Therefore, don't make any rash moves and don't focus on the short run. Think long term. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Bloom to respond to your questions, please e-mail him at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.



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GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Cougars Cafe

The Garden City Public Schools holds its monthly the Cougars Care Cafe on Saturdays at Henry Ruff School. Upcoming cafe dates are Dec. 15, Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, April 20 and May 18.

The free hot lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the gymnasium of the school, located at 30300 Maplewood at Henry Ruff. The goal is to serve to serve a hot lunch

once a month throughout the 2012-13 school year.

For more information or to donate, call Dorothy Wood at (734) 762-6311.

No coffee hours

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will not hold his monthly coffee hours in Westland, Garden City, Redford and Livonia in December. Coffee hours will resume in January.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson can contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909, by phone at (866) 262-7306 or by email at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

Toy Drive

Century 21 Castelli is sponsoring its annual toy drive to support the Garden City Goodfellows. The Realty is collecting new, unwrapped toys through Dec. 22. Donations can be dropped off at Century 21 Castelli at 1812 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road, Garden City.

Community chat

Join host Kerry Partin along with co-hosts Kelly, Tom, Derek and Ben every Thursday night at 9 p.m. This is an Internet talk show recorded live where the residents of surrounding communities are welcome to participate. Share your events, promotions or comments with fellow residents and their communities. Listeners can call in live at (724) 444-7444 and enter the call ID 82757, or go to the chat room at <http://talkshoe.com/tc/82757>.

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SPORTS

Rockets survive road test

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It must have felt like boot camp Friday night for the Westland John Glenn girls basketball team.

The Rockets had to earn their stripes after nearly letting a 17-point third-quarter lead slip away, only to come back with a 17-10 run during the final 6:21 to pull out a 63-56 victory at Dearborn Divine Child.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Glenn, now 2-0 overall, got a game-high 22 points from Detroit Mumford transfer Raven Bankston. The Rockets also sank 10-of-12 free throws in the final 6:21 to stave off the Falcons' rally.

"Last year went into Inksater, defending (Class A) state champs, had a lead at the end, we let it slip away," Glenn second-year coach Eric Kovatch

said. "We held on. We would have liked to have won by more, but it was a great effort. The kids were mentally tough. We're really excited and we consider this a signature win."

Glenn led 11-8 in the first quarter, but turned its play up a notch in the second, outscoring the Falcons 23-12 while hitting 9-of-19 shots from the floor.

Divine Child (0-1) committed 17 first-half turnovers, but scored the last four points of the

first half to trail 34-20 at intermission.

"That was a four-point swing," Kovatch said. "We missed the layup and they came down and made one (free throw) and got a three-point play. We tried to step on their throat and bury them, but they're fighters, a good group of girls and they're going to win a lot of games. It's quality basketball they play."

Please see **ROCKETS, B4**

MU men fall to NW Ohio

Five players netted double figures Wednesday as host Northwestern Ohio handed Madonna University its second straight Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference men's basketball loss, 73-68.

Fred Williams scored 19 points in a losing cause as the Crusaders slipped to 6-4 overall and 3-2 in the WHAC.

Travis Schuba chipped in with 17 points, hitting 5-of-11 3-pointers, while Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) and Eoghann Stephens each added 11 points.

Naubert dished out a team-high nine assists, but had seven turnovers.

Josh Scott and Austin Hintz each tallied 14 points for the Racers, who overcame a 45-42 halftime deficit.

Johnny Elliott contributed 12, while Derrick Tate and Blake Bush added 11 apiece.

Northwestern Ohio (4-4, 2-3) made 27-of-58 shots from the floor (46.6 percent) and committed only seven turnovers, while MU was 25-of-52 from the field (48.1 percent) and had 17 turnovers.

Atienza is MVP as Pats 8-peat

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Eight apparently is not enough when it comes to the Franklin wrestling team at the Livonia City Tournament.

The Patriots got pressed Wednesday night, but emerged with eight individual champions to outpoint Churchill for the team title, 187-161.

Clarenceville, under first-year coach Nick Elam, wrestled third away from host Stevenson, 117.5-105, in the four-school meet.

Franklin's eighth straight title was highlighted by Jordan Atienza's first-place finish in the 160-pound weight division. The junior also earned tournament MVP honors.

"It was a real good tournament for me," Atienza said. "I went out there and wanted to make my own moves. I wanted to pin everybody. That was the big thing. I wanted to dominate — win with force. I think I had that today with two pins — one in the first period and one in the second period."

Atienza went 53-7 last year en route to qualifying for the Division 1 individual state finals as a 140-pounder.

Now he has bumped up three weight classes. "It's working out pretty good obviously," Atienza said. "I like it. I feel good at 160. I get good practices in and I'm not cutting any weight to make 160, which is good. I'm feeling real good. I think I'll be going down to 152 in the middle of January

Please see **WRESTLING, B3**



DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

Churchill heavyweight Manny Haddad (right) gets ready to pin Stevenson's Zach Saleh in the 285-pound final in Wednesday's Livonia City tournament.



MICHIGAN STATE ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

The late Kim Archer (left), a Livonia Bentley High grad, could play all three positions adeptly during her basketball career at Michigan State.

Archer's legacy is Didrikson-like

Ex-Bentley, MSU star, 47, dies

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

She was a modern-day Babe Didrikson Zaharias, arguably the greatest all-around female athlete ever to come out of the city of Livonia.

Bentley High School grad and former Michigan State University basketball standout Kim Archer died Sunday in a Sarasota, Fla., hospital at the age of 47 following a 2½-year bout with brain cancer.

Following her athletic career at MSU, Archer moved to Florida and most recently worked as a medical sales rep



Kim Archer

for Medtronic Kyphon. She resided in Livonia, Fla.

"She ended up with a concussion when we first knew what was happening," said Jacqueline Archer, Kim Archer's mother.

"She went into seizures; the first surgery was performed there in Florida."

Kim Archer, who also sought treatment in California and Texas, continued playing pickup

Please see **ARCHER, B2**

Spartan swimmers' stock up

Top junior Arakelian on board

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Christmas came early for the Livonia Stevenson boys swim team and coach Jeff Shoemaker, but this is no ordinary stocking stuffer.

The Spartans, who have earned three top-10 finishes during the past three years in the MHSAA Division 1 state finals, were already formidable.

But they have gotten a whole lot better with the addition of junior Nick Arakelian, who will join his high school team after competing this weekend in the Speedo Winter Junior National



John Ferrara Stevenson

the Kingfish Aquatic Club in Waterford.

Arakelian is taking a cue from multiple Olympic gold medalist Missy Franklin, who also swims for her Colorado high school team.

"He's one of the top male swimmers in the state of Mich-

Championships in Knoxville, Tenn.

During his freshman and sophomore years, the 2012 Olympic Trials qualifier opted to train exclusively with

Capsule outlook of area boys swim teams, B3.

igan without a doubt," Shoemaker said. "He's already swam some lifetime bests. He'll be primarily an IM and distance freestyle guy."

In Thursday's first day of the Junior Nationals, Arakelian won the 'B' final and placed ninth overall in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:23.79.

And just to make a comparison, Battle Creek Lakeview's Clay Youngquist owns the MHSAA all-class record of 4:20.71 set in 2010. The Divi-

Please see **SWIMMING, B3**



Nick Arakelian will swim for Stevenson this season after returning from the Speedo Winter Junior National Championships last weekend in Knoxville, Tenn.

K of C free throw contest

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship for boys and girls ages 9-14 will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, at St. Thomas a'Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley Road, Canton.

Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. with all age-group contestants recognized for their participation in the event, which will progress through local, district and state competition.

Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

For more information, call Dave Lengel at (734) 516-4930 or email dlengel2@yahoo.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Dec. 11
Churchill at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Thurston at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Belleville, 7 p.m.
Lakeland at Wayne, 7 p.m.
C'ville at Franklin Rd., 7:30 p.m.
L. W'sld at Frankel, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 14
Stevenson at Churchill, 7 p.m.
South Lyon at Franklin, 7 p.m.
S.L. East at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Novi at Wayne, 7 p.m.
C'ville at Inter-City, 7 p.m.
Rooper at HVL, 7:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 10
Milford at C'ville, 7 p.m.
Ladywood at O.L. Lakes, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 11
Garden City at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Lakeland, 7 p.m.
Wat. Mott at C'ville, 7 p.m.
HVL at Baptist Park, 7 p.m.
L. W'sld at Cranbrook, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 13
Luth. W'sld at Inter-City, 6 p.m.
Franklin Rd., at C'ville, 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 14
Churchill at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Franklin at South Lyon, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at S.L. East, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Novi, 7 p.m.
Grosse Ile at Lady, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 15
John Glenn at Robichaud Holiday Classic, 2:20 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Monday, Dec. 10
Ladywood at Liggett, 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 12
Franklin vs. Churchill, Stevenson vs. Salem at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 14
Franklin vs. Stevenson at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
Ladywood vs. Port Huron at McMorgan Arena, 7:15 p.m.
Churchill vs. Canton at Arctic Edge, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 15
Ladywood vs. W.L. Northern at Kensington Valley I.H., 7 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Tuesday, Dec. 11
Memphis, Hamtramck, N'west at Luth. Westland, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 12
Wayne at John Glenn, 5:30 p.m.
C'ville at Airport Quad, TBA.
Saturday, Dec. 15
Redford Union Tourney, TBA.
Hawk Havoc Invitational at Farm. Hills Harrison, 9 a.m.
Wayne County Tourney at HYPE Recreation, 9 a.m.
BOYS SWIMMING
Tuesday, Dec. 11
Glenn at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.
DCD at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 13
Churchill at N'ville, 6:30 p.m.
GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Tuesday, Dec. 11
Liv. Blue at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.
Livonia Red vs. Northville at Churchill H.S., 6:30 p.m.
PREP BOWLING
Monday, Dec. 10
Ladywood vs. Regina at Woodland Lanes, 3:45 p.m.
Clarenceville vs. Woodhaven at Ford Lanes, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 12
Clarenceville vs. Trenton at Score Lanes, 3:30 p.m.
John Glenn vs. Novi at Novi Bowl, 3:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 14
John Glenn vs. Wayne at Westland Bowl, 3:30 p.m.
C'ville vs. Notre Dame Prep at Merri-Bowl, 3:30 p.m.
COMPETITIVE CHEER
Wednesday, Dec. 12
Brighton Quad, 6 p.m.
Milford Quad, 6 p.m.
Howell Quad, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 15
CCCAM at Northville, TBA.
MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS
Wednesday, Dec. 12
MU at Davenport, 7:40 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 14
(Crusader Classic at MU) Johnson-Wales vs. Roch., 5:30.
Madonna vs. Grace, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 15
(Crusader Classic at MU) Rochester vs. Grace, 1 p.m.
MU vs. Johnson-Wales, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS
Saturday, Dec. 15
MU at Davenport, 1 p.m.
TBA - time to be announced.

Clock runs out on C'ville bid, 50-49

Andrzejewski lifts Warriors



Clarenceville's Zach Kubiak pushes the ball up the floor on Friday's 50-49 setback to Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest.

Rochester Hills Lutheran North pulled a great escape Friday pulling out a 50-49 boys basketball win over host Livonia Clarenceville.

The Crusaders got a game-high 19 points from Nathan Drews to improve to 2-0 overall, while the Trojans' Jawan Nelson answered with a team-best 18 hitting four triples as Clarenceville slipped to 0-2.

Clarenceville led 25-21 at halftime, but Lutheran Northwest won it with a 13-5 third-quarter run.

Clarenceville Zach Kubiak and Nijel Blanton added nine and eight points, respectively, with each hitting a pair of triples.

The Trojans, who outscored Northwest 19-16 in the third period, pulled to within one, 50-49, with just under a seconds left on the clock thanks to Nelson's three-pointer.

The Trojans' defense then forced a five-second call and a chance at the win with only 0.05 remaining, but Blanton's three-point attempt caromed off the glass and the rim.

"It was a good game, we just really had a really bad third quarter," Clarenceville coach Justin Johnson said.

LUTH. WESTLAND 53,

H.F. ACADEMY 33: Senior Nick Andrzejewski hit 10-of-17 shots from the floor en route to a game-high 23 points to propel Lutheran High Westland (1-1) to a non-conference win Friday at home over Dearborn Henry Ford Academy. Andrzejewski, who scored 19 second-half points, also grabbed a team-best eight rebounds for the Warriors, who led 24-19 at halftime before putting it away with a 17-3 third-quarter run.

A.J. Seltz chipped in with eight points, while Brandon Wyman and P.J. Gusé contributed seven apiece. Nick Flanery also had five rebounds, four assists and three steals. Leonard Turner scored nine for the Navigators. "We missed a ton of easy shots in the first half, and our defense wasn't quite where it needed to be," said Lutheran Westland rookie coach Jim Hoeft, who notched his first win.

"The second half was a different story. We came out hungry and aggressive, holding them to just three points in the third quarter. Nick Andrzejewski played a tremendous second half. The entire team fed off of Nick's energy in the second half. It was nice to get our first win of the season in front of our energetic home crowd." Lutheran Westland made 24-of-58 field goal attempts (24-of-58), but only 4-of-14 free throws.

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

DUAL MEET RESULTS
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Dec. 6 at Plymouth H.S.
Vault: 1. (tie) Morgan Soper (Salem) and Brittany Ramirez (Salem), 9.1 each; 3. (tie) Brooke Allegeyer (Salem) and Nora Askacu (Salem), 8.75 each; 5. (tie) Sydney Grenier (Red) and Maggie McGowan (Red), 8.7 each.
Uneven bars: 1. Shannon Diaz (Red), 8.75; 2. Andrea Merlotti (Salem), 8.425; 3. Jackie Dziurgot (Red), 8.3; 4. Marissa McVey (Red), 8.175; 5. (tie) Mallory Dorton (Red) and Paulette Martino (Salem), 8.125.
Balance beam: 1. Soper (Salem), 9.125; 2. Merlotti (Salem), 8.95; 3. (tie) McGowan (Red) and Ramirez (Salem), 8.3 each; 5. Maddie Burt (Salem), 8.1.
Floor exercise: 1. Soper (Salem), 9.125; 2. McGowan (Red), 8.725; 3. McVey (Red), 8.675; 4. Merlotti (Salem), 8.575; 5. Ramirez (Salem), 8.5.
All-around: 1. Soper (Salem), 35.25; 2. Martino (Salem), 34.6; 3. McGowan (Red), 33.55; 4. Ramirez (Salem), 33.4; 5. Diaz (Red), 33.175; 6. Dziurgot (Red), 32.975; 7. Dorton (Red), 32.75; 8. McVey (Red), 32.55; 9. Askacu (Salem) 31.775; 10. Martino (Salem), 31.7; Livonia Red's dual meet record: 0-1 overall.

ARCHER

Continued from page B1

hockey after first being diagnosed.

"We kind of thought she was special," Jacqueline Archer said. "She was very nice, very easy going, a mama's girl." Jacqueline Archer also lost her other daughter Kelly, Kim's sister, at age 52 March 17.

The 5-foot-10 Archer, who played guard and forward for the Spartans, still ranks among the top 30 in 17 different all-time statistical categories at MSU, where she started 88 of 95 games from 1983-88, averaging 9.9 points, 6.3 rebounds, 4.0 assists and 2.4 steals per game.

During one season, Archer assumed the point guard duties after two players went down with season-ending injuries and performed magnificently despite never before having played the position.

In 1987-88, Archer earned honorable mention All-Big Ten honors and was named the Spartans' MVP. She was also MSU's Female Athlete of the Year (1988).

Archer ranks fourth all-time at MSU in career steals (224) and seventh all-time in assists (371).



Archer

She finished with 942 career points (with a .484 field-goal percentage) to go along with 599 career rebounds.

And in her only season on the MSU softball team (1988), Archer batted .329 and earned first-team All-Big Ten honors.

Archer was also a standout hockey player. She also played volleyball for one season during her junior year at Bentley, where she made quite an impression.

"I coached 40 consecutive years and she's the finest that I ever coached or ever seen, without a doubt," former Bentley and Churchill High volleyball and softball coach Dana Hardwidge said. "But they don't make them like that anymore because she could have gotten a full ride in basketball, softball or volleyball."

"I traveled with the (Bentley basketball) team and kept the book, and she was just amazing. To have a jump shot as a girl... girls don't have jump shots like that where they're suspended in the air." Archer was Bo Jack-

son-like, a combination of speed, power and grace.

"As a volleyball player, she could get up and lower the boom," Hardwidge said. "Timing was never an issue. She was something else. Really, you'd rarely see that size that was so explosive and quick."

In slow-pitch softball, Archer played on Big Bill's 18-and-under travel team as a 12-year-old. And during her teens, she played for the World Champion Little Caesars softball teams, where she excelled as a shortstop.

"She's the greatest athlete I've ever coached," Madonna University assistant volleyball coach Brian McClain said. "When she was 12, she was the best player then."

Former Bentley softball and basketball teammate Kellianne Nagy had visited Archer recently in the hospital.

"I'll remember her smile and laughter. She was always there for everyone," Nagy said. "If you were down, she was always laughing at you and getting you to laugh. She was just a true leader. She was a great athlete, a great leader on the field and on the court. But off it, she just had the greatest personality, positive, even through this

cancer. I went down there after the doctors told her there was six months and there was nothing else they could do, and she said, 'I'm going to beat this.' She did all these trial programs and everything. She was just very positive and very upbeat. She never whined. She just said, 'I'll kick its butt.'"

A grave site memorial service was held Saturday in Lithia, Fla., followed by a memorial tribute at Ft. DeSoto Park in St. Petersburg.

A tribute in Archer's honor will be held Sunday, Dec. 16, during MSU's women's basketball Alumni Day as part of the Michigan State-IPFW game at Jenison Fieldhouse. Game time is 2 p.m.

"She just loved sports," Nagy said. "I think basketball and softball were her two favorites. She had passion for them. She could play all day and all night never get tired. She loved it. She was just a great, happy-go-lucky person."

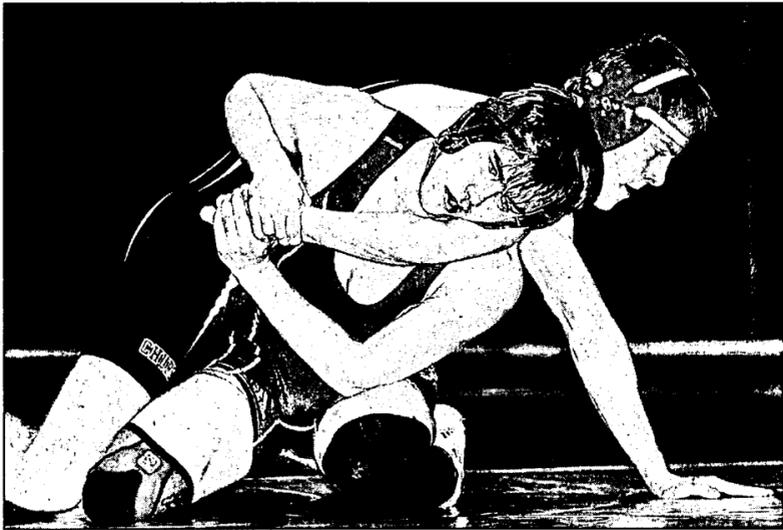
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Advertisement for Schoolcraft College pharmacy technician program, including contact information and a photo of a student.



Clarenceville's Mikey Weiss (front), the 135-pound city champ, tries to maintain control in his first-round match against Churchill's Jake Humphries.

WRESTLING

Continued from page B1

and try and wrestle there in districts. It all depends where people are — 152 is probably where I'll end up. I think I can beat the best guy there and win a state title at 152."

Other Franklin individual winners included Jack Nawa (103), Nick Robertson (112), Danny Martinez (130), Tyler Solnikowski (140), Nick Frazier (152), Dan Huber (171) and Allen Steele (189).

"Coming in I thought we'd get six (champs)," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "I told them we needed 10 in the finals, and the other four had to take third place. We had nine in the finals, but got more firsts than I thought. That's the mark we wanted."

"We didn't wrestle great, but we some surprises both ways. A couple good surprises and a couple of bad surprises. We did all right."

Churchill's strong showing proved to be encouraging for 15th-year coach Marty Altounian.

"From last year to this year, it's a big step up," he said. "They wanted to actually be on top this year. That's what their goal was. They strived to get there. A lot of the younger guys came through in the big matches. But when it's all said and done and in the long haul, Franklin came on top today. But hopefully down the road — this season — we'll be able to match up with them again and hopefully come out on top."

Individual winners for the Chargers included Josh Perez (119), Jon

Locklear (125), Zach Leck (140) and Manny Haddad (285).

"Great day from Zach Leck at 140 coming through as a fourth seed and winning it all with two pins," Altounian said. "Our 103-pounder (Spencer Blanchard) and our 112-pounder (Zach Smith) in their first matches coming through with pins. The older guys, there was some nice work out there for them, too."

For Clarenceville, senior Mikey Weiss was a repeat champion, coming away with the 135 title, while junior Ryan Groves added a first at 215.

"Michael is an outstanding wrestler, a two-time city champion and he wrestled really well today," Clarenceville first-year coach Nick Elam said. "Ryan wrestled his best match I've ever seen him wrestle. He dominated in the neutral (position) and got three takedowns and won the match for us."

"I'm every excited. It's the best city meet we've ever had since I was in high school. It's been a while."

Stevenson placed six in the finals, but couldn't come away with a win. Marco Lytwyn (103), Sandro Lytwyn (135), Connor Vaughan (171), Jake Kelley (189), Brad Scott (215) and Zach Saleh (285) took seconds.

"It's a young team," Stevenson coach Dan Vaughan said. "We had six in the finals and they were all ninth- and 10th-graders. The future is well. I think they wrestled well and it's just a building point."

"We knew 160 coming in was going to be the toughest weight class with Atienza, a return-

ing state qualifier, the kid from Clarenceville (Aaron Bibik) was a returning regional qualifier and so was Kody (Roy). Everybody was up in weight classes and my team just happened to get beat."

The next big meet for the four Livonia city schools will be the Wayne County Championships on Saturday, Dec. 15, at the HYPE Recreation Center in Dearborn Heights.

Clarenceville will also compete Friday-Saturday, Dec. 21-22, in the Oakland County Meet in Southfield.

"Back to the wrestling room, like we always do," Vaughan said. "We can work harder and smarter, and learning it. It's a big learning year for us, so I expect improvement and probably expect to take some tough matches in the future."

Meanwhile, Franklin will try again next year for an unprecedented ninth straight Livonia City mat crown.

"We're really young, too, which is exciting to me because this is probably the best freshman class I've in about 10 years, and only one of them was in the starting lineup," Chiola said. "They're still learning. We only have two seniors in the starting lineup that would be missed — Allen (Steele) and Danny (Martinez). I really like this team right now. We're a little thin in the lower weights and we're really top-heavy, which is going to be a problem when they're juniors and seniors, but we'll deal with that when we get to it."

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BOYS SWIM PREVIEWS CAPSULE OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Aaron Rieder, ninth year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's finish: fourth (KLAAs South); 10th (Kensington Conference).
Notable losses to graduation: Kenny Denstaedt, Derik Atzinger, Brad Johns, Michael Sessamen, Jason Hodges, Thomas Nawrocki, Matt Soules.
Leading returnees: Franklin Qiu, Sr. (IM-breaststroke-freestyle); Daniel Saltzman, Jr. (freestyle-backstroke); Jose Melendez, Jr. (IM-breaststroke-freestyle); Kyle Reppenhagen, Soph. (breaststroke-freestyle); Patrick Dahlin, Jr. (freestyle); Jackson Norwood, Jr. (butterfly-backstroke-freestyle); Ryan Soules, Jr. (freestyle-breaststroke); Dylan Fetter, Soph. (freestyle-breaststroke); Santosh Srinivasan, Jr. (backstroke-freestyle).
Promising newcomers: Ethan Burke, Fr. (diving); Kameron Stancer, Fr. (diving); Jake Jarvis, Fr. (freestyle-backstroke); Kevin Tarta, Fr. (butterfly-freestyle-breaststroke).
Rieder's 2012-13 outlook: "The team lost a solid core of swimmers to graduation. There is a lot of work to be done to fill the voids left by these graduates. However, we have the leadership of a veteran swimmer, Franklin Qiu, and the work ethic and determination to get the job done. This team is going to experience a lot of hard days and sore muscles, but all this pain is going to transform us from what we are today. By the end of this season each and every member of this team will be proud of the progress made this season."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Kevin Hafner, 13th year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's finish: sixth (KLAAs South); 11th (Kensington Conference).
Notable losses to graduation: Neil Culbertson, Nick DeLorme.
Leading returnees: Justin Larkins, Sr. (breaststroke-IM); Jacob Forgacs, Soph. (distance freestyle); Ryan Cossin, Soph. (breaststroke-IM); Austin Klotz, Soph. (butterfly-freestyle); Alex Herrick, Jr. (butterfly-breaststroke); Graham Tyrrell, Jr. (sprint freestyle).
Promising newcomers: Gavin Lambert, Fr. (freestyle-IM); Ethan Nordstrom, Fr. (freestyle-backstroke); Andrew Niemic, Fr. (freestyle); Kyle Perelli, Soph. (freestyle); Daniel Cebula, Jr. (freestyle).
Hafner's 2012-13 outlook: "We have a very young team that we are looking to build a future with. Justin Larkins will be looked to for leadership as our only senior and swimmer with state championship experience. The sophomores will be looked to for leadership in the water with good numbers on the team. Jacob Forgacs and Ryan Cossin put time in local year-round swim programs over the summer and fall, which will help them become strong competitors in our division. We have the best numbers on the roster that I have seen in the past 13 years. We have young athletic kids that we hope can develop into a strong team over the next few years."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Jeff Shoemaker, 13th year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (Central Division).
Last year's finish: second (KLAAs Central); third (Kensington Conference).
Notable losses to graduation: Brandon Bielicki (second-team All-Area, 100 freestyle; first-team 200 medley relay); Jake McNamara (first-team 100 breaststroke).
Leading returnees: John Ferrara, Sr. captain (first-team All-Area, 100 backstroke; 200 medley relay); Grant McNamara, Jr. (second-team All-Area, 100 breaststroke); Bradley Bielicki, Jr. (first-team



Bradley Bielicki Stevenson

All-Area, 200 medley relay); Zak McCarter, Sr. captain (butterfly); David Ptashnik, Sr. captain (butterfly-200 freestyle); Brandon Shatter, Sr. (freestyle); Brian Atiyeh, Jr. (diving); Parker Belmore, Jr. (freestyle-IM); Jake Goeddeke, Jr. (backstroke); Tommy O'Donohue, Jr. (breaststroke-freestyle); Matt LaPorte, Soph. (distance freestyle); Alex Lee, Soph. (freestyle).
Promising newcomers: Nick Arakelian, Jr. (IM-distance freestyle); Jackson O'Dowd, Fr. (freestyle-butterfly); Blake Beck, Fr. (butterfly-freestyle).
Shoemaker's 2012-13 outlook: "We've got to build a league meet team for sure if we're going to compete for a conference championship. The middle guys have got to step. If they do, I think they'll win the league meet because you've got to have those top 24. You've got to have depth. Our goal is to bring home the hardware like we did in 2008 when we finished third (in the Division 1 state finals)."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Bob Harding, seventh year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's finish: first (KLAAs South); seventh (Kensington Conference).
Notable losses to graduation: Joey Wakeford (second-team All-Area, 100 backstroke); Dave Vader, Tim Moran.
Leading returnees: Josh Wakeford, Sr. (200 freestyle-multi events); Aaron Alholinna, Sr. (distance freestyle); Brad Alholinna, Sr. (distance freestyle); Jacob Burcicki, Sr. (IM-butterfly-backstroke); Cody Hodges, Jr. (sprint freestyle); John Kukulka, Jr. (IM-butterfly-backstroke-freestyle).
Promising newcomers: Josh Eddings, Fr. Harding's 2012-13 outlook: "Our team will be looking to continue our undefeated dual meet string and defend the division title. We're looking forward to the year and continued time improvements as has become a tradition here at John Glenn. It's too early in the season to determine who the top teams in the division are, but it would appear Plymouth is the team to beat this year."

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Mike Greuber, 16th year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's finish: fifth (KLAAs South); ninth (Kensington Conference).
Notable losses to graduation: Zach Williams, Nick Williams, Bobby Prough.
Leading returnees: Mack Beene, Soph. (freestyle-backstroke); Tyler Collison, Sr. (freestyle-butterfly); Alec Gibson, Sr. (freestyle-breaststroke); Devin Gibson, Soph. (freestyle-backstroke); Michael Gibson, Soph. (freestyle); Angelo Greene, Jr. (freestyle-breaststroke); Noah Karson, Soph. (freestyle-butterfly-IM); Collin Malcolm, Jr. (freestyle); Clint Smith, Soph. (freestyle-butterfly-IM); Mike Stover, Jr. (distance freestyle); Mason Webb, Sr. (freestyle-backstroke); Zack Williams, Jr. (freestyle-breaststroke).
Promising newcomers: Michael Denard, Fr. (freestyle-breaststroke-diving); Ethan Drouillard, Soph. (freestyle-backstroke-diving); Uriel Figueroa, Soph. (freestyle); Jacob Griffith, Fr. (freestyle); Jared Ketcherside, Soph. (freestyle); Daniel Mills, Jr. (freestyle-backstroke); Adam Pugh, Sr. (freestyle-breaststroke).
Greuber's 2012-13 outlook: "We lost some strong swimmers to graduation, but we have a strong core of athletes coming back. It will take awhile for the team to get into shape, but they have practiced really hard so far. This is a committed and highly competitive group. We are excited as a staff to see how the season will progress and how some individuals will move toward MISCA and state (meet) cuts."



G. McNamara Stevenson

Grant McNamara, Jr. (second-team All-Area, 100 breaststroke); Bradley Bielicki, Jr. (first-team

SWIMMING

Continued from page B1

Division 1 state record is 4:31.15 (set by Rochester's Nick Evans in 2009).

In the 200 individual medley, Arakelian took third in the 'B' final and placed 11th overall with a clocking of 1:48.47, which is already better than the all-class mark of 1:48.55 established in 2010 by Eric Solis of Holland and the Division 1 state mark of 1:49.34 set by John Ehrman of Saline.

On Friday morning, the 16-year-old Arakelian swam two more prelim heats, placing sixth in the 400 IM (3:52.16) and 10th in the 200 freestyle (1:39.45).

Arakelian will be surrounded on the deck by other talented swimmers, including senior captain John Ferrara, an Oakland University signee who took third in last year's

Division 1 state final in the 100 backstroke with a time of 51.32.

Ferrara also took 11th in the 200 IM (1:58.04) in last year's state meet and helped Stevenson to sixth in the 200 medley relay (1:37.46) and 12th in the 400 freestyle relay (3:14.87).

"He's the top returning swimmer in his event (backstroke) and his goal is to be number one in the state," Shoemaker said of the first-team All-Area performer. "He's very dedicated and did a lot in the off-season."

The Spartans also return junior Grant McNamara, a second-team All-Area pick in the 100 breaststroke (1:00.6) and a member of the Spartans' 400 freestyle relay squad. He was also a state qualifier in the 500 freestyle (5:00.42).

Another talented returnee is junior Bradley Bielicki, a state qualifier

in the 50 freestyle (22.07) and member of the Spartans' 200 medley relay.

Stevenson took ninth in the Division 1 state meet a year ago and third in the Kensington Conference meet.

Shoemaker said a top-five finish at the state finals could be a realistic goal.

"We've got to build a league meet team for sure, then we can compete for a conference championship," Shoemaker said.

The Spartans open their dual meet season Tuesday at home against Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day and then face an early season test Saturday when take on host Saline, the defending Division 1 champ, along with Birmingham Brother Rice and Novi Detroit Catholic Central.

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PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

LIVONIA CITY WRESTLING TOURNAMENT RESULTS
Dec. 5 at Stevenson
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Franklin, 187 points; 2. Churchill, 161; 3. Clarenceville, 117.5; 4. Stevenson, 105.

CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS
103 pounds: Jack Nawa (Franklin) pinned Spencer Blanchard (Churchill), 3:38; **3rd place:** Kyle Schema (Stevenson) won by void.
112: Nick Robertson (Franklin) p. Zach Smith (Churchill), 1:38; **3rd:** Jacob Oosterwind (Stevenson) won by void.

119: Josh Perez (Churchill) decided Marco Lytwyn (Stevenson), 10-6; **3rd:** Jeremy Nelson (Franklin) p. Elijah Bean (Cville), 0:58.

125: Jon Locklear (Churchill) p. Shane Martin (Cville), 0:54; **3rd:** Adam Ross (Franklin) dec. Trevor Dmers (Stevenson), 9-2.

130: Danny Martinez (Franklin) won by technical fall over Jake Hale (Churchill), 18-3; **3rd:** Bryce Cozart (Cville) p. Charlie Wellan (Stevenson), 0:13.

135: Mikey Weiss (Cville) won by major dec. over Sandro Lytwyn (Stevenson), 9-0; **3rd:** Jake Humphries (Churchill) won by major dec. over Eric Helz (Franklin), 17-7.

140: Zach Leck (Churchill) p. Kenneth Steele (Franklin), 1:00; **3rd:** Joey Walker (Cville) p. Shawn Lopes, 0:32.

145: Tyler Solnikowski (Franklin) dec. Cameron Fyffe (Cville), 5-1; **3rd:** Justin Baker (Churchill) p. Jake Tennis, 1:53.

152: Nick Frazier (Franklin) p. Devin Howell (Cville), 0:55; **3rd:** Tom Rudd (Churchill) won by default over Derek Gilsbach (Stevenson).

160: Jordan Atienza (Franklin) p. Aeon Bibik (Cville), 3:07; **3rd:** Kody Roy (Stevenson) p. Matt Siemasz (Churchill), 1:36.

171: Dan Huber (Franklin) dec. Connor Vaughan (Stevenson), 5-4; **3rd:** Steven Spence (Cville) p. Nathan Dietrich (Churchill), 1:42.

189: Allen Steele (Franklin) won by major dec. over Jake Kelley (Stevenson), 13-4; **3rd:** Alex Lemonecchi (Churchill) won by major dec. over Gjerji Nikollaj (Cville), 11-1.

215: Ryan Groves (Cville) won by major dec. over Brad Baker (Stevenson), 9-1; **3rd:** Scott Hawn (Churchill) dec. Brendan White



Franklin brought home eight first-place winners in Wednesday's Livonia City tournament including (back row, from left): Dan Huber (171), Nick Robertson (112), Tyler Solnikowski (145), Nick Frazier (152); (front row, from left) Danny Martinez (130), Allen Steele (189), Jordan Atienza (160) and Jack Nawa (103).

(Franklin), 6-4.
285: Manny Haddad (Churchill) p. Zach Saleh (Stevenson), 1:00; **3rd:** Juan Gamboa (Franklin) p. Steve Galbraith (Cville), 0:18.
Tourney MVP: Jordan Atienza (Franklin), 160.

DUAL MATCH RESULTS
WAYNE MEMORIAL 55 GARDEN CITY 16
Dec. 5 at Garden City

189 pounds: Lucas Hofbauer (WM) pinned Christian North, 0:43; **215:** Donald Giese, Jr. (GC) p. Tyler Casteels, 1:30; **285:** Aaron Mauldin (WM) p. Emilio Ascencio, 0:55; **103:** Jack DeJack (WM) won by void; **112:** Jon Segasser (GC) won by major decision over Austin Cross, 15-4; **119:** Tyler Mulligan (WM) p. Cody Kirkpatrick, 1:02; **125:** Tim Way (WM) p. Ali Arab, 4:46; **130:** Derek Pomerico (WM) dec. Bredan Bergstresser, 11-5; **135:** Michael Nicholson (WM) p. Nicholas Kasperik, 1:44; **140:** Brian Spehar (GC) dec. Marcus Jordan, 7-5; **145:** Allen Parker (WM) p. Patton Fickett, 4:35; **152:** Kevin Marz (WM) p. Colt Desmit, 1:11; **160:** Matt Wisniewski (GC) dec. Shamen

Hall, 4-0; **171:** Sam Ekanem (WM) won by major dec. over Adam Drucz, 10-2.

WAYNE MEMORIAL 52 DBN. HTS. ANNAPOLIS 21
Dec. 5 at Garden City

215: Jakob Cain (DHA) dec. Tyler Casteels, 5-3; **285:** Aaron Mauldin (WM) pinned Chandler Gross, 1:03; **103:** David Knapp (DHA) p. Jack DeJack, 3:45; **112:** Shawn Cohan (DHA) p. Austin Cross, 1:11; **119:** Tim Way (WM) dec. Austin Husing, 4-1; **125:** Tyler Mulligan (WM) p. Nicholas Perrine, 4:52; **130:** Dennis Marin (DHA) p. Derek Pomerico, 0:44; **135:** Michael Nicholson (WM) p. Cory Sanborn, 0:54; **140:** Marcus Jordan (WM) p. James Beavers, 2:54; **145:** Allen Parker (WM) won by major dec. over Josiah Pila, 15-7; **152:** Kevin Marz (WM) won by technical fall over Jake Smith-Elliott, 20-1; **160:** Shamen Hall (WM) p. Andree Wagner, 4:34; **171:** Sam Ekanem (WM) p. Drake Sanchez, 0:54; **189:** Lucas Hofbauer (WM) won by major dec. over Hunter McCoy, 20-11.
Wayne's dual match record: 2-0 overall.

Lady Ocelots' 'Iron 5' earn win

All five starters on both teams each logged 40 minutes Wednesday as the host Schoolcraft College women's basketball team snapped a six-game losing streak with a 54-51 win over Lorain (Ohio) Community College.

Brittany Longhini scored a team-high 18 points and added seven rebounds for the "Iron Five" Lady Ocelots, who improved to 3-7 overall. Brianna Berberet (Salem) added a double-double with 14 points and 14 rebounds, while Ajai Meeks also scored 14 points and grabbed 11 boards.

Marwa Sayed did not score, but also snared 11

rebounds, while guard Courtney Dyer chipped in with eight points, including two free throws to seal the victory with only three seconds left. She also added four steals.

Lorain (1-9) got a game-high 19 points from Hailley Schroeder, while Megan Miller chipped in with 14 points. Holly Benetto also contributed 10 points and 11 boards.

Schoolcraft, which trailed 27-25 at the half-time, overcame 25 turnovers. The Lady Ocelots shot 40 percent from the floor (24-of-60), but only 3-of-17 from three-point range.

MU 72, N'WESTERN OHIO 39: Ten different players scored Wednesday as Madonna University (4-3, 2-2) romped to a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory over host Northwestern Ohio (1-7, 0-4).

The Crusaders got a game-high 16 points from senior guard Heather Pratt.

Senior center Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson), who returned to the lineup after sitting out Saturday's loss at Concordia with an ankle injury, chipped in with 15 points, while Rachel Melcher came off the bench to add 10 points and grab seven rebounds.

Senior guard Shantelle Hering finished with a team-best five assists.

The Crusaders shot 51 percent from the floor (15-of-29) to take a 38-16 halftime lead. MU also made 20-of-24 free throws on the night.

ROCKETS

Continued from page B1

Divine Child junior guard Nicole Urbanick, who scored 10 first-half points, went on a scoring rampage in the second half with 18 to finish with a game-high 28.

After the Falcons outscored Glenn 19-10 in the third quarter to cut the deficit to 44-39, DC kept coming and pulled to within one, 46-45, on a basket by Mallory Myler with only 6:36 to go.

"They (DC) stared attacking it and got up the floor," Kovatch said. "I thought we got a little fatigued. We basically played five girls in the second half. They (DC) were filling the lanes and getting after it. They kind of turned the tables on us and did what we wanted to do."

But Raine Bankston (12 points) stopped the bleeding by answering with a three-point play and twin sister Raven hit another big basket with 1:14 remaining after DC had cut the deficit back to three again, 56-53.

"These guys here won the (Class B) state title two years ago," Kovatch said. "Mary (Laney) has been coaching here 10 years and this is a great high school basketball program. This was their

first game, their seniors' first night as this team. Our team came into a hostile environment.

"They're a very good team. They're going to be competitive all year, and we hung in there and got a win."

ShaKeya Graves and Kaira Barnes each added nine points for the Rockets, while Kierra Jordan chipped in with eight.

Glenn made 14-of-22 foul shots, while DC was 10-of-17.

Senior guard Morgan Blair contributed 14 for the Falcons, who cut down their turnovers dramatically during the second half with only six.

"We knew that wasn't who we are," Laney said of her team's sloppy first-half play. "It was the first-game jitters. There's not an excuse for it. They made mistakes. We're young. I have two seniors that have experience, but we made some rookie mistakes. We had to play through them. What's promising is that we came back the second half and got our composure and looked to attack. We stopped the drive a little better. We were just trying to help more. We needed to help more and take responsibility with help on rotations."

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Patriots corral Mustangs, but fall to winless Chiefs

Sophomore goaltender Matt Monendo continued his stellar play with 33 saves and C.J. Cromie tallied a pair of goals giving host Livonia Franklin the upset 3-2 KLAAs Kensington Conference boys hockey win Wednesday night over Northville at Edgar Arena.

The Patriots improved to 2-2-1 overall and 1-0 in the KLAAs South Division with the victory.

Mike Diaz scored at 13:11 of the first period from Cromie and Andrew Golem to give the Patriots a 1-0 lead.

Cromie then scored at 2:28 of the second from Diaz and Corey Ferrier to make it 2-0.

Northville (4-2-1, 1-1-1) knotted the count at 2-all on Tyler Gardiner's unassisted goal with 6:34 remaining followed by Alex Shuart's goal with

BOYS HOCKEY

4:49 to go. But Cromie came up with the game-winner with only 2:55 remaining off assists from Elijah Grimm and Adam Stadler to give Franklin the win. Jeremy Onofrio made 13 saves for the Mustangs.

"It was a great win for our program, it looks like our hard work is starting to pay off and we're proud of our guys, the effort was there," Franklin first-year coach Dennis Gagnon said. "Monendo was fantastic. Another great game from our sophomore goaltender."

G.P. NORTH 4, CHURCHILL 1: C.J. Kusch had a goal and two assists Friday as Grosse Pointe North (2-4) downed host Livonia Churchill (1-4) at Edgar Arena.

The Norseman, who also got goals from Nick Rahaim, Jack Guest and Jack Stander, led 1-0 after one period and 3-1

after 34 minutes. Evan Gibboney scored for the Chargers from Tommy Carey at 1:39 of the second.

Churchill freshman goaltender Alec Calvaruso made 29 saves, while Tanner Colbert had 26 saves for North.

CANTON 4, FRANKLIN 3: In a KLAAs South Division game Friday at Arctic Edge, the host Chiefs (1-6, 1-5) held on for their first win against Livonia Franklin (2-3-1, 1-1).

Matt Taliaferro, Kurt Snow, Charlie Steslick and Cooper Rice scored for Canton, which led 1-0 after one period and 4-1 after 34 minutes.

Franklin began its comeback on Richie Wiczorek's second-period goal from Dylan Smith followed by Jacob Decina's third-period goal from C.J. Cromie and Mike Diaz.

The Patriots cut it to one on Justin Makowski's goal from Ryan Pace and Diaz with 6:50 remaining, but couldn't score the equalizer.

"I'm happy with our grit fighting back from a 4-1 deficit," Franklin coach Dennis Gagnon said. "We fought back and made a game of it, but hats off to Canton. They deserved the victory."

Franklin sophomore goalie Matt Monendo made 34 saves, while Isaac Salinas had 21 stops for the Chiefs.

STEVENSON 3, CANTON 1: Sophomore goalie Andrew Rozenbaum came through in his first varsity start turning away 21-of-22 shots giving Livonia Stevenson (6-1, 2-0) the Kensington Conference crossover victory Wednesday at Edgar Arena over the visiting Chiefs (0-6, 0-5).

"We got an outstanding effort from our sophomore goaltender," said Stevenson assistant coach Jay Thompson said. "Special teams, the power play and penalty killing were the difference in the game."

After a scoreless opening period, Stevenson led 2-0 after two thanks to Devin Kelly's power play goal from Travis Harvey and Dominic Lutz at 8:21 followed by Tyler Irvine's short-handed goal from Lutz and Jake Kierdorf at 13:23.

Lutz made it 3-0 at 2:27 of the third before Canton's Matt Cox spoiled Rozenbaum's shutout bid on a goal from Dillon Schiamp with 10:52 remaining.

Canton goalie Isaac Salinas made 19 saves.

Slow start dooms Zebras vs. Salem

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Fans settling into the bleachers at Salem High School a little late Friday night might have thought the Rocks were on their way to a mercy win over Wayne Memorial.

It was 13-3 Salem following a driving bank shot by 6-foot-4 senior center Ahmad Khalid and the Rocks were up 17-5 after one quarter.

But the season-opener for Salem's defending KLAAs champions turned into more of a white-knuckle affair as the Zebras roared back with their pressure game all over the floor.

Wayne cut the lead to six points in the fourth, and threatened to get closer several times. Yet the Rocks hung on for a 67-56 boys basketball victory.

"It was never settled, they were in the game the whole time," Salem coach Bob Brodie said. "They played hard, they weren't going to lay down."

"But that's the way it's going to be this year, you know? Teams are going to battle like heck to beat us."

Leading the Rocks with



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wayne's Will Harris (with ball) tries to take the ball to the basket on Salem defender Connor Cole in Friday's game.

21 points, 13 rebounds and three steals was 6-7 senior forward Chris Dierker.

Leading Wayne with 20 points was Josh Lowry. Dierker sparked Salem down the stretch, keeping the Zebras at bay with strong moves to the basket.

According to Wayne coach Mike Schuette, whose team dropped to 0-

2, the first-quarter struggles (including 0-for-6 from the free-throw line) were largely due to having players unaccustomed to Friday night lights.

"I've got a very young team," Schuette said. "I think I have just one player that played a lot last year (Juawn Snipes) and one player who played minimally last year.

"They're still getting used to the tempo, the intensity of the other team and what we have to do to keep up with it."

Schuette liked the way his team fought back, outscoring Salem 30-25 over the middle two quarters to trail 42-35 after three.

"I thought in the second half, our intensity on the defense and rebounding was so much better than the first half," he said. "It is a learning process."

Both teams made plenty of turnovers and were off-target in shots around the basket — with the speed and intensity forcing some of those miscues.

Helping the cause Salem hit 25-of-52 field goal attempts (48 percent), while Wayne made 21-of-62 attempts (31 percent).

"Early on it was a track meet. Part of that is our team likes to run, but it was also first-game jitters," Brodie said. "There were a lot of turnovers, fumbled passes. We kind of rushed things."

Dierker and Khalid (eight points, 12 rebounds) were strong on the boards, as Salem held a 47-31 rebounding edge.

Whalers fall 3-2 in OT

The Plymouth Whalers pummeled Saginaw goalie and Detroit Red Wings prospect Jake Paterson with 46 shots Friday night before 2,990 at Compuware Arena.

But Patterson stymied the Whalers time and time again, giving up just two goals as the Spirit won 3-2 in overtime. Plymouth's record dropped to 14-8-4-3, good for second in the OHL West Division behind Sarnia.

The shots were 34-21 Plymouth after two frames, but the Whalers only nursed a 2-1 lead entering the third. Scoring for the home team were Tom Wilson in the first period (from Alex Peters and Matt Mistele)

and Ryan Hartman to snap a 1-1 tie with 8:14 left in the second.

Assisting on Hartman's power play goal were Wilson and Gianluca Curcuruto.

Saginaw (13-15-2-2) finally netted the equalizer with 1:57 to go in the third when Justin Kea scored his second of the night, sending the puck past Plymouth netminder Matt Mahalak (30 saves).

Then, just eight seconds from a shootout, the Spirit won the OHL contest on a marker by Nick Moutrey (from Eric Looke and Jason Shaw).

Plymouth lost 3-2 in a shootout Wednesday at Owen Sound. Scoring for the Whalers were Cody Payne and Simon Karlsson.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

MU softball camp

Madonna University will hold a series of winter softball camps (ages 7-18) including:

Hitting - 9-11:30 a.m. (Session I) and noon to 2:30 p.m. (Session II), both on Saturday, Dec. 22 at the MU Activities Center. (The cost is \$30.)

Fundamentals (Camp I) - 8:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26;

Fundamentals (Camp II) - noon-2:30 p.m., Sundays, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24. (Cost for each is \$125 by Dec. 1; or \$150).

For more information, visit www.MadonnaCrusaders.com.

Winter baseball

Madonna University will stage a winter baseball camp (ages 7-16) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, Dec. 26-28, at Total Sports in Wixom.

Campers will work with college coaches and players. The cost is \$160 per camper (half off for siblings).

For more information, visit www.MadonnaCrusaders.com.

Walsh sparkles in Blazers' victory

Senior guard Shelby Walsh had quite a second half Friday night scoring all 17 of her points as Livonia Ladywood was able to grind out a 47-36 girls basketball win over visiting Grosse Pointe North.

Walsh, a senior guard, made three triples as the

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Blazers outscored the Norsemen 28-18 in the second half after leading by only one at intermission, 19-18.

Senior point-guard Andie Anastos led the way for Ladywood (3-0) with a game-high 18 points to go along with six

rebounds.

Andria Gietl contributed eight, but left the game in the fourth quarter with a broken nose.

Maria Liddane led the Norsemen (1-3) with 14 points.

GARDEN CITY 49, LUTH. WESTLAND 31: On Thursday, Lindsey Michalak and Mint Whitaker tallied 13 and 10 points, respectively,

leading the host Cougars (2-1) to a non-conference win over Lutheran High Westland (0-3).

Angela Morrison scored nine points and dished out five assists for the Warriors, who were outscored by a combined margin of 29-12 during the second and third quarters.

Alissa Flury and Julia Yancy each grabbed seven rebounds. The Warriors shot only 12-of-31 from the floor (29.3 percent) and 37.5 percent from the foul line (6-of-16).

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Bottomless Toy Chest delights young cancer patients

Santa's helpers at The Bottomless Toy Chest gave approximately 100 toys to young cancer patients Friday, Dec. 7 at Beaumont Hospital's Rose Cancer Center in Royal Oak.

The organization also will deliver toys to Children's Hospital of Michigan on Tuesday, Dec. 11 and to C.S. Mott Hospital in Ann Arbor on Wednesday, Dec. 12.

"Something as simple as a new toy will make the ordeal these brave children face every day just a little easier and can give them the will and strength the fight back," said Mickey Guisewite, founder and executive director of The Bottomless Toy Chest. "It is also my hope and prayer that these new toys will also make the holiday season a bit brighter for these children and their families."

Each new toy donated to The Bottomless Toy Chest is gift-wrapped in cellophane and ribbon by a volunteer. The cellophane gift-wrap keeps the items clean for children with weakened immune systems. The clear wrap also allows kids to select from an array of choices, giving them a sense of control in a hospital environment.



Chelsea Aperku, 5, from Farmington Hills, who is currently undergoing cancer treatment at Royal Oak's Beaumont Hospital, carefully selects a brand new toy delivered from The Bottomless Toy Chest.



Maggie Cobb, 5, who is currently undergoing cancer treatment at Royal Oak's Beaumont Hospital, shows Mickey Guisewite, founder and executive director of The Bottomless Toy Chest, her new doll.

Beyond that, the gift-wrapping gives children who are under a great deal of physical and emotional distress, the happy experience of opening a

present.

The Bottomless Toy Chest is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization devoted to delivering art projects, crafts and

interactive toys to hospitalized pediatric cancer patients.

For more information visit www.bottomless-toychest.org.



Safe Kids offers tips for infant sleep time

Safe Kids Huron Valley recommends that parents and caregivers keep newborns and infants safe while sleeping, especially when visiting family and friends during the holidays.

Accidental infant suffocation that results from unsafe sleep environments has increased almost 30 percent over the past 10 years. In Michigan alone, 150 infant sleep-related deaths are reported each year. Tragically, babies have suffocated from sleeping in adult beds, on furniture, and with pillows, cushions, and blankets.

"These numbers reflect suffocation incidents that could have been prevented, stated Amber Kroeker, Safe Kids Huron Valley coordinator and injury prevention health educator for Mott Children's Hospital. "It's important to make sure your baby always has a safe place to sleep at night and during naptime even as you travel or visit others during the holiday."

Safe Kids Huron Valley recommends the ABC's of Infant Safe Sleep:

- **Always alone.** Your baby should sleep alone in a crib, bassinet, or portable crib. No bed-sharing with adults, other babies, or children.

- **Always on their back.** Your baby should sleep on his or her back. Babies can suffocate if placed face down on his/her belly.

- **Always in a safe crib.** The safest place for your baby to sleep is in a crib, bassinet, or portable crib that meets current safety standards. Use a firm mattress and tightly-fitted sheet in the crib, bassinet or portable crib. Take out all pillows, blankets, comforters, bumper pads, stuffed toys and other soft items. Use a sleep sack, which is a wearable blanket, instead of a blanket. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), recommends no blankets for infants, up to 12 months because blankets can suffocate them. When in doubt, take a portable crib with you if you're not sure one will be available.

For more information on infant safe sleep, visit www.michigan.gov/safesleep.

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Sewing for charity

Church, community group aid Hurricane Sandy victims

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Timothy Lutheran Church in Livonia and the Plymouth-Westland Grange #389 will send 40 handmade totebags filled with comforting items to victims of Hurricane Sandy this month.

"We started out making 20 and we ended up with 40," said Sharon Strebbling, Grange president. "We had four Grange members working on it and one is a family that gets their kids involved. The four came to the church to work and we also had three more working out of their homes."

Jean Coleman, a church member, said eight women from Timothy Lutheran also worked on the project at sewing sessions offered three times weekly for a month.

The church and Grange volunteers created blankets, quilts, totes and pillows. Each tote also will include a hat, gloves, a scarf and a plastic bag filled with toiletry items.

Sewing for charity is nothing new for church and Grange members. Volunteers at the church created quilts earlier this year for Lutheran World Relief and will continue that effort beginning next

month.

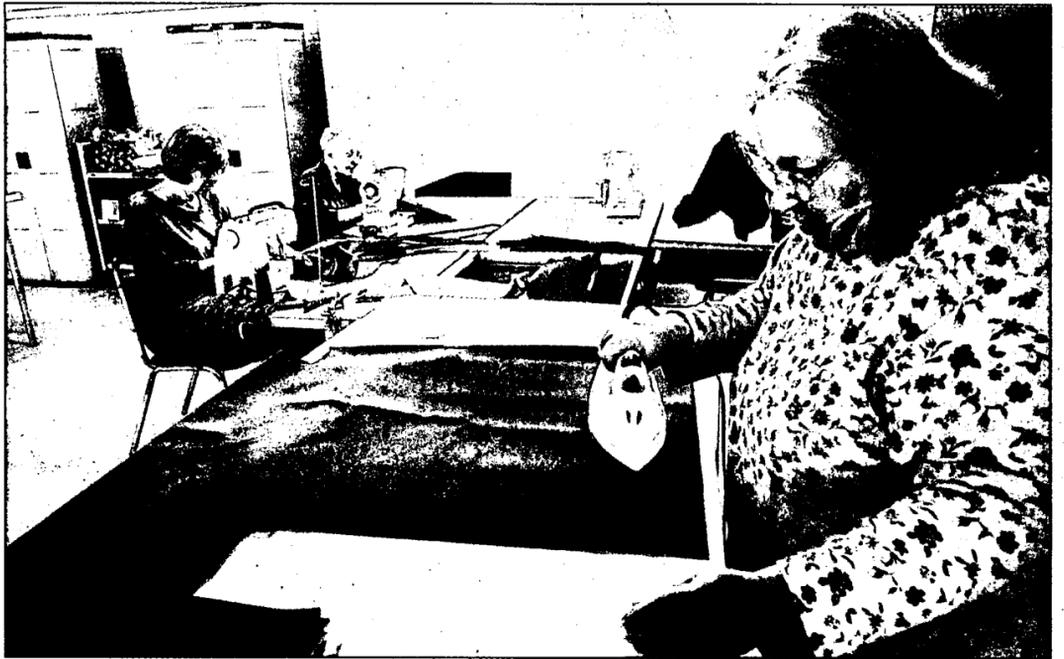
The Grange "has always been involved in community service," Strebbling said. "The Grange was teaching classes out of Maxwell's (Art & Treasures) the last four years, teaching people how to sew by making (charity) items, making quilts for veterans, the school for the blind."

When Maxwell's closed its doors in Garden City a few months ago, the Plymouth-Westland Grange lost its meeting place and scrambled to find a new home and location to store its fabric.

"We had to find a place to put it all or get rid of it. I couldn't see it go into the trash, so we ended up helping four churches and this was one of them," she said, referring to Timothy Lutheran Church.

The church used the donated fabric to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief and then turned its attention to the Grange's project for victims of Hurricane Sandy.

"I do a lot of Facebooking because of Grange," said Strebbling, explaining how the Hurricane Sandy project began. "Someone (on Facebook) picked up that there is a need out there and they (hurricane victims) were



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sharon Strebbling (foreground), Debbie Foley and Jean Coleman work on quilts for victims of Hurricane Sandy.



Saturday morning is a busy day for church volunteers Gerry Rowden (left), Debbie Foley and Jean Coleman.



Kaaryn Falardeau scallops the edge of the material.

not getting what they needed. When I heard that, I made a connection

in Michigan." Sam Corrado of Westland, a friend of the

The project wrapped up Saturday, Dec. 8 at the church.

Grange members get together to work on handmade items for the community during workshops from 6:30-9 p.m. Thursdays at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road. The organization's next regular meeting is 6:30 p.m. Jan. 7 at the Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland.

For more information about the Plymouth-Westland Grange, call Strebbling at (734) 748-0569. Visit the National Grange website at www.national-grange.org. Visit Timothy Lutheran Church's website at www.timothy-lutheranchurch.com.



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Hanukkah traditions mark rededication, freedom

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Forget what you know about your favorite Hanukkah traditions.

Melissa Ser may surprise you with a few new "little known facts" about the holiday.

"Hanukkah is coming and I thought let's do a workshop — one hour and offer it twice — and go beyond what people might know," said Ser, director of congregational learning at Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills. "Sort of get into everything you wish you would have learned when you were in school but you didn't. And now you don't even know where to begin asking."

Hanukkah celebrates the victory of a small band of Jews, "the Maccabees" over the Syrian Greek army in 165 BCE. It also marks the rededication of the Jewish Temple that the Greeks had occupied before they were vanquished. According to tradition, a miracle also occurred when the Jews lit the lamps in the reclaimed Temple — there was just enough oil for one day and yet it lasted for eight days.

The holiday began at sundown Saturday, Dec. 8 and runs through Dec. 16. During the eight-day festival, individuals give gifts, make special foods, and light menorah candles.

Ser led the "Little Known Facts About



Chanukah" workshop on two consecutive Wednesday nights at Adat Shalom. She started the final session last week with hip, pop Hanukkah music videos by the Maccabeats and Ein Prat Fountainhead, remarking "It's not dreidel, dreidel dreidel, is it?" She distributed a "typical" explanation of Hanukkah, along with recipes, and then took a closer look at a few traditions, including the dreidel, a spinning top game played at the holiday. Each side of the top bears a Hebrew letter that helps direct how the game is played. Letters represent the words nothing,

all, half and put in.

19th century game

Ser said the traditional story about dreidel's origin places it in ancient times, when the conquered Jewish people were forbidden to study the Torah. They studied it anyway, but kept the game on hand to fool the Greeks or Romans into thinking they were simply gambling.

"No, I hate to tell you this, but that story is an elaborate explanation of a non-Jewish game that Jews adopted," Ser said. "The game was played around Christmas time in Europe ... totem or tea totem. By 1801

there were four letters on this spinning top and they represented four words in English. Our Eastern European game of dreidel is directly based on the German equivalent of the totem game.

"Does it matter? No, it's still a nice game and we play it."

Hanukkah gifts

Gift-giving for Hanukkah likely started in Europe, she said.

"It probably came from Christmas and other customs, such as giving money for good luck. But it really took off with the commercialization of Christmas."

Ser used passages

Ser said the traditional story about dreidel's origin places it in ancient times, when the conquered Jewish people were forbidden to study the Torah. They studied it anyway, but kept the game on hand to fool the Greeks or Romans into thinking they were simply gambling.

referring to Hanukkah from the Talmud — the book of Jewish laws — along with sections from the books of Maccabees, to suggest that the story about oil lasting eight days helped to "connect all the pieces," from stories about the first destruction and rededication of the Temple, to the second rededication in the Maccabee's time.

"What this story is about more than anything else is continuity," she said, adding that it served as a "connection that people could grasp."

"People like miracles.

There was a miracle but I don't think it was the oil. The miracle is not that a small band of Jews was able to defeat the army. The miracle to me is that they decided it was important enough and they valued their traditions enough to rise up against certain defeat and win," she said.

"My challenge to you is, now that you have all this background, how are you going to make it relevant for your Hanukkah?"

Good deeds

She suggested incorporating "something

positive," such as good works into Hanukkah celebrations. Ser, her husband, and their sons "co-adopted" a family through Jewish Family Services for the holiday this year. Other good deeds for Hanukkah might include a donation to a food bank or volunteering at a feeding program, such as a soup kitchen or Meals on Wheels, on Christmas day, freeing up Christian volunteers to spend the time at home with their families.

"These are things we can do that add meaning to our Hanukkah celebration," she said. "There is nothing wrong with perpetuating the story of the miracle of the oil and making gifts and spinning the dreidel. But it's important to know that the message of Hanukkah is that it was so important for our people to keep their customs alive, that they fought in a battle that they were sure to lose and they were willing to lose it all in order to try to succeed."

Visit Adat Shalom's website at adatshalom.org. Listen to the pop Hanukkah songs at www.maccabeats.com and www.foheads.com.

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Consumer advocacy needed now more than ever

By Joe Gagnon
Guest Columnist

In my many years of writing this column and my almost 30 years of doing a radio show I have seldom been in tears doing my enjoyable work. Last Saturday I received an on-air phone call from Dr. Sase who lives in Ann Arbor. He described the following scenario:

"We received a call from an air duct cleaning company who said they could clean our air ducts for a special price. We were taken by their phone call and committed to have them do the job. They came to our home and quoted a price of \$800 to do the job and after I explained

that it was too costly, they did the work for \$600. After they were finished, we have been seeing moths flying all around the different rooms. It appears that we have been scammed by a very unethical air duct cleaning company and can you help us?"

He went on to tell me that he is 90 years old and suffered a stroke some months ago. His wife is 88 and they live in a modest home of 1,200 square feet. Suddenly he burst out crying while talking to me and that is all it took to get me in the same frame of mind. Now, isn't this enough to give you a picture of what happened to this good man and his wife?

I have written in the past about crooked air duct cleaners and how it is a national concern and how all consumers should be aware of whom the bad guys are. Here is a typical story that is not going to end until I get myself involved. I have already

made arrangements for a reputable company to go to the doctor's home and give me a detailed report on the quality of the work performed by the bad guy. Once I get this report I am going to visit Dr. Sase and take him to his district court and help him file a small claims case so he can get his money back.

As you can tell, I haven't mentioned this bad guy's company name and all I know right now is that he is located in Livonia. It might be possible that he reads this column and I want him to know that I'm coming after him. Once I prove in a court of law that he ripped off this particular consumer and senior citizen I am going to write the second chapter of this story. I am also going to contact some friends in the television industry and don't be surprised if you learn more about this company from watching the nightly news.

Now let me give you a refresher course on my past. Today I am a senior citizen, retired on fixed income but I used to be one hell of a consumer advocate. I used to work for Esther Shapiro, the retired director of Detroit Consumer Affairs and she was about as tough as they come when it comes to dealing with unethical business dealings. I spent years working as a fraud investigator with Attorney Generals Frank Kelley and Jennifer Granholm and I helped put some nasty people on hold. The television industry used me many times to help them set up sting operations which helped consumers become more aware and educated on how some services are too good to be true.

In this State of Michigan, consumer protection is almost a thing of the past. There are no more consum-

er protection agencies that help people with problems like the one described above. You have to fend for yourself and God help you if you happen to be old and not as sharp as you once were. In the old days it wouldn't take this long to solve a problem like a rip-off company so described. I would just pick up the consumer and drive over to the crook's business office, explain what the problem was, introduce myself and get the distraught homeowners money returned on the spot. Maybe the guy who is now in trouble is reading this column and if so, he can send a check for \$600 to Dr. Sase in Ann Arbor. He can do it now or do it later. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmjr.com

Therapy choir offers free concert

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan (TCM) will hold its annual holiday concert, 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, at The Sanctuary of Villa Maria, 15131 Newburgh, Livonia.

The TCM is an a capella therapy singing group comprised of individuals who are challenged by traumatic brain injuries, developmental disabilities and related special needs. The group has given free concerts throughout Michigan for more than a decade. It has been featured in five PBS television specials and it performs annual at the Capitol in Lansing. It was awarded a legislative proclamation denoting the first week of March as "Choir Therapy Awareness Week".

The upcoming concert will feature a sample of the TCM Choir membership and volunteer voices. Visit www.therapychoirs.org for more information.

Send garden and nature information and photos to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Craft workshop

Stop by the Nature Center in Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills and create your own natural wreath and holiday gifts using materials found in nature. Create a holiday wreath using grapevine and greens, make a nature ornament and then decorate a cookie to take home. Kids' crafts will also be available. The Nature Holiday Craft Workshop will be held 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 15 and is designed for all ages. Children must be supervised by an adult. Pre-registration is at <https://recreg.fhgov>.

GARDEN & NATURE

Participants also can drop in throughout the morning and pay at the door. However, space is limited. The fee is \$8 per person or \$25 per family. All materials will be provided; (248) 477-1135 or e-mail asimons@fhgov.com.

Hill and Dale Garden Club

Sally Oullette will guide participants in making their own wreath centerpiece, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13 at the Spicer House, located in Heritage Park, off Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Visit hillanddalegc.org for more information.

Master Gardener

MSU Extension is accepting

applications for the next Master Gardener classes. Beginning in January 2013, this 12-week course teaches the student basic horticultural principles and environmentally-sound gardening practices. Course topics include introduction and volunteerism, plant science, soils for plant growth, flower gardening, woody ornamentals, turf/lawn care, vegetable culture, small fruit culture, tree fruit culture, plant health care, indoor plants and household pests. Cost is \$300, along with a \$25 registration fee. For more information and/or to download application visit: <http://www.mgwww.org/Pages/MSUExtensionOffice.aspx> or call Anita Callender at (734) 729-3632 Ext. 103.

Guide to Employment

Check out these exciting career opportunities!

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

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

Help Wanted - General

CUSTODIAL - PART-TIME
Northville First United Methodist Church is looking for an individual to work as a Saturday custodian and as a "fill-in" custodian to cover vacations and other absences. If interested or for more information please submit a resume to: jhopkins@fmcnorthville.org or call 248-349-1144, ext 15.

CUSTOMER SERVICE:
Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkinfo@aol.com

GRAPHIC ARTIST/ SCREEN PRINTER
Fluent in Adobe Illustrator. Canton: 734-418-9941

LEGAL SECRETARY/ LEGAL ASST.
Downtown Detroit defense law office seeking an energetic individual with superb organizational, multi-tasking and computer skills. Minimum of 4 yrs. legal experience required. Please send resume to Office Manager at: rhampton@dawson-clark.com or fax (313) 256-9913.

MAINTENANCE
Full-time maintenance person needed for retirement community in Westland. Requires general knowledge of preventative and regular repairs, including plumbing, electrical and HVAC. Fax resume to: 734-729-9840, EOE

MetroPCS Michigan Inc. seeks Manager, Radio Frequency (RF) Engineering for Livonia, Michigan. Send resume to: HR, MetroPCS Michigan, Inc., 26505 Schoolcraft, Bldg 6, Livonia, MI 48150. EOE.

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Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Help Wanted - General

TELLER
Farmington credit union is seeking a part-time teller. Candidate must have exceptional communication skills, sales abilities and be able to perform various teller duties. Email current resume/salary to resume@loctederal.com.

Help Wanted - Office Clerical

CLERICAL, FULL-TIME
General Office & typing. Mon-Fri, 8-5. Starts at 7:40/hr. Apply at: 987 Manufacturers Dr. Westland. For directions: 734-728-4572

Clerical - Part Time
Professional firm in Northville is seeking an individual with 3-5 years experience in administrative/ clerical to work 20 hours per week. Some duties include copying and scanning documents, mailings, filing, data entry and various other projects as needed. Microsoft Office required, proficiency in Excel a must. Please email resume to: oresume@hometownlife.com

Help Wanted - Medical

Physician (Pulmonary/ Critical Care)

Wayne State University Physician Group has one (1) position available for a Physician (Pulmonary/ Critical Care) in Detroit, Michigan to examine and diagnose disorders and diseases of the lungs; monitor critical care patients; consult with patients to determine the appropriate course of treatment; Any Applicant who is interested in this position may apply to the following individual for consideration: Jessica Martin, HR Generalist Wayne State University Physician Group - 1420 Stephenson Hwy. 4th Floor Troy, MI 48063 jmartin@med.wayne.edu

Help Wanted - Medical

RN, LPM, MA
For growing dermatology practice for clinical & clerical position. Excellent pay & benefits. Full Time. Flexible hours. Pay commensurate with exp. Email or Fax Resume to: azem@aal.com (734) 996-8767

RN

Taylor Non-Profit has a full-time opening for a Registered Nurse. Fax resume to The Information Center at 734-287-7861

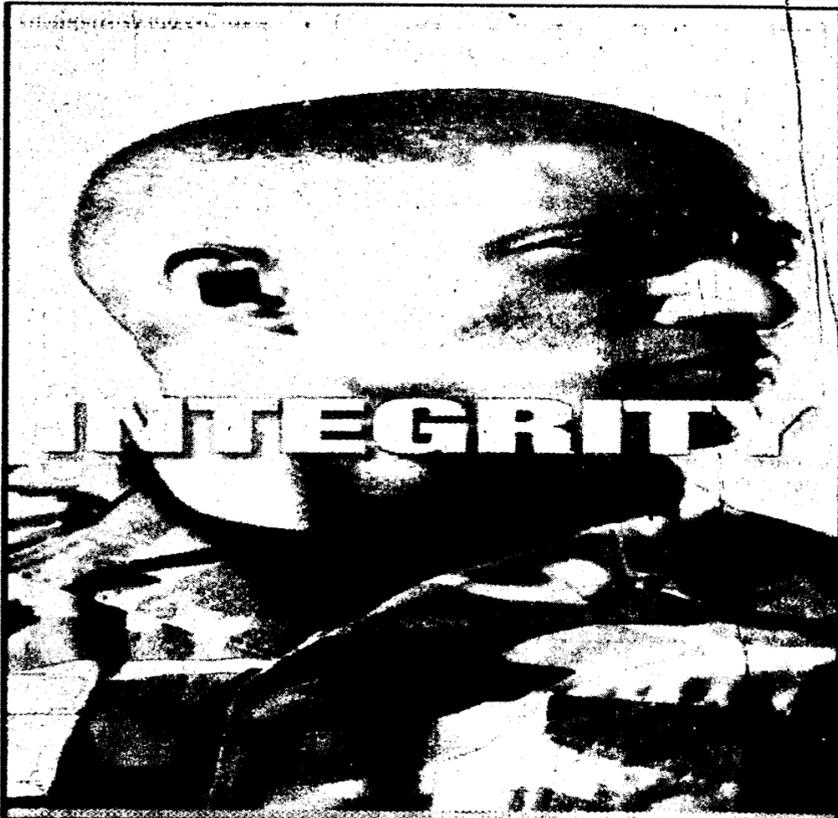


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Annual ball raises funds to help fight kidney disease

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM) drew its largest audience ever — nearly 800 attendees — to the 8th Annual Kidney Ball: Motown Magic on Saturday, Dec. 1, at the MGM Grand Detroit. The event raised more than \$618,000.

The Motown-inspired evening included a cocktail hour with an expansive silent auction, dinner, an exciting live auction, and live entertainment by the Jerry Ross Band. The silent auction raised more than \$55,000 from more than 250 items that were sold. The live auction raised more than \$70,000.

Blanche Mack from Meijer and Myra Moreland, president of Revstone, co-chaired the event. Many local celebrities were in attendance such as R&B soul singer/songwriter KEM, former Detroit Lions offensive tackle, Lomas Brown, as well as special guest, Chef Aaron McCargo, Jr. who hosts the show *Big Daddy's House* on the Food Network. He was on hand courtesy of Fresenius Medical Care North America.

"We have been told that the Kidney Ball is the most fun gala in the region," said Dan Carney, president and CEO of the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan. "We strive to provide our guests with an unforgettable experience while keeping in mind that the Kidney Ball is an important fundraiser for our organization and for spreading awareness about kidney disease throughout Michigan. From the efforts of our event chairs, to our dedicated committee, and wonderful volunteers, the NKFM is lucky to have so many friends and supporters."

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan is the largest affiliate of the National Kidney Foundation in the United States.



Matt and Kelly Gerlach of Plymouth



Jason and Sheila Jackson of Livonia



Blanche and James Mack of Canton

For more information about the NKFM's programs and services throughout Michigan, visit www.nkfm.org or call (800) 482-1455. NKFM is also on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube at @KidneyMI.



The Brandon family of Farmington visits with Santa at the annual Kidney Ball. Family members are parents James and Debi, daughter Katie, and their son, Tommy. The Brandons also are active in National Kidney Foundation of Michigan walks.

Holiday greetings



Wigs4Kids is selling greeting cards that feature a universal message of peace, joy and love. They are packaged in a reusable red tulle bag sealed with a gingerbread ornament and cost \$10. Save on two packs of cards at \$15. The Wigs4Kids program provides wigs and support services at no cost to Michigan children experiencing hair loss from medical disorders and treatment. For more information visit wigs4kids.org.

MUSIC SHOWCASE BENEFITS NEEDY CHILDREN

Students from Axis Music Academy's three locations, Southfield, Canton and Birmingham, will take the stage to raise money and awareness for the Axis Music Foundation at the school's student showcase and fundraiser, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at the Majestic Theater's Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

Tickets are available in advance at any Axis Music location or at the showcase. Cost is \$5.

Axis Music Foundation is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization, established earlier this year to help raise money, resources and awareness of the importance of music education for students of all ages, levels and backgrounds.

A portion of the proceeds from the event will fund students in an innovative pilot program that teaches music to underprivileged children.

"Many of these students find it severely challenging to get up and perform in front of an audience," stated Andrea Antone, director of marketing and events coordinator for Axis Music Academy. "The idea of this program is to tap into their creative ability in a focused and productive manner and build their confidence through the creative process."

Students learn to write music, record, produce and perform at Axis Music Academy. For more information visit axismusic.com.

At Cranbrook



JULIE VOLLES

Farmington Hills residents Kerry and Susan Feiten, Cranbrook Schools Board of Trustee, attend the "New (and then) Again" benefit for the Cranbrook Art Museum, at the Museum in Bloomfield Hills. That's Gregory Wittkopp, (right) director of Cranbrook Art Museum and Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research with the Feitens. He recently was awarded the 2012 President's Award at the annual Michigan Museums Association Conference in Muskegon.

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Arthritis Today
JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D.
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Livonia, Michigan 48152
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STARTING AND STOPPING MEDICINES

A common problem for a physician is giving instructions to a patient who started a drug then stopped the medicine, and now wants to return to it. This situation occurs when a person on a medicine, say methotrexate, needs an operation such as a knee replacement. Surgeons want patients off their rheumatoid arthritis medications, because these drugs interfere with healing and place the patient at risk for infection.

In such instances the question arises of how long before the operation to stop the arthritis drug and how long after can the patient restart the drug?

No good rules exist. If a patient has taken methotrexate or an anti-TNF medicine for 6 months to a year or more, the likelihood is that the body has stores of the drug so that stopping the medicine for a week or two would not change the risks of the medication to surgery. However, stopping the drug a month or 6 weeks before surgery brings on the chance of an arthritis flare which would lead to impairment and decreased activity. It means the patient would not be in maximum good condition to withstand the stress of operation.

In certain instances resuming a medicine after temporary cessation is not simply a matter of a return to the same schedule as before the interruption. For example, Arava, a medicine used to treat rheumatoid arthritis, needs a loading dose of 5 tabs/day x 3 days before going to a single dose daily. No rules exist to guide a physician on the length of time off drug is needed before restarting with or without a loading dose.

The question of what drug regimen to use is easy to ask, but difficult to answer.

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Milestones



Fondaw-Havens

Robert and Cathy Fondaw of Livonia are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jordyn Marie, to Preston Mathew Havens, son of Kathy Havens of Holt.

A graduate from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Jordyn is working toward a master of counseling degree at Oakland University.

Preston is a graduate of Michigan State University and also holds a master of economics degree from Central Michigan University. He is employed in Falls Church, Va., with the Lewin Group as a research consultant.

The couple plan to live in the Washington, D.C., area after the wedding, which is planned for September 2013.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

December

ADVENT SERMONS

Time/Date: 10:15 a.m. Sundays through Dec. 23
Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road, Livonia
Details: Rev. Paul Stunkel will focus on "Why? The Prophecy, The Stable, a Virgin," Dec. 9; "Why? Shepherds and Wise Men," Dec. 16; and "Why? Jesus, Mary, Joseph, Family, and featuring a live nativity, Dec. 23
Contact: (734) 422-1470

ADVENT SERVICES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12, and 19
Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford
Details: The meditation them is the beginnings of the Gospel of St. Matthew, St. Luke and Revelation
Contact: (734) 968-3523

ADVENT SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 12 and 19
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market in Farmington Hills
Details: A pre-service meal will be served at 6 p.m.
Contact: (248) 553-3380

BELL CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9
Location: St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia
Details: Classical Bells performs, with The Boychoir of Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door
Contact: www.seatyourself.biz/stmatthewslivonia; (734) 422-6038

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19
Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile, west of Inkster Road, Livonia
Details: This service is designed for individuals who struggle with the holidays. It is for those who may be grieving, for those who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, or just struggling with the holidays in general. A coffee reception with care ministers will follow the service
Contact: (734) 422-1470

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19
Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Rd. in Garden City
Details: The service, held near the shortest day of the year, the winter solstice, is geared toward those grieving for the loss of a loved one, a failed relationship, job loss, or loneliness and depression. The service offers an opportunity to recognize challenging situations and yet receive words of hope for the coming year. This service of hope will include prayer, readings, and special music along with lighting of candles
Contact: (734) 427-3660

BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16
Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland
Details: All-you-can-eat pancake and French toast breakfast also will include ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, juice and milk. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children, 2-10. The St. Theodore Men's Club is sponsoring the breakfast
Contact: (734) 425-4421

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14 and 10:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16
Location: First Baptist Church of Canton, 44500 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Details: "One Quiet Night" is a dramatic musical, written by Tony Wood and Heidi Petak and arranged and orchestrated by Richard Kingsmore. It's directed by Ron Newsome. Admission is free
Contact: (734) 981-6460

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 23
Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21100 Southfield Road, Southfield
Details: Annual Christmas pageant will include the Christmas story, special music and the Praise Dance Team. Light refreshments will be served after the service
Contact: (248) 569-2972 or e-mail firstbaptist@fbc-detroit.org

CLOTHING BANK
Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 12 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22
Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty, Canton
Details: Free clothing and shoes to those in need
Contact: (734) 404-2480 or (734) 927-6686

CONCERT
Time/Date: 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9
Location: Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville
Details: Listen to the chancel choir, orchestra, handbells, ensembles and soloists from Ward's music department and sing along on selected songs. No ticket required for this Christmas concert
Contact: (248) 374-7400

CONCERT
Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9
Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia
Details: 31st annual concert featuring the St. Aidan Adult and Children's Choirs, and the St. Aidan Contemporary Ensemble. Minimum donation is \$5, along with two non-perishable food items. All proceeds will go toward food baskets for the needy
Contact: (734) 425-5950

CONCERT
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9
Location: Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Jan Krist will perform. The church is partnering with the Detroit Area Diaper Bank for the performance and is encouraging guests to bring infant or adult diapers to the concert for donation to the Bank. Admission is a suggested \$10 donation at the door.
Contact: (734) 425-2800; www.trinitychurchoflivonia.org

CONCERT
Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16
Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21100 Southfield Road, located on northbound Southfield service drive just north of Eight Mile, Southfield
Details: The church's Chancel Choir and guest oboist, harpist, cellist and singers present the cantata, "The Advent of Hope, The Birth of Peace." Light refreshments will be served after the service
Contact: (248) 569-2972 or e-mail firstbaptist@fbc-detroit.org

COOKIE WALK
Time/Date: Doors open 8 a.m., sale starts 9 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 15
Location: Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 Seven Mile, between Farmington Road and Newburgh, Livonia
Details: Come early for coffee and conversation. There will be a large quantity of European cookies, nut, poppy seed, and apricot rolls, pierogies, sweet bread and stuffed cabbage available for purchase
Contact: (248) 476-3432

COOKIE WALK
Time/Date: Doors open at 10 a.m. with an early bird sale starting at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 15
Location: Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia
Details: 6th annual cookie walk will offer cookies at \$7.50 per pound, along with other baked goods. Early bird admission is \$2
Contact: (734) 427-2290

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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BASS, CLARENCE EDGAR

Chelsea, Michigan. Age 97, died Friday, November 30, 2012 at Chelsea Retirement Community. He was born January 11, 1915 in Oconee, Illinois, the son of Edgar & Clarissa M. (Neathery) Bass. Clarence was a mechanic, and a member of the Operating Engineers Union for 65 years. He worked for commercial contractor Darin & Arnstong (now known as Walbridge Aldinger Company). Clarence was an avid outdoorsman, and enjoyed hunting, fishing, and hunting for morel mushrooms. He had an innovative mind and enjoyed repurposing items around the house for a new and creative use. He was a wonderful gardener, and took pleasure in supplying his neighbors with vegetables each summer. On June 25, 1937, he married Esther Chamberlain, and she preceded him in death on Dec. 27, 2008. He was a loving father to Nancy (Donald) Kwasny of Howell and Michael (Kimberly) Bass of Chelsea; proud grandfather of Mark (Lisa), Brian, Taylor and Lauren; and great-grandfather to Matthew and Hannah. A private memorial service will be held at the Chelsea Retirement Community. Memorial contributions may be made to Arbor Hospice.

Arrangements by:
 Cole Funeral Chapel



BERTSCH SMALLIDGE BROWN JOAN

7/7/1929-12/3/2012
 (83) was born to Ralph E. Smallidge and Grace E. (Humphrey) on July 7th 1929, at Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan. Her family lived in Flint and Ypsilanti and after attending Ypsilanti High School, Joan attended Michigan Normal College (now Eastern Michigan University) where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Teaching and a Master's degree in Special Education. In 1977, she earned a second Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Michigan. She enjoyed a very fulfilling teaching career which spanned four decades beginning in Grand Rapids in the early 1950s. She was not only a classroom teacher but also a homebound teacher—for students with illness or disability—and finally a consultant in special education compliance for Oakland County Schools. Joan is predeceased by her only sibling, Patricia (Sutton) and her first husband, Ian H. (Scott) Brown, Jr. whom she married in 1953. Joan and Scott lived in Midland and Birmingham before making their home in Farmington Hills in 1958. Joan is also predeceased by her second husband, Thomas Bertsch, whom she married in 2001. Joan is survived by her three children: Daniel (Claire) Brown, Lawrence (Connie) Brown and Rebecca (Edward) Brinskele and her three step-children: Frederick (Elaine) Bertsch, Maggie Hunkeler and Lawrence (Diann) Bertsch. Joan is also survived by her seven grandchildren: Amanda, Caitlin and Bill Brown and Paige, Jake, McCall and Walker Brinskele and six step-grandchildren: Ethan and Parker Portice, Sarah Renee (Dave) Hytinen, Heather (Tim) Muir and Matthew, Michael and Thomas Bertsch and step-great-grandchild: Liam Muir. Joan was an energetic, inspirational and loving mother, wife, grandmother and friend as well as a gifted teacher and an accomplished gardener. She will be dearly missed. A memorial celebrating the life of Joan Bertsch will be held on Saturday, December 8th, 2012 at 11 a.m., with visitation at 10 a.m., at the First Presbyterian Church of Saginaw, 121 South Harrison, Saginaw, Michigan 48602. Memorial donations suggested to the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org). Arrangements made by Case (casefuneralhome.com), Saginaw, Michigan.



BOYD, HUBERT J.

Dec. 2, 2012, age 85 of Livonia. Beloved husband of the late Lois. Dear father of Danny (Maureen), Norene (Michael) Hanchett, the late Kathleen Mary & Keith Allen. Brother of Francis & the late Claude, Gerald. Loving grandfather of Melodie (Jason) Alery, Darin Albany, Amy (Bernard) Rizkallah, Angela (Vincent Kutscheid) Albany, Danielle (Robert) Short, Bryan (Tonya Shotwell) Boyd, Danny Boyd. Also survived by 9 great grandchildren. Family will receive friends Sat. 12 noon until time of Memorial Service at 3 pm at the Uht Funeral Home 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland. Family requests memorials to Odyssey Hospice. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhtfh.com



CHAPIN, GORDON CLARK

Age 91 of Plymouth, December 3, 2012. Beloved husband of Elizabeth (Dinkel) Chapin. Dear father to Ann (Bruce) Cavender of Northville and Clark (Karen) Chapin of Plymouth. Grandfather to Robert (Susan) Cavender of Livonia and Bill (Anna) Chapin of Oakland, CA. He was preceded in death by his wife and brothers, Martin and John. He was the son of Martin G. Chapin and Margaret (Clark) Chapin of Detroit and was born on February 19, 1921. Gordon graduated from Detroit's Redford High School in 1939 and Wayne State University in 1948. A veteran of the US Army, he served in Europe during WWII as part of the 109th Maintenance Company (Medium). He was an engineer who helped develop the first domestic automotive disc brake system while employed by Kelsey-Hayes in Romulus. He was active at the Plymouth Historical Museum and Risen Christ Lutheran Church. An active sailor, he served as Commodore for Portage Yacht Club in Pinckney and sailed 18-ft Interlake Class sailboats until age 85. He was honored by Portage Yacht Club in 2006 for his years of service. Visitation Fri 10 AM until the 11 AM Memorial Service at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 W. Ann Arbor Road, (btwn Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170 or Risen Christ.

To share a memory, please visit
vermeulenfuneralhome.com



CLARK, TREVA N.

Age 87, November 30, 2012. Loving mother of Dennis (Penney) Clark, Lynne (Ron) Almos, Karen (Fred) Layton and the late Brandon Clark. Dear grandmother of Angie, Arianna, Bonnie, Derek, Amie, Jayme, Ryan, Andrew, Laura and Lisa. Dear great-grandmother of 10. Sister of Larry, Dixie, Bob, Sharon and Andy. Funeral Services were held for Treva on December 3, 2012 at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Livonia. Please share a memory at:
www.rggharris.com

GULLEDGE, BETTY JANE

Born April 16, 1929
 Died November 23, 2012
 Born in Henry County, Ohio our loving mother was preceded in death by her parents; John Henry and Lula May Swalley. Her brothers; Robert & Donald Swalley. She moved from Ohio to Michigan then began working as a home health care aid until her late 60's when she retired. She leaves behind to mourn her passing 5 children: Roger Hurd, James Hurd, Linda Rabe, Pamela Bynum, and Sheryl Pritchard; followed by her 11 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and many close friends. She is dearly loved and will greatly be missed. Services will be held at Husbands Family Funeral Home 2401 S. Wayne Rd. Westland, MI 48186; followed by a lunch-in Sat. Dec. 8th 2012 at 2:00. Rest In The Arms Of The Angels Mom.



LEMA, JERRY ROBERT

63; of Redford; December 5, 2012. He is survived by his wife, Darlene Foshie Lema; sons, Jerome William-Victor Lema and Anthony Joseph Lema; father, Jerome Lema; step daughters, Saasha Shanice Brown and Chandra Carolyn Brown; grandchildren, Nicklas and Alyssa; step grandchildren, Aubrey, Austin and Chase. Sadly, Jerry was preceded in death by his mother, Helen Lemä. Funeral service Monday, December 10, 10am, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., btwn. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River, downtown Farmington. 248-474-5200. Visitation Sunday 2-8 pm. Interment Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Memorial gifts suggested to Wounded Warrior Project, woundedwarriorproject.org, heeney-sundquist.com



MARKEY, DOROTHY M. D.

December 5, 2012, age 87. Beloved wife of the late Dr. Frank R. for 53 years. Dear mother of Tanya Gold (Gary), Christine Parcels (Jeff), Micheline, Marcia, Michael and the late Peter and Steven. Grandmother of Rebecca Mellem (Adam), Natalie Dosch (Jordan), Elliott Parcels and Graham Parcels. Great-grandmother of Aidan Mellem and Camden Dosch. Funeral Mass Monday 10am. at Holy Name Church, 630 Harmon at Woodland, Birmingham. Visitation at church begins at 9a.m. Memorial tributes to St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf, 1809 Clarkston Rd., Chesterfield, MO 63017. A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500
 View obituary and share memories at:
DesmondFuneralHome.com

SADOWSKI, ANTHONY F.

Age 64, December 1, 2012. Resident to Westland.
www.edwards-watson-andsonfuneralhome.com

SLOCUM, WILLIAM R.

Age 89 of Birmingham, passed away November 19, 2012. Beloved husband of the late Barbara. Loving father of Gail (Keith) Logsdon and G. Scott Slocum. Dear brother of John (Mary) Slocum and the late Robert. Proud grandfather of Molly and Kelsey. There will be a memorial service 10:30 AM Saturday, December 15 at Greenfield Presbyterian Church, 2312 Greenfield Road, Berkley (1 Blk. S of Catalpa). Share your memories at www.sawyerfuller.com

SMALLEY, KENNETH E.

Age 59, of Garden City formerly of Farmington Hills, passed away after a three year battle with cancer November 15, 2012. Husband of Gail, brother of Nancy (John) Rambow, uncle to Christopher (Lora) and Sandra Rambow, great uncle to Brooke Rambow. Son of the late Edward and Mildred (Brown) Smalley. A memorial service is scheduled for December 15, 2012 at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City at 11:00 am.



TAIT, JOHN FINLEY

Age 86, of Dearborn MI, died on November 29, 2012 in Dearborn John was born August 31, 1926 to George H. and Anna L. (MacDonald) Tait in Birmingham, Michigan. Along with his father and brother Ron, John worked for the Detroit News for 25 years, as a flyman, journeyman pressman, then production manager for the News and Free Press. In 1978 he moved on to Stone-Consolidated Corp. in Chicago, and retired in 1995. Mr. Tait is a graduate of Catholic Central, Wayne State University in Detroit, and Illinois Benedictine in Lisle. John married Ruth Elizabeth Parkilla on April 1, 1948 at Sacred Heart Church in Dearborn, MI. Ruth passed away in May 1995. They raised their ten children in Dearborn, Bloomfield Hills, MI, Downers Grove, Ill, and Oscoda, MI, Green Valley AZ, Indianapolis, IN. He was Commodore of the Green Valley Yacht Club. His flag retired to Boston Mass. Mr. Tait is survived by daughters, Anne Elizabeth, Patty Kowalski, Barbara (Mark) Cataldo; sons, George, John, Douglas, (Jayne), Robert (Joy), William (Joyce), Steven (Mary) Tait, Michael (Susan); 13 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and one sister Anna Tait; wife Martha Anne Tait. He was preceded in death by wife Ruth; sisters Barbara Tait and Mary Guimond; and brother George Tait. Interment at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Oscoda, MI.

In Memoriam



SUMMERS, TODD R.

June 27, 1962 - Dec. 8, 2007
 Five years later, dear Todd, no words can express how much you are still missed and loved.

PAYING TRIBUTE
 TO THE LIFE OF
 YOUR LOVED ONE



Thank You!

Thanks to all of you who submitted a toy during Scoop's Toy Drive. All of the gifts were given to Methodist Children's Home Society in Redford and Orphans Children's Services in Southfield.

Holiday Season Photo CONTEST

Send Scoop a photo along with a short note of how you spent your Holiday Season. If selected you could win \$25 Gift Card to Toys R Us!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Boy or Girl: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

*Parent's Printed Name: _____

*Parent's Signature: _____

Join Scoop's Birthday Club!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Boy or Girl: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

*Parent's Printed Name: _____

*Parent's Signature: _____

Fill out the form and have your parents fill in their name and signature. Clip and mail, it's that easy!

* Required for Birthday Club

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Kamar Taylor	Inkster	12/9
Antonio Biggs	Livonia	12/22
Michael Brooks	Detroit	12/25
Damien Dailide	Canton	12/27

Wanted!

Do you write, draw, make crafts, take photographs, or do something else that you would like others to know about? Share your talent with us. We may share your extraordinary talent in an upcoming Scoop's Hound Dog Highlight.

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Design/Layout: Randall Masters, Graphic Artist

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Celebrating the Holiday Season

Share your holiday photos with Scoop. You could win a \$25 Gift Card to Toys R Us!

12 Days of Christmas

SONG	C	L	O	R	D	S	P	Q	A	X	C	D	L	R
TWELVE	A	T	U	R	T	L	E	D	O	V	E	S	E	V
PARTRIDGE	L	B	W	D	R	D	A	N	S	I	N	G	A	L
PEAR TREE	L	P	G	E	V	X	R	Y	F	G	J	E	P	A
TURTLE DOVES	T	I	A	J	L	K	T	U	I	N	H	E	I	D
FRENCH HENS	N	P	Y	R	G	V	R	N	M	N	O	S	N	I
CALLING BIRDS	G	E	N	T	L	E	U	C	G	G	E	G	E	
RINGS	B	R	O	W	F	R	E	N	C	H	H	E	N	S
GEESE	I	S	W	I	M	M	I	N	G	T	N	S	W	E
LAYING SWANS	R	P	W	F	F	A	I	D	A	I	L	O	N	Y
SWIMMING	D	I	O	A	B	I	E	L	G	T	P	L	O	W
MAIDS	S	P	O	O	N	D	I	P	K	E	O	R	R	F
MILKING	R	I	N	G	S	S	M	N	N	I	I	W	L	Q
LADIES	W	N	D	D	E	O	E	S	F	O	N	E	O	S
DANCING	O	G	F	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	X	G	Z	A
LORDS														
LEAPING														
PIPERS PIPING														
DRUM														
HOLIDAY														



Did you know?

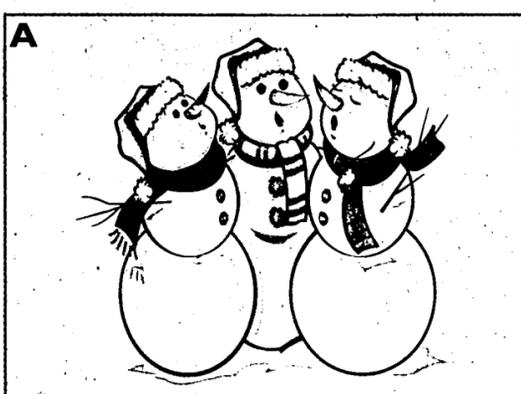
THIRTY-FOUR TO THIRTY-SIX MILLION CHRISTMAS TREES ARE PRODUCED FOR THE HOLIDAY EACH YEAR.

Courtesy of Metro Creative

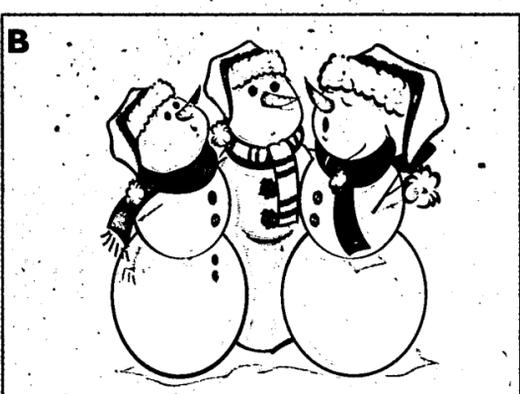
What's the Difference?

There are five things different between picture A and picture B. Can you find all of them?

A



B



Courtesy of Metro Creative

Answers: 1. missing arm 2. bigger hat 3. no mouth on middle snowman 4. extra buttons on left 5. snow is falling

Lucky November Winners!

What are you thankful for?

I'm thankful for life, liberty, and to be all that I can be in this big world we live in. I thankful to have two loving parent that love me unconditionally. We may not have everything that we want, but we have each other. And that is a blessing. Love you Scoop.



Khalil Ali
Detroit, Age 13

What are you thankful for?

I'm thankful for my family because my family takes very good care of me and they also give me a lot a love and care.



Damien Dailide
Canton, Age 9

Deadline for submissions:

Mail all entry forms to: Scoop the Newshound, 41304 Concept Drive Plymouth, MI 48170
All entries need to be received at the Observer & Eccentric Media by close of the business day on December 28th.
or email your form to: cbjordan@hometownlife.com Winners to be announced in a future Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights.



SHEN YUN

A PRODUCTION NOTHING SHORT OF A MIRACLE.

Inspiration drawn from 5,000 years of Chinese culture
 Exquisite costumes from ancient dynasties & peoples
 Stunning, animated backdrops

SHEN YUN—it's a grand production. Every year we start fresh. Every detail matters. Our goal? Not just another show. We take our craft beyond the boundaries of performing arts as you know it.

A Shen Yun show is a fusion of classical arts with modern appeal. As one audience member put it, "It's like a fashion show, opera, concert, and dance performance all rolled into one." Difficult? Yes. Impossible?

No. Our passion motivates us to bring it all together into one extraordinary experience.

Classical Chinese dance lies at the heart of our performances. The dancers — with what some have called "limitless bodies"— turn an intensely difficult art form into something beautiful and effortless. China's 5,000 years of civilization provide an endless source of inspiration. The choreographers work

closely with the composers to recreate ancient stories and legends, or convey an aspect of the culture, through short pieces that last no more than a few minutes. Our graphic artists, meanwhile, use advanced digital technology to produce stunning animated backdrops that correspond precisely to each dance.

After seeing the show, one audience member marveled, "This production... is nothing short of a miracle."

NOT MADE IN CHINA

Based in New York, Shen Yun Performing Arts was founded with the mission to restore 5,000 years of divinely inspired Chinese culture, which has been mostly destroyed in China under communist rule. In fact, a show like Shen Yun can no longer be found in China today.

5,000 YEARS OF DIVINELY INSPIRED CULTURE

THE SHOW THAT'S LEAVING MILLIONS IN AWE...

"The ancient Chinese wisdom

it conveyed will not only benefit the Chinese people, but also the whole world."

—Ted Kavanau, founding Senior Producer of CNN Headline News

★★★★★

"Mind blowing. I've seen enough shows and none can compare to what I saw tonight... Go back and see it six times!"

—Richard Connema, renowned Broadway critic

"Really out of this world!

There is no word to describe it... if I had to, the words might be 'divine,' 'reborn' and 'hope.' You have to see it to believe it."

—Christine Walevska, cello virtuoso

"If heaven is the way we saw it tonight, count me in!"

—Nathanlel Khan, Academy Award-nominated filmmaker

"A beautiful show... fantastic!"

—Joy Behar, Co-host of ABC's The View

"It lived up to its promise Extraordinary visual impact!"

—Canberra Review

SHEN YUN
 神韻晚會
 2013

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PRICE

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DATES & TIMES

Thu Jan 24, 7:30pm
 Fri Jan 25, 7:30pm
 Sat Jan 26, 2:30pm
 Sat Jan 26, 7:30pm
 Sun Jan 27, 2:00pm

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