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November 25, 2010

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# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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## Keeping the faith



### Good Counsel marks 90 years of service, building community

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Members of one of the Plymouth area's biggest and best-known churches are pausing to take stock as they celebrate a milestone and look ahead to a century of service.

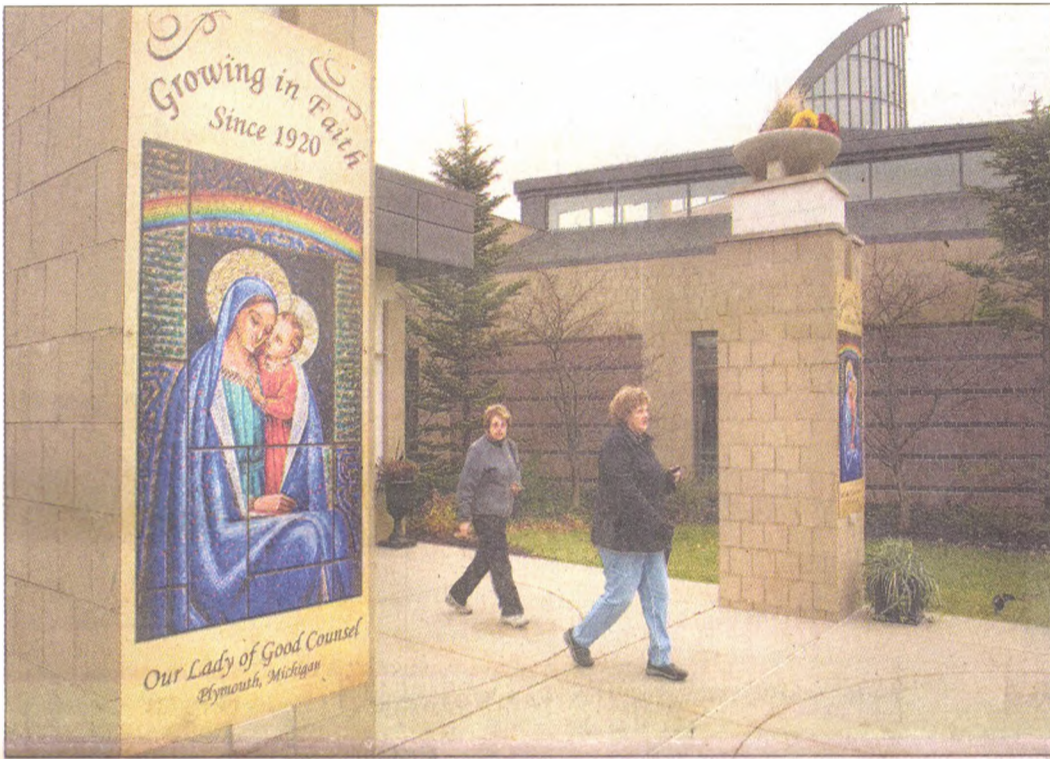
Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church marks its 90th anniversary this week. From about 30 original families who attended Mass once a month in the Grange Hall on Union Street — and took the interurban rail line on other Sundays to a church in Wayne — Good Counsel has grown to a current 2,800 families and is in its sixth church, a building on North Territorial that was consecrated in 2000.

The parish's deep roots have a wide reach.

In addition to Masses, two or more a day for most of the week, the calendar is filled with events — from choir practice to athletics to men's fellowship to religious studies classes to guitar group rehearsal and more — that involve hundreds of members. Good Counsel's grade school, which celebrated its 60th anniversary last year, is going strong with an enrollment of about 630. And the church has sent missions to El Salvador and Uganda and has regular exchanges with members of St. Aloysius Church in Detroit, a sister parish.

"I see a tremendous passion in this local community to bring the message of the Gospel to our neighbors," said the Rev. John Riccardo, the pastor. "It means we're actually making a difference in people's lives by loving them."

Riccardo, in his fourth year as pastor, said his congregation is "taking a whole year to look back, reflect" and not only mark the church's birthday, but the school's, and to note the 10th anniversary of the current church complex and begin preparations for Good Counsel's 100th anniversary in 2020.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Parishioners leave Our Lady of Good Counsel after an 8 a.m. Thursday Mass (above). The church celebrates its 90th year on Sunday. Our Lady of Good Counsel's original church building underwent a major remodeling in 1927 and was rededicated (top) July 1, 1928, by the Most Rev. Michael J. Gallagher, bishop of Detroit. The church was destroyed by fire in December 1932 and was rebuilt on the same site.

#### ANNIVERSARY MASS

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church will formally celebrate its 90th anniversary Saturday with a 4 p.m. Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Allen H. Vigneron, archbishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

The mass will be at the church, 47650 N. Territorial, just west of Beck, Plymouth Township. A reception in the church's social hall will follow the Mass.

In Riccardo's view, learning the faith is central at Good Counsel, beginning with church patroness St. Mary, the mother of Jesus, who, the pastor said, was the model of someone who was "docile," in the sense of being easy to teach.

"We do anything and everything we can to teach the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron was welcomed at Our Lady of Good Counsel on Monday evening for a celebratory Mass. He'll be back to celebrate the anniversary Mass marking the parish's 90th anniversary.

faith in ways that are accessible," Riccardo said. That includes through the school, adult religious education (stu-

dents' experience in school sometimes sends parents on

Please see **CHURCH, A8**

## 'Cats create buzz with trip to final

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth rocks Rockford, B1.

When Meghan Hill played varsity girls soccer at Plymouth High School, everything involving any of the sports teams was a first. There was no history, with a group of student-athletes collectively taking their first steps into the unknown.

But on Saturday, the 22-year-old Hill and "40 or 50 of us" from Plymouth's first graduating class in 2006 made the trek to Lansing Everett to help spur on a big-time slice of Wildcat history.

They wanted to watch their football team knock off Rockford in the Division 1 state semifinals and earn a spot in the finals. The Wildcats didn't disappoint them, winning 20-17 on a winning touchdown drive that had destiny stamped all over it.

"It was very emotional, it was awesome to see how far we've come in four or five years," Hill said. "We kind of really started from nothing and to only take that long to accomplish something this big, this cool, it was amazing."

"Four years ago we were all freshman teams playing in playoffs, and now we're going to Ford Field."

When quarterback Shaun Austin found wide receiver Kyle Brindza in the end zone with 4.5 seconds left in the game, for the winning TD, Hill said she stayed in the bleachers and soaked it all in. She let the current students — including her sister, Becca — join the on-field celebration.

"I just looked up in the crowd and everybody had their cameras and phones out taking pictures of people rushing the field," Meghan said. "It was sweet."

According to Hill, the first graduates still have a special bond and a high level of school spirit that undoubtedly is getting ramped up even more with every emotion-packed victory.

"I feel like we were sort of a family, just because we all worked together for so long, for four years, trying to build a program," she continued. "We still like to go back and watch, just to see what we started."

And yes, Hill and her classmates plan to at Ford Field 1 p.m. this Saturday when Plymouth (11-2) faces 12-1 Lake Orion.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A big crowd of Plymouth High School fans turned out for the semi-final game against Rockford, held at Lansing Everett High School's football stadium. Madalyn Crynick is one of them.

## Split board ousts Fiegel, installs COO

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education took the first step in the transition from its current superintendent Monday, stripping Dr. Craig Fiegel of most of his duties and appointing Deputy Superintendent Ken Jacobs as the district's chief operating officer.

Board members used a 4-3 vote on a

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Was the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education right in stripping Dr. Craig Fiegel of most of his duties and installing a new chief operating officer? E-mail bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

motion made by Trustee John Jackson to create the COO position and fill it with Jacobs, the district's most venerable administrator. Jacobs, who has twice served as an interim superintendent for the district, will handle the bulk of the district's day-to-day operations and supervise

School board splits wide open, A13. See video of the meeting at hometownlife.com.

all district employees except Fiegel.

Jackson, Trustees Dianne Gonzalez (who seconded the motion) and Adrienne Davis and Treasurer Judy Mardigian voted to make the administrative shift. Board President Steven Sneiderman, Vice President Barry Simescu and Secretary Nancy Eggenberger voted against the measure. The same split produced the board's decision not to renew Fiegel's contract Sept. 28.

Please see **FIEGEL, A7**



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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

**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

**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 informa-



**Honoring vets**

Achieve Academy first grader Maya Abughannam reads a poem during the schools Veterans Day ceremony where students honored the men and women who served our country. The ceremony included a glimpse into two Vietnam veterans' experiences in the military and why Veterans Day is celebrated, as well as students singing a patriotic song and presenting hand-made cards thanking them for the sacrifices they made.

tion, contact Esther Nelson at enelson1c@att.net or (734) 981-4938.

**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.plymouthcantonballet.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.

**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.

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**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.

**Hats for homeless**

The Plymouth Community United Way has a new clothing collection drive, "Hats for the Homeless," for the fall of 2010.

During the month of November, community residents can donate any new hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for all genders and sizes.

All donations can be dropped off to the Plymouth Community

United Way located at 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2 in Plymouth or arrangements can be made for items to be picked up.

For additional information, e-mail Krista Strobel at kstrobel@ameritech.net or call (734) 453-6879.

**Seeking vets**

The American Legion Beasley-Zalesny Post 112, located at 344 Elizabeth St. in downtown Plymouth at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail, is seeking veterans from all wars.

The post meets 7 p.m., the third Monday of each month, September through June. The active post, along with its Women's Auxiliary, works a number of programs both in Plymouth and at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor. The post's efforts are geared toward doing all they can to take care of needy veterans.

For more information please call Joe Burman at (734) 459-7324.

**Host families**

AYUSA International is a non-profit high school foreign exchange student organization which welcome teenagers from more than 65 countries worldwide and provides a host family placement and ongoing supervision for 5- and 10-month academic programs.

These young people look forward to a warm bond of friendship with host families and a rewarding cultural exchange. Host families are asked to provide meals and a bedroom either shared or private. Students pay for all other personal expenses while in the U.S.

For more information, call Sue McGrath, (313) 278-8424.

**PLAV recruiting**

PLAV Post #166, located at 39375 Amrhein in Livonia (at the corner of Amrhein and Eckles) is seeking veteran members interested in joining a vibrant post, restructuring itself in the 21st century. The Post goal is to have a significant and meaningful impact within the veteran community.

The post meetings are the second Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m., with the exception of July and August, and a light lunch with refreshments follows. Free beverages are provided throughout the meeting's. Those interested in additional information are welcome to call Roger L. Kehrier at (734) 453-2031 or stop in the night of a scheduled meeting.

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# City adds music, magic to Santa's arrival Friday



Santa arrives in downtown Plymouth via fire truck Friday at 6 p.m.

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Holiday shoppers and visitors anticipating Santa's arrival in downtown Plymouth will be treated to extra fanfare for free on Friday.

Three musical groups will entertain shoppers on the streets of Plymouth Friday afternoon, one of those groups, a student choir, will perform Christmas songs onstage at Kellogg Park beginning at 5:15 p.m., and magician Gordon Russ will warm up the crowd with a half-hour holiday show, plus introduce Santa when he arrives at the park on a fire truck at 6 p.m.

The production comes courtesy of Plymouth's Downtown Development Authority.

"The day is hectic. The hubbub of the season kind of begins," said Tony Bruscatto, the DDA's operations director. "We like to throw a little bit of entertainment out there."

The streetside musical acts were brought in for the first time last year, Bruscatto said; the Kellogg Park entertainment will be a new feature.

"As long as people are going to come out and gather, why not entertain them so they don't just have to stand there?" he said.

Music on the streets will begin at 1 p.m. The student choir from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park will sing on Ann Arbor Trail near Forest, country pop artist Justine Blazer will bring her Holiday Showcase to

Penniman Avenue, and Trio Organic, which plays rock, funk and soul, will be on Forest Avenue. (The groups will have tents in case of rain or snow.)

The PCEP choir will also take to the bandshell at Kellogg Park for a 15-minute concert starting at 5:15 p.m., Bruscatto said.

Gordon Russ, a Ferndale magician who specializes in shows for Christmas, Halloween, Easter and other holidays, will perform at the park beginning at 5:30 p.m. until Santa's arrival.

"I've worked with Santa on and off the past 20 years," Russ joked on Tuesday.

Russ, who has appeared previously at the Plymouth District Library and the Saturdays at the Penn series, has a Christmas-themed show planned, including a card trick that features a missing "present" that children in the audience will try to track down.

Russ doesn't plan to overshadow the Jolly Old Elf, though.

"Pretty much, when Santa appears, the act is over. It's hard to beat Santa," he said.

After Santa speaks to the audience, he will be available in the park to hear children's wish lists. Santa's appearance is sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

Bruscatto said the entire entertainment production will cost the DDA about \$3,500.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

# Fire talks continue; city eyes dispatch

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As Plymouth and Plymouth Township officials continue to discuss the future of their shared fire department, the city is looking to its neighbors to the north — Northville and Northville Township — as potential partners in emergency dispatch services.

Mayor Dan Dwyer confirmed last week that Plymouth has approached Northville Township officials, who manage dispatch for their community and the city of Northville, for a cost estimate on providing emergency dispatch services. Dwyer expects to have preliminary numbers soon.

"It's at a very preliminary stage, where they've been willing to look at the data," he said.

The city's police, fire and emergency medical dispatch is now handled by Plymouth Township, which charges the city about \$285,000 a year for it. That also includes jail services for people arrested by the Plymouth Police Department.

The latter might prove a roadblock to any agreement on a Northville-Plymouth dispatch operation, Dwyer said.

Under Plymouth's current dispatch arrangement, dispatchers in Plymouth Township, called police service aides, also book and guard prisoners, freeing up arresting officers from both communities to get back on patrol. Under the Northville-Northville Township system, Dwyer said, arresting officers process their own prisoners, tying them up for longer periods.

With the longer distance

to the Northville Township lockup, and the time involved in processing prisoners, Dwyer said, too much time would be taken away from patrol duties, and the city has asked Northville and Northville Township to consider changing the system as a condition of any partnership.

"We are in very good dialogue with the Northvilles, both governments," he said.

Meanwhile, Plymouth and Plymouth Township officials are talking about the shared Plymouth Community Fire Department, with the city seeking cost-savings through a reduction in full-time personnel and, possibly, the closing of one of the department's three fire stations.

The 23-member PCFD, with an annual budget of about \$4.1 million, provides fire prevention, firefighting and emergency medical service to both communities. Plymouth, which contributes about \$1 million a year toward the department, is looking for long-term savings, and a recent public study suggested several alternatives for the fire department that the authors said could save money.

Dwyer said talks are proceeding well.

"Our primary focus right now is with Plymouth Township, and I can honestly say the meetings between the city and Plymouth Township have been very productive," he said.

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said his community is on a similar quest for cost efficiencies.

"We are going to turn over every stone also," Reaume said.

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# PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, November 25, 2010 [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich  
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 Comment online at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

## Police: Shop safely this holiday season

BY JULIE BROWN  
 OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"Black Friday" will bring out hordes of holiday shoppers. Unfortunately, criminals are aware of that reality.

"Just always be aware of your surroundings," said Sgt. Mark Gajeski of the Canton Public Safety Department. He recommends against a woman shopping alone.

You can leave with a group of shoppers for the parking lot to be more safe, Gajeski said.

"Know who's around you, what kind of cars are around you," he said.

Sgt. Patrick Moug of the Livonia Police Department agreed. "Oh, absolutely. That's the No. 1 tip, keeping your head up, viewing your surroundings, walking in a confident manner." Criminals are less likely to approach you then, knowing you'll be a good witness, Moug said.

"Unfortunately, the crime picks up during the holiday season," Moug said. The Livonia police and other departments monitor shopping areas more during the holidays.

The Canton department has these safety tips for holiday shoppers:

- Coordinate shopping trips with a friend. Never park in an unlit area, no matter how convenient it is.

- Don't leave your purse unattended in a shopping cart.

- Lock your packages and bags in your vehicle's trunk. Keep your doors locked and windows closed. If your vehicle doesn't have a trunk, Gajeski recommends putting packages on the rear floor covered by a blanket or coat: "Don't just throw them on the back seat."

- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay for purchases with a check, credit or debit card when possible.

- Try not to flash it around," Gajeski said of cash. "Just be care-



ful about how much money you pull out of your pocket at any given time."

"He's absolutely right," Moug agreed. "If at all possible, limit the amount of cash you carry on yourself," Moug said. Be aware of your purse, Moug reminds women, and put it in the car first when loading up.

"To discourage purse snatchers, don't overburden yourself with packages. Make several smaller trips back to your vehicle.

A purse snatcher may drive up, Moug said, and "you could be dragged to the pavement and be injured." Hold the purse in your hands with a firm grip, but make sure not to be dragged to the pavement.

- Be extra careful with purses and

wallets. Avoid carrying a purse if possible, and keep your wallet in an inside jacket pocket.

- Teach children to go to a uniformed store clerk or security guard to ask for help if they become separated from you. They should never go to the parking lot alone.

- If you feel you're being followed or watched in a parking lot, go back inside the store and ask for security.

Gajeski recommends letting a friend or family member know when you'll return from shopping, as an extra safety measure. Women who are threatened must give up their purse, he added, rather than risk injury or worse.

"Just let it go," Gajeski said. "You're better off in the long run just letting it go."

The Michigan State Police add

these personal safety tips, good for holiday shopping and year-round use.

- Walk purposefully, stand tall, and make eye contact with people around you.

- Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable in a situation, leave.

- If being followed or stalked, call 9-1-1 or drive directly to a police station.

- Should you resist? Everyone and every situation is different. Don't resist if the attacker has a weapon.

- Check front and rear seats, and floorboards, before entering your car.

- When parking or returning to your vehicle, carry your keys and be aware of your surroundings.

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### CRIME WATCH

#### Two vehicles burglarized

Two vehicles were burglarized early Friday while parked at the Plymouth Square Apartments, on Marguerite Drive south of Ann Arbor Road and west of Sheldon.

The burglaries occurred between midnight and just after 7 a.m., according to Plymouth Township Police Department reports.

From a Hyundai Tiburon, a navigation system was reported stolen. A window on the car had been broken out, police said.

Paperwork was reported stolen from a Jeep Liberty. The sport-utility vehicle had likely been left unlocked, the victim told police.

Other things taken from the Liberty were recovered nearby.

#### Other vehicle burglaries

- Cash and a digital projector were reported stolen Sunday from a vehicle parked in the driveway of a house on Tennyson Drive, north of Ann Arbor Road and east of Beck.

The vehicle had been left unlocked, the victim told police. The burglary occurred between 9 p.m. Saturday and just before 9 p.m. Sunday, police said.

- A computer printer was reported stolen Saturday from a Honda Civic that was parked in the driveway of a house on Firwood Drive, in the area of Haggerty and Ann Arbor Trail.

The Civic had been left unlocked, the victim told police. The burglary occurred between 9 p.m. Friday and 6 a.m. Saturday, police said.

- Coins and compact discs were reported stolen Friday from a Ford Focus that was parked outside a house on Brookline Avenue, south of Ann Arbor Road and east of Sheldon.

The car had been left unlocked, the victim told police. The CDs were later found in a ditch across the street, a police report said.

The burglary occurred between 9 p.m. Nov. 18 and 9 a.m. Friday, police said.

#### Tire-slashing

A tire on a 1995 Pontiac Grand Am was slashed Sunday afternoon while the car was parked outside an apartment complex on Risman Drive south of Plymouth Road and east of Haggerty.

The vandalism occurred between shortly before 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., the victim told police.

- By Matt Jachman



**Eddie Edgar Arena**  
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# Roadshow Comes to Livonia Next Week!

**By Jason Delong**  
Treasure Hunters Roadshow  
STAFF WRITER

Clean out your attics, closets and lock boxes, because the Roadshow is coming to Livonia. Roadshow experts will be in town examining antiques, collectibles, gold and silver.

While the Roadshow will accept anything that's old, they will be focusing on gold and silver coins made before 1964, military items, toys and trains, musical instruments, pocket and wrist watches. Scrap gold is expected to be a popular category this week due to soaring gold prices.

*"U.S. coins made before 1964 are most sought after by collectors. Coins made before 1964 are 90% silver and valuable because of the silver content or could be worth even more if one happens to be a rare date."*

Expert buyers for the Roadshow have noticed a tremendous increase in the amount of gold coming to the Roadshow and for good reason. Record gold prices have Roadshow guests cashing in on broken jewelry or jewelry they don't wear anymore with our "fair and honest" purchase offers.

*Got Gold? Next week, visitors can cash in on antiques, collectibles, gold, silver, coins or just about anything that is old.*

The Roadshow encourages anyone planning a visit to take a minute and examine their jewelry box or their lock box at the bank and gather anything that's gold. If a guest is not sure if something is gold, bring it anyway and the Roadshow staff will test it for free. Other gold items of interest include gold coins, gold proof sets and dental gold.

Other types of items Roadshow experts hope to see include old toys and train sets. Archie Davis, roadshow toy expert spoke about some of the top toys getting great offers. "Old tin windup toys from the late 1800's through the 1960's are in great demand now," said Davis. "Especially those that are character related. Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, the Flintstones or any character toys are sought. Old Buddy L toys from the 1920's to 1960's

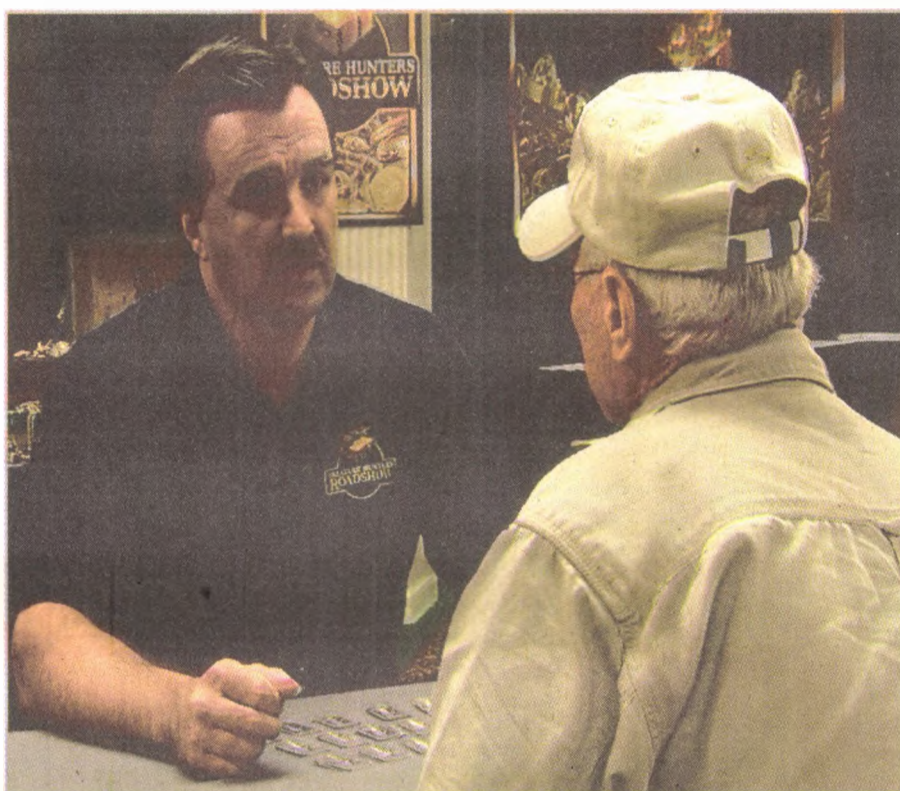
are in demand." Basically any toys made before 1965 are wanted. Train sets made by Lionel, American Flyer, Marklin and others have the potential to fetch high prices. Davis also stressed, "Toys with boxes and in mint condition bring sensational

prices. Most of the toys that come to the Roadshow are not in perfect shape but can still bring good prices from collectors."

When expert Tom Fuller was asked what he enjoyed most about working at the Roadshow, he was quick to answer "Old

coins and paper currency. For as long as I can remember I have been fascinated with collecting coins. I would go through the change in my parents grocery store looking for rare dates and errors. Once, I found a silver quarter that I sold for \$300.00. Not bad for an 8 year old."

Fuller went on to explain that any U.S. coins made before 1964 are most sought after by collectors. Coins made before 1964 are 90% silver and valuable



Above • A Gentleman sits with Mike Delong with anticipation as the Roadshow Expert examines his collectibles.

*"If you go to the Roadshow, you can cash-in your items for top dollar. Roadshow representatives will be available to assess and purchase your items at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, next Tuesday through Saturday, in Livonia."*

because of the silver content or could be worth even more if one happens to be a rare date. "We help people sort through their coins for unique dates. We buy all types of coins at the Roadshow from wheat pennies to buffalo nickels, which are valuable from one coin to an entire truckload. See you at the Roadshow," said Fuller.

[www.treasurehuntersroadshow.com](http://www.treasurehuntersroadshow.com)

**Nov. 30th - Dec. 4th**

Next Tuesday-Friday: 9AM - 6PM and Next Saturday: 9AM - 4PM

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Most pre-1964 bisque, china, paper mache, wood, and wax dolls are considered desirable by collectors. If your doll has original clothing, wigs, shoes and undergarments, that increases its value.

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**JEWELRY** Gold, Silver, Platinum, diamonds, rubies, sapphires and all types of stones, metals, etc. Rings, bracelets, necklaces, all others including broken jewelry. Early costume jewelry wanted.

**WATCHES & POCKET WATCHES** Rolex, Tiffany, Hublot, Omega, Chopard, Cartier, Philippe, Ebel, Waltham, Swatch, Chopard, Elgin, Bunn Special, Railroad, Illinois, Hamilton, all others.

**TOYS, TRAINS & CARS** All types of toys made before 1965 including: Hot Wheels, Tonka, Buddy L, Smith Miller, Nylint, Robots, battery toys, Mickey Mouse, train sets, all gauges, accessories, individual cars, Marklin, American Flyer, Lionel, Hafner, all other trains, Barbie Dolls, GI Joe, Shirley Temple, Characters, German, all makers accepted.

**MILITARY ITEMS, SWORDS** Civil War, Revolutionary War, WWI, WWII, etc. Items of interest include swords, badges, clothes, photos, medals, knives, gear, letters, The older the swords, the better. All types wanted.

**ADVERTISING ITEMS** Metal and Porcelain signs, gas companies, beer and liquor makers, automobile, implements, etc.

## Gold and Coin Prices High, Cash In Now

"It's a modern day gold rush," said Roadshow President, Jeff Parsons.

Gold is now trading near 40 year highs, and you can cash in at the Treasure Hunters Roadshow. All types of gold are wanted, including gold coins, Kruggerands, Maple



Leafs, and other gold bars, etc. All gold jewelry, including broken jewelry is accepted. Anything gold and silver is wanted.

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# Something that matters: New Morning students reach out to others

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Molly Kramer likes to teach her preschool class at New Morning School about worlds — their world consisting of the classroom, and their bigger world that includes friends and family at home.

On Monday, with Thanksgiving approaching, Kramer had her students in the Cantica Cafe at the St. Al's Community Center, the outreach arm of St. Aloysius Catholic Church, trying to teach them about doing a greater good for the world at large.

New Morning students, who'd spent several weeks collecting hygiene products, were at St. Al's to put together some 75 hygiene kits for the homeless and disadvantaged served by the center.

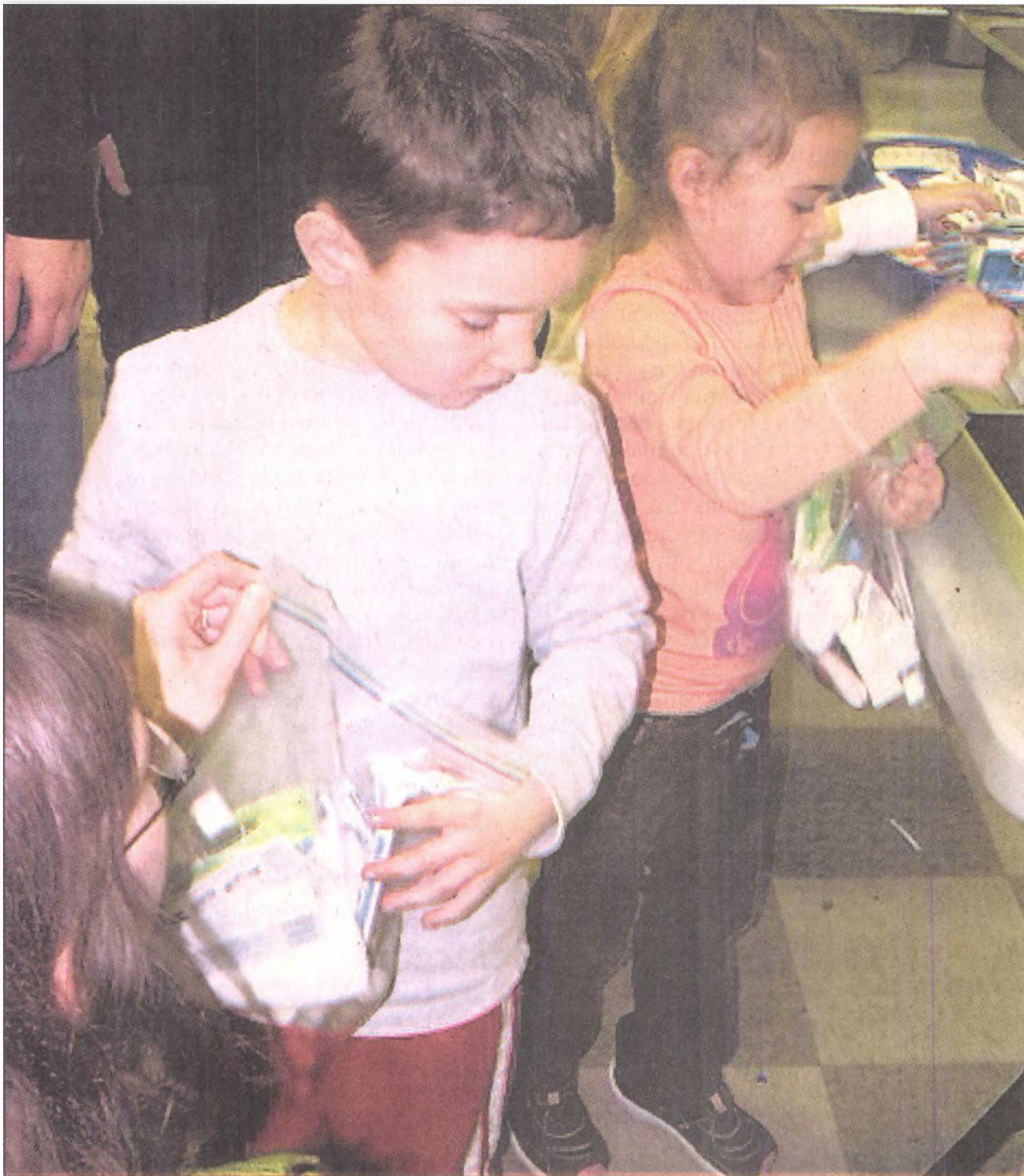
"We've been working with a theme of 'helping with our hands,'" Kramer said. "Not just in our school community, but in our homes and out in the big world."

Students started the hygiene drive at the beginning of November, with the "whole school community" getting involved in the collection of soap, shampoo, conditioner, razors, deodorant, lip balm and other health-care items.

When Kramer went looking for a project with a broader scope, colleague Lori Brugman told her about friends who volunteered at St. Al's, and the idea was born.

The kids spent a few hours there Monday, putting together baggies loaded with hygiene products to be distributed to the people served by St. Al's.

The center serves meals, collects clothing, provides nursing services and other essentials to some 250-300 people a day. Help from places like New Morning School, the Plymouth Township-based school that draws students from Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Westland and other western Wayne County communities, is invaluable to the center's mission.



Kindergartner Dixon Miller of Plymouth assembling a bag with his mom, Faye.

"It means a great deal on a variety of levels," said Brother Al Mascia, a Franciscan who works at St. Al's. "Certainly there's the direct benefit of the efforts of the children. More importantly, this gives the children a very early experience of a lifestyle and culture that is different than theirs."

"It plants the seeds of sensitivity and compassion for people less fortunate than them," Mascia added. "Hopefully, society benefits at the end of the day."

That's the hope of the parents involved in the project, too.

As she helped her 3-year-old daughter, Clara, put together the kits, Renee Armstrong of Wayne, whose daughters attend New Morning School, agreed that's the lesson she hoped her kids would take away from the project.

"I've been wanting to expose my girls to projects that serve the community," Armstrong said. "I want to get them used to helping others, and make it part of what we do as a family."

Directly helping people who need it, Kramer said, is a little different than other, equally worthy, efforts such as food

drives. Building the kits, she said, gives the children a more direct benefit.

"We wanted to have something meaningful for them," Kramer said. "We wanted to do something that had some impact, and show (students) they're doing something that matters."

"I want my students to be exposed to the blessings they have," she added. "I hope we're preparing them not just for reading and writing, but for having a heart for other people."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899



Preschooler Jordan Thibodeau picks the things she wants to put in her hygiene kit.



Preschooler Grace Ryba of Northville takes care to get just the right things into her bag.



New Morning School preschooler Jordan Thibodeau gets some help from her mom, Susan, in putting together hygiene kits at St. Al's Community Center.

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Deputy Supt. Ken Jacobs was appointed Monday chief operating officer for Plymouth-Canton Schools. The position was created with a 4-3 vote of the Board of Education.

### FIEGEL

FROM PAGE A1

Fiegel expressed disappointment in the process used to displace him.

"I thought the process was poor," Fiegel said. "I would hope the board would find a way to work together. It's bigger than me, it's bigger than them. Ultimately, it's about the district, and about the students."

Jackson referenced Fiegel's search for another job — he applied for, but did not get, the superintendent's post in Walled Lake — when pointing out he felt the board needed to appoint someone who could focus on the job at hand.

He said "some board members" had consulted with the district's corporate attorney, Gary Collins, to find a way to smoothly transition Fiegel out of office.

"We've been working to come up with a solution that's acceptable for all parties," Jackson said, although other board members said Monday's agenda item was the first they'd heard of it. "I think it's time for the board to move forward."

Jackson, who along with Mardigian added the discussion to the agenda late Friday, made both motions, both of

which were seconded by Gonzalez. But Sneiderman, Simescu and Eggenberger all suggested board members discuss the situation at a Dec. 7 meeting before making any final decisions.

"There may have been discussion among some board members and (Collins), but not all seven," Eggenberger said. "I'd like to suggest a workshop on this. I think there are some board members who have talked about it for awhile, but I just got it."

Sneiderman was even more pointed. "I don't see any reason we need to do this today, or until Dr. Fiegel leaves us," Sneiderman said. "It's possible a COO is the way to go, but I'm not comfortable with either the position, or the person being discussed (to fill it)."

Mardigian pointed to changes in leadership the district will undergo when a number of administrators retire, starting with director of student services Bob Hayes, who retires next month, as a prime reason for making the move. Others slated to retire by September 2011 include Jacobs, assistant superintendent for instructional services Dr. Cindy Swift, and human resources chief Ray Bihun.

"We're going to be at a critical point here soon ... We need to move into

transition," Mardigian said. "We need to keep Dr. Fiegel focused on areas that are important to the district. I like the idea of appointing a COO ... Ken Jacobs is very capable. Dr. Fiegel is still the superintendent, but we'd have someone guiding the transition, which is inevitable."

Mark Hutchins, a district resident who organized a group whose aim was to convince board members to change their mind about keeping Fiegel, said his group may now reconsider a recall effort they'd virtually discarded at a meeting last week. Such a move would likely target Mardigian, the longest-serving board member re-elected in November 2009, and Davis, the newest board member elected in the same race.

State law would likely keep the group from targeting Gonzalez and Jackson, whose seats are up for election in November 2011 anyway.

"What does waiting until Dec. 7 hurt?" Hutchins asked, echoing the sentiments of several residents who sat through two-hour meetings. "It shows those four have no interest in working together as a unit."

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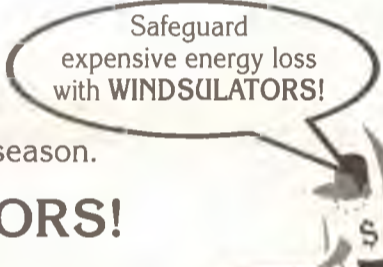
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*Mary Margaret Cheffs Resident*



# Memories sought to celebrate parish anniversary

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
CORRESPONDENT

Barb and Tony Signorelli are still searching for memories to celebrate the 90-year history of Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church in the Plymouth community. Do you have photos of an event or a story about a priest or nun? The husband and wife team are coordinating displays over the next year. Topics range from baptisms to communions, confirmations, marriages, and children.

"Ninety years is a really long time and there's so much to cover. It all started in 1915 when there were 30 Catholics in the village who went to bishop and wanted to celebrate Mass at Grange Hall," said Barb Signorelli, who with Tony is presiding over a committee of 10 parishioners planning activities for the 90th anniversary celebration. Tony was baptized at Our Lady of Good Counsel.

"We're overwhelmed and overjoyed to take on this initiative," said Signorelli. "We're just trying to collect our parish family history. It's so important in these times to celebrate our faith community."

The theme of the celebration is "Where we came from? Where are we now? Where are we going?"

"We're only 10 years from the 100th anniversary," said Signorelli. "We're going to take the next year and then some to collect as much of the 90 years as we can and then add on as we go."

The display area inside the church should be up in time for the 90th anniversary Mass at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27.

Parishioner Angela Hill is helping the Signorellis assemble the memorabilia. Her family has been part of the parish since 1968.

"We haven't received a lot. Some people submitted stories that were typed up and sent. Some have given us clippings. Some have said they will send us material but they're not getting around to us," said Hill. "There are a lot of stories and pictures out there. If there's anybody out there who still has pictures or a story to tell, we're still going to be collecting them for the next 10 years. They need to realize this is a much bigger project to celebrate the 100th anniversary."

## LONGTIME TIES

Bob and Phyllis Hess joined the parish in 1959 when they were about to have their first child. He was an usher when the church was on Union Street and a Eucharistic Minister for 35 years. Phyllis was on the church council board in the 1970s. Bob was voted president of the ushers in 1961.

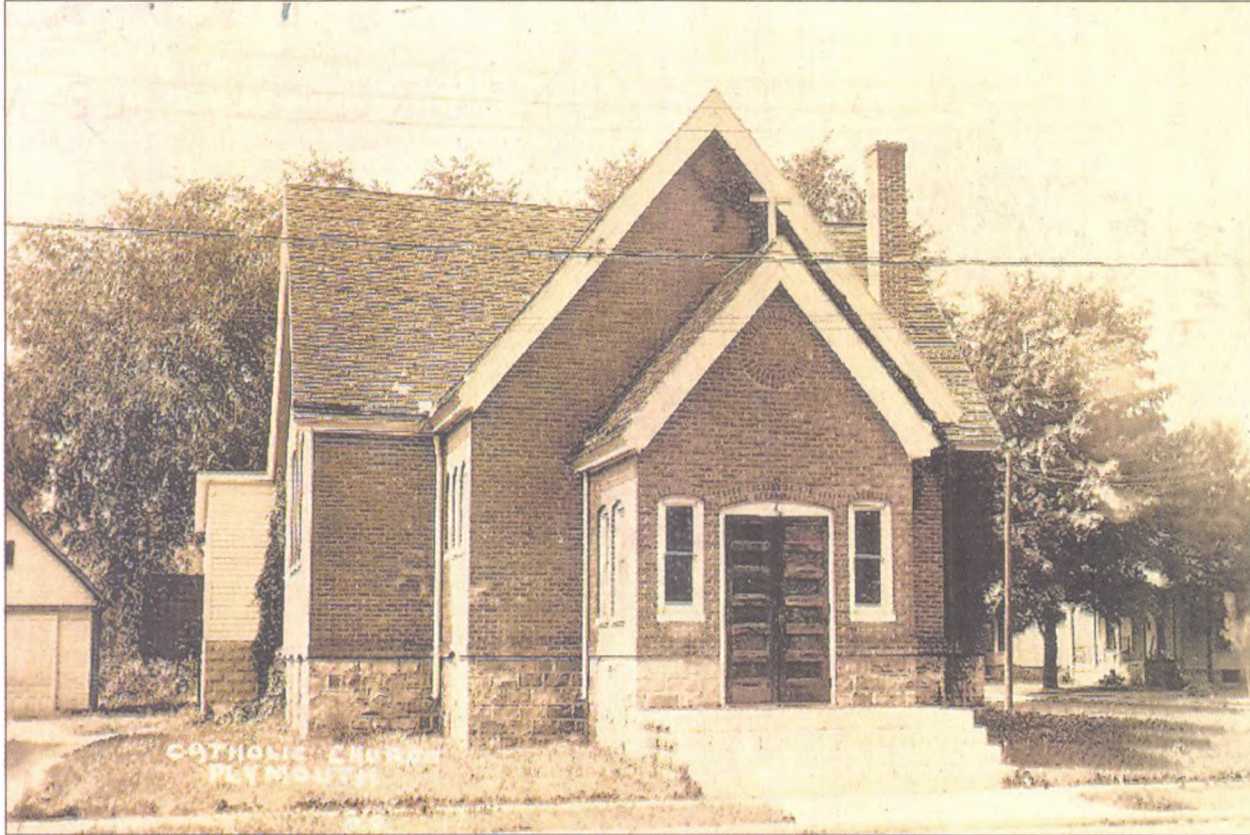
"We became active in the parish," said Bob Hess, 80. "We gave photos of the 40th anniversary celebrated with dinner and she was chairman. Church was held in what is now the gymnasium on Williams Street. The church got to be so big Mass was also held in the basement, then the church bought three houses on Williams Street and tore those down to make a parking lot."

The Hesses have many fond memories of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

"All four of our children were baptized there," Hess said. "There were hard-working priests throughout the years. I chauffeured priests from St. Paul, University of Detroit and St. John's Seminary from 1970 to 1980 when we didn't have enough priests and the church was so small we had to have a lot of Masses."

Theresa Covington joined the parish in 1956 and is thought to hold the record as the longest parishioner. She and her husband moved from Detroit with their six children. By the time they finished building their home it was too small for their nine children, eight of whom graduated from OLG C School.

"I just love it (the parish), said Covington, 86. "The nuns were absolutely wonderful with the children."



This church building at Dodge and Union streets in Plymouth, purchased in 1920 for \$4,200, was the first official home of Our Lady of Good Counsel. For five years before the parish's founding, area Catholics had been celebrating Mass one Sunday a month in the Grange Hall on Union Street, and traveling other Sundays to St. Mary's Church in Wayne.



Our Lady of Good Counsel was on Penniman Avenue in Plymouth from 1966 until 2000, when the new church on North Territorial opened. This building is now part of the parish school complex.

We had wonderful pastors, very compassionate and understanding. It was small at first and now it's really large. We loved the little old church on Williams and Arthur. For Mass in the basement, they gave you the red kneelers."

## REMEMBERING WITH LOVE

Covington especially remembers the carnivals and other fund-raising activities through the years.

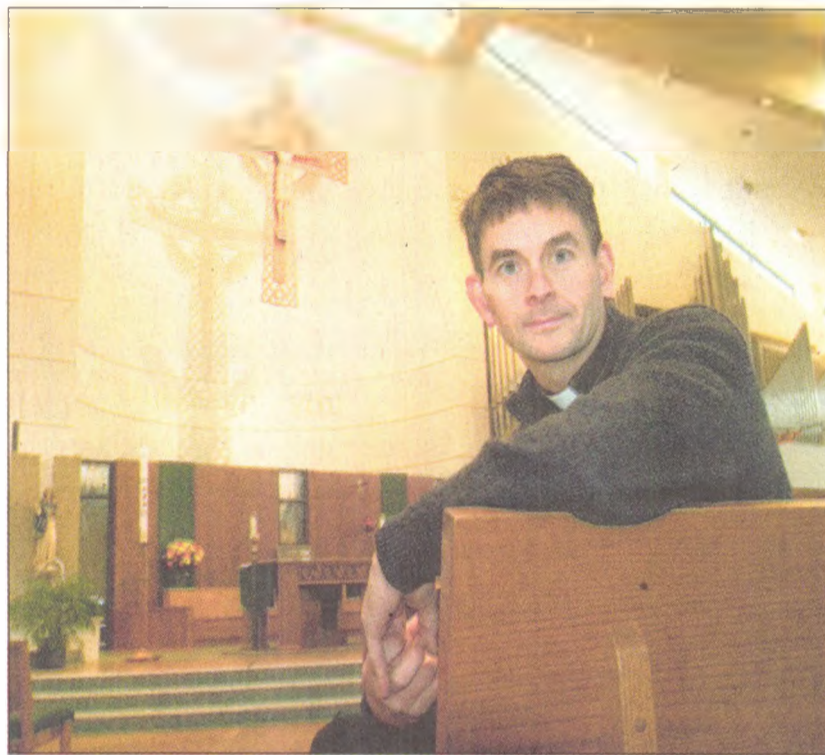
"We always had bake sales. At that time the ladies group was very active helping them out, probably in the 1960s and early 70s," said Covington. "I remember when Cardinal Mooney died and was buried at St. John's seminary, (OLGC) students lined the whole driveway. It was quite impressive. We've had a lot of sadness, but it pulled everybody together."

Covington has memories of the school as well. At one time, the girls' classes were separate from the boys.

"At that time the tuition was \$40 per family. There were no school buses. Most of the children lived in the neighborhood and walked home for lunch. Every morning, they attended Mass and had to bring breakfast to school because they couldn't eat after midnight (and take Holy Communion). Father Byrne said Mass in Latin. The children were all very close and always had a parade for May 1 around the church and crowned the Blessed Virgin. That was a big day for all the kids."

Lou and Rose Brohl became involved with the church in 1973. Their daughter, Natalie, attended OLG C school. Lou knew the Rev. Kenneth MacKinnon during the three years he studied at Sacred Heart Seminary where the priest was a professor.

"They were bringing more lay people in. Parish councils formed, Growing in Faith Together was a spiritual



The Rev. John Riccardo is pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

program in people's homes," said Lou Brohl. "They needed lectors to do readings, ministers to distribute communion. I was putting my guitar down to do the reading then going back to guitar then to give communion."

Brohl kept saying yes. He became involved with the music in 1973. He still leads the musicians at 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday. Rose sings. Lou fondly remembers providing music for the Miller Mass at the elementary school before a Catholic church was built in Canton. "The music has evolved over the years," said Brohl, 65. "It's very uplifting with six or seven guitarists, a flutist, vocalists, bass player, violin/banjo. We have long standing members. What's nice is to see families participate with their kids."

In the early years, the group borrowed pop songs and changed the words.

"Composers came along. A repertoire developed for that type of instrumentation," Brohl said. "Up until then it was organ music."

Over the years, the Brohls became involved with different committees and fund-raisers that put them into contact with people of similar values. By 1980, a men's softball team had formed. Brohl played the game for the next 20 years in addition to writing his Diamonds Are Forever column in the church bulletin.

"That's the value of parish life when you work and pray and play with these same people," he said. "It's been a privilege to serve. A lot of our friendships

were based in the preschool program when we came here. There are still people we share activities with after 30 years of friendship."

"Counsel was like my second home," said Jackie Coury, who was baptized in the church in 1964. Her mother, Judith Walsh, and father, James Dyer, were married there. James was principal when Jackie went to OLG C school with her younger brother and sister. She has taught the early grades at OLG C since 1991.

"It's like my second family. I love teaching there," said Coury, 46. "I knew the priests and nuns. The nuns were our baby sitters. We'd go over to the convent. Our father was close to priests and teachers."

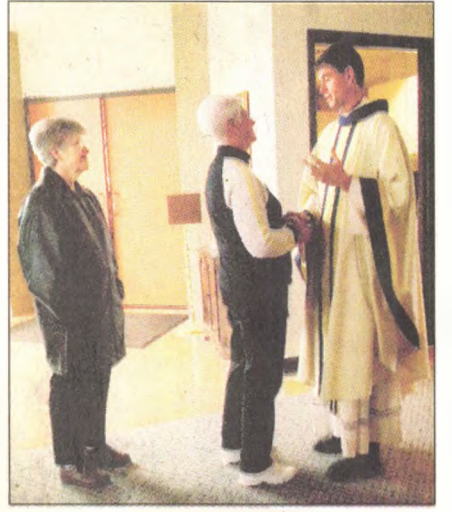
Coury's stories go on and on about her mother being the Hot Dog Mom when hot dogs and chips were served for Tuesday lunches. Today Judith is editor of the church paper.

"We used to clean the schools and Father Byrne would play the piano. He always played from memory and we would have our own little concert when we cleaned the floor," said Coury.

Doris Yoe (later Schneider) sent an e-mail from her home in Texas. She was the first baby girl baptized in the Penniman church in July 1966.

Her parents, Tim and Marilyn Yoe, are still parishioners as is her younger sister, Amy Gibson, and her family.

To contribute photos and memories, call the Signorellis at (734) 420-2077 or send e-mail to barbsignorelli@gmail.com.



The Rev. John Riccardo speaks with Shirley Brown, while Maureen Marion waits patiently, after 8 a.m. Mass.

## CHURCH

FROM PAGE A1

a knowledge quest, Riccardo said), Bible study groups (several meet regularly) and nearly 100 other ministries.

That's what 34-year parishioner Jim Mulholland likes best about Good Counsel.

"As big as it is, there are opportunities to make it very meaningful in terms of how you connect with the learning of the faith," Mulholland, of Plymouth Township, said of his church. "And the learning of the faith is a lifelong process. It never ends."

Mulholland spoke after a 90-minute Bible study on a recent Wednesday evening. The group, some members of which come from outside the parish, has been meeting for five years and is currently studying Romans in the New Testament.

Mulholland, whose two daughters graduated from the parish school, said he's more active with the church than he used to be. He looks at his commitment to his faith and his parish as more than a Sunday Mass obligation.

"You've got to work at it. ... This is an example of working at it," he said of Bible study. He's involved in some of the parish's charitable outreach, too.

Group leader Patrice Gorzalski is a newer member, having joined Good Counsel in 1998. She and her family had been members of the Assemblies of God, but Gorzalski wanted more.

"I wanted to know the truth, and where I was, it just wasn't making sense anymore," she said.

At a sister's urging, she tried Catholicism and settled on Good Counsel. She and husband John had their marriage consecrated in the church and started attending with their five children.

From exchanging the sign of peace with a neighbor at her first Mass at Good Counsel, Gorzalski was taken with the warmth of church members. "I love the people," she said.

The Catholic Church, Gorzalski and Mulholland said, recently began putting a greater emphasis on learning the Bible.

Knowledge of the Bible, Gorzalski said, was something in which lay people in some other Christian churches were more advanced, and lay Catholics need to be equipped to talk about the Catholic interpretation of Scriptures. Gorzalski, who has taken classes at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, has found a place helping people at Good Counsel — and from other parishes, as well — achieve that knowledge.

Learning is also central to Riccardo's faith journey. He was "away from the church for a number of years" and didn't take time to question his faith, he said.

He majored in English and communications at the University of Michigan and worked for a Christian nonprofit and for Ford Credit before studying for the priesthood. Riccardo was ordained in 1996.

He sees the priesthood as a profound and fulfilling calling.

"To be an instrument of God is an amazing thing and a humbling thing," Riccardo said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

# Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

## Facts of Interest:

Palm Sunday, 1915 the first Mass is celebrated in Plymouth at Grange Hall on Union.

In 1920 fundraising began to purchase an abandoned church building at the corner of Dodge and Union. In November the first Mass is celebrated in the parish's first church.

The church building, substantially remodeled in 1927, is rededicated July 1, 1928

Dec. 23, 1932, fire destroys the church. Mass is celebrated in the Schrader Funeral Chapel until 1934 when a building is completed on the same site.

By Palm Sunday, Mass is celebrated in a temporary church (now the school gymnasium). In September, the first six grades of the school open.

Longest term parishioner — Theresa Covington, 86, joins the church in 1956

The church building at the corner of Penniman and Arthur is consecrated by then Archbishop John Dearden July 9, 1966. That same July, Doris Yoe is the first girl baby baptized.

The guitar group was founded in 1973 and is still led by Lou Brohl.

The sixth and present church (Beck and North Territorial in Plymouth Township) is consecrated by Adam Cardinal Maida Sept. 9, 2000.

Oldest parishioner — Elizabeth Vilkas, 100

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# Hob Nobble Gobble finds home at Ford Field

BY JULIE YOLLES  
CORRESPONDENT

The Parade Company went into overtime this year to host the 21st Annual Hob Nobble Gobble four days earlier than the traditional night before Thanksgiving.

In previous years, the Gobble had been held at the Michigan State Fairgrounds, but when it closed down, a new site was needed.

Score a touchdown for the Ford family, who stepped in and offered up Ford Field for one of the largest fund-raisers of the year, which boasted a sold-out crowd of 1,800 in the new venue on Saturday. Ford Field was turned into a veritable carnival, with rides that included an enormous Ferris wheel and giant swinging ship, games, prize giveaways, food galore along the 50-yard line and spectacular entertainment including dancing and a performance by R&B singer Shontelle.

"Ticket sales were as strong as ever and we've had a wonderful reaction to the switch to Saturday night," said Parade Company President and CEO Tony Michaels. "Many people said that it was an easier, more enjoyable night because they wouldn't have the hustle and bustle of the holiday the next day."

Watching people go down the giant slide in ball gowns was worth the tax-deductible ticket price alone.

The Hob Nobble Gobble, along with the Distinguished Clown Corps and Big Heads Corps, help raise the funds to produce America's Thanksgiving Parade which today celebrates its 84th year. Saturday's Hob Nobble Gobble brought in over \$100,000 for the Parade Company.

"We have to thank the Ford family for their generous support. They did everything they could to make it a successful night," said Hob Nobble Gobble Chair Elaine McMahon of Birmingham. "They, along with title sponsor PVS Chemicals, made a fantastic contribution to the state."

Adults and kids left Ford Field Saturday night, tummies satiated and arms overflowing with stuffed animals, hats and balloons. Exhausted by incredibly happy, party-goers had five days to gear up for America's Thanksgiving Parade. The two-hour Parade will be featured on WDIV-TV Local 4 including a one-hour national broadcast reaching nearly 65 million households nationwide. NewsTalk 760 WJR will also broadcast live from the Parade.

As the last patron filed out, McMahon joked, "Well, by throwing this great bash on a Saturday night, it will give people a little recovery time 'til Thanksgiving."



PHOTO BY JULIE YOLLES

(From left) Big Head Corps Co-Founders Jim Dailey of Chicago, Steve Booher of Plymouth and Sean Moran of Bloomfield Hills. The Big Head Corps is a group of young professionals who raise money for the restoration of the papier mache heads for Detroit's Thanksgiving Parade. In today's Parade, Dailey is wearing the Art Van Elslander head, Moran is wearing a bulldog head and Booher is wearing the Bo Schembechler head, which is new this year and was funded by the Big Head Corps.

## ON CAMPUS

### Baker College

Dewayne Brantley of Canton earned a master's of business administration degree from Baker College. The college awarded the degree to Brantley following the completion of the summer quarter.

### Hope College

Patrick Lutz, a junior from Canton, was among students who served in leadership positions for the 76th annual Nykerk Cup competition.

The competition, a Hope College tradition since 1935, involves freshman and sophomore women competing in the areas of song, oration and drama. Participants practice for three-and-a-half weeks before the competition. The teams are coached by juniors and seniors, respectively. Moralers, men of the same graduation class as the women, encourage the teams in their efforts.

Lutz, the son of John and Michele Lutz and a graduate of Plymouth Christian Academy, was an even-year moraler coach for the Nykerk freshman play.

Tiffany Lumley, a junior from Plymouth, is among four Hope College students studying off-campus during the fall semester.

Lumley, the daughter of Paul and Alicia Lumley and a graduate of Salem High School, is studying in Buenos Aires, Argentina, through a Council on International Educational Exchange program.

Sophomore Sophia Daly of Plymouth was among the cast Wednesday when Hope College presented the first full opera in the school's history.

Kurt Weill's "Street Scene" is a 1947 play presented as a major collaboration of the departments of theatre and music and with support through a grant from the Kurt Weill Foundation.

### Northwood University

Lisa Nowicki recently received a four-year bachelor of business administration degree from Northwood University in Midland.

Nowicki is from Canton.



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# Treasure Hunters Roadshow on tap

Do you have old coins, vintage jewelry or musical instruments or toys made prior to 1965 lying around the house? You may be able to get some holiday spending money for them.

The Treasure Hunters Roadshow, presented by the International Collectors Association, will be in Livonia Nov. 30 through Dec. 4. Admission is free to the event, which is being held at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 17123 Laurel Park Dr. N. There is no limit on the number of collectibles people can bring in.

Antique and collectible experts will pay on the spot for rare and unusual items people

bring in, especially coins and paper money, scrap gold, silver, platinum, toys, trains, dolls, musical instruments, watches, Tiffany, war items, sports memorabilia, advertising memorabilia, historical documents, fine art, comic books.

Coins and toys should be pre 1965; musical instruments, pre 1970 and paper money, pre 1934.

The Treasure Hunters Roadshow is doing a world-wide tour, some of which is being taped for national television.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, call (217) 726-7590.

# VegMichigan hosts plant-based Thanksgiving potluck meal

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Diners who want to try something different for Thanksgiving can try a plant-based Thanksgiving meal.

All they have to do bring a vegan dish (with no animal products) enough for eight people, to pass around, along with a friend, a favorite talent, instrument and/or game to share and celebrate the abundance of plant-based foods.

VegMichigan, the state's largest vegetarian organization, will host its 11th Annual Thanksgiving Day Celebration and Potluck on Thursday at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Rd. in Livonia. Doors open at noon, with food served from 1 until 2:30 p.m.

Meatless Tofurky Roasts will be provided, courtesy of Turtle Island Foods.

Cyndi Summers, a publicist and a member of VegMichigan's board of directors, said the annual event is growing.

"The whole idea is to have a Thanksgiving in which we are thankful for the bounty of our plant-based foods," Summers said. "It's the positive benefits of a plant-based diet."

Summers said VegMichigan is a "tremendous resource for those who want to eat less meat."

For those who want to attend, Summers suggests side dishes such as roasted vegetables, sweet potatoes, bean or lentil salad, pasta salad or fresh fruit.

Ethnic dishes can be created, especially Middle Eastern (falafel, tabouli, hummus dip with pita chips or fattoush salad), Indian (aloo gobi, chana masala, dal or naan bread), Chinese (stir fry or spring rolls) or Mexican (with substitutes of beans and salsa for meat and dairy).

For dessert, make an apple crisp with a non-dairy margarine, pick up some dark (not milk) chocolates or a vegan pumpkin pie from a local grocer.

She also suggests visiting websites for recipes such as VegMichigan.org, Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM.org), VegNews.com, or the Vegetarian Resource Group

# Do your homework when it comes to holiday charities

Happy Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving is the holiday when we take a step back and give thanks for our blessings. Even in these difficult economic times, there is still much for all of us to be thankful. Of the many things I'm thankful for, one of the greatest is that my mom and dad are still with me and next month my dad will be celebrating his 90th birthday.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Last week, I wrote about the importance of having a game plan for the holiday shopping season. I also think consumers need a strategy to handle the avalanche of charitable contribution requests they will receive over the next few weeks. There are thousands and

thousands of deserving charities. It would be great to support them all, but we can't. Therefore, decide which charities to support, then set a budget.

Most Americans believe in supporting charities. In fact, Americans are the most charitable people on earth. However, even though giving to charity is a noble gesture, don't forget to be fiscally responsible.

Donating to charities is one of those areas that cannot be placed on automatic pilot. We all receive solicitations that tug at our hearts, however, as difficult as it may be, that cannot be the criteria in deciding to donate to an organization. Make sure the charitable organization you support is reputable and that the money goes to serve the purpose of the organization.

There are some so-called charities that are just fraudulent — set up by scam artists who prey on our decency.

On the other hand, there are charitable organizations that mean well, but are poorly run. Too much of the money is used for fund-raising and administration purposes and not enough money is used to support the charitable purpose of the organization.

The key is to support groups where the majority of money is used to support the charitable purpose of the organization. In checking out a charity, you just can't depend upon its website and the materials it sends you.

When I give to a charitable organization, I check it out at a couple of independent sources — charitynavigator.org andbbbgive.org. I know these are two independent sources that rate charities on a variety of areas, including how much of their money is used for charitable purposes.

There are a couple of rules that help me from being scammed. I do not give based on a phone solici-

ation. There are a couple of reasons for this, but one of the main ones is the fact that too many reputable charities use professional fund-raisers. In a phone solicitation, the professional fund-raisers' cut can be as much as 50 percent. Therefore, my general rule is I don't give to phone solicitations. In addition, I also don't give to foreign charities. It is very difficult to independently check out a charity domiciled outside the United States.

Giving to charity feels good. Giving to a charity that works to accomplish a goal that you think is important feels even better. Hopefully, you will feel great this holiday season.

Good luck!

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

(VRG) a national organization ([www.vrg.org](http://www.vrg.org)).

Summers also encourages people who are interested in eating less meat to start by going vegetarian one day a week. "Meatless Mondays is a growing movement," she said.

Summers also suggests those interested in eating more vegetarian foods purchase a good cookbook, such as Toni Fiore's "Totally Vegetarian," Robin Robertson's "Vegan Planet," "The Vegan Table" by Colleen Patrick-Goudreau or "Vegetarian Traditions: Favorite Recipes from My Years at the Legendary Inn Season Cafe" by George Vutetakis, available at the Inn Season Cafe in Royal Oak.

For more information on the Thanksgiving dinner, visit [VegMichigan.org](http://VegMichigan.org).

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Brad Kadrich,  
Community Editor  
Susan Rosiek,  
Executive Editor  
Grace Perry,  
Director of Advertising

## OUR VIEWS

# Special time

## Holidays are about love, helping others

For most of us, Thanksgiving is a day of excess. We eat too much turkey, pumpkin pie, gravy and all the other fixings. But it is also a joyous time, as we get to spend time with family and friends, and to generally give thanks for our good fortune.

But not everyone is so lucky, particularly since the economy refuses to come out of its steep decline. It is no secret that our area has been hit much harder than the rest of the country by the economic downturn, which has left far too many of us either looking for work or underemployed.

Probably at no other time of the year will this hit as hard as during the holidays. Many have had to cut corners to just get by, and don't have the ability to splurge on gifts and large holiday meals.

Fortunately there are many good souls in the community who are trying to make sure the holidays are a happy time for everyone.

Civic organizations — Rotary, Kiwanis, Goodfellows, Lions and good Samaritans of all kinds — find a variety of ways to help, donating to one drive or another, hosting charitable events of their own and helping all around town.

Another way to help others during the holidays is to donate to the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program, which will provide a happy Christmas to many local children. There are several local drop-off points. Simply drop off new, unwrapped toys to help the cause. For more information on the Toys for Tots Program, visit [www.toysfortots.org](http://www.toysfortots.org).

Another opportunity to volunteer your services to help others this holiday season is to become a bell ringer for the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit launched its annual Red Kettle Campaign throughout Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties last week in an effort to raise \$7.8 million to sustain its important annual services. Through Dec. 24, bell ringers will collect donations at hundreds of red kettles located at retailers and businesses such as Kroger, Wal-Mart, Macy's, Sam's Club, and Walgreens.

All volunteer opportunities are posted at [www.ringbell.org](http://www.ringbell.org). Anyone can log on, pick a preferred location and a two-hour shift that is convenient for them. Volunteers can sign up for one or more two-hour shifts and will receive a confirmation e-mail.

These are just a couple opportunities to help others this holiday season. There are many others. Remember, we all have the ability to give something, whether it be financial assistance or just some time. You might be surprised by what you get in return.

## Shop locally this holiday season

For many people, the economic struggles of this state — and the country — continue to have debilitating effects. Loss of jobs and loss of income will have many people cutting back on spending this holiday season.

They have less money for gifts, decorations and festive foods than they have had in past years. Some may even be cutting out gift-giving entirely.

That isn't all bad. Simpler celebrations may mean people will focus more on the true meaning of each holiday.

However, people still need to purchase food even if they don't host extravagant parties. And, many people invariably will still buy gifts for their loved ones, even if they spend less than they have in the past.

We encourage readers to shop locally this holiday season, whether it be for food or gifts or both.

By doing so, they will help local businesses, which, in turn, will benefit them.

If every Michigan household spent \$10 each week on Michigan-made products, \$37 million would be put back into the local economy on a weekly basis, according to the grassroots Made in Michigan Movement.

More money is kept in the community because locally owned businesses purchase from other locally owned businesses, service providers and farms. Purchasing locally helps other local businesses to grow.

When businesses grow, they hire more people. Small local businesses are the largest employer nationally.

Local businesses also support the local community, donating money and/or services to local schools and service organizations benefiting local children and residents.

And, customer service is usually better. Local businesses often are willing to order items specially for customers or offer more services than national chains.

More and more local stores are putting together at least a portion of their inventory from products made in Michigan. Local retailers know it makes good economic sense to buy locally.

Starting on Black Friday, the official start to the Christmas shopping season, plan to buy as many gifts on your list as possible from local merchants. You can start by subscribing to the Observer, the local newspaper that has supported local businesses for decades.

By shopping locally, your gifts will not only benefit your loved ones, they'll also help the local economy and put local merchants in a better position to survive and, we hope, thrive in the new year.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What is your best Thanksgiving memory?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



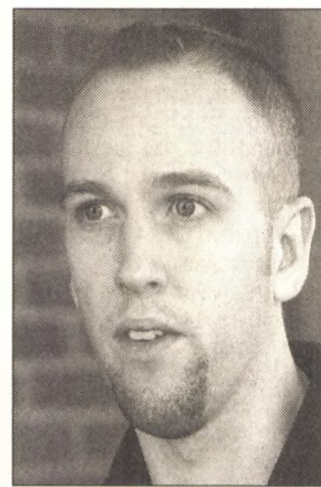
"Having the whole family together, all of the children, grandchildren. ... Family is everything."

Toni Bar  
Plymouth Township



"Coming back from cruising for four years on a boat and being with my family. ... We were on the boat from '88 to September of '92."

Joan Ireton  
Plymouth Township



"Usually just time with family. ... Stories and conversation."

Jeff Holloway  
Plymouth Township



"Probably when the whole family would get together, when my grandma was still alive."

Tammy King  
Plymouth

## LETTERS

### Thankful for ...

I am thankful for having really good friends and family. I'm thankful for living in a safe place where we do not have to worry about guns, drugs, or violence every day. Mainly the jobs are secure in this area and we can go get a good education.

I am also thankful for living in a big house and not having to worry about whether I will eat or not because I know there will always be food on the table for me.

Timmy Merkel  
Plymouth

### Make law permanent

I am a stroke survivor of four years. Recently we marked six months of smoke-free air in Michigan. These past months have meant all workplaces, including bars and restaurants, have been safe from tobacco smoke. We're saving lives with this law as second-hand smoke is a serious health hazard.

I wish to thank the many organizations that have made this smoke-free law a reality, including the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society and the American Lung Association. We should also be praising the tens of thousands of people who have made Michigan smoke-free. Let's make sure to keep the law permanent.

Steve Freilich  
Livonia

### Ban makes business better

I want to thank our lawmakers who are leaving office for passing smoke-free legislation. I am so happy there is a no-smoking law in Michigan.

My son, Ryan Adams, owns Up Town Grille in Commerce and business is better than ever. The people love it, and I'm happy. All the employees are happy that they don't smell like smoke going home. It is making a big difference all around.

I couldn't stand the bar smoke. I was not able to go to the restaurant because of the smoke.

Now, I love the fresh air. I'm healthier and happier. Customers are happier without the smoke. Parents who are environmentally concerned can bring the kids in the restaurant without concerns of toxins going into their children's bodies.

Clara Zerbo Adams  
Livonia

### End cyber bullying

As being a part of a generation brought up on technology, I have to take issue with the use of computers as a weapon. I personally did not learn what cyber bullying was, or the consequences of it, until my sophomore year of high school.

People do not realize that because a computer can be just as much of a weapon as a hatchet or gun. Someone dear to me has still not recovered from a cyber bullying attack that occurred two years ago. People are taking this too lightly; each day that goes by more people's lives are lost, others' dignity taken because the public refuses to believe that technology can cause harm.

Recently, an assistant attorney general of the state of Michigan, Andrew Shirvell, created an Internet blog to attack an openly gay student council president at the University of Michigan.

A grown man, a political icon, attacking a college student purely out of hatred is revolting. The fact that he is only to receive a "disciplinary hear-

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

E-mail: [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com).

Read or comment online:  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

ing" when he returns from his leave gives cyber bullies the impression that they can continue to ruthlessly ridicule others at no penalty. No person should be ridiculed because of their gender, class distinction, race, or sexual preference, especially not by a person who was a potential role model to others.

This issue needs not be taken lightly any longer. Harsher consequences are needed to be inflicted upon the offenders, in turn spreading awareness the affects of cyber bullying.

Educating the youth about the consequences is a necessity as technology will only grow more prevalent in society in the years to come. As for the victims of cyber bullying, they need justice and support.

Alexandra Bahling  
Farmington Hills

### Address the debt

President Obama's deficit commission released its report calling for spending cuts and new taxes to address our massive debt.

Since all sides object to various parts of this report, we think the commission is on the right track to begin an adult serious dialogue on deficit reduction. This country simply can not sustain itself on borrowing from China to finance our appetite for spending and sustain our aversion to increased taxes.

There are many reasons for our debt, principally the Bush administration doubling the deficit from all previous presidents combined to the two continuing shooting wars. Regardless of fault or blame, and there is plenty to go all around, it is past time to implement many of the spending cuts and tax increases that are recommendations of the Obama commission.

To ignore the deficit is to threaten the U.S. with insolvency, increased dependence on foreign holders of our debt as well as immorally saddling our children and grandchildren with this generation's debt.

"Too late to keep kicking the can down the road."

Gerald and Dolores Maxey  
Farmington Hills

### Need transparency

In an age when I frequently hear advertisements about transparency in health care, I am disappointed that information, such as birth practices, continues to be difficult to find.

With the Caesarean delivery rate up more than

50 percent since 1996, a report by the National Vital Statistics (August 2010) indicates that 31.8 percent of all births in the United States are by Caesarean section. Even a recent article by The Grand Rapids Press (Nov. 7, 2010) reports that Caesarean birth rate depends on where mom lives.

Transparency of birth practices is gaining ground with its call to action by the March of Dimes and the Coalition for Improving Maternity Services (CIMS). Their goal is to promote transparency of birth practices by calling on hospitals and health care professionals to voluntarily assess Caesarean births and unnecessary inductions. Once this information has been made public, expectant parents can make an informed decision on where to give birth. This is especially important when problems persist in the care of childbearing women and mortality rates for mothers have nearly doubled in the United States since 1999 (Lamaze International).

Expectant parents have the right to a safe, healthy and natural birth. The Six Care Practices That Support Normal Birth (Lamaze International) is an evidence-based practice that has demonstrated cost effectiveness and continues to provide expectant parents with yet another tool for a safe, healthy and natural birth. Advocating for transparency of birth practices is a step in the right direction and will, hopefully, result in happier expectant parents whose birth experience is ultimately healthy and rewarding.

Karen Wezner, R.N.  
Northville

### Consider N.Y. law

I read with complete sorrow the tragedy of Samantha Kelly.

Her mother had brought charges against an 18-year-old student at her high school for having sex with the 14-year-old. The young girl had then been taunted in school about the incident by several of her classmates. Because Samantha Kelly took her own life the charges have been dropped against the accused boy because, according to the prosecutor's office, "there is no victim."

The children who taunted and bullied the girl are unknown and there has apparently never been an attempt to ferret them out and squelch their behavior.

On Sept. 8, 2010, Gov. David Paterson of the State of New York signed into law the Dignity for All Students Act. The act specifically bans harassment and discrimination against students based on their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, race, color, weight, national origin, ethnicity, religion or disability.

It requires New York state school districts to adopt anti-bullying policies. The law mandates each district to appoint at least one staff member in each school to implement anti-bullying techniques and methods. DASA further mandates administrators report incidents of bullying or bias-based harassment to the New York State Department of Education.

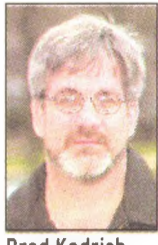
I am writing to my state senator and state representative here in Michigan asking them to sponsor legislation like that in New York. The young lady should not have been hounded to her death.

Won't you consider asking your legislators to bring some peace to our children in school?

Alfred Brock  
Wayne

# Fracture in school board breaks wide open

rony, thy name is Plymouth-Canton Board of Education. Two months ago, four members of the BOE voted not to renew the contract of Supt. Dr. Craig Fiegel, in large part because they felt Fiegel failed to work collaboratively with the rest of his staff.



Brad Kadrich

On Monday, those same four board members — Treasurer Judy Mardigian and trustees John Jackson, Dianne Gonzalez and Adrienne Davis — ignored repeated pleas from their board brethren to work together to find a solution to the leadership situation in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

Those four Monday stripped Fiegel of any of his duties that mean much, created a chief operating officer position and then filled it with Deputy Supt. Ken Jacobs.

The move itself didn't come as much of a surprise — it's been rumored virtually since the Sept. 28 board meeting when the Big Four ousted Fiegel to begin with — but it remains to be seen at what cost it was made. Certainly one thing became clear: What was seen as a fracture in the seven-member board blew up into a fissure of enormous proportions.

The change in administrative structure, which was just added to the agenda Friday afternoon at the request of Mardigian and Jackson, leaves Fiegel in place, but

without much to do. He'll oversee board meetings and the district's dynamic planning process, but not much else.

## NECESSARY MOVE?

Jacobs, the district's most venerable administrator who has twice served as interim superintendent, gets everything else. He'll handle the day-to-day operations of the district, with all employees (except Fiegel) reporting to him.

Jackson, who made both the motion to remove Fiegel and the motion to create the COO position and put Jacobs in it, said the move was necessary in light of Fiegel's need to search for a new job. His point, presumably (he didn't really expound on it), was the district needed someone able to focus on the intricacies of the current job, not someone who's looking for another one.

"We've been working to come up with a solution that's acceptable for all parties," Jackson said, although other board members said Monday's agenda item was the first they'd heard of. "I think it's time for the board to move forward."

As several residents in the audience voiced their displeasure with the obvious direction the Big Four were headed, one thought occurred: Perhaps the "solution" would have been to simply leave Fiegel in place to do the job he was hired to do.

Failing that, what was the objection to the suggestion made by board Secretary Nancy Eggenberger and echoed by President Steven Sneiderman and

Vice President Barry Simescu, that the board conduct a workshop on the idea at a Dec. 7 meeting before making such a huge decision?

"I'd like to suggest a workshop on this," Eggenberger said. "I think there are some board members who have talked about this for a while, but I just got it tonight."

Simescu agreed, saying he had "a couple of issues I need resolved" before considering such a move.

Sneiderman was even more direct. "I don't see any reason we need to do this today," he said. "I don't see any need for implementing a change like this (at all). It's not something I'm personally interested in doing."

## WHY NOT WAIT?

A request to wait certainly seemed prudent, if not flat-out warranted, considering it was a power move by the Big Four that clearly was going to cause issues. It's not like the Little Three demanded a huge amount of time. The board is already doing a workshop on the Dynamic Plan for Dec. 7. They were basically asking for a week, since school will be out the rest of this week because of Thanksgiving.

And it's not like the board hasn't postponed discussion of items while one or more board members sought more information. A very recent example was the 2010-11 Code of Conduct, a decision on which was delayed numerous times while Gonzalez, Jackson and Davis all wanted answers to questions. It happens all the time, which means a pertinent question might be:

Why wasn't the same courtesy extended Monday?

Mardigian's answer — "We're going to be at a critical point here soon," she said. "We need to move into transition" — seems disingenuous, at best. Yes, a large part of the district's leadership team — including Jacobs, by the way — is slated to retire before this time next year. But refusing to delay a transitional move, especially one so unpopular and so obviously forced upon the board, for a mere week seems politically motivated.

Anyone who thinks this situation is going to get better anytime soon is misguided. Consider this: While Simescu and Eggenberger both voiced somewhat muted objections to Jacobs' appointment without actually naming him, Sneiderman launched into a litany of objections he has with the choice. Considering that, how collaborative is Jacobs' working relationship with the board likely to be?

## WORKING TOGETHER

And if the move is designed to take the politics out of it, consider one more thing: The group of citizens recently organized to convince the board to reverse its position on Fiegel may now reconsider the idea of a recall it had virtually discarded a week ago. That doesn't matter to Gonzalez or Jackson; since their seats are up in November 2011 (along with Sneiderman and Eggenberger) anyway, they can't be targeted. But dissidents may go after Mardigian, the longest-serving board member, and Davis, the newest board member elected just a year ago.

It's going to get ugly, and when it does, the board must look in just one place for the blame: the mirror. Its inability to work together has caused this fissure, and there seems precious little to be done to repair it, certainly in the short term.

Much of the angst could have been avoided if the Big Four

had worked a little more openly. Jackson admitted Monday there have been meetings between "some board members" and board attorney Gary Collins, but Eggenberger, for one, said she's never discussed the issue with Collins.

But working together hasn't been this board's strong suit lately. It was telling, as the discussion rambled on about whether to delay the move, to hear what Davis, the newest board member, had to say.

"What I am concerned about is we're behind the eight ball in our district ... the kind of change we're going to be undergoing," Davis said. "I hope ... we can move forward and that we can work together."

Minutes later, she voted against doing just that.

So much for collaboration.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by phone at (313) 222-8899.

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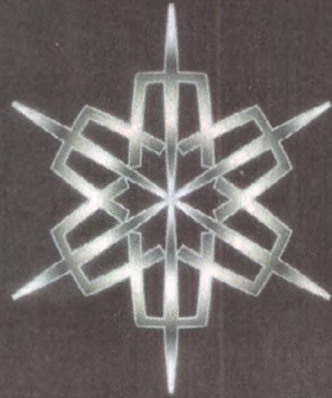
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## They're relishing football spotlight

The emotion pulsed and grew with each snap during Plymouth's last-gasp bid to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat Saturday at Lansing Everett.

Standing down on the field with about 75 seconds to play, and the end zone some 83 yards away, it didn't seem possible for the Wildcats to reach their Ford Field dream.

After trailing all day in the Division 1 football semifinal, Rockford scored to finally take the lead. But the prevailing attitude being shown on the Plymouth side of the gridiron — through body language and words — was there was no way they'd fold the tent now. Hey, the Rams just pulled off a huge, 33-yard play to score, so why couldn't they?



Tim Smith

First came a 15-yard completion from quarterback Shaun Austin to wide receiver Jake Morris. That brought loud cheers from the still-believing Plymouth fans huddled together in the bleachers behind them, standing together like a black-and-silver wall of support and hope.

Austin then found wideout Michael Olevnik on the sidelines for a 14-yard reception, moving the chains near mid-field. The cheers grew louder. Only 1:05 remained on the clock.

After an incomplete pass, Austin connected on two more passes (one each to Morris and Olevnik) to give the Wildcats a first down in Rockford territory.

Fans grew more antsy, however. Rockford's 'D' sacked Austin and his next pass fell incomplete. Then came a small gainer, still leaving Plymouth short of the first-down marker. Now it was fourth-and-seven from the 44-yard line with 19 seconds left.

### JUST UNREAL

But the team stayed on course, not wavering. And when your side has a no-fear receiver named Brennen Beyer to go to, why not have supreme confidence even in times of adversity?

Then came the back-to-back plays that had some fans saying they had just seen the most exciting high school game they'd ever had the chance to witness.

Everything hung in the balance on the next play, as Wildcat fans held their breath. Austin went back and threw the ball over the middle, where the 6-foot-4 Beyer got up over the defense and reeled it in.

Please see **SMITH, B2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Wildcats' loosey-goosey, nothing-to-lose attitude is demonstrated by Mark Wallath, letting out a happy shout knowing his team won in dramatic fashion and is Ford Field-bound.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At the bottom of this pile of Plymouth Wildcats is Brennen Beyer, mobbed in the end zone after his game-winning grab. Celebrating the touchdown with Beyer are lineman Mark Wallath (No. 78), quarterback Shaun Austin (No. 8) and receiver Jake Morris (No. 2).

# Here come the 'Cats

Miracle TD drive catapults Plymouth into finals, on cusp of first title

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It looked like Cinderella was leaving the ball with 1:19 to go in Saturday's Division 1 football semifinal against Rockford at Lansing Everett.

Plymouth's gutsy, underdog Wildcats — who had led all the way up to that point — finally gave up their edge when the Rams scored on a 33-yard TD pass to go up 17-13.

But there was a fairy-tale ending after all as Plymouth junior quarterback Shaun Austin capped an amazing last-ditch drive with a 25-yard touchdown to senior receiver extraordinaire Brennen Beyer with 4.5 seconds remaining and the Wildcats grabbed a 20-17 victory.

"I knew our kids wouldn't quit," Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk said, amid hundreds of Wildcats fans who streamed out of the bleachers to join the on-field celebration. "I knew we had the athletes to get it done. They didn't quit and they got it done. They hit a pass with their athlete and we hit a pass with our athlete."

The victory ensures Plymouth's first trip to the D-1 state championship game, set for 1 p.m. Saturday at Ford Field in Detroit against Lake Orion (12-1).

"It's insane. I never expected it," Austin said about going to the finals. "I'm on top of the world."

On the winning toss, Austin stepped back and launched a perfect spiral deep into the left

### FORD FIELD FRENZY

What: Division 1 state football finals.

When: 1 p.m. Saturday.

Where: Ford Field in Detroit.

Who: Plymouth (11-2) vs. Lake Orion (12-1).

Fun fact: This is the first meeting ever for the Wildcats and Dragons.

Tickets: \$10 at the stadium, good for all four games Saturday. Other games: D-7 finals, 10 a.m.; D-5 finals, 4:30 p.m.; D-3 finals, 7:30 p.m.

corner that the 6-foot-4 Beyer went up and snared despite double coverage.

### ON THE MOVE

"When I was in my route I saw that I was open and I knew the ball was coming to me and I just decided to make a play," said Beyer, who verbally committed to play football at the University of Michigan. "Shaun threw me a great ball, so I just went up and got it."

According to Austin, there was no doubt that Beyer would get up over defenders and make the grab.

"He's the man, he's a creature, I don't know," Austin said. "He does everything. It's great to have him out there."

"It was double coverage and I didn't have anywhere else to go, so just throw it to 'the freak,' you know?"

That capped an 83-yard drive that featured Austin completing 6-of-9 passes. He found seniors Jake Morris and Michael Olevnik each

Please see **PLYMOUTH, B2**



Here is the Plymouth player and image that will haunt Rockford — sure-handed senior Wildcat receiver Brennen Beyer (No. 7) going up to grab a touchdown pass during Saturday's Division 1 semifinal. Beyer is shown catching his first TD pass of the afternoon; his second with 4.5 seconds to go gave Plymouth a 20-17 victory.

## Eagles clipped in Class D state finals



BRIEN WITKOWSKI

Plymouth Christian's volleyball team celebrates a great season following Saturday's loss to Battle Creek St. Phillip in the Class D state finals at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek. The Eagles are shown with their finalist medals and team trophy. In the back row (from left): head coach Kelly Blackney, Folake Olojo, Sarah Howard, Kristin Malcolm, Jennifer Malcolm, Amy Zinn, Haley Wright and assistant coach Katie Lambert. In the front row (from left): Leah Manning, Jessica Rich, Brianna Harris, Abigail Bartes and Mary Anleitner.

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The longest postseason ride ever for Plymouth Christian Academy's volleyball program came to an unhappy halt Saturday as the Eagles were swept in the Class D finals at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

The victorious Tigers won their third consecutive Class D crown (they also defeated Lutheran Westland in 2008 and Pellston in 2009), winning all three sets convincingly — by scores of 25-12, 25-16, 25-10.

That stopped the Eagles' great tournament run, which included Friday's five-set victory over Central Lake in the semifinal.

But keeping things in perspective, St. Philip (63-7-2) won more than double the matches won by PCA (30-10-2), so the

### VOLLEYBALL FINALS

Eagles faced a monumental task when the first game began at 10 a.m. Saturday.

"They (Lions) were a young team, but a talented team that has had a few years of state championship competition under their belt, and that I think was the difference," said Eagles' head coach Kelly Blackney. "They are an awesome team, and we knew that, so we made it our goal that no matter what the scoreboard said in the end, we would be proud of all that we accomplished."

With the loss, the PCA careers of seniors Abby Bartes, Brianna Harris and Folake Olojo concluded under the bright lights of Kellogg.

Please see **EAGLES, B3**



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Rachel Huhta swam in two relays at Friday's state final preliminaries that broke school records.

## 'Park' tankers hold their own

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The three varsity girls swim teams from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park didn't win any championships at last weekend's Division 1 finals at Oakland University.

But swimmers from Canton, Plymouth and Salem made a splash Friday and Saturday, with numerous personal bests, new school records and one All-State performance (Canton freshman Destinee Barmore-Hicks).

Please see **SWIMMING, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lots of love for the 'Cats. Lauren Uhlian, Paige Wright, Kellie Connelly and Joe Abate cheer for their team at Lansing Everett.

**SMITH**  
FROM PAGE B1

First down at the Rockford 25, with 11 seconds still on the board. Could this really be happening?

Something that could have been in Robert Redford's *The Natural* followed.

Back went Austin one last time. He lofted as perfect a spiral as he could muster in such a pressure situation, toward the far left corner.

Yep, there was Beyer once again, fighting through the Rockford defensive secondary and getting up higher than anybody else one more time. Money in the bank. Plymouth's up 20-17 with 4.5 seconds remaining.

After the Rams couldn't summon their own miracle, the Wildcats rushed onto the field and mobbed each other. Then came all those fans out of

the bleachers, ignoring security announcements to stay on the sidelines.

Teammates and coaches talked about how Austin had ice water in his veins during the big drive. They called Beyer names such as "Beast" and "Creature," obviously references to how unreal he is under the seemingly most-stressful situations possible.

But then, during an interview with "The Man," it's easy to see how he manages to be so clutch when his team needs him to be.

"Whew," said Beyer, starting off an answer with nothing but joy in his voice.

Beyer and the Wildcats proved that when a player — and team — has talent to go along with the pure love of competition, it is an unbeatable combination.

Tim Smith is sports editor of the Plymouth-Canton Observers. He can be reached at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

**PREP GRID PICKS**

**Championship week (All games at Ford Field, Detroit)**  
**Friday, Nov. 26**  
 Lowell (11-2) vs. Farmington Harrison (13-0), 1 p.m.  
**Saturday, Nov. 27**  
 Lake Orion (12-1) vs. Plymouth (11-2), 1 p.m.  
**Last week**  
**Overall**

Brad Emons	Dan O'Meara	Tim Smith	Jim Toth
Lowell	Harrison	Harrison	Harrison
Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Lake Orion
1-1 (.500)	1-1 (.500)	2-0 (1.000)	1-1 (.500)
105-32 (.766)	113-24 (.825)	96-41 (.701)	104-33 (.759)



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth players such as senior kicker Kyle Brindza (No. 27, front left) didn't want to leave the field after defeating Rockford in the Division 1 state semifinals.

**PLYMOUTH**

FROM PAGE B1

on a sideline route for 15 and 14 yards, respectively.

"I tell you what, the play of the drive was Olevnik's catch over there on the sidelines," Sawchuk said. "That was huge for us."

Austin (22-of-37, 232 yards) completed two more passes to gain another first down, at Rockford's 45. After a sack and an incomplete pass, Austin hit a receiver for a short gain to make it fourth-and-seven from the 38 with 19 seconds to go.

Then, with the season hanging in the balance and Plymouth's boisterous fans chanting "Let's go 'Cats," Austin calmly connected with Beyer for a 13-yarder and another first down to keep the drive going.

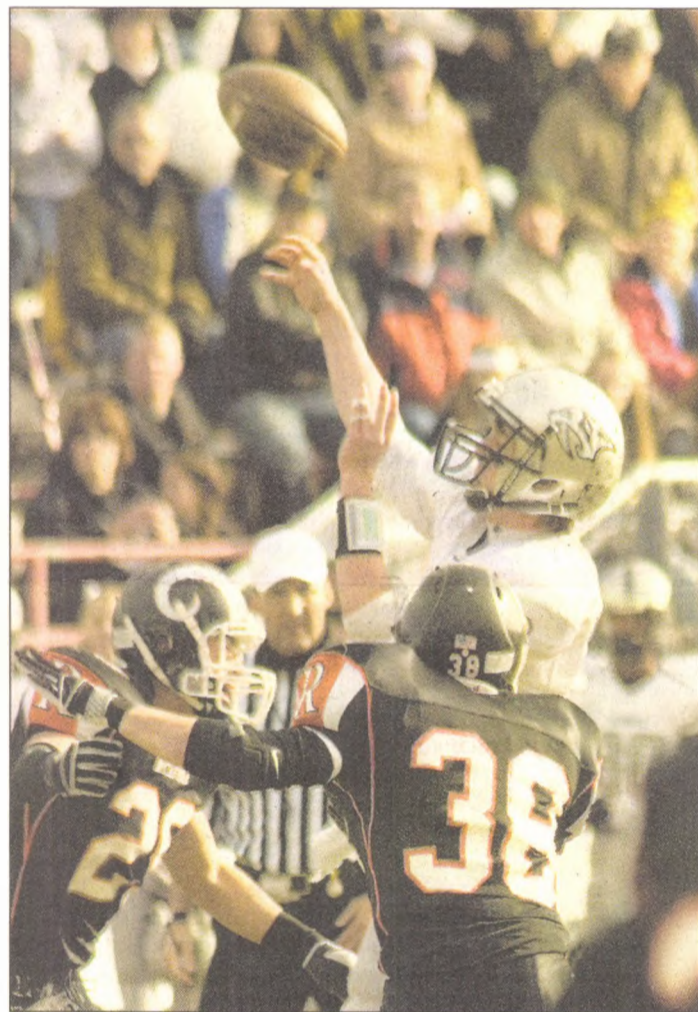
On the next play, the combo worked some more magic for the winner.

For the Rams, there wasn't enough pixie dust to go around. "Bottom line is, hey, it is what it is," head coach Ralph Munger said. "We gave it everything we had, and we were one play short."

**GOOD START**

Plymouth (11-2) started strong, building a 10-0 lead in the first quarter on a 11-yard TD pass to Beyer (five catches, 105 yards, two TDs) and a 47-yard field goal by senior Kyle Brindza.

On the Wildcats' opening offensive series, which led to the first Beyer score, Austin found senior wideout Thomas Afetian for a key 26-yard catch-and-run down to



Plymouth junior quarterback Shaun Austin launches the football despite Rockford's defensive pressure. Austin's pinpoint accuracy in Saturday's final drive keyed the Wildcats' big win.

Rockford's 11.

The Plymouth defense — led by Beyer's seven tackles and three sacks — came out wreaking havoc on Rams junior quarterback Mark Laprairie, putting plenty of heat on him and causing a string of incompletions.

"Once again, the defense played their tails off," Sawchuk said. "They were on the field a lot today, and all those forma-

tions and motions. They did an awesome job."

The Rams missed a field-goal try late in the first half that would have put them on the board, but junior kicker Steven Mette's 29-yard field goal early in the third made it 10-3.

Brindza got it right back with a 50-yard field goal, opening up a 13-3 advantage with 9:02 left in the third.

But Rockford's razzle-dazzle

offense tightened things up considerably at 4:16 of the quarter. Laprairie (12-of-30, 219 yards) handed the ball off on a reverse, but got it back on a lateral throw from senior receiver Neil VanderLaan. Laprairie then hit 6-5 senior wideout Landon Dubs down the left sideline for a 44-yard touchdown, making it 13-10.

**CONFIDENCE PERSONIFIED**

That's how the game stayed until Laprairie lofted his touchdown throw to VanderLaan with 1:19 left. Mette's extra point made it a four-point spread (17-13), meaning Plymouth needed to score a touchdown to keep the season alive.

"We have enough time, we can do this," Plymouth assistant coaches up in the press box shouted.

That same sentiment prevailed down on the field.

"We were sitting down on the bench and our coach said we were going to score," said Morris, who caught five passes for 58 yards. "We were putting it in the end zone. And there was no doubt in my mind that we could score."

And they did, giving the Wildcats their third upset victory in three weeks, following wins over Canton and Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.

"I told them before this game, everybody talks about how Rockford was an elite program," Sawchuk said. "And they are. But you know what? You just beat Canton and CC, you're an elite program."

With Ford Field looming, nobody can take that tag away from those crazy Cardiac 'Cats.

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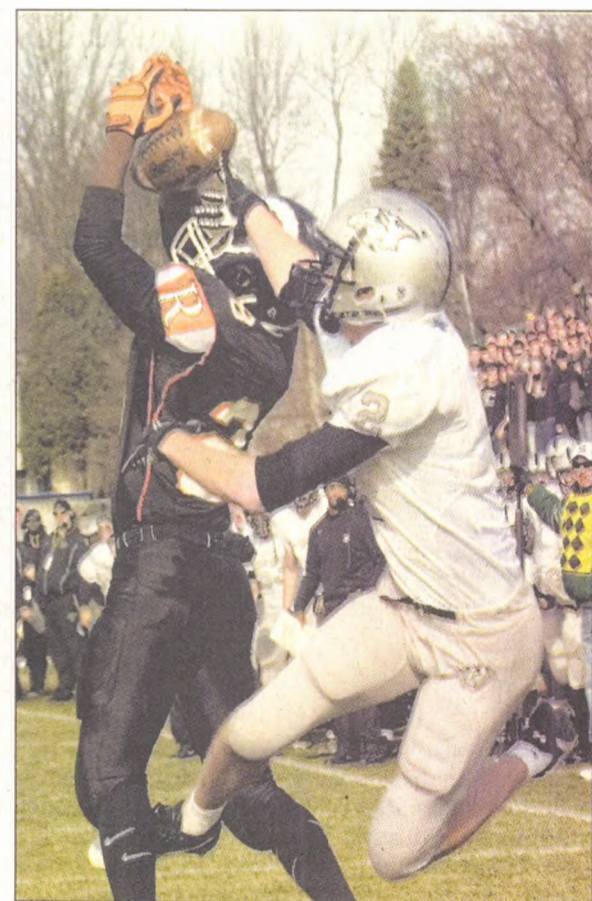
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One of Saturday's clutch performers for Plymouth, senior receiver Michael Olevnik (No. 18) is stymied on this play by Rockford's Shain Showers (No. 23) and Brett Egnatuk.



Plymouth senior Jake Morris (No. 2) breaks up a pass intended for Rockford's Jesse Edick. Not only did Morris come up big on defense, he was one of the targets used by quarterback Shaun Austin during the Wildcats' game-winning drive.

**VOICES & VIEWS: COMMENT ONLINE**  
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# Gambrell's three goals sparks 'Cats

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

## BOYS HOCKEY

Saturday's season-opening hockey game for the Plymouth Wildcats was a mixed bag, as a 6-6 deadlock with East Kentwood would indicate. Plymouth's defense and goaltending could not contain the Falcons, but junior forward Zach Gambrell came through with a three-goal hat trick and two assists to enable the Wildcats to come out of Compuware Arena with at least a point.

"Zach Gambrell played one of the best games he has ever played in his three seasons with us," said Plymouth head

coach Paul Fassbender. The top line of Gambrell, sophomore center Mitch Claggett (1 assist in his varsity debut) and Tyler Sanders (1 goal, 1 assist) rolled from start-to-finish, scoring two goals in the non-conference game's first 10 minutes.

Getting it started was Gambrell, from Sanders and defenseman Kevin Matusiak. The Wildcats then went up 2-0 when Sanders (from linemates Claggett and Gambrell) found the back of the Falcons' cage.

But from there, it was a roller coaster ride for both teams.

Still in the first period, East Kentwood scored to make it 2-1 and Gambrell followed by burying a penalty shot to give the Wildcats a 3-1 edge.

Another East Kentwood marker made it 3-2 at the first intermission.

Plymouth continued the back-and-forth trend when sophomore center Nick Schultz found the mark (from Gambrell and senior blue-liner Justin Bauer), but East Kentwood evened it up at 4-4 within a five-minute span with two power play goals.

Gambrell, however, netted his third goal before the end of the stanza. Assisting on the goal were defenseman Tyler

Lazorka (2 assists) and Bauer, his second helper of the day.

In the third, the Falcons knotted things up at 5-5. But winger Sean Smiatacz broke the tie with 3:24 to go in the third. Drawing the assists were Lazorka and defenseman Dean Gunther.

Fittingly, East Kentwood made it 6-6 with just 32 seconds left in the period.

"Offensively I thought we looked great," said Fassbender, not satisfied with how his squad gave up six goals on just 24 shots. "This should be a wakeup call" for the goaltenders and defensemen.

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RENA LAVERTY

Plymouth left wing RJ Mahalak (No. 21) scores the game-winning goal Saturday night in the Whalers' 5-1 victory over the Guelph Storm at Compuware Arena.

# Whalers snuff out Storm, 5-1

The Plymouth Whalers dominated from start to finish — using balance at all ends of the ice and ripping 55 shots on goal — in a 5-1 victory over the Guelph Storm in an Ontario Hockey League game played Saturday night before 3,206 at Compuware Arena.

The Whalers swept the Storm in a home-and-home series, winning, 4-2, on Friday at the Sleeman Centre in Guelph. As a result, Plymouth (11-9-1-1, 24 points) jumped from eighth to fourth in the Western Conference.

"We had a mind set going into this weekend that it was an eight-point weekend and every point means something," said Plymouth left wing Tyler Brown. "So we came into each game prepared and we're definitely showing it. We're getting pucks on net. That's what

we need night in and night out — a full 60 minutes."

The Whalers received five different goal scorers on Saturday night: Tom Wilson (2) and RJ Mahalak (4) in the first period, Brown (9) in the second and Rickard Rakell (7) and Dario Trutmann (2) in the third period. Robbie Czarnik contributed three assists.

Plymouth's defensive effort can't be overlooked. Goaltender Scott Wedgewood stopped 29-of-30 shots and the Whaler penalty killers stopped all four Guelph power plays. In all, Plymouth penalty killers have stopped 19 straight power plays dating back to Nov. 12 and have gone 34-for-36 since Nov. 5.

Brown, who resides with a Canton billet family, is one of the lead penalty killers for the Whalers.

"Since I been here, we've definitely prided ourselves on the penalty kill," he said. "This year we didn't start very strong, but things are starting to come together now. A good penalty kill consists of hard work, getting pucks out and being strong on the boards."

Guelph offered little resistance in the first period as the Whalers out shot the Storm, 20-11. Wilson got the scoring started, picking up a loose puck at the right circle and snapping a low shot past Guelph goaltender Brandon Foote at 2:37.

Mahalak scored from the hashmarks at 15:31, accepting Czarnik's pass from behind the Guelph goal and snapping the puck past Foote.

The Whalers made it 3-0 on a delayed Guelph penalty

in the second period. Czarnik jumped on the ice as the extra attacker and collected the puck on the left wing half-wall in the Guelph zone.

He found Nick Malysa at the left point. Malysa's low shot was tipped by Brown past Foote at 5:39.

"We've been working on that in practice," Brown explained. "We had a delayed penalty and (Nick) Malysa got the shot from the point towards the net and I was in front and tipped it. It was a good goal. We're just crashing and banging, getting pucks to the net."

Trailing, 3-0, in the third period, Carroll cut the Plymouth lead to 3-1. But 2:12 later, Rakell scored from the right hash mark through traffic and Trutmann finished the scoring on a Plymouth power play at 10:34.

## SWIMMING

FROM PAGE B1

Salem tallied 27 points to finish in 21st place overall, while Plymouth (14 points) and Canton (12 points) took 30th and 31st, respectively. Winning the title with 307 points was Saline.

"I'm very proud of our entire team this year," said Chiefs' head coach Ed Weber. "Our undefeated (dual meet) season, our division championship honors, our success at conference meet, and our showing at state meet."

Plymouth head coach Doug Schade said two individuals and two relay teams broke school records at the Oakland natatorium, as the Wildcats "had a fast team meet."

One of the fastest Wildcats was junior Stephanie Matsui. She set new Plymouth standards in the 50 freestyle (25.25 seconds), 100 free (55.10) and 200 free (2:00.04).

Sophomore Linda Erickson also broke the school record in the 200 IM, finishing in 2-minutes, 13.82-seconds.

Erickson and Matsui were both part of the record-setting 400-yard freestyle relay along with senior Rachel Huhta and sophomore Emily Toro. They did the trick in 3:45.41.

Plymouth's 200-free relay team of Matsui, junior Lexi Ethier, Toro and Huhta set new marks twice in two days, Schade noted. The quartet finished with a time of 1:41.59 at Friday's preliminaries and came back Saturday with a time of 1:40.19 in the consolation finals (10th place overall).

Meanwhile, Toro's time of 2:13.84 in the 200 IM earned her a personal best.

## CANTON SWIMS TOUGH

One top Canton highlight was the breaking of the school's record in the 200-yard medley relay. The quartet of sophomore Caitlin Orr, senior Sara Krebs, sophomore

Delaney Adams and Barmore-Hicks finished in Friday's prelims with a mark of 1-minute, 53.64 seconds.

Another was another impressive showing by Barmore-Hicks in the 50 free. She placed seventh at Saturday's finals with a personal best of 24.29, good for All-State honors.

Weber added that other personal bests were turned in by freshman Maddie Madison (200 free, 1:59.62) and freshman Hannah Jenkins (200 IM, 2:15.67).

The Chiefs had other excellent swims, according to Weber.

Those included Adams in the 200 IM and 100 butterfly, Barmore-Hicks in the 100 free, Madison in the 500 free, Jenkins and Krebs in the 100 breaststroke, the 200-free relay team (Barmore-Hicks, Jenkins, Abby Madison, Kayla Eyster) and 400-free relay team (Adams, Maddie Madison, Sara Schmitt and Eyster).

## TOP SALEM TRIO

Salem senior Emily Nelson, junior Lauren Seroka and sophomore Abby Aumiller each reached the consolation finals in one individual event and one relay, providing the Rocks with quality efforts.

Nelson and Aumiller each made the top-16 in the 100 backstroke. Nelson placed 11th with a time of 59.39; Aumiller's consolation final mark of 59.44 actually was a bit slower than what she did at Friday's preliminaries (59.38).

Seroka finished 12th at Saturday's consolation finals in the 100 fly with a time of 59.21. She came in at 59.19 on Friday.

All three Salem swimmers, along with senior Ashley Micek, finished with a time of 1:52.33 to tie for 11th place with Novi in the consolation finals of the 200-medley relay.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Abby Aumiller swims at Friday's MHSAA state final preliminary round at Oakland University.

## GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING RESULTS

**MHSAA DIVISION 1 GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIP Nov. 19-20 at Oakland University**

**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Saline, 307 points; 2. Holland West Ottawa, 221; 3. Bloomfield Hills Marian, 194; 4. South Lyon, 190.5; 5. Ann Arbor Huron, 172; 6. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 149; 7. Zeeland, 87; 8. Brighton, 84; 9. (tie) Livonia Stevenson, Northville, 72 each; 21. Salem, 27; 30. Plymouth, 14; 31. Canton, 12.

**AREA FINISHERS**

**200-yard medley relay:** 11. Salem (Emily Nelson, Ashley Micek, Lauren Seroka, Abby Aumiller), 1:52.33; 17. Canton (Caitlyn Orr, Sara Krebs, Delaney Adams, Destinee Barmore-Hicks), 1:53.64; 22. Plymouth (Linda Erickson, Lydia Matson, Rachel Huhta, Lexi Ethier), 1:54.89.

**200 freestyle:** 28. Aumiller (Salem), 1:59.34; 33. Julia Suriano (Salem), 1:59.86; 35. Stephanie Matsui (Plymouth), 2:00.07.

**200 individual medley:** 22. Erickson (Plymouth), 2:13.82; 23. Emily Toro (Plymouth), 2:13.84; 26. Hannah Jenkins (Canton), 2:15.67; 31. Adams (Canton), 2:16.37; 32. Nelson (Salem), 2:16.52; 48. Claire Amin (Salem), 2:19.63.

**50 freestyle:** 7. Barmore-Hicks, 24.45; 36. Huhta (Plymouth), 25.74.

**100 butterfly:** 12. Seroka (Salem), 59.21; 31. Adams (Canton), 1:01.72.

**100 freestyle:** 23. Barmore-Hicks (Canton), 54.76; 28. Matsui (Plymouth), 55.16.

**500 freestyle:** 27. Madeleine Madison (Canton), 5:22.13; 32. Jocey Lamoureux (Salem), 5:24.30.

**200 freestyle relay:** 10. Plymouth (Matsui, Ethier, Toro, Huhta), 1:40.19; 22. Salem (Suriano, Nelson, Maddie Gorman, Seroka), 1:43.05; 23. Canton (Barmore-Hicks, Jenkins, Abby Madison, Kayla Eyster), 1:43.10.

**100 backstroke:** 11. Nelson (Salem), 59.39; 12. Aumiller (Salem), 49.44; 25. Suriano (Salem), 1:01.56; 28. Erickson (Plymouth), 1:02.29.

**100 breaststroke:** 29. Micek (Salem), 1:10.73; 33. Toro (Plymouth), 1:11.34; 34. Krebs (Canton), 1:11.40; 41. Jenkins (Canton), 1:12.15; 47. Matson (Plymouth), 1:12.75.

**400 freestyle relay:** 20. Plymouth (Erickson, Toro, Huhta, Aumiller), 3:45.41; 21. Salem (Suriano, Gorman, Aumiller, Seroka), 3:45.57; 36. Canton (Adams, M. Madison, Sara Schmitt, Eyster), 3:51.82.

## EAGLES

FROM PAGE B1

Harris did what she could to spark the offense. She tallied 17 set assists and 11 digs, while libero Bartes chipped in with six digs. Olojo, who played a pivotal role in the semifinal, tallied just one kill and two digs.

Junior middle blocker Kristin Malcolm led the offense with 16 kills and contributed nine digs, but she wasn't able to offset St. Philip's front row of freshman outside hitter Sierra Hubbard-Neil (16 kills) and sophomore outside hitter Amanda McKinzie (11 kills).

**DOING THEIR BEST**

St. Philip dominated at the net, with a 46-19 advantage in spike kills. The Tigers also had eight solo blocks; PCA could not come up with any.

In Game 1, the Eagles did hang in there for a while. PCA earned a sideout point from junior outside hitter Amy Zinn (four kills, 11 digs). Then, Olojo served up two points to make

it a 9-8 St. Philip lead, with the second point off a Harris-to-Malcolm set and spike.

But suddenly it was 17-8 thanks to seven service points in a row from Hubbard-Neil.

PCA battled in Game 2, as well, with the Eagles and Tigers tied at 9-9. But just like the opener, St. Philip answered the challenge — this time with a 10-3 run to go up 19-12.

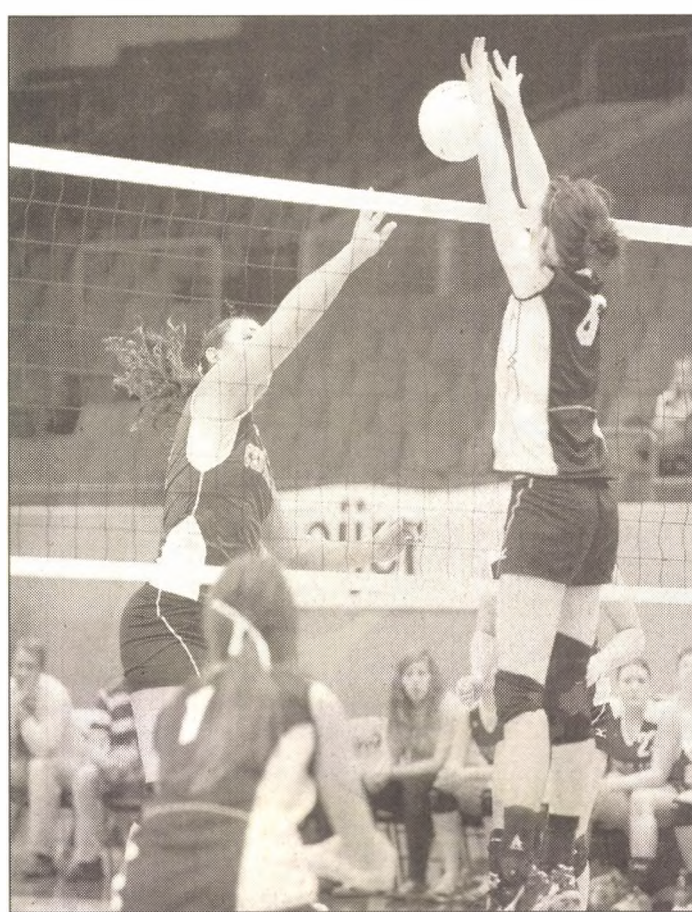
The third and clinching set got away from the Eagles quickly, thanks to service streaks of eight and five points, which enabled the Tigers to build an insurmountable 15-3 advantage.

Despite the outcome, Blackney said her team was a winner in the way it "maintained our composure and played with passion."

She added that the team appreciated all the support from the Plymouth Christian community throughout the postseason march.

"It was truly an unforgettable experience for all," Blackney noted. "And we will never forget it."

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Going up to block a shot during Friday's Class D semifinal win is Plymouth Christian junior middle blocker Kristin Malcolm (No. 6). The Eagles defeated Central Lake in five sets at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena, but lost the next morning in the final to Battle Creek St. Philip.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### 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 Joe Goebel, head coach of the 2001 Canton Crush who died in 2010. All funds raised at the game will go to a scholarship fund for his sons, Logan and Brayden Goebel, while toys will be distributed to local charities via the Canton Firefighter Association No. 2289, a nonprofit organization.

There also will be raffle gift baskets displayed all day and night at Arctic Edge, plus a 50/50 raffle and Chuck-a-Puck

for Detroit Red Wings tickets.

• Another hockey game for a good cause is 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at Arctic Edge between the Detroit Red Wings Alumni and Canton-based Detroit Moose. Proceeds from \$10 tickets and \$50 dinner/ticket packages will go to the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan. For those choosing the dinner-with-a-game option, the dinner will be at Kickers, located across the parking lot from the rink.

**Jingle Bell 5K**

The Arthritis Foundation's Jingle Bell 5- and 10-kilometer Run-Walk will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 at Northville Downs, located at 301 S. Center Street, Northville.

The \$25 Early Bird special includes timing chip and official T-shirt.

For more information, visit [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org) or contact Samantha Mertins at (248) 649-2491, Ext. 232; or e-mail [smertins@arthritis.org](mailto:smertins@arthritis.org).

# Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

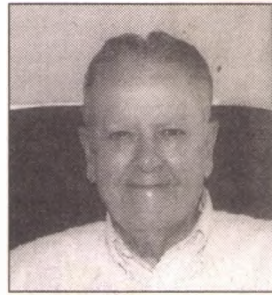
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**EVA RODRIGUEZ GARCIA**  
 Age 80, of Westland. November 20, 2010. Beloved wife of the late Ruben. Loving mother of Rebecca Karpiuk and Rachel Garcia. Proud grandmother of Matthew. Dear sister of Frank, Mario (Janette), Rachel and Muzzy. Survived also by many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by siblings Raphael, Esperanza, Raul, Evangeline, Estella, Fernando and Frances. Services were held by The Allen Park Chapel-Martenson Family of Funeral Homes, 10915 Allen Rd (corner of Goddard).  
 Visit: [www.martenson.com](http://www.martenson.com).



**MILDRED M. MCCOLLUM**  
 Age 82 November 20, 2010 of Westland. Loving wife of the late Melvin. Beloved mother of Melvin (Phyllis), Lonnie (Patricia) and Sharon McCollum and the late Mary Pelto. Cherished daughter of the late Fred and Helen Pagel. Dear sister of Pat Estep and Vicky Pagel. Proud grandmother of 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Family and friends gathering Saturday 11 am until 12 noon Memorial Service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Rd. (between Ford & Cherry Hill) Westland. To share a memory, please visit: [VermeulenFuneralHome.com](http://VermeulenFuneralHome.com).



**HAROLD HENRY TAYLER, JR.**  
 (August 17, 1925- November 20, 2010)  
 Age 85, of Lake Suzy, Florida (formerly of Farmington, Michigan) passed away peacefully Saturday evening, November 20, 2010, in Florida, after a short illness. A member of the "Greatest Generation" and as a U.S. Marine veteran of World War II, Harold was cited in several books and publications chronicling the history of the heroic battle for the Pacific Island of Okinawa. Among his commendations is the Purple Heart. Always a loyal Marine, he attended annual National Marine Corps conventions whenever and wherever they were held. He was very pleased to be honored with a Marine Corps memorial service the day before he passed. A native of Detroit, Harold graduated from Wayne State University School of Pharmacy. He served as Chief Pharmacist at Hutzler Women's Hospital for five years before he established and operated Taylor Prescriptions in Farmington for many years before retiring to Florida. Harold is survived by his second wife Judith, of Lake Suzy and his four children; Jeff (Bobbi), Cynthia (Brad) Zoner, Craig and Roger (Kim); seven grandchildren, four great grandchildren, a brother Gerald Taylor (Betty) and a sister Shirley Paul, as well as, brothers in law Gordon (Susan) and Wallace (Doris) Brownell. Harold is preceded in death by his loving and devoted first wife Shirley, a sister Mary Ellen Fuhr and a brother Ronald Taylor. A kind and gentle man, Harold will be greatly missed by his family and friends, and especially by his loyal dog, Randy. The Funeral Service with US Marine Corps Honors will take place on Saturday, November 27th at 11:00 a.m. at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Friday from 2-8 p.m. Memorials may be directed to Tidewell Hospice c/o Philanthropy Dept. 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota, Florida 34238.  
[www.thayer-rock.com](http://www.thayer-rock.com)

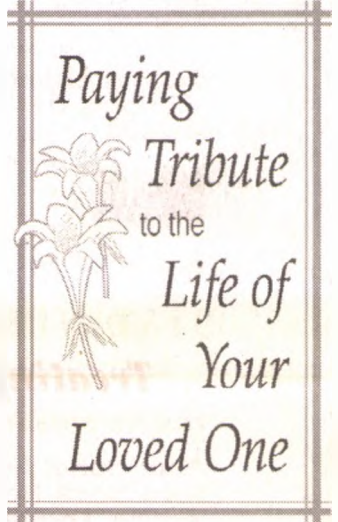


**ANNIE "NAN" TULIPS**  
 November 21, 2010  
 Age 94. Passed away in Livonia. Loving wife of the late James. Dear mother of Maureen Lynaghan, Clare (and the late Michael) Kora, and Monica (James) Swierpel. Survived by 9 Grandchildren and 4 Great-grandchildren. Memorial visitation 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Robert Bellarmine Church, 27101 W. Chicago (at Inkster) Redford, MI, until time of Memorial Mass at 10:30 a.m. Memorial donations to Hospice Compassus, Southfield, MI or Marycrest Manor, Livonia, MI would be appreciated. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at [griffinfuneralhome.com](http://griffinfuneralhome.com)



**BONNIE L. LINTON**  
 Nov. 21, 2010 age 89 of Brown City, formerly of Garden City. Beloved wife of the late Earl. Dear mother of Duane (Arlene) & the late Roger. Sister of Rev. Joe (Sharon) Hilyard. Loving grandmother of Chris (Kathy) Linton, Karen Linton, Brenda (Raymond) Czubaj, Sandra Yetter & Andrea Mires. Great grandmother of Tonya Jackson, Kirk Jackson, Samantha Jackson, Amanda Linton, Brandon Yetter, Janie (Mark) Zlatos & Jennifer (Alan) Lafland. Also survived by 3 great-great-grandchildren. Funeral Sat. 11:30 AM at the UHt Funeral Home 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland. Family will receive friends Fri. 2-9 PM. Please visit and sign a tribute at [www.uhfh.com](http://www.uhfh.com).

**RANDALL NANTZ**  
 November 21, 2010. Age 74. Loving husband of Janice. Dear father of Steven (Debra) and Shandra (Michael) Fish. Brother of Barbara Gardner and Malissa (Osborn) Burton. Also survived by 9 Grandchildren and 5 Great-grandchildren. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at [griffinfuneralhome.com](http://griffinfuneralhome.com) The family has entrusted care and services to the L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, Westland, Michigan.



**OBITUARY POLICY**

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

**Deadlines:**  
 Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday  
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Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

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The Rev. Paul Stunkel and his wife, the Rev. Karen Stunkel

## St. Paul's Presbyterian welcomes new pastor

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia recently welcomed a new head pastor, the Rev. Paul Stunkel. Stunkel graduated from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and received his master's of divinity in 1975. He served his first pastorate as head of staff for a 250-member congregation in Washington, Pa. He served his second pastorate at United Presbyterian Church in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, a 650-member congregation. In 1996, he started a new Presbyterian congregation, Joy Community, just outside Chicago in Lake in the Hills, Ill. Stunkel became the founding pastor of the congregation which began in his living room and developed into a \$1.2 million facility, dedicated to the prayerful and joyful worship of God. Stunkel is married to the Rev. Karen Stunkel, who is completing an interim pastorate in the Chicago area. They have four children and three grandchildren. St. Paul's Sunday service is at 10 a.m. For more information, call (734) 422-1470. The church is located on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road in Livonia.

# Your Invitation to Worship

<p><b>CATHOLIC</b></p> <p><b>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH</b>                  Tridentine Latin Mass                  St. Anne's Academy • Grades K-8                  38100 Five Mile Road                  Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200</p> <p>Mass Schedule:                  Fri. 7:00 p.m.                  Sat. 11:00 a.m.                  Sun. Masses 7:30 &amp; 10:00 a.m.                  Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass                  Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions                  Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p><b>UNITED METHODIST</b></p> <p><b>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b>                  30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills  <a href="http://www.orchardumc.org">www.orchardumc.org</a>                  248-626-3820</p> <p><b>Worship:</b>                  9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.                  10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages                  Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter</p>	<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</b></p> <p><b>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)</b>                  9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman &amp; Farmington Rds.)                  (734) 422-0494</p> <p>Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am                  Traditional Service 10:30 am</p> <p>Visit <a href="http://www.rosedalegardens.org">www.rosedalegardens.org</a>                  For information about our many programs</p>	<p><b>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</b></p> <p><b>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church</b>                  14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96  <a href="http://www.christoursavior.org">www.christoursavior.org</a></p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 &amp; 11:00 am - Traditional                  Sunday School/Bible Class 9:45 am                  Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413</p> <p>Staffed Nursery Available  <b>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ</b>                  Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, &amp; Creeden                  734-522-6830</p>
<p><b>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</b></p> <p><b>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b>                  45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1825                  Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.                  Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.                  Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.                  Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.                  NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER                  (734) 455-3196</p>	<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>Fellowship Presbyterian Church</b>                  Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.                  Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.                  Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire                  Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church                  16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road                  Nursery provided • <a href="http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org">www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</a></p>	<p><b>GREEK ORTHODOX</b></p> <p><b>NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH</b>                  39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI                  Sunday Services                  Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am                  Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostes.                  Parish Office 734-420-0131                  Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  <a href="http://www.nativitygochurch.org">www.nativitygochurch.org</a></p>	<p><b>Risen Christ Lutheran</b>                  David W. Martin, Pastor                  46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth                  (734) 453-5252                  Worship 8:15 &amp; 10:45 am                  Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30                  Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are  <a href="http://www.risenchrist.info">www.risenchrist.info</a></p>
<p><b>LUTHERAN-ELCA</b></p> <p><b>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA</b>                  Farmington Hills 23225 Gill Rd. 248-474-0584</p> <p>SATURDAY WORSHIP • 5:30 P.M.                  SUNDAY WORSHIP &amp; SUNDAY SCHOOL                  9:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE                  10:15 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES                  11:15 A.M. CONTEMPORARY SERVICE                  - NURSERY AVAILABLE -                  BILL &amp; LAUREN KIRSH-CARR, PASTORS</p>	<p><b>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p><b>WARD CHURCH</b>                  40000 Six Mile Road                  Northville, MI 48168                  248.374.7400  <a href="http://www.wardchurch.org">www.wardchurch.org</a></p> <p>Traditional Worship 8, 9:30 &amp; 11 a.m.                  Contemporary Worship 9:30 &amp; 11 a.m.</p> <p>Children's Programs available at 9:30 &amp; 11 a.m.</p> <p>The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 560 AM</p>	<p><b>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</b></p> <p><b>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH &amp; SCHOOL</b>                  17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360                  WORSHIP SERVICES                  SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. &amp; 11:00 A.M.                  THURSDAY: 8:30 P.M.                  website: <a href="http://www.stpaulsilivonia.org">www.stpaulsilivonia.org</a></p> <p><b>CONGREGATIONAL</b></p> <p><b>North Congregational Church</b>                  36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake &amp; Halsted) (248) 848-1750                  10:30 a.m. Worship &amp; Church School  <b>Faith - Freedom-Fellowship</b>                  Ministers                  Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron</p>	

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: [dhart@dnp.com](mailto:dhart@dnp.com)

# STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, November 25, 2010

hometownlife.com

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com



Linville & Company recently moved into its new digs at 44191 Plymouth Oaks Blvd., Suite 300, in Plymouth.

## CPA firm beats economic odds

For Linville & Company, CPAs, it was recently moving day — moving out, moving on, moving ahead. Moving, without a doubt, was the operative word here, their key to surviving — and thriving — in this very difficult economy.

Founded in 2002 by certified public accountant Kay Linville, the firm saw steady, healthy growth throughout the early “boom” years. Then, like everyone else, they were hit, brutally and quickly, by what turned out to be a deep and stubborn recession.

“Because we were a small business, the blow to us was terrible,” Linville said. “So many of our clients were closing up or moving out of state. But, even though this thing had the potential to take us out completely, as it did so many other businesses like ours, it never once occurred to me we would not survive.”

“I saw right away that this economic situation was not going to be temporary, not going to be business as usual and that things were probably never going to be the same again, which meant that we could not be the same,” Linville added. “I knew that I had to come up with new, better, smarter ways if we were going to keep moving.”

So how did this small firm of CPAs turn the global economic lemon into personal and professional lemonade?

“People, other businesses ask me that all the time, ‘How’d you do it?’ And the key was being open to change,” Linville said. “If you’re going to adapt, to be one of the lucky ones to make it, you’ve got to be open, to new developments and opportunities and ideas. But you can’t just wait for them to come to you; you have to go out and look for different options and alternatives.”

“Rather than retreat from harsh reality into the insular world of our offices and the comfort of numbers, we made it our priority to get out there and stay connected with our clients, who were going

### LINVILLE & COMPANY

**Business name and address:** Linville and Company, 44191 Plymouth Oaks Blvd., Suite 300, Plymouth

**Owner:** Kay Linville, CPA

**Business specialty:** Corporate tax counseling and tax return preparation; corporate accounting and bookkeeping; start-up counseling; personal tax counseling and individual tax return preparation; computerized accounting system upgrades.

**Number of employees:** 6 accounting professionals

**Business opened:** Founded in 2002

**Phone | website:** (734) 453-8100 | www.linvillecpa.com

through some major, difficult changes of their own.”

With so much happening and so much to plan for, Linville pointed out, clients “needed us, more than ever, relied upon us to keep up with new legislation and changes in tax law that would affect them and their businesses.” Clients, she said, counted on the firm to know what to do, and the firm became even more proactive in terms of acquiring technical knowledge and “then stepped up our engagement with, our service to, each client.”

“One of the best things we had going for us was I knew how to run a small business,” Linville said. “And I also knew about accounting, of course. Most accountants know accounting, but not many know what it takes to run a business. Seeing us navigate these times successfully has given our clients confidence that we know what we’re doing, understand their concerns and can help them get through this successfully.”

“Most people think that accountants are narrow, rigid. But being open-minded has always been one of my particular strong suits. This business hasn’t always been a straight line — and that’s the point. My



Kay Linville founded Linville & Company in 2002.

expertise may be in columns and figures, but my thinking is anything but strictly linear. On top of that, I’m just a natural optimist. It’s like FDR said during the depression, ‘...nothing to fear but fear itself.’”

Linville said her optimism helped her repeatedly re-chart the company’s course over the past four tumultuous years, to make the needed corrections and adjustments as the financial situation changed.

“Actually, I’ve always embraced, rather than resisting, change, welcomed input, new ideas, new ways of doing and looking at things. It keeps you, and your business, fresh, dynamic.”

When she first founded Linville & Company, Linville said, it just happened to be one of the few all-female accounting firms. All the women had already proved they were something special, she said, all self-made, highly-motivated, extremely knowledgeable and accomplished professionals in what had typically been a man’s field.

“That takes a lot of exceptional qualities, beginning with optimism and the ability to see opportunities instead of obstacles,” Linville said. “It’s how they moved ahead individually. It’s that attitude that helped us move ahead as a company. It’s why we’ve moved out of our old, crowded offices and into a much larger space. Onward and upward, you’ve got to keep moving.”

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Super lawyers

Mark W. Lane and Gordon W. Didier, of Plymouth, a business/corporate lawyer for Butzel Long, is among the attorneys named to the 2010 Michigan Super Lawyers list.

Super Lawyers is a listing of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement.

Super Lawyers selects attorneys using a rigorous, multiphase rating process. Peer nominations and evaluations are combined with third party research. Each candidate is evaluated on 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Selections are made on an annual, state-by-state basis.



Lane



Didier

### The day after

The Plymouth Downtown Development Authority has much planned for the day after Thanksgiving. It all begins at 1 p.m. with three musical groups spread throughout downtown singing and playing holiday music from 1-6 p.m.

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Choir sings on the Kellogg Park stage from 5:15-5:30 p.m., to be followed by Gordon the Magician from 5:30-6 p.m. with a kid-friendly

holiday-themed magic show. At 6 p.m., Santa arrives in Kellogg Park on a fire truck.

### Small business day

The DDA sponsors Small Business Saturday Nov. 27, the first-ever event to come together in support of small businesses, the shops and restaurants that employ local neighbors and reinvest local money close to home, with businesses that are the heartbeat of local communities.

According to DDA officials:

- For every \$100 spent at local small businesses, \$68 returns to the community.
- Small businesses employ half of all private sector employees.

• For every year over the last decade, 60-80 percent of new jobs were generated by small businesses.

## CHAMBER CHAT



Walsh

### Chamber breakfast

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts a “Good Morning Plymouth Community Breakfast” 7:30-9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 10, at Station 885 in Plymouth’s Old Village.

Sponsored by TDS Metrocom, the breakfast will feature incoming Speaker Pro-Tem of the Michigan

House of Representatives, state Rep. John Walsh of Livonia. Other speakers include incoming state Rep. Kurt Heise (20th District) of Plymouth Township and incoming state Sen. Patrick Colbeck (7th District) of Canton.

Cost is \$12, and cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to the event. To RSVP, respond by Dec. 8 to [teri@plymouthmich.org](mailto:teri@plymouthmich.org) or call (734) 453-1540.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, November 25, 2010

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**HAVE A STORY IDEA?**

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883

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Comment online at hometownlife.com

## From swing to foxtrot

### Ballroom enthusiasts meet in Livonia for weekly dance

 BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

**B**etty Mohamed is ready to slip into her dance shoes at a moment's notice. She dances every Saturday night and most Thursdays. She'll even foxtrot, waltz and cha cha her way into the New Year next month with dances on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

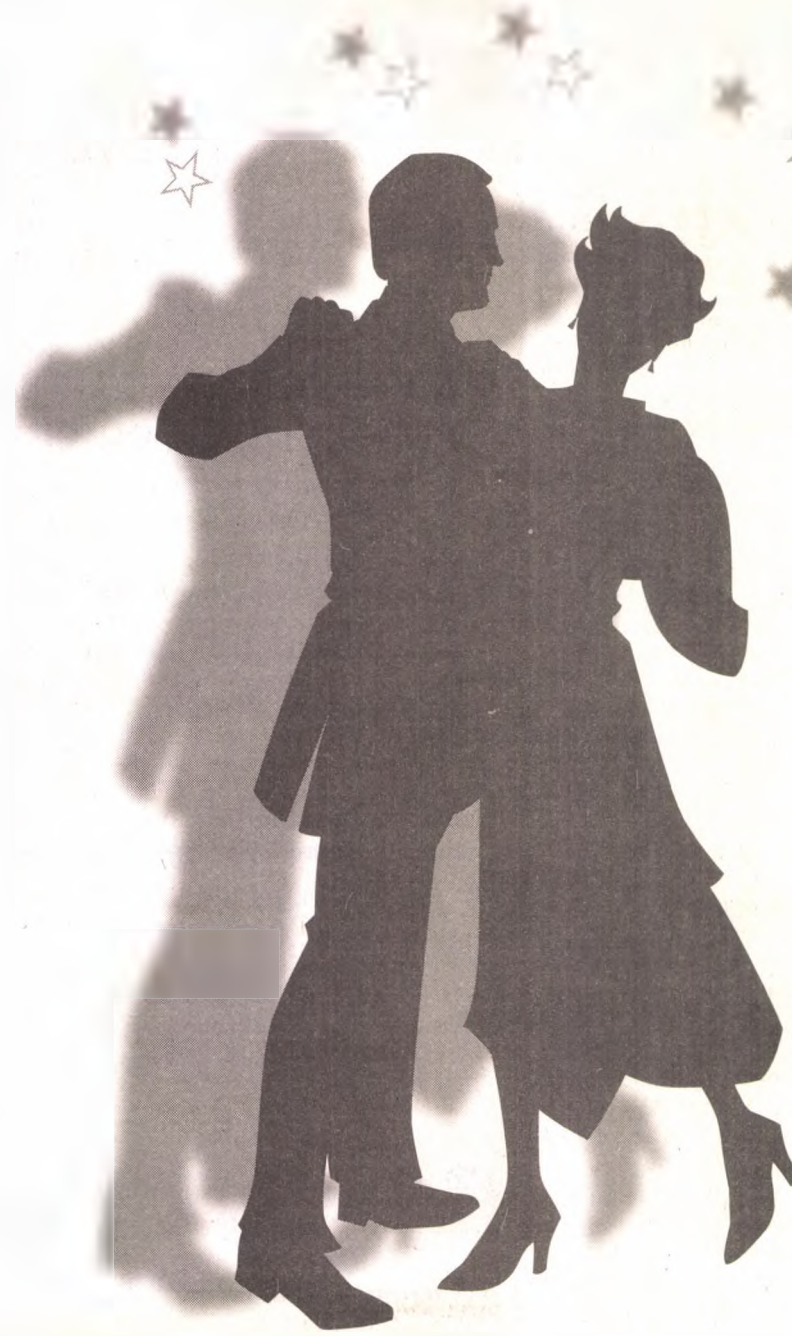
At 82, Mohamed prefers dancing to more sedentary hobbies. She's typical of other senior citizens who dance weekly with Moon Dusters Ballroom Dance Club at the Livonia Civic Center. "It's entertainment and we enjoy dancing. You enjoy being there with the people. It's something to look forward to," said Mohamed, who began dancing at age 51, after her husband died. Now she's an officer in the Moon Dusters, which draws many longtime ballroom dancers who are well past retirement age, although it's open to all ages.

"Most are seniors. We're from the old school, but we're trying to recruit younger people," she said. "We have several who come that are in their 30s and 40s. They like it. It's nice being with a partner and dancing and learn the cha cha and the rumba dances."

#### FINDING A PARTNER

Joe Castrodale, Moon Dusters president, says anyone with a passion for ballroom dancing will discover the club is "the place to be" on a Saturday night.

"We welcome everyone. A lot come looking for partners. We feel we've coupled up more people than other dances around, said Castrodale, 87, from Oak Park. "All the partners I've had I got from dancing. If you're a dancer,



you want to dance with a partner."

Castrodale, who's single and a WWII veteran, began ballroom dancing in the early 1980s after a friend suggested he attend a dance. He knew how to slow dance at the time but was a newcomer to the Latin and swing steps. He took lessons and discovered Moon Dusters, which was formed in 1973.

Castrodale said Moon Dusters is among a handful of ballroom dance clubs that have flourished in the years since Detroit's big ballrooms, such as the Grande and Graystone, and smaller suburban clubs were closed.

#### LEARNING THE DANCES

The club's annual holiday dinner dance is close to selling out its 500 tickets. Saturday dances draw about 125 participants. About 50-60 dancers attend the lessons taught at the start of the Saturday event. The hour-long instruction focuses on one ballroom dance every week for about two months. Dancers can learn and practice six different dances each year.

"In order to be a good ballroom dancer there are three things you need — money, patience and time. You need money to pay for lessons and patience until you learn and time to do it all," Castrodale noted.

"It's great exercise. You won't get exercise like that anywhere. It gives you a chance to get dressed up and meet new friends. It teaches you balance. And it's a chance to enjoy yourself on a Saturday night."

The club also donates to charity whenever it has a few additional dollars to spare. Past beneficiaries have included Paralyzed Veterans of America, cancer research organizations and the Livonia senior center.

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[www.HolidayCraftExtravaganza.com](http://www.HolidayCraftExtravaganza.com)

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The cast of "A Christmas Carol" will read the story at a benefit for Barefoot Productions.

## Barefoot Productions sets narrative reading, fund-raiser

Barefoot Productions' narrative reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* will benefit two nonprofits this year.

Proceeds from the show, Dec. 10-11, will support the theater's operations, including its two remaining season shows, *Black Comedy* in February 2011 and *Lips Together, Teeth Apart*, in May 2011.

Barefoot Productions also asks patrons to consider bringing an unwrapped toy to the show, to donate toward Plymouth's First Step. The organization aims to reduce and prevent domestic and sexual violence and provide services to individuals affected violence. First Step maintains an ongoing toy wish list to supplement recreational activities as well as to enhance the shelter offered to those in need. For more information about First Step, visit [www.firststep-mi.org](http://www.firststep-mi.org).

The *A Christmas Carol* event starts with a reception at 7:30 p.m. both nights. Vinter's Canton Winery, Sweets 21 of Plymouth and Tranquillitea, also in Plymouth, will serve refreshments, including mulled wines, Victorian-style pastries and fragrant teas.

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

The fund-raiser is a suggested donation of \$30 per person and \$15 for children, 12 and under. Reservations are available at [www.justgobarefoot.com](http://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, 240 North Main Street, Plymouth.

## Senior citizens show watercolor paintings

Botsford Commons Senior Community will present its first annual Watercolor Artists Show, 1-9 p.m. Dec. 2, at the Botsford Commons Activity Room and Theater, 21300 Archwood Circle, between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake Road, north of Eight Mile, in Farmington Hills.

Paintings from the Botsford Commons' watercolor class, which met every Thursday for eight weeks, will be on display and available for purchase.

Botsford resident Berta Villarreal suggested the class and enlisted the help of artist Karin Phillips to lead it.

In addition to Villarreal, resident artists include Jane

Langa, Betty Gilbert, Florence Ptak, John Stoner, Dorothy Tarpinian, Bill Waddell and Bettie Williams. They will show their work alongside visiting artists Phillips, Marilyn Lynch and Doreen Buier.

There is no admission fee for the show. For more information call Marty Vukonich at (248) 615-2898.



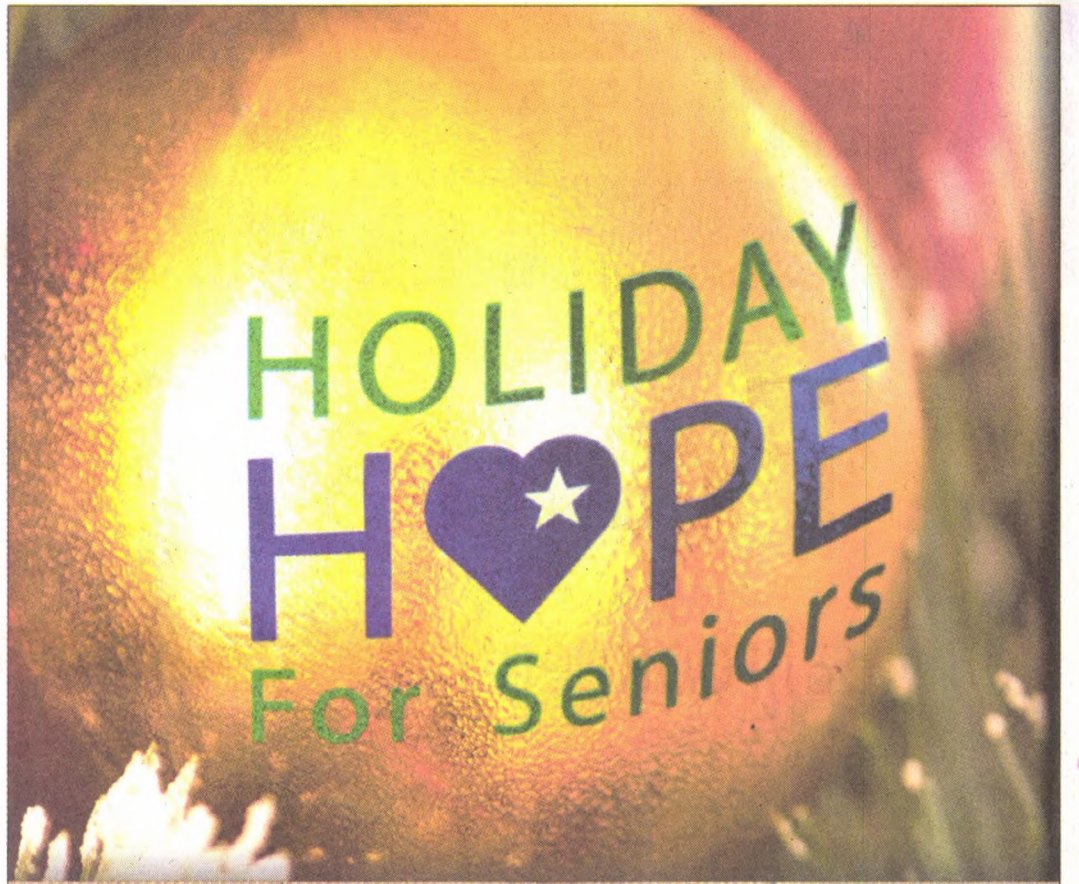
Lisa is a 39-year-old mom. She's in the market for a new SUV. (The soccer team did a job on the last one.)

## Do you know what drives Lisa? (We do.)

With our audience expertise and targeting, we can help your business reach more Moms like Lisa. Find out how the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspaper Group's solutions — enhanced by partnerships with companies like Yahoo! — make us the local leader in digital marketing.

Call Observer & Eccentric at 734-582-8363 and Hometown Weeklies at 248-437-2011.

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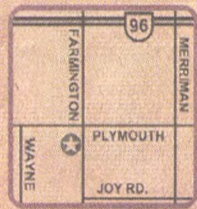


Make your season bright by helping a senior in need.

Help the American House Foundation support metro Detroit seniors this holiday. Stop by any American House community and choose an ornament from the Holiday Hope tree. Donations range from \$5 to \$20 but any amount will be greatly appreciated. Holiday Hope for Seniors is an American House Foundation program partnering with Lighthouse of Oakland County to identify seniors in need and provide them with essentials like blankets, sheets and pillows.

We encourage you to remember these seniors while you're out shopping this holiday season.

Visit [americanhouse.com/foundation](http://americanhouse.com/foundation) or call (248) 203-1800 to learn more about the American House Foundation.



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| Christopher & Banks  | Archiver's              | Oreck Floor Care    |
| Lane Bryant          | Borders Books & Music   | Bally Total Fitness |
| Men's Wearhouse      | NNDJ Diamond Brokers    | Bodies in Motion    |
| The Children's Place | Mattress & Futon Shoppe | Running Fit         |
| TJ Maxx              | AT&T Store              |                     |
| Discount Tire        |                         |                     |
| Bath & Body Works    |                         |                     |
| Charisma Salon       |                         |                     |



Take a shopping break at a Novi Town Center restaurant!

- Athenian Coney Island
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SIMON

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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
Cameren 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 Kuczumarski	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!**

**ART**

**Art & Ideas**

**Time/Date:** Saturdays, 1-7 p.m., through Jan. 29, 2011  
**Location:** 15095 Northville Road, Plymouth Township, between east-bound and westbound 5 Mile intersections  
**Details:** "Time Tells All" holiday-season art exhibition, a multi-artist retrospective of 2010 exhibitions. Artwork on display through Jan. 29, 2011; free

**Contact:** (734) 420-0775 or visit [www.artandideasgallery.com](http://www.artandideasgallery.com)

**Detroit Artist Market**

**Time/Date:** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, through Dec. 23  
**Location:** 4719 Woodward Ave., Detroit

**Details:** Annual Art for the Holiday Show includes jewelry, glass, metal, ceramic, photography, accessories, paintings, drawings, sculpture, books, cards, framed prints and more for sale. Admission to the preview party are \$10 for Detroit Artist Market members and \$20 for non-members

**Contact:** (313) 832-8540

**Northville Art House**

**Time/Date:** Through Dec. 3  
**Location:** 215 W. Cady in downtown Northville

**Details:** 6th Annual Northville Holiday Art market with hand-crafted work in pottery, fiber, jewelry and painting for sale by local artists

**Contact:** (248) 344-0497

**The Gallery@VT**

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Nov. 29  
**Location:** 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton  
**Details:** Acrylic works by Brian Zupanick

**Contact:** (734) 394-5300

**COMEDY**

**Go Comedy!**

**Time/Date:** Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays  
**Location:** 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale  
**Details:** Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

**JD's House of Comedy**

**Time/Date:** Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings  
**Location:** 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield  
**Details:** Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday

**Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Mondays, open mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays  
**Location:** 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

**Details:** Chrissy Burns, Nov. 24-27; Basile, Dec. 1-4; Russ Meneve, Dec. 8-11; Roz G., Dec. 15-18; Billy Ray Bauer, Dec. 22-23; Steve Bills, Dec. 29-30 and Jan. 1; Tom Segura, Dec. 31

**Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle**

**Time/Date:** Dave Landau, Nov. 26-27; Paul Mecurio, Dec. 2-4; O'Brien & Valdez, Dec. 9-11; David Dyer, Dec. 16-18; Dan Grueter, Dec. 30-31  
**Location:** 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak  
**Contact:** (248) 542-9900, [www.comedycastle.com](http://www.comedycastle.com)

**CONCERTS**

**The Ark**

**Time/Date:** Matt Watroba, Nov. 26; Mr. B presents Steve Nardella Band Reunion featuring George Bedard, Nov. 27; Gemini, Nov. 28; The Belleville Outfit, Nov. 28; Matt White, Nov. 30; JJ Grey & Mofro, Dec. 1; Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials, Dec. 2; Orpheum Bell, Dec. 3; The Gibson Brothers, Dec. 4; Over the Rhine, Dec. 5; John Berry, Dec. 6; Lee Murdock; No. 7; Greensky Bluegrass, Dec. 8; 9th Annual Concert for Peace, Dec. 9; Lucy Kaplansky, Dec. 10; The Electric Guitar Summit, Dec. 11; Cairn to Cairn, Dec. 12; Decembersongs, Dec. 14; Delbert McClinton, Dec. 15; Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band, Dec. 16; Crossroads Ceili, Dec. 17-18; Riders in the Sky, Dec. 19; Fred Eaglesmith, Dec. 31  
**Location:** 316 South Main, Ann Arbor  
**Contact:** (734) 763-8587; [www.theark.org](http://www.theark.org)

**Baseline Folk Society**

**Time/Date:** Third Saturday of the month

**Location:** The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth  
**Details:** Eight "Open-Mic" performances plus a featured group perform. Sign up for open mic from 6:15-6:45 p.m. Individual membership is \$25 and includes monthly concerts from September through May. Otherwise, admission to each concert is \$5 at the door. Family memberships are \$50 and include monthly concerts  
**Contact:** (248) 719-3464 or [mjmmullen@yahoo.com](mailto:mjmmullen@yahoo.com)

**The Fillmore**

**Time/Date:** Doors open at 6 p.m.; concert starts at 7 p.m. Nov. 26  
**Location:** 2115 Woodward Avenue, next to The Fox Theatre in Detroit  
**Details:** Concert features sax player Alto Reed, Mitch Ryder, Martha Reeves and actor Jeff Daniels. Benefits Goodwill Industries; tickets start at \$10  
**Contact:** [www.livenation.com](http://www.livenation.com)

**Jazz Cafe**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Dec. 17-18  
**Location:** Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit  
**Details:** Freddy Cole Christmas, tickets \$27  
**Contact:** [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com); (313) 887-8500

**Penn Theater**

**Time/Date:** Doors open 11:05 a.m.; show starts 11:30 a.m., Dec. 4  
**Location:** 760 Penniman, Plymouth  
**Details:** Mr. Seley & the Troublemakers, along with musical host Guy Louis, perform in the second show of the "Saturdays@the Penn" series for children. Tickets at the door or in advance from the Plymouth Community Arts Council; \$5 per person  
**Contact:** (734) 416-4278

**Redford Theatre**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Dec. 11 and 3 p.m. Dec. 12  
**Location:** Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser, Detroit  
**Details:** The Motor City Theatre Organ Society presents "The Wonderful Music of Christmas" featuring Lance Luce at the Redford's Barton pipe organ. Luce will play holiday favorites, lead a sing-along and introduce special guest performers; admission is \$12 for adults and \$8 for children, 12 and under. Santa will visit during the Dec. 11 performance  
**Contact:** [www.redfordtheatre.com](http://www.redfordtheatre.com)

**Trinity House Theatre**

**Time/Date:** The Milroys, Doug and Telisha Williams and the Rickety Nelsons, Nov. 27; Empty Chair Night featuring Joel Palmer, Annie and Rodd Capps and Robin and Jenny Bienerman, Dec. 5  
**Location:** 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia  
**Contact:** (734) 464-6302, [www.trinityhouse.org](http://www.trinityhouse.org)

**Village Theatre at Cherry Hill**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Dec. 3  
**Location:** In the Biltmore Studio at the theater, located at 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton  
**Details:** John Latini & The Flying Latini Brothers Christmas Spectacular with special guest Jamie-Sue Seal will perform songs from their Christmas CDs. Tickets are \$12 and all seating is general admission  
**Contact:** [cantonvillageheater.org](http://cantonvillageheater.org) or (73) 394-5460

**DANCE**

**Music Hall**

**Time/Date:** 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 4  
**Location:** 350 Madison, Detroit  
**Details:** Polish Folk dance sensation Mazowsze will perform "Christmas Time in Warsaw." The ensemble of more than 85 dancers, musicians, and singers evoke the musical traditions of more than 39 regions in Poland with choreography, musical arrangements and an assortment of handmade costumes. Tickets are \$30-\$50  
**Contact:** Ticketmaster.com, Ticketmaster Outlets or charge by phone at (800) 745-3000

**FAMILY**

**Bakers Keyboard Lounge**

**Time/Dates:** 2-5 p.m. Sundays  
**Details:** Jazz for Kids Program  
**Location:** 20510 Livernois Ave., Detroit  
**Contact:** (313) 345-6300, [www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com](http://www.bakerskeyboardlounge.com)

**Detroit Institute of Arts**

**Time/Dates:** 2 p.m. Sundays



Saxman Alto Reed is ready to "Rock for Jobs" Friday, Nov. 26, at The Fillmore in downtown Detroit. Proceeds from the concert benefit Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit will help unemployed Metro Detroiters with job training.

**Details:** Target Family Sundays, storytelling, performances, free with admission

**Location:** 5200 Woodward, Detroit  
**Contact:** (313) 833-7900, [www.dia.org](http://www.dia.org)

**Detroit Zoo**

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily  
**Location:** I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak  
**Details:** Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free  
**Contact:** (248) 541-5717

**FILM**

**Penn Theatre**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 26-27 and 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28

**Location:** 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth  
**Details:** "Flipped;" all seats \$3  
**Contact:** (734) 453-0870, [www.penn-theatre.com](http://www.penn-theatre.com)

**Redford Theatre**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Dec. 3-4 and 2 p.m. Dec. 4  
**Location:** 17360 Lahser, Detroit

*In Loving Memory*  
*...at the Holidays*

Remember the loved ones you've lost by placing a special holiday remembrance tribute.

The Observer and Eccentric/Hometown Weekly newspapers will be publishing a special "In Remembrance" page for the holidays. Here's the perfect opportunity to honor the memory and celebrate the life of loved ones who hold a special place in your heart.

Prices start at **\$15.00**  
 for a photo "In Remembrance" ad

**Publication: Sunday, Dec. 19th**  
 ...in the Eccentric Newspapers

**Thursday, Dec. 23rd**  
 ...in the Observer Newspapers and Hometown Weekly Newspapers

**Deadline for both issues...Monday, Dec. 13th**

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**FOX** THEATRE SERIES

**Details:** "Christmas Vacation," tickets \$4

**Coming up:** "White Christmas," 8 p.m. Dec. 17-18 and 2 p.m. Dec. 18

**Contact:** [www.redfordtheatre.com](http://www.redfordtheatre.com)

**MUSEUMS**

**Charles H. Wright**

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, through Jan. 2, 2011

**Location:** 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit  
**Details:** Developed by the Smithsonian to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Harlem's Apollo Theater, this multimedia exhibition draws on wide-ranging materials, including historic photographs, film, recordings, and artist interviews, the exhibit includes one-of-a-kind artifacts, like James Brown's cape and jumpsuit, Michael Jackson's fedora, Louis Armstrong's trumpet, Ella Fitzgerald's dress, Duke Ellington's score for "Black and Tan Fantasy," LL Cool J's jacket and hat, and much more. Admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free  
**Contact:** (313) 494-5800

**Cranbrook**

**Time/Date:** 2 p.m., Thursday-Sunday  
**Location:** 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills

**Details:** Docent-guided public tours of Saarinen House, a rare integration of art, architecture, design and nature, depart from Cranbrook Institute of Science front desk. The tours are about 90 minutes long and take place rain or shine.

**Contact:** (248) 645-3200 for house tours; <http://science.cranbrook.edu>

**Plymouth Historical Museum**

**Time/Date:** Museum hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday; exhibit open through Jan. 5, 2011

**Location:** 155 S. Main, just north of downtown Plymouth

**Details:** "Santa Magic" holiday exhibit of Santa Claus figurines; museum admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children

**Contact:** (734) 455-8940

**THEATER**

**Barefoot Productions**

**Time/Date:** Reception begins at 7:30 p.m., followed by the show, Dec. 10-11  
**Location:** 240 N. Main, Plymouth  
**Details:** A cast of seven will perform a narrative reading of "A Christmas Carol," as a fund-raiser for the theatre. Suggested donation per person is \$30 for adults and \$15 for children, 12 and under  
**Contact:** [www.justgobarefoot.com](http://www.justgobarefoot.com) or (734) 560-1493

**Bonstelle Theatre**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Dec. 3-4 and 10-11 and 2 p.m. Dec. 5 and 12  
**Location:** 4743 Cass, at Hancock in Detroit  
**Details:** "To Kill a Mockingbird;" tickets \$12-\$15. The play includes Redford resident Nancy Florkowski as Mrs. Dubose  
**Contact:** (313) 577-2960

**Fisher Theatre**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Dec. 9-11 and 7 p.m. Dec. 12

**Location:** 3011 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit

**Details:** "I'll Be Home for Christmas" features Melba Moore and Clifton Davis, Cherrelle, Elder Gokldwire McClendon and gospel singers Kim Stratton and Lisa Page Brooks. Tickets are \$25 for opening night, \$32.50 for Friday and Sunday and \$35 for Saturday  
**Contact:** [www.broadwayindetroit.com](http://www.broadwayindetroit.com) or call (800) 982-2787

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The HarmonyTown Chorus will present its holiday concert Dec. 5 in Livonia.

## Group sings harmonious holiday songs

The Wayne Barbershop Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society will present its annual holiday concert, "Holiday Harmonies," at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the Livonia Public Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. The group's upbeat repertoire is designed to get listeners into the spirit of the season and will feature the

Harmonytown Chorus under the direction of Scott Casey. The special guest is Backbeat, a men's vocal group from Northville High School. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children, 12 and under. No tickets are sold at the door. Credit cards and checks are accepted. For information or to order tickets, (734) 743-1764. To

order by mail, send a check made out to Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, and send to Frank Adams, 38300 Lana Court, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. Indicate the quantity, and type of ticket, and include a telephone number and/or e-mail address. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope along with the check.

## Traveling exhibit shows photos from Warsaw Ghetto

Samuel Kassow, an American historian who focuses on Ashkenazi Jewry will be the guest speaker at the opening of "A Day in the Warsaw Ghetto: A Birthday Trip in Hell," Dec. 12 at the Holocaust Memorial Center, 28123 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. The photography exhibit, which is co-sponsored by The Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring, will be on display until March 12, 2011.

Kassow, who has written several books, will speak at 1 p.m. He'll discuss one of the books, *Who will Write our History: Emanuel Ringelblum and the Oyneg Shabes Archive*. Light refreshments will be served.

The exhibit consists of 85 of the still photographs that Wehrmacht Sergeant Heinz Jost took illegally while wandering inside the Warsaw Ghetto on his birthday in November 1941. He hid the pictures for about 40 years until he knew that he was dying. Eventually, the pictures were given to Yad Vashem, Israel's national Holocaust memorial and museum, where curators selected the images for the exhibit. Originally, the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service circulated it throughout the United States.

The exhibit photos are grouped in themes: street life, beggars, peddlers, children, the dead and burial. Passages from original diaries written by ghetto residents provide historical context and complement the photographs. The photos depict the diversity of conditions, including starving and sick people and newcomers who still are thriving; illegal schools; people praying together; and book peddlers plying their trade amidst death and disease.

The Holocaust Memorial



A photo from the exhibit, "A Day in the Warsaw Ghetto: A Birthday Trip in Hell" starts Dec. 12 at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington.

Center executive director Stephen Goldman state in a press release, "This exhibit is an opportunity to get a glimpse of the life that went on under the most deplorable conditions in the Warsaw ghetto. Amidst starvation, degradation and death, the Jewish people tried to keep a semblance of daily normalcy and human dignity. Jost's photos chronicle unimaginable circumstances."

The launch of the exhibit coincides with the opening of the Holocaust Center's new gallery. The gallery for temporary exhibitions has been carved out of former

storage areas and features 1,500 square feet of uninterrupted floor space with an entry area, state-of-the-art lighting, moveable interior walls, acoustic treatment and a structural roof grid where exhibit materials can be hung.

Museum hours are 9:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; and 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday. The museum is closed on Saturday and public holidays. Admission is \$8 adults, \$6 for college students and senior citizens, \$5 for students. For more information, call (248) 553-2400, or visit www.holocaustcenter.org.



### In concert

Simone Dinnerstein will perform the "Goldberg Variations" by Bach, at 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4 at Seligman Performing Arts Center, located on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, 22305 West 13 Mile, Beverly Hills. The concert is presented by the Chamber Music Society of Detroit. Single tickets to all concerts are \$43-\$75; students \$25. Call (248) 855-6070 or visit www.ComeHearCMSD.org.

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Rachel Paruta of Canton is Mrs. Santa and Jacob Elliot of Dearborn Heights is Red Mistletoe in the Spotlight on Youth production "In the Nick of Time: A Red Mistletoe Mystery."

## Cookbook benefits annual parade in Garden City

Make it a Garden City day Saturday, Nov. 27, starting with the community's annual Santaland parade at 10 a.m., followed by some kitchen time with the community's new cookbook, *Garden City A Great Place for Home*.

The cookbooks are a major fundraiser for the parade, which is completely funded through donations and sponsorships. Margo Ciecierski, administrative assistant and a member of the Santaland Parade Committee, City Clerk/Treasurer Allyson Bettis and Penny Albitus, retired city employee, collected recipes for the book from residents, city employees and others with connections to Garden City.

Ciecierski said Albitus initially came up with the idea. "She had mentioned that her kids' school participated in a similar fundraiser and it was extremely successful, so we thought we would give it a try for our 50th Anniversary," Ciecierski explained.

The cookbook costs \$13 and is available at City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt, Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood and online at [www.santalandparade.com](http://www.santalandparade.com). Here's a sampling of what's inside:

### FRESH CRANBERRY SAUCE

Recipe submitted by Penny Albitus, City Clerk's Office

- 2 packages fresh cranberries
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups water

Wash and boil until they burst and stir

### PINEAPPLE STUFFING

Recipe Submitted by Carol Malek

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 large can crushed pineapple
- 6 slices bread, cubed

Spray 1 1/2 -quart casserole dish with a cooking spray. In a mixing bowl, cream together butter, sugar and eggs. Add crushed pineapple with the juice, then fold in the bread. Put in casserole dish. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for an hour.

### PUMPKIN ROLL

Recipe submitted by Jacqueline Harman

- Cake:
- 3 eggs



ARCHIVE PHOTO

Santa waves to the crowd at last year's Santaland Parade in Garden City. Proceeds from the sale of a new cookbook will help pay his travel expenses from the North Pole, as well as other parade costs.

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2-1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 3/4 cup pumpkin
- 3/4 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2-1 cup crushed nuts

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine and beat sugar and eggs together until fluffy. Add rest of ingredients except nuts. Grease cookie sheets and line with wax paper. Grease paper. Spread batter into prepared pan and sprinkle with nuts. Use jellyroll pan or cookie sheet. Bake for approximately 15 minutes. Remove from pan laying nut side down on a kitchen towel that has been sprinkled with confectioners' (powdered) sugar. Roll-up in towel after removing wax paper and put into freezer for about a half an hour.

- Filling:
- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 2-4 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup powdered sugar

Unroll cake, remove towel and spread filling evenly over cake. Re-roll and wrap in wax paper and aluminum foil; refrigerate. Can be frozen for a long time. It never freezes solid. Slice as needed. If the cake part splits do not worry, the filling will hold it together. Wrap tightly. Serves 10 to 20.

By Sharon Dargay

## Youth theater presents a holiday mystery

Get into the holiday spirit with Spotlight on Youth's *In the Nick of Time: A Red Mistletoe Mystery*, Dec. 9-12 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

The play runs about 1 1/2 hours and has an intermission — the perfect length of time for small children who can't sit still long.

"Nick" tells the story of Red Mistletoe, a hard-boiled Bogart/Columbo type detective whose job is to see that all runs smoothly at the North Pole. When Santa Claus goes missing and the North Pole fades from its colorful self to black

and white, it's Red's job to solve the mystery," stated Barbara Bloom, the play's director. "Along the way you'll meet Bob Humbug, Holly Wreath, Fruitcake and the Elves and inhabitants of Santa's realm in this charming story."

The cast includes Jacob Elliot of Dearborn Heights as "Red Mistletoe," Rachel Paruta of Canton as "Mrs. Santa" and Noah Morgan of Westland as "Bob Humbug" along with more than 20 children from local communities.

Curtain is at 7 p.m. Dec. 9-11 and at 2 p.m. Dec. 11-12. The Village

Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road.

Tickets are \$10 and available by phone at (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460 or online at [www.cantonmi.org/village theater](http://www.cantonmi.org/village theater).

Spotlight on Youth Theater (SOY) is a Spotlight Players initiative that exists to create an extraordinary, youth-centered theater experience and to advance theater as a means of educating, challenging and inspiring young people. Spotlight Players is the resident adult theater group for the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

### CITY BITES

#### Fresh new spin

**Westland** – Boston Market has a new look in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The Westland restaurant and other Detroit-area locations have upgraded their carving stations, traded disposable plates and utensils for real plates and stainlessware, increased staffing, added dining room "ambassadors" and created new menu items, such as Rotisserie Chicken Pesto, Oven Roasted Turkey BLT and Garlicky Lemon Savoy Spinach.

Boston Market locations will offer 25th Anniversary deals to celebrate their milestone:

- A \$4.99 Quarter Dark Rotisserie Meal with choice of

two sides has been added to the menu. •The remaining Rotisserie Chicken Meals will feature reduced pricing starting at \$5.99 for a Quarter White or Three Piece Dark Rotisserie Meal with choice of two sides, for a limited time only.

#### French wines

**Livonia** – d.vine fine wines offers a tasting on the wines of the Southern Rhone, 7-9 p.m. Dec. 2. The event includes a slide show of vineyards in the region and tasting of wines from Chateaufneuf du Pape, Gigondas, Vacqueyras and the Cotes du Rhone Villages. Cost is \$20 per person, \$15 for wine club members. A \$5 rebate will be added

to wines bought that night. Call (734) 464-9600 for reservations. d.vine wines is located at 17386 Haggerty.

#### Free Friday

**Metro Detroit** – 7-Eleven stores will offer a free, small Slurpee drink on Friday, Nov. 26. To receive a free Slurpee, customers need to print off a required, redeemable coupon available only on Nov. 26 and only on the Slurpee Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/Slurpee](http://www.facebook.com/Slurpee). Detroit area 7-Eleven stores sell 130 percent more Slurpees on average per store than other stores in the U.S. More than 10 million Slurpees were sold in metro Detroit last year.

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[ShenYunPerformingArts.org](http://ShenYunPerformingArts.org)

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## FOOD

Thursday, November 25, 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

HEALTHY *Holiday* COOKING

The holidays are full of delicious temptations, but that doesn't have to mean leaving your commitment to healthy eating behind. Making smart choices of what you eat and how you cook it can help you enjoy holiday dining and still beat the post-holiday blues.

With these hassle-free recipes and some tips from the healthy cooking experts at Culinary.net, you can give yourself — and your family — the gift of a festive holiday menu that has great taste and good nutrition.

## SIMPLE SOLUTIONS

Keep your holiday dishes deliciously simple with time-saving appliances such as the George Foreman® Evolve™ Grill. With four different plates for cooking, baking and grilling, it's a simple way to help you stay on track with your healthy eating plan. (It makes a great gift, too.)

These mouthwatering recipes are easy to make on the Evolve Grill, and are a great way to feed your hungry holiday crowd something warm, healthful and satisfying — without sacrificing great taste.

For more recipes and information on George Foreman Healthy Cooking products, visit [www.georgeforemancooking.com](http://www.georgeforemancooking.com).

## ALMOND PEAR BREAD PUDDING

Makes 6 servings

1 large ripe Bartlett pear, peeled, cored and diced  
4 cups French bread, cut into 1-inch cubes  
1½ cups fat-free half and half  
½ cup sugar  
1 teaspoon almond extract  
½ teaspoon cinnamon  
2 eggs  
3 tablespoons butter, melted  
½ cup sliced almonds  
Powdered sugar (optional)

Fit grill with deep-dish bake pan. Set temperature to 350°F and preheat for 5 minutes.

Place bread cubes in bake pan and cook for 10 minutes to lightly toast. Turn off grill. Remove bake pan from grill and let cool.

Sprinkle pears over bread cubes. In a medium bowl, whisk together half and half, sugar, extract, cinnamon and eggs. Slowly whisk in butter and then pour over the bread and pears in the bake pan. Press bread cubes down lightly to make sure all are coated with liquid and let stand for 30 minutes.

Preheat grill to 350°F.

Sprinkle bread and pear mixture with almonds, place bake pan back on grill and bake for 20 minutes. Serve warm, dusted with powdered sugar, if you like.



## TURKEY CRANBERRY PANINI

Makes 12 mini panini

24 baguette slices, ½ inch thick  
5 ounces sliced turkey breast (try using leftover turkey)  
3 ounces sliced Havarti  
3 tablespoons cranberry sauce  
½ cup arugula leaves  
Olive oil cooking spray, for extra crispiness

Preheat grill for 5 minutes at 400°F. Spray 1 side of each bread slice with cooking spray. Distribute ingredients evenly among bread slices. Cook 6 panini at a time for about 3 minutes. Remove from grill. They can be kept warm in a 250°F oven while the second batch of panini cooks. Add to platter and serve.

## VEGGIE PANINI

Makes 12 mini panini

24 baguette slices  
3 ounces fresh mozzarella, sliced  
½ cup chopped marinated artichoke hearts  
12 large or 24 small fresh basil leaves  
12 thin slices Roma tomatoes  
3 thin red onion slices, quartered  
Olive oil cooking spray, for extra crispiness

## TUSCAN PANINI

Makes 12 mini panini

24 baguette slices  
2 ounces thinly sliced prosciutto  
3 ounces fresh mozzarella, sliced  
4 to 6 asparagus spears, julienned  
2 thin red onion slices, quartered  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
Olive oil cooking spray, for extra crispiness

- Family Features

## HEALTHY COOKING TIPS

from Culinary.net

Here are three easy ways you can boost the nutrition of your holiday foods and make them taste even better.

**Flavor Up.** Herbs and spices make ordinary food taste extraordinary — without adding salt, fat or sugar. Some spices may even help boost the antioxidant power of what's already on your plate.

- Cinnamon has one of the highest antioxidant levels of any spice. One teaspoon of cinnamon has about the same amount as a full cup of pomegranate juice or a half cup of blueberries. Wake up your holiday mornings by sprinkling a half teaspoon over your ground coffee before brewing, or adding some to your oatmeal or yogurt.

- Thyme has about the same amount of antioxidants as a carrot or a half cup of chopped tomatoes. It also has beneficial compounds called flavonoids, which may help with inflammation. It's a great addition to chicken, beef or vegetable soups, and can really dress up seafood.

**Lower the Fat.** You can reduce your fat intake in a variety of delicious ways.

- Low-fat mayonnaise has only 15 calories and 1 gram of fat per tablespoon, compared to 90 calories and 10 grams of fat in full-fat versions. Use it in holiday dips, or flavor it with herbs to jazz up your leftover turkey sandwiches.

- If you're making pan gravy, skim off the fat from the drippings, either with a



PHOTO COURTESY OF FOTOLIA

spoon or a fat separator.

**Switch to Whole Grains.** Studies show that eating whole grains can lower the risk of many chronic diseases.

- Add ¼ cup of uncooked oats for each pound of ground beef or turkey when you make meatballs, burgers or meatloaf.

- Add half a cup of cooked bulgur, wild rice, or barley to your holiday bread stuffing.

- Use brown rice instead of white — it adds great taste as well as fiber, vitamins and minerals.

Culinary.net is a one-stop shop for recipes, how-to videos, entertaining tips and coupons.

You can get the latest recipes and tips on Facebook.

For more healthy holiday recipes and to sign up for a free newsletter, visit [www.culinary.net/healthy](http://www.culinary.net/healthy).



# Your original recipe could net a new kitchen

If you've got an award-winning holiday spread — one that includes peanut butter — you might win a \$10,000 kitchen makeover.

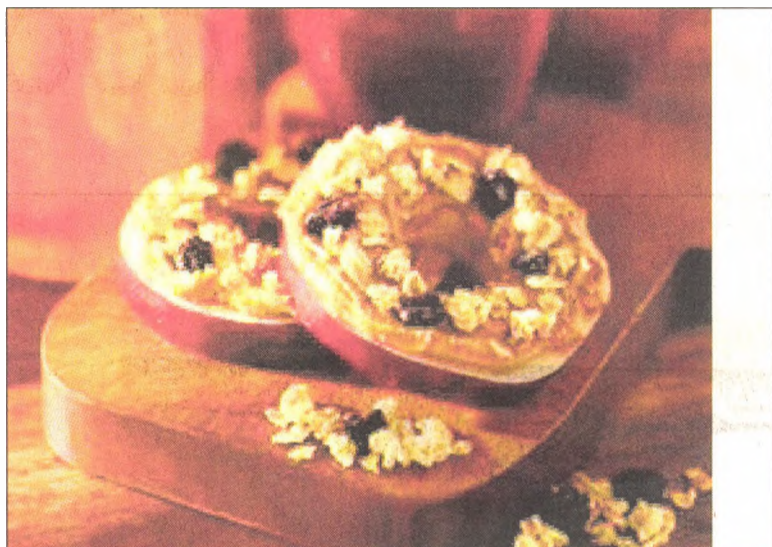
Jif is sponsoring a contest through Jan. 17, 2011 for the best sweet and savory spreads that use at least two tablespoons of its peanut butter in any variety. The contest is open to amateur cooks and official rules and entry forms are available at [www.jif.com](http://www.jif.com).

In the meantime, try these easy-to-make breakfast items. They're perfect for Thanksgiving Day morning while you're busy preparing for your dinner feast.

## PINEAPPLE PEANUT BUTTER BREAKFAST PARFAITS

**Ingredients:**  
 1 (6 ounce) container vanilla yogurt  
 1 cup chopped fresh pineapple or canned pineapple tidbits  
 1/2 cup Jif Natural Creamy Peanut Butter Spread  
 2 tablespoons warm water  
 2 tablespoons honey  
 1/2 cup granola cereal with raisins

**Directions:**  
 1. Spoon half of yogurt into two parfait glasses. Top with half of pineapple. Stir together peanut butter, water and honey until smooth. Drizzle half of peanut butter mixture over pineapple in parfait glasses. Top with half of granola cereal.  
 2. Repeat layers using remaining yogurt, pineapple, peanut butter mixture and granola. Serve immediately.



Peanut Butter Apple Rings

## PEANUT BUTTER BREAKFAST BREAD PUDDING

**Ingredients:**  
 Crisco Original No-Stick Cooking Spray  
 2 large eggs  
 1/2 cup milk  
 1/2 cup sugar  
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
 1/2 cup Jif Extra Crunchy Peanut Butter  
 6 slices bread  
 1/2 cup raisins  
 Yogurt with fruit

**Directions:**  
 1. Heat oven to 350°F. Spray an 8- by 8-inch baking pan with no-stick cooking spray.  
 2. Break eggs into a large bowl; whisk until well combined. Add milk, sugar, vanilla and cinnamon; whisk until well combined. Add peanut butter; whisk until well mixed.  
 3. Cut or tear bread into 1-inch squares and add to bowl. Add raisins and gently stir to mix well. Pour bread mixture into prepared baking pan.  
 4. Bake until the mixture is set and the top is golden brown (about 25 minutes). Remove from oven and place on a baking rack to cool.  
 5. Serve warm, spooned into bowls and topped with fruit yogurt.

## PEANUT BUTTER APPLE RINGS

**Ingredients:**  
 1/2 cup Jif Natural Creamy Peanut Butter Spread  
 4 teaspoons honey  
 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
 1 large red delicious apple  
 1/2 cup granola cereal with raisins

**Directions:**  
 1. Stir peanut butter, honey and cinnamon in small bowl. Arrange apple rings on serving plates. Spread rings evenly with thin layer of peanut butter mixture.  
 2. Lightly press granola cereal into peanut butter mixture. Serve immediately.

## FRUITY BREAKFAST TOSTADAS

**Ingredients:**  
 4 (8 inch) flour tortillas  
 Crisco Butter Flavor No-Stick Cooking Spray  
 1 teaspoon cinnamon-sugar  
 1/2 cup Simply Jif Creamy Peanut Butter  
 1/2 cup water  
 1 tablespoon honey  
 2 tablespoons Smucker's Sugar Free Seedless Strawberry Jam  
 3 cups fresh fruit such as sliced strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, seedless grapes and/or sliced banana

**Directions:**  
 1. Heat oven to 400°F. Arrange tortillas in a single layer on large cookie sheet. Coat tortillas lightly with no-stick cooking spray. Sprinkle with half of cinnamon-sugar. Turn and coat other side with cooking spray. Sprinkle with remaining cinnamon-sugar. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until crisp.  
 2. Stir together peanut butter, water and honey until smooth. Place in small resealable plastic bag; seal.  
 3. Place preserves in a medium microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on HIGH 20 to 30 seconds, until warm; stir. Stir in fruit to coat.  
 4. Cut off a very small bottom corner from bag containing peanut butter mixture. Drizzle half of mixture over tortillas. Divide fruit mixture onto center of tortillas. Drizzle with remaining peanut butter mixture. Spoon yogurt onto center of each tostada. Serve immediately.



Rosemary Pear cocktail

# Fruit-inspired cocktails are easy to make

If vodka brings to mind only Screwdrivers, it's time to shelve the orange juice and experiment a little.

The makers of Cold River vodka offer three cocktail recipes meant to dazzle guests at gatherings this holiday season.

### COLD RIVER ROSEMARY PEAR

2 ounces Cold River Vodka  
 Splash of Poire Williams Pear Brandy  
 Splash fresh lemon juice  
 1 ounce rosemary simple syrup  
 Shake on ice, strain, pour, garnish with rosemary sprig.

### COLD RIVER BLUEBERRY TART

2 ounces Cold River Blueberry Vodka  
 2 ounces fine lemonade  
 Combine with ice in Collins glass. Garnish with fresh blueberries and mint

### COLD RIVER RHUBARB MARTINI

2 ounces Cold River Vodka  
 Splash of sweetened rhubarb puree, splash of ginger beer

Shake vodka and rhubarb on ice, strain, pour. Top with ginger beer, garnish with slice of strawberry

### COLD RIVER SMOKED CHOCOLATE


2 ounces Cold River Vodka  
 Splash of Godiva Chocolate Liqueur  
 Dash of ground chipotle, shake on ice, strain, pour. Rim glass with mixture of sugar, cocoa, ground chipotle.

### WILD BLUEBERRY COSMO

2 ounces Cold River Blueberry  
 2 ounces Cranberry Juice  
 1 ounce Cointreau  
 Shake over ice and garnish with fresh blueberries and orange slice.

For more gin and vodka cocktail recipes, visit [www.mainedistilleries.com](http://www.mainedistilleries.com)

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# Regional Marketplace

ADVERTISING FEATURE

## Home for the holidays

Abbey Park senior community lights up this holiday season with Festival of Trees, friends and family

By ALISON ACCAVITTI  
ADVERTORIAL WRITER

Abbey Park's Lyon Township community will transform into a holiday haven filled with festive cheer this Friday, kicking off the annual Festival of Trees celebration that supports local charity and community giving.

"Various community groups will deck our halls with holiday trees trimmed to the 9's and 10's," said Tamra Ward, Abbey Park Administrator. "Our residents, their families and the local community are invited to vote through Dec. 12 for their favorite tree with a \$1 donation. The winning tree will be announced at our Holiday Party. All proceeds will go to the charities designated by the groups and organizations competing in this year's festival."

Located on Milford Road just south of Grand River Avenue in Lyon Township, Abbey Park has transformed into a popular attraction for seniors looking for affordable retirement living near friends and family. The community has welcomed 32 new residents since September and has leased 130 apartments since opening in January 2009.

"A lot of residents here are from the South Lyon area and further out," said Thomasine Blake, 82, who moved from Farmington Hills to Abbey Park in August 2009. "They just make me feel so welcome here. I haven't met one person who isn't nice."

Many residents share Thomasine's sentiments about their new home.

Helen Spehar, 93, said she moved to Abbey Park to be closer to her son, who visits almost daily.

"My son Bob saw this unit, and he loved it," Helen said. "I really like it here, and I'm really, really happy. I have friends who live here too."

### Something for everyone

The Festival of Trees is just one of many exciting activities scheduled at



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Festive holiday decorations, warm smiles, lots of cheer and an extensive schedule of visiting performances by local schools and community group make Abbey Park at Mill River a great place to spend the holidays.

Abbey Park. Residents recently enjoyed martinis and a little midnight madness at the community's first Pearls, Pumps and Pajamas Party. In celebration of the autumn season, residents were treated to an Oktoberfest event including serv-

A recent post on Abbey Park's facebook page:

*"My grandmother is moving in today. I think she'll like it!"*

- HOLLY WOLF, GRANDDAUGHTER OF EVE

ing wenchers, musical entertainment, marching waiters, bratwurst, cabbage, German potato salad and apple strudel - along with a little beer.

A typical week at Abbey Park kicks off on Sunday with an elegant Champagne Brunch, all faiths church service and relaxing time with family and friends. An average week at Abbey Park offers over 45 events and activities, including live entertainment, Bingo, card clubs, two ice cream socials, weekly dinner trips, chair fitness classes, shopping, scheduled chauffeured transportation, movies and a weekly Happy Hour.

Residents also enjoy monthly casino trips, trips to Kensington Metro Park and the apple orchard, attendance at local plays and concerts and visits to annual festivals, such as Milford Memories and Pumpkinfest.

Like a community all their own, residents operate a small Country Store with basic grocery and personal items, and participate on a council that weighs in on the daily menu and activities schedule.

"Anything our seniors are willing to do, we make available to them," Ward said. "We encourage residents to be as active as they can be for as long as possible so they can maintain their independence."

### Live, longer, happier and healthier

A full activity schedule, great food and a wealth of amenities are just the beginning at Abbey Park. The community features 24-hour staffing, a medical alert system, scheduled chauffeured transportation, a beautiful dining room, delicious meals, in addition to a cafe, theater, chapel, library, fitness center, beauty shop and the reassurance of a full-facility generator.

Abbey Park residents are no strangers to the local community. Group trips are planned for events like the Milford Veterans Day Parade and Milford Memories Summer Festival, plays and performances at South Lyon East High

School, shopping trips and dinner outings at Deadwood Bar & Grill in Northville and other nearby restaurants.

Abbey Park has generously supported many local events and organizations including South Lyon Pumpkinfest, the Lyon Township Kite Festival, Lyon Film Festival, the Center for Active Adults, Active Faith Community Services, Operation Injured Soldier and the Lyon Area Rotary Club in addition to Grace Care Center in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka.

Located across from Coyote Golf Course, Abbey Park offers affordable luxury. From beautifully landscaped grounds and courtyards to an elegant lobby with fountains, fireplaces, a grand piano and comfortable lounge areas,

residents are proud to welcome visitors to their new home.

Life at Abbey Park includes a variety of complimentary conveniences that are often an added expense at other communities. On a daily basis, housekeepers make the beds and take out trash, and residents can enjoy a continental breakfast in the cafe, and a delicious lunch or dinner in the Grand Dining Room. Once a week, all residents are treated to full cleaning services, including laundering bed linens and towels. There are nine floor plans to choose from, ranging from one to two bedrooms, with walk-in closet options. All apartments include either a balcony or a patio and a medical monitoring system that is easily accessed from several areas within each unit. Heat, water, electricity and basic cable services are also included.

With an average of 45 weekly events and activities to choose from, days at Abbey Park are full of fun and friendship. Activity Director Cindy Kometh and Hospitality Director Charles Duty work full-time to provide opportunities for great food, socialization and entertainment.

The community stays connected on its facebook page. Visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search "Abbey Park" to check out photos from year-round events, offer feedback or keep up on scheduled events. The community also produces a monthly newsletter, weekly activity schedule and a daily posting of menus, schedules and photos from previous events on their in-house monitor system.

"Our friendly staff members arrive each day and work with one directive: to treat our residents as if they are our own parents," Ward said. "As a result, we all feel like part of one big family here; this is our home away from home."



Last year, 16 community groups participated in Abbey Park's Festival of Trees. Proceeds from every \$1 vote will benefit charities designated by groups and organizations competing in this year's event.

**Abbey Park at Mill River**  
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# Don't Drink & Drive Celebrate Responsibly

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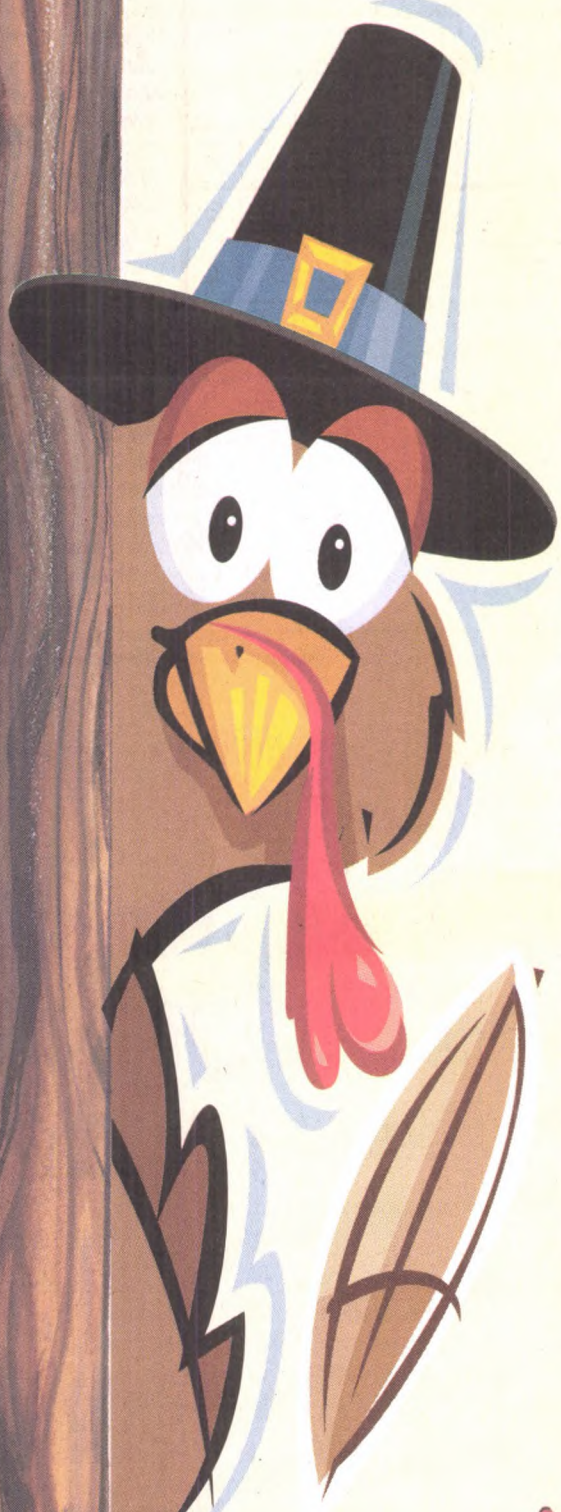
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