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SUNDAY
November 21, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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PIPELINE

Leadership shift

In addition to hearing a report from the district's Dynamic Planning Committee, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education will discuss, and possibly act on, the administrative structure in the district at a board meeting scheduled for Monday.

The item was added to the meeting agenda Friday morning.

While no other details were available, board members have been talking about beginning the process to find a replacement for Dr. Craig Fiegel, the district's superintendent whose contract the board voted 4-3 not to renew. In addition to Fiegel's departure, several other key members of the district's administrative leadership team are slated to retire at the end of this school year or near the beginning of the next.

The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the E.J. McClendon Education Center, 454 S. Harvey, in Plymouth, following a 6 p.m. executive session.

Cruise raffle

Just in time for a warm weather getaway, New Hope Center, a non-profit grief support organization in Northville, is offering a cruise raffle (for two) on Celebrity Cruise Lines.

Approximate value is \$1,500. Tickets are being sold now through Dec. 3, when the drawing will be held at their "New Hope for the New Year Event." The winner does not need to be present to win. Tickets are \$30 each or two for \$50 and can be purchased by going to www.newhopecenter.net.

Download the cruise raffle form, fill it out and send it in. There are two cruise options, both based on availability. Option #1 is Jan. 22-29 on the Eclipse with ports in Grand Cayman, Cozumel, Costa Maya and Roatan. Option #2 is a certificate for a cruise of equal value with the offer expiring May 30, 2011. Both are inside staterooms, but the winner can upgrade to an Oceanview.

Christmas carols

The Plymouth Historical Museum presents an "Old World Christmas Carols Show," performed by Simply Dickens, on Monday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. The show highlights the carols that were well known long ago during the Christmas Season but are rarely heard by modern ears, along with a few of the more familiar tunes. There are also comedic holiday skits performed by group members. Tickets to the show are \$10 per person/\$25 per family in advance or \$15 per person/\$30 per family at the door and can be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum or on the Museum's website www.plymouth-history.org using PayPal. Museum doors will open at 6 PM; the show starts at 7 PM. Come early to explore the Museum's new special exhibit "Santa Magic."

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, Plymouth.

Lighting up



Arches filled with red, green and white snowflakes span the width of Hines Drive as the annual Wayne County Lightfest opens. The drive-through display starts at Merriman south of Warren in Westland. For more on the display, please turn to Page A7.

Park patrons to pay double to rent local picnic shelters

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The price of renting the pavilion at Plymouth Township Park, the picnic shelters there or the shelter at Lake Pointe Soccer Park will double next year, as township officials say they need to recoup more of the costs of running those facilities.

Rent on the pavilion at Plymouth Township Park, and on both of the park's picnic shelters, will go from \$100 a day to \$200 a day. Half-day

sessions will go from \$50 to \$100. The same prices will also apply to the picnic shelter at Lake Pointe Soccer Park.

The increases were approved Tuesday by a 6-0 vote of the township Board of Trustees.

Officials said recent improvements to the facilities, and the employee time required for maintaining them and keeping restrooms clean for renters, justify the price hikes.

"We found out it took a lot of (personnel) time and energy,

and that represents dollars," said Supervisor Richard Reaume. "We're not trying to get rich on this, but at this point we're looking at all of our costs centers."

Even with the increased fees, Reaume said, the facilities will be subsidized by taxpayers to some extent.

Fees for rentals by non-residents were also increased substantially; but officials said few non-residents

Please see **SHELTERS, A2**

Committee is set to reveal 'Dynamic' plan

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After months of planning, five meetings and two focus groups, the committee charged with developing a strategic plan for the future of Plymouth-Canton schools is ready to report.

The committee's findings — including goals and a vision statement — will be revealed at the Board of Education's meeting Monday. It starts 7 p.m. at the E.J. McClendon Education Center in Plymouth.

The 60-member committee met five times between Sept. 20 and Nov. 1, and met with focus groups twice, to develop goals and mission and vision statements designed to carry the district into the future.

"They were a great group," said Frank Ruggirello, the district's director of community relations. "Whenever you do something like this and pick people randomly from

the community, you're concerned a little bit that someone will have a personal agenda or an ax to grind. This group came in, they were open-minded, collaborative and well together to come up with some good decisions."

Ruggirello said the group consisted of people from varying backgrounds and represented a diverse cross-section of the community. There were some committee members with higher education, some with very technical backgrounds, and some people who'd had — or still have — children in the district who simply wanted to help make things better.

Many of them, Ruggirello said, were participating in a district function for the first time.

"We had a really nice mix of people who brought different perspectives and were willing to discuss those perspectives," Ruggirello

Please see **PLAN, A2**

Township ups price of water, sewer

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The average quarterly residential water bill in Plymouth Township will go up by about \$20 beginning next month.

With a 5-1 vote on Tuesday, the township Board of Trustees approved the second reading of a \$1 hike in the combined water and sewer rate, taking the rate to \$8.35 per thousand gallons.

Officials say the township is in danger of cutting too deeply into the water department's working capital — cash on hand plus monies owed — without passing on at least some rising costs to customers. Faced with wholesale increases in recent years, the board has often passed on none or only part of those increases to customers.

The hike was less than the \$9-per-thousand rate recommended by the auditing firm Plante Moran, which analyzes water department finances.

The rate of \$8.35 per thousand gallons includes \$3.10 per thousand for water and \$5.25 per thousand for sewer service. Residential water customers get a 25-percent discount on the sewer charge for the summer months under the theory

Please see **WATER, A3**



For the birds

Plymouth Community Fire Department firefighters and EMS personnel heard about the Plymouth Salvation Army's struggle to get turkeys donated in time to help the needy in Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville, and came riding to the rescue. Firefighters donated a total of 29 turkeys (Plymouth Township officials also arranged for the donation of a significant number of dinner rolls) to help fill out the Salvation Army's food pantry in time for Thanksgiving. Capt. Jolene Hull (center) gratefully accepted the donation.



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Restaurants, retail eyed for vacant gas station

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A long-vacant gas station in downtown Plymouth could be replaced with a restaurant or retail complex, or a mix of the two, under a proposal from the property owner and a developer.

Ed Dombrowski, who owns the former gas station on Ann Arbor Trail at Main, has submitted to the city plans for a three-story building that would include a food court on the first floor, two restaurants on the second and a cafe with garden patio seating on the third. He's calling it the 789 Building,

after its address on Ann Arbor Trail. "It'll be a pleasant place to go right across from the (Kellogg) park," said Dombrowski, who owns the site with his wife, Patricia.

"We're going to really try to contribute good things to the downtown Plymouth area," said Omar Hamdan, who has a background in developing and running restaurants.

The two also said they are also open to having retail outlets in the building, or a mixture of retail and restaurants.

They are set to appear before the city's Planning Commission on Wednesday, Dec. 8, to formally present their plans. They are also seeking approval from the Historic District Commission, which requires new construction to fit in with the character of downtown Plymouth.

The Historic District Commission in October voted down an application, with commission members calling for more detailed drawings and a list of materials to be used. The plans are on the agenda for the Historic District Commission's Wednesday, Dec. 1, meeting, and Hamdan on Friday said he was optimistic the application will be approved.

The vacant gas station could be razed as early as next month if a permit can be obtained, Hamdan said. Dombrowski said the station closed in 1991. Landscaping at the site was being cleared beginning Nov. 11.

Plans on file with the city show a new three-story building with the first floor slightly below grade. The building would be about 23,000 square feet.

The first-floor food court would have five food stands for vendors and a large seating area, the plans show.

The second floor would house two restaurants, each with its own kitchen. The third story would be a smaller structure that would house a kitchen and serving area, with patio seating outside amid a variety of plantings.

Hamdan said some restaurants have shown an interest in the project. "We did not sign with anybody yet. We are waiting for the plans to be approved by the city," he said.

He declined to estimate a price tag for the project, saying that plans aren't yet complete. Construction, Hamdan said, could be finished in a year or less.

Dombrowski said some environmental cleanup of the former gas station site will be needed and that he is working with state officials on that.

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NEXT THREE DAYS (PG-13)
11:10, 1:50, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55

UNSTOPPABLE (PG-13)
12:10, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:20 FRI/SAT LS 11:40

SKYLINE (PG-13)
11:20, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:40 FRI/SAT LS 12:00

DUE DATE (R)
11:40, 2:10, 4:20, 6:35, 9:10 FRI/SAT LS 11:30

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SHELTERS

FROM PAGE A1

rent the pavilion or the shelters, and that residents have first dibs.

Recent improvements to the Plymouth Township Park pavilion and shelters include new paint, new grilles, remodeled restrooms that comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act, and a sink in a set-up room at the pavilion, said Treasurer Ron Edwards.

The air-conditioned setup room has not previously been available to groups renting the pavilion, but it will be next year, with a price tag of \$50 for a whole day, \$25 for a half day.

The park rentals are popular, Edwards said, and many weekend slots are likely to be filled by the end of January.

"They will fill up for June and July real quick because people use them for their graduation parties," he said.

On weekdays, when rentals aren't as common, the facilities are available to nonprofit groups such as the Boy Scouts and school groups.

Voting to approve the increase were Reaume and Edwards, plus Clerk Joe Bridgman and Trustees Mike Kelly, Bob Doroszewitz and Kay Arnold. Trustee Steve Mann was absent.

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PLAN

FROM PAGE A1

said. "We now have a group of people who have a better understanding of our district, and people on whom we can call in the future."

The committee met four times, then sat with two different focus groups. At their Nov. 1 committee meeting, they made some revisions to the plan based on what they heard in the focus groups.

Committee members had to make extensive time commitments to the process — the meetings were largely daylong affairs — spread over a couple of months.

"It was a huge commitment of time," Ruggirello said. "We were really pleased with the willingness people showed to make the commitment. It speaks to the kind of community we have."

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- Trio Organic - Forest Ave. • PCEP Choir - Ann Arbor Tr.
- "Gordon the Magician" for the holiday magic show

Santa's Arrival

- 5:15pm - Plymouth Canton Educational Park Choir takes the Kellogg Park stage
- 5:30pm - Gordon Russ presents his Holiday Magic Show on the Kellogg Park stage
- 6:00pm - Santa arrives by Fire Truck and lighting of the Holiday Tree
- Free candy canes for kids
- 6:30pm - Santa's House officially opens for the season

Downtown Plymouth Holiday Experience

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Vote for your favorite Gingerbread House on Parade and be eligible to win a prize

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Visit "Santa Magic" at the Plymouth Historical Museum.
For more information visit <http://www.plymouthhistory.org>

Barefoot plays Dickens for fund-raiser Dec. 10-11

Barefoot Productions produces a very merry holiday celebration fund-raiser, showcasing a narrative reading of Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*.

In partnership with area merchants Sweets 21, Tranquillitea and Vintner's Canton Winery, Barefoot's Dec. 10-11 event seeks to raise the necessary funds to support the theatre's operations, including its two remaining season shows, the British farce, *Black Comedy* (February 2011) and the off-Broadway hit, *Lips Together, Teeth Apart* (May 2011). Barefoot's sponsors will provide mulled wines, teas and holiday pastries to enhance the Victorian-themed event.

"We were so pleased by both our patrons' response and the support of our merchants when we first offered this special rendition of a holiday classic last year," explained Craig A. Hane, Barefoot Productions' founder and artistic director. "The response was so positive, so overwhelming, that we've decided to bring back this special holiday celebration to meet the requests of our supporters. We loved performing it - so much so that the original cast has reassembled to perform yet again this year. It's our heartfelt way to share a bit of holiday spirit and tradition."

Hane said Dickens had always intended the story to

be performed as a narrative and Barefoot pays homage to his wishes by presenting *A Christmas Carol* as a narrative reading. Performed by seven actors, taking on more than 40 different characters of varying ages and accents, this unique, shared storytelling is "guaranteed to inspire a nostalgic holiday spirit," Hane said.

Led by a cast of seven, Barefoot's narrative reading features the talents of Linda Stanko, lead narrator (Grosse Ile), Dave Alexander (Dearborn), Nathan Corliss (Livonia), Christine Steves (Woodhaven), Jonathon Wennstrom (Livonia), Elizabeth Whitcomb (Livonia) and Steve White (Plymouth).

In a fresh 'twist' on Dickens, Barefoot Productions has chosen to cast the lead voice as a woman, despite the fact Dickens' story is predominantly male.

Celebrating its fifth season, Barefoot Productions remains a 501(c)(3) volunteer-driven arts organization. As such it is heavily reliant on its patrons, grants, advertisers and fund-raisers such as *A Christmas Carol* to continue bringing live theatre to the Plymouth community.

"We are always cognizant that we are dependent on the charity of others," said Hane. "It's a theme that is prevalent in *A Christmas Carol* as well.

We're grateful for the support and belief the community has shared with us. Fund-raisers, like this one, help us to continue to grow and find new ways to enrich our patrons' theatre experience at Barefoot."

A Christmas Carol is scheduled for two nights, Dec. 10-11, beginning with the reception at 7:30 p.m. The reception will transport patrons back to a warm, nostalgic holiday ambience, replete with mulled wines, Victorian-styled pastries and fragrant teas, provided by Vintner's Canton Winery, Sweets 21 and Tranquillitea (both of Plymouth).

The fund-raiser is a suggested donation of \$30 per person and \$15 for children 12 and under. Advanced reservations are encouraged and may be made by visiting www.justgobarefoot.com or by calling 734/560-1493. This special holiday celebration, suitable for the entire family, will be held in the Barefoot Productions Theatre (formerly the Walker-Buzenberg Building), 240 N. Main in Plymouth.

Barefoot Productions also asks patrons attending *A Christmas Carol* to consider bringing an unwrapped toy to donate toward Plymouth's First Step, a non-profit organization whose aim is to reduce and prevent domestic and sexual violence while providing services to individuals affected by these crimes.



Front row (from left) Linda Stanko (Grosse Ile), Elizabeth Whitcomb (Livonia) and Nathan Corliss (Livonia). Back row (from left) Jonathon Wennstrom (Livonia), David Alexander (Dearborn) and Steven R. White (Plymouth). Not pictured: Christine Steves (Woodhaven) and Craig A. Hane (Plymouth), Director.

WATER

FROM PAGE A1

that water used for washing vehicles and watering lawns does not end up in the sanitary sewer.

The average household in Plymouth Township uses about 80,000 gallons of water a year, or about 20,000 per

quarter.

Trustee Bob Doroshewitz cast the lone no vote on Tuesday. Doroshewitz had urged adopting a higher rate, saying that while he didn't like the idea of charging more, the township could no longer afford to absorb cost increases without passing them on.

Voting for the measure were Supervisor Richard Reaume,

Treasurer Ron Edwards, Clerk Joe Bridgman and Trustees Mike Kelly and Kay Arnold. Trustee Steve Mann was absent.

The price increase only applies to usage-based water and sewer service, not other fees tacked onto water bills, such as for garbage pickup.

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The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

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.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.

eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly of applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.

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Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be

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NOVEMBER

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Nov 18: 4 p.m. • Radcliff Center
Nov 22: 6:30 p.m. • Bradner Library
Nov 23: 1:30 p.m. • Bradner Library

19 Conversation & Coffee: Volunteering During Retirement, It's Good for Your Soul
1 p.m. • VisTaTech • \$

19 Friday Evening Concert Series: Antonio Pompa-Baldi, piano
8 p.m. • VisTaTech • \$

23-December 16
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DECEMBER

1-16 Gingerbread Village Display
Created by Culinary Arts students • VisTaTech

1 Lunchtime Recital Series: Christopher Scholl, tenor, and Kevin Bylsma, piano
Noon • VisTaTech

1 Spirit Night: Men's & Women's Basketball Teams
5:30 p.m. • Physical Education Building • \$

2 International Film Festival: For My Father
9:30 a.m. • McDowell Center, Room 200

2 Electronic Music Summit: Synthesizer Ensemble and other groups
7:30 p.m. • Schaver Music Recital Hall, Wayne State University

3 Artists' Ensemble and SC Wind Ensemble
7:30 p.m. • VisTaTech

5 Winter Concert: Choral Union and Wind Ensemble
7:30 p.m. • Radcliff Center

10 Transition Center Luncheon Series: Reel Action FX
11:30 a.m. • VisTaTech • \$

10 Music Performances: Bach Festival
7 p.m. • VisTaTech

13 Winter Concert: Jazz Ensemble and Synthesizer Ensemble
7:30 p.m. • VisTaTech

18 Breakfast with Santa
Sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa
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West choirs join Chorale for holiday concert

Janine Grady-Creedon, Vocal Music Teacher at West Middle School in Plymouth has been busy these last few weeks.

Grady-Creedon's seventh- and eighth-grade choirs have been preparing to take the stage with the BeckRidge Chorale in their annual Christmas Concert, "Wrapped Up With Strings!"

"Janine Grady was one of our first scholarship winners and has always had a very special place in my heart," said Michael Gross, artistic director for BeckRidge Chorale. "She was a student in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and has returned to give back what she was given. She is a wonderful musician, her kids love her and she inspires her singers. Her students are incredibly well prepared and sing beautifully. I love working with Janine and her kids!"

"Wrapped Up With Strings!" is the title of the annual Christmas Concert of the BeckRidge Chorale.

"We have pulled out all the stops," said Gross. "Wrapped Up With Strings!" is designed

to touch all our senses. From the orchestra, Middle School Choirs, dancers and video presentation, we want an audience to leave with the spirit that only Christmas can infuse."

Hillside Middle School in Northville will also be joining the chorale for their annual concert. In addition, the orchestra and choir will be joined by a guest narrator for a unique telling of *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. Dancers from Triple Threat Dance and Theatre Company will also be joining the Chorale and orchestra for an original dance routine.

"Wrapped Up With Strings!" takes place Friday, Dec. 3, at 8 p.m. at the Village Theatre in Canton. Performances on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 5, at 4 p.m., will be held at Northville High School in Northville.

Tickets range from \$12 to \$18 and are available online at www.beckridgechorale.org or by calling (888) 459-4887.

For more information, contact Kelly Fifield at (812) 344-4275.



West Middle School choirs will join the BeckRidge Chorale for its annual holiday concert Friday, Dec. 3, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

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"Around Plymouth" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Cruise raffle

Just in time for a warm weather getaway, New Hope Center, a non-profit grief support organization in Northville, is offering a cruise raffle (for two) on Celebrity Cruise Lines.

Approximate value is \$1,500. Tickets are being sold now through Dec. 3, when the drawing will be held at their "New Hope for the New Year Event." The winner does not need to be present to win. Tickets are \$30 each or two for \$50 and can be purchased by going to www.newhopecenter.net.

Download the cruise raffle form, fill it out and send it in. There are two cruise options, both based on availability. Option #1 is Jan. 22-29 on the Eclipse with ports in Grand Cayman, Cozumel, Costa Maya and Roatan. Option #2 is a certificate for a cruise of equal value with the offer expiring May 30, 2011. Both are inside state-rooms, but the winner can upgrade to an Oceanview.

Service of Lessons

St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon Road in Plymouth, announces its annual Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent, to be held Sunday, Dec. 12, at 4:30 p.m.

The service, which follows a format popularized by King's College of the University of Cambridge, England, alternates readings from Scripture with the singing of songs and carols appropriate for the season of Advent. Members of the church's music ministry, including Children's and Youth choirs, Handbell Choir, Parish Choir, and contemporary group SonShine, will come together to present the music for the service, under the direction of Minister of Music Julie Ford.

Although the concert is free of charge, attendees are encouraged to give generously to a free-will offering. Benefits from the concert will be donated to the Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan. Gleaners, which was founded in Detroit in 1977, distributes more than 28 million pounds of food annually through its five Metro-Detroit distribution centers.

St. John's Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent is part of the church's concert series, Resounding Art in a Sacred Space. For more information on this program, the concert series, or the parish, please

telephone (734) 453-0190, Ext. 16, or visit the church website at www.stjohnsplymouth.org

Symphony programs

The Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras present two upcoming programs.

The first is a Backstage Pass 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, at the Liberty Street Brewing Company in Plymouth's Old Village.

It's a free evening open to the public featuring the orchestra musicians in a fun, informal evening to learn more about the "people behind the music."

The second is "The Nutcracker," 6:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and 2 p.m. Dec. 5 in the auditorium at Salem High School.

For tickets and information call (734) 451-2112 or (734) 676-7233, or order online at <http://www.plymouth-cantonballet.org>

Christmas carols

The Plymouth Historical Museum presents an "Old World Christmas Carols Show," performed by Simply Dickens, on Monday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. The show highlights the carols that were well known long ago during the Christmas Season but are rarely heard by modern ears, along with a few of the more familiar tunes. There are also comedic holiday skits performed by group members. Simply Dickens is a period-dressed quartet of trained vocalists and musicians that specializes in the music of the 18th and 19th centuries.

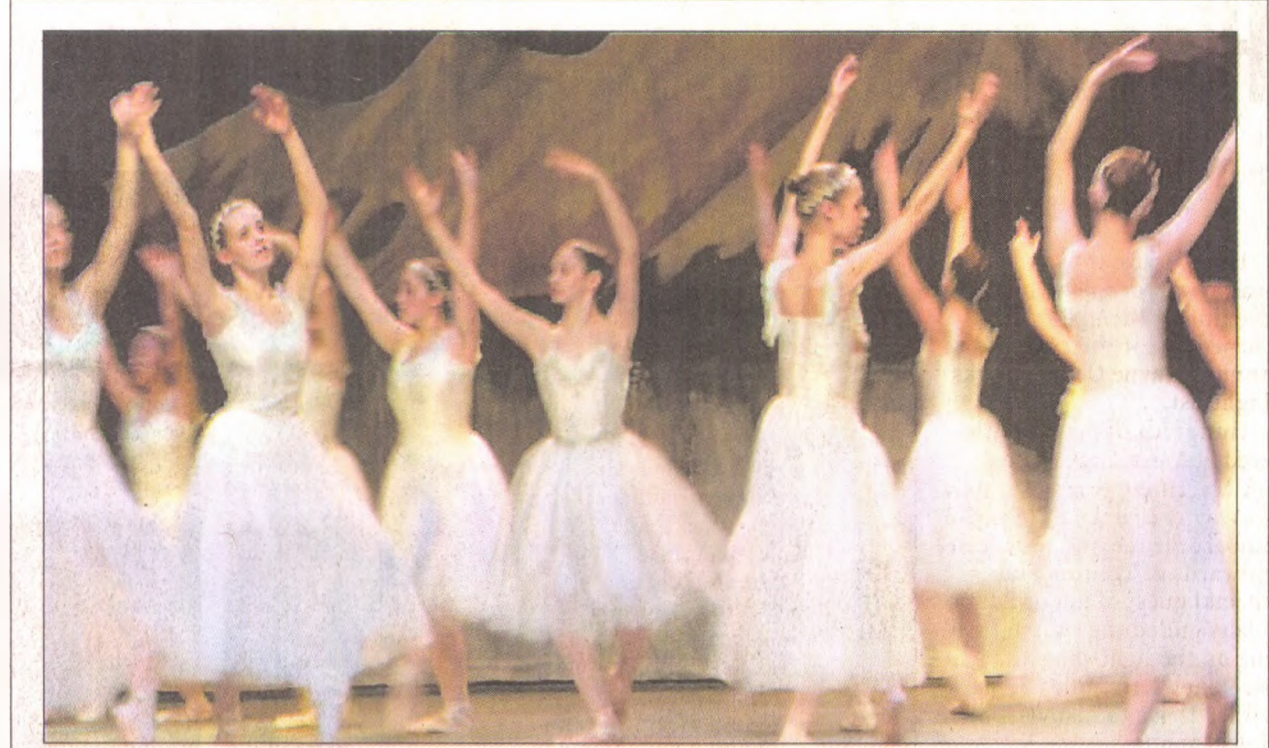
Tickets to the show are \$10 per person/\$25 per family in advance or \$15 per person/\$30 per family at the door and can be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum or on the Museum's website www.plymouthhistory.org using PayPal. Museum doors will open at 6 PM; the show starts at 7 PM. Come early to explore the Museum's new special exhibit "Santa Magic."

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, Plymouth.

Lunch and learn

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts "Lunch & Learn While Dining With Doctors" 1-3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 22 at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer in Plymouth.

The panel of doctors will include Ear Nose Throat, Anesthesia, General Surgery, Podiatry, Ophthalmology, Urology, Gastroenterology, Gynecology and Orthopedic. The Dearborn Surgery Center has teamed



Nutcracker ballet

The Plymouth Symphony and the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company present Tchaikovsky's perennial holiday favorite, "The Nutcracker Ballet," on Saturday and Sunday, December 4-5, at the Gloria Logan Auditorium at Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road in Canton. Saturday's performance is at 6:30 p.m.; the Sunday performance is a 2 p.m. matinee. Come and enjoy a beautiful performance featuring the cast of the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company with professional dancers and a live orchestra. Musical favorites include the "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" complete with the bell-like accompaniment played on the Celesta, a favorite instrument of Tchaikovsky. Other favorites include the "Dance of the Snow Queen," which will feature the women's chorus of the PCEP Park Singers. For tickets and information call the Plymouth Symphony at (734) 451-2112 or visit www.plymouthcantonballet.org

up with the Plymouth Community Council on Aging to bring health care education to the community. This is a completely free event which will include a catered lunch.

Seats are limited, call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236, to reserve a seat.

AAUW meets

The Plymouth/Canton branch of the American Association of University Women will host its monthly meeting on Dec. 2, at 6 p.m., at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon in Plymouth (just north of North Territorial).

The meeting will feature the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's (P-CEP) Madrigal Singers. Many other fun activities are planned to start the holiday season.

Light refreshments will be served.

AAUW is dedicated to advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. AAUW membership is open to all. For more information, contact Esther Nelson at enelson1c@att.net or (734) 981-4938.

Chair exercise

Chair Exercise is now offered at the Plymouth Community Cultural Center on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. This is a drop-in program, sponsored by the Plymouth Community Council on Aging. Cost is \$1.50 for each session.

Enjoy the benefits of toning, stretching and cardiovascular workouts and a healthier life. The class instructor is Nicole M. Freeman, owner of "FIT 4 U." Everyone is Welcome to participate, just show up.

The Plymouth Cultural Center is located at 525 Farmer in Plymouth.

Jazz @ the Elks

Jazz @ The Elks takes place the fourth Tuesday of the month from 7-10:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road just west of Haggerty, in Plymouth.

These events are designed to keep the uniquely American tradition of Jazz alive in southeast Michigan. A \$5 donation at the door includes hors d'oeuvres and live jazz in a beautiful club setting.

On Tuesday, Nov. 23, the renowned John Trudell Jazz Quartet features Chuck Shermetaro on keyboard, Bill Cairo on drums, Ray Tini on bass and John Trudell on trumpet and flugelhorn. This a popular group so come early for best seating.

Nuns in charge

"Put the Nuns in Charge," a long-running comedy from the author of "Late Night Catechism," is coming to St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church in Canton 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28.

Ticket prices range from \$20 for non-reserved seating and go up to \$75 for front row seats. All tickets include a dessert afterglow. All proceeds will go to two great causes - St. Pat's Food Pantry in Detroit and World Youth Day.

Child care will be provided for a small donation. Tickets must be purchased in person with cash or check at St. Thomas a Becket, located at 555 S. Lilley Road in Canton, south of Cherry Hill Road.

Contact the church at (734) 981-1333 for further information.

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Hines Park lights up for the holidays

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hines Drive in Westland was awash in color Thursday evening as the lights were turned on for the 18th annual Wayne County Parks Lightfest.

Hundreds of people gathered at Merriman Hollow off Merriman Road to watch as Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Kathleen Edwards of Trenton and special guest of honor Santa Claus pulled the switch turning on the light show that stretches 4 1/2 miles along Hines Drive to just west of Telegraph Road.

"I enjoy seeing the kids and seeing them get excited about the lights," said Ficano, who had just returned from a trip to China. "For all of the challenges we are facing, it's nice to have something that people can feel good about."

Holiday music and doughnuts and hot chocolate were provided for families that gathered for the opening celebration. And once the lights were turned on, the sky was lit up with fireworks.

"It's great, we just love it," said Jamey Good of Garden City. "I come every year, I just love to come. I go through the lights a few times every year."

Good was there with her three children, as well as her mother, Kathy Modreski, sister Brittany Modreski and sister-in-law Kim Holman and her two children.

It was only the second time Jason Larabell of Livonia had ever been at the opening ceremony. His first time was in the mid-1990s when he performed with the Livonia Franklin High School marching band.

"It had to be 15 years ago, we played Christmas songs," he said.

Joining him was his mother, Donna Larabell, who has done the Lightfest five times, but never made it to the opening ceremony. She was very sick when her son was in



Rebecca Rose and Kathleen Edwards react after pulling the switch to turn on the lights for Lightfest 2010.



Grandmother Kathy Modreski, of Farmington Hills, grandson Riley Modreski and his mother Kim Holman of Garden City meet Santa Claus.

the marching band. "She wanted to see the fireworks," said Jason Larabell.

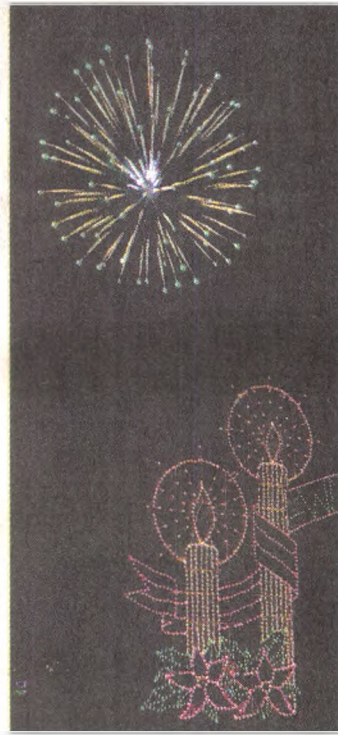
"We're doing this in memory of his dad, he died just before Christmas in 2008. He loved Christmas and he loved fireworks," she said. "This is kind of in his memory."

For a group of teenagers from the Warren Road Light and Life Church in Westland, the ceremony was a "destina-

tion unknown" event planned by Josh Sprunger and his wife, Jessica.

"We do a destination unknown every month, I pick a different place to go," said Sprunger, who brought 10 youths to the opening ceremony. "We were looking for something new and decided to do the Lightfest."

Among the group were John Glenn High School students Justin Staples, Kari Carter and Anya Gill who



Fireworks light up the nighttime sky and usher in the start of the Wayne County Parks Lightfest.

were captivated by the fireworks.

"It was nice and the end had a lot of explosions," said Staples, a first-time Lightfest attendee.

"I've gone to a few," added Carter. "I remember coming with an aunt when I was 8 years old, but I've never been to the opening ceremony. I didn't know there were fireworks."

Gill was the veteran, having attended for five consecutive years. She said the best thing to do for the ceremony was "dress warm."

Meriem Kadi, a Westland City Council member, found the event "pretty amazing."

"I've driven through it three or four times, but this is my first time at the kick-off, I didn't expect fireworks," she said. "It's a good turnout and everyone is in good spirit. It's a good way to kick off the holiday season."

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751

LIGHTFEST 2010

The Wayne County Parks Lightfest 2010 covers more than four miles of Hines Drive from Merriman to Telegraph. It's open 7-10 p.m. nightly now through Dec. 31, except for Christmas Day when it will be closed. Although Lightfest opens at 7 p.m., Hines Drive is closed to traffic beginning at 5:45 p.m. Visitors enter Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman, north of Warren Road, in Westland. There

is a \$5 donation per car. Lightfest is sponsored in partnership with Friends of Wayne County Parks, DTE Energy, ITC Holdings, DBT Marketing and Promotional Group, McDonald Modular, Entertainment Express Luxury Limousine, Michigan Mountain Biking Association, Total Runner, Beatthetrain.com and Trails Edge store. For more information, call (734) 261-1990 or visit waynecountyparks.org.

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Good News!

Contest winners share their winning stories

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

As the saying goes, "Bad news spreads quickly," but it seems the good news around town is making headway.

Mickey Arsneault of Livonia and Michelle Kolozsvary of Plymouth shared their inspirational stories in a monthly contest, "Good News, Good Chews!" co-sponsored by the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* and Buddy's Pizza and each won a meal for four (lunch or dinner) at any Buddy's Pizza location.

Arsneault won for the best story in September when she wrote about her husband, Wally, a patient at the University of Michigan Hospital. He passed out red roses to show his appreciation to his caregivers.

Wally Arsneault, 75, died Thursday, Nov. 18. He will be remembered as a cheerful man, who loved people and always thought of others first.

"To know Wally was to love him," Mickey said. "He was a wonderful, wonderful man."

Kolozsvary's story reveals the kindness of a series of strangers who brought her family members together with their lost and injured cat.

Arsneault learned about a "FTD Good Neighbor Day" where participating florists were offering a dozen free red roses to hand out to 11 different people and keeping one rose. The day of the event, Sept. 1, she received 12 red roses from My Lady's Florist in Westland.

"My husband felt good about putting a smile on their faces and expressed his gratitude to each of them for the wonderful care he is receiving," Arsneault wrote. "The hallway was buzzing with conversation about this event and wondering how they, too, could receive a rose."

After she learned she won the contest, Arsneault said, "I felt so touched by him passing out the roses and him touching everyone's day. He was just so wonderful and loving and considerate. Someone walks into his room and he asks, 'How are you



Mickey, a 12-year-old cat, is the much loved pet of the Kolozsvary family of Plymouth. This photo was taken before Mickey's injury.

Mickey recovered nicely from his injuries and is back where he belongs. Here he is with Andrew Kolozsvary, who is 4½ years old. This photo was taken when Andrew was 3.

doing today?' He was a very young 75 year old."

"I couldn't believe that out of all the stories you had submitted that you chose mine," Arsneault said. "It was a heartwarming story and he put a smile on so many faces at the hospital."

Kolozsvary's October entry shows how one person's good deed built on another good deed and yet another until finally her 12-year-old grey and white cat, Mickey, was saved and returned to her family.

Mickey is known to stay out all night, but had been missing for over a week last month.

"After several days we began to think maybe he had run away for good," Kolozsvary wrote, explaining that her family circulated "Lost Cat" fliers in their neighborhood. Two days later, they received a voicemail from a neighbor who lives at the nearby senior condo complex saying he saw their "Lost Cat" flier and someone else's "Found Cat" flier and that the cats looked alike.

"After several days we began to think maybe he had run away for good," Michelle wrote, explaining that her family circulated "Lost Cat" fliers in their neighborhood.

Two days later, they received a voicemail from a neighbor, who only identified himself as Chuck. He lives at the nearby senior condo complex saying he saw their "Lost Cat" flier and someone else's "Found Cat" flier and that the cats looked alike.

Chuck left his phone number and the phone number on the "Found Cat" flier that was left by Darryl and Dana Rabe. Kolozsvary later learned their two fliers were posted only one block apart.

"We quickly called the "Found Cat" family (the Rabes) and learned that they had found our cat on the first day he was missing laying on the grass near Sheldon Road," Kolozsvary wrote. "He was injured and could not walk."

The Rabes went out of their way to take the cat to the Michigan Humane Society in Westland and after learning Westland didn't take animals from Plymouth they took Mickey to Huron Valley Humane Society.

Mickey was treated for a broken pelvis and had been placed into foster care where an Ann Arbor volunteer, who Kolozsvary only knows by the name, Patty, nursed him during his early days of recovery.

"The supervisor for the Intake Department at The Huron Valley Humane Society (Todd St. Claire) was incredibly kind and helpful," Kolozsvary said.

After 10 days, Mickey was home with his family and "we are so grateful," Kolozsvary added. "We think Mickey is glad to be home as well. He has a brother cat from the same litter that is glad to have his buddy back. Mickey has several more weeks of recuperation ahead of him and we are hopeful that

SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS

The *Observer & Eccentric* and Buddy's Pizza are partnering to make sure good news is recognized and rewarded.

Tell us about that special event, person or group effort that made you smile and feel good. Tell us about the good things going on in your community and we'll share them with readers.

To top it off, you could win a scrumptious meal for four at Buddy's. One overall winner will be selected each month (through 2011) to enjoy a special meal at Buddy's.

E-mail your good news story (include a photograph) to: goodnews@hometownlife.com.

he will make a full recovery. So many people in the Plymouth community were truly caring and went out of their way to care for a helpless animal and be kind to their neighbors."

"We are very grateful for this kindness to strangers and it turns out we are all neighbors," Kolozsvary added.

Contest winners were selected by Marcyrontman and Michelle Lawton of Buddy's.

Readers share more good news!

Here are the good news stories submitted in September and October. There is still time to submit your story for November's contest. (See details elsewhere on this page).

•Kat Nelson submitted a contest entry about a woman named, Charlotte, 70, who became quadriplegic more than 50 years ago as a result of polio.

"She has outlived all of her siblings and both parents," Nelson wrote. "She is an inspiration. I am lucky enough to be one of her caregivers and can't say enough great things about her. Two months ago at U-M she was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer. I am trying to get a 70th birthday party together so she and her extended family and closest friends can get together. Buddy's Pizza would be a great place to do that."

•Judy Felzer, of Redford, wrote about a good Samaritan she met while working as a vendor at the Livonia Historical Society Greenmead Flea Market last September.

"One of the items I had for sale was a guitar that belonged to my son, who passed away last May," Felzer said.

"A gentleman purchased it knowing it had belonged to my son. About two hours after the sale, the gentleman returned to my table. "He had gone home and opened the tiny drawers in the guitar case and found something of value belonging to my son. He held out his hand and handed me a United States fine silver tray ounce coin with silver chain, and two rings that he had found in the case."

"He wanted me to have the mementos," she added. "I was so surprised and really appreciated not only his goodwill, but honesty. I never got his name, he left right away, but I will remember him always."

•Jan Lippert sang the praises



Beth Harris, Outreach Coordinator at Northridge Church in Plymouth Township, coordinates the Community Garden. The 2010 harvest produced more than 10,000 lbs. of produce all donated to Gleaners Food Bank.



Sara Wilkins of Livonia

of Beth Harris, Outreach Coordinator at Northridge Church in Plymouth Township. Harris coordinates the church's community garden involving more than 100 volunteers who planted the 21,000 some square foot garden with tomatoes, peppers, corn, onions, beets, beans, cantaloupe, squash, mustard greens, collard greens, lettuce, cabbage, okra, radishes and more. Harvesting in 2010 produced well over 10,000 pounds of produce all of which



Lucas McKinney, 16, an 11th-grader at Plymouth High School, actually received his student pilot's license on his 16th birthday - before he went to the Secretary of State office and received his driver's license.

was donated to Gleaners Food Bank.

Harris coordinated more than 4,500 volunteer hours spent at the garden this year.

"Her tireless efforts to reach out to the hungry resulted in feeding tons of fresh produce to those in need in our area," Lippert said.

•Janet Myers submitted an entry about her golf partner, friend and neighbor, Lucille Schirmer, 90, of Livonia.

Schirmer continues to play golf



Reva Constantine, executive chef at Joe's and Chris Hammack, sous chef, met Pastor Henry Covington, and supervised the first pick up of food for the homeless and those in transitional housing.



Celebrating their achievement are (back row from left) Sarah Iler, 10, and Kyo Sa Nim David Areeda, (front from left) Trevor Riker, 9, and Jonathan Rickard, 9.

with the Livonia Women's Senior League after 25 years and was actively involved in the league's leadership serving as treasurer for many years.

"She used to play golf with her husband and friends and once she became eligible for the women's senior league started showing up by herself and soon had many new-found golf partners and friends," Myers wrote.

•Danielle Fracassa submitted an entry explaining that she and her

boyfriend bought their first home last March.

"Though we initially thought to rent an apartment, the housing market situation prompted us to invest in our own futures, as well as Michigan's," she wrote.

"We're so glad we did! Our neighbors, our city, everything is so great. Every chance we get, we tell people, "Don't rent - buy! This state needs it!"

"I know it's not much, but anything anyone can do to get things moving again is a help," said Fracassa.

•Pastor Allen Kannappell of His Church Anglican in Livonia wrote about a teenager who wanted to make a difference in the lives of people less fortunate.

Seeing an opportunity to bless people in need with food that would otherwise be thrown out, Tara Leach, a freshman at Schoolcraft College who works at Joe's Produce in Livonia, approached her pastor to get Joe's connected to a downtown church - I Am My Brother's Keeper.

Judges were also told about three Livonia children who earned their black belts from P.K.S.A. Karate Schools.

They are Sarah Iler, 10, Trevor Riker, 9, and Jonathan Rickard, 9. The three started taking karate

lessons together four years ago at the Livonia school under the direction of Kyo Sa Nim David Areeda. Their hard work and devotion led them on a journey of self-confidence, respect, responsibility and self-defense. Their belts are midnight blue versus black, because black is final whereas midnight blue represents infinity.

•Stephen E. Loflin, National Society of Collegiate Scholars executive director, wrote the judges to say Sara Wilkins, an Eastern Michigan University student and resident of Livonia, was accepted in NSCS.

NSCS membership gives students access to a number of benefits including career and networking resources, scholarships, and service projects both on campus and in the community, Loflin said.

•David Phipps, a flight instructor at Kitzze Aviation, also wrote to tell to acknowledge a high-achieving feat by student, Lucas McKinney, 16, who flew his plane solo for the first time.

McKinney, an 11th-grader at Plymouth High School, is a student pilot with his solo certificate.

According to David Phipps, a flight instructor with Kitzze Aviation at Mettetal Airport, McKinney has been taking flying lessons at Mettetal, located at Lilley and Joy roads in Canton. He has learned about aerodynamics, lift and drag, takeoff and landing calculations, Cessna 152 flying and handling characteristics and even emergency light signals and radio calls.

According to Phipps, McKinney actually received his student pilot's license on his 16th birthday - before he went to the Secretary of State office and received his driver's license. McKinney received his pilot's license one day after his 16th birthday, according to Phipps, the minimum age for solo, according to the FAA.

Statutory pet trust helps provide for Fido, Fluffy

Q: Dear Rick: A few years ago, I read your column about estate planning for pets. I recently obtained a bird that has a life expectancy substantially longer than mine. I was told by the person who gave me the bird that it would be a good idea to make arrangements for the bird after I pass on. I want to do the right thing. Can you help?



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

A: Congratulations as a responsible pet owner trying to do the right thing by planning for the future.

We all know how much Americans love their pets, however, too many forget to plan for what will happen if they die before their pet. Thousands of pets every year are euthanized every year because owners did not plan for the future of their pet.

Under the law, pets are considered property and possessions — no different than any other piece of property. Therefore, a relatively simple solution is to name someone in your will who will inherit the pet. You can choose to leave

Even though we cannot leave money directly to our pets, there is a mechanism that allows you to legally leave money for the benefit of the pet to an individual of your choice. These documents — known as a statutory pet trust — are legally enforceable and valid in nearly every state of the union. A statutory pet trust can be added on to someone's will or trust by a short amendment.

them money to take care of the pet, however, you can't leave money directly to the pet. We have all read stories where people have passed on and left millions to their pets. Of course, that isn't the full story. A few years ago there was a story about Leona Helmsley leaving \$12 million to her dog. It was an interesting story and it made the national news. However, it wasn't the whole story. Even though we cannot leave money directly to our pets, there is a mechanism that allows you to legally leave money for the benefit of the pet to an individual of your choice. These documents — known as a statutory pet trust — are legally enforceable and valid in nearly every state of the union. A statutory pet trust can be added on to someone's will or trust by a short amendment.

Basically, this amendment allows you to set aside money for the care and custody of your pet while at the same time making the document enforceable by state law. Michigan, like most other states, specifically authorizes these types of trusts for the care and custody of your pet. In your situation, I recommend a statutory pet trust. Whether you add it on to your existing will or to your trust, it really doesn't matter. What matters is who is going to be in charge of your statutory pet trust upon your death. Obviously, it is important to select someone that has a fondness for your pet and can handle the duties involved in regards to his/her care. When establishing a statutory pet trust, one of the difficulties is deciding how much money to leave with the trust. There is no magic number because it depends upon the individual pet.

I would over fund the trust to ensure there will be enough money to take care of the pet for as long as necessary.

Another issue to be considered regarding a statutory pet trust is what happens to the unused funds upon your pet's death. I recognize that people are concerned about naming the caretaker as the beneficiary of unused funds because it may become a disincentive in regards to caring for the pet. That is why I sometimes recommend that upon the pet's death any excess funds are directed to a charity.

One last issue regarding statutory pet trusts is the importance of identifying exactly which pet is covered by the trust and whether it should include any future pets that you may obtain.

There is no question that pets are an important part of American life and if your pet is a "family member," you should consider a statutory trust to ensure he or she is cared for upon your death.

Good luck!

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

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Madonna students donate to Festival of Trees

Nursing students and staff at Madonna University in Livonia competed in a Christmas tree decorating competition this week that will benefit Children's Hospital of Michigan.

The contest is in its fourth year at Madonna and was once again sponsored by the Madonna University Nursing Student Association.

"It is a means to encourage involvement in our community, and we get to have a bit of friendly competition between the students in different terms. Faculty and staff get involved also; it's a lot of fun," said Nancy Kostin, associate professor of nursing at Madonna.

The decorated trees were donated to the Children's Hospital of Michigan for its Festival of Trees fundraiser. The Festival of Trees runs today through Nov. 28 at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center in Dearborn. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children and free for children age 2 and under.



Teresa Thompson, dean of the College of Nursing and Health, judges a Christmas tree competition at Madonna University. The trees, which were decorated by nursing students and faculty, will benefit Children's Hospital of Michigan.

Junior Achievement receives \$100,000 grant

In an effort to introduce more work-readiness and entrepreneurship educational experiences to local middle and high school students, Junior Achievement of Michigan (JA) announced recently that the Wal-Mart Foundation has awarded the eight local JA chapters collectively a \$100,000 grant to support programming.

In order to address the need for teaching valuable life skills to youth, JA is working with schools to ensure that students have the opportunity to explore and learn more about entrepreneurial ventures and being prepared for the workforce. Through five separate educational programs, JA will reach out to students in grades 6-12 to expose them to these important concepts and help them become tomorrow's successful business leaders, employees, and consumers.

The grant will provide students throughout Michigan and in metro Detroit with JA programming to help them to use their creativity and critical-thinking abilities to explore various aspects of entrepreneurship and teach them skills to succeed in the workplace. JA's programs will focus on learning about career options, what it takes to succeed in those careers, how to run their own company, and the basic characteristics of the U.S. economic system.

In addition to in-school

programming, the grant also supports the promotion of the JA Student Center to teens across Michigan (studentcenter.ja.org). The JA Student Center contains resources for youth on everything from researching colleges and how to apply for financial aid, to writing a business plan or determining what careers are available based on one's interests and abilities.

"Now more than ever our children need to be taught these valuable lessons so that they are adequately prepared for tomorrow's high-demand careers, and be inspired to become entrepreneurs," said Karen Kosniewski, president of JA of Southeastern Michigan. "The Wal-Mart Foundation recognizes the importance of JA's efforts here in Michigan and around the world and we are grateful to have the opportunity to deliver these programs to deserving students."

Local programming will receive \$22,540 of the statewide grant. JA programs are taught by volunteers from the community and are projected to impact more than 3,400 high school students statewide and 800 students in metro Detroit.

Junior Achievement serves ten counties in southeastern Michigan including Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, Livingston, Monroe, St. Clair, Shiawassee, Lapeer and Genesee.



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Doctor is excited about hospital's future

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

Dr. Prasad Mikkilineni is happy about spending more time with patients at Freedom Medical Clinic. Patients come first to Dr. Mik, as he's called around the office where he specializes in internal medicine.

It's not that he minded filling in as interim vice president of medical affairs at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, but Mikkilineni became a medical doctor for one reason — to help people in need of medical care. He will continue to see patients at St. Mary Mercy, but primarily at the Livonia practice he joined in 1988.

The 57-year-old Mikkilineni is excited, though, about the future of the hospital which is planning a five-story southwest addition that includes a new emergency department. St. Mary Mercy, a part of the Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, continues to expand services. In September 2007, the hospital opened the Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center so patients could receive treatment close to home.

In his role as vice president of medical affairs, Mikkilineni "got to see the other side of medicine as well."

"I enjoy going to St. Mary's. It's a nice place to work, but I'm interested in my practice. I like to work with patients. I like my patients. I trained to be a doctor, not an administrator," said Mikkilineni, a Bloomfield Hills resident.

St. Mary Mercy President and CEO David Spivey appointed Mikkilineni after Dr. Asit Gokli left for a new position

in California. Mikkilineni has served in positions ranging from chief of staff to director of the Quality Improvement Committee since joining the medical staff in 1982.

PERFECT CHOICE

"He was the perfect choice for the job given his background with the organization," said Spivey. "Prasad has done a wonderful job. He provided support and navigated the implementation of Graduate Medical Education that started with four programs in July. As a hospital and community we're blessed to have Dr. Mikkilineni serving not only as a leader in administration but as a physician providing services."

Mikkilineni knew as a boy growing up in India that he wanted to practice medicine. His father was a doctor. His older brother and sister also went to medical school.

"It became a family business," Mikkilineni said. "My dad wanted to become an engineer and instead became a doctor. He wanted me to become an engineer, but I wanted to become a doctor. The part I enjoy most is helping patients and interacting with patients. When a patient is in the hospital, I'm there every day. Sometimes I don't go home for 10 to 12 hours. I love my job."

MED SCHOOL AT AGE 16

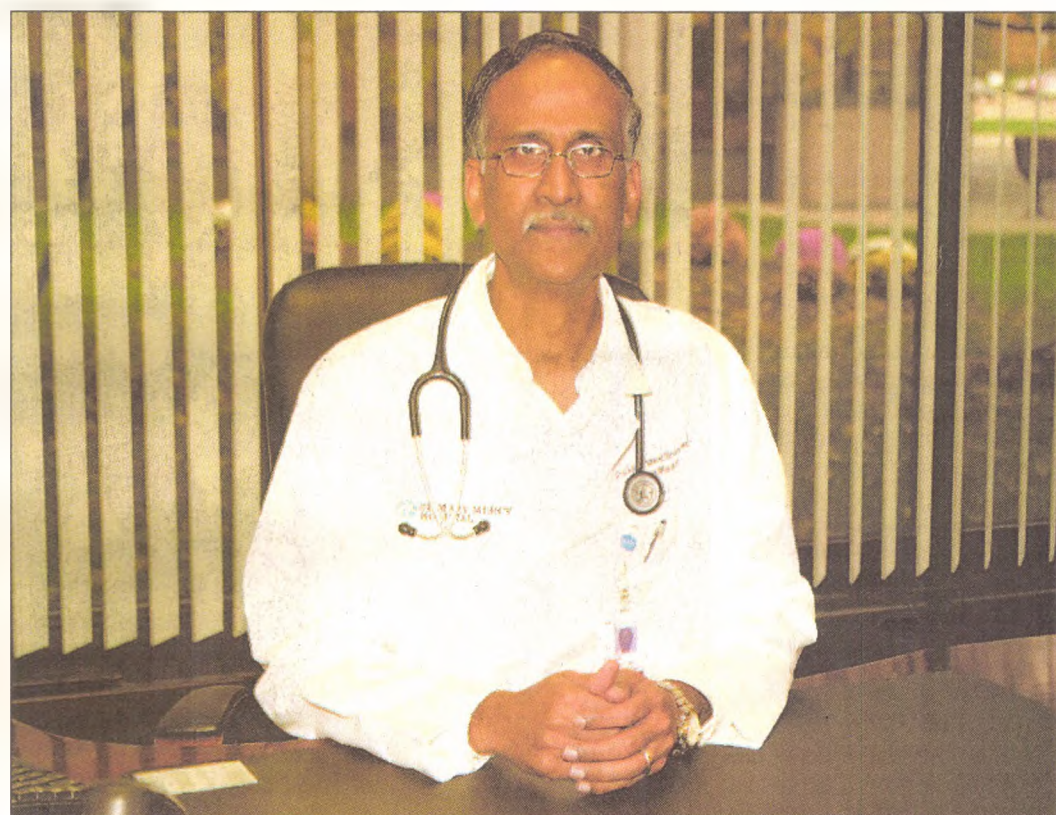
Mikkilineni entered Guntur Medical College in Andhra Pradesh at age 16, an accomplishment not entirely rare in India, but not that common. Six years after graduating No. 2 in his class and completing a yearlong internship, Mikkilineni

left for the United States at age 23 1/2.

"It was a bit of a challenge. At that age you think you can conquer the world," Mikkilineni said. "I couldn't speak English at the time and had no relatives here."

Family in Boston picked Mikkilineni up at the airport. Then it was off to Detroit to finish his medical training through Wayne State University at Harper Grace Hospital after a residency at Saint Joseph Hospital in Chicago and internship at Detroit Macomb Hospital. Before long he was opening a solo practice in Redford Township.

In 1981, Mikkilineni married Jhansi, who completed training as a psychiatrist at Wayne State University. She never practiced medicine. Instead the couple chose to start a family. When Mikkilineni isn't at the office or hospital he likes to take long walks with his wife and watch sports.



Dr. Prasad Mikkilineni's role as interim vice president of medical affairs at St. Mary Mercy Hospital ends Monday as he devotes more time to his patients, but he continues to hold administrative positions at the Livonia hospital.



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Neighbors helping neighbors

Local foundations support community programs, organizations

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

For those planning on making a donation to a charitable organization before the end of the year there's no better place to give than at home. Local foundations in Canton, Livonia, Plymouth, Westland, Farmington and Farmington Hills are people helping people right in your own back yard.

These grant-making organizations pool the money of donors to support a wide range of charitable interests that feed the hungry, provide programs for children, nurture the arts, and enable students to go to college. The foundations often take leadership roles in the community as well by serving as a resource for local nonprofits. Communities with permanent endowments like Canton, Livonia and Plymouth have the added benefit of allowing donors to take advantage of the state credit to lower their income tax. A permanent endowment is the act of bestowing money as a permanent fund or source of income.

PANTRY GRANT

For many people it's hard to believe that Canton residents are going hungry, that they are cutting food budgets to pay mortgages and utilities. Thanks to the generosity of individuals and businesses, the Canton Community Foundation was able to give the Open Door Food Pantry a grant to purchase a cooler.

"This year, we — in lots of ways — think basic needs are pressing," said Joan Noricks, president, Canton Community Foundation. "Open Door



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Open Door Ministry volunteer Sue Smith of Westland packs canned goods at Open Door for distribution to hungry people. Open Door in Canton benefits from the works of the Canton Community Foundation.

Pantry is in the Gleaners and Forgotten Harvest network but without a cooler could not have fresh produce."

In addition to providing a grant for the cooler, the Canton foundation addressed the health care issues of residents by funding a study about the needs of the under- and uninsured. In September, the foundation sponsored a veterans' education summit on VA benefits. Special events like the foundation's Magical Night in January for Gleaners creates public awareness along with raising money.

"We're probably most

proud of moving into an area of donor education and philanthropic education for those who don't understand planned giving by offering quarterly educational events at the library for individuals and nonprofit organizations," said Noricks, who admits the downturn in the economy has made it difficult to raise money.

"We continue to have donors. They've just become more cautious donors who want to make sure and trust that they're making wise choices.

The goal of all community foundations is for donors to be

able to make a difference.

"This can be the place that gifts can be held and endowments administered in all facets," said Noricks. "The Canton Foundation can be a glue to assist all of the good stuff happening."

ENRICHING PLYMOUTH

Plymouth's foundation not only enriches the quality of life in the city but Plymouth Township, and parts of Northville, Salem and Superior townships. It is affiliated with the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation and benefits from its administra-

LOCAL FOUNDATIONS

- Canton Community Foundation Visit www.cantonfoundation.org, or call (734) 495-1200.
- Community Foundation of Plymouth Affiliate of the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation Call (734) 663-0401, e-mail info@aacfd.org, or visit www.cfplymouth.org.
- Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Educational Excellence Foundation www.pccs.k12.mi.us/eef or call (734) 416-2718.



Jabara



Noricks

tive support and philanthropic expertise.

According to the Ann Arbor foundation's CEO and president Cheryl Elliott, giving has been affected by the economic downturn. She expects end of year giving to increase due to the state tax credit.

The community foundations of Canton, Livonia and Plymouth are certified by the Michigan Department of Treasury for the Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit that is designed to encourage individuals and businesses to build permanent endowments of community foundations across the state. Individuals receive a state tax credit of \$100 for a \$200

donation, joint filers \$200 for a \$400 donation.

"These gifts still come in but people have been more cautious," said Elliott. "We send a year end letter because of the tax credit. This should be an interesting year with no estate tax. We won't know to year-end. Half of our gifts come in December."

Since 2006, the Plymouth foundation has granted funds to the Plymouth Historical Society, New Morning School for a summer math and science camp, Plymouth Community Arts Council, Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras, Plymouth Youth and Drum Corps, Plymouth YMCA, and a historical school renovation in Salem.

Jim Jabara founded the Community Foundation of Plymouth as a way of giving back. He hopes the community will continue to support the effort. A businessman, Jabara has lived in the community more than 50 years and served on the boards of the library, chamber, and Salvation Army as well as mayor.

"We had optimistic goals five years ago. The economy affected our optimism," said Jabara, chairman of the 15-member advisory committee. "I felt there was a need in all the surrounding area. We're raising money and putting back into the community. It's something very important. Being affiliated with Ann Arbor means we have no office, no phone, no overhead, rent, so the money is spent to support the 48170 ZIP code."

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Eagles don't back down in crunch time at Kellogg

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Here's how hard Central Lake senior middle blocker Jasmine Hines hammered the volleyball during Friday's Class D semifinal at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

In Game 5 with Plymouth Christian Academy needing a few more points to knock off the Trojans, a kill attempt by the 6-3 Hines bounced off the chest of Eagles' junior outside hitter Amy Zinn — standing in the back row — and made it all the way back over the net.

But somehow, the Eagles won that point and added two more for the 15-9 win and a 3-2 match victory to earn a spot in Saturday's Class D final against Battle Creek St. Philip.

"We never dreamed that winning a regional could lead to this," said PCA head coach Kelly Blackney, whose team has never made it this far in the state tournament. "But I think our attitude and our dedication to the sport and our focus on playing for God really has led us to do things we couldn't imagine ever having accomplished."

As hard as Hines hit the ball, and she finished with 30 kills, the Eagles

VOLLEYBALL SEMIFINALS

were able to counter with junior middle blocker Kristin Malcolm, who scored points with floor-pounding shots as well as nifty tips and blocks against Hines — who has committed to play basketball at Michigan State University in 2011.

"Yes, it was really hard to pick up her hits," Malcolm said. "But my defense is amazing. We tried to block her and anticipate where she was going to go, instead of reacting."

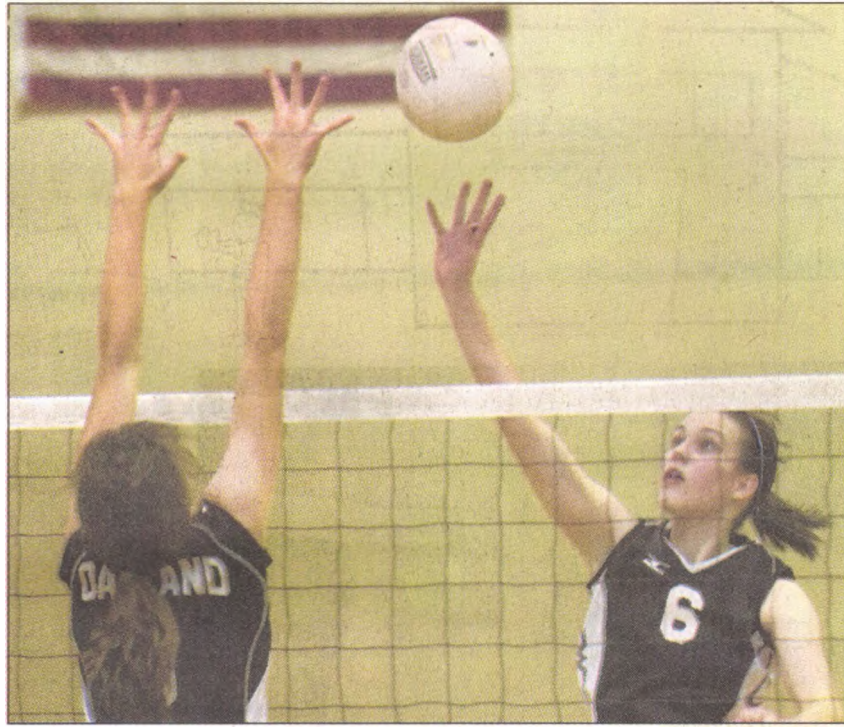
"She got a couple good kills on us so ... but we said we were going to stay up (confidence-wise) no matter what happened."

TEAMING UP

Helping Malcolm try to minimize whatever damage Hines might do was senior middle blocker Folake Olojo, with two solo blocks and three assists.

"She (Olojo) played phenomenal tonight, we needed blockers, we needed to stop No. 12 (Hines) and she did," Blackney said. "I'll never forget that one block she had that basically went all the way to the back of their court, it was awesome."

Please see **EAGLES, B2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Christian junior middle blocker Kristin Malcolm (No. 6), shown from earlier this season, brilliantly sparked the Eagles Friday in the Class D volleyball semifinals. PCA defeated Central Lake in five sets to advance to Saturday's final against Battle Creek St. Philip. Check www.hometownlife.com for results.

SIDELINES

Brett's a Briton

Salem alum Brett deBear is officially on the 2010-11 roster of Albion College's women's basketball team, announced Britons' head coach Doreen



deBear

Carden. A first-year student at Albion, the daughter of Bob and Jane deBear of Plymouth is listed as a

guard on the roster. The Britons opened the season last week and will next host Manchester College on Tuesday and Ohio Northern University on Dec. 1.

All-KLAA gridders

It's no surprise given the excellent seasons enjoyed by the Canton and Plymouth football teams that both squads have at least 10 members on the All-Kensington Lakes Activities Association 1st team.

All-KLAA selections for Canton include: running backs Kevin Buford, Davion Stackhouse; linebackers Garrett Bryden, Braden Price, Zac Merillat, Matt Gunnis; linemen Ben Poirier, Jack Slater, Marty Brudzinski; defensive back Ryan Powell; and quarterback Ben Merbler.

All-KLAA selections for Plymouth include: running back Jerel Jenkins; quarterback Shaun Austin; kicker Kyle Brindza; wide receiver Jake Morris; tight end Mike Olevnik; defensive end Brennen Beyer; linebackers Anthony Rhodes and Tyler Goble; defensive back Phil Emminger; and lineman Mark Wallath.

Not to be left out, Salem also has two members on the 1st team in running back Marcus Houston and linebacker Tommy Rodriguez.

All three teams also have players who made the All-KLAA honorable mention list.

Those include the following: Canton's Alex Marsh (center), Angelo Lanava (tight end), Josh Nolen (D-back), Jeff Straub (DT); Plymouth's Donte Fox (running back), Thomas Afetian (wide receiver), Brandon Landers (DE), Victor Hicks (D-back); Salem's Ethan Walsh (linebacker), Jake Pollard (O-line), Omar Kandah (DE) and Nick Howie (D-line).

Charity pucks

Circle Saturday, Dec. 4, on your calendar, particularly if you already are into the holiday spirit.

The sixth annual Canton Fire Fighters vs. Canton Coaches Charity Hockey Game is slated for 6 p.m. Dec. 4 at Arctic Edge Arena in Canton (located on Michigan Avenue). Fans will be asked to donate an unwrapped toy in addition to the \$3 game admission.

The game is in memory of

Please see **SIDELINES, B4**

Boys Hockey Preview Pt. 2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem forward Matt Downey (No. 5) will be part of the Rocks' top forward line this winter. Here he is shown battling Canton's Alec Gilo in a 2009-10 contest.

Rocks ready for challenges

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Don't go strictly by the record this season for a good assessment of how Salem's varsity boys hockey team is playing.

The 2010-11 nonconference schedule is loaded to the max with some of Michigan's top squads and the KLAA is no slouch, either.

"They know our schedule every year gets progressively more difficult because of the successes we have," said Rocks' head coach Ryan Ossenmacher. "That allows us to schedule better and better teams every year."

With a slight laugh, the fourth-year coach added that he didn't know "if it would have been possible for us to make it more difficult than it is. There isn't a nonconference team that we play that finished outside the top-15 in their division in the rankings."

Throw in a holiday tournament at Traverse City, featuring Orchard Lake St. Mary, Midland and top opponents

from northern Michigan.

MEASURING UP

"It's all designed around getting ready for the state playoffs," said Ossenmacher, whose team shared the KLAA South title last season with Plymouth and Livonia Churchill. The Rocks were 12-10-3 overall, but nine of those losses were against teams at the top of their respective divisions.

"I'd rather lose to a good team than beat a bad team," he said. "I don't know how much is gained by beating teams you should beat on a consistent basis. I think it's important for these guys to beat the teams that maybe they're not supposed to beat once in a while."

A roster with plenty of options both up front and on defense should make the Rocks one of the favorites in the KLAA South again this season.

Salem opens with games 6 p.m. Wednesday at Novi and 8:30 p.m.

Please see **SALEM, B4**

Tape to tape

New-look Wildcats will focus on simple, direct hockey in 2010-11

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As far as Plymouth varsity hockey coach Paul Fassbender is concerned, the path to winning is as direct as going A-to-B.

When his players paid attention to where they should be and what they should be doing on the ice during pre-season scrimmages, the Wildcats had success (a 10-5 win over Ann Arbor Pioneer).

Fassbender, whose squad went 19-6-1 in 2009-10 to share the KLAA South crown with Salem and Livonia

Churchill, is beating the systems drum because so many of his players are relatively unknown commodities to the varsity level.

"We've really been working on a lot of transition, positional play," said Fassbender, following Tuesday's practice. "... A lot of our guys I don't think they've really had system, team-oriented coaching and it's showing out there just by where they're moving on the ice."

"Once we nail down a few things and start doing simple, easy plays (we

Please see **WILDCATS, B4**



Salem forward Mark McGee (No. 9) tries to distract Plymouth goalie Michael Justus during a game from last season. At right is Plymouth's Tyler Sanders (No. 4). All three players remain important parts of their respective teams for 2010-11.

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On the prowl

Congratulations to Pioneer Middle School's girls basketball teams, who by way of hard work and talent went a combined 15-1 this fall. The Panthers' 'A' team finished 8-0 while the 'B' team had a 7-1 record. Pictured are: (top row, from left) - Coach Smith, Allison First, Dominique Clark, Maranda Armstead, Mia Taylor, Coach Slaughter, Jessica Stevenson, Madeline Stowe, Tiara Lewis, Amber Cotrell and Emma Tardiff; (bottom row, from left) - Abigail Bolterman, Casey Muglia, Natalie Winters, Brianna Heitmeyer, Katie Latack, Kayla Rollins and Lauren Fette. Not pictured are Erin Dame, Shannon Schuit and Riley Stechschulte.

EAGLES

FROM PAGE B1

It wasn't just about power. There were plenty of eye-opening digs and bumps, too as both teams struggled at times to solve the other's tireless defense.

Zinn (21 digs, 5 kills) served the first two points of Game 5 and then Malcolm's backhanded tip gave PCA (30-9-2) a 3-1 lead and a chance to build some momentum.

It was 5-1 when, on a serve from junior Jessica Rich, sophomore Mary Anleitner drilled a pass from senior setter Brianna Harris (40 assists, 14 digs).

That quick start followed the winning pattern the Eagles followed in the first two games (wins of 25-13, 25-12) but got away from in Games 3-4, when Central Lake won by identical 25-19 scores.

"We knew if we started the game strong that we would come out and win, because that's how the first two games went," said Malcolm, who registered 31 kills and 19 digs. "So when we got the 5-1 lead we were really excited."

At another important juncture of the clinching game, PCA had a 12-9 lead but the Trojans' Heidi Hicks (13 kills, 11 digs) was trying to get a service run going.

KEY MOMENT

Hines got up in the air to rip the ball. Often throughout Friday's match, the Eagles had no chance against her powerful spikes.

This time, Malcolm blocked it and it bounced the other way for a crucial PCA point. "I was just so grateful, every point was like a gift."

Rich finished off the win with two service points, No. 15 coming on a Malcolm tip over Hines.

"We had a lot of momentum," lamented Trojans' head coach Elissa Shafer, whose team finished 49-9-5. "But it's just one of those things that 15 points isn't that many."

"You got to kind of try to keep that momentum going, and a couple points you lose and it's tough to get that back."

PCA had plenty of momentum at the start. In Game 1, the Eagles enjoyed four-point service runs from Rich and senior libero Abby Bartes (21 digs). Up front, Malcolm, Zinn and Olojo had little trouble scoring.

The next game featured a four-point streak from Olojo that opened up a 13-5 edge and Malcolm sealed it with points 20-25.

FLIP THE SWITCH

But the Trojans were a different team almost as soon as the third set started.

Hines dialed it up in the hitting department and the Eagles became frustrated when they couldn't find the floor with shots, or else sailed them out of bounds.

But with the match tied 2-2, it wasn't over. The Eagles, however, needed to quickly forget about the two disappointing sets that turned a potential 3-0 sweep into a white-knuckle ride.

"It was so awesome that we started out the first two games with a win," Bartes said. "But it seemed like we got a little bit overconfident. But we finally put it together in the fifth game."

Other PCA contributors included freshman front-row player Jennifer Malcolm (4 kills, 5 assists, 5 digs), Anleitner (3 kills, 3 digs) and Rich (5 digs, 2 aces).

"Going into that fifth set, we realized the difference between the games we won and the games we lost was basically swinging to our fullest potential," Blackney summarized. "... So, we came out strong."

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St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia gives patients access to neurology specialists around the clock through the use of robotic technology at bedside.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital lauded for care of stroke patients

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia has earned certification as an Advanced Primary Stroke Center from the Joint Commission, a nonprofit organization that sets standards in health care nationwide.

The distinction recognizes centers that make exceptional efforts in fostering better outcomes for stroke care.

"When it comes to treating stroke symptoms, our motto is 'time lost is brain lost,'" stated Todd Larson, director, Inpatient Rehabilitation, in a press release. "By adhering to the The Joint Commission protocols, we offer efficient, expedited care increasing the chance of survival with minimal disability."

Hospitals that apply for advanced certification must meet the requirements for Disease-Specific Care Certification and additional expectations. Certified primary stroke centers:

- Use a standardized method of delivering care based on recommendations of the Brain Attack Coalition.
- Help patients play a part in managing their condition.

- Tailor treatment and intervention to individual needs.

- Help various care providers share patient information, while protecting patient rights, security and privacy.

- Analyze and use standardized performance measure data to continually improve treatment plans.
- Comply with clinical practice guidelines published by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA) or equivalent evidence-based guidelines.

The Joint Commission's Primary Stroke Center Certification Program, launched in December 2003, was developed in collaboration with the AHA/ASA. There are 30 certified primary stroke centers in Michigan. Certification is available only to stroke programs in Joint Commission-accredited acute care hospitals.

Stroke is the third leading cause of death and one of the leading causes of long-term disability. Smokers and individuals with diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol or a family history of heart disease, may be at greater risk for stroke.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Alzheimer's Association

The Greater Michigan Chapter provides a welcoming and secure environment for families and individuals experiencing the early stages of Younger Onset Memory Loss. Participants can take part in ongoing discussions that focus on issues that affect those with memory loss under age 65. Meetings are 5:30-7 p.m., the third Tuesday of the month, at Bloomfield Township Senior Services, 4315 Andover, Bloomfield Hills. To register call The Harry L. Nelson Helpline at (800) 272-3900.

Aquatic classes

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 10-11 a.m., Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch; 1-1:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch; and 2-3 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, at the Birmingham branch. All classes are offered to members and non-members of every age and participants do not need to know how to swim to participate. To join, interested individuals can contact their local YMCA branch or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

Fitness classes

Exercise classes for men and women continue through April at the Metropolitan Seventh-Day Adventist School, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. The sessions infuse Pilates, functional strength training, balance work, flexibility and motivational techniques in a 90-day fitness plan. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957. E-mail jeanieweaver@charter.net.

Food Addicts

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a recovery program for people having trouble controlling the way they eat. Based on the 12 steps of AA. Open to all and free. Weekly meetings are held 9-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, at

Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 Sheldon, Canton. (866) 914-3663; www.foodaddicts.org

Hearing Loss Association

The Western Wayne Chapter provides information, education and support for those with hearing loss, their families and friends. Meetings are 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster, Garden City. Contact afcrack@comcast.net or (734) 664-3297.

Incest Survivors

"LIVE," a self-help group for women who were victims of incest as children, meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 7-9 p.m. at St. Paul of the Cross, 2333 Schoolcraft, Redford. Call Antoinette at (313) 971-4747 or Cheri at (586) 489-1785.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia; and 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call (313) 387-9797. Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous information, call (248) 559-7722 or visit www.oa.org.

Breast cancer support group

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Caregivers support group

St. John's Support Group for the Caregivers of Alzheimer's Patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon,

Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for information. Authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Metro Fibromyalgia

Meets the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 2055 Merriman, Garden City. For more information, call Lucy at (734) 462-1768.

Wayne metro caregiver support

Are you a caregiver of an aging parent, spouse or relative? Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to loved ones. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m.-noon, at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Ave., Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the second Thursday of the month; the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. Call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

Parkinson Support

Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For information, call (248) 433-1011.

CPR classes

Classes range from basic CPR for people who wish to know how to help save a life to certification for those who need CPR for work and state licensure, at DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Dr., Commerce. First aid classes also available. Classes offered weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. Price varies. Pre-registration required at www.hvsh.org/hvsh/calendar or call (248) 937-3314.

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FOUR GENERATIONS AT FOUR SEASONS: (L to R) Todd Colombo, Dora Pavel, Cathy Colombo and Gabriella Colombo

Cathy Colombo "couldn't be any happier" with the care her 96-year old mother, Dora, has received at Four Seasons for the last two months. Cathy never wanted to move Dora to a nursing center, but did so at the suggestion of physicians after she was hospitalized. Dora's physical condition deteriorated at home where she lived alone. Today, Dora enjoys playing Bingo, attending church services and making arts and crafts at Four Seasons. "They have great staff, great food. They're very attentive. I go home and I rest." Colombo could go on and on about the professional staff caring for her mother. "If residents don't like something they'll cook what you want. Every day there are two choices of homemade soup. They have clean sheets just like a hotel."

"(the staff) goes over and above... they're loving and giving people... I've never seen a messy room. This is a great place, never smells... I'm thrilled with everything..."



(L to R) Four Seasons therapist Maria Rapelje, resident Lorraine Schranatra, therapist Aparna Gopalakrishnan and resident Betty Iltis

Janice Garrett is glad to have her mother back home thanks to the care the 82-year old woman received at Four Seasons. Anna arrived at Four Seasons in July after triple bypass heart surgery, emergency tracheotomy and stay in another nursing facility. "It was worth the drive," said Janice Garrett who lives in Detroit. Janice's voice quivers as she talks about the progress her mother made at Four Seasons. Physical therapy sessions got Anna back on her feet. "They helped her in a way that got her self esteem back, the will to live back."

"(my mother) is doing really well... the staff worked with us diligently...treated her with respect. Our family greatly appreciates everything and everyone on staff."

She was sleeping a lot and they cut the amount of sleeping medication. It's like family. Our family greatly appreciates everything and we love them from nurses and doctors to maintenance."

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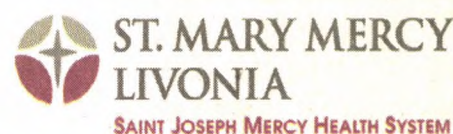
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PHOTO GALLERIES

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Every flea market find, every heirloom tells a story of life

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Pat Doemer's Bavarian porcelain platter with gold decoration has seen plenty of use. "If it's really worth something I might put it away. It has had roast on it many times."

The Livonia resident brought her well-used flea market find to the Livonia Historical Society's appraisal night last week, hoping to discover its worth. She and others, toted their collectibles and heirlooms, everything from fine art ceramics and original oil paintings to dolls and furniture, to historic Greenmead for the Antiques Roadshow-style event. They filled several tables with their treasures, paying \$5 each for every item and then waited for the appraiser to arrive. And waited.

A family medical emergency delayed and eventually cancelled the appraiser's appearance and the Society returned all appraisal fees, but for a portion of the evening, visitors got a chance to view the assortment of antiques and trade stories with one another about their cherished possessions.

"I picked it up in Florida," Doemer said, as she set the platter on a table. "It was around Tarpon Springs. They have a lot of elderly people who leave things and people who sell them don't know diddly-squat about them. They don't know how to look for (manufacturer) marks on them."



Kathie Sterbling was 9 years old when she attended a Detroit Tigers game with her dad at the old Briggs Stadium. She has cherished this banner from 1949 ever since that day.

FAMILY LORE

Sheila Taylor of Livonia was surprised when no one in her family wanted great-great grandma's steamer trunk. She asked her son, Guy, to lug it into the Alexander Blue House at Greenmead where the appraisal items were displayed.

"She used it to come over here from Ireland," Taylor said. "You should see the thing on the inside. It's beautiful. It's hand painted."

When she first opened the trunk it contained "a couple pieces of clothing," including a pair of bloomers. Now the lid opens to reveal only the hand-painted inset that sports pictures of a woman with a fan and a man riding a horse.

"Isn't that nifty? I have no idea who made it. It was passed down and down and down. I opened it up and went, Oh my God! It's just so amazingly beautiful. And



Lou Tigani has a World War II-era rifle.

look at the wood. It has to be a couple hundred years old at least."

Taylor isn't sure what she'll do with the trunk, which has been sitting in the attic and has never been appraised.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Guy Taylor carries a trunk in to the Alexander Blue house. It belongs to his mom, Sheila Taylor.

SPORTS FAN

Kathie Sterbling found a perfect spot for her treasure, which she has cherished for more than 60 years. The Livonia resident displays the 1949 Detroit Tiger's souvenir pennant on her kitchen wall. She and her husband, John, brought the item to the appraisal event, hoping to shed light on its value. "My dad used to take me to the games all the time.

He was a great baseball fan. I was 9 years old when I got this," Sterbling said. "This means so much to me."

The pennant, which is displayed where no sunlight can fade its white lettering on yellow felt, sports autographs from Ernie Harwell, Al Kaline, Sparky Anderson, Mickey Lolich and others.

"Sparky Anderson and Ernie Harwell were both so gracious," Sterbling recalled.

"Sparky Anderson was like I had known him all my life."

Robert Legel, president of the Livonia Historical Society, thanked attendees for graciously bringing and then lugging home their items without an appraisal.

"There was nothing you could do about it. That's just the way it was," he said. "We're going to be planning another one in the next couple of weeks."

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Experts share holiday weight control tips

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At Annie House's, you just might get stuck with cleanup duty after a holiday meal if you don't join in some fitness fun.

"You make them stay in the kitchen and do the dishes," House, a registered dietitian with Botsford Hospital Diabetes and Nutrition Services, said of couch potato revelers.

The South Lyon resident who works at the Farmington Hills hospital is a Michigan State University graduate with a bachelor of science degree in dietetics. She agreed it's tough to stay in shape this time of year.

"With the nights coming earlier, it's hard to get out" and exercise, House said. "The calories add up and so do the pounds."

Pam Horetski is wellness director at the Farmington Family YMCA, with a bachelor of science degree in exercise science from Oakland University, and a certified personal trainer.

"It is behavior modification, not only what you eat," said Horetski, who had a minor in psychology. "It is your lifestyle."

Sleep matters during the busy holiday season, too, she said. "They just run themselves down so much." People's immune systems are weakened, Horetski said, and they often get sick.

She agreed with House that



Doing some sort of exercise will help busy people feel better, especially during the holidays.

good eating habits and regular exercise are vital. Horetski has clients keep a food diary so they're aware of what they're eating and drinking.

She finds most people are on maintenance plans now through the end of the year, with Thanksgiving through Christmas a likely time for weight gain of five-10 pounds.

"The extra desserts, the extra couple of desserts," Horetski said. "Calories are calories, it all adds up. Lots of good-tasting food out there. The temptations are high basically from now through the New Year. People are more apt to eat on the run between eating and shopping."

Horetski recommends walking distances to the store when shopping and using stairs if possible. You can carry nutritious snacks with you.

"That will deter you from

getting to the point, 'I'm so hungry, I'll eat anything,'" she said.

House urges party-goers to eat breakfast and lunch so they're less likely to binge at a party. At the party, try to enjoy conversation with family and friends, she urged, avoiding the food table.

Candies and pastries have lots of calories, as do nuts, which have some nutritive value but must be eaten in moderation. House recommends fruits, vegetables and festive salads as good picks.

"There are other, healthier foods there. It's just our self-discipline," House said.

Holiday hosts also can help boost fitness.

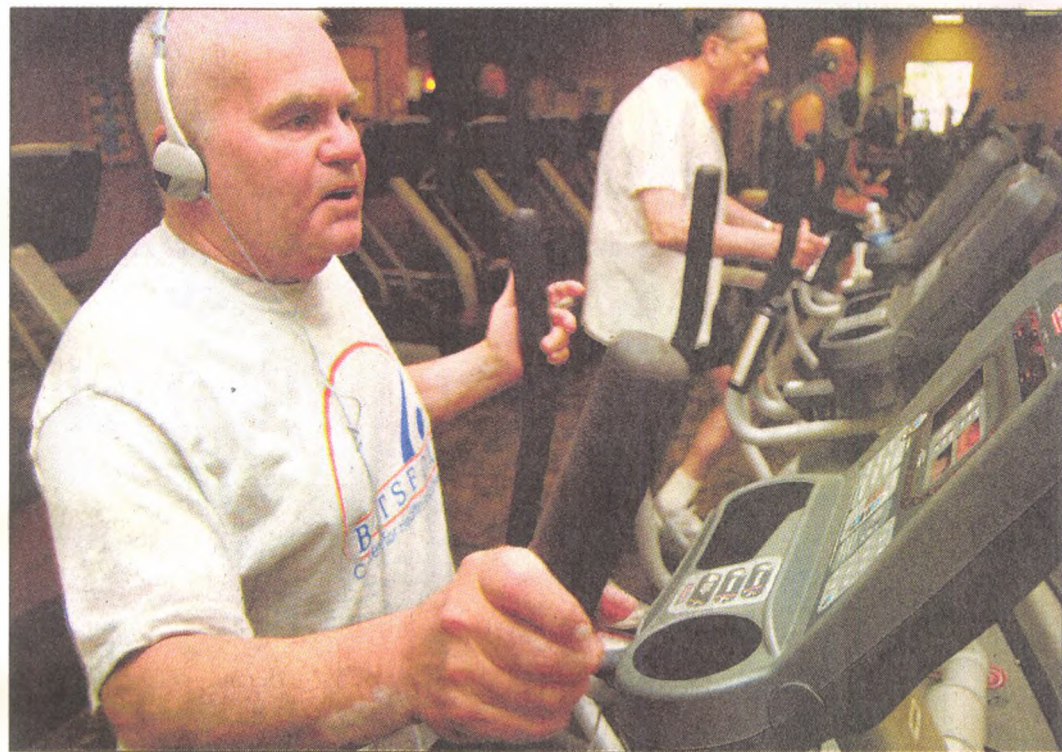
"You are the nutrition gatekeeper at that point," House said. Recipes can be modified, such as serving whole wheat rolls and breads, lower-calorie salad dressings and dips made from yogurt.

House also recommends preparing stuffing outside the turkey. The traditional Thanksgiving meal includes a lot of carbs, she said. A host could think about serving just stuffing and sweet potatoes and leaving out the corn and rolls.

She also recommends pumpkin pie over pecan due to calorie counts. House added high fiber crackers can be a good snacking choice for a party.

"Just provide a variety," she said.

Incorporating fitness into



Robert Bowbeer of Novi works out at a Botsford fitness facility. Many people will face struggles this time of year staying in shape while attending holiday parties.

celebrations helps, such as a brisk walk or a football game outside after a meal. House said to avoid second helpings.

"My family, they like to do up Thanksgiving and Christmas," she said. It's easy to get carried away with holiday foods, but she urges people to get back on track quickly.

"It's really what you're doing day by day the rest of the year," House said.

Horetski, a Ferndale resident, and her family also like the holiday season. "I try to practice what I preach," said Horetski, who grew up on a farm in the Thumb's Port Austin.

She still enjoys her mom's home-cooked meals.

"It's about control," Horetski said. "You don't want to take away something you really enjoy."

Arthritis Today

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



MORE ON KNEE JOINT EFFUSIONS

Previously I discussed that irritation is the source of knee and other joint effusions. Features of the effusion help the physician determine the nature of the underlying irritation. These features are the white cell count, the presence or absence of crystals, and evidence of infection. Surprisingly, the amount of fluid taken from the knee gives no information as to the reason why the knee fluid accumulated. Furthermore, the size of the knee effusion has little to do with the degree of knee pain.

In many instances a person can experience great knee pain without any fluid present. In other cases, a person can walk well with a large but painless amount of fluid in the knee. Why this disconnect exists between effusion and pain remains unexplained.

A sudden increase in knee fluid can cause a great deal of pain, this occurrence is common in a knee injury or to a person on a blood thinner such as Warfarin. What initiates the pain is the sudden distention of the joint rather than irritation caused by joint fluid or blood.

The treatment of choice of a knee effusion is removal of the fluid. This procedure not only relieves pain, but analysis of the fluid obtained often reveals the diagnosis.

Knee effusions may return. A question then arises regarding how often a physician should drain the knee. There is not a single answer such as no more than 3 times a year or every 3 months. Repeated removal of fluid can continue as long as both doctor and patient agree the procedure provides beneficial.



Claire Swadling, Jolene Soave, Emily Fowler and Sarah Rinkert display the wreaths they created at the 2009 Children's Holiday Workshop.

Hospice workshop helps kids grieve

Children often look with excitement toward the holidays. But when a child is grieving, the season can be hard.

To ease children through this difficult time, Angela Hospice will hold its annual Children's Holiday Workshop 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5. This workshop provides an opportunity for children ages 5-12 to create

The workshop is free, but reservations are required because space is limited. It will be held at Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia.

a lasting holiday wreath to honor the memory of a loved one they have lost.

"This is a great way for the children to talk about their loved one while creating a keepsake

that will remind them of that special person," stated Sally Loughrin, a bereavement social worker with Angela Hospice.

A light meal of pizza, punch, and cookies will be served to the children and their parents/guardians.

For more information and to make reservations call Loughrin at (734) 464-2683 by Dec. 1. The workshop is free, but reservations are required because space is limited. It will be held at Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia.

For more information on bereavement programs offered free of charge to the community by Angela Hospice, visit www.AskForAngela.com.



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Bonnie is a fawn-colored beauty.



Volstromer-Hall

MILESTONES

FALL 2011 WEDDING

Beth Ann Volstromer and Harvey Hall announce their engagement.
 The bride-to-be, daughter of Michael and Sylvia Volstromer of Livonia, is a graduate of Stevenson High School and Madonna University. She is employed as a claims specialist.
 Her fiancé, son of Harvey and Linda Hall of Livonia, is a graduate of Franklin High School. He is a carpenter.
 The couple plans to wed in September 2011 at Greenmead in Livonia.

Rescue takes in more adoptable Greyhounds

Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption added six more former racing Greyhounds to its group of adoptable dogs this month.

The group met the vehicle transporting the "slightly thin, but very enthusiastic Greyhounds" on Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Indiana border.

"They came from Florida and had been riding for almost 24 hours when we met them," said Bowen in an e-mail. "After a little walk we brought them back to our meeting house and began the process of de-ticking and inspecting them. While it's hardly glamorous we are honored to be able to be a part of their new lives."

All of the dogs live with foster families until they're adopted.

"Our goal is to find as many loving homes for these magnificent dogs as possible."

Blue and Bonnie are Greyheart's two featured dogs



Blue is a playful pup.

this week.

Blue is playful, but also enjoys belly rubs and being with his new foster family. He is 4 years old with a brindle-colored coat.

Bonnie is a 2-year-old fawn-colored beauty. She's a happy dog and she loves to play.

If you're interested in adopting Blue or Bonnie, call Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739; www.greyheart.org.

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Must be 18 years of age or older. This coupon must be presented at the time of purchase. Value of coupon is \$5.00 (CAD). Limit one coupon per customer per session (Breakaway session times include: 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m., & 12:00 a.m. and Paradise session times include: 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9:00 p.m., 10:30 p.m., 12:00 a.m., & 1:30 a.m.). Redeemable only at Breakaway Gaming Centre and Paradise Gaming Centre Windsor as an agent of Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) for the purposes of this promotion. Coupon valid only on Play On Demand (POD) games. This coupon cannot be combined with any other offer or coupon. This coupon has no cash surrender value. Mechanical and/or hand drawn reproductions are not acceptable. All coupons submitted for redemption become the property of OLG. Delivered at OLG, 70 Foster Dr., Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Coupon expires on Sunday, November 28, 2010 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. For more information please contact OLG Support Centre at 1-800-387-0098. ON-HTW-US-NOV

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

After watching the annual America's Thanksgiving Parade in Detroit this year — it kicks off at 9:20 a.m. — why not see how it all came together by going behind the scenes at The Parade Company? Year-round tours take visitors through a wonderland of fantasy and floats, past the largest collection of antique papier-mâché heads and into the costume department.

"It is unbelievable the amount of time and work it takes to produce one of the largest Thanksgiving Day Parades," stated Tony Michaels, president and CEO, The Parade Company. "Get a group together and come on down to our studio and get a first-hand look at what it takes to produce America's Thanksgiving Parade."

Tours are available for groups of 10 or more and the cost is \$8 for children ages 3-17 and \$12 for adults. Group discounts are available. For more information on Studio tours or to make a reservation, visit theparade.org or call Renee Gonyeau at (313) 923-8368.

Here's a sampling of other holiday events around town:

DINE WITH SANTA

Festive brunch — Parents can bring cameras and video equipment to capture the moment their children meet Santa at brunch, Dec. 5, at the Summit on the Park in Canton. Kid-friendly foods and traditional family favorites will be on the menu, and youngsters will receive a holiday souvenir, crayons and a placemat for coloring.

Doors will open and brunch will start at 11 a.m., with Santa arriving at 11:30 a.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Summit Front Desk, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, during normal business hours. Online registration is not available. Tickets prices are \$16 for ages 13 and older; \$12 for ages 4-12; and children, 3 and under, free. Ticket deadline is Nov. 29. Seating is reserved by table location only and can be done on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information call (734) 394-5460 or visit Cantonfun.org.

At the zoo — A buffet-style waffle breakfast will include costumed characters, arts and crafts,



Martha Reeves is among the performers at a special concert that will benefit Goodwill, Friday, Nov. 26, in Detroit.

holiday movies and one-on-one visits with Santa Claus, 8-10 a.m. Saturdays, Dec. 4, 11 and 18, in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at the Detroit Zoo, located at 10 Mile and Woodward in Royal Oak. The cost, which includes Zoo admission and parking, is \$30 for adults, ages 15 and older, and \$25 for children, ages 14 and younger. The cost for Detroit Zoological Society members is \$25 for adults and \$20 for children. Tickets must be purchased for all children regardless of age. Reservations are required. Call (248) 541-5717 and press #3.

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

Canton — The Flying Latini Brothers play folk, roots, blues, jazz and classic holiday music, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton; tickets are \$12. (734) 394-5300.

Detroit — "Alto Reed's AllStar Thanksgiving Celebration" brings together legendary sax player Alto Reed, actor Jeff Daniels, Rock 'n Roll icon Mitch Ryder and Motown great Martha Reeves, at 7 p.m. Nov. 26 to the Fillmore, 2115 Woodward Avenue. A portion of the proceeds from the event will support Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit programs that help unemployed Metro Detroiters earn jobs. Tickets start at \$10, available through Live Nation www.livenation.com.

Farmington — The Farmington Community Chorus will perform its 31st Annual Holiday Concert, "The Happiest Season of All," at 8

p.m. Friday, Dec. 17 and Saturday, Dec. 18, at Mercy High School, 29300 West 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Steve SeGraves directs the choir of more than 70 voices, which is accompanied by assistant director, Susan Garr. Tickets are \$12 in advance, available at www.farmingtonchorus.com, the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills or by calling (248) 682-6562. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$15.

Livonia — The Livonia Symphony Orchestra will present "Holiday Suites and Treats," featuring the Bunny Sanford Dancers with excerpts from *The Nutcracker*, 4 p.m., Dec. 4, at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia. Includes a special appearance by the Churchill and Clarenceville High School Girls Choirs. After the concert, join the symphony for a hearty dinner at Corsi's, 27910 West Seven Mile, Livonia. Cost if \$15 for adults; \$10 for children 10 and under. For reservations and information call the Symphony hotline at (734) 421-1111.

The HarmonyTown Chorus presents "Holiday Harmonis," its annual holiday show, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, in the Livonia Public Library Auditorium, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Admission is \$6 for adults, and \$3 for children, 12 and under. For information for tickets, call (734) 743-1764 or visit www.WeSingBarbershop.com.

Plymouth — The Plymouth Symphony and the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company present *The Nutcracker*, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and 2 p.m. Dec. 5, in the auditorium at Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road, Canton. For tickets and information call (734) 451-2112 or (734) 676-7233. Or order online at http://www.plymouthcantonalballet.org

LIGHT DISPLAY

Wayne County — Four miles of displays and more than a million lights along Hines Drive make this the biggest holiday light show in southeastern Michigan. Lightfest runs 7-9 p.m. through Dec. 31 and is closed on Christmas Day, Dec. 25. Admission is \$5 per car. Entrance is off Merriman Road, between Ann Arbor Trail and Warren Ave., in Westland.



Lisa is a 39-year-old mom. She's in the market for a new SUV. (The soccer team did a job on the last one.)

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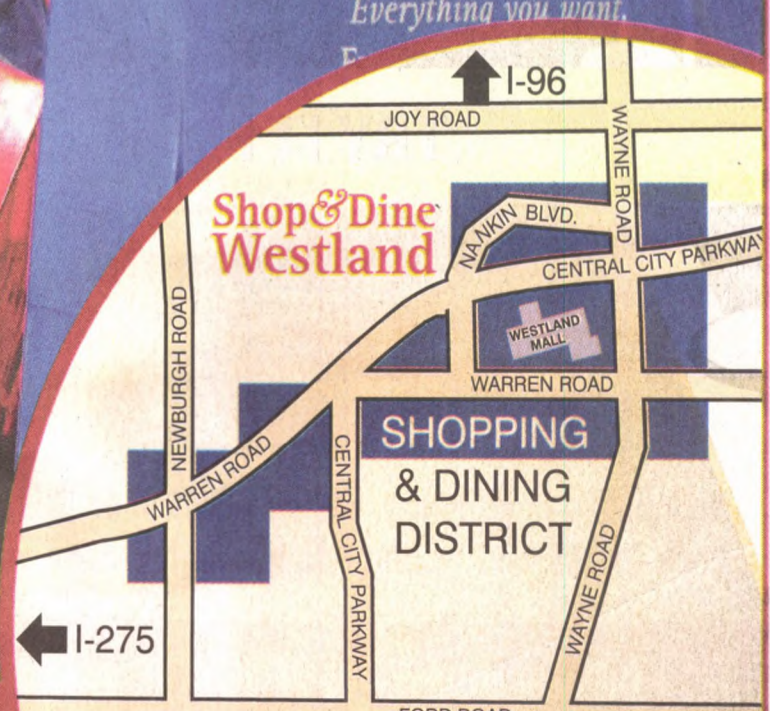


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HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

Welcome boys and girls to Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights!

Scoop sure was impressed with all of the entries from local boys and girls. We really did learn a lot about "Fire Safety".



Top Winners from last month's contest!

Winners received tickets to the Emagine Theater in Canton or Novi!

Investigate Fire Safety with Scoop the Newshound!



Molly Berry
Age: 6
Community: Northville

Investigate Fire Safety with Scoop the Newshound!



Ashley Zimmerman
Age: 6
Community: Livonia

Investigate Fire Safety with Scoop the Newshound!



Bryce Siterlet
Age: 7
Community: Milford

Investigate Fire Safety with Scoop the Newshound!



Sarah Alfonsi
Age: 7
Community: Livonia

Investigate Fire Safety with Scoop the Newshound!



Benjamin Houck
Age: 9
Community: South Lyon

Investigate Fire Safety with Scoop the Newshound!



Jacob Kendrick
Age: 10
Community: Westland

Everyone received a letter from Scoop and a Buddy's Pizza Coupon!

Name	Age	Hometown
Elena Fernimos	7	White Lake
Olivia Valli	7	Farmington Hills
Alyssa Lemmon	6	South Lyon
Madelyn Johnston	5	Madison Heights
Cameron Kopich	5	Madison Heights
Abigale Elliott	5	Redford
Parker Howard	5	Garden City
Gigi Maki	5	Southfield
Mallory Steffes	6	South Lyon
Morgan Seog	6	Milford
Emerson Seog	4	Milford
Ezra Crocker	5	Canton
Claire Letterman	6	Farmington Hills
Robbie Alfonsi	5	Livonia
Samantha Knight	5	Canton
Tessa Rogers	6	Plymouth
Michael Beyrand	5	Livonia
Alexander Hardacre	5	Westland
Emily Earl	5	Milford
Luke Siterlet	5	Milford
Morgan Aittama	8	South Lyon
Lillane Aittama	5	South Lyon
Scott Zurla	8	South Lyon
Shane Siterlet	7	Milford
Melissa Beyrand	10	Livonia
Samantha Vargo	5	Livonia
Hope Smolka	5	Westland
Caroline Loder	8	Livonia
Victoria Jedruszko	7	Livonia
Abby Kuczumski	8	Livonia
Macy Marie Malecki	5	Northville
Asher Howarth	8	Royal Oak
Tejas Maire	7	Farmington Hills
Scott Bloomfield	5	Farmington Hills

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

Next month: Contest features Holiday Celebrations!

FOOD

Sunday, November 21, 2010

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com



Holiday Cooking FOR THE HEART



The holiday season has always been a time for celebration, togetherness and most of all, indulgent eating. However, with heart disease as the leading cause of death in the United States and about 24 million Americans with diabetes, a healthier take on holiday meals could benefit everyone.

Cheryl Forberg, R.D., consulting dietitian to NBC-TV's "The Biggest Loser," *The New York Times* best-selling author and James Beard award-winning recipe developer, has partnered with CanolaInfo to create a heart-smart, diabetes-friendly holiday recipe collection that allows people to have their cake (or pumpkin flan) and eat it, too.

"A diabetes-friendly diet is really how everyone should eat," Forberg says. "That's because heart disease and type 2 diabetes are largely preventable with a good diet, exercise and other healthy habits. These recipes prove that nutritious is delicious. Now that's something to celebrate during the holidays!"

As a common ingredient in Forberg's six holiday recipes, canola oil delivers on heart health. It has the least saturated fat and most omega-3 fat of all cooking oils and is free of trans fat and cholesterol. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized a qualified health claim for canola oil on its potential to reduce the risk of heart disease, which affects 65 percent of people with diabetes.

Forberg's diabetes-friendly holiday recipe collection includes these three recipes plus Warm Apple and Cranberry Sauce, Holiday Rapini Sauté and Pumpkin Flan. For the complete collection, go to www.canolainfo.org.

TURKEY ROULADE

Yield: 8 servings

Serving size: 2 slices (4 ounces)

Plastic wrap
 ½ boneless, skinless turkey breast, about 1½ pounds
 1½ cups Cornbread and Dried Fruit dressing
 Kitchen twine
 ¼ teaspoon smoked paprika
 ¼ teaspoon black pepper
 ¼ teaspoon marjoram
 ¼ teaspoon thyme
 ¼ teaspoon sage
 1 tablespoon canola oil
 Preheat oven to 350° F.

Place large piece of plastic wrap on countertop. Place turkey breast half on plastic and cover.

Cover with additional plastic wrap. Using meat mallet, pound turkey to rectangle about 10 x 6 inches, about ¼-inch thick.

Remove plastic wrap from top of turkey and spread dressing evenly lengthwise over surface, almost to edge. Roll turkey lengthwise. With kitchen twine, tie roulade lengthwise once and in several places across turkey. Discard plastic wrap.

In small bowl, mix together spices. Rub canola oil over all surfaces of roulade; rub spice blend evenly over roulade.

Place roulade in shallow roasting pan, then place in oven. Roast for 45 to 60 minutes or until internal temperature measured with an instant-read thermometer reads 155° F.

Remove roulade from oven and let rest 15 minutes before carefully removing twine and slicing into 16 half-inch slices. Serve with Porcini Mushroom Gravy, Warm Apple and Cranberry Sauce and extra Cornbread and Dried Fruit Dressing.

Nutrient Analysis per Serving:
 Calories 140, Calories from Fat 35, Total Fat 3.5 g, Saturated Fat < 1 g, Cholesterol 65 mg, Sodium 150 mg, Total Carbohydrate 5 g, Fiber 0 g, Sugars 1 g, Protein 22 g

PORCINI MUSHROOM GRAVY

Yield: 2 cups (8 servings)

Serving size: ¼ cup

½ ounce dried porcini mushrooms
 2 tablespoons warm water
 1½ tablespoons canola oil
 ¾ cup white whole-wheat flour

2 cups fat-free, low-sodium chicken broth

¾ teaspoon salt (optional)

1 teaspoon onion powder

¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper or to taste

Soak mushrooms in warm water for 5 minutes.

In 2-quart saucepan, heat canola oil over medium heat. Whisk in flour until blended and continue stirring until roux is lightly browned and develops nutty aroma.

Whisk in broth, optional salt and onion powder. Bring to a gentle boil until just thickened, stirring. Cook and stir for 1 minute. Remove from heat and season with pepper. Add softened mushrooms and any soaking liquid.

Puree gravy in food processor or food mill. Return mixture to saucepan. Heat just to a simmer.

Nutrient Analysis per Serving:

Calories 50, Calories from Fat 25, Total Fat 3 g, Saturated Fat 0 g, Cholesterol 0 mg, Sodium 115 mg, Total Carbohydrate 5 g, Fiber 2 g, Sugar 0 g, Protein 1 g

CORNBREAD AND DRIED FRUIT DRESSING

Yield: 6 cups (enough for Turkey Roulade and 8 side dish servings)

Serving size: ½ cup

4 cups cornbread cubes, dried
 4 ounces lean Italian turkey sausage, casing removed
 1 tablespoon canola oil
 1 cup chopped yellow or white onions
 ¼ cup chopped celery
 ¼ cup chopped carrot
 1 small garlic clove, crushed
 4 each dried apricots and pitted dried plums, coarsely chopped
 ½ teaspoon dried thyme
 ¼ teaspoon dried sage
 ¼ teaspoon dried marjoram
 1 cup fat-free, low-sodium chicken broth
 ¼ cup minced fresh parsley
 ½ teaspoon salt
 ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
 Canola oil cooking spray
 1 egg, lightly beaten

Preheat oven to 350° F. Place cornbread cubes in large bowl and set aside.

In small nonstick skillet, cook sausage over medium-high heat, crumbling and stirring until brown and cooked through. Drain well and set aside.

In large nonstick skillet, heat canola oil over medium heat. Stir in onions, celery and carrot; cook 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Add garlic and cook for 1 minute longer, but don't allow garlic to brown. Stir in sausage, apricots, plums, thyme, sage, marjoram and ¼ cup broth. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer 3 minutes. Remove from heat; pour vegetable mixture over cornbread. Add parsley and stir well. Season with salt and pepper. (Dressing may be prepared to this stage a day ahead and refrigerated, covered.)

Whisk together egg and remaining ¾ cup broth and pour over cornbread mixture, tossing well. Spray 2-quart baking dish with canola oil cooking spray (use larger baking dish if not reserving dressing for Turkey Roulade) and transfer all but 1½ cups of dressing to baking dish. Cover dish with foil and set aside.

After Turkey Roulade has been in oven 30 minutes, place covered baking dish of dressing in oven. After 15 minutes (or when internal temperature of roulade, measured with an instant-read thermometer, is 155° F), remove roulade from oven and remove foil from baking dish with dressing. Continue baking dressing for about 15 minutes or until top begins to brown.

Nutrient Analysis per Serving:
 Calories 100, Calories from Fat 35, Total Fat 3.5 g, Saturated Fat 1 g, Cholesterol 30 mg, Sodium 310 mg, Total Carbohydrate 12 g, Fiber 1 g, Sugars 4 g, Protein 3 g

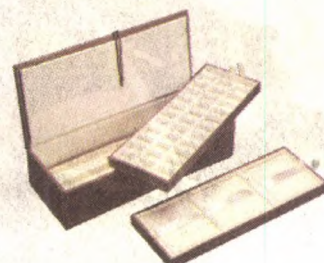
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NOW IS THE TIME TO SELL!

ALL FORMS OF GOLD:

- CHAINS • WEDDING BANDS • CLASS RINGS
- COINS • BRACELETS • EARRINGS
- CHARMS • WATCHES
- ANTIQUE JEWELRY
- DENTAL GOLD

The Price of Gold is Back Up!

Bring it in! We buy Gold, Silver,
Diamonds, Platinum, Gold & Silver Coins.

EVEN BROKEN or DAMAGED ITEMS ARE ACCEPTED

Don't be misled

by mailing your gold to people not knowing
what they will pay you for it.

**Bring it to us for a free estimate and then
decide if you're ready to sell.**

**WE GUARANTEE TO
PAY MORE THAN ANYONE!**

Benson Diamond Jewelers

FINE JEWELRY • DIAMONDS • SWAROVSKI
Located In the Westland Mall Kohl's Corridor

30 Years in Business **734-525-4100** Open 7 Days a Week



The New PANDORA Beads Are Here!

Benson Diamond Jewelers
Located in the Westland Mall
In the Kohl's Corridor • 734-525-4100



KAMELEON™

Change is Natural.

*It's as
Easy as...*



Show your True Colors

Interchangeable Sterling Silver Jewelry System

Buy 3 Kameleon Items, GET 1 FREE!

Includes rings, pendants, chains, pops, earrings, etc

BENSON DIAMOND JEWELERS

Located in the Westland Mall Kohl's Corridor

734-525-4100

YEAR END

CELEBRATION



It's that time again for the Year End Celebration at your Southeast Michigan Ford Dealers!

Check out these great lease offers!



29 city / 40 highway MPG²

2011 FIESTA SE

\$179
PER MONTH

For 39 months for A/Z plan customers¹
\$1,847 Cash Due at Signing

- 1.6L Duratec I4 Engine
- Standard 7 airbags
- AM/FM stereo/Single CD player with 4 speakers



23 city / 33 highway MPG²

2011 FUSION SE FWD

\$179
PER MONTH RENEWAL LEASE

For 27 months for current A/Z plan customers¹
\$2,022 Cash Due at Signing

- 2.5 L Duratec I-4 engine
- 6-speed automatic transmission
- Sync with traffic, direct and information
- 17" design wheels with silver paint



25 city / 35 highway MPG²

2011 FOCUS SE FWD

\$199
PER MONTH RENEWAL LEASE

For 27 months for current A/Z plan customers¹
\$1,904 Cash Due at Signing

- 2.0 Duratec I-4 engine
- 4-speed automatic transmission
- MyKey • 15" Alloy wheels



18 city / 27 highway MPG²

2011 TAURUS SEL FWD

\$299
PER MONTH RENEWAL LEASE

For 27 months for current A/Z plan customers¹
\$2,201 Cash Due at Signing

- 3.5 L Duratec V6 engine
- MyKey • Perimeter anti-theft alarm
- 6-speed select shift automatic transmission with paddle activation
- Sync with traffic, direct and information



19 city / 26 highway MPG²

2011 EDGE SE

\$299
PER MONTH RENEWAL LEASE

For 27 months for current A/Z plan customers¹
\$2,241 Cash Due at Signing

- 3.5L Twin-independent Variable Cam Timing (Ti-VCT) V6 engine
- New optional MyFord Touch. An automotive first. It understands 10,000 voice commands



17 city / 24 highway MPG²

2011 FLEX SE FWD

\$299
PER MONTH RENEWAL LEASE

For 27 months for current A/Z plan customers¹
\$2,896 Cash Due at Signing

- 3.5 L Duratec V6 engine
- 6-speed automatic transmission
- Dual chrome exhaust tips
- Quad-beam halogen headlamps
- 17" painted aluminum wheels

Or if you purchase, get 0% APR Financing plus \$1,500 toward your first three payments!⁴



Available on most vehicles.³



Southeast Michigan Ford Dealers

ThinkFordFirst.com

1) Includes acquisition fee, waived security deposit, and excludes title, taxes and license fees. Some payments higher, some lower. Not all lessees will qualify. Residency restrictions apply. Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. Payments include Renewal Bonus Cash for current RCL/RCO customers. You must currently lease a Ford product and finance through Ford Credit. Take delivery out of dealer stock by 11/30/10 on Taurus and 1/3/11 on all other vehicles. Edge Limited and Flex SEL model shown. (2) MPG estimate based on 2011 Fusion SE 2.5L I-4 Engine with 6-speed automatic 23 city/33 highway, 2011 Fiesta EPA estimated 29 city/40 highway MPG on SFE package only, 2011 Focus SE 2.0 Duratec I-4 engine 25 city/35 highway, 2011 Taurus SEL 3.5L V6 engine 18 city/27 highway, 2011 Edge SE FWD 3.5L V-6 Duratec with 6-speed automatic 19 city/26 highway and 2011 Flex SE 3.5 Duratec V6 engine 17 city/24 highway. (3) Driving while distracted can result in loss of vehicle control. Only use mobile phones and other devices, even with voice commands, when it is safe to do so. (4) Available on 2011 Focus, Fusion (excluding Hybrid), Taurus (excluding SE), Escape (excluding Hybrid), Flex, Ranger, 2010 Explorer, Sport Trac and F-150 (excluding Raptor). Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit limited-term financing. \$1,500 Cash Back may be used to make payments; customer is required to make all actual payments. Program ends 1/3/11. See dealer for complete details. Residency restrictions apply.